

Sharing
the Spirit
of Love

Catholic Church Community of

St. Thomas More

115 Kings Highway, Hauppauge NY 11788

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

March 15th 2026



I CAME INTO THIS WORLD
FOR JUDGMENT,
SO THAT THOSE WHO DO
NOT SEE MIGHT SEE

This Week's Readings

1 Samuel 16:1b,6-7,10-13a

Psalms 23:1-6

Ephesians 5:8-14

John 9:1-41

Fourth Sunday of Lent

Religious Ed

631-234-0397 (call)

reled@stmli.org (email)

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, March 14th

5:00pm A. Mariadass
Thomas McCrieght

Sunday, March 15th

Fourth Sunday of Lent

8:00am Olivia Hotar

9:30am Marianne Certa
John Joseph McCabe

11:30am Richard Stout
Angela Mingione

Monday, March 16th

9:00am Janet Johnson (living)

Tuesday, March 17th

9:00am Bridget Keane

Wednesday, March 18th

9:00am The Weidig Family

Thursday, March 19th

9:00am Lauren Fontanetta

Friday, March 20th

9:00am Michael Leocadi

Saturday, March 21st

5:00pm Ellen Cleary
Angie Mingione

Sunday, March 22nd

Fifth Sunday of Lent

8:00am Sister Maureen

9:30am Rory Moran Forlano
Vincent J Norton

11:30am Al Weidig
Michael Leocadi



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.

Saints of the Week

St. Clement Mary Hofbauer (3/15)
St. Patrick (3/17)
St. Cyril of Jerusalem (3/18)
St. Joseph (3/19)

Saints in heaven, *pray for us*

Prepare for Next Weekend

Fifth Sunday of Lent
March 22nd 2025

Readings

Ezekiel 37:12-14
Psalm 103:1-8
Romans 8:8-11
John 11:1-45

Focus Questions

- 1: Mary and Martha speak honestly to Jesus. What prevents you from being totally honest with Jesus?
 - 2: In the Gospel we heard, "Jesus wept". Can you imagine going to comfort Jesus? Who is in need of comforting in your life?
 - 3: What are the stones, obstacles in your life, that prevent you from really living?
- Families: Do you focus more on negative things? What can you do to take a more positive approach?

Gospel of John (11:1-45 sf)

The sisters of Lazarus sent word to Jesus, saying, "Master, the one you love is ill." When Jesus heard this he said, "This illness is not to end in death, but is for the glory of God, that the Son of God may be glorified through it." Now Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus. So when he heard that he was ill, he remained for two days in the place where he was. Then after this he said to his disciples, "Let us go back to Judea." When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb for four days. When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went to meet him; but Mary sat at home. Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. But even now I know that whatever you ask of God, God will give you." Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise." Martha said, "I know he will rise, in the resurrection on the last day." Jesus told her, "I am the resurrection and the life; whoever believes in me, even if he dies, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?" She said to him, "Yes, Lord. I have come to believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, the one who is coming into the world." He became perturbed and deeply troubled, and said, "Where have you laid him?" They said to him, "Sir, come and see." And Jesus wept. So the Jews said, "See how he loved him." But some of them said, "Could not the one who opened the eyes of the blind man have done something so that this man would not have died?" So Jesus, perturbed again, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone lay across it. Jesus said, "Take away the stone." Martha, the dead man's sister, said to him, "Lord, by now there will be a stench; he has been dead for four days." Jesus said to her, "Did I not tell you that if you believe you will see the glory of God?" So they took away the stone. And Jesus raised his eyes and said, "Father, I thank you for hearing me. I know that you always hear me; but because of the crowd here I have said this, that they may believe that you sent me." And when he had said this, He cried out in a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" The dead man came out, tied hand and foot with burial bands, and his face was wrapped in a cloth. So Jesus said to them, "Untie him and let him go." Now many of the Jews who had come to Mary and seen what he had done began to believe in him.

our
daily bread

Mon-Fri

9am

Sat

5pm

Sun

8am

9:30am

11:30am



From the Pastor

It is **easy to wake up a person who is actually sleeping, but it is impossible to wake up a person who pretends to be sleeping.** Likewise, if one chooses to be in darkness nothing can bring that person to light. If one likes to be in light, that person must be willing to come out of the darkness. As the proverb says, "You can lead a horse to water, but you can't make him drink".

