

Sharing
the Spirit
of Love

Catholic Church Community of

St. Thomas More

115 Kings Highway, Hauppauge NY 11788

February 16th, 2025

BLESSED

ARE THE

POOR
HUNGRY
WEEPING
HATED

WOE

TO THE

RICH
FILLED
LAUGHING
LAUDED

Parish Mission

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.

6th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Parish Resources

Website:

<https://www.stmli.org>

Instagram:

@stm_church

@stm_yg

Facebook:

StThomasMoreChurchHauppauge

Flocknote:

Text SPIRITOFLOVE to 84576



Office Contacts

Rectory:

(631) 234-5551

rectory@stmli.org

Religious Education:

(631) 234-0397

reled@stmli.org

Outreach:

(631) 234-3149

outreach@stmli.org

Masses February 15th - February 23rd 2025

Saturday, February 15th:

5pm- James Kreider *by Maureen Boston*

German Vincente Manzi *by The Rodriguez Family*

Sunday, February 16th: Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

8am- Joseph F Kresse *by The Marini Family*

9:30am- Marion Orleman *by The Knights of Columbus 6062*

11:30am- Richard Stout *by Sydney*

Rosemarie Lupo *by The Almonte Family*

Monday, February 17th:

9am- Arputha Mary Asir *by Judy Coyle*

Tuesday, February 18th:

9am- William Lynch *by Laura Alicastro*

Wednesday, February 19th:

9am- Helen Marmion *by Lorraine Toomey*

Thursday, February 20th:

9am- Donna Giacobbe *by Arlene & John Aspromgos*

Friday, February 21st:

9am- Chuck Becker (living) *by Terry Kane*

Saturday, February 22nd: The Chair of St. Peter the Apostle

5pm- John Puglisi *by Ann Pepe*

Sunday, February 23rd: Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

8am- Alice Ciccone *by Dale, Audrey, & Matthew*

9:30am- Janet Schultz *by Carolyn Burton & Family*

Ana Cecilia & Cirilo DeJesus Castro *by The Milagros Family*

11:30am- John Murry *by Mr. & Mrs. Michael Keena*

Arputha Mary Asir *by Mary Ann & Ralph Rantz*

Luke 6:27-38

Jesus said to his disciples: "To you who hear I say, love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you. To the person who strikes you on one cheek, offer the other one as well, and from the person who takes your cloak, do not withhold even your tunic. Give to everyone who asks of you, and from the one who takes what is yours do not demand it back. Do to others as you would have them do to you. For if you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? Even sinners love those who love them. And if you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? Even sinners do the same. If you lend money to those from whom you expect repayment, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, and get back the same amount. But rather, love your enemies and do good to them, and lend expecting nothing back; then your reward will be great and you will be children of the Most High, for he himself is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.

"Stop judging and you will not be judged. Stop condemning and you will not be condemned. Forgive and you will be forgiven. Give, and gifts will be given to you; a good measure, packed together, shaken down, and overflowing, will be poured into your lap.

Focus Questions for Ordinary 7

Luke 6:27-38

- 1: Describe a time when it was hard to turn the other cheek.
- 2: Jesus asks a lot of his followers. What do you find the hardest to do?
- 3: Recall a time in your life when you received overflowing blessings.

Family & Children's Question:

Think about the times when you judged others negatively. Talk about how you can be kinder in your judgments of others.

Readings for This Week

February 16th, 2025 (Ordinary 6)

Jeremiah 17:5-8

Psalms 1:1-4,6

1 Corinthians 15:12,16-20

Luke 6:17,20-26

Readings for Next Week

February 23rd, 2025 (Ordinary 7)

1 Samuel 26:2,7-9,12-13,22-23

Psalms 103:1-4,8,10,12-13

1 Corinthians 15:45-49

Luke 6:27-38



From the Desk of Fr Antony

After watching western movies for a while, the viewer commented, “A lot of the conflict that happened in the Wild West could have been avoided, had the architects in those days just made their own towns big enough for everyone.” Personal towns will end the conflict but will also lock them in their loneliness, with no one to relate to them in their own towns.

Today’s Gospel is the beatitudes and woes according to Luke - four blessings and four woes of life. The first blessing is that the poor belong to the kingdom of God, and the first woe is that the rich will not receive any consolation. This sounds a bit odd. We all know that being rich, one can have in life whatever one wishes while being poor, one is deprived of all he/she would wish to have.

