

Catholic Church Community of **St. Thomas More** 115 Kings Highway, Hauppauge NY 11788

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

April 6<sup>th</sup>, 2025

# GO NOW, AND SIN NO MORE

This Week's Readings

Isaiah 43:16-21 Psalm 126:1-6 Philippians 3:8-14 John 8:1-11

### **Religious Ed**

631-234-0397 (call) reled@stmli.org (email)

# 5th Sunday of Lent

### Rectory

631-234-5551 (call) 631-213-6882 (text) rectory@stmli.org (email)

### Outreach

631-234-3149 (call) outreach@stmli.org (email)

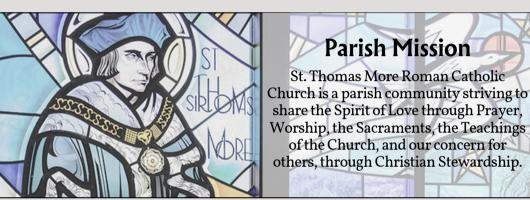
# This Week's Masses

#### Saturday, April 5th

5pm John Puglisi Charles Anderson

Sunday, April 6th Fifth Sunday of Lent

- 8am Robert Williams Jr **Eleanor Kingslev**
- 9:30am Arputha Mary Asir Patricia Swetz
- Betty Barbieri 11:30am Christopher Loring



Monday, April 7th 9am Arputha Mary Asir

**Tuesday, April 8th** 9am Jack Gaudet

Wednesday, April 9th 9am Chet Kalenty

**Thursday, April 10th** 9am Ramon Silguero

**Parish Mission** 

St. Thomas More Roman Catholic

of the Church, and our concern for

Friday, April 11th 9am Venancia Argentina Morales

#### Saturday, April 12th

5pm Kenneth Walden Kevin Folev

Sunday, April 13th Palm Sunday

8am Dcn Thomas Samson Connie Giunta

9:30am Arputha Mary Asir Thomas Murphy (healing)

11:30am Alexander Blandeburgo Eileen Macholz-Barr

#### Saints of the Week

St. John Baptist de la Salle (4/7) St. Stanislaus (4/11) St. Martin (4/13)

> Saints in heaven, pray for us



April 13th 2025

#### **Readings**

Luke 19:28-40 Isaiah 50:4-7 Psalm 22:8-9,17-20,23-24 Philippians 2:6-11 Luke 22:14-23:56

#### **Focus Questions**

1: Relate a time when you witnessed a friend or family member acting with humility.

2: How do you respond to someone who asks to borrow something of yours?

3: What is something special that you can do to celebrate Palm Sunday?

Families: Talk about how you continue to follow Jesus even when it is difficult.

#### Gospel of Luke (19:28-40)

Jesus proceeded on his journey up to Jerusalem. As he drew near to Bethphage and Bethany at the place called the Mount of Olives, he sent two of his disciples. He said, "Go into the village opposite you, and as you enter it you will find a colt tethered on which no one has ever sat. Untie it and bring it here. And if anyone should ask you, 'Why are you untying it?' you will answer, 'The Master has need of it.'" So those who had been sent went off and found everything just as he had told them. And as they were untying the colt, its owners said to them, "Why are you untying this colt?" They answered, "The Master has need of it." So they brought it to Jesus, threw their cloaks over the colt, and helped Jesus to mount. As he rode along, the people were spreading their cloaks on the road; and now as he was

approaching the slope of the Mount of Olives, the whole multitude of his disciples began to praise God aloud with joy

for all the mighty deeds they had seen. They proclaimed: "Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord. Peace in heaven and glory in the highest." Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to him, "Teacher, rebuke your disciples." He said in reply, "I tell you, if they keep silent, the stones will cry out!"



### From the Pastor

"Darling, I read your new book yesterday. I loved it. Who wrote it for you?"

"I'm glad you liked it. Who read it to you?"

If we think that we are smart to put someone down, it will not take much time for the other to put us down. Soon we will be repaid with the same coin. The measure we measure to others will be measured unto us.

