

# Saint Thomas More

Catholic Church



**December 12, 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](mailto:receptionist@thomasmorespokane.org).

# *S T. THOMAS MORE*

Website: [www.thomasmorespokane.org](http://www.thomasmorespokane.org)

December 12, 2021

## *Third Sunday of Advent*

### **Parish Staff**

Phone	466-3811
Pastor	
Fr. Pat Kerst	Ext. 208
<b>Parish Deacons</b>	
Deacon Douglas Banks	Ext. 204
Deacon Tom Heavey	
<b>Office Staff</b>	
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



## Hearing assistance is available during liturgies at FM 89.1

## **THIS WEEK AT OUR PARISH**

### **Monday, December 13:**

**1:00 PM** Shawl Ministry

### **Tuesday, December 14:**

**12:30 PM** Rosary Makers

### **Wednesday, December 15:**

<b>9:00 AM</b>	Adult Bible Study
<b>Noon</b>	Senior Card Group
<b>6:00 PM</b>	Sacramental Prep Class
<b>6:30 PM</b>	Adult Bible Study

### **Thursday, December 16:**

<b>1:00 PM</b>	Adult Bible Study
<b>6:00 PM</b>	Religious Education

### **Friday, December 17:**

### **Saturday, December 18:**

**4:30 PM** Vigil Mass

### **Sunday, December 19:**

**Mass at 7:30 AM, 9:00 AM, & 11:00 AM**

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

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-envirnoment>.



**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 — 12/05/21

Income	Budget—YTD	Received—YTD
Envelopes & Plates	\$294,030.00	\$259,738.00
<u>Received:</u>		
In person	\$5,635.00	
Mailed In	\$2,904.00	
Online	<u>\$4,086.00</u>	
Total	\$12,625.00	
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](http://www.dioceseofspokane.org)).



We have met our goal! Thank you to everyone who donated! You can still donate at [www.dioceseofspokane.org](http://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 \$161,115.00!



## 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](http://cceasternwa.org).

## EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS: The Well That Never Dries Up

Depending on how your mood is today, the words of Paul will hit you differently. “Rejoice always,” he tells us. Well, if your football team is poised to win this weekend or next, maybe you’re really feeling this vibe. But if you’ve got a long slog at work ahead of you this week and a to-do list that only seems to grow and never shrink, it may make you grumble. “Rejoice always? Always? When I’m tired? Cranky? When I’m sick of doing and giving? Thanks, Paul. I’ll be sure to scribble that phrase on a Post-It and stick it to my dashboard for when some entitled punk inevitably cuts me off on tomorrow’s morning commute.”

When we feel this way, we know it’s time to head back to the well. Think of all the places in Scripture where God compares His love, His mercy, His salvation to water. And not just any water — living water, water that moves. God’s strength is not a stagnant puddle sure to evaporate and disappear. It’s water you can keep coming back to. It’s water that never dries up.

Which is good news for us, because we never stop failing to do what we should, never stop failing to feel the joy and the compassion and the selflessness we are called to. We need a source of living water if we are going to ‘rejoice always.’ To be everyday stewards, we need a well that never empties.

The fountain of salvation never dries up. There is always more there for us to draw from. It’s a sign of His commitment — so let us, in turn, be committed to Him.

## IRA Charitable Rollover

Congress has reauthorized and made permanent the IRA charitable rollover. If you are 70 1/2 or older, you can make a charitable gift of up to \$100,000 from your IRA. Your gift will qualify for your required minimum distribution and you will not have to pay federal income tax on the amount given directly from your IRA to charity. Please consider a gift to your parish or Catholic school. For more info, contact your IRA administrator or tax advisor.

## EUCARISTIC MINISTER



## Ministers of the Altar December 18/19

### Lector:

4:30 PM	John Hausmann
7:30 AM	Bob Schmitt
9:00 AM	Pat Michels
11:00 AM	Bruce Becherini

### Eucharistic Minister

4:30 PM	Joanie Pelkie & Sue Trautman
7:30 AM	Roger & Karen Deshaw
9:00 AM	Ken & Sherry Oakland
11:00 AM	Gary Myers

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/bulletino/pubblico/2021/09/07/0541/01166.html>

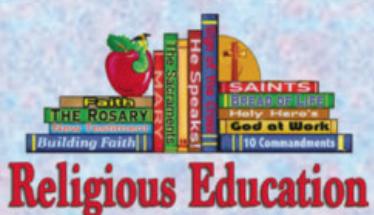
The STM Parish Pastoral Council is discussing how best to facilitate the participation of any parishioners who wish to be involved. These opportunities will be scheduled for February/early March of 2022. The diocesan website ([www.dioceseofspokane.org](http://www.dioceseofspokane.org)) will also have 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!