According to Jesus, Blessings or Woes are not what one possesses in life. Blessings or woes are what one is becoming. With possessions the rich can accumulate things around themselves. The possessions can help build something outside and not within themselves. The poor have nothing to possess. They may not be able to build anything around or for themselves, but they are free to grow and build from within themselves. The poor are blessed to live by their inner selves. The rich live with their possessions, rather than the possessions making them live. They don’t choose to live but the possessions dictate to them their lifestyle according to what and how much they possess.

By being rich they would translate all their happiness or sadness through the possessions they have. But by being poor they don’t have anything outside of themselves to dictate. The poor turn their focus on their inside. There is nothing to distract them from living their inner power. They have all the freedom to live the potential of their personhood. Nothing outside of them, like wealth, popularity, substance abuse, etc., is needed for the poor to be happy. Being independent of anything outside of themselves, the poor will blossom with moments of blessings, the moments of living the God-given inner potential every day. The moment of woe would be those moments when one neglects to live one’s own God-given potential and believe the things outside of them would give better life.

In short, blessing means not to lose one’s God-given inner riches at the cost of anything outside of oneself. Woe means to build one’s life by everything outside of oneself except one’s own God-given inner riches. Blessings or riches are in our hands depending on what makes us live our life at any given moment of life. If the inner riches of love, mercy, kindness etc., make us live we will be blessed ones. On the other hand, if anything we possess makes us live, we will live our own lives in the sense we are not able to live our inner riches.

God says to us “I have set before you, life and death, the blessing and the curse. Choose life, then, that you and your descendants may live.” (Deuteronomy 30:19). It is our choice to live our lives as blessings or woes. Unless we live the blessings, we will not be able to experience the blessings in us and around us. Let us live the blessings and be the blessings to those who live around us.

With love and prayers,
Father Antony



Parish Operations

SUPPORT COLLECTION

Collection from:
Feb 8th & 9th

\$3522

Thank You!

*St. Thomas More Parish needs your support
now more than ever!*

**Rectory Office Hours
Monday-Friday
9:30 AM - 3:00 PM**

If in need of the immediate attention of a priest during non-office hours please call **(631) 234-5551** and choose option 4

*All other calls received after office hours
will be returned the next business day.*

Calendar Club Winners

Winners for January are in the back!
February winners will be published in the beginning of March!



Staff

Pastor

Father Antony Asir

Contact

pastor@stmli.org

Deacons

Deacon Matthew T.J. Surico
Deacon Edward Vigneaux
Deacon Robert D. Weisz

deacon.matt@stmli.org

Rectory

Theresa Recce (sacraments)
Dottie Castaldo (finance)
Alex White (operations)

theresa@stmli.org
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Religious Education

Mary Ellen Carroll, DRE
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mecarroll@optonline.net
reled@stmli.org

Youth Ministry

Noelle White

youthgroup@stmli.org

Music Ministry

Emilia Savarese, Director

631-724-8820

Ministry

Parish Outreach

Marti White

outreach@stmli.org

Pastoral Council

Barbara & Joe Fratamico

bjfrat1@gmail.com

Altar Servers Ministry

Deacon Matt Surico

altarservers@stmli.org

Eucharistic Ministers

Patty Citro

pcitro78@yahoo.com

Lector Ministry

Mike Petagna

mpetagna22@gmail.com

Hospitality Ministry

Ellie Stout

gram11@optonline.net

Consolation Ministry

Eileen Weidig

631-724-2462

OCIA

Ann Russo

redaa@aol.com

Young at Heart

Anna Beltrani

631-234-0714

Prayers for Our Community

Pray for the Sick

| | |
|----------------------|----------------------|
| Eddie & Meggie Adams | Linda Heller |
| Maria U. Aldaba | Nancy Itterly |
| Joseph Barrett | Maryann Landi |
| Gregory Bennett | Richard Landi |
| Karen Benson | Eileen Macholz-Barr |
| Marie Bracco | Marge McGowan |
| Peter Cappisillo | Meagan |
| Vincent Carlino | Kevin Morrissey |
| Lillian Catalano | Ellen Murphy |
| Fran Cooke | Carol Persan |
| Patricia Culbert | Renee Prince |
| Grayson Danielski | Nunzio (Steve) Puleo |
| Michael Davis | Tim Ryan |
| Victor DiPalma | Angelo Santangelo |
| Brian Fagioli | Rita Schug |
| Shane Farmer | Noah Simonetti |
| Barbara Foberg | Kevin Spence Sr |
| Brendan Gallagher | Christy Torkelsen |
| Connie Giunta | Andrew M. Valentine |
| Rick Goodhart | Janet Ward |
| Stephanie Goodhart | Lorraine White |