In today's Gospel story **Jesus meets with the same difficulty.** Jesus opened the eyes of the man who was born blind, but struggles throughout today's Gospel with the Pharisees and the others to open their eyes to see the wonder God did through Him. Not only Jesus, but even the man who received the sight could not succeed to make the Pharisees accept that it was Jesus who opened his eyes. He failed even though he was the personal witness to what happened to him. He provided them with an opportunity or the tools to prove that he was born blind and now sees because Jesus opened his eyes. But they were stubborn to accept his personal testimony. One can show a picture to a person but you can make them see the picture if that person refuses to see.

The man **born blind wished to see, so Jesus could open his eyes.** Jesus could not open the inner eyes of others to see the truth that he is the Messiah, because they refused to see the truth in Jesus. That is why Jesus summarizes at the end of the story as if he is vexed with stubbornness of the Pharisees: "If you were blind, you would have no sin; but now you are saying, 'We see,' so your sin remains." Unless one wants to see, no one makes that person see. Unless one wants to believe, no one can make them believe.

Our eyes may open to all the scenes before us, but unless we **look consciously at what we want to see,** all our seeing would remain an empty seeing or meaningless gaze. We see only what we are conscious of. We don't see and believe, rather we see only what we believe. Belief precedes the seeing. The heart that believes gives meaning to what the eyes see. The five primary human sense organs—eyes, ears, nose, tongue, and skin are merely vehicles to the heart. The heart integrates all our perceptions and gives meaning to them from belief.

As the second reading instructs, **let us arise from our sleep** and let Christ (whom we believe) give us the light to see, strengthen our feet to walk away from the fruitless works of darkness so that we may live as children of light to produce every kind of goodness, righteousness and truth. Let us pray that Jesus open our eyes to see, ears to hear, and touch all the senses to perceive God's wonders. Let us believe and enter the fullness of life that Jesus offers through the mystery of cross, death and Resurrection.

With love and prayers,
Father Antony



Our Staff

Rectory

Theresa Recce (sacraments)
theresa@stmli.org

Dottie Castaldo (business mgr)
finance@stmli.org

Alex White (operations)
rectory@stmli.org

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

Barbara Pein

Youth Ministry

Noelle White
youthgroup@stmli.org

Music Ministry

Emilia Savarese, Director
(631) 724-8820

Prayers & Petitions

Pray for the Deceased

Otilia Davila
Umberto Testani
George Rolfe Jr.
Mary Anne Como

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

St Gertrude, pray for us.

Pray for the Sick

Andrew M Valentine	Helen Kovarik	Marge McGowan
Angela Conzo	Jim Engle	Maria U Aldaba
Anna Mancuso	Jim Moran	Maria Murphy
Barbara Foberg	Jimmy Cannon	Maria Pipia
Blair Rocchio	John Heller	Michael Jacobs Sr.
Carol Ann Raucci	John McGann	Michael Minutillo
Christopher Conley	Joseph Beltrani Sr.	Michelle Chiarulli
Christy Torkelsen	Joseph Tuffarelli	Nina Busse
Diane McCann	Baby Kayden Richard	Noah Simonetti
Dolores Rudden	Larry Wilson	Pat Camera
Ellen Murphy	Linda Heller	Patricia Stronczer
Baby Emerson Brae Mark	Lorraine White	Phil Camera
Emily Bolkas	Lou Savarese	Richard Landi
Gary Hollins	Louise Soldo	Baby Sienna Dwyer

*This listing will reset on March 31st 2026

To add a name to the sick list, please fill out a card from the literature rack place it in the collection basket, or contact the Rectory by phone or email.

