

Catholic Church Community of  
**St. Thomas More**

115 Kings Highway  
Hauppauge, NY 11788-4204

**Pastoral Staff**

Rev. Msgr. Francis S. Midura, Pastor  
Rev. Peter O'Rourke, CP (*in residence*)  
Rev. Robert Dahlke, SJ, Weekend Priest  
Deacon Robert D. Weisz  
Deacon Edward R. Vigneaux  
Deacon John S. Rapacki

**Religious Education**

Patricia Chapin, Co-director  
Mary Ellen Carroll, Co-director

**Parish Outreach**

Staffed by volunteers

**Justice & Peace**

Ralph Molinaro, Chairperson

**Music Ministry**

Emilia Savarese, Facilitator

**Youth Ministry**

Joe Gast, S.C., Youth Minister

**OUR PARISH SACRAMENTAL LIFE -  
EUCCHARIST**

Weekend Masses: Saturday: 5pm  
Sunday: 8am, 9:15am, 10:45am, 12:15pm  
Weekday Mass: 9am, Monday through  
Saturday.

*BAPTISM*—As soon as your child is born, please call the Church Office to make Baptism arrangements. Preparation session and welcoming Mass attendance are required.

*MARRIAGE*—As soon as a couple decides to marry, and BEFORE making any other arrangements, call the Church Office to schedule an appointment with Fr. Midura or one of the deacons.

*RECONCILIATION*—Celebrated in Church every Saturday from 4pm to 4:45pm, or by previous appointment with Fr. Midura.

*SACRAMENT OF THE SICK*—Call the Church Office to request visitation of the sick.

*CONFIRMATION*—Those who have not been confirmed should call the Church Office to receive further information.

*HOLY ORDERS*—Contact Fr. Midura for more information about the priesthood or diaconate.



*February 19, 2012*  
*Seventh Ordinary Sunday*

*Parish Mission Statement:*  
*St. Thomas More Roman Catholic Church is a*  
*parish community striving to share the Spirit of Love through*  
*Prayer, Worship, the Sacraments*  
*The Teachings of the Church, and*  
*Our concern for others through Christian Stewardship.*

**Telephones:**

Rectory—	234-5551	FAX 234-6412
Religious Ed—	234-0397	FAX 234-1199
Outreach—	234-3149	FAX 234-1199
Church Lobby—	348-9378	

Masses for this coming week	Growing through the Sunday Scriptures
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>February 19, 2012</b>  <b>Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time</b>  <b>Isaiah 43:18-19, 21-22, 24b-25</b>  <b>Psalm 41:2-3, 4-5, 13-14</b>  <b>2 Corinthians 1:18-22</b>  <b>Mark 2:1-12</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>February 26, 2012</b>  <b>First Sunday of Lent</b>  <b>Genesis 9:8-15</b>  <b>Psalm 25:4-5, 6-7, 8-9</b>  <b>1 Peter 3:18-22</b>  <b>Mark 1:12-15</b></p>
<p><b>Saturday—February 18</b>  <i>(Anticipated Mass for Sunday)</i>  5pm—Richard Clementi <i>by Emilia &amp; Lou Saverese</i>  <b>Sunday—February 19—Seventh Ordinary Sunday</b>  8am—Lisa Codispoti <i>by Robert &amp; Barbara Plansker</i>, John Edell <i>by Joan &amp; Gerard Smith</i>, Michael Hegarty <i>by Lou &amp; Ann Anatrella</i>, Kathleen Roberti <i>by Barbara Jones</i>, Elinor Warren <i>by Alicia &amp; Michael Freda</i>  9:15am—Thomas Bigler <i>by Rosemary &amp; George Williams</i>  10:45am—Frank Lamb <i>by the Demarco &amp; Schmacher family</i>  12:15pm—Luco Meoli <i>by Kay &amp; Walter Drechsler</i>  <b>Monday—February 20</b>  9am—Lisa Rosmini <i>by Arlene &amp; Al Mellina</i>  <b>Tuesday—February 21—St. Peter Damian</b>  9am—Josephine Hewes <i>by Donna Mott</i>  7pm—Mass of Transition to Lent  <b>Wednesday—February 22—Ash Wednesday</b>  9am Mass—For the People of the Parish (with imposition of ashes)  12:10pm—Prayer Service (with imposition of ashes)  4:30pm—Prayer Service (with imposition of ashes)  7:30pm Mass - (with imposition of ashes)  <b>Thursday—February 23—St. Policarp</b>  9am—Clara Terenzi <i>by her loving family</i>  <b>Friday—February 24</b>  9am—Cookie Ferrero <i>by Dottie Lossani</i>  <b>Saturday—February 25</b>  9am—John Kowalewski <i>by the Tkacz family</i>  <i>(Anticipated Mass for Sunday)</i>  5pm—Richard Clementi <i>by Mary Ann &amp; Ralph Rantz</i>, Helen Maganza <i>by John &amp; MaryAnn Egan</i>, Kathleen Roberti <i>by John &amp; Mary Fitzgerald</i>, Kelly Rose <i>by the Rose family</i>, Josephine Sadowski <i>by the Dowd family</i>  <b>Sunday—February 26—First Sunday of Lent</b>  8am—Gerard Lehner <i>by Rosemarie &amp; Bob Nick</i>  9:15am—Luco Meoli <i>by Kathy Drechsler</i>  10:45am—Fabio DiMeglio <i>by Michael &amp; Vivian</i>  12:15pm—Mario Russo, Sr. <i>by Mario Russo, Jr.</i></p>	<p><b>A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Mark:</b>  The Spirit drove Jesus out into the desert, and he remained in the desert for forty days, tempted by Satan. He was among wild beasts, and the angels ministered to him.  After John had been arrested, Jesus came to Galilee proclaiming the gospel of God:  "This is the time of fulfillment.  The kingdom of God is at hand.  Repent, and believe in the gospel."</p> <p><b>Focus Questions:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Jesus says, repent, and believe in the gospel. How will you live those words this Lent?</li> <li>2) Relate an experience when you were tested.</li> <li>3) How will you change or reform this Lent?</li> </ol> <p><b>Family and children's question:</b></p> <p>The good news that Jesus proclaims is that God's love is stronger than evil. What do you do to bring goodness to the lives of those around you?</p>



