

**ST. THOMAS MORE PARISH  
PARISH COUNCIL MEETING  
Monday, October 17, 2005**

**Council Members in Attendance:** Fr. Bill Wagner, Vic Ivers, Michelle Stultz, Duane Bradley, Doug Young, Kathy Hornschemeier, Jim Conrady, Ralph Bedel, John Duncan, and Janet Tate.

**Council Members Absent:** None

**Others in Attendance:** Mike Gennett, Theresa Bradley, Laura Allen, Rhonda Roberts, and Dee Archer.

The St. Thomas More Parish Council meeting was called to order by President Vic Ivers at 7:01 PM EDT. Fr. Bill Wagner opened the meeting with a prayer.

Vic went around the room and had everyone introduce themselves.

**Minutes of the Previous Meeting:** The last meeting was held on Monday, September 12th. Vic asked if there were any questions regarding the minutes. Mike Gennett stated there was no feedback. Vic made a motion that the minutes be accepted as written. Michelle Stultz made the motion and Duane Bradley seconded it. The minutes were approved.

Mike Gennett reminded everyone that the minutes are initially sent only to those who attend the council meeting. Each member is to review the minutes for any potential changes at the next meeting and then the final version is posted on the parish web site. Any proposed changes should be sent to Mike via email before the next meeting. Each request is then presented to the group for approval before any modification is made. Draft copies of the minutes are not to be forwarded or shared with others.

**Business Manager Report:** Mike Gennett gave the report.

**Parish Photo Directory** – Mike stated the parish photo directory proof has been received. It was proofed and returned to the printer on October 7. The book will be about 85 pages in size. 503 portraits were taken. The vendor has reported we were classified as a “mega-church.” Any church that has over 500 portraits places us in this category which gets us special treatment during the printing process. The book should be received in early November. We are planning to distribute the books during the weekend of November 19-20. *(A color printer’s proof with the corrections was passed around the room for everyone to see.)*

**Budget Update** – Mike said three new financial pressures were bearing down on the parish.

First, the Sunday collections are down 8.5%. We could be short \$60,000 at the end of the fiscal year if this is not corrected. Secondly, we heat with natural gas. A 50% increase in natural gas costs would have a \$30,000 impact on our budget and a 70% increase would be \$40,000. **This money is NOT in our budget.** We have an energy plan we wish to put into place which Fr. Bill will discuss in his update. Thirdly, the diocese rejected our plan to pay on our debt and interest. They want *more* money than we previously offered citing our first offer as inadequate.

Lastly, the Archdiocese health care committee is planning on meeting soon to discuss the health care policy for 2006-7. A letter was sent to each member on the committee regarding the impact of the current health care policy on parish finances. We are not holding out hope they are willing to change the policy. This will continue to negatively impact our budget if there is no change. (There were a number of unsolicited comments made that the diocese health care policy was not realistic in today’s world. Fr. Bill stated there was no reason to discuss it because there was nothing we could do about it at the parish level.)

**Group Reports** – Update reports were requested from every organization prior to the meeting. Reports were received from the Seniors, Vocations, School, Elizabeth Ministry, Boosters, St. Vincent de Paul, DRE, PTO, Music, Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, Festival, Bingo, and the Deacon. A late report was received after the meeting from the Youth Ministry. Copies of the reports follow at the end of these minutes.

Vic asked the groups present if there was anything they would like to let council know or ask about.

Dee Archer representing the Boy Scouts stated she was asking everyone to make the popcorn sale successful. Also, she wanted everyone to know that WCPO-TV Channel 9 was covering an upcoming event.

Laura Allen representing the Boosters said they wish to paint a combined Christian-Sports theme mural in the lobby of the gym during the winter.

Michelle Stultz asked if the Elizabeth Ministry were donating or buying the books they have in the Lending Library. Mike Gennett stated he has never paid for any books for them and believed they were being donated. Vic Ivers mentioned the Elizabeth Ministry's request to do a coffee and donuts. Mike Gennett stated he had spoken to Maria Pour regarding November 20<sup>th</sup> and had reported to her the 8<sup>th</sup> grade were planning a fund raiser breakfast. Vic said he saw no reason why they could not work out a date with the parish and do a coffee and donuts in the future.

Vic noted that Peg Fischer had asked everyone to look at the school's new web site. Many commented they had seen it and liked the improvements.

