

St. Thomas More Parish

4170 North Amber Drive | Brooklyn, Ohio 44144 | Phone: 216-749-0414 | Email: rectory@stmparish.net

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Mass Times Weekend Saturday - 4:30pm Sunday - 9am & 11am

Weekdays Monday, Wednesday, Friday, Saturday - 8:15am Tuesday - 6:45pm No Mass on Thursday

Holy Days Eve - 6:45pm Holy Days - 8:15am, 11:15am & 6:45pm

Confessions Saturday - 3pm until 4pm

Rectory Hours Monday-Friday 9am - 4pm



St. Thomas More School Enrolling PreSchool thru 8th Grade Nicole Dykstra - Principal 216-749-1660 | stmschool.com

Parish Staff Rev. Michael J. Feldtz Administrator

Deacon Don Brandt Permanent Deacon

Deacon Charles Zawadzki Retired Permanent Deacon

> Rev. James Vesely Pastor Emeritus

Sr. Jane Reisinger, SND Pastoral Associate

> Lisa Carson Office Manager

Melissa Wensing Business Manager

> Alex Ulle Music Director

Terri Sozio Religious Education

> Jeff Stutzman Youth Minister

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St. Thomas More Church



SATURDAY, JANUARY 1 -VIGIL 4:30PM - Rev. John Juhas SUNDAY, JANUARY 2 -**EPHIPHANY OF THE LORD** 9:00AM - Deacon Martin Thiel 11:00AM - People of the Parish MONDAY, JANUARY 3 -CHRISTMAS WEEKDAY 8:15AM - John & Katherine Soroczak TUESDAY, JANUARY 4 -**ST. ELIZABETH ANN SETON** 6:45PM - Mason Smerdel (Living) WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 5 -**ST. JOHN NEUMANN** 8:15AM - All Souls' Day Intentions THURSDAY, JANUARY 6 -ST. ANDRÉ BESSETTE FRIDAY, JANUARY 7 – **ST. RAYMOND OF PEÑAFORT** 8:15AM - Wransky Family - Student Liturgy SATURDAY, JANUARY 8 -CHRISTMAS WEEKDAY 8:15AM - Nazzarena & Anselmo Montali *4:30PM - Lucille Messuri SUNDAY, JANUARY 9 -**BAPTISM OF THE LORD** 9:00AM - People of the Parish *11:00AM - Gene Valente

*Mass of Remembrance

Financial Blessings

| Collection for December 19th | \$3,730.19 |
|------------------------------|------------|
| Faith Direct as of 12/15 | \$4,815.00 |
| Maintenance | \$1,703.50 |
| 75th Anniversary | \$257.00 |

Thank you and God bless you for your generosity.



Brooklyn, OH 44144

WEEKLY CONTENT GUIDE

First Reading:

Rise up in splendor, Jerusalem! Your light has come, the glory of the Lord shines upon you. (Is 60:1)

Psalm:

Lord, every nation on earth will adore you. (Ps 72)

Second Reading:

It was not made known to people in other generations as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit: that the Gentiles are coheirs, members of the same body, and copartners in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel. (Eph 3:5-6)

Gospel:

"Where is the newborn king of the Jews? We saw his star at its rising and have come to do him homage." (Mt 2:2)

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PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

CHAIRPERSON: Stephanie Liebert SECRETARY: Dawn Thomas

REGISTRATION

Persons who live within parish boundaries should be properly registered. This includes all students in high school and college. Register with the priest after Mass or by calling the rectory. If you move out of the parish, please notify the rectory.

BAPTISMS

Sunday: 12:30 PM or during any weekend liturgy. Prior to baptism of their first child, parents are required to attend a Pre-Baptism class. Please call the rectory at 216-749-0414 to schedule an interview.

MARRIAGES

Should be arranged with a priest by calling the rectory 8 months prior to the wedding date. Individual conferences, plus attendance at a pre-marriage program, are required for proper preparation.

