

*Blessings and Welcome*  
*Bishop Richard G. Henning*



JANUARY 29, 2023 - STTHOMASMORERI.ORG

## *Welcome Bishop Henning!*

We are blessed this week to receive Bishop Henning as Co-Adjutor bishop for the Diocese of Providence. Our Cathedral was full for the reception attended by prelates and priests and lay faithful in large numbers. A Co-Adjutor bishop is one that governs with the local Ordinary (Bishop Tobin) with a right of succession after Bishop Tobin's retirement. Bishop Tobin will turn 75 on April 1st.

Bishop Henning comes to us from Rockville Center, New York where he has served as Vicar for Clergy. He was ordained a bishop in 2018. He was born there and is the oldest of five children. He has a passion for the water (great he is in the ocean state!). He enjoys sailing, boating and kayaking. He attended Bishop Chaminade High School and received a BA and MA in history. Bishop Henning is fluent in Spanish, Italian and able to read French, Greek and Hebrew. He received a licentiate in biblical theology from Catholic University and a doctorate from the Angelicum in Rome.

He is critical in transitioning the seminary in Rockville Center into a large retreat and formation center and is well known for his evangelization and work with foreign born priests in America.

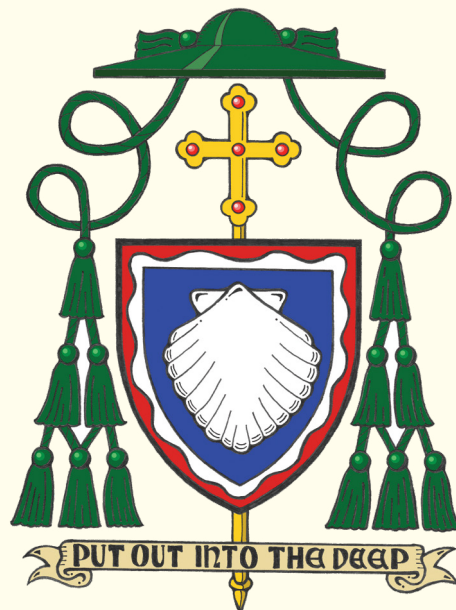
The Lord has brought him to us. Bishop Henning does not know many people here so we need to surround him with our prayers and support.

When a diocese receives a new bishop we receive a new spiritual father. Everyone I know that has met him and ministered with him have shared he is humble, very bright and hard working.

His motto is "put out into the deep" which is the command Jesus gave to Peter and the fishermen. The "deep" is now Rhode Island for Bishop Henning.

Welcome and God bless you!

*Fr. Taillon*







Congratulations, baptized in Christ! Fr. Joe baptizes Simon Souza, son of Bryan and Alexandria.

## EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION



SILENT EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 9TH

ST. THOMAS MORE CHURCH - 6:30 - 7:30 PM

WITH EXPOSITION AND BENEDICTION OF  
THE BLESSED SACRAMENT



**2023 Louisiana Missionary Team - getting ready to go soon!**

# MASS *intentions*

## FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

SATURDAY, JANUARY 28th (Vigil)

4 PM – Birthday Remembrance ~ John Chatwin

5 PM – for the soul of James F. Mohan, Jr.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 29th

8 AM – for the soul of Irene Lavallee

9 AM – for the soul of John Merlino, Jr.

10 AM – 1st Anniversary ~ Charles Costello, Jr.

11 AM – for the souls of Edward Marion & Michael

Vigliotti

MONDAY, JANUARY 30th

9 AM – for the soul of Andrew Lang

TUESDAY, JANUARY 31st

9 AM – for the soul of William J. O'Brien

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 1st

9 AM – Birthday Remembrance ~ Anthony P. Boscia, II

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 2nd

9 AM – for the soul of Claire Wayland

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 3rd

9 AM – Birthday Remembrance ~ Albert Alba, Sr.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 4th

9 AM – for the soul of Irene Lavallee

## FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 4th (Vigil)

4 PM – for the soul of J. Neil Murphy

5 PM – for the soul of Mary Susan McNaughton

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 5th

8 AM – for the souls of Angela & Frank Aloï

9 AM – for the soul of Agnes Bisset

10 AM – for the soul of Brigid Narewski

11 AM – Pro-Populo

## 2nd Collection

The second collection this weekend  
is for Latin America.

## SAVE THE DATE!

### Parish Lenten Mission 2023

**March 12, 13 & 14, 2023**

St. Veronica Chapel

**Fr. Michael Champagne**

Jesus Christ Crucified Community,  
St. Martinville, LA



*Theme:*

### Jesus Crucified and Eucharistic Revival

Evening I: The Sacrifice of the Mass and  
Redemptive Suffering

Evening II: Holy Communion and  
Living the Mass

Evening III: Eucharistic Adoration and Holiness

Catholic Schools Week begins this Sunday,  
January 29th! In an effort to encourage weekly  
Mass attendance, Monsignor Clarke is offering  
an incentive for students who wear their school  
uniforms to church this weekend. We applaud  
the families who will bring their children to mass  
this weekend wearing their uniforms, so be sure  
to give them a thumbs up!

**Open House**  
**Sunday, February 5th**  
**12:00 - 2:00 pm**



Come meet our faculty and staff, take  
a tour and learn more about what we  
have to offer!

