

Sharing  
the Spirit  
of Love

Catholic Church Community of

# St. Thomas More

115 Kings Highway, Hauppauge NY 11788

December 8th, 2024

Love



## 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.

## Second Sunday of Advent

## 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 December 7th - December 15th 2024

## Saturday, December 7th: St Ambrose

5pm- Agnes Dolan *by Lorraine Toomey*

John Thompson *by Mary & Robert Utter*

## Sunday, December 8th: Second Sunday of Advent

8am- John J Thompson *by Mary & Robert Utter*

9:30am- Christopher Loring *by Elisa Kerenyi*

Patricia Yezek *by Mary Ann & John Egan*

11:30am- Chris & Gert Hirsch & Family (living) *by The Scimecas*

## Monday, December 9th: Immaculate Conception of the BVM

9am- The People of the Parish of St. Thomas More

7pm- John Reddy *by Eleanor Trimble*

## Tuesday, December 10th:

9am- John Puglisi *by The Eyring Family*

## Wednesday, December 11th:

9am- Joseph Codispoti *by Lois Mohlenbrok & Family*

## Thursday, December 12th: Our Lady of Guadalupe

9am- Jaime Rodriguez *by Lou & Ann Anatrella*

## Friday, December 13th: St Lucy

9am- Silverio & Jenny Scotti *by Rosalie Micieli & Anthony Scotti*

## Saturday, December 14th: St John of the Cross

5pm- Scott E Smith *by Donna & Sid Smith*

Marin Lamia *by Ann Lamia & Family*

## Sunday, December 15th: Third Sunday of Advent

8am- Angelo Manzi *by The Rodriguez Family*

Rosalind Warmuth *by Her Children*

9:30am- Eleanore Porter *by Judy Coyle*

Elizabeth Crescenti *by Gary & Joan Pisano*

11:30am- Richard Stout *by Mom*

Eleanore Porter *by Judy Coyle*

## Luke 3:10-18 (Advent 3)

The crowds asked John the Baptist, "What should we do?" He said to them in reply, "Whoever has two cloaks should share with the person who has none. And whoever has food should do likewise." Even tax collectors came to be baptized and they said to him, "Teacher, what should we do?" He answered them, "Stop collecting more than what is prescribed." Soldiers also asked him, "And what is it that we should do?" He told them, "Do not practice extortion, do not falsely accuse anyone, and be satisfied with your wages."

Now the people were filled with expectation, and all were asking in their hearts whether John might be the Christ. John answered them all, saying, "I am baptizing you with water, but one mightier than I is coming. I am not worthy to loosen the thongs of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fan is in his hand to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire." Exhorting them in many other ways, he preached good news to the people.

## Focus Questions for Advent 2

Luke 3:1-6

- 1: Relate a time when you were filled with expectation. What were you expecting?
- 2: How do you share your possessions with those in need?
- 3: Describe a time when the words of another were powerful enough to make a change in your life for the better.

## Family & Children's Question:

Talk about how important it is to seek out wise guides who will help us live the way God wants us to.

## Readings for Next Week

December 8th, 2024 (Advent 2)

Baruch 5:1-9

Psalms 126:1-6

Philippians 1:4-6,8-11

Luke 3:1-6

## Readings for Next Week

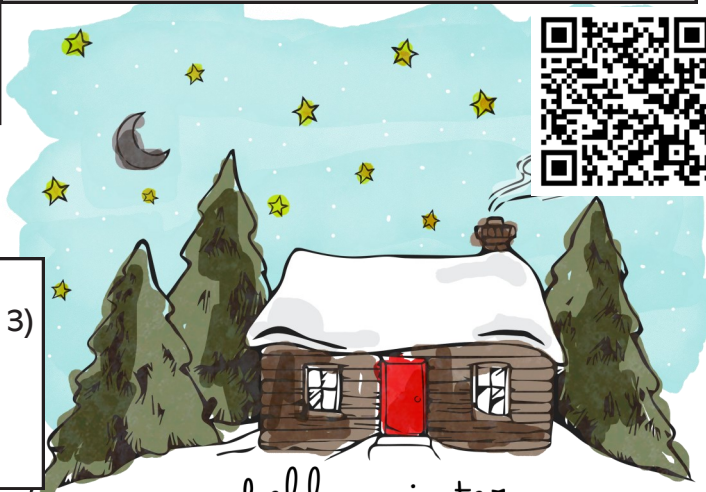
December 15th, 2024 (Advent 3)