FROM THE CORNER OFFICE...

Do you SEE IT? The star, do you see it? That can be the question between our three Kings (or, these wise-guys...). The celebration of this **Solemnity of the Epiphany of our Lord** points out the <u>Kingship of Jesus</u>. Remember that final feast day of the liturgical year, The Kingship of Jesus or Christ the King, or (even) the feast of "Our Lord, Jesus Christ, King of the Universe" ended off the year, and now we start the year with this **Epiphany** celebrating Jesus Christ, as he has come for all of us!

See in the First Reading from Isaiah telling us to, "Rise up in splendor, Jerusalem!" [and, then] "Nations shall walk by your light..." St. Paul even tells of this revelation being made to the Gentiles, as well, in the Second Reading. This is a revelation to ALL of God's children. This Gospel reading from St. Matthew presents the story of the magi following the star to Bethlehem in search of the new king. Sure this quest by the magi greatly upset King Herod as he felt his kingship was to be challenged. But this is the revelation – The Epiphany – that Jesus is now among us! That our salvation is near, as Jesus Christ, our Savior is now "in our presence. Notice if you will... savior of ALL of God's children; not just the Israelites but the Gentiles, as well. People have seen the signs in the *East* and the *West*, the *North* and the *South*. All of God's children are called to **REJOICE**!

Here are the questions; did you see the star? Did you have the revelation? Did you think about or pray over the *Epiphany of Jesus Christ* this holiday season? Like my pile of Christmas cards, here on my desk – it's never too late – keep working at it!

Fr. Mike

75th Anniversary thoughts:

Merry Christmas to you and your family! Continuing our season of *REJOICING*... I want to continue to use this portion to *THANK YOU ALL* for all the good that you do.

The Advent Season and the holidays have been a challenge with the virus, the busy schedule and the continual shifting of things. The *parish staff* and *Elves behind the scenes*, who all know who they are, have really stepped-up and held things together. I'll keep saying *THANK YOU* to everyone, as we would not have what we have today would it not be for everyone pulling together. Continue to enjoy this Christmas Season with your family, and all of us as a Family of Faith. *Stay safe and healthy in 2022*!

Clarification on last Sunday's homily:

Not knowing how certain homilies will be taken or not taken, I do want to pause and clarify the "disclaimer" again on last week's homily when I referenced how we engage in our liturgical celebrations. I do not mean to offend anyone or turn people away from the celebration of the sacraments... Yes, we have extremes on the dress, reverence, and respect in the church. We need to keep in mind that in the church building (and even when we celebrate the Holy Eucharist in outside settings) that we are praising God. That not showing respect in our engagement (if that is our dress, gestures, singing/participation, or such) then this is disrespectful to God and each other. Yes, we know Jesus dwelt among us, was human (and divine) and probably enjoyed a good pair of sandals and casual clothes; but he also did respect and worship God as creator, and others as children of God, too.

Thank you for those who "were glad to hear something about respect, obedience and spiritual discipline, in the homily." We will get there together as a family of faith.

TRAVELING MADONNA This week the statue is at the home of: Madelyn Koranda.

Please continue to pray for our host families as they share their home with our Traveling Madonna. Remember to send in any pictures that you take to the rectory.

Please call the rectory to sign-up to host the Traveling Madonna in 2022. We still have weeks available in January, 2022.

SAINT QUOTE

"God sees every one of us; He creates every soul...for a purpose. He needs, He deigns to need, every one of us. He has an end for each of us; we are all equal in His sight, and we are placed in our different ranks and stations, not to get what we can out of them for ourselves, but to labor in them for Him."

St. John Nepomucene Neumann (1811-1860), Patron of Catholic Education Feast Day: January 5th (Bulletin Quote provided by AZ Quotes; www.azquotes.com)

VOCATION CORNER Maryknoll Fathers, Brothers & Sisters

To learn more about the Maryknoll Fathers, Brothers & Sisters, visit maryknoll.org. Please keep them and all those discerning a vocation in your prayers as we continue to pray for vocations.

