

Sharing
the Spirit
of Love

Catholic Church Community of

St. Thomas More

115 Kings Highway, Hauppauge NY 11788

January 5th, 2025



GLORIOUS NOW, BEHOLD HIM ARISE



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.

Epiphany of the Lord

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 January 4th - January 12th 2025

Saturday, January 4th: St Elizabeth Ann Seton

5pm- John Puglisi *by Pat & Jim Dugan*

Mary Elizabeth Young *by Victoria Oliva*

Sunday, January 5th: Epiphany of the Lord

8am- People of the Parish

9:30am- The Scarito Family *by The Sandbichler Family*

11:30am- Mary Loth *by Linda Ronning & Nancy Marco*

Monday, January 6th:

9am- John Murray *by Mr & Mrs Michael Keena*

Tuesday, January 7th:

9am- Carmela Castaldo *by Phil & Dottie Castaldo*

Wednesday, January 8th:

9am- John Reddy *by Eleanor Trimble*

Thursday, January 9th:

9am- Diane Lofredo *by Dale Vasti & Audrey & Matthew*

Friday, January 10th:

9am- Joan Gail Guerne *by John & Sharon Campo & Family*

Saturday, January 11th:

5pm- Kazimiera Dyjak *by Trish Goodwin*

James Kreider *by Bruce & Joan Cameron*

Sunday, January 12th: Baptism of the Lord

8am- Joan Gail Guerne *by Salvatore & Paula Campo*

9:30am- William Ferguson *by Michael & Florence Aquafredda*

11:30am- Eugene M Hourican *by The Kane Family*

Christopher Loring *by Elisa Kerenyi*

Luke 3:15-16,21-22 (Baptism)

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."

After all the people had been baptized and Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, heaven was opened and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased."

Focus Questions for Baptism

Luke 3:15-16,21-22

- 1: How does the Holy Spirit work in you?
- 2: What do you do to celebrate the anniversary of your Baptism?

Family & Children's Question:

Share your Baptism story with your family. Ask your parents to share the story of your Baptism.

Readings for This Week

January 5th, 2024 (Epiphany)

Isaiah 60:1-6

Psalms 72:1-2,7-8,10-13

Ephesians 3:2-3a,5-6

Matthew 2:1-12

Readings for Next Week

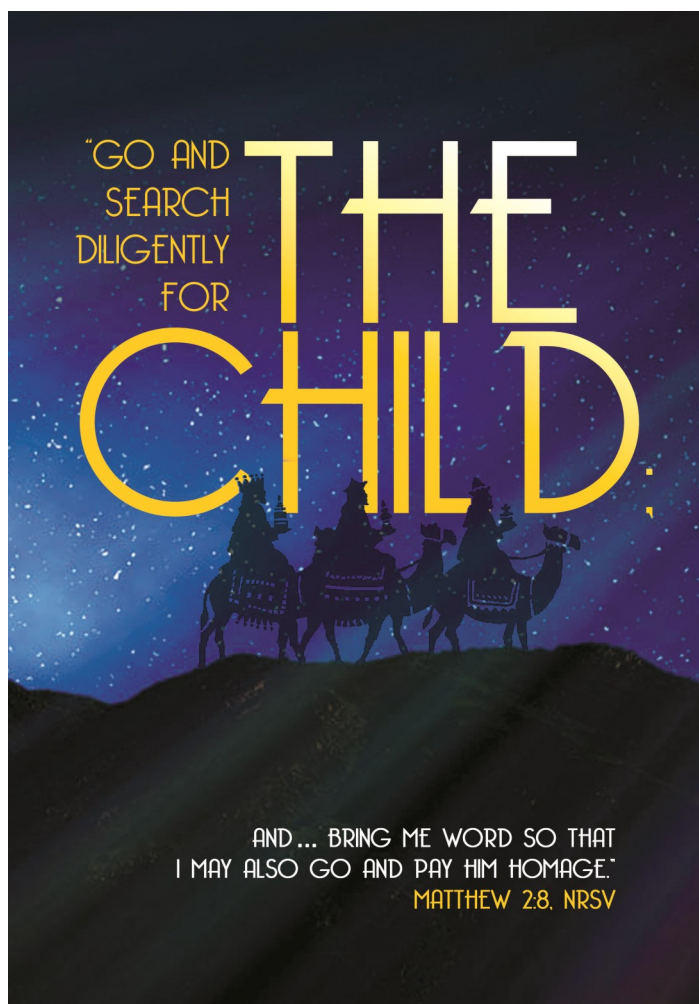
January 12th, 2024 (Baptism)

