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**Fr. Marcel L. Taillon, S.T.L.** | Pastor, on temporary leave of absence Interim Vocation Director, Archdiocese for the Military Services, USA, Washington, DC

# Mass Schedule

<u>St. Thomas More Church</u> Vigil Mass - Saturday: 5:00рм Sunday Masses: 7:30ам (QUIET MASS) & 10:00ам Daily Mass - Monday - Saturday: 9:00ам Confession - Saturday: 4:00-4:45рм

> <u>St. Veronica Chapel</u> Vigil Mass - Saturday: 4:00 рм Sunday Masses 8:30AM 11:00AM



#### JUNE 16, 2024 - ELEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

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



### To Jesus, he was just "Dad"

Although he now lives with God, I was blessed with a father who took his responsibility very seriously and who wanted nothing more than to show his love for us by raising his 5 children to be respectful, honest, hard-working and faithful to God. He didn't care if we were rich or famous, he only asked that we not embarrass him too much. Today I repeat some words I wrote a few years ago on Father's Day and I dedicate them to him.

In early spring, I stopped at a greeting card store and found cards that exclaimed *Happy Mother's Day, Dad!* and *Happy Father's Day, Mom!* Even greeting cards are telling us that

parenthood in America is changing. "Family" can now mean something other than a man, a woman, and their biological children.

In this era of great social confusion about marriage and family life, no one is taking more hits than the traditional father. "Does a mother need a husband?" people are wondering. What does a father do beyond conception? Can't someone else fill in for him?

Perhaps, then, St. Joseph is the perfect patron for a society that has lost its moorings regarding parenthood in general and fatherhood in particular. Joseph was the perfect father, but he fulfilled this role in a society where family life was undergoing great change and, in a family where his position was unusual, to say the least.

After all, let's face it: Joseph's fatherhood was ambiguous and unique. He played absolutely no physical part in the conception of Jesus, whereas today's father is sometimes judged superfluous once a child is conceived. Joseph might have adopted the hands-off strategy of disengagement so often recommended to stepparents. Instead, Joseph embraced his calling so fully that everyone in Nazareth thought of Jesus as "the carpenter's son" (Matt 13:55).

Many in today's society no longer feel it necessary or important to know a child's father. Non-marital births are generally accepted, and their number has increased 600% in just three decades. And yet, for all our blasé acceptance of children entering the world without a socially recognized and responsible father, paternity remains an important issue for all of us.

St. Joseph, who took a countercultural stand in accepting Jesus, can help today's fathers buck their own culture. For biological fathers who are tempted to shirk responsibility for the children they have helped bring into this world, Joseph models acceptance of God-given responsibility. For men who are called to some kind of non-biological paternity as stepfathers or adoptive fathers, Joseph models generous, accepting love.

Joseph, the carpenter of Nazareth, worked hard to meet the physical needs of his family. St. Thérése of Lisieux imagined him this way: *"I can see him sawing, then drying his forehead from time to time.... How many troubles and disappointments! How many times did others make complaints to good St. Joseph? How many times did they refuse to pay him for his work?"* Whether it be crafting tables or lugging roof timbers, St. Joseph turned every project into an expression of deep love for God.

St. Joseph is, of course, the prime model of the diligent breadwinner who assumes responsibility for the needs of others. He is the perfect patron for every father today.

"Father" Jack

### THE DIOCESE OF PROVIDENCE



#### FROM BISHOP RICHARD G. HENNING

### **GOD IS LOVE**

Each year in June, the Church observes the Solemnity of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus. The devotion was originally proposed by Fr. John Eudes in the 1600's and spread far and wide through the witness of St. Margaret Mary Alacoque.

The devotion is founded upon the biblical truth that God is Love. Notice that the holy scriptures go beyond saying that God loves to proclaim that God is in Himself a communion of love. This is part of the same mystery that we celebrated last week on Trinity Sunday.

The Sacred Heart devotion also personalizes this truth. Our Lord is the revelation of the Heart of God. Miraculously, the only begotten Son has loved us with a heart of flesh – a heart wounded to deliver us from sin and death.

