Catholic Church Community of

Sharing the Love

St. Thomas More

115 Kings Highway, Hauppauge NY 11788



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.

Fourth 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 21st - December 29th 2024

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

Monday, December 23rd:

9am- Cirilo Castro by Their Family

Tuesday, December 24th:

3:30pm- Christmas Flowers & Mass Remembrance

5:30pm- Christmas Flowers & Mass Remembrance

10:30pm- Christmas Flowers & Mass Remembrance

Wednesday, December 25th:

8am- Christmas Flowers & Mass Remembrance

9:30am- Christmas Flowers & Mass Remembrance

11:30am- Christmas Flowers & Mass Remembrance

Thursday, December 26th:

9am- Christmas Flowers & Mass Remembrance

Friday, December 27th:

9am- Christmas Flowers & Mass Remembrance

Saturday, December 28th: The Holy Innocents

5pm- John Puglisi by Paul & Mary Ann Gruner

Dominick Mancuso by Lisa & Joseph Pisano

Sunday, December 29th: The Holy Family

8am- Judith Ellen Lentino by William & Ellen Lentino

9:30am- Christopher Loring by Elisa Kerenyi

Thomas Romano by The Calcagni Family

11:30am- Billy O'Connor by The Beltrani Family

In Thanksgiving by The Beltrani Family

Luke 2:41-52 (Holy Family)

Each year Jesus' parents went to Jerusalem for the feast of Passover, and when he was twelve years old, they went up according to festival custom. After they had completed its days, as they were returning, the boy Jesus remained behind in Jerusalem, but his parents did not know it. Thinking that he was in the caravan, they journeyed for a day and looked for him among their relatives and acquaintances, but not finding him, they returned to Jerusalem to look for him. After three days they found him in the temple, sitting in the midst of the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions, and all who heard him were astounded at his understanding and his answers.

When his parents saw him, they were astonished, and his mother said to him, "Son, why have you done this to us? Your father and I have been looking for you with great anxiety." And he said to them, "Why were you looking for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" But they did not understand what he said to them. He went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them; and his mother kept all these things in her heart. And Jesus advanced in wisdom and age and favor before God and man.

Focus Questions for Holy Family Luke 2:41-52

- 1: Relate a time when one of your children got separated. What feelings did you experience?
- 2: Every family is a "holy family". What can you do to better recognize the holiness in each member?
- 3: Describe a time when someone you thought you knew surprised you.

Family & Children's Question: What can you do to help families in need?

Readings for This 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



Readings for Next Week

December 29th, 2024 (Holy Fam)
Sirach 3:2-6,12-14
Psalm 128:1-5
Colossians 3:12-21
Luke 2:41-52

Fr. Antony's Letter

Dear Friends.

Two ministers resolved their doctrinal conflict when one told the other, "Look, what are we fighting over? You do it your way and I will do it in God's way."

The other acknowledged and said, "Yes you do it your way and I will do it in God's way." Each one claimed his way to be God's way and the others is not God's way. The readings of the Fourth Sunday of Advent explains that it is not that we do God's way, but God's way is done in us.

In the first reading the Prophet Micah foretold how God would come from an unknown small village of Bethlehem in an unexpected way to save His people and to be their peace. God would come as their Shepherd and if they accepted Him, there would be peace among them. Micah said that God is the doer, and the people must open themselves for God's peace to happen in them. The message of Micah is not about what we can do for God, rather how we open ourselves to God to work in us.

Today's Gospel explains how the two women, Elizabeth and Mary share that the experience of their lives is nothing but realizing how God has worked wonderfully in them. Mary met Elizabeth who was given as a sign to confirm that her pregnancy with Jesus was an act of God through the Holy Spirit. Meeting Elizabeth while she was pregnant with John in her old age, Mary was assured that her pregnancy with Jesus was God's deed. In the same way, when Elizabeth saw Mary, she was filled with the Holy Spirit and cried out in a loud voice and said, "how does this happen 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." Without doubt Elizabeth was now assured of God's wonderful deed in her. Both the ladies were experiencing in themselves personally and together what God does for them.

Christmas is not about what we can do to celebrate the birthday of God. It is the celebration of how we are open to how God wants to be born in us. It is not about what we do for Christmas, but what Christmas does for us. God breaks all the barriers of being a majestic God and comes down to our level to meet us in our human conditions in order to save us and give us the divine peace. All that He expects to do is just open our hearts and homes to welcome Him to be born. God wants to grow with us so that we can grow with him in God's image.