## PRAY FOR THE SICK

Penny Henrich, Gary Surdi, Bill Radcliffe, Arlene LaRosa, Joseph Peter, Ellen Jane Vinson, Victoria Nelson, Peter Calandrella, Ruth Weurth, Martha McDonald, Doreen Montalbano, Anthony Iovino, Lorraine Mango-Follini, Jackie Berntsen, Phyllis

Senner, Thuy Wilmott, Kathryn Badalaty, Andrew Spano, Alexa Shea Jarvis, Dennis Ligus, Jerry & Maria Bettua, Brian Kilroy, Elven Tangel, Angelo Guzman, Joseph Place, Richard Landi, Linda Sue Cappisillo, Dennis Chase, Michael Mason, James Cable, Terri Iardi McKee, Frank Sesti, Charles Boston, Jennifer Savarese, Sal Alessi, Claudia Fiore, Tom Devine, Irene Aberle, Vito Baliunas, Teresa Szepletowska, Maria Lott, Deanna Danowski, Chase Turano, Linda Wilkonski, James Nachtman, Bob Sydlo, Bryce Owen, Casey McDonald, Henry Kwiecenski, Ann Iovino, Veronica Mattes, Victor Buzzanca, Elaine Kleinstauber, Josephine Campanelli, Lucja Kostrzewa, Katherine Drechsler, Jean Marsala-Kieffner, Edward Duffy, Catherine Kiss, Conrad Gangone, Patrick Quinn, Denise Mays, Pat Owens, Andrea Walker, Tom Stahura, Judy Vartanian, James & Rita Basile, Joe Dunn, Thomas McGuire, Caroline Grigas, Dale Grippo, Connie Sbrocchi, Natalie Grippo, Marie Dunn.

*(We ask those who wish to have the sick listed in the bulletin to submit their names through the collection or drop the name(s) off at the Church Office. Please use the cut-out in the bulletin for your convenience. This current list expires the last Sunday of March).*

## PRAY FOR THE DECEASED

Edward Johnston, our deceased loved ones and our deceased servicemen and women.

## FROM FR. MIDURA

**OUR LITURGY FOR SUNDAY**—In today's Gospel, we hear the story of four men who bring one who is paralyzed to Jesus for healing. Unable to get through the crowd, they carry the paralyzed one to the roof, create an opening and then lower him, still lying on a mat, within reach of Jesus. Let us pray today for that kind of energetic faith.

**HOSPITALITY SUNDAY**—This Sunday is Hospitality Sunday. All are invited to Walden Hall after Mass for refreshments, each other's company and for the chance to look over the spiritual lending library.

**NO BIBLE STUDY THIS WEEK**—Because of President's Week, there will be no Bible Study on February 19-20. It will resume next week.

**THE SEASON OF LENT** begins on Wednesday, February 22 and continues until the Solemn Days of Holy Week. As we prepare for this penitential season, we invite everyone to attend the 7pm Mass on Tuesday evening to help us transition into the season of Lent. On Wednesday, Ash Wednesday, we will have morning Mass at 9am, a Prayer

Service at 12:10pm, an afternoon Prayer Service at 4:30pm and an evening Mass at 7:30pm. There will be the Imposition of Ashes at all the events of Ash Wednesday.

We encourage everyone to undertake some form of spiritual and penitential practice that is consistent with the Season of Lent. The "giving up" or the "doing something" extra is a decision that we should make for ourselves to focus upon during the entire season of Lent.

We have daily Mass at 9am. We will have Stations of the Cross every Lenten Friday at 7pm in the Church. We offer the Sacrament of Penance every Saturday at 4pm.

Let us pray for one another during the season of Lent.

### LENTEN GUIDELINES—

**Fasting**—On Ash Wednesday and Good Friday, those between the ages of 18 and 59 limit themselves to one full meal and eat nothing between meals. Those other meals are light meals.

**Meatless Days**—Those 14 years of age and over are to abstain from eating meat on all Fridays of Lent, as well as Ash Wednesday and Good Friday.

### LENT: FAST FROM; FEAST ON

Fast from judging others; feast on the Christ dwelling in them.

Fast from emphasis on differences; feast on the unity of life.

Fast from apparent darkness; feast on the reality of light.

Fast from thoughts of illness; feast on the healing power of God.

Fast from words that pollute; feast on phrases that purify.

Fast from discontent; feast on gratitude.

Fast from anger; feast on patience.

Fast from pessimism; feast on optimism.

Fast from worry; feast on divine order.

Fast from complaining; feast on appreciation. *(to be continued)*

### WHAT'S HAPPENING AROUND OUR FACILITY—

Thanks to the Knights of Columbus and other parishioners who came by, we were able to tend to the clutter that existed in some parts of the parish center. Things that were in need of removal, such as used and no longer items in closets, were removed. The result was that we filled 30 yards of dumpsters. Some shelving was also relocated and some seasonal items were placed overhead or were stored in the storage shed to make more ground level space. *Progress!*

**2011 CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS**—If anyone needs a record of their contributions to the parish for 2011, please fill out and return the cut-out that is in the bulletin.