*this listing will expire on March 31st, 2025

Pray for the Deceased

Deacon Thomas Samson

Kazuko Muto



We continuously pray for our deceased loved ones.

Pray for Our Military

Please continue to pray for the brave members of our parish family who serve our country:

| | |
|--------------------|-----------------------|
| Troy A. Maida | Joseph Kirsch |
| Connor Hendrickson | Allen Kirsch |
| Evan Hendrickson | Nicholas Gajda |
| Ryan Smith | Alexandria Feys Gajda |
| Will Maley | Andrew Lynch |



We also pray for our veterans, that they receive the support they need here at home.



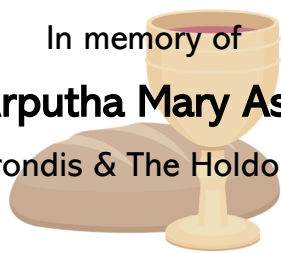
Altar Bread & Wine Memorial

2/17-2/23

In memory of

Arputha Mary Asir

Betty Vrondis & The Holdorf Family



To arrange the memorial for the Altar Bread & Wine, contact the Rectory. Donation for the week is \$50.

Pray for our Clergy

| | |
|---------------------|--------------------|
| Fr Antony Asir | Deacon Bob Weisz |
| The Capuchin Friars | Deacon Matt Surico |
| Fr Lenny Carlino | Bishop John Barres |
| Fr Alex Mariadass | Pope Francis |
| Deacon Ed Vigneaux | |



...and for all those men and women considering a life of devotion to God.

Parish Social Ministry

Pope Francis reminds us that hope is a gift and duty for every Christian.



ST. THOMAS MORE
† PARISH OUTREACH †

Monday – Thursday 10AM to 2 PM
631-234-3149
Outreach@stmli.org

Our shelves are very low on...

Pancake Mix
Syrup
Canned Fruit
Laundry Detergent (small bottles
at Dollar Tree)

We appreciate all of your donations!
Please remember that it is difficult for us to
use large cans, bottles, bags of rice, etc. as
many of our neighbors do not have the ability
to store extra food.
Packages for 2-4 people are ideal.

Wow!

During the month of January, we were able to provide food to 54 families including 70 children, 47 adults, and 21 seniors (60+).

We continue to see our families struggling to purchase food for their families while paying high rent, mortgages, and utilities. Any support you are able to provide to Outreach is greatly appreciated!

Please reach out to Parish Outreach if you are, or know of someone, in need of support. Keep our elderly neighbors in mind and let us know if there is anyone you would like us to reach out to.



In the Gospel today, Jesus gives us the blessings of serving the poor, hungry, and weeping people, for you will then rejoice and leap for joy. But Jesus also teaches us the decisiveness of choice: blessing or woe.

Choosing to help those who are suffering will fill your heart with the blessing of Jesus and indeed your reward will be great in heaven.

To contact us, call 631-248-6760 or email svdp.stm@aol.com

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

Today's Gospel by Luke features the Beatitudes. Which other Gospel has the Beatitudes, and how many?

- a: Mark. 7
- b: Matthew. 8
- c: Mark. 8
- d: Matthew. 9



Answer: D (Matthew. 9). Luke features 4 beatitudes and 4 woes. Matthew has 9 beatitudes. Interestingly, Matthew's blesses the poor in spirit while Luke's blesses the poor in reference to poverty.

Pre-Cana 2025

Join us at Mass on
Saturday February 22nd at
5pm to pray for these soon to
be wed couples!

Juliana Kalinsky
&
Steven Marini

Samantha Vermilyea
&
Robert Smith

Diana Falcone
&
Deni Yang



Don't forget to



SUBSCRIBE

to Deacon Matt's new
YouTube channel!