St. Thomas More Church



Hania Alkhatib, Theodore Antrum, Jack Baker, Albert Becerra, Frank Bielski, Michael Bogucki, Avianna Burgos, Nancy Butler, Minh Chau & Tai Nguyen, Jeremy Cheetham, Carol Cushler, Elizabeth DeLeon, Diana Downes, Sharon Erich, Maureen Finneran, Yolanda G., Norma Gademer, Ruth & Joseph Giaco, Alice Gruden, Andy Guelker, Mila Haun, Bobby Hengoed, Ed Hengoed, Sr., Alex Hogan, Ida Jean Hopkins, Sr. Ignatius Jones, SIW, Mick Jones, Doris Kaczmarek, Ava Kaspar-Hernandez, Joe Kastelic, Jesse Kazimer, Brent Keller, Melissa Korhely, Joan Kremser, Joyce Krist, Jessica Kuhar, Raymond Kuhar,

Helen Kuhel, Martha & George Kysil, Maggie Leonardo, Robert Loria, Paul & Bobbi Matysiak, Sandy Meade, Vinny Mercurio, John Misch, Mills & Lillian Mooney, Rafaela Morales, Dave Muran, Jack

Murphy, Josalyn Murray, Bill Newton, Keshia Newton, Jean Palumbo, Jim Palumbo, Joanne

Palumbo, Jodi Palumbo, Pam Palumbo, Victor Piskor, Mary Ellen Popovich, Dennis Powers, Sr., Ed

Readence, Paula Ritter, Diane Rodes, Bob & Audrey Roginsky, Mary Ryba, Mike Sekerak, Baby Sienna, Alexis Simecek, Memphis Charles & Myles David Sparks, Special Intention, Jennifer Stancato, Karen Syroka, Debbie Tomusko, Joy Turner, William Udics, Joseph Valencik, Jim Viets, Leroy Werley, Patricia Werley, Erica Wilmot, Robert Wittine, Betty Wozniak and Marian Zawadzki.

Please call the rectory by noon on Monday to add a name to the list. Names <u>will remain</u> on the list until you call to have them removed.



Please remember Edna Suszko, Deacon Tom Grasson, Jonathan Cehelnik, Deacon Richard Woods and Marie Jablonski in your prayers. God grant them eternal rest.

PRE-PLAN FUNERAL INFORMATION

If you are interested in planning your own funeral Mass, please contact the rectory and one of the members of the Ministry of Consolation will contact you to set up a convenient time for you. Pre-Planning has many advantages. You are able to select your favorite readings and songs for your Mass. It also takes a lot of stress away from your loved ones.

Brooklyn, OH 44144



Catholic Movie Night - We will be hosting a Catholic Movie Night once a month with some great Catholic movies. All movies are FREE & in the Parish Center Upper Hall. They start promptly at 6pm. Join us on January 16th for *Joan of Arc* (1948).

ST. CHARLES BORROMEO: 440-884-3030 Once-in-a-Lifetime Opportunity! - Fr. Josh Cochrac, your Chaplain and Spiritual Guide, invites you...BEHIND THE WALLS: FAMOUS MONAS-TERIES OF THE WORLD! Tuesday afternoons in January from 1-2pm via Zoom! Only \$10/participant. Please visit St. Charles Borromeo website to register by January 3rd. Questions? Please contact Brian Pelcin, Tour Directory, in the parish office.

ST. LEO THE GREAT: 216-661-1006

The Great Sweepstakes 2022 - Tickets for the 2022 Great Sweepstakes can be purchased through the rectory office. \$30 per ticket and you can win multiple times from January 2, 2022 - November 10, 2022. Weekly \$100 drawings, Special \$200.00 drawings and the Super Drawing of \$1,000.00 on November 10th.

