

*Sharing
the Spirit
of Love*

Catholic Church Community of

St. Thomas More

115 Kings Highway, Hauppauge NY 11788

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

August 16th 2026



This Week's Readings

Isaiah 56:1,6-7

Psalms 67:2-3,5,6,8

Romans 11:13-15,29-32

Matthew 15:21-28

Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

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, August 15th

5:00pm Dolorez Bienz
Rose Ochlan

Sunday, August 16th

Twentieth Ordinary

8:00am Kathleen O'Flaherty
Mario Corvasce

9:30am Maryann D'Ambrosio
Mary Ann Lilly

11:30am Michael Leocadi
Joseph Beltrani

Monday, August 17th

9:00am John Aspromgos

Tuesday, August 18th

9:00am Michael Leocadi

Wednesday, August 19th

9:00am John Aspromgos

Thursday, August 20th

9:00am Maria Lott (10 yr anv)

Friday, August 21st

9:00am Jaime Rodriguez

Saturday, August 22nd

5:00pm Leo Ramos
Olive Boney

Sunday, August 23rd

Twenty-First Ordinary

8:00am Mary Ann Lilly

9:30am Mrs. Constant

11:30am Claudia Sheppard (living)
Edward & Lillian Terriault



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

Assumption of the BVM (8/15)

St. Stephen of Hungary (8/16)

St. John Eudes (8/19)

St. Bernard of Clairvaux (8/20)

St. Pius X (8/21)

Queenship of the BVM (8/22)

St. Rose of Lima (8/23)

Saints in heaven, pray for us

Prepare for Next Weekend

Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time

August 23rd 2026

Readings

Isaiah 22:19-23

Psalms 138:1-3,6,8

Romans 11:33-36

Matthew 16:13-20

The full text of all the readings, including the Gospel, can be found online via the USCCB.

bible.usccb.org/readings/calendar



Focus Questions

1: How do you recognize Jesus above other influences?

2: Why did Jesus order his disciples not to tell anyone who he is?

Families: What is the importance of the rock? Why are rocks important for building?



our
daily bread

Mon-Fri

9am

Sat

5pm

Sun

8am

9:30am

11:30am



From the Pastor

Once a reporter asked an **aging actress**, **“What is your age?”** She replied, **“I really don’t know my age.** It keeps changing from minute to minute.” She is right. We grow older every minute. When there is steady growth taking place in our body how can we at any time give a fixed number as our age. But still we have to settle for a particular number in order to deal with the concerns of identity and practical purposes of our everyday life.

When **God becomes human in Jesus, God too has to settle for a particular** gender (man), culture (Jewish), time (33 years) and so on. God’s eternity and the abstractions cannot be grasped or experienced unless it is given in particular form, shape, time and space.

Today’s Gospel explains the struggle when the **human particularity of Jesus clashes with His divine inclusiveness.** As God, Jesus is for all and impartial. But as an incarnated God-man, He lived 100% human within His boundaries, such as a Jew, speaking Aramaic language, following the social and cultural customs of his time and land etc. As a human person he had his limited goal of serving the lost sheep of Israel. His goal was to serve them and prepare them as his disciples to send out as His emissaries (apostles) to the whole world to preach his message.

Only in this background we can understand why **Jesus was at first reluctant to help the Canaanite** (Non-Jewish) woman saying, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." then bit later harshly "It is not right to take the food of the children and throw it to the dogs." This was the answer from Jesus in His human limitation.

But the response of the Canaanite woman touched Jesus’ human heart in/with faith. **She responded from her heart full of faith**, “Please, Lord, for even the dogs eat the scraps that fall from the table of their masters." The faith which belongs to the realm of hearts, expressed from the heart of the woman melts the heart of the God-Man Jesus. Faith works miracles. Touched by the expression of Faith, Jesus goes beyond the human boundaries and includes her into his Divine realm responding, “woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish." God’s inclusiveness in Jesus cannot deny the wish of the woman who saw Jesus beyond his human limitation or human particularity.

The message is simple. **We all have to think globally and act locally.** We have to reach out to others without losing our own identity. We all need our own particular identity and responsibility to know and assert who we are. But we should not reduce ourselves to our own narrow circles. We have to use our personal identity as a springboard to jump into the pool of serving the humans without any discrimination. Our Faith in each other will empower us to live inclusively.



