

# 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

**Fr. Marcel L. Taillon, S.T.L.** | *Pastor*

*Chaplain, Narragansett Police Department, Chaplain, Narragansett Fire Department,  
Chaplain, South Kingstown Police Department  
fathermtaillon@gmail.com*

**Fr. Joseph Mappilamattel, C.M.I.** | *Associate Pastor* | [mappilajoseph60@gmail.com](mailto:mappilajoseph60@gmail.com)

**Msgr. John C. Halloran** | *Pastor Emeritus*

**Deacon Joseph Clossick** | [joseph.clossick@bms.com](mailto:joseph.clossick@bms.com)

## Mass Schedule

Effective February 4th

### St. Thomas More Church

Vigil Mass - Saturday: 5:00PM

Sunday Mass: 10:00AM

Daily Mass - Monday - Saturday: 9:00AM

Confession - Saturday: 4:00-4:45PM

### St. Veronica Chapel

Vigil Mass - Saturday: 4:00 PM

Sunday Masses

8:30AM

11:00AM



FEBRUARY 4, 2024 - THE FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

STTHOMASMORERI.ORG | PARISH OFFICE 401.789.7682 | STMOFFICE53@GMAIL.COM



## ARCHDIOCESE FOR THE MILITARY SERVICES, USA

Office of Public Affairs and Media Relations

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

01-27-2024

### **Father Marcel Taillon Named Interim Vocations Director of the Archdiocese for the Military Services, USA**

*Tasked with relieving chronic shortage of Catholic military chaplains*



*Father Marcel Taillon*

WASHINGTON, D.C.—The Archdiocese for the Military Services, USA (AMS), will soon have a new interim Director of Vocations. He is Father Marcel Taillon, a priest of the Diocese of Providence, RI. Fr. Taillon starts his new ministry on April 15. He succeeds Father S. Matthew Gray, Ch, Capt., USAF, who was recently called back to his home Diocese of Charleston, SC, following two years as AMS Vocations Director, and is now deployed in the Middle East with the South Carolina Air National Guard.

Father Taillon, 58, is well suited for the position with experience as a vocation director and recruiter in his home Diocese of Providence, and director of spiritual formation at Our Lady of Providence Seminary. For the past 17 years he has served as pastor of St. Thomas More Parish in Narragansett RI, which counts among its membership, servicemen and women from the nearby Naval Station in Newport. Father Taillon is a chaplain for the Narragansett Police and Fire Departments and the South Kingstown Police Department. He is a longtime program host on Relevant Radio, helping pursue its mission “to bring Christ to the world through the media.”

As AMS Vocations Director, Father Taillon will be in charge of shepherding young men expressing an interest in the priesthood and U.S. Military chaplaincy through the process of discernment and formation. He welcomes the opportunity. "I feel called to it," he said. "I have a great passion for seminarians, for priesthood. I love the priesthood. I love our country and those who serve our country and are willing to sacrifice every day, in and out of harm's way."

In announcing the appointment, His Excellency, the Most Reverend Timothy P. Broglio, J.C.D., Archbishop for the Military Services said: "I am so pleased to have a priest with Father Taillon's experience in this very important role for the Archdiocese. He will bring many gifts to the task. I am also very grateful to Bishop Henning for releasing him for this ministry. In a time when priests are low density and in high demand, I know that his absence from the Providence Diocese represents a sacrifice."

Father Taillon will have his work cut out for him. The U.S. Military continues to suffer a chronic shortage of Catholic chaplains as aging priests retire from all branches faster than they can be replaced. Over the past 25 years, the number of active-duty Catholic chaplains has declined by more than half, from over 400 at the time of 9/11 to 190 today, serving an active-duty Catholic population of some 325,000 based worldwide, not counting their families. While 25 percent of the U.S. Military is Catholic, Catholic priests make up only about seven percent of the chaplains corps.

Fortunately, through the hard work of Father Taillon's predecessors, the AMS has seen a sharp increase over the past 15 years in young men completing formation to become priest-chaplains through the Co-Sponsored Seminarian Program, a vocations support partnership between the AMS and cooperating U.S. dioceses and religious communities. Many new priests and chaplains have come through the program and 34 are currently enrolled, up from just seven in 2008. Father Taillon will serve as their primary AMS contact, mentor, and spiritual counselor.