Faith Direct users received a statement from them directly as did the supporters of the Catholic Ministries Appeal.

We will continue to send them out as we receive and compile them.

**MASS INTENTIONS FOR 2013**—The 2013 Mass Book is available for reserving Masses for those who have died and also for the intentions of those who are living. When you come down to arrange Masses, please have your choices and intention names written down in case the Office is busy. This way we can arrange the Masses for you. The diocesan standard stipend for Masses, beginning in 2013, will be \$20 for a single Mass intention and \$15 for a Mass with multiple intentions.

There are available dates for this year 2012 also.

**REVERENCE WHEN RECEIVING THE EUCHARIST**—We are asked to make a head bow as we approach to receive the Body of Christ and the Blood of Christ. Then we respond: “Amen” when we are presented with the Body of Christ or the Blood of Christ.

**CATHOLIC MINISTRIES APPEAL 2012**—Those of us on the diocesan mailing list should have received a communication from the CMA office about this year’s Appeal. St. Thomas More has a goal or assessment this year of \$60,700. Again, we are asking everyone to consider making a pledge to the Appeal so that we can make our goal. Last year’s CMA appeal returned over \$13,000 as a rebate to the parish. Every bit helps!

Every pledge can be paid off over the next several months. Your pledge can also be charged to a credit card, so that you have miles that you can use for that trip to Baltimore.

If you did not receive a letter in the mail, please use the form that is in the bulletin or use one of the CMA envelopes located where you get the bulletin. You can mail the pledge directly to the CMA office. And as always, we thank you for helping us in the CMA for 2012.

**SACRAMENT OF THE ANOINTING OF THE SICK** will be conferred on Sunday, March 18, during the 10:45am Mass. All those in need of the healing of Jesus are invited to celebrate the Sacrament.

**OUR PRIEST-CELEBRANTS**

*(Subject to last minute changes)*

This weekend      Next Sunday

*Saturday*

5pm                      Fr. O’Rourke      Msgr. Midura

*Sunday*

8am                      Msgr. Midura      Fr. O’Rourke

9:15am                  Msgr. Midura      Msgr. Midura

10:45am                Fr. Dahlke              Fr. Dahlke

12:15pm                Fr. Dahlke              Fr. Racos

**RESPECT LIFE NEWS**

**ADORATION BEFORE THE BLESSED SACRAMENT**

**HOLY HOUR:** Every 4th Monday of the month at 7:45pm.

All are welcome to come and pray before the Blessed Sacrament for a deeper respect for life, for world peace, for our Parish and for our personal intentions. The Litany and Rosary will be recited, as well as the Divine Mercy Prayers, and there will be quiet time for meditation. Come and spend a special hour with the Lord.

**REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH ACT**—This legislation will declare abortion a “fundamental right” in New York State, prohibiting even basic protections, such as parental notification, limits on governmental funding of abortion, and a ban on gender-selection abortions.

The law would allow non-physicians to do abortions, jeopardize any agency that does not refer for abortion and seriously threaten conscience protections for hospitals and medical professionals.

For the sake of pregnant women and their unborn children, we urge our legislators to oppose this bill.

Write a message to your Senator at  
Legislative Bldg, Albany, NY 12247

Switchboard 518.455.2800 or

Your NYS Assembly Member

Legislative Bldg, Albany, NY 12248

Switchboard 518.445.4100

*Sample Message*

*As your constituent, I strongly urge you to oppose the so-called “Reproductive Health Act” S.2524(Klein), S2844 (Stewart-Cousins) that is before the Legislature this session. I understand that this law would, among other things:*

*Remove criminal penalties even from unlawful abortions;  
Prevent an unborn child who is the intended victim of a crime from being recognized as a victim;*

*Prevent any limitation on use of taxpayer funds to curtail NY’s Medicaid policy of paying for abortion-on-demand through all nine months of pregnancy;*

*Deceitfully redefine pregnancy as beginning at implantation—not fertilization;*

*Falsely redefine fetal (child) viability; and*

*Unleash new assaults on the consciences of those who oppose participating in abortion—health care professionals, hospitals, hospital residents, and health insurance providers.*

*As a citizen and a taxpayer in New York, I am deeply concerned about the future of our state and the effects, intended and unintended, this legislation will have on us who believe that life is sacred and should be protected. I would appreciate your response to my concerns. Respectfully,*

**PRO LIFE**

Our meetings are on every Wednesday and Saturday, rain or shine, from 8am to 10:30am at the Smithtown Abortion Clinic, 70 Maple Avenue (One block south of Route 25 (Jericho Turnpike)). Come join our protest and pray with us to defend the defenseless.

**JUSTICE & PEACE**

*Continuing from last week on seeing the Gospel through the eyes of the poor.* When Jesus healed people, He always said “your faith has healed you.” He never said you have the correct dogma or you are very orthodox. Jesus message was always a message of love and simple humanity. It was always non violent. To understand this requires that we go to a place and let God lead us to surrender, love and humility. Contemplative prayer can be a place to go. It is a way to understand and love God. We then begin to understand the message of the Gospel and that message becomes our life. We now begin to understand what Jesus meant when He said the “Reign of God is at hand.” Third world people seem to understand and live that message. As products of Western Civilization, we feel more comfortable in our head. In Asia, Africa and Latin America they feel more comfortable in their bodies. What does all this mean in terms of

justice and peace? These cultures are showing us that religion is more from the gut and heart than from the head. They have internalized the message of the Gospel. *To be continued.*

*Justice is a parish affair.*

*Discover needs and act justly.*

*Together we can make a difference.*

The 20th is Presidents' Day. It is Family Day in Canada.