Deacon Matt has created a new
YouTube channel where you can find
his homilies, past and future, from
Sundays and Adoration and
everything in between!

Check it out and subscribe!



[www.youtube.com/
@dcnmattsurico](http://www.youtube.com/@dcnmattsurico)

Support Drive

Life Center of Long Island

On the weekend of Feb 22nd & 23rd, our 6062 Council of the Knights of Columbus will be launching a support drive for the Life Center of Long Island. The Knights will be handing out baby bottles that they ask you take home, and fill with spare change and loose dollars. The bottles can be returned April 5th & 6th

These funds will go to help the Life Center support new moms and dads with the much needed basic essentials for their newborn babies.

Mass of Resurrection

*in honor of
Arputha Mary
&
Asir Vatham*

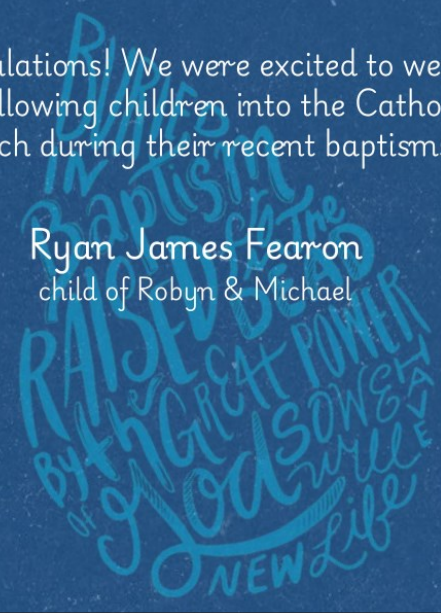
**Sunday, Feb 23rd
11:30am Mass**

Join us to pray with Fr. Antony in thanksgiving for his, and all of our parents.

Baptisms in our church

Congratulations! We were excited to welcome the following children into the Catholic Church during their recent baptisms:

Ryan James Fearon
child of Robyn & Michael



our daily bread

Mon-Fri
9am

Sat
5pm

Sun
8am
9:30am
11:30am



Young at Heart
New Members Always Welcome!
Next Meeting: February 28th
RSVP to Anna, or call for more info
631-234-0714

Scout Sunday

We welcomed the Scouts of Troop 343 on Saturday 2/8 for their Annual Scout Sunday Mass. They participated in the service, putting into practice the 12th point of the Scout Law, "a Scout is Reverent". Thank you to the Scouts and Leaders who came.



Liturgical Minister Training~ Spring 2025

The Diocese of Rockville Center will offer training for those who wish to serve as Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion and Lectors. No walk-ins permitted, all participants must be registered in advance with a letter from their pastor.

Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion: Part A - This training is required for **all** those who are beginning as Ministers. This “BASIC” training is required for **all** Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion. Those who wish to minister in hospitals, nursing homes and to the homebound are required to attend Part B training in addition to BASIC training. One **must** attend Part A training prior to Part B training. A **Lector Workshop** is available for both new and experienced lectors.

Dates and Locations for Liturgical Minister Training

- **Lector Workshop and Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion – Part A:**
Saturday, March 29* - Immaculate Conception/Westhampton Beach - Parish Hall;
9 am – 12:00
Thursday, April 3 – St. Agnes Cathedral Parish Hall/RVC – Msgr. Kelly Parish Center;
7 pm – 10 pm
Tuesday, April 8 – St. Elizabeth /Melville – Msgr. Kane Hall; 7 pm – 10 pm

You may register for EITHER Lector OR Extraordinary Minister training at each session.

Doors open 30 minutes before the training start time.

End time is an estimate, session may end prior to 10 pm, please be prepared.

- **Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion Part B** – presented in conjunction with Catholic Health
Sat., March 29* – Immaculate Conception/Westhampton Beach - Parish Hall; 1 – 4 pm
Tuesday, April 29 - St. Elizabeth / Melville - Msgr. Kane Hall; 7 pm - 10 pm
Thursday, May 8 – St. Agnes Cathedral Parish Hall / RVC – Msgr. Kelly Parish Center;
7 pm – 10 pm

End time is an estimate, session may end prior to what is stated here, please be prepared.