#### Today's readings show how **God is ready to uplift us and never put us down.**

The gospel narrates how Jesus saves the woman caught in adultery from the jaws of death. Jesus makes the accusers judge their lives with the same law with which they have condemned the woman. If the woman is condemned by the law for her sin, they too stand condemned before the law for their sins. For no one is sinless and everyone fails to live up to the law in some degree or other. At the awareness that we are all sinners, Jesus invites everyone not to condemn and kill but forgive and heal.

Apostle **James recalled this saving event** of Jesus when he wrote a letter to his congregation. He instructed them to observe the law not to condemn each other but to show mercy. "Even if you do not commit adultery but kill, you have become a transgressor of the law. So, speak and so act as people who will be judged by the law of freedom. For the judgment is merciless to one who has not shown mercy; mercy triumphs over judgment." (James 2:11-13) The purpose of the law is to promote life and opportunities to make life livable for all. If we use law as a weapon to punish and get rid of the other for the breach of law, then every one of us will stand liable to punishment because every one of us fails to observe one or many laws.

In the first reading **God instructs us to forget the things of past**. He welcomes us to perceive and participate in the New that springs forth. Let us imitate Paul, as he says in the second reading, "Forgetting what lies behind but straining forward to what lies ahead, I continue my pursuit toward the goal, the prize of God's upward calling, in Christ Jesus." The past always provokes us to judge the other and the future awaits us with the new to live in hope and peace.

**Parish Mission is this week:** Msgr. Jerry Ringenback gives a Lenten Mission this week April 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> (Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday) both in the morning at 9:00 am Mass and at 7:00 pm. Lenten Mission is a great opportunity to take this journey of leaving behind the old in order to reach forward to the New that lies ahead. In the name of Msgr. Jerry Ringenback, I invite you to come to the Mission "Coming Home to Oneself, to God, and to the Church."

Soon it will be Easter. Donors to sponsor the Paschal Candle, Easter water bottles, and Easter Candles are welcome. The Paschal Candle will be blessed at the Easter Vigil and will be lit all through the Easter Season, whenever we celebrate Baptisms, and during funerals. During the Easter Vigil, Easter water bottles will be distributed to all the people. Please offer your donation in the special "Easter Offering envelopes." Thanks for your donation.

With love and prayers, Father Antony



#### Rectory

Theresa Recce (sacraments) theresa@stmli.org Dottie Castaldo (finance) finance@stmli.org

Alex White (operations) rectory@stmli.org

#### Youth Ministry

Noelle White youthgroup@stmli.org

# Our Staff

Clergy

Father Antony Asir, Pastor pastor@stmli.org

Matthew T.J. Surico, Deacon deacon.matt@stmli.org

Edward Vigneaux, Deacon (Ret)

Robert D. Weisz, Deacon (Ret)

#### **Religious Ed**

Mary Ellen Carrol, DRE maryellen@stmli.org

Linda Ronning reled@stmli.org

Joanne Anelli

#### **Music Ministry**

Emilia Savarese, Director (631) 724-8820

# **Prayers & Petitions**

#### Pray for the Deceased

Judith Frances Sutter Lauren Fontanetta Robert Yezek Alexander Stephan Klimar

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

St Gertrude, pray for us.

# Altar Bread & Wine Memorial

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

#### <u>Pray for our Clergy</u>

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:

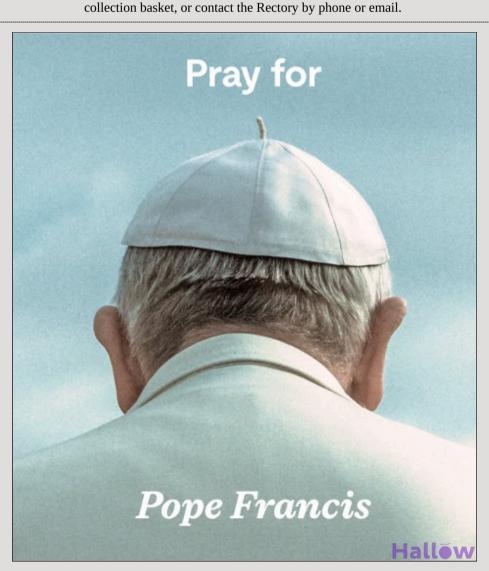
T <mark>r</mark> oy A Maida ∕	Joseph Kirsch
Connor Hendrickson	Allen Kirsch
Eva <mark>n</mark> Hendrickson –	Nicholas Gajda
Ryan Smith	Alexandria Feys Gajda
Will Maley	Andrew Lynch

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.

