



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)

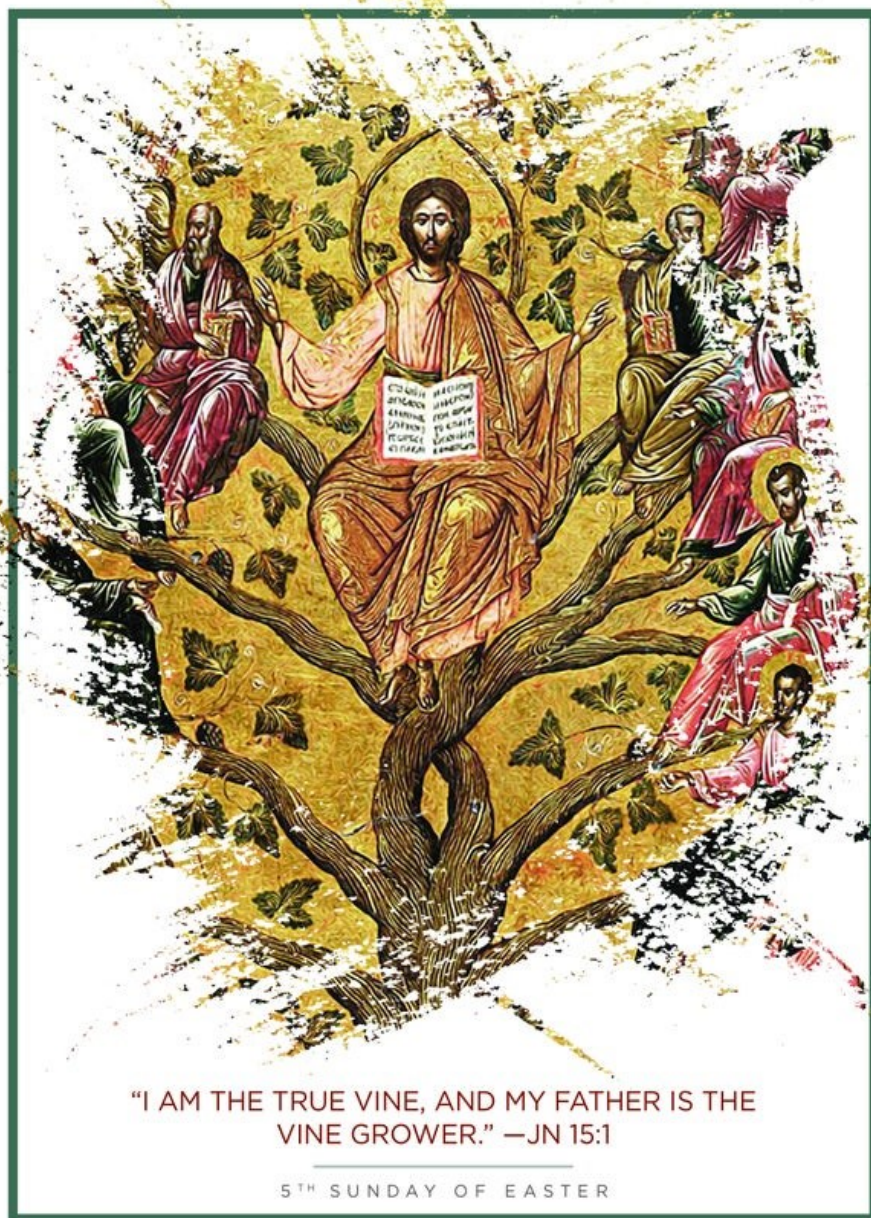
Weekly Adoration

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 28, 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

©LPI

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 28th

5th Sunday of Easter

10:00 a.m. † For the Departed Souls of the Ekechukwu, Ugochukwu & Manu Families (Andrew Ugochukwu)
Michael Ifoema - Birthday Blessings (Kate Aguanunu)
Savannah Ifoema Iyoha - 1st Birthday Blessings (Kate Aguanunu)

Monday, April 29th

St. Catherine of Siena, Virgin and Doctor of the Church

*** NO MASS ***

TUESDAY, April 30th

St. Pius V, Pope

12:00 p.m. For the Souls in Purgatory (Gina Cruz)
† Don Tadda & the Repose of the Holy Souls in Purgatory (Mary Tadda)

WEDNESDAY, May 1st

St. Joseph the Worker

12:00 p.m. Mark Zempich & Family and the Repose of the Holy Souls in Purgatory (Mary Tadda)
† Richard, Patricia & Dick Roberts (Jack Roberts)

THURSDAY, May 2nd

St. Athanasius, Bishop and Doctor of the Church; National Day of Prayer

12:00 p.m. Our Lady's Intentions (Sister Maria Paulina)
† Christopher Mabry (Deb Ksycki)
Bob & Mary Senne - 65th Wedding Anniversary Blessings (Jim Farrell)

FRIDAY, May 3rd (First Friday)

St. Phillip and St. James, Apostles

12:00 p.m. † Don Tadda & the Repose of the Holy Souls in Purgatory (Mary Tadda)
† Richard Wilson (Deb Ksycki)