*On **March 29**, we are offering Part A and Part B on the SAME day. Those who attend Part A in the morning are welcome to bring lunch or leave for lunch and return for the 1 pm Part B session. Please indicate if you are doing BOTH on your registration letter from your pastor.

A letter from your pastor will be required to reserve your space at any of these trainings and must be received at least five days prior to the session you wish to attend. To request registration for any of these sessions, please contact your rectory. Do not call the host parishes with questions. For questions, call Suzanne Lynn at 516-744-6850. Thank you for your interest.



Ash Wednesday

March 5th, 2024

Services

12pm

4:30pm



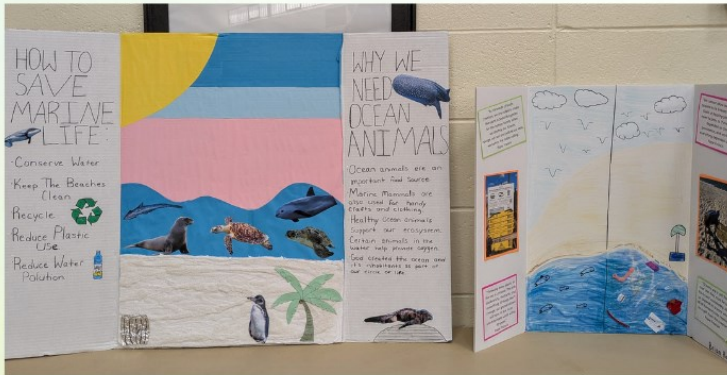
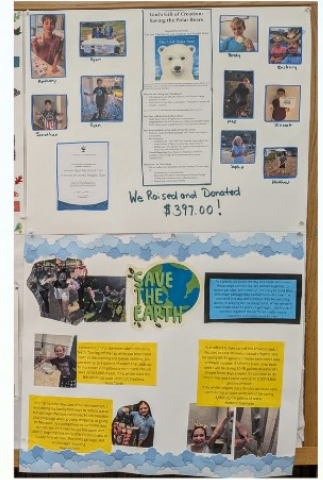
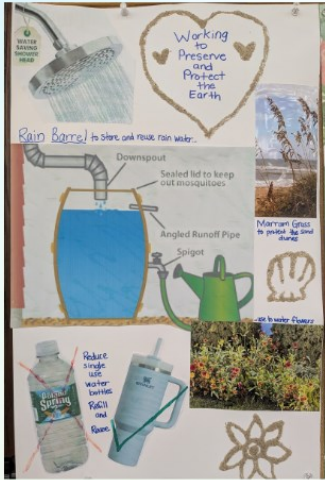
Masses

9am

7pm



Religious Ed Students on God's Creation



Youth Group Feb. 2nd- Book of Revelation



Follow us on Instagram! [@stm_yg](https://www.instagram.com/stm_yg)

 **YOUTH GROUP**
+ ST. THOMAS MORE +

Upcoming Meetings
Sundays 12:30-2:30
February 23rd
March 2nd

Calendar Club 2025

Our first set of winners!

*February winners will be posted in the beginning of March

| | | | |
|--------|------|------|-------------------------|
| Jan 1 | \$50 | 497 | Emily Michelle Edsell |
| Jan 2 | \$25 | 1145 | Michael & Ann Marino |
| Jan 3 | \$25 | 974 | Mary Ann Gruner |
| Jan 4 | \$25 | 853 | Ken & Dolores Fensterer |
| Jan 5 | \$50 | 1618 | Patti & Dave Novy |
| Jan 6 | \$25 | 1539 | Pamela & CK Collins |
| Jan 7 | \$25 | 198 | Allison Madison |
| Jan 8 | \$25 | 367 | Michael Welch |
| Jan 9 | \$25 | 641 | Alexandra Weiner |
| Jan 10 | \$25 | 1268 | Ed & Arleen Rogan |
| Jan 11 | \$25 | 652 | Mike & Eileen Barr |
| Jan 12 | \$50 | 1645 | Arlene Aspromgos |
| Jan 13 | \$25 | 407 | Patricia Citro |
| Jan 14 | \$25 | 1862 | Debra Telekamp |
| Jan 15 | \$25 | 1412 | Sandra & John Kowalchuk |
| Jan 16 | \$25 | 608 | Christian Castellano |
| Jan 17 | \$25 | 1771 | Ellie Stout |
| Jan 18 | \$25 | 1014 | Denise Murphy |
| Jan 19 | \$50 | 889 | Paul & Mary Ann Gruner |
| Jan 20 | \$25 | 211 | Denise Murphy |
| Jan 21 | \$25 | 1614 | Paulette DiMarco |
| Jan 22 | \$25 | 744 | Betty Vrondis |
| Jan 23 | \$25 | 55 | Helen Barbarito |
| Jan 24 | \$25 | 1866 | Anne Gavigan |
| Jan 25 | \$25 | 1091 | Denise & Nick Massimo |
| Jan 26 | \$50 | 289 | Colleen & Gary Connors |
| Jan 27 | \$25 | 857 | Kieran Phelan |
| Jan 28 | \$25 | 868 | Parish Outreach |
| Jan 29 | \$25 | 1256 | Joanne Aloï |
| Jan 30 | \$25 | 467 | Allison Felice |
| Jan 31 | \$25 | 1104 | Patricia Citro |



