

# ST. THOMAS MORE PARISH

St. Thomas More Church

53 ROCKLAND STREET, NARRAGANSETT, RI 02882-3620



St. Veronica Chapel

1035 BOSTON NECK ROAD, NARRAGANSETT, RI 02882

## MASS SCHEDULE

### ST. THOMAS MORE CHURCH

53 Rockland Street

#### WEEKEND MASSES

SATURDAY - 5:00PM

SUNDAY - 8:00AM & 10:00AM

DAILY MASS - 9:00AM - MONDAY-SATURDAY

#### RECONCILIATION/CONFESSION

SATURDAY - 4:00-4:45PM

OR BY APPOINTMENT

### ST. VERONICA CHAPEL

1035 Boston Neck Road

#### WEEKEND MASSES

SATURDAY - 4:00PM

SUNDAY - 9:00AM & 11:00AM

Fr. Marcel L. Taillon

*Pastor*

*Chaplain, Narragansett Police Department*

*Chaplain, Narragansett Fire Department*

*Chaplain, South Kingstown Police Department*

*fathermtaillon@gmail.com*

Msgr. John C. Halloran

*Pastor Emeritus*

Fr. Joseph P. Henry

*Pastor Emeritus*

*SS. John & Paul, Coventry*

Fr. Jose Parathanal, C.M.I.

*In Residence*

*Marriage Tribunal, Diocese of Providence*

*JParathanal@dioceseofprovidence.org*

Fifth Sunday in  
Ordinary Time  
February 9, 2020



STTHOMASMORERI.ORG

PARISH OFFICE 789.7682 | FAX 783.8646 | RELIGIOUS ED 783.2113

Many parishioners have asked my thoughts on the Netflix film, “The Two Popes” which I have reservations about. I’d like to share Bishop Barron’s response. -Fr. Taillon

## The One Pope

Written by Bishop Robert Barron

January 2, 2020

The new and much-ballyhooed Netflix film *The Two Popes* should, by rights, be called *The One Pope*, for it presents a fairly nuanced, textured, and sympathetic portrait of Jorge Mario Bergoglio (Pope Francis) and a complete caricature of Joseph Ratzinger (Pope Benedict XVI). This imbalance fatally undermines the movie, whose purpose, it seems, is to show that old grumpy, legalistic Benedict finds his spiritual bearings through the ministrations of friendly, forward-looking Francis. But such a thematic trajectory ultimately does violence to both figures, and turns what could have been a supremely interesting character study into a predictable and tedious apologia for the filmmaker’s preferred version of Catholicism.

That we are dealing with a caricature of Ratzinger becomes clear when, in the opening minutes of the film, the Bavarian Cardinal is presented as ambitiously plotting to secure his election as Pope in 2005. On at least three occasions, the real Cardinal Ratzinger begged John Paul II to allow him to retire from his position as head of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith and to take up a life of study and prayer. He stayed on only because John Paul adamantly refused the requests. And in 2005, upon the death of John Paul, even Ratzinger’s ideological opponents admitted that the now seventy-eight-year-old Cardinal wanted nothing more than to return to Bavaria and write his Christology. The ambitious plotting fits, of course, the caricature of the “conservative” churchman, but it has absolutely nothing to do with the flesh-and-blood Joseph Ratzinger. Furthermore, in the scene depicting an imagined meeting between Pope Benedict and Cardinal Bergoglio in the gardens at Castel Gandolfo, the aged Pope frowningly lashes out at his Argentinian colleague, bitterly criticizing the Cardinal’s theology. Once again, even Joseph Ratzinger’s detractors admit that “God’s Rottweiler” is in fact invariably kind, soft-spoken, and gentle in his dealings with others. The barking ideologue is, again, a convenient caricature but not even close to the real Ratzinger.

But the most serious mischaracterization occurs toward the end of the film when a dispirited Benedict, resolved to resign the papacy, admits that he had stopped hearing the voice of God and that he had begun to hear it again only through his newfound friendship with Cardinal Bergoglio! Mind you, in saying the following I mean not an ounce of disrespect to the real Pope Francis, but that one of the most intelligent and spiritually alert Catholics of the last one hundred years would require the intervention of Cardinal Bergoglio in order to hear the voice of God is beyond absurd. From beginning to end of his career, Ratzinger/Benedict has produced some of the most spiritually luminous theology in the great tradition. That he was, by 2012, tired and physically ill, and that he felt incapable of governing the great apparatus of the Catholic Church—yes, of course. But that he was spiritually lost—no way. Again, it might be a fantasy of some on the left that “conservatives” hide their spiritual bankruptcy behind a veneer of rules and authoritarianism, but one would be hard pressed indeed to apply this hermeneutic to Joseph Ratzinger.