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

RoseMarie DiBenedetto
Domenica Ciminiello
Robert J Kolomechuk
Robert T Vitkovich

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

St Gertrude, pray for us.

Altar Bread & Wine Memorial

August 17th - August 23rd

In memory of

Teresa & William Shannon

by Mary Lou Braun

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	Matthew P Dell'orto
Luciano Corpora Ellis	

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.

Pray for the Sick

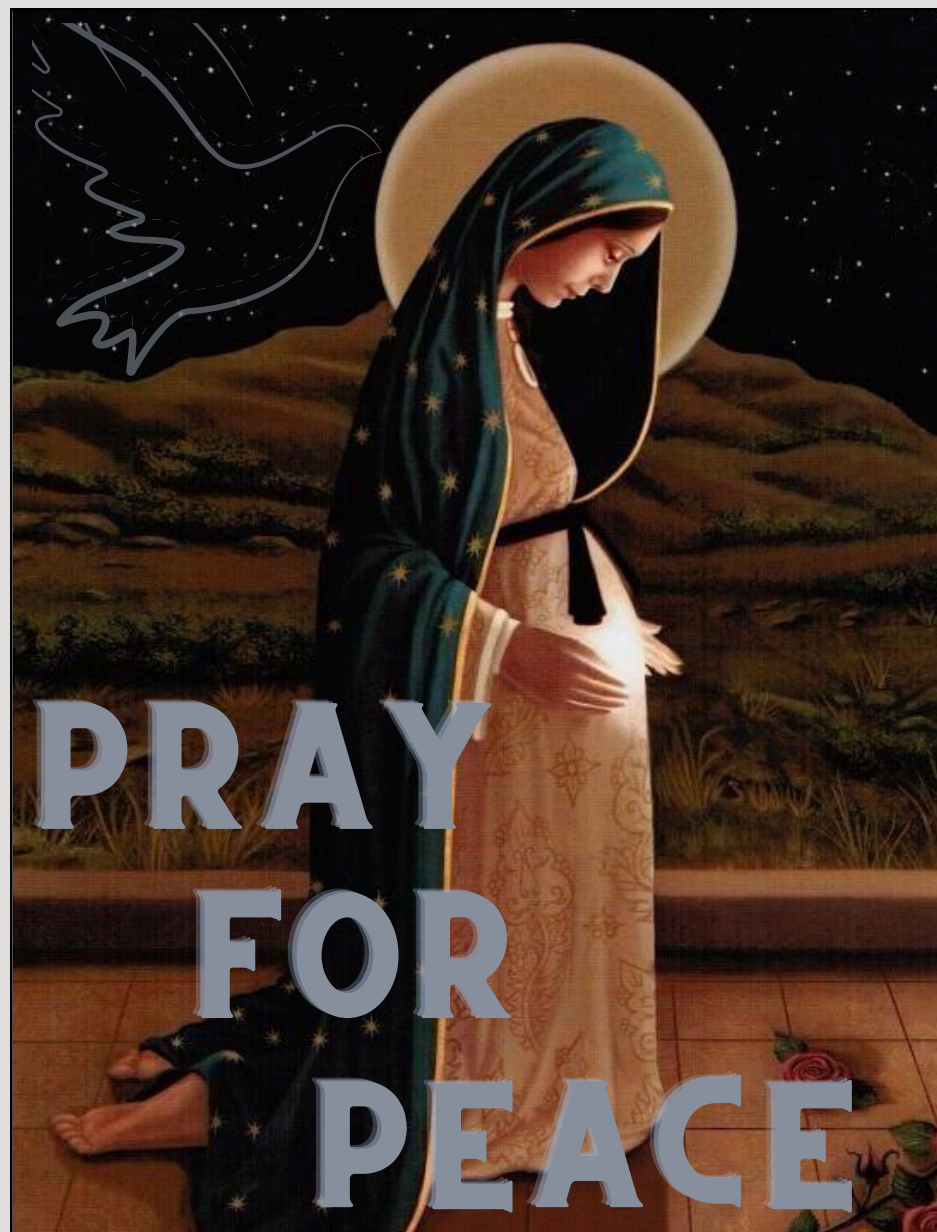
Andrew Valentine
Angela Conzo
Anna Mancuso
Anthony Trentini
Barbara Foberg
Barbara Madonia
Blair Rocchio
Christy Torkelsen
Danny Dau
Dennis Giannott
Dolores Rudden
Donald Castor
Eddie Chronopoulos
Ellen Murphy
Elizabeth Hoffman
Gary Hollins
Gertrude Hirsch