ST. Thomas More
Msgr. Francis S Midura
Council 6062
St. Patrick's Day Dinner
Saturday, March 15. 2025

Following the 5 PM Mass

The cost will be \$20.00 per person.

NO TICKETS WILL BE SOLD AT THE DOOR

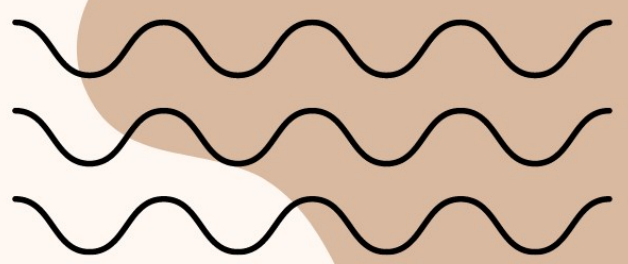
Ed Rogan, PGK

Email: eroganjr@verizon.net

516-319-8643



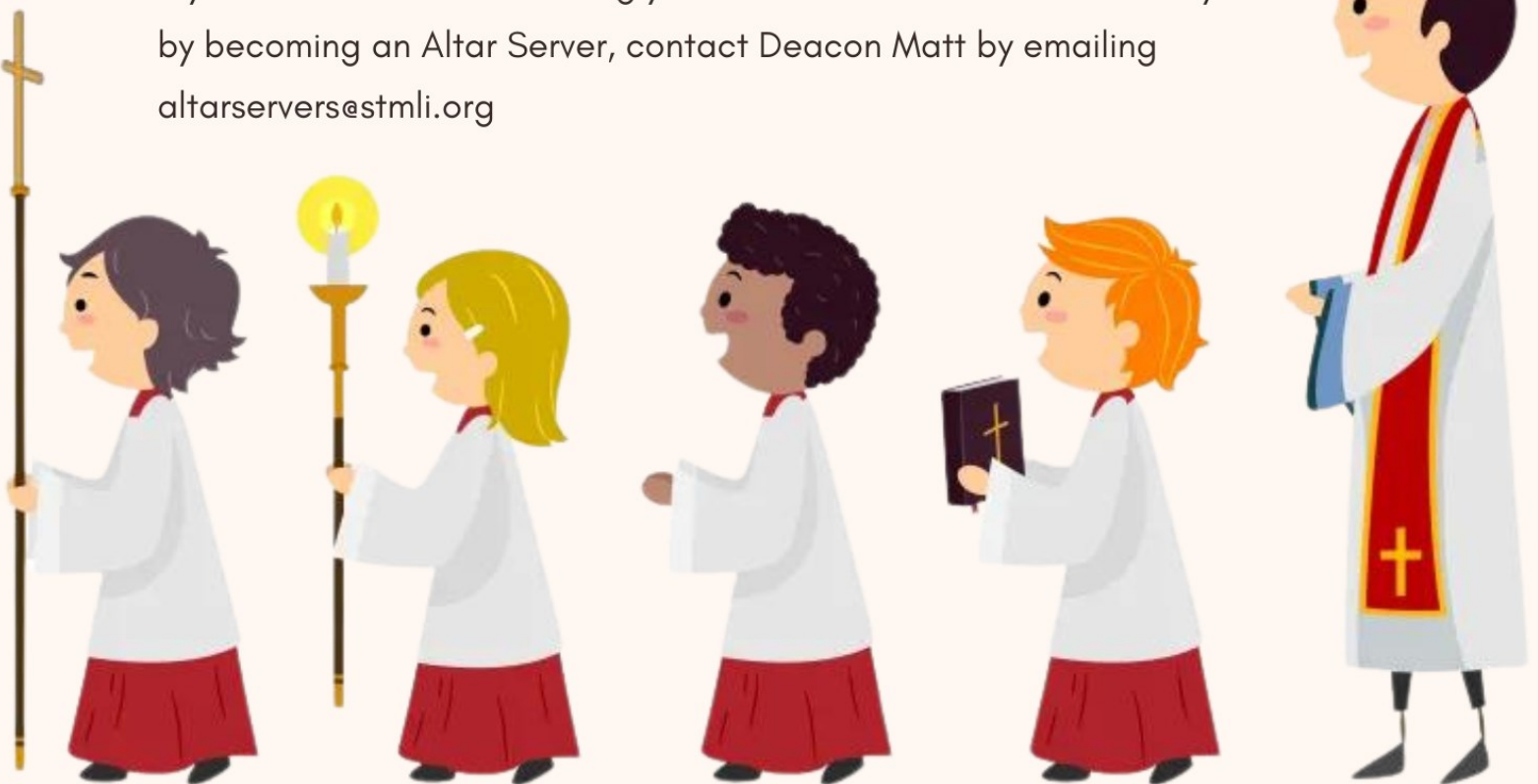
A NOTE FROM OUR Altar Servers



We have a deep love for altar serving, and believe others should consider taking up this role for several reasons. First, altar serving provides a unique perspective on the Mass, allowing individuals to engage with the rituals and traditions in a more hands on and profound way. Beyond the spiritual aspects, it fosters a strong sense of camaraderie with fellow servers, offering the opportunity to meet new people and develop a greater sense of family within the church community. Getting involved in altar serving is not only personally enriching but also a means of becoming more actively connected to the church's activities. The experience is extremely enjoyable, amplified by the chance to don cool robes and play an important