

Sharing
the Spirit
of Love

Catholic Church Community of

St. Thomas More

115 Kings Highway, Hauppauge NY 11788

December 15th 2024

joy



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.

Third 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 14th - December 22nd 2024

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*

Monday, December 16th:

9am- Joan Nachtman *by Joe & Patty Citro*

Tuesday, December 17th:

9am- John Puglisi *by Claudia & Richard Hubbard*

Wednesday, December 18th:

9am- Ruth Schaeffler *by The Marino Family*

Thursday, December 19th:

9am- Joe Luca & Romo Valeri *by Nella*

Friday, December 20th:

9am- Eric Reistetter *by Their Family*

Saturday, December 21st:

5pm- Stacey Oscar-Olds (living) *by Joan Oscar*

Sunday, December 22nd: Fourth Sunday of Advent

8am- Dolly Smith *by Maureen Fallona*

John (Jack) Holder *by The Hoffman Family*

9:30am- Nicholas Conzo *by Angela Conzo*

Marie & Lawrence Papola *by The West & Papola Families*

11:30am- Richard Heller *by Pat Lewis*

Robert & David Mohlenbrock *by The Mohlenbrock Family*

Readings for This Week

December 15th, 2024 (Advent 3)

Zephaniah 3:14-18a

Isaiah 12:2-6

Philippians 4:4-7

Luke 3:10-18

Readings for Next Week

December 22nd, 2024 (Advent 4)

Micah 5:1-4a

Psalm 80: 2-3,15-16,18-19

Hebrews 10:5-10

Luke 1:39-45

Luke 1:39-45 (Advent 4)

Mary set out and traveled to the hill country in haste to a town of Judah, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the infant leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth, filled with the Holy Spirit, cried out in a loud voice and said, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And how does this happen to me, that the mother of my Lord should come to me? For at the moment the sound of your greeting reached my ears, the infant in my womb leaped for joy. Blessed are you who believed that what was spoken to you by the Lord would be fulfilled."

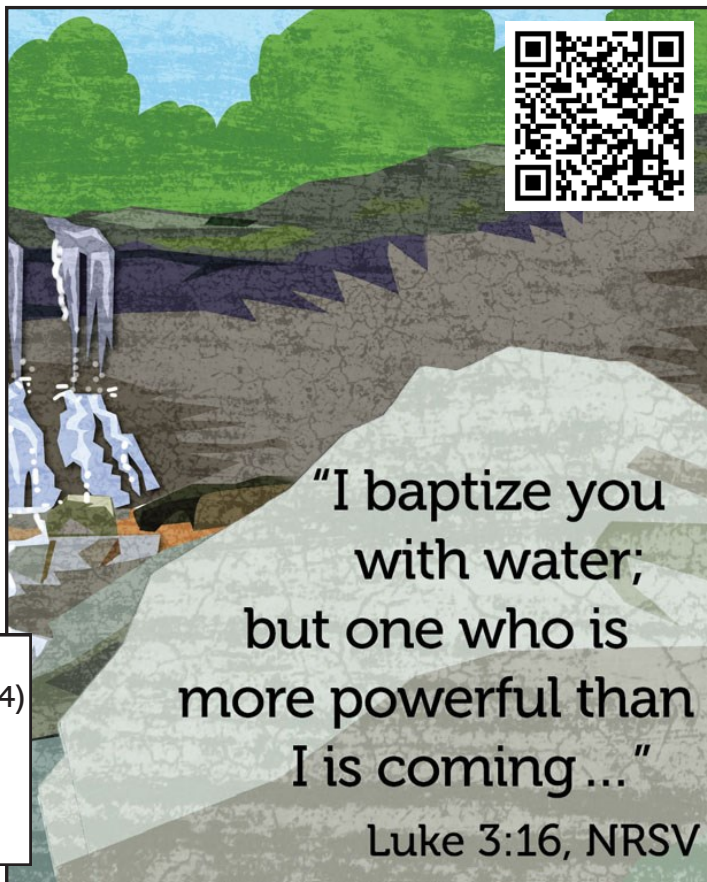
Focus Questions for Advent 4

Luke 1:39-45

- 1: Describe the most unbelievable event you ever saw.
- 2: Relate a time when your heart leapt for joy.
- 3: How are you saying "yes" to the Lord this Advent?

Family & Children's Question:

Talk about Mary's faith and trust in God as a good example of how we should live.



"I baptize you
with water;
but one who is
more powerful than
I is coming ..."

Luke 3:16, NRSV

Fr. Antony's Letter

Dear Friends,

Mr. Bartello was the main speaker of the event. His friend introduced him to the audience. "There isn't anything that I would not do for Mr. Bartello, and there isn't anything he would not do for me. That is why we have gone through life not doing anything for each other."