The second reading proposes the attitude that will welcome God and allow God's will to be done among us. "Sacrifices and offerings, holocausts and sin offerings, you neither desired nor delighted in...Behold, I come to do your will." God does not expect us to do great things. He needs our willing spirit to cooperate with Him. As we pray in the Lord's prayer, Jesus wants us to welcome His will to be done on earth as it is in Heaven. In two days is the Eve of Christmas. Let us open our hearts willingly to welcome God in Jesus. As Mother Teresa used to say, "It is our emptiness and lowliness that God needs and not our plenitude." Let us empty and clean the manger of our hearts and welcome God into our lowly and humble hearts and homes.

Fr. Antony



Parish Operations

SUPPORT COLLECTION

Collection from: Dec 14th & 15th

\$7362

Thank You!

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

Calendar Club Winners

12/16 (\$25): Ann & Lou Anatrella (394)

12/17 (\$25): Bruce & Joan Cameron (1078)

12/18 (\$25): Arthur & Kathryn Ultsh (655)

12/19 (\$25): Mary Ellen Conway (177)

12/20 (\$25): Jack & Caroline DeSantis (509)

12/21 (\$25): Arturo & Laura Bisono (1188)

12/22 (\$50): John & Marti White (1331)

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.



Staff Contact

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

Pastoral Council
Barbara & Joe Fratamico

Altar Servers Ministry Deacon Matt Surico

Eucharistic MinistersPatty Citro

Lector Ministry Mike Petagna

Hospitality Ministry Ellie Stout

Consolation Ministry Eileen Weidig

OCIA Ann Russo

Young at Heart Anna Beltrani

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redaa@aol.com

631-234-0714

Prayers for Our Community

Pray for the Sick

Eddie & Meggie Adams Joseph Barrett **Gregory Bennett** Karen Benson Marie Bracco Peter Cappisillo Lillian Catalano Fran Cooke Patricia Culbert Grayson Danielski Brian Fagioli Shane Farmer Barbara Foberg Rick Goodhart Stephanie Goodhart Linda Heller Maryann Landi

Richard Landi Eileen Macholz-Barr Marge McGowan Meagan Len Munzer Ellen Murphy Carol Persan Nunzio (Steve) Puleo Tim Ryan Angelo Santangelo Rita Schug Noah Simonetti Christy Torkelsen Andrew M Valentine Janet Ward **Lorraine White**

*this listing will expire on March 31st, 2025

Pray for Our Military

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

Troy A. Maida
Connor Hendrickson
Evan Hendrickson
Ryan Smith
Will Maley

Joseph Kirsch
Allen Kirsch
Nicholas Gajda
Alexandria Feys Gajda
Andrew Lynch

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

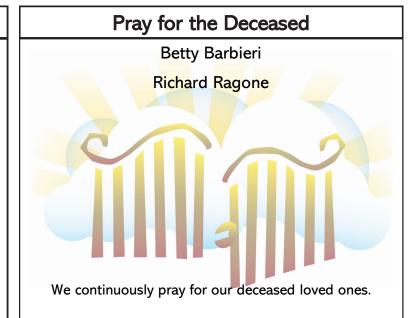
Altar Bread & Wine Memorial

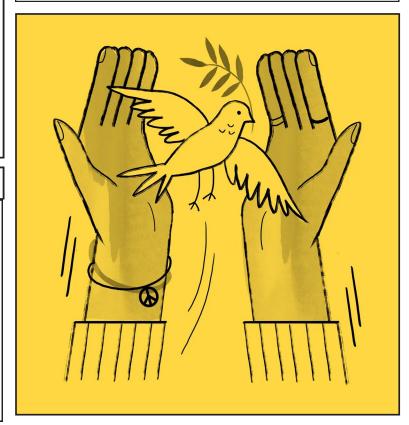
12/23-12/29

In memory of

Deceased Members of the Molinaro & Zullo Families

by Their Loving Family





Pray for our Clergy

Fr Antony Asir
The Capuchin Friars
Fr Lenny Carlino
Deacon Ed Vigneaux

Deacon Bob Weisz Deacon Matt Surico Bishop John Barres 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



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

Our needs for the month...

Peanut Butter/Jelly
Rice
Pancake Mix
Syrup
Drinks
Coffee
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.



Parish Outreach...

...will be closed from December 24th to January 1st.

We wish everyone a blessed Christmas and a Happy Healthy New Year.