Altar Bread & Wine Memorial

March 16th - March 22nd

In memory of

Joan Fagioli

by Maximus Fagioli

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

Pray for our Clergy

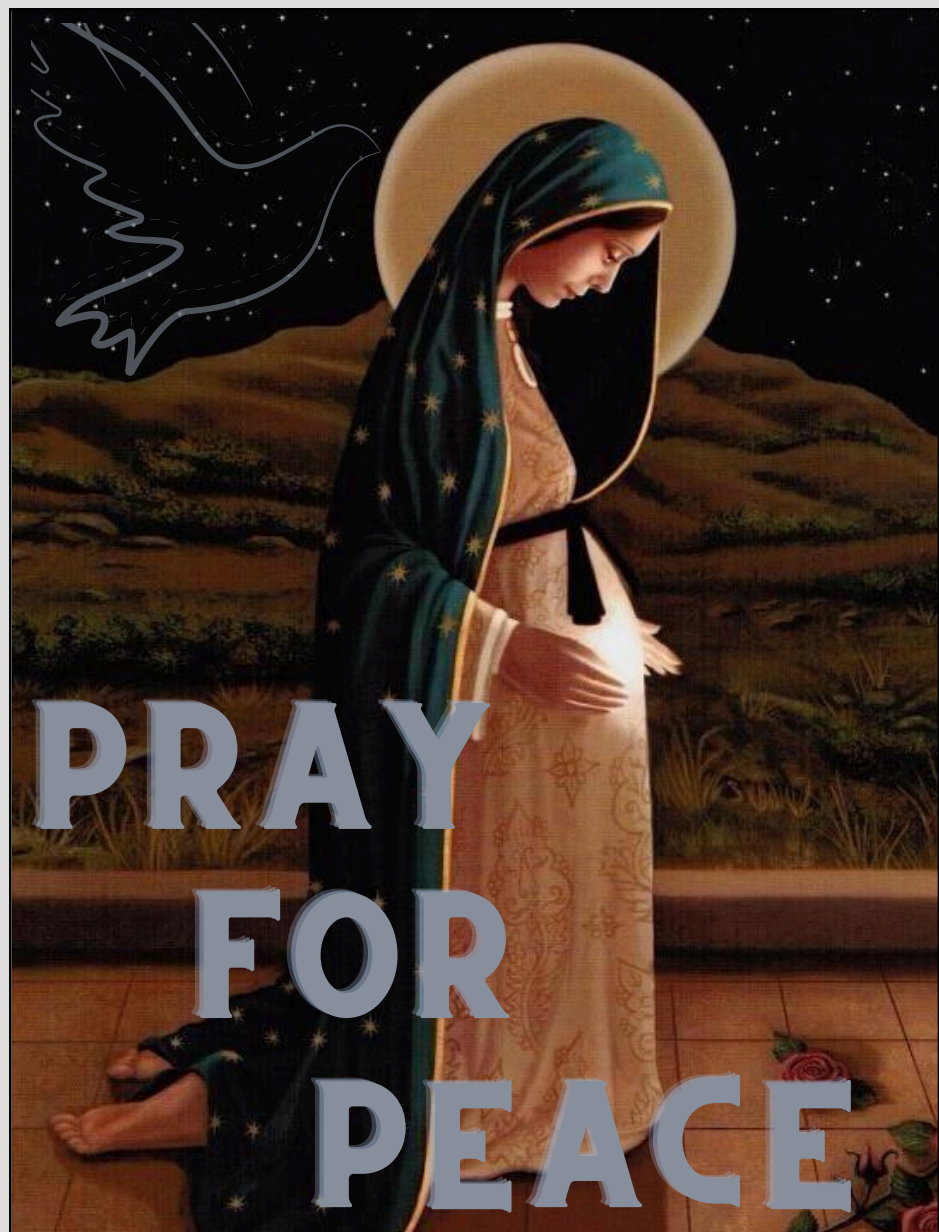
Father Antony Asir
Deacon Robert Weisz
Deacon Edward Vigneaux
Deacon Matthew Surico
The Capuchin Friars
Bishop John Barres
Pope Leo XIV

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
Chris Capasso	

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.



Support our Parish

Financial Support

Collection from:
March 7th & 8th

\$6463

Please consider supporting St. Thomas More. We encourage all parishioners to try electronic giving through ParishSoft Giving. It is both convenient and secure. For more information, 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

Parish Outreach

Marti White
outreach@stmli.org

Pastoral Council

Joe Fratamico
bjfrat1@gmail.com

Altar Servers

Deacon Matt
altarservers@stmli.org

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

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.

