

Saint Thomas More

Catholic Church



December 5, 2021

Liturgy Schedule

WEEKEND MASSES

Saturday: 4:30 PM

Sunday: 7:30 AM, 9:00 AM, & 11:00 AM

DAILY MASS

7:30 AM

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Thursdays – 4:30 PM-5:15 PM • Saturdays - 8:15-9:00 AM

ADORATION

3:00 PM to 7:00 PM, Mon thru Fri

Parish Office Hours

Monday - Friday: 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Bulletin items are due to the Parish Office by Monday at 4:00 PM. Please email your items to:
receptionist@thomasmorespokane.org.

ST. THOMAS MORE

Website: www.thomasmorespokane.org

December 5, 2021

Second Sunday of Advent

Parish Staff

Phone	466-3811
Pastor	
Fr. Pat Kerst	Ext. 208
Parish Deacons	
Deacon Douglas Banks	Ext. 204
Deacon Tom Heavey	
Office Staff	
Jennifer Siira, Business Manager	Ext. 201
John Oss, Music Director	Ext. 200
Traci Loewen, Bulletin Editor	Ext. 200
Jim Huss, Receptionist	Ext. 200
Alexis Ferrante, Religious Ed. Coord.	
Tracy Acker, Sacramental Prep Coord.	
J.J., Nazzaro, Youth Ministry Coord.	

School Staff

Phone:	466-3811
Jim McCollum, Principal.....	Ext. 315
Rachel McCann, Vice Principal.....	Ext. 326
Doug Banks, Vice Principal for Finance, Development & Facilities.....	Ext. 204
Jen Siira, Business Admin. & Preschool Dir.....	Ext. 201
Mary Heavey, Secretary.....	Ext. 313
Sheleis Mather, Secretary.....	Ext. 314

Oh Lord, give us a mind that is humble, quiet, peaceable, patient and charitable, and a taste of your Holy Spirit in all our thoughts, words, and deeds. O Lord, give us a lively faith, a firm hope, a fervent charity, a love of you. Take from us all lukewarmness in meditation and all dullness in prayer. Give us fervor and delight in thinking of you, your grace, and your tender compassion toward us. Give us, good Lord, the grace to work for the things we pray for.

—St. Thomas More,

1478-1535



THIS WEEK AT OUR PARISH

Monday, December 6:

Tuesday, December 7:

12:30 PM Rosary Makers

Wednesday, December 8:

Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Holy Day of Obligation)

Masses at 7:30 AM and 7:00 PM

9:00 AM Adult Bible Study

Noon Senior Card Group

6:30 PM Adult Bible Study

Thursday, December 9:

1:00 PM Adult Bible Study

6:00 PM Religious Education

Friday, December 10:

Saturday, December 11:

9:00 AM SVdP Food and Gifts delivered

4:30 PM Vigil Mass

Sunday, December 12:

Mass at 7:30 AM, 9:00 AM, & 11:00 AM
Altar Society Raffle Ticket Sales

If you have questions about any of these events, call the Parish Office.

Hearing assistance is available during liturgies at FM 89.1

The diocese is committed to helping victims/survivors of sexual abuse and to protecting children and vulnerable adults. Volunteers who supervise other volunteers who work with minors and vulnerable adults **are required to report** any suspected abuse by others they supervise. Contact: Roberta Smith, Victims Assistance Coordinator (509) 353-0442 Office Phone or (509) 998-8340 Cell.

You may also go to the Diocesan website.

<http://www.dioceseofspokane.org/safe-environment>.



CHURCH SACRAMENTS

Baptism: Go to our parish website to fill out the proper paperwork. After we receive your information, you will be contacted to schedule an appointment.

Marriage: To schedule an appointment for marriage preparation, please contact a parish priest at least four months in advance of your desired wedding date.

Anointing of the Sick: Call the Parish Office to request a priest. If the call is after hours, you will be prompted on how to proceed.

TIME Talent Treasure

Weekly Stewardship — 11/28/21

Income	Budget—YTD	Received—YTD
Envelopes & Plates	\$280,665.00	\$247,113.00
Received:		
In person		\$3,730.00
Mailed In		\$1,000.00
Online		\$2,261.00
Total		\$6,991.00
Needed Weekly	\$13,365.00	

Thanks to all who offer your stewardship donations to the parish on-line! You can set up a one-time or ongoing donation online at:

<https://parish.thomasmorespokane.org/give>

ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL

(www.dioceseofspokane.org).