Zephaniah 3:14-18a

Isaiah 12:2-6

Philippians 4:4-7

Luke 3:10-18



hello winter

# Fr. Antony's Letter

Dear Friends,

**Baseball is talked about a great deal in the Bible....**in the beginning....Eve stole first....Adam stole second....Gideon rattled the pitchers....Goliath was taken out by David....The Prodigal Son hit a home run....

We can go on describing various other biblical events in terms of baseball. Likewise, when God wanted to communicate with us in human terms, God sent Jesus to be born as a human, as one of us. That is God's way of sharing the divine love and of communicating His message in human terms.

**Today's Gospel ends with a quote from the prophet Isaiah,** "All flesh will see the salvation of God." Isaiah said at the time of his calling by God, "Woe is me, I am doomed!- For I am a man of unclean lips, living among a people of unclean lips, and my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts!" (Isaiah 6:5); but now he boldly foretells that human flesh will see God's salvation.

**Today's Gospel gives lots of historical details as to when exactly John the Baptist** was calling people to look for the birth of Jesus. These details situate John's proclamation to have happened at a particular point in our human history. Thus they show that Jesus' birth is an event in human history. It took place in human times in a human way for humans to see. Humans saw the birth of God. As Isaiah says, the human flesh has seen God's salvation in the birth of God, Jesus' birth.

**The second week of Advent shows how God is not an abstract being** but historically a real person among us. If we can open our heart and believe this fact, we are sure to experience His birth even today. Let this Advent help us get ready to see Jesus' birth in our hearts and homes.

**You will find new missalettes in the pews,** that have all the readings, hymns, and prayers for the whole year. Since they are to be used for the whole year until end of November 2025, I ask you to please handle them gently. This year they are placed in plastic covers so that they may last all year long. When not in use please place the missalettes carefully in the racks. Please do not jam books into the racks in the open position. Before leaving the church, please check your pew to see that the missalettes are in order. Thanks for your cooperation.

**The 9<sup>th</sup> of December is the Solemn Feast of the Immaculate Conception of Mary,** the patroness of the United States. It is a Holy Day of Obligation. Masses are celebrated on Monday December 9th at 9:00am and 7:00pm.

With love and prayers,  
Fr. Antony



# Parish Operations

## SUPPORT COLLECTION

Collection from:  
Nov 30th & Dec 1st

**\$6750**

Thank You!

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

## Calendar Club Winners

12/2 (\$25): Mary Lou Braun (1251)

12/3 (\$25): Mr & Mrs Paul Gruner (405)

12/4 (\$25): Liz Hansen (600)

12/5 (\$25): Joan M Murphy (900)

12/6 (\$25): Phyllis Ann Ehrhardt (307)

12/7 (\$25): Richard Soldano (366)

12/8 (\$75): Sal & Teresa Ferraro (112)

## 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.*

We Saved a  
*seat for you*

## Staff

### Pastor

Father Antony Asir

[pastor@stmli.org](mailto:pastor@stmli.org)

### Deacons

Deacon Matthew T.J. Surico

[deacon.matt@stmli.org](mailto:deacon.matt@stmli.org)

Deacon Edward Vigneaux

Deacon Robert D. Weisz

### Rectory

Theresa Recce (sacraments)

[theresa@stmli.org](mailto:theresa@stmli.org)

Dottie Castaldo (finance)

[finance@stmli.org](mailto:finance@stmli.org)

Alex White (operations)

[rectory@stmli.org](mailto:rectory@stmli.org)

### Religious Education

Mary Ellen Carroll, DRE

[mecarroll@optonline.net](mailto:mecarroll@optonline.net)

Linda Ronning

[reled@stmli.org](mailto:reled@stmli.org)

Joanne Anelli

### Youth Ministry

Noelle White

[youthgroup@stmli.org](mailto:youthgroup@stmli.org)