Readings Week

Readings for the week of January 2, 2022

| readings for the week of Sundary 2, 2022 | |
|--|--|
| Sunday: | Is 60:1-6/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13 |
| | [cf.11]/Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12 |
| Monday: | 1 Jn 3:22-4:6/Ps 2:7bc-8, 10-12a/Mt |
| · | 4:12-17, 23-25 |
| Tuesday: | 1Jn4:7-10/Ps72:1-2,3-4,7-8/Mk6:34-44 |
| Wednesday: | 1 Jn 4:11-18/Ps 72:1-2, 10, 12-13/Mk |
| - | 6:45-52 |
| Thursday: | 1 Jn 4:19-5:4/Ps 72:1-2, 14 and 15bc, |
| | 17/Lk 4:14-22a |
| Friday: | 1 Jn 5:5-13/Ps 147:12-13, 14-15, 19- |
| - | 20/Lk 5:12-16 |
| Saturday: | 1 Jn 5:14-21/Ps 149:1-2, 3-4, 5 and 6a |
| · | and 9b/Jn 3:22-30 |
| Next Sunday: | Is 42:1-4, 6-7/Ps 29:1-2, 3-4, 3, 9-10 |
| | [11b]/Acts 10:34-38/Lk 3:15-16, 21-22 |
| | or, Is 40:1-5, 9-11/Ps 104:1b-2, 3-4, 24 |
| | -25, 27-28, 29-30 [1]/Ti 2:11-14; 3:4-7/ |
| | Lk 3:15-16, 21-22 |

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Epiphany of the Lord

MUSIC MINISTRY

Merry Belated Christmas and Happy Epiphany, Parishioners of St. Thomas More! I hope you all had a wonderful, blessed, and healthy Christmas and New Year's!

What a crazy year we've had! I want to thank all of your support for the parish, specifically for We Give Catholic. We set our goal at \$40,000, and although we didn't reach that, I was hoping for at least \$20,000 - which we did raise! With your generosity, we were the top "medium-sized" parish in the diocese, and I cannot be more proud and grateful for the people of STM!

EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Thank you all for your ministry to St. Thomas More, and for stepping up this past weekend when EM's were needed. Anyone interested in becoming a Eucharistic Minister, please contact me at <u>musicministry@stmparish.net</u> or by calling the rectory.

MUSIC MINISTRY

Thank you all for your patience. With the rising number of cases and a more easily transmissible variant, I will continue to watch and make smart and safe decisions for the good of the parish. I hope to begin soon, but staying healthy is my main priority for everyone.

Kind regards, Alex Ulle Music Director



Congratulations and welcome Nicholas James Adkins who was baptized on December 19th and Vincent Tevin Hudak who was baptized on December 21st at St. Thomas More. God bless you!



Congratulations to Allison Gorczyca and Ryan Fallon who were married at St. Thomas More on December 18th. May God bless you both!

ST. THOMAS MORE SCHOOL MEET THE TEACHERS

Stefanie Relic

Hi, I am Stefanie Relic. I teach 7th and 8th grade math, science and social studies. I have been an educator for 16 years. I have previously taught in Florida and a charter school in Cleveland. I have a bachelor degree in Business Administration in Finance and Middle School education. I have



been truly blessed to work with the scholars at St. Thomas More. My goal is to help each scholar grow academically, socially, and spiritually.

I am married to Nathan, we have a 13 year old son, Aiden, and a dog named Charlie. In my free time I like to read, bake and be outside. My son plays soccer so if I am not at school, most likely you can find me at a soccer field.

ANNUAL MEMORIAL CANDLES

In the month of November, we remembered our beloved dead. Why not remember them the whole year round? Memorial Candles for 2021 are now available. The cost is \$200 for the year, \$190 if you return your November candle or \$100 for six months. Forms are available at the rectory or on our website.