Isaiah 42:1-4,6-7

Psalms 29:1-4,9-10

Acts 10:34-38

Luke 3:15-16,21-22



AND... BRING ME WORD SO THAT
I MAY ALSO GO AND PAY HIM HOMAGE."
MATTHEW 2:8. NRSV

Fr. Antony's Letter

Dear Friends,

Little Jane was going to bed when her grandmother told her: 'Don't forget, dear, to include Grandma in your prayers tonight, that God should bless her and let her live to be very, very old.' "Oh very, very old?" replied Jane, "I'd rather pray that God would make you young."

2025 years sounds very old. Yet we call 2025 the New Year. By 2025, we mean that the earth has gone around the sun 2,025 times since the birth of Jesus. Though the earth has made billions of rotations around the sun, we refer to January first as the NEW YEAR of 2025, counting the rounds since the birth of Jesus. Yes, we know for a fact that 2025 is also a repeat of earth's round as it did in the past. But we treat the start of earth's new rotation as an opportunity to begin something NEW in each of us. We wish each other a Happy NEW year, trying to venture something new which we have not yet tried in our life.

Today is the Feast of the Epiphany. It is the feast of the Newborn God-Man, Jesus manifesting His Divine self to the wise men who came searching to visit Him in the manger. The inner search and the wisdom of the three wise men made it possible for them to recognize the divinity of Jesus in the poor human child of Mary and Joseph, in a manger, through the guidance of the star. The ordinary people, the manger, and the appearance of a star reveal the birth of the supernatural God in a human child like us.

Timewise the year 2025 has nothing new and extraordinary. It is the repletion of the same number of days, weeks, and months. But the wise and searching hearts like those of the Wise Men of today's feast, will find something new and extraordinary in the repetitive ordinaries. Our life situations would end up repeating the ordinaries unless we, like the wise men search for the God-Man who is ready to be born in the lives of those who search for Him. Jesus, the Emmanuel (God with us) is willing to come to our ordinaries, to fill our routine lives with new meaning and exciting values. May this 2025 be a Happy New Year. Let us search for the newness and extraordinariness in God.

In 2025, let us make the bland meal spicy and tasty: Let us refuse to be boring and dull. Let us choose to be joyful and humorous. Pope Francis recommends a prayer that is supposed to be the prayer of St. Thomas More, Patron of our Parish. This prayer asks God for a healthy dose of good humor in our daily life.

Grant me, O Lord, good digestion, and also something to digest. Grant me a healthy body, and the necessary good humor to maintain it. Grant me a simple soul that knows to treasure all that is good and that doesn't frighten easily at the sight of evil, but rather finds the means to put things back in their place. Give me a soul that knows not boredom, grumblings, sighs and laments, nor excess of stress, because of that obstructing thing called "I." Grant me, O Lord, a sense of good humor. Allow me the grace to be able to take a joke to discover in life a bit of joy, and to be able to share it with others - St. Thomas More, Chancellor of King Henry VIII.

2024 Contribution Statements: Soon after the New Year we will complete the data entries of 2024 into our system. If you want a record of your 2024 contributions for tax purposes, please complete and return the cut-out in the bulletin and return it to the Church Office. We will begin mailing them out towards the end of January.

With love and prayers,
Fr. Antony



Parish Operations

SUPPORT COLLECTION

Collection from:
Dec 28th & 29th

\$5145

Thank You!