### Music Ministry

Emilia Savarese, Director

631-724-8820

## Contact

## Ministry

### Parish Outreach

Marti White

[outreach@stmli.org](mailto:outreach@stmli.org)

### Pastoral Council

Barbara & Joe Fratamico

[bjfrat1@gmail.com](mailto:bjfrat1@gmail.com)

### Altar Servers Ministry

Deacon Matt Surico

[altarservers@stmli.org](mailto:altarservers@stmli.org)

### Eucharistic Ministers

Patty Citro

[pcitro78@yahoo.com](mailto:pcitro78@yahoo.com)

### Lector Ministry

Mike Petagna

[mpetagna22@gmail.com](mailto:mpetagna22@gmail.com)

### Hospitality Ministry

Ellie Stout

[gram11@optonline.net](mailto:gram11@optonline.net)

### Consolation Ministry

Eileen Weidig

631-724-2462

### OCIA

Ann Russo

[redaa@aol.com](mailto:redaa@aol.com)

### Young at Heart

Anna Beltrani

631-234-0714

# Prayers for Our Community

## Pray for the Sick

Joseph Barrett	Eileen Macholz-Barr
Marie Bracco	Marge McGowan
Peter Cappisillo	Meagan
Lillian Catalano	Ellen Murphy
Patricia Culbert	Carol Persan
Grayson Danielski	Nunzio (Steve) Puleo
Brian Fagioli	Angelo Santangelo
Barbara Foberg	Rita Schug
Rick Goodhart	Noah Simonetti
Stephanie Goodhart	Christy Torkelsen
Linda Heller	Andrew M Valentine
Maryann Landi	Janet Ward
Richard Landi	Lorraine White

To add names to the Pray for the Sick list, contact the Rectory or fill out a card found in the literature rack and place it in a collection basket.

\*this listing will expire on March 31st, 2024

## Pray for the Deceased

Richard Ragone  
John Puglisi



We continuously pray for our deceased loved ones.

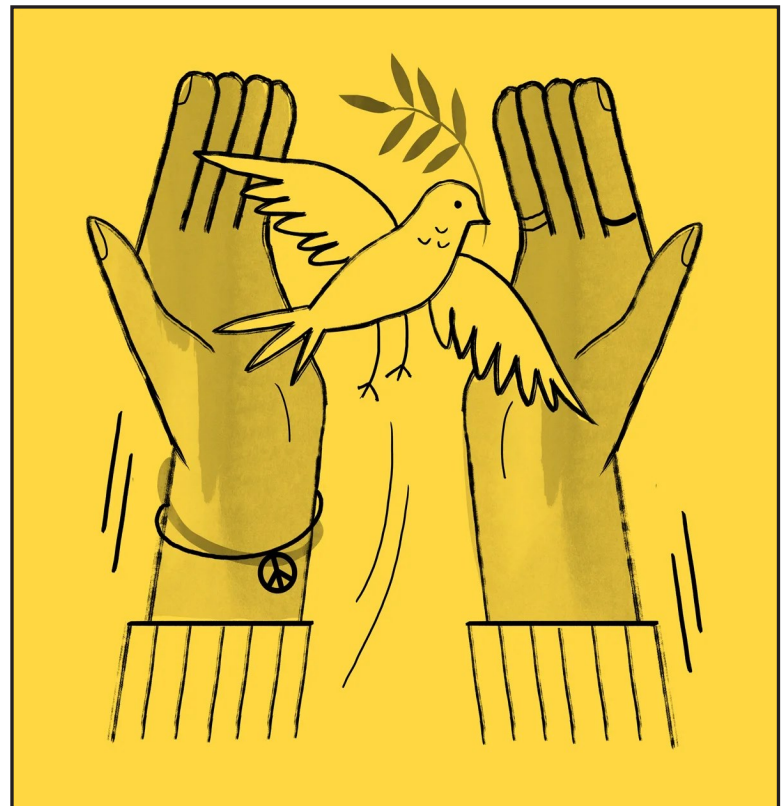
## Pray for Our Military

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

12/9-12/15



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
Deacon Ed Vigneaux	Pope Francis



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

# Parish Social Ministry

“In every moment, choose your best self. If you do, you will be choosing happiness for you and for all those you touch in this life.”