The very best parts of this film are the flashbacks to earlier stages in the life of Jorge Bergoglio, which shed considerable light on the psychological and spiritual development of the future Pope. The scene depicting his powerful encounter with a confessor dying of cancer is particularly moving, and the uncompromising treatment of his dealings with two Jesuit priests under his authority during the “Dirty War” in Argentina goes a long way to explaining his commitment to the poor and to a simple manner of life. What would have infinitely improved the film, in my humble judgment, is a similar treatment in regard to Joseph Ratzinger. If only we had had a flashback to the sixteen-year-old boy from a fiercely anti-Nazi family, pressed into military service in the dying days of the Third Reich, we would understand more thoroughly Ratzinger’s deep suspicion of secularist/totalitarian utopias and cults of personality. If only we had had a flashback to the young priest, *peritus* to Cardinal Frings, leading the liberal faction at Vatican II and eager to turn from preconiliar conservatism, we would have understood that he was no simple-minded guardian of the status quo. If only we had had a flashback to the Tübingen professor, scandalized by a postconciliar extremism that was throwing the theological baby out with the bathwater, we might have understood his reticence regarding programs advocating change for the sake of change. If only we had had a flashback to the Prefect for the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith composing a nuanced document, both thoughtfully critical and deeply appreciative of Liberation Theology, we might have grasped that Pope Benedict was by no means indifferent to the plight of the poor.

Now, I realize that such a treatment would have made for a far longer movie, but who cares? Heck, I was willing to sit through three-and-a-half rather tedious hours of *The Irishman*. I would have been happy to watch four hours of a film that was as honest and insightful about Joseph Ratzinger as it was about Jorge Mario Bergoglio. It would have made not only for a fascinating psychological study, but also for an illuminating look at two different but deeply complementary ecclesial perspectives. Instead, we got more of a cartoon.

**Mass Intentions for the Week**  
**St. Thomas More Church**

Saturday, February 8th:

5:00PM: For the Souls of the Russo Family

Sunday, February 9th:

8:00AM: For the Soul of Alice Skenderian

10:00AM: Birthday Remembrance ~ Charles Yurgalevitch

Monday, February 10th:

9:00AM: For the Soul of Ellen Morrissey

Tuesday, February 11th:

9:00AM: For the Soul of Kale Neubauer

Wednesday, February 12th:

9:00AM: For the Sanctity of Life

Thursday, February 13th:

9:00AM: Anniversary Remembrance ~ Patricia Normandin

Friday, February 14th :

9:00AM: Anniversary Remembrance ~ Mary Grace Sullivan

Saturday, February 15th:

9:00AM: For the Soul of Gertrude Hall

5:00PM: For the Soul of M. Susan McNaughton Morrison

Sunday, February 16th:

8:00AM: For Vocations

10:00AM: 7th Anniversary ~ John Cook

**St. Veronica Chapel**

Saturday, February 8th:

4:00PM: 1st Anniversary ~ J. Neil Murphy

Sunday, February 9th:

9:00AM: For the Soul of Kate Henry

11:00AM: For the Souls of Marion & Brian Gillcrist

Saturday, February 15th:

4:00PM: For the Soul of Roger Contre

Sunday, February 16th:

9:00AM: 21st Anniversary ~ Albert Christopher

11:00AM: 8th Anniversary ~ Frank Maiorano



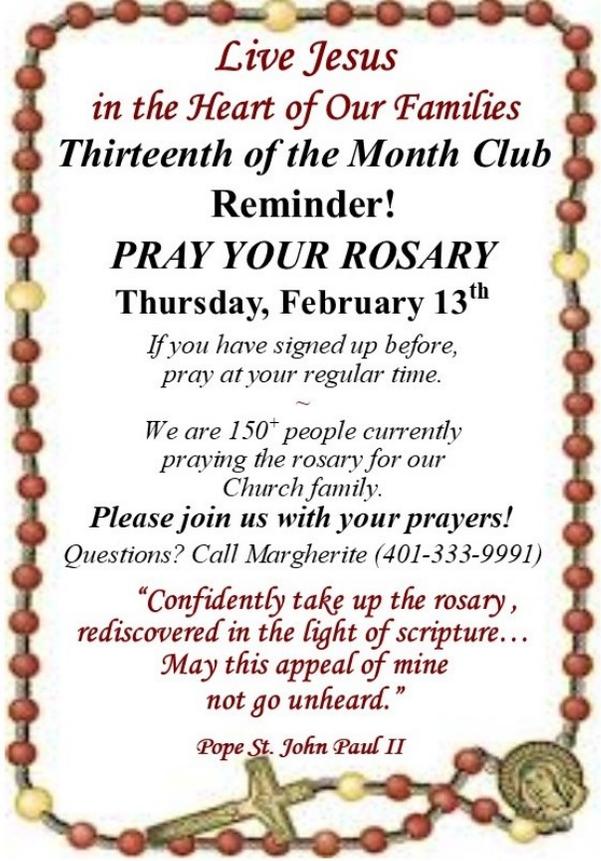
**Our Lady's Guild Meeting**  
**Tuesday, February 11th**

Join us at  
**St. Veronica's Chapel**  
**(Msgr. Halloran Hall)**  
**at 10:15 AM**

Contact : Diane Wilkens  
401-996-3876

*"God wishes to establish in the world devotion to my Immaculate Heart. If people do what I tell you many souls will be saved and there will be peace."*

St. Thomas More  
**Knitting Ministry**  
Next Knitting Ministry Meeting will be on  
Wednesday, February 19th, 12:30pm.  
Please call Dot Morancy for the location.  
401.789.7983



**Live Jesus**  
**in the Heart of Our Families**  
**Thirteenth of the Month Club**  
**Reminder!**

**PRAY YOUR ROSARY**  
**Thursday, February 13<sup>th</sup>**

*If you have signed up before,  
pray at your regular time.*

*We are 150+ people currently  
praying the rosary for our  
Church family.*

**Please join us with your prayers!**

*Questions? Call Margherite (401-333-9991)*

*"Confidently take up the rosary,  
rediscovered in the light of scripture...  
May this appeal of mine  
not go unheard."*

*Pope St. John Paul II*

# Religious Education

N • E • W • S

## Religious Education Schedule ~ January & February 2020

### Sun. AM:

**Grades 1~4:** 10:05~10:55AM ~ St. Veronica  
 Feb. 9th: Class  
 Feb. 16th: No Class ~ Winter Break  
 Feb. 23rd: Class

### Mon. PM:

**Grades 1~4:** 4:00~5:00PM ~ St. Veronica  
 Feb. 10th: Class  
 Feb. 17th: No Class ~ Winter Break  
 Feb. 24th: Class

### Wed. PM:

**Grades 5 & 6:** 4:15~5:15PM ~ St. Veronica  
 Feb. 12th: Class  
 Feb. 19th: No Class ~ Winter Break  
 Feb. 26th: No Class ~ Attend Mass for Ash  
 Wednesday as a family

### Wed. PM:

**Grades 7 & 8:** 5:45~6:45PM ~ St. Veronica  
 Feb. 12th: Class  
 Feb. 19th: No Class ~ Winter Break  
 Feb. 26th: No Class ~ Attend Mass for Ash  
 Wednesday as a family

### Conf. I & II

**Grade 9 & 10:** 7:00 ~ 8:20PM ~ St. Veronica  
 February 9th: Class  
 February 16th: No Class ~ Winter Break  
 Feb. 23rd: Class

### 40 Days for Life Lenten Campaign:

The Lenten Campaign will begin on Ash Wednesday, February 26th, and conclude on Saturday, April 4. We are asking parishes to adopt a day (7am/7pm) or individuals to adopt an hour for a peaceful and prayerful vigil at Planned Parenthood, Providence during the 40 Days of Lent. Please do not stand alone! If you are interested in learning more about the campaign that calls for prayer, fasting and community outreach to pray to end abortion in our nation, contact: Carol Owens, Office of Life and Family Ministry at 278-2518.