"I think the Lord always sort of prepares all of us, whatever we do in life," Father Taillon said. "He prepares us to serve him at the next step so I feel like I'm at least prepared. I have a lot to learn but I do feel ready to go and support our vocations." He says the one of the greatest attractions for young men to become priests and chaplains is the example of those currently enrolled as co-sponsored seminarians. "I know one thing that's for certain," he said. "Everyone tells me that the quality of the seminarians who are co-sponsored is amazing. Seminary staffs I know, and other priests who have met them, say they're just incredible men of great quality and integrity with a zeal to do what they know they're getting ready to do. Hopefully their witness and their meeting other people inspires other men to come forward and be open to the ministry."

A cradle Catholic born in Woonsocket, RI, once known as "the most French city in the United States," Father Taillon began to discern his own vocation in his 20s while traveling the country as a pharmacy operations analyst for CVS. He was ordained a priest in Providence on Sept. 1, 1994, following five years of formational study at the Pontifical North American College in Rome. Fluent in French and Italian, Father Taillon holds a Degree of Sacred Theology (S.T.B.) from the Pontifical University of St. Thomas Aquinas ("the Angelicum"), a Licentiate in Moral Theology from the Pontifical University of St. John Lateran, and an undergraduate degree in Philosophy and the Humanities from Providence College.





## MONSIGNOR CLARKE SCHOOL

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### Admissions Open House

**Monsignor Clarke School**

**Sunday, February 4th 12-2pm**

Have you ever considered a Catholic education?

This is a great chance to meet the teachers and administrators, hear from our students and learn more about what makes us different.

Visit our website to RSVP

[www.monsignorclarkeschool.org](http://www.monsignorclarkeschool.org)



### CHESTERTON ACADEMY OF OUR LADY OF HOPE

#### Chesterton Academy Open House

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Chesterton Academy of Our Lady of Hope is a new Catholic high school that just opened its doors in the fall of 2023. Is Chesterton the right fit for your son or daughter? Enrollment is now underway for next year. Please join us on

**February 10th at 9AM**

for our open house at

610 Jefferson Boulevard, Warwick RI

(the former Saint Francis parish and school).

Please contact us at: [www.chestertonRI.org](http://www.chestertonRI.org)  
401-287-2280 or email: [info@chestertonRI.org](mailto:info@chestertonRI.org).



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 [ChestertonRI.org/shadow](http://ChestertonRI.org/shadow) | Open House:  
(401) 287-2280 | Feb. 10 @ 9AM

### *From the Parish Mailbag...*

*You made hot water a reality for the residents of Mustard Seed Communities - thank you!*

As the Director of Development at Mustard Seed, I am reaching out with sincere thanks for support of this ambitious project. The dedication of Larry DeMichele, the Knights of Columbus led by Joe Robenhymer and Cliff Tyler, and the entire St. Thomas More Parish was essential in reaching this goal.

Your partnership helped to purchase the 6 hot water heaters needed at Antioch Village, one of our locations at Jacob's Ladder. Access to hot water is critical to the health and safety of those in MSC's care. The children and infants living in these homes are now less susceptible to illness brought on by bathing in cold water. Additionally, hot water is proven to better ensure proper sanitation for handwashing and laundry to prevent the spread of disease.

By utilizing solar power to provide hot water, we will have a reliable supply that will result in annual cost-savings. These water heaters will sustain the well being of many residents for years to come, enhancing the project's lasting purpose to replace poverty with dignified conditions.

Below are pictures of some installed heaters. Grateful for your generosity!

Catherine,  
*Director of Development, Mustard Seed Communities USA*



The Diocese of Providence Office of Family, Youth and Young Adult Evangelization is hosting a Retreat on February 10th. If you know of someone who might be interested, please share this information and invite them to join this year's Young Adult Lenten Retreat Day.

# LENT

Fast + Pray + Give

INVITING SINGLE, MARRIED, AND  
RELIGIOUS IN THEIR 20S AND 30S TO A

## young adult LENTEN RETREAT

hosted by the Young Adult Evangelization Apostolate of the Diocese of Providence

*Young Adult*  
EVANGELIZATION APOSTOLATE



**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2024 | 8:30AM-2PM**

CATHEDRAL OF SAINTS PETER AND PAUL

**MASS | BREAKFAST | KEYNOTE SPEAKERS | DISCUSSIONS | LUNCH | VENDORS**

Reserve your spot! Register at [evangelizeri.org/young-adult-lenten-retreat](https://evangelizeri.org/young-adult-lenten-retreat)



