

Growth Through Commitment in Christ



Church of ST. THOMAS MORE

800 Ohio Pike, Cincinnati, Ohio 45245

www.sttm.org e-mail: stm@sttm.org School Web Page: www.sttmschool.org

Mass Schedule

SUNDAY LITURGY

Saturday: 4:30 pm
Sunday 8:00 & 10:00 am, 12:00 Noon

WEEKDAY LITURGY

Monday through Thursday 8:30 am
Friday 11:00 am*

*8:30 am June – August

HOLY DAYS

8:30 am, 11:30 am, 7:30 pm
(except Christmas & New Year)

RECONCILIATION

Saturday 3:15 – 4:00 pm and by appointment

Office Information

Parish Office Hours

Monday – Friday 9:00 am – 4:00 pm
Closed Saturday, Sunday and Holy Days

PARISH OFFICE 513/752-2080 + 1 + Ext.

PARISH OFFICE FAX 513/753-2542

PARISH STAFF	Ext.
Fr. William C. Wagner, Pastor	15
Deacon, Jerry Cain	25
DRE, Becky Ready	54
Pastoral Associate, Michael Thomas	27
Business Manager, Mike Gennett	13
Secretaries: Leslie Molitor	10
Diane McMullin	14
Gym/Multi-Purpose Building	20
Maintenance: John Osterling	21
David McCarthy	21
Music Director, Margaret Osinski	26
Parish Hall/Kitchen, Vickie Ditchen	18
Prayer Requests	33
Sacristy	19
St. Vincent de Paul	11
Youth Minister, Diane Brennan	38

SCHOOL OFFICE 513/753-2540
SCHOOL OFFICE FAX 513/753-2554

Principal, Peg Fischer 23
School Office, Sandy Mygatt 22
Administrative Asst., Rhonda Roberts 24

PSR (Parish School of Religion):

Religious education for public school students. Classes held on Sundays – Nursery 10-11:00 am; Pre-School 10-11 am; Grades 1-8 8:30-9:45 am; Youth Ministry 6-8 pm. Call Parish Office Ext. 14 for more information and to register.

RCIA/RCIY (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults/Youth):
Call Becky Ready, DRE, Ext. 54 if you are interested in becoming Catholic.

BULLETIN DEADLINE: Monday by Noon
Submit to Leslie Molitor at lmolitor@sttm.org.

SACRAMENTS

Baptism: Call Ext. 14
Marriage: Call Deacon Jerry Cain Ext. 25
6 months prior to wedding date.
Anointing of the Sick: Call Parish Office
Communion to the Sick: Call Parish Office

We warmly welcome new members to our parish family. Please call the Parish Office or register online at www.sttm.org. If leaving the parish or moving, please notify the Parish Office of your change of address.

OUR Mission

"We at St. Thomas More are a family of Christians led by the Holy Spirit in communion with the Roman Catholic Church. We dedicate ourselves to living the Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ. We devote ourselves to sharing our faith, strengthening family bonds, and growing in love. We commit ourselves to each other through prayer and action."

THE Week AHEAD

Monday, December 26th

Parish Office Closed
School Closed until January 3rd
NO MASS

Wednesday, December 28th

NO EVENING BIBLE STUDY

Thursday, December 29th

Parish Office Closes at noon today
NO BINGO

Friday, December 30th

10:00 am Adoration

Saturday, December 31st

7:00 am Rosary



Welcome to St. Thomas More Parish for the celebration of our Christmas Liturgies. May Christmas be a time for you to feel the peace and joy of our newborn Savior and share your blessings with all of your families and friends.

To our parishioners, we are looking forward to the coming year. If you are not active in the community, we invite you to consider taking part in one of the many opportunities we offer. To those of you who are seasonal mass attendees, we eagerly invite you also to become active within our community. To those of you who have been away from the church, we invite you to return, to even consider taking part in our Catholics Returning Home Program beginning January 10^t. To those of you looking for a faith community, we invite you to consider us and hope you will choose to be a part of the exciting year ahead of us.

Best wishes to you and your family for a Merry and Holy Christmas and Blessed New Year!

Fr. Bill Wagner & the St. Thomas More Staff



Christmas Blessings

FAMILY TALK:

- **Gospel Focus** on John 1:1-18: God was born today in our midst. Let us glorify him.
- **Reflection:** On the birthday of Jesus, all of life rejoices.
- **At Home for Discussion:** What you are is God's gift to you. What you become is your gift to God. How can you live and give yourself as a gift this Christmas?

PARISH OFFICE IS CLOSED on Monday, December 26th, Thursday afternoon, December 29th and Monday, January 2nd.

Prayer Intentions

Please remember in your prayers those who have died, especially Esther St. Clair. Also, let us pray for those who are ill and have asked for our prayers: Megan Cash, Elaine Osterling, Rose Marie Ogle, Patti Fenker, Michelle Rayburn, Gertrude Murphy, David Habig, Sr., Mildred Hicks, Norma Zoz, Tom Middendorf, Romilda McCarty, Lois Ritter, Rose Krimmer, Howard Diemler and Diane Knause. Also, please remember in your prayers those who are serving in the Armed Forces, especially Kristy Grachek and Adam Wenstrup.