We have met our goal! Thank you to everyone who donated! You can still donate at www.dioceseofspokane.org. Remember, any excess donations will come back to our parish for our use.

Our assessment this year for our parish was \$153,378.00. To date, our parishioners have given \$157,645.00!



Catholic Charities Christmas Collection “Extraordinary Love for Extraordinary Times”

Please remember this important ministry during the Christmas season. There are envelopes in the back of the church or you may give online at cceasternwa.org.

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

God’s Personal Assistants

If you have ever planned a large-scale event, whether it’s a musical performance or a religious conference, you may have dealt with someone’s personal assistant. Possibly this person would be a representative of the keynote speaker or the master of ceremonies for the local bishop; perhaps it’s even the staffer of a local politician or the lackey of a well-known musical act.

Personal assistants are masters of stewardship — overseeing things in their boss’ absence. They prepare the way. This person’s job is to get everything ready for the person in charge, so that when he or she shows up — whoever he or she is — it’s smooth sailing for them to do whatever it is they need to do: sing, speak, pray, mingle, what-have-you. It’s usually a big job full of little things, a gig where attention to detail is key.

God is the guest of honor in our life, the keynote speaker, the main event. And what He wants — what He needs — to do is to change our hearts. Constantly, over, and over, and over again.

We are all His personal assistants in this endeavor. We need to prepare the way of the Lord, to make straight His paths. We need to make everything ready so that when He shows up — however He shows up, whether it’s in the form of a neighbor in need or a burning bush right in front of us — everything is ready for Him to do His job.

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER



Ministers of the Altar December 11/12

Lector:

4:30 PM	Suzy Donovan
7:30 AM	Leslie Stachecki
9:00 AM	Cindy Anderson
11:00 AM	Agnes Ericson

Eucharistic Minister

4:30 PM	Chad Anderson & Katelyn Doan
7:30 AM	Kathy Ossello
9:00 AM	Andrew & Michelle Lutzo
11:00 AM	Kay Doyle & Ann Hart

You should have all received the new schedule by email. If you haven’t received it yet, please contact Traci in the Parish Office.

Synod

Pope Francis has convoked the Church in Synod. “For a Synodal Church: Communion, Participation, and Mission” is the title of this synod. This process of “walking together” begins in parishes throughout the world through listening and consulting all who wish to participate in the next few months. If you wish to read the preparatory document, it can be found at <https://press.vatican.va/content/salastampa/it/bolletino/>

publico/2021/09/07/0541/01166.html

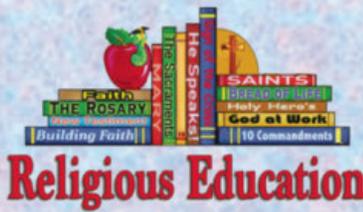
The STM Parish Pastoral Council is discussing how best to facilitate the participation of any parishioners who wish to be involved. These opportunities will be scheduled for February/early March of 2022. The diocesan website (www.dioceseofspokane.org) will also have an on-line vehicle for receiving feedback after December 2, especially from those who will not yet be comfortable gathering in person.

The Synod is a marvelous opportunity to reflect upon the experience of the Holy Spirit in our lives, with whom each of us has been blessed, and in this reflection share together our life as church to see where the Spirit is leading us. Please keep the Synod in your prayers in the months to come!

“Put His Will in Your Will!” Clause for Christian Will

I give, devise, and bequeath to St. Thomas More Catholic Parish-Spokane, a Washington non-profit corporation (description of gift).

Youth Faith Formation



For children in Kindergarten through 5th Grade. This is a great way to fulfill your responsibility to raise your children in our Faith. We meet on Thursdays at 6:00 PM in the PACC. If you are a high schooler or adult who would like to help with this program, contact Alexa at alexious13@gmail.com. Registration is online.



Sacramental Prep—Reconciliation, Confirmation, and First Communion
Parents meet in the PACC, children in the school.

Classes are Wednesdays at 6:00 PM

Upcoming Schedule:

December 15, January 19, February 16, March 2, & April 20.

Questions: Contact Tracy Acker at tracyacker83@gmail.com

Middle School and High School Youth Group

High School Youth Group meet on Tuesdays from 6:30 PM to 8:00 PM in the St. Charles Youth room.