In today's Gospel John the Baptist invites different group of people to get into doing what they should do. He admonishes them that they should not only hear his message of repentance but also must put the message into deed. Those who have must share with those who have not. Tax collectors must not collect more than what is due. Soldiers must practice justice not extortion. In short everyone is expected at least to fulfill the requirements of law if not be able to be merciful to the other. Conversion is not merely a different way of thinking, just to be conscious of a higher standard of living.

Conversion is a move from what one is right now to what one could best be. Conversion happens when one realizes that she/he has potential to live better than the present life that they live. Conversion is not 'a simple stop doing something and start doing something else'. It is a transformation to bring out the best that we can be. Conversion is a creative process of not repeating ourselves but allowing ourselves to become new and fresh every day. Repetition is a mechanical act. We as humans are not machines. We are organic – an organism that grows, bears fruit and propagates. Mechanical repetition makes life a burden. Being a creative organism overwhelms with joy from within and flows generously outside.

The third week of Advent is called 'GAUDETE' (REJOICE) Sunday. To highlight the sentiment of joy, we will light the rose candle. The message of this Sunday is that there is JOY in waiting for the Lord. At the call of John the Baptist we turn our focus from our old style of life to a new one by the grace of Jesus who is going to be born among us. Mother Teresa says, "Joy is not merely a matter of temperament. Joy is prayer. Joy is strength. Joy is love." May the joy of waiting for the Lord be our strength and love for Jesus the Emmanuel.

We wait with prayer, the birth of Jesus to happen in our hearts and homes. Waiting with prayer means to be ever conscious of the truth that God can be in us. Our waiting will not disappoint because he came as Emmanuel ('God with us'); thus, he is definitely with those who wait for him. This affirmation strengthens us in our waiting for Jesus. His coming to us shows how much God loves to be with us. Thus, this Sunday of JOY makes us prayerfully conscious of his coming; His coming strengthens us and manifests how much God loves us. Let us rejoice and joyfully welcome Jesus.

With love and prayers,
Fr. Antony



Parish Operations

SUPPORT COLLECTION

Collection from:
Dec 7th & 8th

\$6369

Thank You!

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

Calendar Club Winners

12/9 (\$25): Rosemarie Nick (105)
12/10 (\$25): Pat & Joan Shea (342)
12/11 (\$25): John & Kathleen McGullam (264)
12/12 (\$25): Ed & Arleen Rogan (988)
12/13 (\$25): Angelo DiFrancisco (628)
12/14 (\$25): Elaine Liberti (18)
12/15 (\$50): Keith & Lois Christianson (1071)

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

Deacons

Deacon Matthew T.J. Surico

deacon.matt@stmli.org

Deacon Edward Vigneaux

Deacon Robert D. Weisz

Rectory

Theresa Recce (sacraments)

theresa@stmli.org

Dottie Castaldo (finance)

finance@stmli.org

Alex White (operations)

rectory@stmli.org

Religious Education

Mary Ellen Carroll, DRE

mecarroll@optonline.net

Linda Ronning

reled@stmli.org

Joanne Anelli

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

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

Betty Barbieri
Richard Ragone



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.



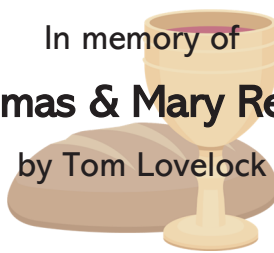
Altar Bread & Wine Memorial

12/16-12/22

In memory of

Thomas & Mary Regan

by Tom Lovelock



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

“Rejoice in the Lord always. I shall say it again: rejoice! Your kindness should be known to all.”

~Philippians 4:4



ST. THOMAS MORE

† PARISH OUTREACH †

Monday – Thursday 10AM to 2 PM

631-234-3149

Outreach@stmli.org

Our needs for the month...

Fruit
Jelly
Tuna
Rice
Pancake Mix
Drinks
Coffe

Shampoo
Small Laundry Det/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.

Packages for 2-4 people are ideal.



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 says “Whoever has two cloaks should share with the person who has none. And whoever has food should do likewise...”

Christmas is a time of love and gift giving. Please share your abundance with our conference of SVdP so that those who have little can share more fully in the blessings of Christmas.

We can be reached at 631-248-6760 or svdp.stm@aol.com

Advent:
**NOW
BUT
NOT
YET**



QUESTION OF THE WEEK

The phrase "a voice cries out in the wilderness" appears in all four Gospels, referencing which Prophet?

- a: Elijah
- b: Isaiah
- c: Ezekiel
- d: Micah



Answer: B. Isaiah 40:3 "The voice of him that crieth in the wilderness. Prepare ye the way of the LORD, make straight in the desert a highway for our God."

Presentation of
Babies

Please keep these parents and children in your prayers as they take the first step on the path of Catholicism!