The 21st is Saint Peter Damian.

The 22nd is Ash Wednesday, the start of Lent. It is also George Washington's Birthday.

The 23rd is Saint Polycarp.

**FEEDING THE PIGGY**—You are always invited to lend your support of the “piggy” in the Church lobby by placing any spare quarters into the tube. When we accumulate \$500 we will forward that amount so that a heifer can be purchased for a family.

## OUR LENTEN PROJECT

The Justice and Peace committee has undertaken the Vet Dogs for Wounded Veterans as our Lenten Project this year. This is a local organization right here in Smithtown. Vet Dogs provides dogs for veterans who are blind; service dogs for those with disabilities other than blindness; and physical and occupational therapy dogs to work with amputees. A representative of the organization will speak at all the Masses, with a dog, the weekend of February 18-19. Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, February 22. We will have our “little house” with a informative poster to accept your donations. This is a very worthwhile program, at no cost to the veterans who have given so much for us. We thank you in advance.

## PARISH OUTREACH & ST. VINCENT de PAUL NEWS

*Our mission to help people incorporate St. Thomas More Parish Outreach and the St. Thomas St. Vincent de Paul Conference.*



The Food Pantry always welcomes non-perishable foods to be distributed to our clients. Please bring items to the bin located in the Church entrance. Any perishable foods you wish to donate may be brought to Outreach from Monday to Thursday, between the hours of 10am and

2pm. Thanks for your continued support.

**CATHOLIC CHARITIES COMMUNITY SUPPLEMENTAL FOOD PROGRAM**—The CSFP Mobile Food Program will be at St. Anne’s Garden Sr. Housing, Brentwood, on Friday, February 24<sup>th</sup> from 9am-Noon for qualifying seniors. Please bring proof of address, date of birth, and income. For further information, call 631-491-4166.

**Thank you** to Christopher Burns, Nicholas Sicurelli and Skylar

De Lucia of Boy Scout Troop 343 for their donation of 100 lbs. of food to Outreach which they collected through a Food Drive. The Food Drive was one of three activities the scouts are working on to receive an “Ad Altari Dei” (To the Altar of God) emblem. They also spent an afternoon playing bingo at the Arbors with seniors and will attend an upcoming Day of Retreat to complete the requirements to earn their emblems which will be awarded at St. Agnes Cathedral at a later date. Congratulations, Scouts, on your Community Service!

## YOUNG AT HEART BUYING/SELLING YOUR HOME

On February 24, the YAH Seniors will present Ms. Cherri Glock from Prudential Realty in Smithtown. She will talk on preparing your home for sale, as well as buying, financing, securing any required permits. All questions will be answered.

All are welcomed.

Our meeting begins at 7:30pm. Our guest speaker begins at 8:30pm. Please call Bob at 686.5272 to help our hospitality committee prepare our usual refreshments.

## PRAY FOR OUR SOLDIERS

Philip Root	David Probst
Scott Lovelock	Candice Gagnon
Randy Donaldson	Christopher Day
Wesley John Pritchett	Thomas Nichols
Christopher Sidote	Jason Doyle
Daniel Cribbin	Joseph Marziotta
William Gregory	Justin Schneider
Christopher Mustakas	Greg Boes
Thomas Mangini	John Anthony Blake



If you have a service member or know of someone who is serving our country and you would like their name added to this list, please submit their names through the collection basket or the Church Office. If they have returned, let us know.

## OUR PRE-CANA COUPLES

Let us include in our prayers the couples who are preparing for their marriage and who are involved currently in our Pre Cana program.

Diana Bosak & Daniel Cano  
Sandra LeGrand & Paul Somma  
Lisa Kogel & Paul Lanni  
Colleen McDonald & Stephen Monsees  
Andrea Lonaro & Lawrence Papola  
Meredith DeFelice & Jeremy Bernstein  
Brianna Cipriani & James Moro

## YOUTH MINISTRY CORNER

If you have any questions about the program, please contact Joe Gast, Youth Minister at [Gast.Joe@gmail.com](mailto:Gast.Joe@gmail.com) or check out our website at [www.stthomasmoreyouth.org](http://www.stthomasmoreyouth.org).

**YOUTH MINISTRY FUNDRAISER**—Our Youth Ministry will

be having a fund raiser at Modell's. The coupon available in the lobby will entitle the bearer to 15% off purchases made between February 18<sup>th</sup> and March 17<sup>th</sup>. The Youth Group would get 5% of everything that is spent over \$500.

## **CIRCLE OF WOMEN**

It is the mission of the *Circle of Women Book Group* to focus on the spiritual influence of contemporary writing that facilitates our own reflections of God's action in our daily lives. For further information and/or to register, call Ann at 265.8302. The Book Reading schedule for the next meetings are:  
 March 12—"People of the Book" by Geraldine Brooks  
 April 9—"The Heretic's Daughter" by Kathleen Kent  
 May 7—"Sing You Home" by Judi Picoult  
 June 11—"Left To Tell" by Immacule Llibagiza  
 Then there is a break for the Summer months.  
 Meetings are held in the meeting room starting at 2:30pm.