Helen Kovarik
Joan Perks
Jim Engle
Jim McGuire
Jimmy Cannon
Joe Madonia
John Heller
John McAllister
Baby Kayden Richard
Larry Wilson
Linda Heller
Lorraine White
Lou Savarese
Margaret Lombardi
Maria U. Aldaba
Maureen Ashley
Michael Minutillo

Michael Redmond
Patricia Kinney
Patricia McAllister
Patricia Sronczar
Patti Demarest
Ray Pitts
Richard Landi
Rodrigo Crafa
Sharon Lindgren
Baby Sienna Dwyer
Susan Agne
Thomas Duffy
Tom Doherty
Tommy Montebianco
Trish Landi
Veronica Brewster

*This listing will reset on September 30th 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.



Support our Parish

Financial Support

Collection from:
August 7th & 8th

\$7571

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 Fratomico
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

"Blessed the man who is gracious and lends to those in need."

PSALM 112

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.



Paper Towels & Toilet Paper
Boxed Potatoes
Laundry Detergent (small)

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

The Gospel today announces that the kingdom and salvation are for all people. It is our persistent calling out to Jesus and our faith that count, for Jesus always responds.

With love for our neighbors, please consider joining our parish conference of St. Vincent de Paul. We are a group of parishioners seeking to bring aid, hope, and a witness of God's love to all.

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



This & That

With
Deacon Matt



In July and August, as he has done for the past six summers, Deacon Matt will be making time to visit with small groups of parishioners in the home. Do you have questions about our faith? Do you find it difficult to follow teachings of the Church in this day and age? Are there issues you'd like to discuss, or suggestions you'd like to make? The floor is yours! Deacon Matt will be the facilitator. The format is simple: find around 6-10 people to gather at your home on a specific date, serve dessert, and come with your questions/topics.

Deacon Matt is especially interested in hearing the voices of the young. So teenagers and young adults are most certainly encouraged to get a group together! In general, late afternoons/early evenings during the week, and possibly Saturday mornings and Sunday evenings, are available.

To discuss a specific date, you can send an email to deacon.matt@stmli.org or leave a message at the rectory.

Children's Liturgy Returns!

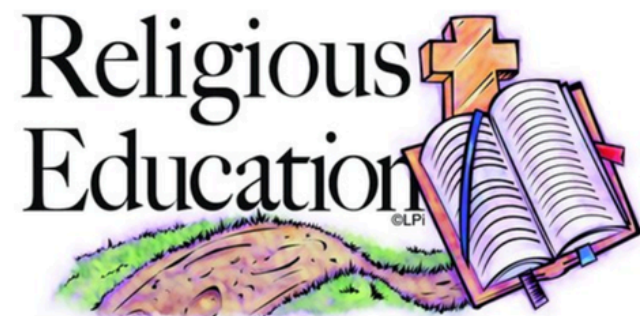
Kids 4-8 are invited to join us on September 20th at the 9:30 Mass! We are thrilled to restart this program! For more info, contact the Rectory.



NEW MEMBERS ALWAYS
WELCOME!

HAPPY SUMMER!
NO MEETINGS IN
JULY OR AUGUST!
SEE YOU
SEPTEMBER 11TH

CALL MARY ANN
631-234-8118



St. Thomas More

Religious Education Registration
2026/27 School Year
— Sharing the Spirit of Love —

If you have a child entering First Grade in September or are new to our Parish, call us at 631-234-0397 or email us at RelEd@stmli.org for information about registering for the fall program



Parish Weddings

Please pray for these beautiful couples who received the Sacrament of Holy Matrimony here at St. Thomas More!



Diana & Matthew Sarshik (pictured with their 2-month old Daniel Matthew) had their marriage convalidated last weekend!

If you are civilly married and want to have your marriage convalidated (turn your civil marriage into a Sacrament of Holy Matrimony) please reach out to the Rectory to speak to a priest or deacon. It is never too late to have your marriage sealed before the Lord!

Have you been called by Name?



Come and follow Jesus and his teachings! If you are missing any or all of your Sacraments, or are converting from another religion, come on an incredible journey of faith, love, and community, that is the Catholic Church.

Contact OCIA (Order of Christian Initiation in Adults) by calling the rectory at 631-234-5551.