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

**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.*

Calendar Club Winners

Winners for January will be published at the end of the month. There is still time to claim your spots for 2025!

**CHRISTMAS
COLLECTION
2024**

\$33,102

Thank you for your generous support of our Parish and Mission during this Christmas Season.

“A Merry Christmas to us all;
God Bless us, every one!”

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)

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Alex White (operations)

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Religious Education

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mecarroll@optonline.net

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reled@stmli.org

Joanne Anelli

Youth Ministry

Noelle White

youthgroup@stmli.org

Music Ministry

Emilia Savarese, Director

631-724-8820

Contact

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

Contact

Prayers for Our Community

Pray for the Sick

| | |
|----------------------|----------------------|
| Eddie & Meggie Adams | Richard Landi |
| Joseph Barrett | Eileen Macholz-Barr |
| Gregory Bennett | Marge McGowan |
| Karen Benson | Meagan |
| Marie Bracco | Kevin Morrissey |
| Peter Cappisillo | Len Munzer |
| Lillian Catalano | Ellen Murphy |
| Fran Cooke | Carol Persan |
| Patricia Culbert | Nunzio (Steve) Puleo |
| Grayson Danielski | Tim Ryan |
| Brian Fagioli | Angelo Santangelo |
| Shane Farmer | Rita Schug |
| Barbara Foberg | Noah Simonetti |
| Connie Giunta | Kevin Spence Sr |
| Rick Goodhart | Christy Torkelsen |
| Stephanie Goodhart | Andrew M Valentine |
| Linda Heller | Janet Ward |
| Maryann Landi | Lorraine White |



*this listing will expire on March 31st, 2025

Pray for the Deceased

Samuel Provisero
 Michael Ferrante
 Alta Milord
 Leonard Munzer
 Brian Whittemore
 Stephen LaMarca



We continuously pray for our deceased loved ones.

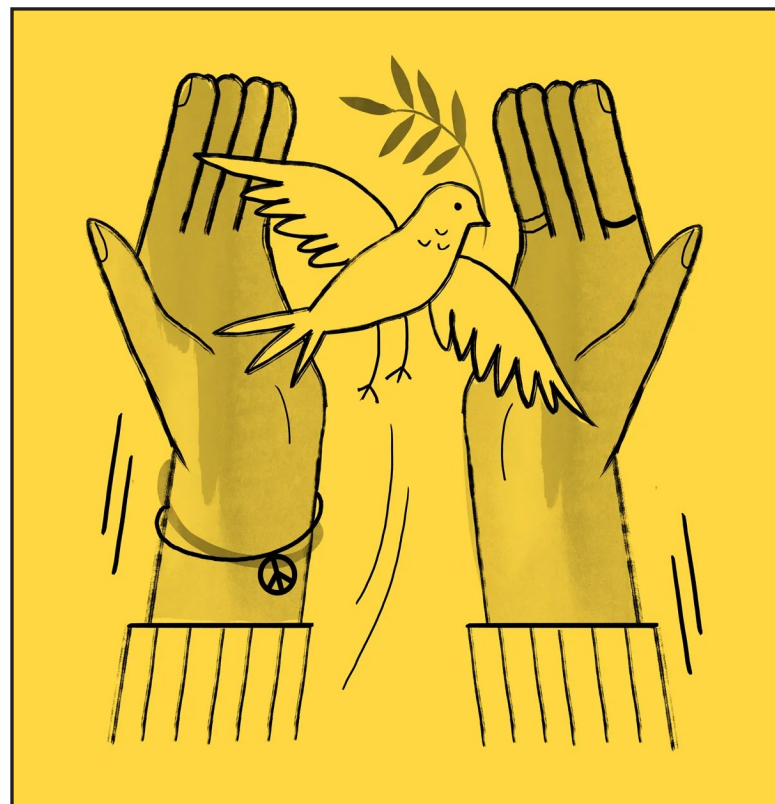
Pray for Our Military

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 |



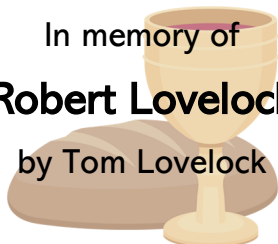
We also pray for our veterans, that they receive the support they need here at home.