SATURDAY, May 4th (First Saturday)

8:30 a.m. † Madonna Smith (Diane Zervos)

(Vigil Mass)

5:30 p.m. † John O'Neill (Family)
† Richard, Patricia & Dick Roberts (Jack Roberts)

Readings for the week of April 28, 2024

Sunday:

Acts 9:26-31/Ps 22:26-27, 28, 30, 31-32
(26a)/1 Jn 3:18-24/Jn 15:1-8

Monday:

Acts 14:5-18/Ps 115:1-2, 3-4, 15-16/
Jn 14:21-26

Tuesday:

Acts 14:19-28/Ps 145:10-11, 12-13ab, 21/
Jn 14:27-31a

Wednesday:

Acts 15:1-6/Ps 122: 1-2, 3-4ab, 4cd-5/
Jn 15:1-8

Thursday:

Acts 15:7-21/Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 10/
Jn 15:9-11

Friday:

1 Cor 15:1-8/Ps 19:2-3, 4-5/Jn 14:6-14

Saturday:

Acts 16:1-10/Ps 100:1b-2, 3, 5/Jn 15:18-21

YOUNG ADULTS

GENERAL MEETING

St. Thomas More Mission Center

Sunday, April 28th, 2024 at 11:45 a.m.

(Meet and Greet immediately following the 10:00 a.m. Mass)

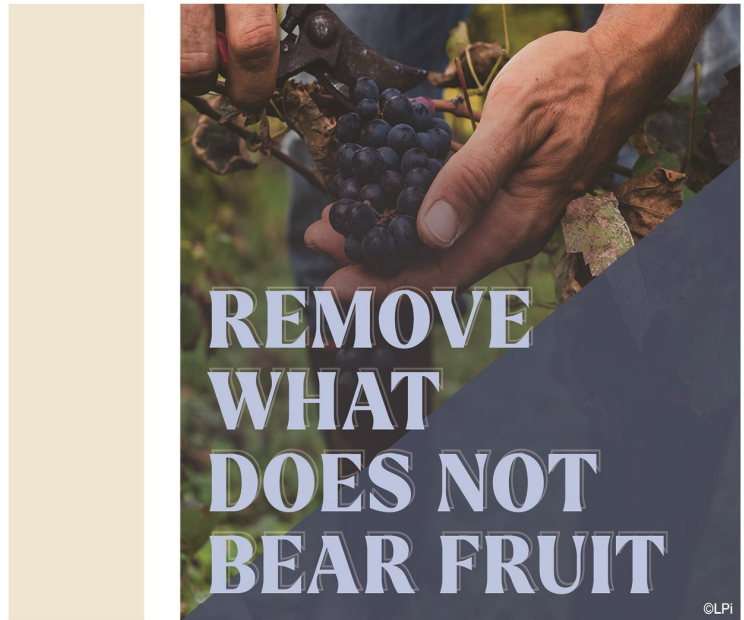
Discussion Topics:

- Our plans for the Month of May
- Book Club
- Bible Study and Spiritual Opportunities
- Upcoming Volunteer and Community Service Opportunities
- Ideas for Community Engagement

Light Refreshments will be served

(Must be between 18-39 years of age to attend)

Worship & Meditation



Gospel Meditation

Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

My friend and fellow pastor, Father Paul, noticed unsightly, overgrown trees near his parish church. He asked the maintenance crew to cut back the growth, which they happily did, telling him the trees would be much healthier and even fuller after a good pruning. A few days later, Father Paul received a letter from an irate man in the neighborhood who wrote, “Jesus would never prune trees like that. He loves trees, unlike you.”

I suspect that the neighbor was not familiar with this week’s Gospel in which Jesus says of his Father, **“He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit”** (John 15:2) I don’t mean to pick too much on that fellow. He was perhaps ignorant of arboriculture. But I’d wager his main confusion was the pruning and removing quality of God’s love. That confusion afflicts us all to some degree, doesn’t it? It is just so darn easy to react negatively when God cuts something out of our lives and assume it’s not his work at all. In the moment, all we see is the loss, and not the loving desire for future flourishing.

The cross is the great pruning of Christ’s body. Jesus’ rising is the brand-new growth. It is God’s promise to us that all the painful pruning in life is leading us somewhere beautiful. What has been cut back or out in your life? A friend, an opportunity, a sense of certainty, a job, health, a relationship? This week, offer those dry branches to the one who lovingly prunes us in order to make our lives burst with verdant growth.

— Father John Muir

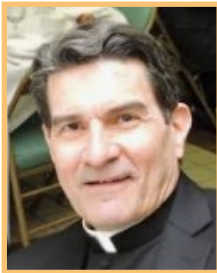


Mother's Day Mass Cards



STTMM 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 for purchase after the Masses starting the weekend of April 20th/21st 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.



Rev. Anthony Brankin's 50th Anniversary Celebration

Saturday, June 15, 2024 - 4:30pm Mass - Reception Following

St. Thomas More Mission - 2825 West 81st Street, Chicago IL 60652

Join us in celebrating Fr. Brankin's 50th year as a priest and show appreciation for his dedication to service! The celebration will include mass and a ticketed reception.

