



St. Thomas More Mission

LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

Weekend Masses

Saturday Vigil: 5:30 p.m.

Sunday: 10:00 a.m.

Weekday Masses

Monday: NO MASS

Tuesday - Friday: 12:00 p.m.

First Friday Devotion

12:00 p.m. Mass, followed by Adoration, Prayers, Confessions and the Rosary

First Saturday Devotion

8:30 a.m. Mass, 9:00 a.m. Confessions, followed by Marian Prayers and the Rosary

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Friday: 12:45 p.m. - 1:45 p.m.

Saturday: 8:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.

(or by appointment)

Weekly Adoration

Thursdays: 10:00 a.m. - 11:40 a.m.

Includes Simple Exposition, Adoration and Solemn Benediction

(There will be NO Solemn Benediction the Thursday before First Friday)

Sunday, April 21, 2024



EXCERPTS FROM THE LECTIONARY FOR MASS ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD. ©LPI

CHURCH DOORS OPEN

Monday: CLOSED

Tues - Wed: 11:00 a.m. - 1:45 p.m.

Thurs: 10:00 a.m. - 12:45 p.m.

Friday: 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Saturday: 4:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Sunday: 8:45 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

WEEKEND HYMNS

St. Augustine Hymnal

Processional: #215

Offertory: #284

Recessional: #230

SECOND COLLECTION

May 4th & 5th

Building Fund

May 12th

Catholic Charities

Church Information

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Rectory Office

2825 West 81st St., Chicago, IL 60652-2722
E-mail: sttmm@archchicago.org
Phone: 773-436-4444 – Fax: 773-778-9087

Rectory Office Hours

Monday – Thursday 9:00 am – 3:00 pm
Friday – Sunday Closed

Mission Director

Fr. Derran Combs, OFM, PhD
frderran.stmm22@gmail.com
773-436-4444, Ext.13

Receptionist/Administrative Assistant

Joyce Fitzgibbons
jfitzgibbons@archchicago.org

Director of Maintenance

Dave Siniawski

Choir Director

Molly Chesna Davis
mollym.chesna@gmail.com

Music Director

Patricia Spencer
patricia.anne.spencer@gmail.com

Sound Technician

Greg Phifer
gphifer@archchicago.org

Social Media

Visit our Facebook page at:
St. Thomas More Mission
Website Address:
<https://stthomasmorecatholicchurch.org>

Registration for Church Membership

New parishioners should register at the Rectory Office.

Religious Goods Store

Open on the third weekend of the month.

SACRAMENTS

Baptism

Contact the rectory office to schedule a baptism.

Funeral

Contact the rectory office for funeral arrangements.

Marriage

Contact St. Bede-St. Denis for marriage preparation
Tel: 773-884-2000.

Sacramental Records Requests

Contact the rectory office for copies. Cost: \$10 each (cash/check)

Mass Intentions

Visit the rectory office or mail us your intentions (mark living/deceased) along with a check. Minimum Donation of \$10 each.
(3 intentions per mass, cash/check)

Bulletin Announcements

Must be emailed to jfitzgibbons@archchicago.org before 12:00 p.m. on Thursdays in order to be approved and printed in the following weeks bulletin. (type "Bulletin Announcement" in the subject line)



MASS INTENTIONS

SUNDAY, April 21st

4th Sunday of Easter; World Day of Prayer for Vocations

10:00 a.m. † Virgy Nwachukwu (Andrew Ugochukwu)
Fr. Derran Combs - Birthday Blessings
(Legion of Mary)

Monday, April 22nd

(Earth Day)

*** NO MASS ***

TUESDAY, April 23rd

St. George, Martyr; St. Adalbert, Bishop and Martyr

12:00 p.m. For the Souls in Purgatory (Gina Cruz)
Diane Zervos (Legion of Mary)
Bill Fairman (Legion of Mary)

WEDNESDAY, April 24th

St. Fidelis of Sigmaringen, Priest and Martyr (Administrative Professionals Day)

12:00 p.m. Michael Iyoha - Birthday Blessings
(Kate Aguanunu)
† Fran and Molly Farrell (Jim Farrell)
† Irene and Gladys Gehrke (Jim Farrell)

THURSDAY, April 25th

St. Mark, Evangelist

12:00 p.m. Savannah Ifoema Iyoha - 1st Birthday
Blessings (Kate Aguanunu)
Our Lady's Intentions (Sister Maria
Paulina)
† Don Tadda & the Repose of the Holy
Souls in Purgatory (Mary Tadda)

FRIDAY, April 26th

(Arbor Day)

12:00 p.m. Michael Ifoema - Birthday Blessings
(Kate Aguanunu)
Savannah Ifoema Iyoha - 1st Birthday
Blessings (Kate Aguanunu)
Junby P. Avellana - Birthday Blessings
(Rosario Avellana)

SATURDAY, April 27th

(Vigil Mass)