Altar Bread & Wine Memorial

1/6-1/12

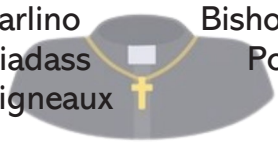
In memory of
Robert Lovelock
 by Tom Lovelock



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 |
| Fr Alex Mariadass | Pope Francis |
| Deacon Ed Vigneaux | |



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

Parish Social Ministry

“Spread love everywhere you go. Let no one ever come to you without leaving happier.”

~Mother Teresa

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.

Thank you...

...from the bottom of our hearts for helping us to spread love this Christmas Season. Because of your generosity, we were able to provide food and Christmas gifts to so many of our neighbors in need. We cannot begin to describe the joy it brought us to be able to bring happiness to so many in our community! Wishing our St. Thomas More family a happy and 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.



ST. THOMAS MORE

† PARISH OUTREACH †

Monday – Thursday 10AM to 2 PM

631-234-3149

Outreach@stmli.org

Mental Health Resources

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline Call 800-273-8255

The Suicide & Crisis Lifeline
Call or text 988
Chat at 988lifeline.org

NYS Domestic & Sexual Violence Hotline If your home isn't safe
Call 800-942-6906 or Text 844-977-2121

NYS Office of Addiction Services & Supports Help for drugs, alcohol, or gambling:
Call 877-846-7369
Text HOPENY to 467369

Mental Health Hotline
Help for children with physical, social, and behavioral challenges
631-389-6405

Suffolk County Friends & Family Support Group For relatives & Friends in recovery from mental health
Virtual on Wednesdays 7-8:30pm
631-471-7242 x1315

Saint Dymphna,
pray for us.



Today we celebrate the feast of the Epiphany, where the Magi find the newborn king and offer him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

Your support of our current fundraiser, the “Wall of Envelopes,” will enable us to offer the gift of comfort and peace to our neighbors.

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

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

What does the bible tell us about the Magi who visited Jesus?

- a: There were three of them
- b: They were men
- c: They came from the East
- d: They were kings



Answer: C (They came from the East). The Magi only appear in the Gospel of Matthew, which does not state how many or their gender or status. All these things come from later Christian traditions.
Matthew 2:1 "Magi, from the east came to Jerusalem."

MAY ALL KINGS
FALL DOWN
BEFORE HIM,
ALL NATIONS
SERVE HIM!

PSALM 72:11, ESV



2024 Parish Contribution

To request a copy of your 2024 contributions for tax purposes, please write down your name and submit this form in the collection basket, or to the Rectory.

Alternative: scan the QR code!

Name: _____



*If you use Faith Direct, you can obtain your tax information via their website.



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!

Holy Hour

"The Gifts We Bring"

**Contemporary
music by Alex
and Noelle!**



**Adoration and
Benediction led
by Deacon Matt!**



Tuesday, January 7th at 7:00 pm

Word, Music, and Silent Prayer

EPIPHANY HOUSE BLESSING

It is a tradition in the Catholic Church to bless our homes on the Epiphany, marking the lintel above our doors as a sign that yours is a Christian home.

Using chalk, mark the current year and the initials of the Magi above the doorway, with a cross between each of the letters, then pray....

20+C+M+B+25

May all who come to our home this year rejoice to find Christ living among us; and may we seek and serve, in everyone we meet, that same Jesus who is Lord of all people, forever and ever. Amen



Did you know?

The names of the three Magi are Caspar, Melchoir, and Balthasar.

In addition, C+M+B is also an abbreviation for “Christus Mansionem Benedicat” which is Latin for “May Christ bless this dwelling”.

RENOVATIONS COMPLETE!

The Parish Center is officially open for business. Thank you all for your patience and support during this time.



BEFORE



AFTER

