

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

Fr. Przemyslaw "Shemek" Lepak | *Part-time Assistant Pastor* | frshemek@gmail.com

Msgr. John C. Halloran | *Pastor Emeritus*

Deacon Joseph Clossick | joseph.clossick@bms.com

Mass Schedule

St. Thomas More Church

Vigil Mass - Saturday: 5:00 PM

Sunday Mass: 10:00 AM

Daily Mass - Monday - Saturday: 9:00 AM

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

St. Veronica Chapel

Vigil Mass - Saturday: 4:00 PM

Sunday Masses

8:30 AM

11:00 AM



JANUARY 26, 2025 - THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

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Catholic Schools Week – January 26 – February 1, 2025

As part of our discipleship, all of us who love Jesus are called to support Catholic Schools spiritually and financially during “Catholic Schools Week.” We are blessed with the great privilege of the Church to provide a learning environment where our children are formed in the Gospel, deepen, or even meet Jesus at school, and learn the Catholic social teachings of the Church put into action.

Monsignor Clarke School, located in Wakefield, is a fine school that has experienced a resurgence in recent years. Their live Nativity, held in early December, demonstrates how a Catholic school can reach out to the broader community to witness the birth of Christ. The Prout School, Hendricken, Lasalle, and many other Catholic Schools in Rhode Island are essential beacons of light in our diocese.

Growing up, I attended both public and Catholic schools. I went to Woonsocket Middle School, which was, at the time, the largest middle school in Rhode Island. I didn’t feel at home and asked my parents if I could attend a Catholic middle school. We met with our pastor, who offered to subsidize my tuition if I volunteered to answer the phone and greet people at the parish office. Once I did, I saw the “back story” of the life of a priest. Many would come to the office for food assistance, counseling, and search for help for other reasons. Before working in the office, I had no idea what the priest did outside of celebrating Mass. I was intrigued and wondered if this job planted the seed for my curiosity about the priesthood.

St. Thomas More has two annual collections to support parish families with children attending Catholic schools. Assistance is distributed based on need and is a great help to families. During my 10 years as chaplain at Hendricken, a scholarship was established to assist a student needing a full four-year scholarship. To this day, Hendricken continues to raise funds for this scholarship, and each year, I actively participate in selecting the recipient. It is arguably one of the most challenging and fulfilling tasks of my Priesthood.

Catholic schools are the focus of all of us. Offer a prayer today for all the faculty, staff, and volunteers who often do so much for less.

God bless our Catholic schools.

Fr. Taillon

The NICENE CREED

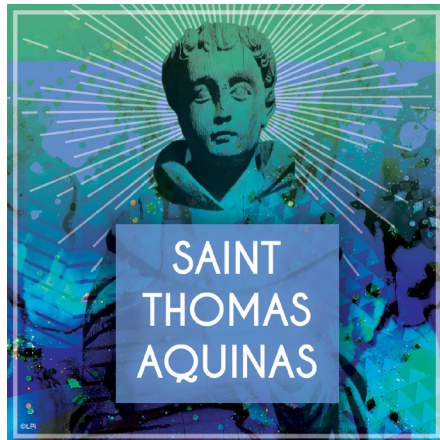
Wine & Cheese and the Nicene Creed

with Fr. Taillon

Monday, January 27 - 6:30 PM

St. Thomas More parish hall

Discussion and education about the
1700th Anniversary of the Nicene Creed
in the Jubilee year of Hope.

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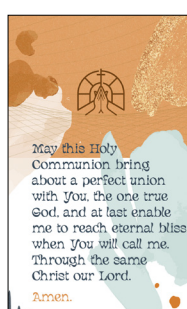
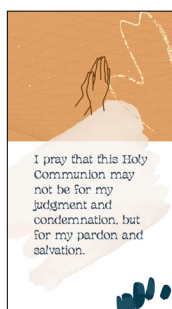
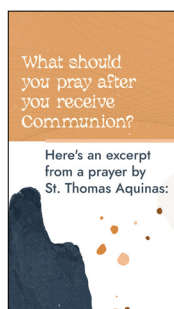
St. Thomas Aquinas | January 28

One of the most famous members of the Dominican Order, St. Thomas Aquinas (1225 – 1274) is well-known by many for his theological work, “The Summa Theologiae.” Born in Italy, his mother wanted him to become a Benedictine and had high hopes that he would eventually become abbot of Monte Cassino, where he spent much of his youth. To change his vocation, she had him kidnapped by his brothers on his way to Paris at the age of 19. He spent two years in their captivity. Despite this, nothing could shake him from his vocation to become a Dominican priest and he was eventually released. Once free, he went to Paris and then to Cologne, where he finished his studies with Albert the Great.

His greatest contribution to the Catholic Church is his writings. The unity, harmony, and continuity of faith and reason, of revealed and natural human knowledge, encompasses his writings. The *Summa Theologiae*, his last and, unfortunately, uncompleted work, deals with the whole of Catholic theology.

The patron saint of teachers, theologians and students, St. Thomas Aquinas died in 1274. His life and the impact he had on the whole Church, however, remains alive today.