On the first Wednesday of each month, we will host adoration with a message, music, and confession available from 7:00 PM to 8:00 PM at St. Francis Xavier. That week we will not meet at our usual time at St. Charles and STM.

Middle School students meet on Wednesday from 7:00 PM to 8:30 PM in the St. Thomas More gym, except for the first Wednesday of each month—see above note.

For more information and upcoming events, find us online: www.ncymspokane.com or JJ at jnazzaro@dioceseofspokane.org. Be sure to check out the Mid-Semester Newsletter on our website.

Facebook: NCYSpokane
Twitter: NCYMSpokane
Instagram: NCYMSpokane



December Events!

Dec. 7 and 8 ministry nights will be Glow in the Dark nights! Expect high energy and wear neon!

Dec. 14 and 15 will be Yankee Swap nights—wear an ugly Christmas sweater and bring a gag gift (wrapped) of \$7 or less for the gift exchange. Following those weeks, youth ministry will take the following 2 weeks off for Christmas break and will resume with our adoration night on January 5.



Check out the following opportunities to renew and/or expand your Catholic Faith:

RCIA: Are you or someone you know interested in learning more about the Catholic Faith and/or joining the church. Our classes have begun, but it isn't too late to join! We meet after the 9:00 AM Mass. Contact Al or Sharon Pry at 466-5951 for more information.



FORMED FAITH AT HOME

Don't forget to check out Formed.org. You will find bible studies, movies, documentaries, books, audio talks, and sacramental prep material from leading Catholic experts which will help you grow in understanding your faith. Parish code: 6HR79H



Immaculate Heart Retreat Center

Private Directed Retreats at Immaculate Heart Retreat Center are always available: Ignatian or Scriptural Spiritual Direction retreats. We can tailor a retreat to your spiritual and emotional needs. For more information or to register in advance, please call 448-1224 or visit www.ihrc.net

The Immaculate Heart Retreat Center is also looking for volunteers to help with their various ministries—help with the kitchen, Christmas decorating, yard and garden maintenance, and help in preparing rooms for their retreats. Contact Sr. Bernadette Pederson, Volunteer Coordinator.



We have Shawls !!

If you need a shawl for someone who is ill, or in need of a warm blanket during a difficult time, please call Helen Durgan at 842-8373. She can arrange to meet you to pick up a shawl. Also, if you would like to give a shawl as a gift at Christmas, you can purchase a shawl for a minimal fee.



Bishop Daly is asking Catholics in Eastern Washington to support this campaign. The Vatican will soon announce new requirements for formation before men begin seminary. Bishop White seminary is one of the first seminaries in the country to respond to these new requirements. They have purchased a new building one block from the current seminary that has been renamed McGivney Hall. McGivney Hall will be the new home for our future seminarians and the new Cor Christi program. For more info visit bishopwhitesem.org.

**Men's Discernment Retreat
St. Patrick's Seminary, Menlo Park, CA
February 25-27, 2022**

Key note speaker, Bishop Thomas Daly
Limited to single men 21 years of age and older
If interested, contact Rev Kyle Ratuiste at kratuiste@dioceseofspokane.org

Altar Society Christmas Raffle
December 4-5 and December 11-12
Drawing December 12 after 11:00 AM Mass
Take a chance on any of the 5 items that will be on display with baskets that include: gift cards, wine, a huckleberry goodies, and a special surprise basket. Tickets are \$1 each or 10 tickets for \$5 or 20 tickets for \$10.

Parishioners: Did you know our bulletin is printed free of charge thanks to the parishioners or business owners who advertise on the back of our bulletin. Please support and thank them by using one of their services. If you are a business owner and would like to have an ad in our bulletin, contact Shannon Miller. Her number is listed on the back page.

AVAILABLE NOW!
PRINT & DIGITAL AD SPACES

Build your business and help us grow a vibrant faith community!

Call Shannon Miller

Shannon



STM School Blood Drive
Wednesday, Dec. 8
12:30 PM to 6:00 PM
Help STM earn a STEM grant by donating blood!
Call the school office to sign up.



Knights' Corner **Sat. Dec. 18:**
Knights of Columbus

Christmas Party
Sunday, December 19: Santa visits



Please pray for those who are ill in our Parish and for those who are dying or who have died. Never doubt the

power of prayer! If you would like to add someone to our prayer chain, call Mary at 466-0531.



