

Second Sunday of Advent

Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths.

- Mark 1:3

10 December 2017

Saint Thomas More Parish

Rev. Father Nicholas Schumm, *pastor*
Rev. Father Eugene Casserly, *priest in residence*
Rev. Monsignor John Cassidy, *pastor emeritus*
Lois Hicks, *office manager & parish assistant*
Sarah Manning, *youth group*
Susan Henderson, *parish organist*
Thomas More Salamida, *maintenance*
Claudia Hill, *part-time office assistant*
Betty Jo Tanner, *part-time data assistant*
Kevin McCall, *missionary*

Finance Council

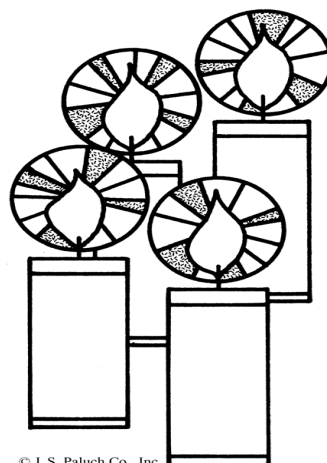
Mort O'Sullivan, *chairperson*
Joe Buehler
Jim Mathis

Parish Pastoral Council

Michael Juhas, *chairperson*
Ann Bode
Stoney Dyson
Becky Edmondson
Casey Etheridge
Molly Henley
Patrick Kinnell
Penny Locke
Nelson Ortiz
Al Sharlow
Jane Turner

Other Parish Groups and Ministries

Sacred Liturgy — Father Nicholas Schumm
Organist & Sacred Music — Susan Henderson
Ushers — Charlie Dickin
Religious Education — Michele Keegan
Youth Group—Sarah Manning
RCIA — Father Nicholas Schumm
Ladies Altar Society — Lynn VanNatter
Knights of Columbus — Alan Tschirgi
Bereavement — Charlene Grant
Outreach — Lynn VanNatter
HOPE Ministry — Nelson Ortiz
Burse Club — Regina Booth
Book Club — Mary Williams
Prayer Chain—Stoney Dyson



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WE WELCOME YOU!
Douglas & Karen Buelow!

New to the parish? There are Parish Registration forms in the vestibule, please fill a form out and give it to an usher/greeter, place it in the offertory collection, or stop by the parish office to register.

MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY – December 9th – 4:00 PM
Stephan Suchy †
Req. by: Connie Weiss

SUNDAY – December 10th - 8:00 AM
Otto Appelberg †
Req. by: Betty Appelberg

SUNDAY – December 10th - 10:00 AM
Pro Populo (For the Parish)

MONDAY – December 11th - 6:40 AM
Dr. John D. Bowen †
Req. by: Jim Bowen

TUESDAY - December 12th - 6:40 AM
Tosca Troise
Req. by: Eileen Gavagni

WEDNESDAY – December 13th - 6:40 AM
Sick & Homebound
Req. by: The Ladies Altar Society

THURSDAY – December 14th – 6:40 AM
Ed Cook (living)
Req. by: The Hanna Family

FRIDAY— December 15th – 6:40 AM
Monsignor John Cassidy
Priesthood Anniversary
Req. by: Father Nicholas Schumm

SATURDAY – December 16th – 4:00 PM
Randy Williams †
Req. by: Mary Williams

Parish Events:

Parish Pastoral Council

Next Meeting will be held on Thursday, **December 7th** starting at 6:00 PM in the Parish Hall. Council members sit at the table. All parishioners are welcome to attend and sit in the row of chairs provided. For more info call Parish Office (850) 456-2543.

STM Ladies Altar Society

Next Meeting will be Sunday, **December 10th** after 8 a.m. Mass in the Parish Hall. They usually meet on the second Sunday. All women of the parish are welcome. For more info call Lynn Vanatter at (850) 456-1070.

Knights of Columbus

Father Keating Council #15836

Next business meeting will be on Tuesday, **December 12th** at 6:00 PM in Parish Hall. For more info contact Grand Knight Alan Tschirgi . (850)458-2361

Book Club Meeting – The next meeting is Tuesday, **January 9th** at 9:30 AM in the Parish Office and Activities Center. The book for December to be announced in next weeks bulletin. All are welcome to attend book club.