5:30 p.m. Savannah Ifoema Iyoha - 1st Birthday
Blessings (Kate Aguanunu)
Malissia and Alex Liceaga & Family
and the Repose of the Holy Souls in
Purgatory (Mary Tadda)

Readings for the week of April 21, 2024

Sunday:

Acts 4:8-12/Ps 118: 1, 8-9, 21-23, 26, 28,
29 (22)/Jn 3:1-2/Jn 10:11-18

Monday:

Acts 11:1-18/Ps 42:2-3; 43:3, 4/Jn 10:1-10

Tuesday:

Acts 11:19-26/Ps 87:1b-3, 4-5, 6-7/
Jn 10:22-30

Wednesday:

Acts 12:24—13:5a/Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6 and 8/
Jn 12:44-50

Thursday:

1 Pt 5:5b-14/Ps 89:2-3, 6-7, 16-17/
Mk 16:15-20

Friday:

Acts 13:26-33/Ps 2:6-7, 8-9, 10-11ab/
Jn 14:1-6

Saturday:

Acts 13:44-52/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4/
Jn 14:7-14

Worship & Meditation



Gospel Meditation

Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

Recently I was with my little dog Libby at a retreat center in the Arizona desert. I sat in a chair near a ravine filled with shrubs. Unbeknownst to me, Libby wandered down there and disappeared. Suddenly an animal's wild shriek erupted from the area. Without thinking, I bolted down into the ravine fully expecting to see coyotes, javelinas, or rattlesnakes. I didn't care. I desperately wanted to get Libby out of there, without any self-regard. Before I could face whatever danger lay hidden, my dog blissfully trotted out from an entirely different area, utterly unaware that I had (quite heroically) just placed my life on the line.

When the adrenaline wore off, I thought to myself: how far would I have been willing to go to save her? I don't know. But I do know, if I had literally died, my friends and family would have certainly thought me insane for dying for a dog. No offense, Libby.

How passionately Jesus wants us to know him and his willingness to die for us! This week he says, **"I know my own and my own know me,"** and **"I lay down my life for the sheep."** Here we encounter an insanely excessive love for us. Christianity is a relationship and not simply a religion or ethical code. In Jesus, God rescues and saves us. He laid down his life for you and me — and he has taken it up again. So often we are like Libby — blissfully ignorant of the reality of both our spiritual danger and his saving love. This Easter season, the risen Jesus calls us to be more conscious than ever before about his love. He never ceases to lay down his life for us.

— Father John Muir



STTMM - APRIL 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
21	22	23 12:45pm Legion of Mary Mtg. (Mission Center) 5:30pm Mission Advisory Council Meeting (Rectory)	24 4:30pm Youth Faith Formation (Mission Center)	25	26	27
(Fr. Mathieu)		(Fr. Combs)	(Fr. Stobba)	(Fr. Combs)	(Fr. Combs)	(Fr. Combs)
28 11:45am Young Adults General Body Meeting (Mission Center)	29	30 12:45pm Legion of Mary Mtg. (Mission Center)				
(Fr. Combs)		(Fr. Combs)				

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

Confidence in Princes

Have you ever confided your problems to a friend, only to get the answer, "have you prayed about it as much as you've talked about it?"

Like all good advice, it can really irritate the recipient at first. Here I am, vulnerable and wounded, unloading my problems, and this joker tries to load them right back up and ship them off to Someone with a higher pay grade.

But again, like all good and irritating advice, it rings true if you sit and think about it.

Sure, venting is helpful. We all need that friend or family member who can listen to our problems. But if we ever start to think that person can solve them, it's a good sign that we're losing perspective.

Are you looking to the world for an answer? Are you looking in the mirror, expecting to find a solution to your problems? Are you expecting happiness, peace, contentment or justice to come from any place other than God?

"It is better to take refuge in the Lord than to put confidence in princes," the Psalms tell us. Well, I've never put much confidence in princes. But when it comes to problems, I often find myself telling God to take a step back — "I've got this."

It's tough to pray about any problem as much as you talk about it. We want so badly to tackle the issue ourselves. But I'll let you in on a secret: it doesn't matter what the question is, we don't have the answer. Take it to the One who does.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

(PRACTICING) CATHOLIC

The Good Shepherd and the Wolf

I remember very clearly the first movie I watched during my pregnancy with my eldest child. In this film, there is a scene where a young boy is kidnapped and shoved into the back of a van guarded by vicious dogs. His mother persists in trying to free him, even as the dogs snap at her. Their bared teeth and full-throated snarls don't slow her efforts in the slightest.

It wasn't a great movie or even a particularly great scene, but I'll never forget this scene. I'll never forget those dogs.

I had just learned that I was a mother a few days ago. The life growing deep within seemed to me as frail as a whispered secret, but I loved it powerfully. I worried constantly if the baby was safe and healthy. I agonized over signs — real or imagined — that could tell me if the poppyseed-sized child was thriving or failing.

I understood, for the first time in my life, why a woman would charge a pack of attack dogs without hesitation — not because she should, but because she has to.