The artistic expressions of the Sacred Heart draw upon the biblical language and imagery. Sometimes they are images of Jesus pointing to his radiant and wounded heart. At other times the image is of the Sacred Heart itself accompanied by imagery of the passion such as the crown of thorns. There is a particularly beautiful work of art of this kind in the sanctuary of St. Patrick's Church on Smith Hill. The images are actually a part of the devotion as the Church encouraged the faithful to put such images in their homes and workplaces. The other two major components of the devotion are the novena prayers and the First Friday devotions. All of these prayers invoke the loving mercy of the Divine Savior. The devotions are a beautiful way to seek particular petitions, to pray for others, and to implore that mercy when we have offended the Lord's most beautiful, gracious and loving heart. Sometimes the offenses are our own and sometimes we seek to do reparation for the sins of the world.

I remind us of these gifts of the Lord in part because of the approaching feast, but I also wish to express some specific ways in which the novena, feast, and devotions might help our own particular circumstances. During the month of June, there are many young people celebrating milestones and graduating from school. This devotion is a beautiful was to give a spiritual gift by praying for them by name or even thinking of particular intentions or graces that might aid them in their lives. The young have so many challenges and too much sadness in our culture and I believe that we should support and encourage them in every way possible - including our prayers.

I also encourage us to consider the mercy of God and the value of reparation for sin. Certainly we would personally benefit from the humble admission of our faults, the grace of a good confession, and a profound trust in the loving mercy of the Lord.

We may also wish to consider the need for God's mercy for our world where violence, exploitation and selfishness abound. In April, I wrote to you about the suffering of survivors of sexual abuse. I pray the Sacred Heart Novena for their healing and to ask the Lord to cleanse the Church and the world of that terrible sin and to renew and heal survivors.

There is also the sad fact that since 2020 some 300 Catholic Churches have been vandalized in the United States. Many of those attacks involved damage to images of Our Lady or Our Lord. Most tragically there have been some instances of the desecration of the Blessed Sacrament. These offenses along with the wider contempt for faith and the frequent crude mockery of the faith and of the Lord require us to do spiritual reparation and hope in that Divine Love that radiates from the Sacred Heart.

Perhaps you already pray these devotion regularly. Maybe you remember them from childhood or never had the opportunity to learn them. In whatever circumstances I encourage us to embrace this beautiful feast, its efficacious devotions and the truth of the Lord's healing love. Let this month of June, the month of the Sacred Heart, be our time to proclaim that GOD IS LOVE!



MOST REVEREND RICHARD G. HENNING, S.T.D. Bishop of Providence

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or go to provd.io/bulletin



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### Summer Bible is coming!!!

Maryann Knag will present the Apostolic Fathers—Part II. Last summer, we took up the letters of two of the disciples of St. John, son of Zebedee Ignatius of Antioch and Polycarp of Smyrna, as well as the accounts of their martyrdoms.

This reading was so stirring that many requested more study of the documents of the Early Church. There was also great interest in reading Acts of the Apostles, which we will take up next summer.



St. Justyn Martyr



Flavius Josephus, the Jewish historian

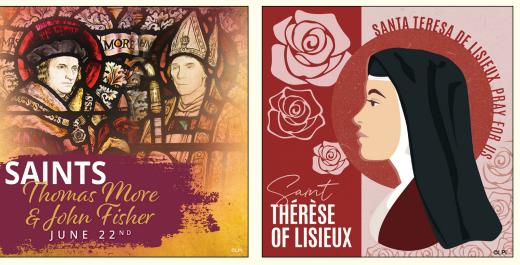
This summer's reading will include the Didache, the earliest Church manual; the Epistle of Barnabas; the Letter of Pliny the Younger to Emperor Trajan about the Christians; the First Apology of Justin Martyr, excerpts from Josephus, the Jewish historian (who mentions Jesus, John the Baptist and James, the brother of Jesus). Also, fragments from Bishop Papias, Quadratus of Athens, and the Apology of Aristides.

If you are interested in the Early Church, this class is for you! You are there in the first and second centuries as you read these passages.

The Bible Group will meet in the Parish Hall on Tuesday mornings from 9:40-11:10 following the 9AM Mass, beginning July 9th. Meeting dates are July 9, 16. 23, & 30; August 6, 13, 20, & 27.

Links to the readings can be found at www.earlychristianwritings.com.