A Gentle Reminder:

Please do not place clothing or household items in the food bins or leave them at Outreach. We do not have a lot of extra storage space. There is a clothing bin in the back of the parking lot where clothing can be donated to St. Vincent de Paul. If you have household items, please call the Outreach office!

Parish Social Ministry

"Live as children of light, for light produces every kind of goodness and righteousness and truth."

EPHESIANS 5

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.



OUR NEEDS THIS WEEK...

Pancake Mix
Shampoo

Toilet Paper
Peanut Butter/Jelly

*We are overflowing with BEANS. We would appreciate it if you could pick up different items instead of beans! Thanks!

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 gives sight to the blind man. Through grace we are also transformed from not seeing to seeing, and then Jesus sends us to help others see and to believe.

Please support our Parish Lenten Project so that we might continue to help those less fortunate than ourselves.



Contact us: call 631-648-2760 or
email svdp.stm@aol.com



ParishSOFT® Giving

As FaithDirect was acquired and rolled into ParishSoft Giving, many parishioners are still having issues with their accounts. If you need help, please contact ParishSoft Support directly. We apologize for any inconvenience this process has caused, and we are looking into other options.

Thank you for your patience.

ParishSoft Contact Options

866-507-8757

donorsupport@parishsoft.com

866-930-4774 x5

Paschal Candle 2026

As Lent begins, the Parish is looking for sponsors for our 2026 Paschal Candle.

Sponsorships can be *in memoriam* or on behalf of your family. Contact the Rectory for more information!

Fun Fact: The Paschal Candle is lit for all of Easter, as well as at all Baptisms and Funeral.

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:

Sadie Ann Ferro
child of Jessica & Joseph

New child? Expecting?
Contact the Rectory to learn more
about the sacrament of Baptism!

YOUNG AT HEART

NEW MEMBERS ALWAYS
WELCOME!

NEXT MEETINGS:

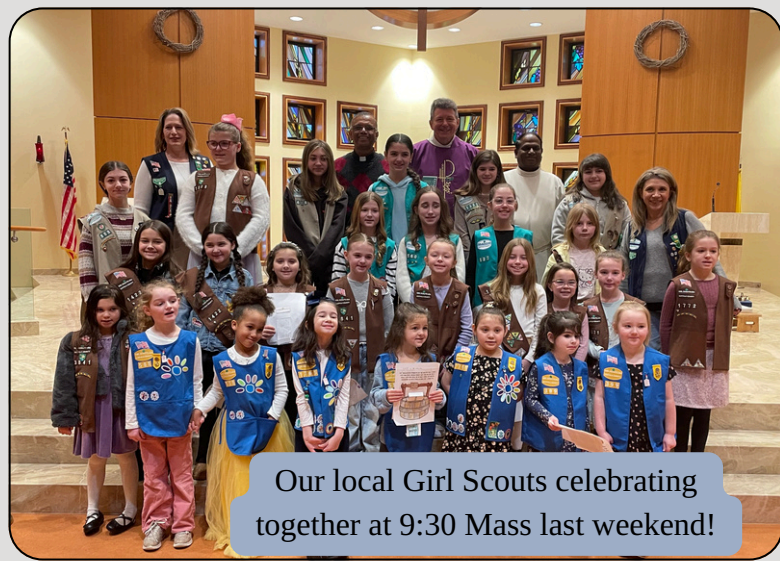
MARCH 27TH -
STAINED GLASS DEMO
WITH ED MCMANUS

APRIL 10TH

CALL MARY ANN
631-234-8118

PLEASE PRAY FOR
OUR OCIA NEOPHYTES
AS THEY JOURNEY TO THE EASTER
VIGIL AND FULL PARTICIPATION IN
THE CHURCH.

JONATHAN APRILE
EMMA CLARE BARRASSO
JORDAN CAPILETS
RYAN DEMPSTER
MITZY RINCON RUIZ
NAYLA RUIZ
DANIEL SHEBSHAYEVICH
OLIVIA VASSALLO



Our local Girl Scouts celebrating together at 9:30 Mass last weekend!

