

Sharing
the Spirit
of Love

Catholic Church Community of

St. Thomas More

115 Kings Highway, Hauppauge NY 11788

www.stmli.org | (631) 234-5551

March 9th, 2025

you shall
not put
the lord;
your god;
to the test.



This Week's Readings

Genesis 15:5-12,17-18

Psalms 27:1,7-9,13-14

Philippians 3:17-4:1

Luke 9:28b-36

1st Sunday of Lent

Religious Ed

631-234-0397 (call)

reled@stmli.org (email)

Rectory

631-234-5551 (call)

631-213-6882 (text)

rectory@stmli.org (email)

Outreach

631-234-3149 (call)

outreach@stmli.org (email)

From the Pastor

Agent to writer: I have some good news and some bad news.

Writer: First tell me the good news.

Agent: Paramount just loved your story, absolutely ate it up.

Writer: That's fantastic – and the bad news?

Agent: Paramount is my dog.

Every temptation peripherally sounds like good news but is bad news substantially.

The Gospel of the First Sunday of Lent narrates the three temptations of Jesus. The first one is the devil's suggestion that Jesus could finish his 40 days of fasting by turning stone into bread. The second and third temptations are the devil's outward invitation to Jesus to enjoy glory and authority over the whole world, but inwardly a challenge to subject His identity to the devil and to doubt God's promise. Every temptation is a sugar-coated trap. It attracts us with its sweetness only to get entrapped to live in our weakness and loss.

None of the three times did Jesus fall into the trap of the devil, in the sweet-coated attraction offered to him. Jesus' reply to the devil shows how Jesus values his inner reality of being a Son of God, is worthier living than enjoying all the sugar-coated offers that the devil places before him. Jesus invites us to see our inner worth of being God's children. That is the way to avoid falling into the traps of temptations.

Today's readings remind us that we are the freed and saved ones. No one can enslave us unless we yield to them. Let us follow Jesus and live like Him in the face of temptations. Let us never succumb to sugar coating; let us awaken to our inner worth.

We have begun the Holy Time of Lent. We call it holy time, not that the time is inherently holy, but it offers an invitation to become holy. To be holy is to think and act, not in our selfish way, but as God would. To become holy, we must first be aware of God's presence in and around us. Once God's awareness becomes our experience all that we do and say will express God's presence. This is what Jesus means when He asks, 'to be perfect just as your Heavenly Father is perfect.' (Mt. 5:48).

Of course, we cannot in any way be just like God our Heavenly Father. But we can allow God to be experienced by us and allow God to be experienced in our words and deeds. Lent is the time we seriously make efforts to be aware of God's available presence in and around us and allow God to be our words and actions. All our Lenten spiritual practices like praying, fasting and almsgiving are merely the means of growing into God's awareness.

Our yearly Lenten project is another opportunity to serve God through serving others. This year we invite you to join Catholic Charities USA, in L.A. Wildfire Relief. Let us eagerly partake in this corporal act of mercy of almsgiving. In this Holy Year of "Pilgrims of Hope" let us bring some Hope in the life of those devastated by this wildfire.

With love and prayers,
Father Antony



Our Staff

Rectory

Theresa Recce (sacraments)
theresa@stmli.org

Dottie Castaldo (finance)
finance@stmli.org

Alex White (operations)
rectory@stmli.org

Clergy

Father Antony Asir, Pastor
pastor@stmli.org

Matthew T.J. Surico, Deacon
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Religious Ed

Mary Ellen Carrol, DRE
mecarroll@optonline.net

Linda Ronning
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Joanne Anelli

Youth Ministry

Noelle White
youthgroup@stmli.org

Music Ministry

Emilia Savarese, Director
(631) 724-8820

This Week's Masses

Saturday, March 8th

5pm Ellen Cleary
John Puglisi

Sunday, March 9th First Sunday of Lent

8am Jubran Habash
Lawrence Papola

9:30am Mark Matto
Marion Orleman

11:30am Richard Stout
Arputha Mary Asir

Monday, March 10th

9am Arputha Mary Asir

Tuesday, March 11th

9am Vincent Anello

Wednesday, March 12th

9am Chet Kalenty

Thursday, March 13th

9am Marilyn McDonald

Friday, March 14th

9am Michael Joseph Rocco

Saturday, March 15th

5pm Michael Ferrante

Sunday, March 16th Second Sunday of Lent

8am Vasco Tapada

9:30am Maria Martins
Peggy Stepanek

11:30pm Janet Johnson
Andrew John Kiss



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.