#### Pray for the Sick

Ana Beltrani Christopher Conley Christy Torkelsen Codier Codispoti Diane McCann Ellen Murphy Jo Garvey Joseph Tuffarelli Larry Wilson Margaret Sheehan Marge McGowan Noah Simonetti Nunzio Puleo Richard Landi Rosalie Malerba

\*This listing will reset on September 30th, 2025 To add a name to the sick list, please fill out a card from the literature rack place it in the



# Support our Parish

#### **Financial Support**

Collection from: March 29th & 30th Fourth Sunday in Lent

# \$5825

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 Fratamico 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

#### Looking for ways to help?

Outreach is in need of "back-up" helpers. If you have some time so spare, consider volunteering with us! Please call the Outreach office for more information.

Life Center of LI is seeking volunteers at their Smithtown and Deer Park locations to help with property and building maintenance and management of baby item donations. Please call 516-798-8746 for more info.

#### **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.

Do not withhold good from those to whom it is due, when it is in your power to do it.

Blood type O+ ( it doesn't have to be a direct match) Long Island/ NY Please contact our transplant team (212)-263-3621 Email- NYUTRLivingdonor@nyumc.org

Please consider the gift of life to our son

Wyatt Houppert 12 yrs old

DOB 9/14/2012

In need of a kidney transplant immediately



#### PROVERBS 3:27

#### **OUR SHELVES ARE VERY LOW ON...**

**Canned Vegetables** Mac & Cheese Tuna Canned/Boxed Meals Rice **Toilet Paper** Paper Towels

#### 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.





#### Society of St. Vincent de Paul

In today's Gospel, Jesus is the model of compassion and kindness. He shows us how to be merciful and nonjudgemental.

When we give to the poor, God indeed pours his love, peace, and mercy into our hearts and into the hearts of those suffering in poverty.



If you know someone in need, please call! To contact us, call 631-248-6760 or email svdp.stm@aol.com





# St. Thomas More Lenten Project 2025

Catholic

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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.

Those impacted by

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.

# **EASTER** • 2025 •

# **EASTER DINNER**

WE ARE IN NEED OF FOOD ITEMS! SWEET POTATOES, VEGETABLES, CRANBERRY SAUCE, CANNED FRUIT, STUFFING MIX, DESSERTS, COFFEE, DRINKS, AND GOCERY STORE GIFT CARDS (\$25)

SH OUTRE

# EASTER BASKETS

WE ARE ALSO COLLECTING CANDY EASTER BASKETS FOR OUR CHILDREN! CHOCOLATE BUNNIES OR CROSSES, MARSHMALLOW PEEPS, MINI EGGS, JELLY BEANS, SNACK PACKS, COOKIE PACKS.

WE RESPECTFULLY REQUEST <u>NO TOYS</u> AS THIS MAKES DISTRIBUTION MORE DIFFICULT!

#### 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.

# Spring Flower Sale 2025

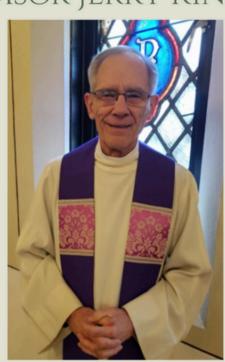
Please write a quantity for flowers you are purchasing on the line next the the color options. Write the total in the box on the bottom with your name & phone number, and place this form with your payment, cash or check, in an envelope marked "flowers" (if using, make checks payable to St. Thomas More). **Return the envelope to the collection basket or rectory by** <u>April 27th</u>





All orders will be ready for pick up on the weekend of May 10 & 11 before and after all masses!