Energy Update

We received our first utility bill since we began our conservation program. Our electric usage was down 9.6% from last year and natural gas usage was just slightly up. The last month was much colder than the same period a year ago. This was good news. However, our total energy bill was up 21.1%. We are faced with the same energy cost issue you are facing at home.

Capital Improvement Club

Our final winners are \$300.00 – Pam & Larry Moore, Winning No. 92; \$200.00 – Lorraine Langenbahn, Winning No. 67; and \$100.00 – Kathryn Johnson, Winning No. 97. These are the last Capital Improvement winners for the current cycle, and unfortunately, is our last Capital Improvement contest. The program will not be going forward due to less members joining during the last few years. We would like to thank all those who participated in this program. Jack Sutter has led this program for many years and it has earned over \$30,000 in capital improvements for the parish.

A big thanks to Jack for all his hard work in raising this money for improvements!

Note of Thanks

St. Vincent de Paul would like to give a special thanks to our PSR students, school students and our parishioners for participating in our food drive. This time of year we receive lots of requests for food. With your help we are able to respond to these requests. May God bless you abundantly.

Readings for: January 1, 2006 – Mary, Mother of God (B)

First Reading: Number 6:22-27
Second Reading: Galatians 4:4-7
Gospel: Luke 2:16-21

Faith Formation

UPCOMING DATES:

January 1st – NO CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD
January 8th – PSR Resumes
January 8th – Epiphany Party in Parish Dining Hall, 11:00 am
January 11th – 1st Confirmation Preparation Session, 7:00 pm

KNOW ANYONE WHO HAS LEFT THE CHURCH?

St. Thomas More will offer a six-week series entitled "Catholics Returning Home" beginning Tuesday, January 10th in the Faith Formation Room at 7 pm. The sessions are for non-practicing Catholics who are seeking answers to questions about returning to the church. If you know someone who has left the church, please invite them to join us. For more details see the flier in today's bulletin or call Becky at 752-2080 Ext. 54 if you have any questions or concerns.

EPIPHANY CELEBRATION: On January 8th all PSR classes will resume. After the 10:00 Mass, the preschoolers invite all interested parishioners to join them in the Parish Dining Hall for an Epiphany Celebration in honor of Jesus' birthday. Coffee, juice and donuts will be served. Also every year we traditionally have asked for anyone interested to bring a birthday gift for Jesus to be given to the little babies in need within our own parish. Anything extra will go to *A Caring Place*. They are in need of the following items: New or gently used baby and children's clothes (size 0 up to 4x), baby blankets, crib sheets, wipes, formula, and baby food. Elizabeth Ministry is sponsoring this annual event.

CRHP RENEWAL WEEKENDS: All men and women of the parish are invited to join us for a weekend renewal – Christ Renews His Parish 2006 weekend dates are set and preparation has begun for an energizing weekend of prayer, sharing and renewal. The men's weekend will be held **January 28th & 29th**, and the women's weekend will be held **February 18th & 19th**. If you have been thinking about doing a CRHP weekend, now is the time. Women's CRHP has been moved to just once a year, so if you miss your chance in February, you'll have to wait an entire year for a Spirit filled weekend of love and fellowship. Call now to register! Men's – Jim Conrady at 943-1433; Women's – Susan Harpring at 474-5441. Brochures with more information are available in the information center by the grotto entrance of the church. If you have any questions or would like to make a reservation, you may also call the Parish Office.

Youth Ministry Update

RING IN THE NEW YEAR at Scallywag Tag! All youth in grades 6-12 are invited to join us on Saturday, December 31st from 8:00 pm until 1:00 am. Cost: \$20.00 (includes games, pizza, popcorn and soda). If you're interested, please call the Youth Office at 752-2080 Ext. 38.

HAVE YOU BEEN DREAMING OF A WONDERFUL OPPORTUNITY TO GATHER WITH YOUR HIGH SCHOOL FRIENDS TO SKI? Call the Youth Office (752-2080 Ext. 38) and register for what we hope will be our annual high school trip to Winterplace, West Virginia February 3-5. Tickets for the trip will cost \$225 and include two nights accommodations, lunch on Saturday and breakfast both mornings, concert tickets to see **Audio Adrenaline** perform Saturday night and the bus. Lessons are a separate fee and there are other snow options available. Call the youth office for more information or checkout the parish web page. Initial deposit of \$100 is due January 3rd, 2006.

Parish Stewardship

	Actual	Budget
December 18, 2005	\$ 16,467.14	\$13,000.00
Year to Date:	\$321,948.13	\$343,000.00
YTD Collection <i>Under Budget</i>		-\$21,051.87
435 Envelopes Returned:		\$15,911.90
Loose Change:		\$555.24
Christmas Flowers		\$2,083.00
Outstanding Debt:	\$1,173,382.45	
Unpaid Interest on Debt:	<u>\$ 384,053.52</u>	
Total Due Archdiocese:	<u>\$1,557,435.97</u>	

EXPENSES:

Total Expenses Paid week ending 12/17/05:	\$22,859.18
Notable Expenses Paid:	
Cinergy.	\$6,082.35
Printing of Collection Envelopes	\$4,243.74

REMEMBER ST. THOMAS MORE PARISH IN YOUR WILL!