Baptisms

in our church

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

Weston Edward Monsees
child of Emily & Justin

Georgia Grace Mann
child of Ashley & Corey

MASS of HEALING

Sunday December 15th
at 11:30am

BANNS OF Marriage

FIRST ANNOUNCEMENT

CARLY SHEA
St. Thomas More
Hauppauge



BRIAN CONNORS
Holy Family
Hicksville



OUR LADY

QUEEN OF PEACE

ادعونا молися за нас

bete

ruega por nosotros

Προσευχηθείτε

ora

für

για εμάς

pro

uns

молитесь за нас

pray for us

התפלל למעננו

nobis

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 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!

PRAY25

with Hallow

PARTICIPATE BY...

going to 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

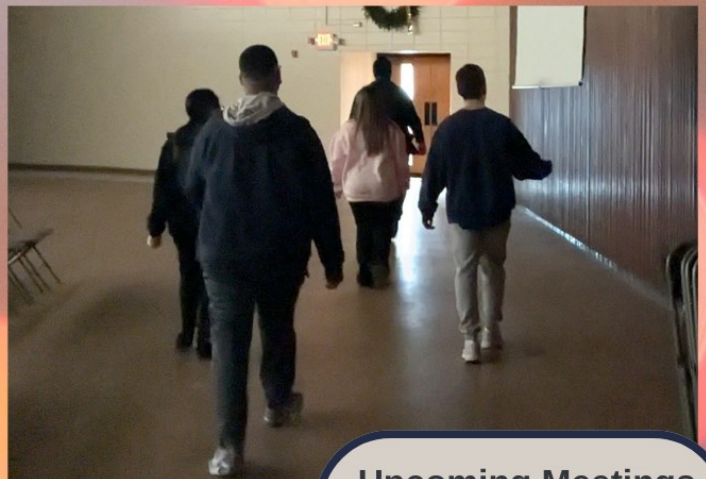
for account/billing issues:
contact
parisheshelp@hallow.com

Hallow

YG November 24th Thanksgiving Meal



YG December 8th Season of Advent



Upcoming Meetings

Sundays 12:30-2:30

December 15th

December 22nd

Follow us on
Instagram!

@stm_yg



YOUTH GROUP
† ST. THOMAS MORE †

Santa Bringing the Peace Light to 5pm Mass and Tree Lighting!



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

WE WISH YOU A BLESSED
CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY
NEW YEAR.



Dear Parishioners,

Many of you are aware that the Diocese of Rockville Centre entered a Chapter 11 Bankruptcy process in October 2020. On December 4th, 2024 the court confirmed the Plan that resolves and ends the Bankruptcy Case for the Diocese of Rockville Centre, all our parishes, and related ministries.

The number of lawsuits that were brought against the Diocese, our parishes, schools and other ministries made it impossible to equitably compensate victim-survivors of child abuse with meritorious claims through court trials. Trials would have resulted in the first survivors in line with claims receiving compensation and the rest receiving little or nothing.

The total settlement amount was just over \$323 million, which included insurance contributions, Diocesan assets and sale proceeds from Diocesan property, and contributions from parishes and other related entities.

The Diocese, parishes and other related entities contributed a total of \$234.8 million. Insurance companies contributed a total of just over \$85 million. Counsel for the Creditor's Committee contributed \$3 million. All participated in order to offer equitable compensation to survivors and move this difficult ordeal towards its conclusion.

Our Parish contributed \$316,413 to the settlement of all cases. These funds come from the Parish reserves.

Bankruptcy offered the possibility of equitable compensation and some measure of healing for survivors, while allowing the Church to continue the saving mission of Jesus Christ by, first and foremost, securing the future of our parishes.

This is about protecting our Parish now and for the future. We know that the horrific scandal of child abuse was not caused by us, but we inherited the devastating effects. In 2019, as a result of the law passed by the New York State Legislature, our parishes became subject to lawsuits based upon claims of abuse from decades ago, long before any of the current priests or staff members arrived here and, in fact, before most of our current parishioners lived within the parish. The law has affected not only the Church, but many public and private institutions across the state.

By participating in the bankruptcy process, along with the whole Church throughout Long Island, we have helped to resolve all claims and to secure the future of our Parish. As a result, historical lawsuits can no longer be brought against St. Thomas More.

For over twenty years, the Diocese, our parishes, schools, and ministries, have enacted strict Child Protection Protocols to ensure that the Church is among the safest of places for everyone. Our record throughout these past twenty years has proven that these measures work.

We pray for all survivors of child abuse, that by the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the compassion of others, they may find healing and comfort. We pray for our parishes and all ministries that serve God and the common good of all people on Long Island, that Mary, Mother of the Church will intercede for us. Out of this dark chapter in the Church's history, we look to a time of resurrection, to a Church purified and eager to bring the saving message of Jesus Christ to all people.

With prayers and gratitude to you and your family for your faithfulness,
I remain Sincerely yours in Christ,

Fr. Antony Asir