For more information, please contact Maryann Knag at 203.213.4809 or <a href="mailto:mmknag@aol.com">mmknag@aol.com</a>



#### St. Thérèse of Lisieux

St. Thérèse of Lisieux (1873-1897) was a French Carmelite sister whose autobiography has inspired Catholics across the world to deepen their relationship with God. She died at 24 from tuberculosis and is currently the youngest person to be named a Doctor of the Church.



Congratulations, Baptized in Christ! Giovanni Matthew Izzo pictured with his parents Stephanie and Matthew and godparents Stephen Izzo and Amanda Ortiz.



# WHEN YOU PRAY:

A CLEAR PATH TO A DEEPER RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD

Are you struggling in prayer? Are you discouraged in attempts to start or restart your prayer life? Do you need new inspiration for the journey? If you have any of these feelings, you are not alone. Many of the saints had similar ones.

Join us for this seven-part program from Ascension Press to renew and enrich your prayer life. Each session, we will watch a beautiful video filmed on location in Italy with Dr. Edward Sri, followed by small group discussions.

Drawing on Sacred Scripture and the examples of the saints, *When You Pray* will help you cultivate a fruitful life of prayer that leads to an ever-deeper encounter with God.



# Wednesday Evenings

6:30 – 7:30 pm @ St. Thomas More in the Parish Hall

Dates: 6/12, 6/19, 7/3, 7/10, 7/17, 7/24 & 7/31

Please note: There is no session on 6/26.



#### THE ELEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

SATURDAY, JUNE 15th 4 PM – for the soul of Trevor Stoutenburgh 5 PM – 9th Anniversary ~ Brendan Tapley

#### SUNDAY, JUNE 16th

7:30 AM – Birthday Remembrance ~ Henry Del Monico
8:30 AM – for the soul of John Merlino, Sr.
10 AM – for the souls of James Provensal & Manuel Tavares
11 AM – for the souls of James Provensal & Manuel Tavares

#### MONDAY, JUNE 17th

9 AM – for the deceased members of the Ferretti & Cunningham Families

#### TUESDAY, JUNE 18th

9 AM - Special Intentions ~ Nico, Grace & Jack (Living)

#### WEDNESDAY, JUNE 19th

9 AM - for the soul of Anthony Bessacini

#### THURSDAY, JUNE 20th

9 AM – for the soul of Geraldine Egan

#### FRIDAY, JUNE 21st

9 AM – for the soul of Raymond Rao

#### SATURDAY, JUNE 22nd

9 AM – for the soul of Claire Wayland

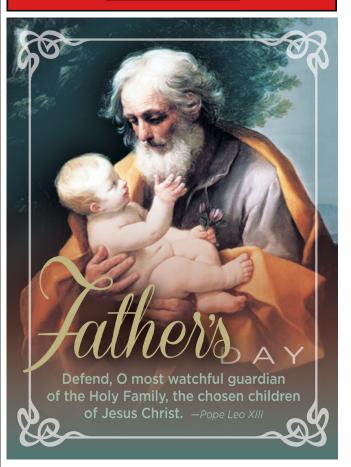
#### THE TWELFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

#### SATURDAY, JUNE 22nd

4 PM – for the soul of Steve Wrobel 5 PM – for the souls of Helen Martin & Helen Silvia SUNDAY, JUNE 23rd 7:30 AM – for the soul of Lois Harrington 8:30 AM – for the souls of Edith & Ralph Pappa & Irene Corn 10 AM – Birthday Remembrance ~ Mary Pat Bamford 11 AM – for the soul of Robert Gagne

# Begins July 7th Last Mass Sundays 8PM

St. Veronica Chapel



#### **Blessing of Fathers**

God and Father of all creation, we come before you today with humble hearts. You are our model of a loving father.

When we fail and fall short of your expectations, you are always there at the end of the day with open arms, ready to heal the cuts and scrapes of the day and to encourage us to try again and not to give up.

We hold up these men in our midst who act in the world as fathers to their children or models of fathers for others.

Bless them in their moments of doubt and frustration with their children. Give them warm and open hearts to forgive failures. Provide them with the words needed for encouragement and perseverance. We ask all this in the name of Jesus.

Amen.