# MASS *intentions*

## THE FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 3rd

4 PM – for the soul of Albert Alba, Sr.

5 PM – for the soul of Kevin Cullinan

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 4th

8:30 AM – for the souls of Al & Helen Leger

10 AM – for the soul of Brenda Bolster

11 AM – for the souls of James & Doris Hanley

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 5th

9 AM – for the souls of Marion & Brian Gillcrist

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 6th

9 AM – for the soul of Frank Gesmondi

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 7th

9 AM – for the souls of Joseph, Carl & Thomas  
Henderson

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 8th

9 AM – for the soul of Martina Higgins

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 9th

9 AM – Birthday Remembrance ~ Linda A. Ruscito

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 10th

9 AM – Birthday Remembrance ~ Rose Primavera

## THE SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 10th

4 PM – 5th Anniversary ~ J. Neil Murphy

5 PM – 11th Anniversary ~ Susan McNaughton

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 11th

8:30 AM – 10th Anniversary ~ Anne D. Germeroth

10 AM – for the soul Janice Workman

11 AM – for the soul of Frank Maiorano

### Second Collection

The 2nd collection next weekend will be for Tuition Assistance and School Support.



### **SAVE THE DATE!**

**Parish Lenten Mission  
March 3, 4 & 5**

Fr. James Sullivan, O.P.,  
Dominican from the  
Province of Saint Joseph  
(New England to Virginia & Ohio).



### **SILENT EUCHARISTIC ADORATION**

**Thursday, February 8th**

St. Thomas More Church - 6:30 - 7:30 PM  
with Exposition and Benediction of  
the Blessed Sacrament



### **Pray the Rosary**

Join St. Thomas More Parish in Praying  
the Joyful, Sorrowful and Glorious Mysteries

**Sunday, February 11th**

**1:00 - 2:00PM**

At the entrance to Narragansett Town Beach





## Happenings around the parish



12TH ANNUAL  
KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS POPE PIUS XII COUNCIL

**GOLF**  
TOURNAMENT  
August 10  
Saturday | 2024

**SAVE THE DATE**  
[www.popepiusxii.org/golf](http://www.popepiusxii.org/golf)

Richmond Country Club  
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**Sponsorships also available**  
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*Proceeds directly benefit Pope Pius XII Charities, particularly, support for seminarians (\$76,500 over 11 years), programs for adults with disabilities and Habitat for Humanity.*

 **Knights of Columbus**  
Pope Pius XII Council 5295

### Religious Education

#### Religious Education Schedule

##### Sunday, February 4th

Grades 1 - 4 at 10:05-10:55 AM

St. Veronica Chapel

1st Year Confirmation

at 6:00-7:15 PM

St. Veronica Chapel

##### Monday, February 5th

Grades 1 - 4 at 4:10-5:00 PM

St. Thomas More

##### Wednesday, February 7th

Grades 5 - 8 at 5:45-6:45 PM

St. Veronica Chapel

#### **Gospel Reflections Group**

All are welcome to join our informal discussion group which meets on Mondays from 10-11:30 AM in the parish hall. Over coffee & refreshments, we read and reflect on the Gospels of the coming week and share personal insights of those readings.

#### **Men's Bible Study**

Our parish has a very active group of men who meet each Saturday morning in the parish hall at 7:30 AM to discuss the Sunday scripture readings. This is very informal and all are invited and welcome to join.

#### **Prayer Chain Ministry**

If you know someone who would like or needs extra prayers, we are happy to help. Call Jean at 783-3403 to express your request. New volunteers are always welcome to join this necessary and important ministry.

#### **Pray the Rosary**

All are welcome to join, any time. The rosary is prayed Mon.- Sat. after the 9:00AM Mass at St. Thomas More.

#### **Remember the Poor**

The small donation boxes on the church walls labeled "Remember the Poor" goes to the Mother Teresa Fund, which helps with local rental assistance, utilities, food and prescriptions. Thank you for your generosity.

#### **Rosary Repairs**

Using the envelope provided, broken beads may be put in the box in the foyer with your name and contact info. You will be contacted within a few weeks when complete.

#### **St. Vincent dePaul clothing bins**

Accepts clothing and shoes. Bins located at the back of the St. Thomas More parking lot, inside the white fence.

#### **Relevant Radio "Morning Air" Show**

Join Fr. Taillon at 550 AM every Wednesday at 8:00 AM or listen on [relevantradio.com](http://relevantradio.com)

#### **Weekly Food Collection**

Many families in our area struggle with food and welcome your donations in the baskets located by all entrances. Ideas include: vegetables, pasta, soup, spaghetti sauce, whole grain cereal, and healthy snacks.

DIOCESE OF PROVIDENCE OFFICE OF VOCATIONS

# Frassati

“We must sacrifice everything for everything: our ambitions, indeed our entire selves, for the cause of the faith.”

Bl. Pier Giorgio Frassati



A discernment  
group for young  
men ages 17-28

Meetings at  
Our Lady of Providence Seminary  
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