## **THIS WEEK AT ST. THOMAS MORE**

(Not totally inclusive)

### **Sunday—February 19**

8:30am—Hospitality Sunday

No Bible Study

### **Monday—February 20**

No Bible Study

### **Tuesday—February 21**

7pm—Ash Tuesday—Church

7:30pm—Justice & Peace—Religious Ed Center

### **Wednesday—February 22—Ash Wednesday**

Morning Mass at 9am

Prayer Service at 12:10pm & at 4:30pm

Evening Mass at 7:30pm

Distribution of Ashes at all Masses and Prayer Services.

### **Thursday—February 23**

5:30pm—Children's Choir—Church

7:30pm—Choir—Church

### **Friday—February 24**

7pm—Stations of the Cross—Church

### **Sunday—February 26**

2pm—Baptisms—Church

7:30pm—Bible Study—Meeting Room

## **THINKING ABOUT ??**

### **BECOMING A CATHOLIC?**

- Are you a baptized Catholic who was never confirmed?
- Are you someone baptized in another faith but interested in becoming a Catholic?
- Are you someone who was never baptized?

If any of these apply to you, consider our parish *RCIA* (Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults) process. For information, contact Ann Russo through e-mail, [redaa@aol.com](mailto:redaa@aol.com) or 543-2740 or contact Fr. Midura at the Church Office.

## **E-MAIL & ADDRESSES**

Youth Ministry Website—[www.stthomasmoreyouth.org](http://www.stthomasmoreyouth.org)

Parish Secretary - [Stm73@live.com](mailto:Stm73@live.com)

Pat Chapin - [Pchapin@optonline.net](mailto:Pchapin@optonline.net)

Mary Ellen Carroll - [Mecarroll@optonline.net](mailto:Mecarroll@optonline.net)

Outreach - [Stmoutreach@optonline.net](mailto:Stmoutreach@optonline.net)

Youth Ministry (Joe Gast) - [Gast.Joe@gmail.com](mailto:Gast.Joe@gmail.com)

Justice & Peace - [Natman32@aol.com](mailto:Natman32@aol.com)

Fr. Dahlke - [RWDahlke@Jesuits.net](mailto:RWDahlke@Jesuits.net)

Personal Prayer - [SpiritualOrientations.com](http://SpiritualOrientations.com)

To contact a member of the Pastoral Council use the following:

Barbara & Joe Fratamico—[BJFRAT@optonline.net](mailto:BJFRAT@optonline.net)

**"RELIGION AND ROCK"** - Tune into and listen to Msgr.

Jim Vlaun on Sundays, 7am to 8am, on WBAB 102.3 FM or

95.3 FM. Also, listen on Saturdays at 11pm on Sirius Radio,

Channel 159, and XM Satellite, Channel 117.

Topics:

February 19—Sacrifice

February 26—Forgiveness

March 4—Leadership

March 11—Commitment

March 18—Traditions

March 25—Being Joyful

**MEN'S GATHERING** website. Go to the parish website at <http://www.buoy.com/~stm> or [stmli.org](http://stmli.org) and click Men's Gathering. You will have to give a password known only to you to open and read the message.

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS**—You can check online for any updates at <http://calendar.yahoo.com/stmreled>

**HOLY FAMILY REGIONAL SCHOOL**, Commack, New

York—Grades Nursery through 8<sup>th</sup>. You may contact the

school at [parents@holyfamilyregional.com](mailto:parents@holyfamilyregional.com) to schedule a

tour of this parish's regional school, or visit the School website

at [www.holyfamilyregional.com](http://www.holyfamilyregional.com)

## **CALENDAR CLUB 2012**

Here are the next set of Calendar Club 2012 winners!

Congratulations to all!

February 5—\$50—323—Ralph & Ursula Molinaro

February 6—\$25—76—Peggy Whalen

February 7—\$25—871—Rita Imburgio

February 8—\$25—937—Peter Devaraj

February 9—\$25—247—Nicole & Kevin Probst

February 10—\$25—9—Maria Lilly

February 11—\$25—647—Stanley & Eileen Midura

## **COURTESY ANNOUNCEMENTS**

(First Notice)

### **CENACLE RETREAT HOUSE PROGRAMS**

March 9—"For the Sake of My Soul" (longing in our hearts for a deeper awareness and relationship with God)

March 16—"Spa Overnight Retreat"

March 17—"Celtic Spirituality"

March 18—"Companioning Jesus in His Passion"

For info on the above, call 631.588.8366

(Second Notice)

**HIBERNIAN FESTIVAL SINGERS**—"TAYLOR'S

**TRADITIONAL IRISH CABARET**"—Sun., March 11, 2012,

Bay Shore High School. Direct from Dublin, the show will feature Ireland's comedian, Noel V. Ginnity, tenor Paul Hennessy, soprano Emer Hartnett, ballad singer Andrew McCarthy, a musical ensemble plus Ireland's talented dancers. Tickets \$30 in advance, \$35 at the door. For info. Call 665-1371 or 563-1032.

**SUPPORT COLLECTION**

**Last Sunday's Collection \$ 8,520.**  
**USING FAITH DIRECT?** - Consider having automatic deductions from either your checking or savings or use a credit card to support St. Thomas More each week. With Faith Direct, there is no fee to you! Please visit the Faith Direct website at [www.FaithDirect.net](http://www.FaithDirect.net) to sign up; our church code is NY227. You may also use the form located where you obtain the bulletin. We thank you for your support.

**CONTRIBUTION ENVELOPES**—If you do not receive weekly envelopes and would like them mailed to you, please use the cut out that is in the bulletin and indicate that you wish to receive them on a regular basis. Usually it takes about two weeks for your request to be completed.