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Liturgical Life

(PRACTICING) CATHOLIC

Mini Reflection: Jesus didn't come to fix the brokenness of the world. He came to fix our brokenness. He offers us not relief from the trials of life, but an answer to the question of how to live in joy, in love and in purpose in the midst of these evil days.

These Evil Days

"Alas, that these evil days should be mine."

If you've ever seen "The Lord of the Rings," you might recognize this quote from "The Two Towers." The words are spoken by King Theoden at the grave of his only son and heir, as Theoden contemplates the coming war for Middle Earth, a war which has already claimed the life of his son, a war he wants no part of, a war that seems utterly hopeless and unwinnable.

These evil days.

You don't have to be a fantasy enthusiast or even a Tolkien fan to identify with Theoden here. We have all experienced this same feeling of despair, perhaps increasingly in this age of technology and social media, when the ills of the whole world — violence, injustice, moral disorder and chaos — are in our faces, on our phones, looming over our days.

But when we despair like this, we forget an important truth: this is the time of fulfillment, and we are lucky enough to be living through it.

Yes, the world is broken. It was broken two thousand years ago, too, when Jesus stood up in the synagogue on the Sabbath and read the words of the prophet Isaiah: "He has anointed me to bring glad tidings to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim liberty to captives...and to proclaim a year acceptable to the Lord."

Jesus didn't come to fix the brokenness of the world. He came to fix *our* brokenness. He offers us not relief from the trials of life, but an answer to the question of how to live in joy, in love and in purpose in the midst of these evil days.

— Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

Why do we do that?

Catholic Life Explained

Question:

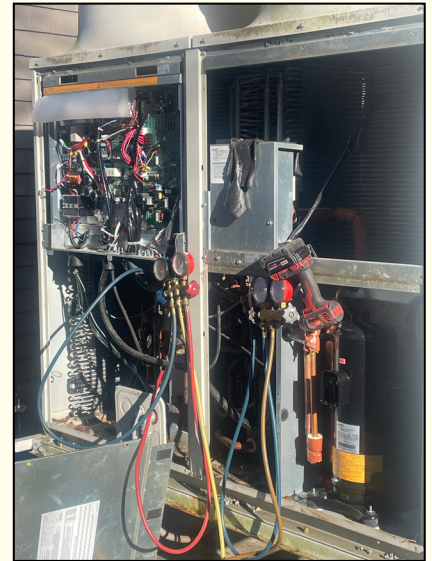
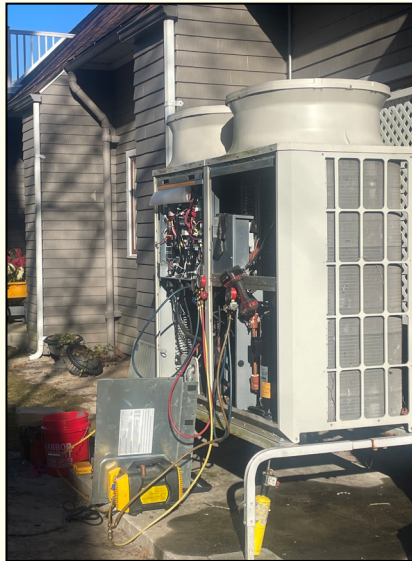
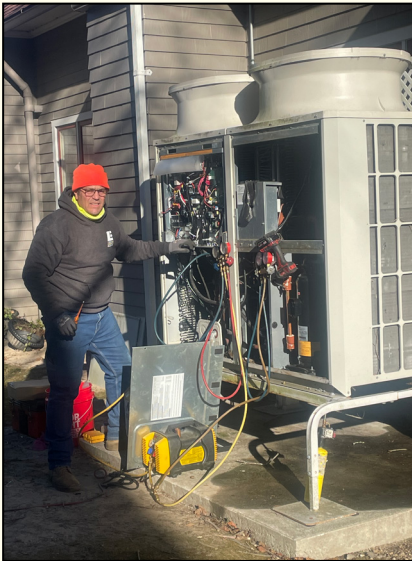
I've heard that love is a theological virtue. What does that mean?

Answer:

Charles Shultz, the creator of the Peanuts comics wrote, "*I love mankind ... it's people I can't stand!*" This good humored comment gets at an important truth. St. John wrote a very strong statement in one of his letters: "*If anyone says 'I love God,' but hates his brother, he is a liar; for whoever does not love a brother whom he has seen cannot love God whom he has not seen*" (1 John 4:20). How often do we say "I love the homeless," but ignore the parish food drive? Or insist on the importance of respecting others, but don't bother to say hello to our cashier? If we can't love an individual person, we might not love people like we think, and we certainly need to work on our love for God.

Love is "*the theological virtue by which we love God above all things for His own sake, and our neighbor as ourselves for the love of God*" (CCC 1822). God knows acts of love of Him and others isn't always easy. So He invites us to pray for the grace to do it. The virtue of love gives us the grace and strength we need to offer our lives to God and love people in our lives, especially those who are difficult to respect, tolerate, and care for. Real love, of course, is risky. Real love wills the good of the other when we just want good for ourselves. Real love gets up on the cross when we'd prefer to take a nap in Gethsemane. Real love changes things.