~Matthew Kelly



**ST. THOMAS MORE**

† PARISH OUTREACH †

Monday – Thursday 10AM to 2 PM

631-234-3149

Outreach@stmli.org

## Our needs for the month...

Jelly  
Tuna  
Drinks  
Pancake Mix  
Rice  
Canned Fruit  
Shampoo  
Small Laundry Detergent/Pods

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.



## Thank You!

We are so grateful for all your donations to our Thanksgiving food drive. 57 families were able to enjoy Thanksgiving dinner as a result of your generosity.

During the month of **November**, Outreach provided food to 70 families. This included 106 children and 111 adults!

Our **Christmas Giving Tree** is in the Narthex. Please consider taking a couple tags to help support those in need within our community.

Thank you and God bless.

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 today's Gospel, John the Baptist urges us to “Prepare the way of the Lord” and this is what Advent is all about. We are called to help prepare the way of the Lord by making the real meaning of Christmas come alive in our own hearts, in our family, and to reach out to those in need.

Is there a family you know who needs assistance? Please let us know so that together we may help those in need celebrate Christmas.

We can be reached at 631-248-6760 or [svdp.stm@aol.com](mailto:svdp.stm@aol.com)

# Interfaith Thanksgiving Service at Temple Beth Chai in Hauppauge



left: our STM participants  
above: the clergy from Calvary Lutheran, United Methodist, Temple Beth Chai, and St. Thomas More



## Baptisms in our church

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

Lorenzo Joseph Franzitta  
child of Gina & Joseph



## QUESTION OF THE WEEK

In the Gospel of Luke, the Angel Gabriel appears to Mary. To whom else does he appear?

- a: The Shepherds
- b: Zechariah
- c: St Elizabeth
- d: St Joseph



Answer: b (Zechariah). In Luke 1, Gabriel appears to Zechariah to announce Elizabeth's pregnancy!

## CHRISTMAS Masses

### CHRISTMAS EVE

TUES 12/24 @ 3:30PM

WITH CAROLING STARTING AT 3PM

TUES 12/24 @ 5:30PM

TUES 12/24 @ 10:30PM

WITH CAROLING STARTING AT 10PM

### CHRISTMAS DAY

WED 12/25 @ 8AM

WED 12/25 @ 9:30AM

WED 12/25 @ 11:30AM



# Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception

Let us come together and celebrate this Solemnity, honoring the conception of our Blessed Mother Mary, free from original sin.

HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION  
JOIN US FOR MASS

MON DEC 9TH @ 9:00AM  
MON DEC 9TH @ 7:00PM



# MASS of HEALING

Sunday December 15th  
at 11:30am

All in need are welcome to join us after Mass for the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick

Is anyone among you sick? Let them call the elders of the church to pray over them and anoint them with oil in the name of the Lord. And the prayer offered in faith will make the sick person well; the Lord will raise them up. If they have sinned, they will be forgiven.

JAMES 5:14-15

## Young at Heart

New Members Always Welcome!

Next Meeting: December 11th  
Christmas Luncheon!!

RSVP to Anna, or call for more info  
631-234-0714

# OUR LADY QUEEN OF PEACE

ادعونا      молися за нас

bete  
für  
uns

ruega por nosotros  
молитесь за нас

pray for us

Προσευχηθείτε  
για εμάς

התפלל למעננו

ora  
pro  
nobis





ST. THOMAS MORE  
+PARISH OUTREACH+

# Giving Tree

Due to the damage to the back rooms of the Parish, our Giving Tree is going to look a little different this year. Because we don't know if/when we will have storage in the back we have made some adjustments to our gift giving. The tree in the Narthex will still be filled with tags but only some will be for gifts and the majority will be for Walmart and Target gift cards. Instead of toys, our families will receive gift cards so they can shop for their children. We will be collecting hats and gloves as well as diapers and wipes. We invite you to help us make Christmas special for those less fortunate in our neighborhood.

There is a table set up in the Narthex for your donations as well as a basket for gift cards. Please attach the tag to your donation. You can also put gift cards in the weekly collection basket or drop them off at the Outreach office. There is no need to put gift cards in special envelopes. Your generosity is always appreciated and is a clear reflection of who we are as a St. Thomas More parish family! Thank you and God Bless you and your families this Christmas season!