Saints of the Week

St. Manuel Mígeuz González (3/8)
St. John of God (3/8)
St. Frances of Rome (3/9)
St. Clement Mary Hofbauer (3/15)

Saints in heaven,
pray for us

Prepare for Next Weekend

Second Sunday of Lent
March 9th 2025

our
daily bread

Mon-Fri

9am

Sat

5pm

Sun

8am

9:30am

11:30am



Readings

Genesis 15:5-12,17-18
Psalm 27:1,7-9,13-14
Philippians 3:17-4:1
Luke 9:28b-36

Focus Questions

- 1: Describe a time when you were open to moving deeper in your relationship with God.
 - 2: Jesus took time away from the crowd to pray. Where do you go to find time for prayer?
 - 3: Describe a way prayer has transformed your life.
- Families: The apostles could not stay awake while they waited for Jesus. Describe a time when you missed something because you fell asleep.

Gospel of Luke

Jesus took Peter, John, and James and went up the mountain to pray. While he was praying his face changed in appearance and his clothing became dazzling white. And behold, two men were conversing with him, Moses and Elijah, who appeared in glory and spoke of his exodus that he was going to accomplish in Jerusalem. Peter and his companions had been overcome by sleep, but becoming fully awake, they saw his glory and the two men standing with him.

As they were about to part from him, Peter said to Jesus, "Master, it is good that we are here; let us make three tents, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." But he did not know what he was saying. While he was still speaking, a cloud came and cast a shadow over them, and they became frightened when they entered the cloud. Then from the cloud came a voice that said, "This is my chosen Son; listen to him."

After the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. They fell silent and did not at that time tell anyone what they had seen.

Prayers & Petitions

Pray for the Deceased

John LaMonica

Antonio Visto

Eileen Macholz-Barr

Theresa Hind

We continuously pray for our deceased loved ones and all souls in purgatory.

St Gertrude, pray for us.

Pray for the Sick

Eddie & Meggie Adams

Maria U Albada

Joseph Barrett

Gregory Bennett

Karen Benson

Marie Bracco

Peter Cappisillo

Vincent Carlino

Tom Carroll

Lillian Catalano

Fran Cooke

Patricia Culbert

Grayson Danielski

Michael Davis

Victor DiPalma

Arline DiSalvo

Brian Fagioli

Shane Farmer

Barbara Foberg

Brendan Gallagher

Connie Giunta

Rick Goodhart

Stephanie Goodhart

Linda Heller

Nancy Itterly

Pat Kinney

Maryann Landi

Richard Landi

Marge McGowan

Meagan

Kevin Morrissey

Ellen Murphy

Carol Persan

Renee Prince

Nunzio Puleo

Tim Ryan

Sinead Rodgers

Angelo Santangelo

Rita Schug

Noah Simonetti

Louise Soldo

Kevin Spence Sr

Christy Torkelsen

Joseph Tuffarelli

Andrew Valentine

Janet Ward

Lorraine White

Denise Zappia

Altar Bread & Wine Memorial

In memory of

March 10-March 16

Eleanor Meineke

by The Meineke Family

Contact the Rectory to arrange a memorial for the Altar Bread & Wine. Requested donation for the week is \$50

Pray for our Clergy

Father Antony Asir

Deacon Robert Weisz

Deacon Edward Vigneaux

Deacon Matthew Surico

The Capuchin Friars

Father Lenny Carlino

Bishop John Barres

Pope Francis

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 deceased service members, and for our veterans, in gratitude for their service, and in hope that they will find the support they need here at home.

*This listing will reset on March 31st, 2025

To add a name to the sick list, please fill out a card from the literature rack place it in the collection basket, or contact the Rectory by phone or email.

Pray for

Pope Francis

Hallow

Support our Parish

Financial Support

Collection from:
March 1st & 2nd
First Sunday in Lent

\$8740

Please consider supporting St. Thomas More. We encourage all parishioners to try electronic giving through Faith Direct. It is both convenient and secure. For more information on Faith Direct, check the literature rack in the Narthex, or visit us online at stmli.org

Physical Support

There are many different ways to support the St. Thomas More Parish Community! Whether you are 4 or 40, 8 or 80, there are ways for everyone to be involved.