Weekly Novena to Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal will be said here at Saint Thomas More Parish every **Wednesday morning** at 7:00 AM following the 6:40 AM Daily Mass.

Parish Breakfasts -

First Sunday: Knights of Columbus Pancake Breakfast
Second Sunday: Ladies Altar Society
Third Sunday: Knights of Columbus– Coffee & Donuts
Fourth Sunday: Shawn & Kathy Salamida
Fifth Sunday (Occasional): Parish Council Breakfast

Breaking Open the Word scripture study of upcoming Sunday Gospel, **Wednesdays, 6:00–7:30 PM** in the Parish Hall.

Traditional Latin Mass at 12:30 PM. **Sunday, December 17th.** (Usually on Third Sunday)

Traditional Latin Mass at 6:00 PM. **Tuesday, January 2nd.**

Traditional Latin Mass at 12:30 PM, **Sunday, December 17th.** (Usually the Third Sunday)

EVERY FRIDAY, Eucharistic Adoration 7-8:00 AM.

First Friday, Mass at 6:40 AM with Eucharistic Holy Hour 7-8:00 AM. Unless otherwise noted. Also, **First Love Adoration** with praise and prayer from 6-8:30 PM.

First Saturday, The Holy Rosary will be recited at 3:30 PM in the church in honor of the Immaculate Heart of Mary and her request at Fatima in 1917.

dates to Remember

Sunday, December 10th—Deadline to return gifts for Angel Tree families.

Wednesday, December 13th— Breaking Open the Word Bible Study at 6:00 pm followed by RCIA class.

Friday, December 15th—Happy Anniversary of Priesthood Monsignor Cassidy.

Sunday, December 17th—Latin Mass at 12:30 pm.

Monday, December 25th—Merry Christmas!

Tuesday, December 26th—The Parish Office will be closed.

Thursday, December 29th—The Parish Office will be closed.

Sunday, December 31st—There will be **No** Parish Council Breakfast due to holiday.

Tuesday, January 2nd—The Parish Office will be closed. We will re-open on Wednesday, January 3rd.

Thursday, January 4th— Epiphany Concert in the Church at 6:00 pm, reception to follow with hors d'oeuvres.

The month of December is dedicated to the Immaculate Conception and the Holy Christ Child



Religious Education Classes

There will be **No** Religious Ed on the following days -
Sunday—December 17th
Sunday— December 24th
Sunday - December 31st

Saint Thomas More Parish News & Noteworthy Items

Calling all Catholics who need Confirmation

In the Diocese of Pensacola-Tallahassee Confirmation is received in the 9th grade (age 15 or older). If you know someone who is baptized Catholic but needs Confirmation please call the Parish office at (850) 456-2543 to be placed on the list. We will have these sessions in preparation for Confirmation, which will be on March 11, 2018 at the 10:00 am Mass.

Confirmation Preparation Sessions Schedule

Saturday, January 20th	9:00—11:00 am
January 26th—28th	Youth Conference
Saturday, February 17th Lunch will be provided	9:00 am—12:30 pm
February 14th Ash Wednesday	Mass at 6:00 pm
Saturday, March 3rd	9:00 am—11:00 am
Saturday, March 10th Retreat and Rehearsal Lunch will be provided.	9:00 am—12:30 pm

You must be pre-registered by January 14th. Please call the parish office at (850) 456-2543 to register.

RCIA

Do you or someone you know have questions about the Catholic Faith, or want to become Catholic?

Father Nicholas Schumm would like to invite you to find out more about our beliefs, Church, and the process of Rites of Christian Initiation for Adults (R.C.I.A).

Our next meeting will be **Wednesday, December 13th**. We will join Bible Study in the Parish Hall at 6:00 pm.



37th Annual Catholic Renewal Conference February 23-25, 2018

The 37th Annual Catholic Conference will be held at the Holy Name of Jesus Catholic Church Parish Life Center in Niceville, Florida. Speakers include Bishop William Wack, Jim Murphy, Father Nicholas Schumm, Michelle Benzinger and Father Will Ganci. Missionary Kevin McCall will host a "Prophetic Prayer" workshop. You can pre-register online at www.pt-dccr.org. Pre-registration must be received by February 9, 2018. Cost is \$25 per person, \$45 family, Youth under 18 are free. At the door registration is an additional \$10.00.