**SCRIP SALES**

**Scrip Sales Last Week: \$ 2,625.**  
**Profit realized from sales: \$ 131.**  
If you have never used Scrip, try it! They work like debit cards at the Super Market. They do not cost you anything extra. \$100 in Scrip costs \$100. We accept cash and checks at the Scrip Desk in the Lobby.

**MAINTENANCE COLLECTION**

**Contributed to date: \$ 414,205.**  
**Spent on repairs and replacements: \$ 760,794.**  
We thank you for your support of our parish project to maintain our parish facilities. If you would like to help, please use a maintenance envelope where you obtain the bulletin.

**CEREAL BOX TOP COUPONS** - Drop them off in the Church lobby drop-off box and we will use them to buy things for the students in our regional school.

**USED CELL PHONES? - PUTTING YOUR OLD CELL PHONES TO USE**—We thank everyone for giving us their old cell phones. We forward them to a company that recycles them and gives us cash for the ones that are usable.

**USED PALM**—If you have blessed palms from previous years, you can bring them to the receiving bin in the Church lobby at your convenience.

**2011 CONTRIBUTION STATEMENT REQUEST**

I/we would like a record of our 2011 Contributions to St. Thomas More.

NAME(s):

ADDRESS:

PHONE:

E-mail:

*(Please return to the Church Office)*

+++++

**CHURCH MINISTRIES**

**THINKING ABOUT BECOMING A LITURGICAL MINISTER OR WANT TO SHARE YOUR TALENTS?**

Please complete the following form:

I would like to volunteer in the following parish ministry:

- Altar Server
- Usher
- RCIA
- Lector
- Consolation Minister
- Plumber
- Painter
- Rosary Altar Society
- Caring for Altar Plants
- FOCCUS
- Banner Committee
- Hospitality
- Greeter
- Liturgy with Children
- Eucharistic Minister
- Landscaping/Planting
- Electrician
- Handy Man/Woman
- Scrip sellers
- Pre-Cana
- Adult Lending Library
- St. Vincent de Paul Society

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

*(Please place in collection basket or return to Church Office)*

+++++

**REGISTRATION and/or  
ENVELOPE REQUEST**

NAME(s):

ADDRESS:

PHONE:

E-MAIL:

- I/we would like to register in the parish.
- Please send contribution envelopes.
- I am already registered in the parish but do not receive contribution envelopes. I would like to receive them.
- Other \_\_\_\_\_

*(Please return in collection or at Church Office)*

+++++

**CENSUS CHANGES  
FOR OUR HOUSEHOLD**

Please make the following changes pertaining to the information on file for our family.

**FAMILY NAME:**

- The following person(s) no longer lives at this address.
- The following person(s) to be added to this address.
- We have a new phone number

NEW NUMBER:

TYPE:  Cell  Residential  
 We have a new e-mail address

OLD E-MAIL

NEW E-MAIL

*(Please return to the Church Office or place in the collection basket)*

+++++

**PRAYING FOR THE SICK  
— Adding a name Request —**

**PLEASE ADD THE FOLLOWING TO THE PARISH LISTING OF THOSE WHO ARE ILL:**

Name of person(s) who is (are) ill:

Person making the Request:

Relationship to the person who is ill:

TODAY'S DATE:

*(Please place in collection basket or drop off at Church Office)*

**CATHOLIC MINISTRIES APPEAL 2012**

I/we would like to support the Catholic Ministries Appeal for 2012.

NAME(s)

ADDRESS:

PHONE:

Amount of the pledge: *(Check one below)*

- \$150 \_\_\_\_\_
- \$300 \_\_\_\_\_
- \$500 \_\_\_\_\_
- \$1,000 \_\_\_\_\_
- \$1,500 \_\_\_\_\_
- \$2,500 \_\_\_\_\_
- \$5,000 \_\_\_\_\_

OTHER: \_\_\_\_\_ How much? \_\_\_\_\_

*(Please indicate)*

- Check for entire amount is enclosed.
- Installment enclosed. I would like to pay the rest
  - monthly—10 payments
  - bi-monthly—4 payments
  - semi-annually—May & September
- I prefer to use a credit card. Information will be sent to you so that you can contact the CMA office directly.

*(Please return to the Church Office for further processing)*

+++++



## FAITH AND NEW WORKS

### STRONG RESERVATIONS AND FIRM CONVICTIONS

By Bishop William Murphy

Last Friday President Obama announced that he had worked out “accommodations” to respond to the legitimate concerns about religious freedom that Catholic bishops and faithful, along with many others, have been raising to the HHS regulations that mandate coverage of artificial contraception, sterilization and abortion inducing drugs in virtually all health plans as of August 2013. Hopeful as always that truth and common sense would prevail, many of us watched his televised announcement with mounting disappointment. Putting aside some of the President’s remarks that reinterpreted what he has actually said to officials of the USCCB (Catholic Bishops Conference), Mr. Obama raised more difficulties than he claimed he had resolved. While there still may be some hope that meetings with Administration officials might clarify some of the issues, the leadership of the US bishops and this Bishop remain disappointed and dissatisfied, determined to continue the effort to protect religious freedom and freedom of conscience not only for Catholics but for all Americans.

Put simply, we Bishops are more convinced than ever that we need rigorous legislative guarantees of religious freedom in the face of this Administration’s continued effort to force coverage of religiously objectionable procedures as part of a universal mandate for all Americans regardless of their religious or conscience reservations. Without ironclad guarantees that to date we have not been given, we will continue to work for the repeal of the mandate.