Eucharistic Ministers

Patty Citro
pcitro78@yahoo.com

Altar Servers

Deacon Matt
altarservers@stmli.org

Consolation Ministry

Eileen Weidig
631-724-2462

Parish Outreach

Marti White
outreach@stmli.org

Lector Ministry

Mike Petagna
mpetagna22@gmail.com

OCIA

Ann Russo
redaa@aol.com

Pastoral Council

Joe Fraticamo
bjfrat1@gmail.com

Hospitality Ministry

Ellie Stout
gram11@optonline.net

Young at Heart

Anna Beltrani
631-234-0714

Whether giving money, time, or labor, all your support is appreciated. St. Thomas More would not exist as it does without the generosity of our Parish Family.

Parish Social Ministry

Contact Parish Outreach

631-234-3149

outreach@stmli.org

Mon-Thur 10AM to 2PM

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.

Just as God reaches out to us with His love in the midst of our misery, we are called to lovingly reach out to others in their misery.

MATTHEW KELLY

Lent Suggestions

As we begin the season of Lent, consider giving up dessert one night during the week and putting aside what you would have spent for our Lenten Project or Parish Outreach.



OUR SHELVES ARE VERY LOW ON...

Canned Fruit
Canned Vegetables
Peanut Butter
Tuna Fish
Rice
Canned/Boxed Meals
Shampoo

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.

 **ST. THOMAS MORE**
† PARISH OUTREACH †



CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHING



COMMON GOOD
(Thinking of everyone)



DISTRIBUTIVE JUSTICE
(Sharing fairly)



HUMAN DIGNITY
(Everyone is special)



PARTICIPATION
(Taking part)



PREFERENTIAL OPTION FOR THE POOR
(Putting people in most need first)



PROMOTING PEACE
(Being peacemakers)



SOLIDARITY
(Showing we care by working together)



STEWARDSHIP
(Caring for God's Creation)



SUBSIDIARITY
(Everyone should have a say)

Society of St. Vincent de Paul

In today's Gospel, Jesus overcomes the temptations to wealth, power, and esteem. As we begin Lent, may we open our hearts to the grace of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving.

Your gift to St. Vincent de Paul will help the poor to celebrate the grace of God's love this Easter.



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



QUESTION OF THE WEEK

Which of the following are NOT used in Mass during Lent?

- a: Alleluia
- b: Bread & Wine
- c: Glory to God
- d: Music



Answer: A & C Alleluia and Glory to God. While Lent is traditionally associated with simpler music, it is still used through the Mass. Also, except for Good Friday, we consecrate the Bread and Wine daily, even in Lent.

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 to present, from Sundays and Adoration and everything in between!

Check it out and subscribe!



www.youtube.com/@dcnmattsurico



YOUNG AT HEART

CONNECTING SENIOR ADULTS
NEW MEMBERS ALWAYS WELCOME!

NEXT MEETING: MARCH 14TH
ST PATRICK'S LUNCHEON

RSVP TO ANNA
631-234-0714



Baptisms in our church

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

Ryan James Napolitano
child of Kathryn & Michael

Kiera Shae Hughes
child of Colleen & Aaron

BANNS OF Marriage

SECOND ANNOUNCEMENT

PATRICIA SKRZYPEK
St. Thomas More
Hauppauge



VINCENT RADZIUL
St. Thomas More
Hauppauge



Paschal Candle 2025

As Lent begins, the Parish is looking for sponsors for our 2025 Paschal Candle.

Sponsorships can be *in memoriam* or on behalf of your family. Contact the Rectory for more information!

Fun Fact: The Paschal Candle is lit for all of Easter, as well as at all Baptisms and Funeral.



A Thank You

I, Kimberly Mazziotti, President of the Columbiettes, would like to thank all the parishioners, Father Antony, the deacons, the Knights of Columbus and all the Columbiettes who participated in the bake sale and basket raffle the Columbiettes hosted. I am so proud to have raised a large sum of money that goes back into the community. The Columbiettes did a wonderful job baking, masking baskets and selling. The Knights helped set up and clean up as well as supporting us! The parishioners all came out and supported us, even though the weather was against us. These events are successful because of all the time and effort put in mixed with the support of our church family. Thank you to everyone!