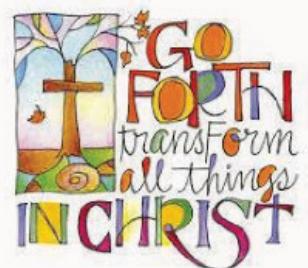
## “Put His Will in Your Will!” Clause for Christian Will

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](mailto: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:  
[wwwNCYMSpokane.com](http://wwwNCYMSpokane.com) or JJ at [jnazzaro@dioceseofspokane.org](mailto:jnazzaro@dioceseofspokane.org)  
Be sure to check out the Mid-Semester Newsletter on our website.

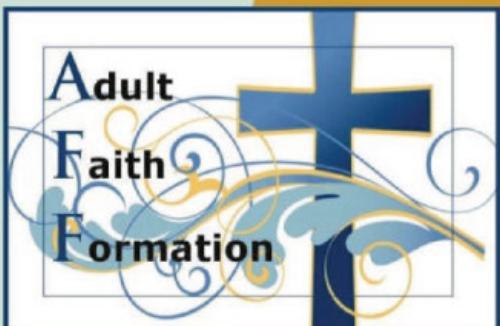
Facebook: NCYSpokane  
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#### December Events!

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.



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

**Altar Society Christmas Raffle**  
Drawing today after the 11:00 Am Mass!  
Last chance to buy your tickets.



**Advent Communal Penance Service**  
**Tuesday, December 21**  
**7:00 PM**

6 priests will be available for individual confessions at the end of the Communal Service.



**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](http://www.ihrc.net). We are currently holding Individual Advent Silent Retreats from Nov. 29-Dec. 21.

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.



**Prayer Shawl Ministry**

**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](http://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](mailto:kratuiste@dioceseofspokane.org)

**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.



**Knights' Corner**

Sat. Dec. 18:  
**Knights of Columbus Christmas Party**



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.

## Mass Intentions FOR THE WEEK

### Week of December 12:

Sat.	4:30 P.M.	Teresa Hoa Nguyen
Sun.	7:30 A.M.	Francisca Rajenel
	9:00 A.M.	Jim O'Rourke
	11:00 A.M.	Rusty Carbon
Mon.	7:30 A.M.	Donna Abel
Tues.	7:30 A.M.	Sheryl Cooney
Wed.	7:30 A.M.	David Onler
Thurs.	7:30 AM.	Roland Torgren
Fri.	7:30 A.M.	Msgr. Henry Kyabukasa
Sat.	7:30 A.M.	Mic McCrea
	4:30 P.M.	Joseph Hong Duong
Sun.	7:30 A.M.	Milton Schauble
	9:00 A.M.	Martin Dineen
	11:00 A.M.	STM



### 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

### Christmas Schedule

Friday, Dec. 24: Masses at 4:00 PM, 4:30 PM (PACC), 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 (466-3811) if you wish to make a reservation for one of those 2 Masses only. We are only taking a count of attendees, no reserved seating. 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

The generosity of our parishioners was so apparent by the amount of gifts you donated to the Giving Tree. We always worry about the amount of tags we put on our tree, but the STM Parishioners once again, came through! The gifts were beautifully and thoughtfully wrapped. Because of your generosity many families will have a merrier Christmas! We thank you all!

### St. Vincent de Paul Christmas Food Collection

Thank you to everyone who donated food for our Christmas Baskets and gifts for our families! Once again, the parishioners of STM were incredibly generous! Because of you, we were able to help 53 families in our community. Thank you to all who helped us deliver the food and presents on Saturday. So many helping hands made it possible to bring Christmas joy to so many.



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 8<sup>th</sup> 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 2<sup>nd</sup> 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](mailto:STMDCTRIP@gmail.com)





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Parishioner

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Gordon Blunt - Family Service Advisor  
(509) 279-9192 • [gordonb@holycrossofspokane.org](mailto:gordonb@holycrossofspokane.org)



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St. Thomas More Parish, Spokane, WA

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