Baptisms in our church

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

Ryder Rockwell Moss
child of Jacqueline & Sean



MSGR. FRANCIS S. MIDURA MEMORIAL

GOLF OUTING

MONDAY, SEPT. 14TH

9:00AM SHOTGUN START



\$200 per golfer*
Cart included

Lunch, Dinner Buffet
with 2-hour open bar

Smithtown Landing- 495 Landing Avenue, 11787

Contact Ed Rogan @ (516) 319-8643 -- *Early bird price. \$210 after 8/16

BACK TO SCHOOL

Remember the excitement of picking out a new outfit for your first day back at school? Many of you may be doing that for your own children and know how much it costs to clothe a child in one outfit. For those of us who no longer have school-aged children the cost can range anywhere from \$30 to \$125!! Imagine you already struggle to put food on the table and now have to dress multiple children as they head back to school!

Parish Outreach will be collecting \$25 Walmart (or Target) gift cards to offset the cost of buying new school clothes and shoes for our Outreach families. Since there are many community resources available for our families to get school supplies, we would like to provide a better opportunity for them to get what they need for a successful return to school. **Many of our families prefer Walmart cards as they feel they can get more for their money.**



Thank you in advance for your donation. Please remember you can drop your donation into the collection basket or bring them to Outreach or the Rectory. We would appreciate all donations no later than August 23rd.

St. Thomas More / Msgr. Francis S. Midura

Annual Golf Outing

9/14/26 at Smithtown Landing CC 9:00 AM shotgun start



Registration Form (Please Print)

Golfers:	Name	Contact	Number	Email
1.	_____	_____	_____	_____
2.	_____	_____	_____	_____
3.	_____	_____	_____	_____
4.	_____	_____	_____	_____

Please fill out a separate form for each Foursome. Singles or Twosomes will be paired with other golfers.

Include a check for **\$200.00** per golfer prior to August 16th - **\$210.00** per golfer after August 16th

Checks made out to: St. Thomas More Parish

Outing Day Check-In begins at **7:30 AM** with coffee and donuts.

Dinner Only Patrons: Please include a check for **\$100.00** per person made out to St. Thomas More Parish

	Name	Contact	Number	Email
1.	_____	_____	_____	_____
2.	_____	_____	_____	_____
3.	_____	_____	_____	_____
4.	_____	_____	_____	_____

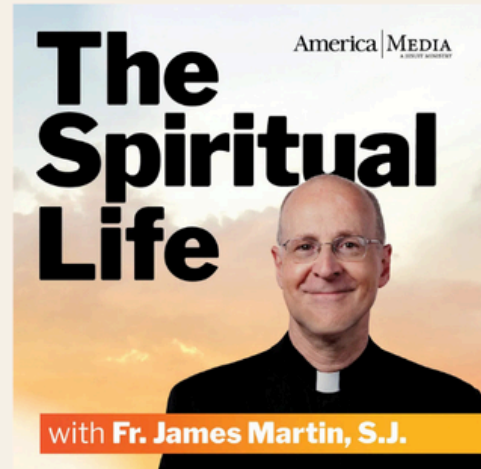
Return Form in envelope provided by mail or drop off at Church.

COMING SOON!

This September 10th you are invited to join us for

"A Simple Supper for the Soul"

The program will be presented for six sessions, every other Thursday from 6:30-8:30pm. Each session will include a simple supper, a video/podcast from Fr. Jim Martin's "The Spiritual Life", and small group discussion to nourish our soul.



If you liked Alpha, we think you will like this. If you never tried Alpha, you are invited to join us for a simple supper to nourish your soul!

In the words of Fr. Martin,

"Finding God often happens in the midst of a community - with a 'we' as often as an 'I'."



JOIN US

9 - 10 - 2026

St. Thomas More Parish,
Hauppauge

6:30pm - 8:30pm

"A Simple Supper for the Soul" 9 - 10 - 2026

Name(s) _____

Contact # _____

Please return to rectory or place in collection bin

St. Thomas More Parish

PARKING LOT MASS & BBQ



***Kids- please bring your
backpack for a special back
to school blessing!***

MASS

**Sunday, September 13th
11:30 AM Mass**

Park & tune to 100.3 FM

**Hamburgers & Hot Dogs
Indoor/Outdoor seating
Fun games for all!**

BBQ