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Sincerely,
Kimberly Mazziotti

President of the St. Thomas More Columbiettes

Bereavement Group

for anyone whose life has been affected by suicide.

Starting Wednesday April 23rd
6pm to 7:30pm for six weeks

St. Raphael's

600 Newbridge Rd
East Meadow

Call for more info
516-308-3808

*Remember, you
are not alone.*

Children's Liturgy Crew

Sundays @ 9:30

Children ages 4-8 are invited to join our team to learn all about our faith during the 9:30 Mass on Sundays

Join us weekly!

LENT

prayer • fasting • almsgiving

OUR LADY QUEEN OF PEACE

ruega por nosotros

pray for us

ora pro nobis

молися за нас

ادعو لنا

St. Thomas More Lenten Project 2025



Catholic
Charities
USA®

Those impacted by **CALIFORNIA WILDFIRES**



The devastating wildfires burning out of control in the greater Los Angeles area resulted in 29 deaths and have forced nearly 180,000 people to evacuate, leaving their homes just carrying whatever belongings they could. The rapid, raging fires, sparked by dry conditions and powerful winds, in Pacific Palisades, Pasadena, Sylmar, and Hollywood Hills have destroyed countless homes and businesses and caused thousands of men, women, and children to be displaced and in need. Many Angelenos are without shelter, food, and critical necessities, leaving communities in desperate need of support. A city official in Los Angeles described the night of Jan. 7 as “one of the most devastating and terrifying” that she had seen in her corner of the city.

During this trying time, Catholic Charities’ Disaster Relief Fund is providing clients with essential needs, such as food, water, toiletries, and hotel vouchers. Disaster Relief funds go directly to support displaced residents.

We continue to keep those impacted by the wildfires in our prayers and invite you to make a donation to Catholic Charities’ Disaster Relief Fund. Any donation amount will be greatly appreciated. Checks can be made out to St. Thomas More and placed in the little house by the bulletin board, in the collection basket, or dropped off at the Rectory. Please note “Lenten Project” in the memo line.



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



Fasting & Abstinence

Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are obligatory days of fasting and abstinence for Catholics. In addition, Fridays during Lent are obligatory days of abstinence.

See the guidelines below!

- Fasting is obligatory for ages 18-59 inclusive.
- Fasting constitutes no more than one full meal, as well as two smaller meals that together are less than a full meal.
- Abstinence is obligatory for all Catholics aged 14 or older.
- Abstinence is to avoid eating meat (chicken, pork, beef, etc). Fish is allowed.
- Please remember to drink lots of water!



If possible, the fast on Good Friday can be continued until the Easter Vigil as the "paschal fast" to honor the suffering and death of our Lord Jesus and to prepare more fully for his Resurrection.

MON 4/14 RECONCILIATION DAY

Confession available from 3:00pm-9:00pm at St Thomas More, as well as all parishes in the Diocese.

WED 4/16

Choir Cantata at 7:30pm in the Church. *No Stone Could Hold Him* composed by Larry Larson.

THUR 4/17 MAUNDY THURSDAY

Morning Prayer (no mass) at 9:00am

Mass of the Lord's Supper at 7:30pm in the Church. This mass is always followed by the Solemn Procession to the Altar of Repose. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament in Repository will be available until 10:00pm, ending with Night Prayer from the Liturgy of Hours.

HOLY

AT ST T

For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, who believes in him may have eternal life.



2025 Parish Lenten Project



Catholic Charities USA.

2025 PARISH LENTEN RETREAT Homecoming

PRESENTED BY MSGR JERRY RINGENBACK



We need to come home to that place in our heart where God dwells, and where we are loved by God and others. This Parish Lenten Mission will take us on a journey - a Homecoming - which will bring us closer to ourselves, our God, and our Church.

7pm
IN THE CHURCH

MON APRIL 7TH
COMING HOME TO ONESELF

TUES APRIL 8TH
COMING HOME TO GOD

WED APRIL 9TH
COMING HOME TO THE CHURCH

The St. Thomas present

No Stone Could Hold Him

A Dynamic V
Living Rock of
Wednesday
7:30p



Y WEEK

THOMAS MORE

ved the world that he
Son, so that everyone
him may not perish but
e eternal life.