She could choose not to fight, certainly. She could walk away. But why would she? A future without her son is so much more painful than any physical wound. She may fear for her life, but she fears a life without her child so much more.

The Good Shepherd discourse reveals to us the motivation behind God's actions throughout all of salvation history. From Adam to Noah to Abraham, all the way down to the time of the Messiah and beyond, He keeps trying to get us back. He keeps braving the attack dogs, time after time. He never stops. He never grows weary. And it baffles us: *what's in it for Him?* we wonder, because we are quicker to give up on ourselves than He is. *Why does He keep trying?*

He could choose not to fight, sure. But why would He? He doesn't want a future without us.

"I will lay down my life for the sheep." — John 10:11

- Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

Why do we do that? Catholic Life Explained

Question:

What is unique or different about the way Catholics read and are exposed to the Bible?

Answer:

Catholics are exposed to Scripture primarily through the Sunday readings from a book known as the *Lectioary*. The *Lectioary* is a book of selected passages from the Bible set in the context of a liturgical season, such as Advent, Lent, or ordinary time. There are four readings assigned to any Sunday: the first reading (usually from the Old Testament), the responsorial psalm, the second reading (usually from a New Testament letter), and the Gospel reading.

These readings together give them a new context. The selected readings relate to one another in a unique manner that is not present in the Bible text itself. In close proximity to each other, these readings now have the opportunity to converse with each other in a way that would have not been possible before. A homilist pays attention to all four readings, preparing a reflection that speaks of this conversation among the readings, enabling us to zero in on what this unique combination of God's word has to say to us this particular Sunday.

Next time you attend Sunday liturgy, try reading the Scripture ahead of time and see how this new relationship among the readings addresses and challenges you to be a better Christian here and now.

GROWING WITH THE *Gospel*

CYCLE B



COLOR

Read the Gospel of the week and color the image.



4th Sunday of Easter • John 10:11-18

Mother's Day Mass Cards

STMM is offering a special way to recognize mothers on Mother's Day. We are offering Mass Cards to honor our mothers, grandmothers, godmothers, aunts, any mother figure in your life, both living and deceased. The cards are available for a \$10.00 donation and the names will appear in the bulletin on the weekend of May 11th & May 12th. The names will also be displayed for the remainder of the month of May in the Church. Mass Cards will be available after the Masses starting this weekend and at the Rectory during business hours. Please legibly PRINT the name of the honoree so we can accurately display their name. All cards need to be purchased by April 30th so we can assure they are included in the bulletin and displayed. Thank you.

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL FOR THE SICK



Johanna Adas
 Martha Anderson
 Rose & Kevin Cahill
 Dave Carlson
 Sarah Dalton
 Peggy Dwyer
 Rosina Grieshaber
 Sandra Halper
 William & Theresa Jenzio

Janice Mangan
 James McCarthy
 Richard Moreno Sr.
 Chris Oleksyn
 Robert Oleksyn
 Walter W. Quasthoff
 Chuck & Barbara Richards
 Carol Rossi
 Brian Small

Phyllis Spizzirri
 Sister Maria-Paulina Sterling

*Omnipotent and eternal God, the everlasting Salvation of those who believe,
 hear us on behalf of Thy sick and their caregivers.*

To add a name to the prayer list please contact the Rectory Office at (773) 436-4444.
 (Names will stay on list for only three months unless an extension is requested)

FOR ALL WHO SERVE IN THE MILITARY INCLUDING



PFC Michael Chesna, Marines
 MSG Kevin Daley
 Cpl. Brian Husum
 PO2. Marcellus J. Lane, Navy
 Cpl. Noah Mackiewicz, Marines
 PFC. Luis Rosales
 LCPL. Xavier Rosales



THANK YOU FOR OUR FREEDOM!

Suicide Prevention

If you or someone you know is having thoughts of suicide or experiencing a mental health or substance use crisis, 988 provides 24/7 connection to confidential support. There is hope. You are not alone. **Just call or text 988 or chat 988lifeline.org**, 988 will connect you with a trained crisis counselor who can help.



Catholic Resources

Please view the following websites for daily Mass, prayers and spiritual support:

- www.archchicago.org
- www.DomesticViolenceOutreach.org
- www.usccb.org
- www.vatican.va
- www.ewtn.com
- www.relevantradio.com

SUNDAY COLLECTION

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BUDGET & FINANCE

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Sunday, March 31, 2024

Weekly Collection:

Envelopes:	\$1,857.26
<i>(Includes Holy Thursday & Good Friday)</i>	
Loose Change :	\$1,835.25
<i>(Includes Holy Thursday & Good Friday)</i>	
2nd Collection Easter:	\$5,298.71
Holy Thursday:	\$481.00
Good Friday:	\$707.25
Easter Flowers:	\$467.00
Building Fund:	<u>\$70.00</u>
Total:	\$10,716.47

Special Collections to Date:

Poor Box to Date:	\$155.48
Building Fund to Date:	\$7,097.31

We sincerely appreciate your generosity!



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