2006 envelopes and calendars remain outside of Fr. Wack Library (under the church) if you still need to pick them up.

Liturgical Ministers

Saturday, December 31st

4:30 pm **Lectors** – Mary Lou Mulvey, Sam Geonetta
Eucharistic Ministers – Kelly Lyons, Genevieve Ivers, Dennis Lahey, Tommy Russell, John Evans, Duane & Theresa Bradley
Servers – Zachary Stultz, Amanda Piening, Emily Bradley, Amanda Bradley
Greeters – Gail Convery, Hannah Schoolfield
Ushers – Don Tate, Gene Johnson, Jerry Barnes

Sunday, January 1st

8:00 am **Lectors** – Nelson Seip, Charles Randolph
Eucharistic Ministers – Mary Opp, Dianna Kennedy, Gregory & Kathy Senior, William Fehn, Diane Meisman, Michele Lamping
Servers – Katie Feldkamp, Joe Schoettelkotte, Daniel Schoettelkotte, Andrew Lamping
Greeters – Helen Fehn, Steve Friebele, Christine Ruzsa
Ushers – Paul/Joe Guertin, Bill Imbus, Bob Guenther

10:00 am **Lectors** – Connie Stricker, Lisa Hartman
Eucharistic Ministers – Catalina Handleton, Kathleen Hornschemeier, Lisa Miller, Patricia Lindsey, Jane Pearce, Larry Robben, Garry Burke
Servers – Justin Farwick, Natalie Iannelli, Angela Feist, Lindsay Shepherd
Greeters – Laurie Bagley, David Kiefer, Rob Pairan
Ushers – Joe Thumann, Lee Knause, Lynn Austin, Joanne Buchanan

12:00 pm **Lectors** – Victoria Aicholtz, Erin Phelps
Eucharistic Ministers – Vickie Ditchen, Patricia Tekulve, Jessica Thompson, Paul Brandt, Margaret Fangman, Elizabeth Tekulve, Rose Randolph
Servers – Michael Harrington, Emily Fritz, Ryan Henning, Tyler Vickers
Greeters – Julie Kiefer, Rosemary & Bill Weimer
Ushers – Joe Rickard, Mike Harrington, Charlie Tekulve

Mass Intentions & Presiders

TUES. 12/27

8:30 am Sandy Singer/Lisa Parrett

WED. 12/28

8:30 am †All Infants & Children who have Died/
Iezzoni Family

THURS. 12/29

8:30 am Harold & Stella Wagner/McMullin Family

FRI. 12/30

9:00 am †Ricky Molitor/Mom

SAT. 12/31

4:30 pm † Henry M. Romano, Jr.
Fr. Bill Wagner

SUN. 1/1

8:00 am People of the Parish
Fr. Bill Wagner

10:00 am † Lawrence Jacobs, Sr./Larry & Sheila Jacobs
Fr. Dennis Wilkinson

12:00 pm †Esther St. Clair/William Meyers
Fr. Dennis Wilkinson

† = Deceased

Parish Events/Projects

WOMEN'S CRHP: Reminder to those involved in planning the next Women's Weekend Renewal, the next meeting is Wednesday, January 4th at 7:00 pm in the Faith Formation Room.

STM COOKBOOK: The deadline for recipes has been extended to **January 2nd** so it's not too late to share a favorite recipe in the case you have forgotten or haven't had the time to search for your recipe! The Elizabeth Ministry is creating this cookbook, but they really need your help to make it a success! By sharing your favorite recipe(s) you will be automatically entered into a raffle to win a free cookbook. A free cookbook will be given away for every 100 recipes submitted. Place your recipes in the "Recipe Collection Boxes" by the entrances of church. Recipes can also be e-mailed to elizabethministry@stm.org or mailed to Maria Pour, STM Cookbook, 1207 Creekstone Drive, Batavia, OH 45103. If you have any questions, please feel free to call Maria Pour at **943-7263**.

ST. THOMAS MORE'S ANNUAL LADIES' NIGHT OUT:

It's time to mark your calendars for Friday, February 3rd and register now! Those of you familiar with this popular, annual event know there is limited space so it's best to pre-register and save money at the same time. Ladies' Night Out starts at 7:00 pm and continues until midnight and is held right here at St. Thomas More. Join us for fun and pampering. We will have food, drink, music and plenty of fun. Pampering booths will be available for an additional fee. Come and socialize with friends. Cost: \$20.00 pre-paid or \$25.00 at the door. All proceeds benefit the STM 8th grade class trip. For more information contact Carol Farwick **752-9590**, Michele Lamping **752-6502**, or Kathy Tetrault **753-4703**.

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES: If you celebrated or are going to celebrate a 25th, 40th or 50th wedding anniversary in the year 2005, please call Diane McMullin in the Parish Office at **752-2080 Ext. 14** so that you can be honored at the World Marriage Celebration on Saturday, February 11th.