role in the Mass, contributing to the beauty and sanctity of the worship experience. Moreover, altar serving presents a valuable opportunity to learn about the Mass in a hands-on manner, giving a deeper understanding and connection with the sacred traditions of the church.

-Altar Servers Timothy Sandbichler and Ryan Tjersland

If you are interested in sharing your faith with the Parish community by becoming an Altar Server, contact Deacon Matt by emailing altarservers@stmli.org





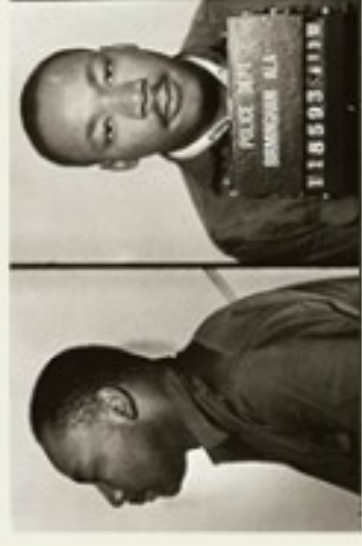
BLESSED ARE THOSE WHO REMAIN FAITHFUL WHILE ENDURING EVILS INFLICTED ON THEM BY OTHERS, AND FORGIVE THEM FROM THEIR HEART;



BLESSED ARE THOSE WHO LOOK INTO THE EYES OF THE ABANDONED AND MARGINALIZED, AND SHOW THEM THEIR CLOSENESS;



BLESSED ARE THOSE WHO SEE GOD IN EVERY PERSON, AND STRIVE TO MAKE OTHERS ALSO DISCOVER HIM;



BLESSED ARE THOSE WHO PROTECT AND CARE FOR OUR COMMON HOME;



BLESSED ARE THOSE WHO RENOUNCE THEIR OWN COMFORT IN ORDER TO HELP OTHERS;



BLESSED ARE THOSE WHO PRAY AND WORK FOR FULL COMMUNION BETWEEN CHRISTIANS.

-POPE FRANCIS, ALL SAINTS DAY, 2016