Timothy Sandbichler with the 227.5 pounds of bottlecaps collected by our Parish family! 100lbs over the goal!



BANNS OF
Marriage

SECOND ANNOUNCEMENT

TANYA FAJARDO
St. Teresa
Woodside, NY



MICHAEL OLIVER
St. Thomas More
Hauppauge



OUR LADY
QUEEN OF PEACE

ادعو لنا

молися за нас

COME AND BE FED

a lenten mission in three parts

Join us in exploring the Lenten theme of being fed by physical and spiritual food, with a focus on Faith and Art. Each session will feature...

- Reading of the Sunday Gospel (in parts)
- Simple Lenten meals (AM: coffee, bagels; PM: soup, stew)
- Video presentation on a piece of art related to the theme, and its religious significance
- Group discussion with meditation questions on the art, how it relates to our life & relationship with God
- Short session of guided imaginative prayer
- Take-home assignments for further spiritual feeding and growth!



You can still sign up!

HEALING OF THE BLIND MAN **WED 3/18**

THE RAISING OF LAZARUS **WED 3/25**

Each session will be offered twice, a morning and an evening session. Morning sessions will start at 9:45am (after Daily Mass) and evening sessions at 6:30pm. The program will run for about 75 minutes.

As we are serving food, we request you RSVP using the QR code below or leaving the slip in the collection basket. If you are willing to volunteer to serve as a facilitator or lector, you can also indicate that below.



Name(s): _____

3/18 AM

3/25 AM

3/18 PM

3/25 PM



LENTEN *Parish* PROJECT

SUPPORTING ST. THOMAS MORE PARISH SOCIAL MINISTRY

Each family that contacts Parish Outreach has their own unique story. Many are single moms or dads trying to put food on the table for their kids. Some are grandparents who have taken their own children and grandchildren back into their home because of unfortunate circumstances. We provide food for many single individuals who are living in supported housing and simply don't receive enough money through disability. All are facing financial hardships that force them to make a choice between paying bills and putting food on the table. We pray for each family!



Who We Help...



On a cold, wintry morning last year we received a call from a young woman who was in a state of panic. It was 8 degrees outside, it had been snowing, and she was living in her car. She was trying to complete a research project at Stony Brook before leaving for Florida, but her funds ran out. She had no one to call - no relatives, no friends who could help. So she called our Parish.

After contact was made and information was gathered, our St. Vincent de Paul council did what we could and paid for two nights lodging in a very basic but warm motel. Hopefully she made it to her destination knowing that someone cared and was praying for her.

Checks can be made payable to **St. Thomas More** and placed in the little house by the bulletin board, the collection basket, or dropped off at the Rectory. Please note "**Lenten Project**" in the memo line.

Fasting & Abstinence

Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are obligatory days of fasting and abstinence for Catholics. In addition, Fridays during Lent are obligatory days of abstinence.

See the guidelines below!

- 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 water!

THE 7 LAST WORDS OF CHRIST

MARCH 22 @ 3PM

Join the STM Choir in song as we hear the last words of Christ.

3pm on March 22nd, in the Church. All are welcome.



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



Easter Sunday

Masses at:

8:00am

9:30am

11:30am

Stations of the Cross
Every Friday at 7pm



LENT 2026



LENTEN MASS OF HEALING

Sunday, March 22nd at 11:30am
anointing of the sick to follow



NO MEAT! **SHARING!**

LENTEN SOUP SUPPER

**6PM, MARCH 27TH
WALDEN HALL**

BRING A MEATLESS SOUP TO SHARE, AND THEN JOIN US AS WE PRAY THE STATIONS OF THE CROSS FOR THE HUNGRY AT 7PM

SUN 3/29 PALM SUNDAY

Normal weekend Masses will be offered:
5pm Vigil, 8am, 9:30am, and 11:30am.
Please arrive early to be seated before
the Gospel at the start of Mass.

MON 3/30 RECONCILIATION DAY

Confession available from
3:00pm-9:00pm at St Thomas More, as
well as all parishes in the Diocese.

THUR 4/2 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 4/3 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 4/4 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