(Please submit all donations by December 15th)

# Would you like to be an Angel or Shepherd?

This is an exciting opportunity for  
your child to become an active  
part of the Nativity story!

## Requirements:

At least 5 years old

Rehearsal at 1:30 on 12/21

Mass at 3:30 on 12/24



Email [theresa@stmli.org](mailto:theresa@stmli.org) by 12/16  
to participate. Please include...

Child's name

Child's age

Guardian's contact info

\*Spots are limited. Names  
will be accepted in the order  
they were received

# Calendar Club 2025

## The Every Day Lotto!

Numbers are drawn every day of the year (except during the Easter Triduum). The lucky winner of each day is awarded \$25 (or \$50 on Sundays and Holy Days!)

One number for \$25, or 5 numbers for \$100.

Buy as many entries as you want, and win as many times as your luck allows! You can even purchase numbers as gifts for family and friends.

The Calendar Club is a great way to support our parish, and a very important annual fundraiser for us! Please fill out the form below and return it to the rectory, or put it in the basket during Sunday collection.

NAME(S): \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

ONE for \$25     TWO for \$50     THREE for \$75     FIVE for \$100

**\*Early Bird Special: Deadline Sun Dec 15th\***

Order FIVE numbers and get a SIXTH on us!

Note: You must return your form and payment by Sunday  
December 15th.

TOTAL ENCLOSED: \_\_\_\_\_

Please place in envelope labeled Calendar Club 2025 and return to the rectory or the Sunday collection basket. Thank you!

Let us be the protectors of creation,  
protectors of God's plan inscribed in nature,  
protectors of one another and the environment.

**POPE FRANCIS**



# LAUDATO SI' MOVEMENT

Catholics for Our Common Home



The 5th-8th grade classes have learned about Pope Francis' call to protect the environment. They each took on a project to do something for the environment. Look for their posters in the parish center after it opens.

Some of the projects included...

- Beach cleanups
- Collecting bottle caps to be made into a bench
- Hanging bird and bat houses
- One class raised \$397 to protect polar bears
- Made commitments to use less water and electricity
- Planted native plants purchased from a sale at the Sisters of St. Joseph



# ON CARE FOR OUR COMMON HOME

The 1st and 2nd graders went for a nature walk with their parents and completed a booklet, or wrote a prayer of gratitude, along with an art project.

We are very proud of the efforts of all our children. Thank you to the catechists who worked with the children on their projects.



## New Native Garden

We received a generous donation of native plants which will support native bees, butterflies, and birds from Anthony Marinelli at Dropseed Nursery in Malverne. Anthony has worked hard over the years to raise awareness of the need to plant native plants to support local birds, bees, and other wildlife.



Summersweet  
(*Clethra alnifolia*)



Anthony Marinelli  
(Dropseed Nursery)



Seventeen plants were added to a new native garden near the statues of St. Therese and St. Teresa. Watch for the plants to bloom in the spring and summer! In addition, a summersweet will be planted near the entrance to the church.

# Holy Hour

## National Night of Prayer for Life

Contemporary  
music by Alex  
and Noelle!



Adoration and  
Benediction led  
by Deacon Matt!

**Monday, December 9th**

Immediately following the 7pm mass  
celebrating The Immaculate Conception

*We will be united in prayer with churches  
across the country and the world to pray  
for the sanctity of all human life.*

# PRAY25

## with Hallow

### PARTICIPATE BY...

going to [www.hallow.com/parish](http://www.hallow.com/parish)  
search for our parish by zip code

select St. Thomas More Hauppauge

login with phone or email (or  
google/apple)

sign up for the \$1 for 120 days offer!

sign into the app (using the same  
login as before)

pray!!

bonus: go to the community tab (3  
houses) and search for our parish!  
pray as a community!

### TROUBLES?

try logging out of the app if  
you already have it on your  
phone

try deleting the app if you  
already have it on your  
phone

make sure the "promo code"  
says STMNYADVENT25

for general issues: contact  
Alex in the Rectory

for account/billing issues:  
contact  
[parisheshelp@hallow.com](mailto:parisheshelp@hallow.com)

# Hallow