Sometime this week at least part of the President’s “accommodation” will appear in the Federal Register. At present we are deeply concerned about the inadequacy of what has been proposed to date. What are our reservations?

The Administration continues to insist on an overly narrow definition of what persons and what institutions can exercise the right of conscience or religious belief. This is problematic on two levels: the definition in itself is objectionable because government has no right to determine what religious beliefs or conscience will be afforded the right of free exercise. The Constitution guarantees this freedom to all. Second, the Administration’s narrow definition leaves out untold numbers of persons who would and will be forced to violate their conscience and their beliefs or else be subject to stiff penalties.

It remains unclear how the shift of responsibility to pay for these objectionable products and services from the employer to the insurer will be paid for. The only logical conclusion is that the insurer will pass on the increased costs to the insured and we have the same objection as before; using the force of government to compel insureds to pay indirectly for products and services that violate the tenets of their faith is just as objectionable as compelling them to pay directly for these products and services. It makes sense to offer many women’s health services such as mammograms without co-pay. These help prevent disease. But I have yet to discover how pregnancy can be categorized as a disease. In addition, insurers that now offer plans that do not include these objectionable procedures will, if the HHS mandate stands, have no choice but to offer

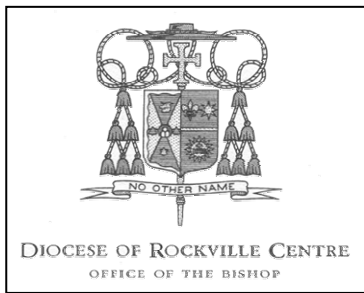
them. Fidelis Health Care, the largest HMO providing health care coverage for the poor in New York is a Catholic organization that has a corporate membership comprised of the New York Catholic bishops. What happens here?

There are instances in which a religious organization is both employer and insurer. It seems that, notwithstanding President Obama’s announced “accommodation”, these religiously based institutions, as well as student health plans in Catholic colleges, would have to offer this objectionable coverage. One such self-insured religious body is the Diocese of Rockville Centre.

A whole other category of countless persons who would be forced into violating their consciences would be Catholics and others who operate in the secular sphere or work for secular employers. Catholics who own businesses or those who work in businesses who share our moral objections to such products and procedures as abortifacients are forced by government into compliance without any consideration for their religious convictions or their consciences objections.

When these regulations were presented on January 20, we were informed that the churches and religious organizations which would be exempt in the narrow definition of the mandate would be given a “grace period” of one year until August 2013 to find out how we must comply. The President of our Bishops Conference, Cardinal-designate Dolan, referred to this as a year to learn how to violate our consciences. That “grace period” now seems to have been changed to a year long “process” to determine what religious organizations or individuals may or may not qualify for the new “accommodation.” This is a grave concern for us Bishops. It reduces a God given right, protected by the First Amendment, to a “privilege” to be negotiated with an Administration that swore to uphold the Constitution of the United States. The HHS mandate and its support by the Administration are deleterious to the life and liberty of citizens who should be able to live secure in the conviction that their right to religious freedom is not being undermined. Indeed, our right to religious freedom must be re-affirmed as soon as possible by all those in our government who have caused this grave situation to surface. The clear assertion of religious liberty is a matter of justice this Administration owes to all Americans.

For all these reasons, I am convinced that we need to pass the Restoration of Religious Freedom Act being sponsored in the United States Senate by Senators Rubio and Blunt and many others. While I await the counsel of those who are far more expert than I, it would not surprise me if we will have to have recourse to the Courts because of the Administration’s intransigence. The First Amendment, conscience protection and the right to religious freedom and its exercise are too valuable, too inalienable, too God-given, too essential for human freedom and dignity for us to let this mandate become the law of the land.



Lent 2012

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

The season of Lent is an extraordinary moment of grace the Church is called to live every year in preparation for the Sacred Triduum. These Lenten weeks of prayer and fasting and works of charity are all pointed to the solemn holy days of the Thursday Mass of the Lord's Supper, the Friday of His Passion and Death on the Cross and then the exultant moments of proclaiming His Resurrection at the Easter Vigil and Easter Day.

What we will celebrate on those days shapes and informs what we seek to become by conversion, prayer and penance in the Lenten season. At the heart of the Cross of Jesus Christ is forgiveness and reconciliation. In fact the message of the Cross is the message that love, God's love for us, the Son's love in human form, that love is poured forth as the greatest act of forgiveness the world can ever know. God forgives us through His Son's death, a death that brings about the reconciliation of all humankind to God. Praised be Jesus Christ! Hail, O Cross, our only hope!

As we enter into the season of Lent with our eyes fixed on Jesus, I would like us all to pray for forgiveness of our own sins and pray for the conversion of the hearts and lives of us all so that we may belong more deeply to Christ, to His Church and to one another. As we examine our consciences and as we see ourselves in the light that shines forth from the Cross, I pray we may all receive the forgiveness that only a merciful Father can give us through His Son and through the Church. I pray that we all will seek the healing of our hearts and reconciliation with God that the Church offers through the great sacrament of merciful love, the sacrament of penance and reconciliation.

And I pray that, as we are forgiven by God, we may also forgive one another and be reconciled with one another so that, as the one Body of His Church, we may celebrate the Easter sacraments worthily and with great joy. Sister Mary Hughes, OP, Prioress of the Dominican Sisters of Amityville, wisely shared these thoughts with consecrated women: "Forgiveness never pretends that all was well...Neither does forgiving mean that one does not speak. Make no mistake. It is wrong to have so many fractured relationships in the Church and in our world". She is right! Forgiveness and reconciliation are sorely needed in our Church and in our world. If God forgives us, we too must forgive one another. You know those whom you must forgive. You know those with whom you must be reconciled. Are they in your family? In the Church? In your neighborhood? Near or far away? Now is the time for forgiveness, now is the time for salvation.