Youth Group Events

Please join the youth group and their families to attend the Epiphany Concert on January 4th, at 6:00 pm. We will attend the reception in the hall following the concert. Please contact Sarah Manning at (850) 266-4799 if you have any questions.

January Events

January 12th—Youth Group will gather for the Mass of Life at Saint Paul Parish with Bishop William Wack at 6:30 pm. More details to come.

January 13th—Walk for Life at Seville Square at 10:30 am. More details to come.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Is 35:1-10; Ps 85:9ab, 10-14; Lk 5:17-26
Tuesday: Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab;
Jdt 13:18bcde, 19; Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47, or any readings from the Common of
The Blessed Virgin Mary, nos. 707-712
Wednesday: Is 40:25-31; Ps 103:1-4, 8, 10; Mt 11:28-30
Thursday: Is 41:13-20; Ps 145:1, 9-13ab; Mt 11:11-15
Friday: Is 48:17-19; Ps 1:1-4, 6; Mt 11:16-19
Saturday: Sir 48:1-4, 9-11; Ps 80:2ac, 3b, 15-16, 18-19;
Mt 17:9a, 10-13
Sunday: Is 61:1-2a, 10-11; Lk 1:46-50, 53-54;
1 Thes 5:16-24; Jn 1:6-8, 19-28

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: Second Sunday of Advent;
International Human Rights Day
Monday: St. Damasus I
Tuesday: Our Lady of Guadalupe;
Hanukkah begins at sunset
Wednesday: St. Lucy
Thursday: St. John of the Cross
Saturday: *Las Posadas* begins

2017 Advent Retreat

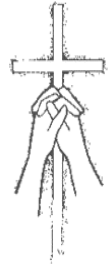
Join us for a free event hosted by Saint Paul Catholic Church and The Cathedral of the Sacred Heart on December 16th from 1:00 pm—7:00 pm in the Saint Paul Parish Center, Giri Room. Keynote by Father Jimmy Grebe. We will have engaging discussion, Holy Hour, Sunday Vigil Mass, Cocktail Hour. You can register online at ptdiocese.org/events/youngadultadvent or contact Christine at mayeaux@stpaulcatholic.net by Wednesday, December 13th. This retreat is for young adults and young professional (21+).

Day of Discernment At the Carmelite Monastery

If you are a single woman ages 16-35 and are discerning a religious vocation, join us Thursday, December 28th from 9:30 am—1:00 pm at the Carmelite Monastery located at 73530 River Road, Covington, LA. This is a free event. To register, please sign up by email at srgraceocd@yahoo.com.

Please, pray for our sick parishioners:

John Clark
Bill Alexander
Richard Beechaer
Regina Booth
Needa Brazwell
Jack Brazwell
Rusty Budde
Anna Chrisco
Chipley Clopton
Tommy Clopton
Charles Hanson
Marylee Hanson
Regina Kaufman
Patrick Kelly
Alicia Kelson
Helen Manley
Genny Manwaring
Carolyn Merritt
Dan Owczarczak
Babe Rohan
Bob Russo
Chris Russo
Mary Teschel
Terry Teschel
Coreen Singh
Jinann Wey



If someone needs the *Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick*—please call the parish office. If no one answers, please leave a message with name and phone number and the priest will call you back.

Diocesan Shrine of Our Lady of Fatima At Saint Stephen Catholic Church

On Friday, December 15th from 6:00—9:00 pm, Saint Stephen will host an open house. Featured is the authentic Nativity Scene from Spain inside the Church. There will be live music, carols, lots of good food and cheer for all. Everyone is welcome! Admission is free to all. Saint Stephen is located at 900 West Garden Street. For more information, please call (850) 432-9362.

Retirement Fund for Religious

On Saturday and Sunday, December 9th & 10th, we will be taking a second collection for the Retirement Fund for Religious. Our senior religious are a treasure. Their dedication and hard work laid the foundation for Catholic schools, parish faith formation, hospitals, and numerous social service organizations. Many continue in volunteer ministry today. This collection helps the religious communities provide loving care for older members while ensuring younger ones can continue the good works of their elders.

Saint Thomas More is looking for weekly and Feast Day Sponsors for Altar Flowers. \$150.00 donation will ensure the 4 vases on the Altar. In addition to your donation, an "In Honor Of" or "In Memory Of" will be printed in the weekly bulletin. If you are interested, please call the office at (850) 456-2543.