This past week, the compressor in the heating & cooling system for the St. Thomas More Parish hall had to be replaced. Shown here with the man working on the compressor, are two temporary portable heaters used in the parish hall this week.



Members of Our Lady's Guild
celebrate Johanna Shaghalian's
birthday!

MASS *intentions*

THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

SATURDAY, JANUARY 25th

4 PM – for the souls of Sharon & Bob Introni

5 PM – 25th Anniversary ~ Mina Mueller

SUNDAY, JANUARY 26th

8:30 AM – for the soul of Mary Jane Briggs

10 AM – for the soul of Frank Morelli & for
the parishioners of St. Thomas More

11 AM – for the deceased members of the
Sullivan Family

MONDAY, JANUARY 27th

9 AM – for the soul of Anna Pelosi

TUESDAY, JANUARY 28th

9 AM – for the soul of Carolyn D. Tandy

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 29th

9 AM – Birthday Remembrance ~ Mary Jane Briggs

THURSDAY, JANUARY 30th

9 AM – for the souls of Anna Keefe, William &
Joseph Walsh

FRIDAY, JANUARY 31st

9 AM – for the soul Jeannette Dupre

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 1st

9 AM – for the soul of Jeff O'Brien

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 1st

4 PM – Birthday Remembrance ~ Anthony P. Boscia, III

5 PM – for the soul of Alfred Barnett & for the
parishioners of St. Thomas More

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 2nd

8:30 AM – for the soul Robert K. Quinn, Jr.

10 AM – for the soul of John Miller

11 AM – for the souls of James & Doris Hanley

Second Collection

The second collection this weekend
is for the Church Latin in America.



SAVE THE DATE!
Parish Lenten Mission
March 9 & 10
Fr. Alex Wyvill
St. Bartholomew Church,
Bethesda, Maryland



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Heavenly Father,

We come before You with gratitude for the many blessings
You have poured upon the Diocese of Providence.

As we await the appointment of a new bishop, we entrust
this process to Your loving care and guidance.

Send Your Holy Spirit to those involved in discerning and
selecting our new shepherd. May they be filled with wisdom,
insight, and fidelity to Your will. Bless the one You have chosen
to lead us, that he may be a man of deep prayer, strong faith,
and courageous love, devoted to serving You and the people
of this diocese. Prepare his heart to embrace this mission
with humility and joy and grant him the grace
to guide us in truth and unity.

May he be a faithful teacher, a compassionate pastor,
and a courageous witness to the Gospel,
drawing us closer to You in all that we do.

We ask this through the intercession of Mary, Mother of the Church,
and our patron saints, St. Thomas More and St. Veronica.

May they guide and protect our diocese as we
await this important moment.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Happenings around the parish

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.

Our Lady's Guild

- Our Lady's Guild has meetings at 9:30AM on the second Wednesday of each month in the parish hall.
- On Mondays after the 9AM Mass, with coffee & refreshments, they meet as an informal gospel reflections group to discuss, read and reflect on the Gospels of the coming week and to share personal insights of those readings.
- The rosary is prayed Monday - Saturday at 8:30AM at St. Thomas More before the 9AM Mass.



All are welcome to join these activities.

To learn more about Our Lady's Guild, call Diane at 996-3876 or visit

<https://stm-ourladysguild.weebly.com/>

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.

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

Drop your broken beads in envelope provided in the box in the foyer at St. Thomas More with your name and contact info. You will be contacted when complete.

St. Vincent dePaul clothing bins

Weekly pick up of clothing & shoes. Bins located at the back of the St. Thomas More parking lot, inside the fence.

WEEKLY PARISH FOOD COLLECTION

Current Needs

- | | |
|--|------------------------------|
| ✓ Natural Peanut Butter | ✓ Brown Rice |
| ✓ Low Sugar Jelly | ✓ Canned Fruit in 100% Juice |
| ✓ Baked/Black/Kidney Beans | ✓ Whole grain wheat flour |
| ✓ Whole Grain Cereal/Crackers/Pasta & Jarred Pasta Sauce | |

Collection baskets are located at the entrance of both churches.

Religious Education

Sunday, January 26th

Grades 1 -4 at 10:00-10:50 AM

St. Veronica Chapel

Confirmation Prep at 6:00-7:00 PM

St. Thomas More

Wednesday, January 29th

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

St. Veronica Chapel

PILGRIMAGE WITH FR. JOSE to SOUTH AMERICA October 16 - 31, 2025

Please join Fr. Jose Parathanal on a pilgrimage to Brazil, Argentina, Peru-Machu Pichu on October 16-31, 2025, visiting the Basilica and Maximus Convent of Nuestra Senora del Rosario - the final resting place for three important Peruvian saints: San Juan Macías, Santa Rosa de Lima and San Martín de Porres (the continent's first black saint). For more details, contact Bernadette Corpuz at 323-547-6618 or email at bcorp1114@gmail.com.



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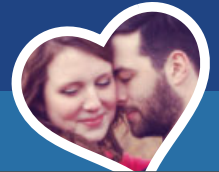
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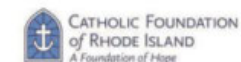
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