JOHN 3:16

FRI 4/18 GOOD FRIDAY

Morning Prayer (no mass) at 9:00am

Stations of the Cross at 12:00pm

Stations of the Cross for Young
People at 1:30pm

Liturgy of the Lord's Passion and
Death at 3:00pm in the Church

Tenebrae at 7:30pm in the Church. A
presentation of the Lord's Passion
with neotraditional Chant

SAT 4/19 HOLY SATURDAY

Morning Prayer (no mass) at 9:00am

Blessing of the Easter Food at
10:00am in Walden Hall

*NO 5:00pm MASS

Mass of the Easter Vigil at 7:30pm in
the Church

LENT 2025

TENEBRAE

GOOD FRIDAY, 7:30PM

JOIN US FOR A READING OF
THE LORD'S PASSION WITH
NEOTRADITIONAL CHANTING

LED BY DEACON MATT
COMPOSED BY ALEX WHITE
SUNG BY NOELLE WHITE



LENTEN MASS OF HEALING

Sunday, April 6th at 11:30am
anointing of the sick to follow



More Choir
ts...

NE Hold IM

Witness to the
Our Salvation

April 16th
m

THOMAS MORE
CHURCH

Stations of the Cross Every Friday at 7pm

3/7: for the Sick and the Disabled, and
those who help ease their burden.

3/14: for the Addicted, and those
struggling with Temptation.

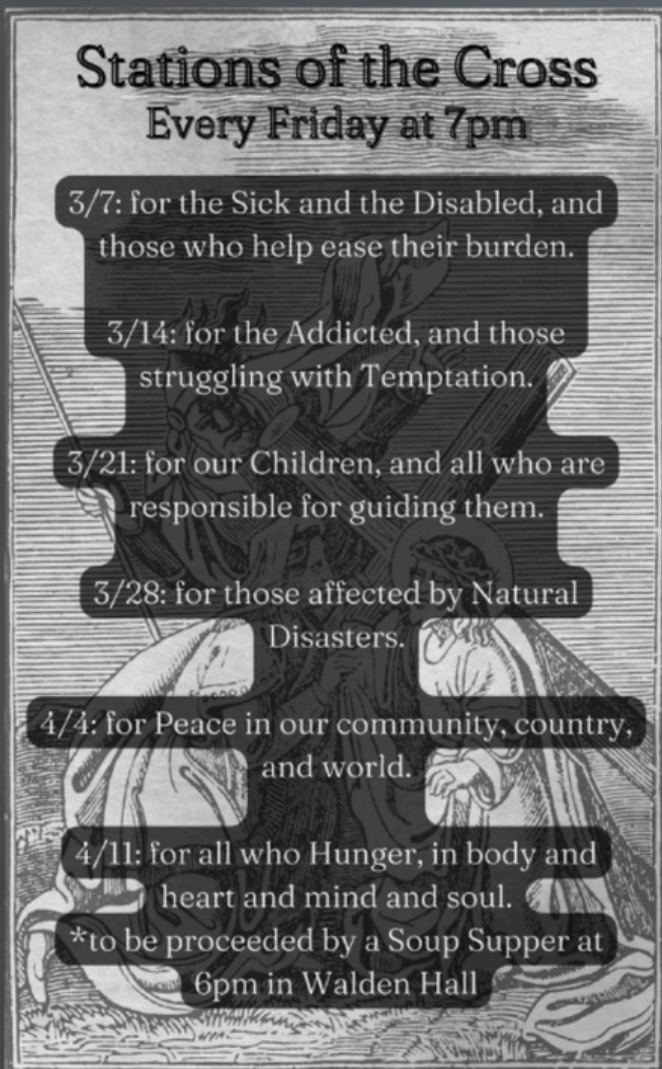
3/21: for our Children, and all who are
responsible for guiding them.

3/28: for those affected by Natural
Disasters.

4/4: for Peace in our community, country,
and world.

4/11: for all who Hunger, in body and
heart and mind and soul.

*to be preceded by a Soup Supper at
6pm in Walden Hall



Easter Sunday

Masses at:

8:00am

9:30am

11:30am

And suddenly there was a great earthquake, for
an angel of the Lord, descending from heaven,
came and rolled back the stone and sat on it.

-Matthew 28:2