ADORATION

St. Mother Teresa of Calcutta has stated, "The fruit of silence is Prayer, the fruit of prayer is Faith, the fruit of faith is Love,...the fruit of love is Service, the fruit of service is Peace." St. Padre Pio's words, "Confide your needs to Him, along with those of others."

Adoration is open Mon. thru Fri. 3:00 PM to 7:00 PM

Mass Intentions FOR THE WEEK

Week of December 5:

Table with 3 columns: Day, Time, and Name. Rows include Saturday (4:30 P.M. John Tich Nguyen), Sunday (7:30 A.M. STM, 9:00 A.M. Martin Dineen, 11:00 A.M. John Devaney), Monday (7:30 A.M. Alice Stevens), Tuesday (7:30 A.M. Sheryl Cooney), Wednesday (7:30 A.M. Roland Torngren, 7:00 P.M.), Thursday (7:30 AM. Shari Miller), Friday (7:30 A.M. Lindy Styer), Saturday (7:30 A.M. Donna Abel, 4:30 P.M. Teresa Hoa Nguyen), and Sunday (7:30 A.M. Francisca Rajenel, 9:00 A.M. Jim O'Rourke, 11:00 A.M. Rusty Carbon).

Advent/Christmas Schedule

Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Holy Day of Obligation): Wednesday, Dec. 8: Masses at 7:30 AM and 7:00 PM Christmas Friday, Dec. 24: Masses at 4:00 PM, 4:30 PM (FACC), 7:00 PM, and 10:00 PM December 25: Masses at 9:00 AM and 10:30 AM Please note: The Christmas Masses at 4:00 PM and 4:30 PM tend to get very full, we are limiting the size of the gathering to keep it as safe as possible. Please call the Parish Office (46-3811) if you wish to make a reservation for one of those 2 Masses only. There will be NO 7:30 AM Mass, 8:00 AM Confessions, nor 4:30 PM Mass on Saturday, December 25. Feast of Mary, the Mother of God: Friday, December 31: 4:30 PM Saturday, January 1: 9:00 AM There will be no 7:30 AM Mass, 8:00 AM Confessions, nor 4:30 PM Mass on Saturday, Jan. 1



Giving TREE

Thank you to everyone who brought a gift for our Giving Tree. If you haven't returned your gift yet, please do so by Monday morning. Gifts that are returned late, will not be delivered. Call Traci in the Parish Office with questions.

St. Vincent de Paul Christmas Food Collection

We will be making our Christmas Food and Giving tree deliveries next Saturday morning, Dec. 11 at 9:00 AM from the Library. We welcome all who would like to help us with these deliveries. Please remember to wear your masks! Thank you to everyone who has donated food for this cause.



Please remember, if you are unable to attend Sunday Mass it is livestreamed on Sunday mornings.



Dear St. Thomas More Community,

The season of Advent provides an opportunity for teachers and students to live our mission to "Know, Love, and Serve God."

During the Advent season, the students gather daily in the school hallway around the Advent wreath for prayers and reflections. In the classroom, students do an activity associated with the Advent prayer for the day.

Our 8th graders just finished up their second retreat of the year. This is a great time for our students to get closer to God and find themselves.

The 2nd grade students and others received the sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time. They reflected on things they had done or failed to do, so they would become closer to God.

We are focusing on serving God by serving others thru the support of the parish St. Vincent de Paul ministry. We are currently doing a food drive to help restock the shelves. Last year we set a record and I had to have a mohawk for the year. Sorry to disappoint, but the mohawk is not on the table this year.

We are grateful to the St. Thomas More parish and our community for their continued support of our school mission and the opportunity to provide a Catholic education for all.

Everyone is busy with holiday decorations, shopping, and gatherings. Our prayer is that Advent will most importantly be a time to better prepare ourselves for the greatest gift we will receive at Christmas, Our Lord Himself.

We pray that your advent will be filled with grace and blessings for you and your families.
Peace and Blessings,

Jim McCollum

Need Help Shoveling?
Don't forget about our 8th Graders who are now busy earning money for their DC trip next May. If you need help with cleaning or yard work, contact Jennifer Onzay at:
STMDCTRIP@gmail.com



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Holiday Remembrance
 Honoring those who passed this year.
 Dec. 5th • 2pm
 All are invited • Call to RSVP

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