On the Cross Jesus cried out to the Father, "Forgive them". That cry was for each and every one of us. This Lent He will whisper that same cry to each one of us: "Forgive them". As He healed a fractured world and a torn humanity making us one with God and one another, I pray we too might help heal any and every fracture in our lives by imitating Him, forgiving one another from a sincere heart, and reconciling ourselves with one another so that His cross might be not only our hope but the hope for all humankind.

Devotedly yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Theobald Murphy", written in a cursive style.

Bishop of Rockville Centre

# 2012 CATHOLIC MINISTRIES APPEAL

*One Faith, One Hope, Many Gifts*

The Catholic Ministries Appeal helps our Church support many ministries, services, and programs in the 133 parishes across Long Island. Because of the tremendous generosity of the people of this parish and others throughout the Diocese, the Appeal touches more than 600,000 people each year.

## ***The Catholic Ministries Appeal supports our efforts to:***

**LIVE AND SHARE OUR FAITH** by providing support for religious education programs for public school children, faith formation for those receiving the Sacraments, and vocations for the formation of our Priests, Deacons and Lay Leaders.

**CARE FOR GOD'S PEOPLE** through support for the great works of our Parish Outreach programs and Catholic Charities. The Appeal also supports other programs that help us care for God's people, including: our hospital and prison ministries that reach out to people at the most vulnerable times of their lives, Respect Life initiatives, and our Mission in the Dominican Republic.

**BUILD GOD'S KINGDOM** by supporting programs that reach out to Catholics of all races and backgrounds because we are one family united in Christ. We celebrate special needs Masses for children and adults, and we have vibrant college campus ministry and dynamic youth ministry programs that encourage our young people to live their faith each day.

## St. Thomas More Employment Services

\*Are you presently unemployed and looking for a part-time or full-time job? \* Do you have or know of any job openings? If so, call our Employment Services Office, 234.4629 and leave a message for Mae Devine or call Mae on Monday mornings. Calls are kept in strict confidence.

### POSITIONS AVAILABLE

**Aerospace**—Tech jobs. Control operators. Quality inspectors.

**Atlantic Auto Group**—NY's largest Auto Dealer—now staffing West Islip location in Service and Sales. Excellent Benefits. Also Lexus Rockville Centre and Atlantic Volkswagen.

**Bank of America**—PT/FT positions for tellers and sales. Benefits for both PT/FT.

**BJ's**—Deer Park. Positions in all departments.

**Cablevision** - Understand state of the Art Digital Video - PC skills - outstanding benefits.

**Dayton T. Brown**—Bohemia & Shelton, CT locations. Professional writers—aircraft, helicopter manuals. Maintenance managers, business managers.

**Eastern Suffolk Boces**—Special Ed

1) Teacher of Deaf & Hearing; 2) Occupational & Physical Therapist; 3) Supervisors for Summer Services.

**Geico Insurance**—Sales reps, mgt trainees, claim services reps. —750 Woodbury Rd, Woodbury, NY. 9am –3pm, M-F, Open House, but apply on line first. Valid Photo ID required.

**Healthcare Opportunities** -

1. Good Samaritan Hospital, 631.969.8200

2. Mather Hospital, 631.476.2774

3. Brookhaven Hospital, 631.447.3708

4. Maryhaven, 631.474.4120, X212 - Contact Maryhaven Directly

5. St. Charles, 631.476.5999—Fox

**Housekeepers** - FT/PT positions for small offices and homes.

**Hyundai Millennium**—Grand Opening—all positions—trainable, committed, communication skills—paid training, excellent health benefits, bonus and advancement.

**ITT Exelis**—Bohemia and N. Amityville. Technicians, coordinators, assemblers. US citizenship necessary. Comprehensive benefits package.

**Mgt/Non-Mgt Positions Available** - St. Francis Hospital, Roslyn. Contact Human Resources directly.

**PC Richard & Son**—Now hiring full time sales associates for all stores. FT/PT clerical positions. Heavy phones. Data entry. Use of cash registers.

**St. Catherine of Siena**—

1. Nursing Home—Nurse Practitioners, RN supervisors, Recreation Therapists, FT/PT nights, P/T days and weekends, Rehab PT/FT—dietary;

2. Hospital—Lab Technologist & Medical Lab assistant. Physical Thereapists

3. Physical Therapy Aides—PT/ Sport Services, Hauppauge. Mon. thru Fri., days and evenings

**School Bus/Van Drivers**—Flex hours, full benefits, paid holidays, vacations. 401k, health benefits after 6 months. Huntington, Manhasset, Northport.

**Second Income Opportunity**—Newsday Delivery. Early AM hours. Valid NYS driver's license.

**Teachers**—Part Time—Smithtown & Kings Park for morning or afternoons until June.

See "Civil Service Notice" posted on the bulletin board for future Civil Service Exams. For more information about any of the listed positions please call 234-4629. Note - All babysitting, infant child care, nanny, home care aides, etc. positions are in the child's home. References are required for all of these positions including nursing aides, home health care aides, etc. It is the responsibility of the employer to check all references prior to hiring.

\*\*\*\*We have a list of names of those willing to baby-sit in their homes.

\*\*\*\*We have a list of certified tutors for all Grades.