# 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 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.

#### Our Lady's Guild

All are welcome to join, for information call Diane at 996-3876 or visit <u>https://stm-ourladysguild.weebly.com/</u>

#### 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

The rosary is prayed Monday- Saturday at 8:30AM at St. Thomas More. All are welcome to join.

#### 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 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

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



"When the crop permits, the harvest has come." Are you being called by the Lord of the Harvest to proclaim His kingdom as a priest or religious brother or sister?

Talk to your priest or reach out to the Office of Vocations at (401) 331-1316 or via email: <u>fa-</u> <u>thersimas@gmail.com</u>.



#### <u>PLEASE</u> <u>UPDATE YOUR</u> <u>CONTACT INFO</u>

Over time, things change, and in an effort to stay current, St. Thomas More is requesting your to help to update your contact information.

Please send us an email with your name/s, addresses, phones and emails stmoffice53@gmail.com

#### Are you called to be a Deacon?

Deacons are men who love God and love the Church; they feel called to serve in a more committed way. The role of the deacon is to be a helper of the bishops and priests and to proclaim by his life the Church's call to serve the needs of others. What does it take to become a Permanent Deacon? Learn more!

Register for an upcoming Information Session

at: <u>dioceseofprovidence.org/deacon-forma-</u> <u>tion-program or dioceseofprovidence.org/pro-</u> <u>grama-de-formacion-al-diaconado.</u>



### Rhode Island Blood Center

#### **Every Donation Can Save Up To 3 Lives**

Consider donating blood at any Rhode Island Blood Center donor center throughout the state. To register, visit www.ribc.org/locations or call 401-453-8383

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

### WEEKLY PARISH FOOD COLLECTION

### Current Needs

- √ Natural Peanut Butter
- √ Canned Fruit in 100% Juice

√ Brown Rice

- √ Low Sugar Jelly
- 🗸 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.

## St. Thomas More Presents

Vatican International Exhibit of Eucharistic Miracles

# June 26 - 28, 2024 St. Thomas More 53 Rockland St.

Narragansett, RIExhibit Times (in the parish hall):Wed, 6/269:30 am - Noon, 5 - 6:30 pm, 7:30 - 8:30 pmThurs, 6/279:30 am - 2 pm

Fri, 6/28 10:30 am - Noon



Presentations by Eileen Wood

### Talk on Blessed Carlo Acutis

The 1<sup>st</sup> Millennial to be beatified!



## Wed, June 26<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm (in the church)

Blessed Carlo Acutis lived in Italy from 1990 - 2006. During his short 15<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> years, he was always

joyfully sharing the faith, especially his love of Our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament. At the age of 11, as part of his work as a catechist, he created a website which catalogued many of the principal Eucharistic Miracles which have taken place throughout the world and have been recognized by the Church.

## Talk on St. Manuel González García

Bishop of the Abandoned Tabernacle

### Fri, June 28<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 am (in the church)

Manuel González García was born in Seville, Spain in 1877 and ordained a priest in 1901. He was

assigned his first parish mission in the little town of Palomares del Rio. It was there, where Our Lord spoke to him from an abandoned tabernacle, that was a defining moment in his life and clarified the direction for the rest of his priestly ministry.

1<sup>st</sup> class relics of both Blessed Carlo and St. Manuel will be available for veneration

For more information, call (401) 789-7682



### Information Sessions for Men Interested in the Permanent Diaconate

The diocese of Providence is hosting several Information Sessions for all men interested in becoming a permanent deacon. To choose a session go to <u>dioceseofprovidence.org/information-sessioons-permanent-diaconate-program</u> to complete and submit a registration for a particular session. This will help us ensure that we have sufficient materisal for each Information Session. If a man is married, his wife is cordially invited and encouraged to attend the presentation.

### About the Info sessions

Each session will begin with a brief prayer and introduction. There will be a powerpoint presentation covering:

- the history and service of the diaconate
- a description of the Program of Formation
- a description of the Application process.

There will be time for questions and answers. Printed materials and an application will be provided at each session. Attendance at a session will not obligate anyone. The process will begin when a man returns his completed application and required documentation to the Office of Deacons.

We would like all appications **by August 15, 2024** in order to begin scheduling interviews in September.