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

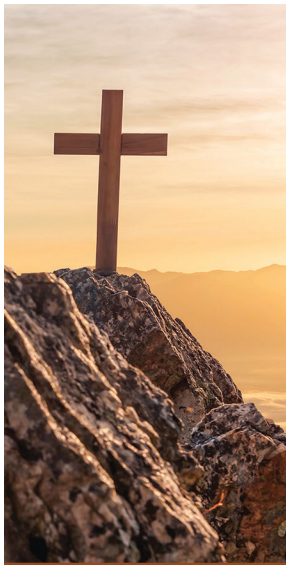




*St. Veronica Chapel restoration and renovations are underway!*







**"Blessed are the poor in spirit,  
for theirs is the  
kingdom of heaven."**

**Matthew 5:3**

**JANUARY**

**29**

**2023**

**FOURTH SUNDAY  
IN ORDINARY TIME**

## **GOD'S REIGN HERE AND NOW**

Our readings this week all speak of the distinctive characteristics of the people God gathers to achieve God's purposes. The deep communion of love that God envisions requires a community that is humble and lowly, as Zephaniah describes. God chooses the weak and foolish to reveal God's strength and wisdom, as Paul says. And in the Beatitudes, Jesus teaches that a people who know their weakness and vulnerability can most fully place their trust in God and work for a just world. As Christians, we believe God will fully heal our world when Christ returns. But Christ also invites us to experience a foretaste of this future right now, through our life in Christian community, and in our work of peacemaking and justice-seeking in the world. Our poverty in spirit can enable us to be both recipients and instruments of the "kingdom of heaven" here and now.

## **THE BLESSED COMMUNITY**

We turn to the first action of Jesus' public ministry described by Matthew—Jesus preaching to the crowds in what we call the Sermon on the Mount. The Sermon begins with today's Gospel passage, the Beatitudes. Having just called his first disciples to form a community, Jesus begins to spell out what this community is all about. The Beatitudes lay the foundation, describing the primary values and practices, and the core identity of this community.

Jesus tells his followers, first and foremost, that they are blessed by God. The community will reveal its blessed character through its humility, meekness, and hunger for justice. Knowing they are loved as God's children, they will have open and pure hearts, free to be merciful, and they will be able to endure suffering gracefully. Listening anew to the Beatitudes, we remember how far we fall short of Jesus' vision. But we know God has gathered us, and continues to transform us, to receive the fullness of blessing.

## **WHOM GOD HONORS**

In Jesus' time, honor and shame were key markers for who is up and who is down in their society. Typically, those with wealth and power over others were to be honored. And in our own time, often we find ourselves drawn strongly toward having more abundance, control, and options to choose from. We avoid vulnerability and limitations. But Jesus says in the Beatitudes that the poor and meek are truly blessed, that is, honorable and privileged by God. How can this be?

Perhaps Jesus is first exposing the opposites to the poor and meek, the "rich in spirit." These develop such confidence in themselves, based on achievement or inherited privilege, that they isolate themselves from God, and either ignore or exploit others. Jesus also knew that the humble in heart realize that they cannot build an illusory self-affirmation, so they can be most open to God's affirmation of them. They can then become more deeply empowered to participate in God's work. God blesses and honors the open-hearted.

## **TODAY'S READINGS**

Zephaniah 2:3; 3:12–13  
Psalm 146:6–7, 8–9, 9–10  
1 Corinthians 1:26–31  
Matthew 5:1–12a

# Happenings around the parish

## 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 our 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 to join.

## Pennies for the Poor

The small donation boxes on the church walls labeled "Pennies for the Poor" goes to the Diocesan Dire Emergency Fund in South County, which helps with rental assistance, utilities and prescriptions. Thank you.

## Prayer Chain Ministry

If you know someone who would like extra prayers, please call Jean at 783-3403 to express your request. Volunteers are needed and welcome to join this important ministry.

## Pray the Rosary

The rosary is prayed Monday - Saturday after the 9:00 AM Mass at St. Thomas More. All are welcome.

## Rosary Repairs

Drop broken beads in the box in the foyer using the envelope provided. Include your name and contact info. You will be contacted within a few weeks when your repair is 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)

- listen on your computer: <http://relevantradio.com>
- get the App for your phone: [relevantradio.com/app](http://relevantradio.com/app)
- listen on your radio: AM 550 in the Providence area

## Religious Education

### Sunday, January 29th

Grades 1 - 4 at 9:05-9:55 AM | St. Thomas More  
1st & 2nd Year Confirmation at 6:00-7:15 PM  
St. Thomas More  
(Please note the new location)

### Monday, January 30th

Grades 1 - 4 at 4:10-5:00 PM | St. Thomas More

### Wednesday, February 1st

Grades 5 - 8 at 5:45-6:45 PM | St. Thomas More

## Faith Direct

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Visit [faithdirect.net](http://faithdirect.net) and enter our parish code: R1147.

Donations can be easily changed one-time, weekly or monthly.



Blood Emergency

## Critical Need

Consider donating blood at any Rhode Island Blood Center donor center throughout the state.



To register, visit [www.rIBC.org/locations](http://www.rIBC.org/locations) or call 401-453-8383

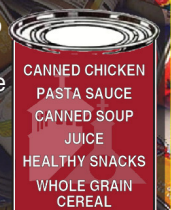
When donating, please be sure to use parish Sponsor Code 0626.

## WEEKLY PARISH FOOD COLLECTION

Many families in our area continue to struggle to put food on their table. Collection baskets are located at the entrance of both churches. Please consider donating an item or two from the list.

*All donations support a local food pantry.*

**Over 2,700 meals collected for local families so far this year**





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