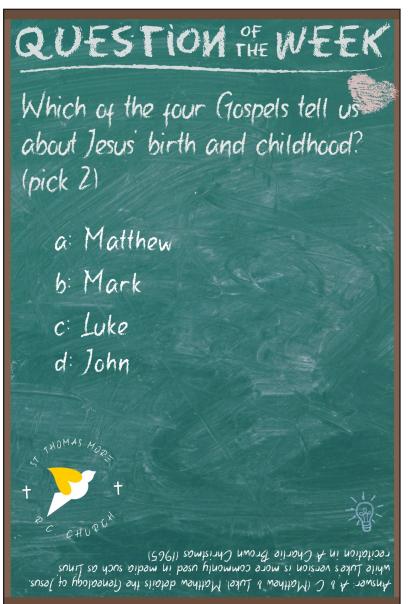
Please reach out to Parish Outreach if you are, or know of someone, in need of support. Keep our elderly neighbors in mind and let us know if there is anyone you would like us to reach out to.



Jesus was born during the night of the year when darkness is the longest. The Savior of the world comes for the people in dark places. The real, lasting, and deep joy is that the Light shines there.

Through your gifts to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, "Light" has shone, bringing real, lasting, and deep joy to the hearts of the needy who live in dark places in our streets and neighborhood.

On behalf of those we help, and all our conference members, we wish you a Blessed and Merry Christmas! We can be reached at 631-248-6760.







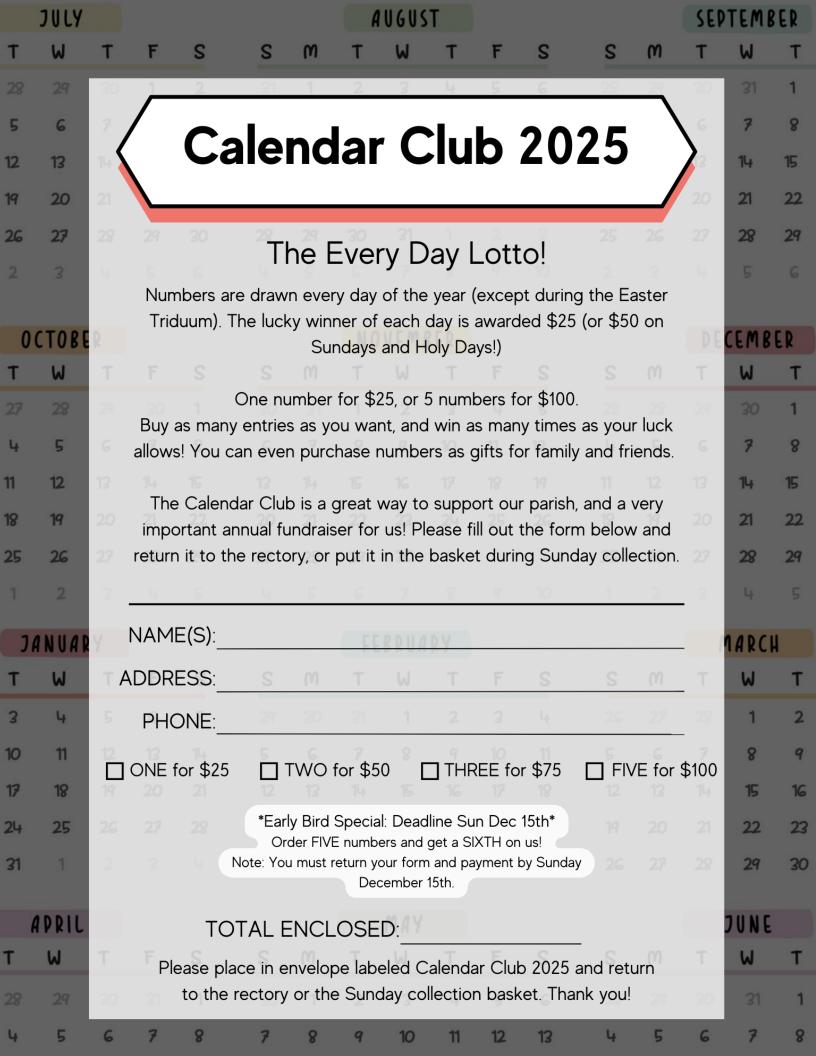


Vow Renewal!

Congratulations to Joe & Mirta Gill, who on the occasion of their 50th Wedding Anniversary, celebrated by renewing their vows in front of Father Antony, Deacon Matt, their family, and God. We wish them all the best, and 50 more years of love.

Are you looking to receive the Sacrament of Holy Matrimony? Contact the Rectory for more information!







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





Youth Group, December 15th Gaudete Sunday!





With the Manger in front of the Rectory!



Lighting the Advent Candles at Mass!



With the Jesse Tree we made!



Watching the readings and Father Mike discuss joy!



Making Christmas pipe cleaners & beads!



Tree, Candy Canes, Grinch, Wreath, Snake, Angel

Follow us on Instagram!





Upcoming Meetings Sundays 12:30-2:30

December 22nd January 5th