# LENTEN RETREAT HOMECOMINS PRESENTED BY MSGR JERRY RINGENBACK



Fr. Jerry comes to us with many years of parish experience and retreat work as a priest of our diocese. He hopes to be an instrument of the Holy Spirit that will touch the hearts of the faithful. MON APRIL 7TH COMING HOME TO ONESELF How we see ourselves before God - our brokeness and holiness

#### TUES APRIL 8TH COMING HOME TO GOD How we experience God's merciful love and forgiveness

WED APRIL 9TH COMING HOME TO THE CHURCH How we can face the crisis in the church and draw the younger generation back

**The Lenten Season -** a time when we get our spiritual life in shape and prepare for Easter by prayer, fasting, and acts of charity. Giving up three evenings in April is certainly a Lenten sacrifice given the busyness of life.

**The Mission Talks -** the theme of homecoming is meant to bring us to a deeper appreciation of ourselves as holy people, draw us into a deeper relationship with the Lord as a healer, and renew our relationship with the church as human and divine, and draw the younger generation back.

A Moment of Grace - rarely is something we hear at a parish mission life-changing, but one insight, one awakening, one moment of grace can have an enduring impact on our lives.



# LENTEN RETREAT Homecoming

Dear Parishioners,

I am looking forward to coming to St. Thomas More Parish to offer the Lenten Mission which begins, Monday, April 7. Over the years you have been blessed with wonderful leadership. Despite its humble beginnings in a factory, the parish has grown into a vibrant and faith-filled family of believers. Clergy and laity together have embraced the spirit of Vatican II and created a spiritual home where all are welcome. In the face of the many challenges of our contemporary world that family spirit remains strong. It is a privilege for me to share with you this year's mission on the theme of "Homecoming,"- coming home to oneself, to God, and to the Church.

The Lenten Season and in particular the Lenten Mission is a unique time in the life of a parish- a time of growth and renewal. I come to St. Thomas not to offer some radical, life-changing message but some reflections on how to live a life of faith in a complex, changing world and to help others to draw closer to the Lord and the Church which we cherish.

I reach out especially to those who might not typically attend a mission for a variety of reasons. People's lives today are hectic, demanding, and often a source of stress. We need time to come aside, reflect and refocus our lives. A mission is such a time. Just to gain one insight, one saving grace from the mission makes the sacrifice of time worthwhile. With God a little effort goes a long way.

Join me as we travel from ashes to Easter. Come home and you will find there a treasure you have always desired.

Fr. Jerry Ringenback

# Do you want to serve our Parish?

# We are in need of dedicated volunteers!

# Eucharistic Ministers & Lectors



Becoming a Lector or Extraordinary Minister of the Eucharist is a great opportunity to serve our community, and will allow you to more deeply experience the Mass and our faith!



There are sessions available for Diocesan training, please call the Rectory for details!

# Do you want to serve our Parish? We are in need of dedicated volunteers!

# **Altar Servers**

Altar Serving is not restricted to children; we gladly welcome adults who would like to join the ministry!

### Our most pressing need is for Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Vigil.

Training will be provided by Deacon Matt, and parents or adults who are interested or have further questions can reach out by email (<u>altarservers@stmli.org</u>) or by calling the Rectory!

#### 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 WEEK**

#### AT ST THOMAS MORE

For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have 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

# Fasting @ & Abstinence

Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are obligatory days of fasting and abstinence Lent are obligatory days of abstinence.

- 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

If possible, the fast on Good Friday can

#### **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

25 PARS

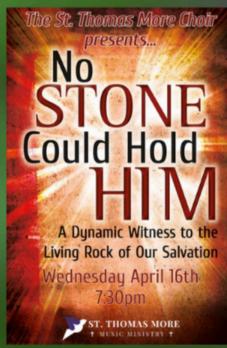
MSGR ERRY RINGENBACK

God dewlis, and where we an God and others. This Parish Lo sion will take us on a journey -oming - which will bring us clos

7pm 🖏 IN THE

### **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







MON APRIL 7TH COMING HOME TO ONESELF

TUES APRIL 8TH COMING HOME TO GOD