Mass will be celebrated at **4:30pm** with a reception following in Donlan Hall (*located on the lower level of the church*)

Reception tickets cost **\$50 per person** and include dinner and entertainment. A cash bar will also be available. There are a limited number of tickets being sold for this event.

Tickets can be purchased one of the following ways:

- Call Phil Smith (773) 991-6977 or Mary Bax (708) 218-4355
- Zelle (fr50party@gmail.com)
- After mass at STTMM on May 25th, June 1st and June 8th

For questions regarding this celebration, please call either Phil Smith or Mary Bax. (Note: *The STTMM staff is not organizing this event*)



STTMM - APRIL 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28 11:45am Young Adults General Body Meeting (Mission Center) (Fr. Combs)	29	30 12:45pm Legion of Mary Mtg. (Mission Center) (Fr. Combs)				

Contact Information Needed

St. Thomas More Mission will be expanding how we keep in touch with members of our Mission. To help us do so we ask that everyone fill out the form below and return it to us by **Sunday, May 12th.**

It is important that we have your mailing address, e-mail and telephone number(s). Please also include your envelope number (*in the bottom right corner of the form*), if you don't have one we will assign one to you.

We ask that you place the forms in the collection baskets over the next few weeks. Please **DO NOT** place forms inside your envelope with your weekly contributions. Just fold them in half and place them in the baskets.

Thank You.

*Thank You
for Joining
Us at Mass*
**LET'S
KEEP IN
TOUCH!**

Name

Phone Number

Email Address

Address

City, State, ZIP

Yes! I want to be added to your email list.

Yes! I'm interested in becoming a member.

(PRACTICING) CATHOLIC

Love in Deed

It's a Wonderful Life is one of my favorite Christmas movies. It only occurred to me recently, though, that this film, for all its yuletide aesthetic, is actually more of an Easter story.

I love this movie because it's a very Catholic film — not overtly, although we do see the main character, George Bailey, going to Mass. No, it's the themes that are Catholic, not the set dressing. It's a story about the choices we make — to love, or not to love? To sacrifice, or not to sacrifice? To put oneself first, or to put oneself last? It's a story about what the consequences of those choices look like here in the world, and what they look like in heaven.

In the film, we meet a young George Bailey who dreams of growing up to do amazing, impressive things. Over the years, he makes a choice here and he makes a choice there ... and when all is said and done, the adult George Bailey is a tired, overworked husband and father with no worldly attributes that anyone would envy.

But he's a man who has loved in deed, not just in word, and who has reaped the spiritual rewards of those choices.

The season of Easter is about rejoicing in true redemption, not in worldly triumph. The Word of God is not a bedtime story. It's a pruning shear. To hear it is to be changed, to be shaped. To live it is to lose some things, so that you might bloom in unexpected ways. To welcome the Word is to be willing to look different, to feel different.

Anyone can say, "I love you, I accept you, I want to help you." But what does it actually look like, to love in deed and not just in word? It looks like giving something up: free time, wealth, comfort, worldly approval. It looks, to the casual observer, like pain.

To someone who has no concept of how plants grow and thrive, a gardener's pruning shears look like an executioner's sword. To someone who has no concept of how souls grow and thrive, a tomb barred by a stone looks like the end of a story, when in fact it's just the beginning.

"Children, let us love not in word or speech, but in deed and truth." — 1 John 3:18

- Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

Why do we do that? Catholic Life Explained

Question:

How does a person become a canonized saint?

Answer:

It is important to remember that all the saints are people, real people who lived just as we do! The first saints of the Church were martyrs or theologians known for a holy life. Over time, the Church has established a set process to investigate the causes of saints.

After a holy person's death, the bishop of their diocese initiates the canonization process with the Vatican. Typically, they must wait five years to ensure any false enthusiasm has lessened. With Vatican approval, the process begins and the person receives the title "Servant of God." The first phase involves collecting information about the person's life and scrutinizing it carefully. One person has the specific role of raising doubts — this is the origin of the phrase "devil's advocate!" When it is clear the person truly lived a heroically holy life according to Church teaching, they are declared "Venerable."

If the person is a martyr for the faith, they will also be declared "Blessed." If the person is not a martyr, they must be credited with a miracle. This is also closely examined for authenticity. Once the miracle is authenticated as truly a miracle performed by God through the person or through their intercession, they are beatified. An additional authenticated miracle is required before canonization, and we can call them "Saint."

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
 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

©LPI

BUDGET & FINANCE

©LPI

Sunday, April 7, 2024

Weekly Collection:

Envelopes:	\$2,024.00
Loose Change:	\$671.00
Building Fund:	\$931.33
Holy Thursday:	\$20.00
Good Friday:	\$5.00
Easter:	\$110.00
Total:	\$3,761.33

Special Collections to Date:

Poor Box to Date:	\$155.48
Building Fund to Date:	\$8,028.64

We sincerely appreciate your generosity!



Remember to Support Our Advertisers

©LPI