Save the Date!  
 Steubenville East Youth Conference  
 July 10-12, 2020  
 Sins? Doubts? Questions?... You're not alone!  
 For more info contact Emily Cuellar  
 youthministrystmsfa@gmail.com



Fr. Taillon with Monsignor Clarke altar servers during Catholic Schools Week.

**FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

Your **light** must **shine**

FEBRUARY 9, 2020

before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your heavenly Father.

Matthew 5:16



Dr. Fritz Wenisch passed away Thursday, January 30th, the Feast of St. John Bosco. He was born in lower Austria and attended schools in Salzburg. Dr. Fritz was an outstanding philosopher and a devoted member of St. Thomas More Parish. He gave a series of talks in the Year of Faith on various comparative religions and the credibility of the Gospels. He was a member of the Saturday morning Men's Bible Study, a brilliant mind, and a humble soul. Sending prayers and condolences to his wife and family.

Rest in peace, Fritz.

The Funeral Mass will be taking place at St. Thomas More on Saturday, February 22nd at 10am.

**Rachel's Vineyard Retreat Weekend:**

There are four post-abortion retreats scheduled for 2020. The English retreats will be held on March 20, 21, 22 & October 16, 17, 18 and the Spanish retreat will be held on March 27, 28, 29 and October 23, 24, 25. To learn more about the retreat weekends and how you can participate, call Carol at 278-2518 for the English retreat and Loren at 742-1510 for the Spanish retreat. This is a ministry offered by the Office of Life and Family Ministry –all calls are confidential.



You  
are the  
light  
of the  
world

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To parents of young children:

May we suggest...  
**RELAX!**

God put the wiggle in your children.  
Don't feel you have to suppress it In God's house.

All are welcome!

Please consider sitting toward the front where it is easier for your little ones to see and hear what is going on at the altar.

They tire of seeing the backs of others!

Quietly explain the parts of the Mass and actions of the priest, altar servers, lectors, choir, and others.

Help them find the hymns and prayers in the hymnal or booklets.

Sing the hymns, participate in the liturgy, and pray!

Children learn about worship and liturgical behavior by copying you.

If you have to leave Mass with your child, feel free to do so, but **please come back.**

As Jesus said, "let the children come to me..."

Remember that the way we welcome children in the church directly affects the way they respond to the church, to God, and to one another.

Let them know that they are at home in His house of worship.

To those without young children:



The presence of children is a gift to the church and a reminder that our parish is growing.

Please welcome our children and give a smile of encouragement to their parents.

# Parish Lenten Mission -

Sunday, March 1st - Monday, March 2nd - Tuesday, March 3rd

7-8PM - St. Thomas More Church



## *The Mercy of God: Finding Freedom in Forgiveness*

Msgr. Robert Panke, Washington, D.C.

March 1st: **Receiving the Merciful Heart of God**

"Father, forgive them, they know not what they do."

- Luke 23:34

March 2nd: **Forgiving Others: a Path to Freedom and Healing**

"As the Lord has forgiven you, so must you also do"

- Colossians 3:13

March 3rd: **Love of Self and the Role of Forgiveness**

"There is no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus"

- Romans 8:1



### Next Glorify Event

Join us for "Glorify" happening on  
February 10th at St. Timothy Church  
in Warwick from 7:00-8:45PM.

These event are great for teens, young adults,  
and families.

"Glorify" is centered around Eucharistic  
Adoration and engaging faith-filled music.  
Each "Glorify" evening has a unique theme,  
music, guest speaker, and culminates with  
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament.

For more information, visit:  
[catholicouthri.com/glorify](http://catholicouthri.com/glorify)

### Prayer for Good Humor

*by St. Thomas More*

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. Amen.



INFORMATION SHEET

Church name & address:  
St. Thomas More #924250  
53 Rockland Street  
Narragansett, RI 02882

Contact person: **Lizzie Kravatz @ 401-789-7682**

Software: Win 7, MSPub 2010, Adobe Acrobat X

Number of pages transmitted: Cover + 5 text pages + this page (8-8-JL; 2 advt)

Day & time of transmission: Tuesday by 4 PM

Special instructions for Production:  
Any questions let me know.

Thanks,  
Lizzie

FedEx shipping address: 53 Rockland Street, Narragansett RI 02882

Special instructions for delivery (if any):

FedEx tracking e-mail: **stmkravatz@gmail.com**