PARISH PRAYER

O God, the Creator and giver of all things, bless this parish. Strengthen our faith; grant us the spirit of sacrifice and service so that, with Your grace, we may provide for the needs of our members, glorify You and sanctify ourselves. Through Christ Our Lord, Amen.

VIRUS PREVENTION

Please know that it is **highly** recommended that masks be worn at Mass. If you are not feeling well, please stay home. Please distance yourself as you process up to receive Communion as well as in the pews. Thank you for doing your part to keep everyone safe and healthy.



Thank you to all the decorators, extra volunteers, greeters, ushers, musicians and anyone else who helped with the holidays. You all give so generously of your time and talents to help us here and we are extremely grateful for all that you do!

St. Thomas More Church

SISTERS OF THE INCARNATE WORD

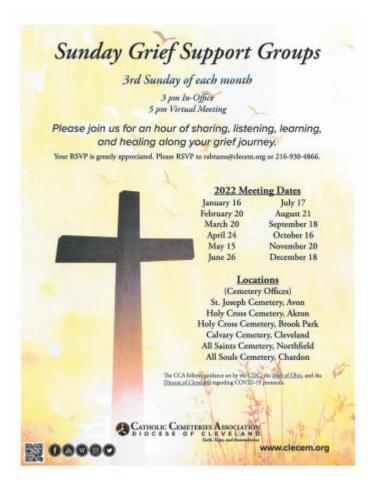
ANNUAL RAFFLE - The Sisters of the Incarnate Word Annual Raffle is underway. Tickets are \$5 each and the GRAND PRIZE is \$10,000! The drawing will be held on Friday, February 4, 2022. Tickets may be purchased from any Incarnate Word student or by going online at www.incarnatewordorder.org and selecting "Raffle Tickets." If you would like additional information, please call Sharron in the Sisters' Development Office at 440-886-6440, ext. 415.

TAX CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS

If you would like a tax contribution statement for your 2021 donations, please contact the rectory at 216 -749-0414. Or send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to the rectory to Lisa's attention.

GRIEF & HEALING SUPPORT GROUP

Holy Family is holding a FREE Grief & Healing Support Group where members will meet others who have suffered a loss, explore their individual grief process & gain knowledge & insight of useful grief coping skills to help them begin to heal. These sessions will take place Tuesday afternoons, January 11th - February 15th from 1:30pm - 3pm via Zoom. Contact Erin Hout at ehout@holyfamilyhome.com or 440-545-7032 by January 5th to register.



Brooklyn, OH 44144



EPIPHANY BLESSING OF A HOME

ALL: Make the Sign of the Cross.

HEAD OF HOUSEHOLD: Peace be to this house and to all who dwell here, in the name of the Lord.

ALL: Blessed be God forever.

READER: In the beginning was the Word and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things come to be through Him, and without Him nothing came to be...And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we saw his glory, the glory as of the Father's only Son, full of grace and truth. (John 1:1-3, 14)

Using chalk, write the first half of the current year (22), initials of the 3 Magi (C + M + B) followed by the other half of the year (22) (20+C+M+B+22). Each could be written by a different member of the household. Place this above the main entrance to your home.

ALL: Lord God of heaven and earth, you revealed your only begotten Son to every nation by the guidance of a star. Bless this house and all who inhabit it. May we be blessed with health, goodness of heart, gentleness and the keeping of your law. Fill us with the light of Christ, that our love for each other may go out to all. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

AMEN.



AM1260 The Rock will broadcast "Mass for Life." January 21, 2022

Happy New Year from the Rock! Please join AM 1260 The Rock as we broadcast the annual "Mass for Life." Most Reverend Edward C. Malesic, Bishop of Cleveland, will celebrate Mass from the Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist on Friday, January 21st at 10:00 AM. Listen via radio, through our website (<u>am1260therock.com</u>), or on our mobile app. Please pray for The Culture of Life to permeate our country and world as we begin this new year! God Bless You!



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