Fr. Bill stated that the October 10<sup>th</sup> Seniors trip to Bardstown, Ky., was very successful.

**Future of Group Reports** – Vic then asked about the future of these reports. He gave a brief history regarding how they were handled in the past. He asked the organizations present what they thought. They felt a report was easier to send rather than come to a meeting. They also stated that a report should only be sent when there is a need.

Vic stated that council would only request the reports quarterly in the future. That would mean the next reports would be due in January and April 2006.

**Council Retreat Day** – This topic had been tabled at the last meeting. Vic stated that a goal would be required before it is to be scheduled. Duane

Bradley had reservations about a retreat day. He was curious as to what was followed up from the last one? Fr. Bill stated we may not need a retreat this year. At the moment, no agenda was surfacing which tells him this may not be the time. Kathy Hornschemeier asked about the retreat as well. She said she could not attend on a Saturday because she works. Mike Gennett stated there is a copy of the retreat notes on our web site. The meeting was held on September 14, 2002. *(A copy was emailed to council on October 18<sup>th</sup>).* Doug Young said maybe there should be a seminar to discuss what our future options are based upon what he heard regarding our finances. Fr. Bill agreed that maybe a late winter/early spring meeting would be necessary.

Fr. Bill asked Mike Gennett to order additional copies of the book, "Four Ways to Build More Effective Parish Councils" by Mark F. Fischer. *(Six additional copies have been ordered and should be available prior to the next meeting.)*

**Planning Envelope & Calendar weekend**– Fr. Bill stated we are planning a full weekend after all the Masses, November 19-20 to celebrate our 65<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. We will have the new photo directory, the 2006 contribution envelopes, calendars, PTO Butter braid pickup, an 8<sup>th</sup> grade fund raising breakfast on Sunday, wine & cheese on Saturday, to name a few events. Vic Ivers asked if Council members could be present that weekend. There was a discussion as to what else could be done. Mike Gennett stated there are a lot of old photos that someone could build a display to celebrate our 65<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. Kathy Hornschemeier stated getting them scanned into a computer and cutting a DVD for the monitors would be a nice treat.

**Parish Mission** – Fr. Bill reminded everyone that the Parish Mission was coming soon...starting November 13<sup>th</sup> thru the 16<sup>th</sup>. There will be no morning sessions so the evening sessions can have better attendance. He asked that everyone talk it up. There should be no evening activities other than the Mission. This will mean the next council meeting should be moved. An agreement was made that the next meeting will be Monday, November 7<sup>th</sup> instead of the 14<sup>th</sup>. Both Ralph Bedel and Michelle Stultz said they would not be available on the 7<sup>th</sup>.

**Pastor's Report** – Fr. Bill gave his update.

**Our debt** - Fr. Bill stated the Archdiocese was calling in all their loans. There are 112 parishes who owe over \$28,000,000 in delinquent bills. Many parishes have not paid their bills for years that include health care, workers comp, unemployment, the Catholic Telegraph program, to name a few. We only owe for our building expansion from the late 1990s. We owe over \$1,500,000 including principal and interest.

We submitted a 20 year payment plan to the diocese which was rejected. Finance wanted to submit a plan that paid on the principal and the interest and yet was fair so we could still minister and operate the parish.

At this point, we will have to “beg for mercy.” The diocese has threatened to eventually redo a parish’s budget if we do not submit a satisfactory plan to pay their debt. Fr. Bill also pointed out we have spent over \$458,000 in capital on our facilities since the summer of 2001. These repairs could not have waited that include a new church roof, parking lot repairs, new sound system, structural repairs, etc.

**Energy Crisis** – Since Hurricane Katrina hit, everyone is aware of the natural gas shortage for this winter. The parish will be proactive. We heat most of our buildings with natural gas. The unplanned cost to the parish could be as high as \$40,000 if a 70% increase is leveled on us. This is not in our budget.

The staff met last week and agreed that we have to take action. Mike Gennett is in the process of writing an energy saving plan along with input from the Maintenance staff. The plan will include:

- Not using the church from Sunday afternoon until Friday mornings for services. The heat would be turned down to the 50s. Weekday Masses might be moved to an empty classroom in the modular buildings.
- Instead of not using the church, another option would be to keep the church open with the temperature lowered but still have weekday Mass. It was suggested that Fr. Bill asked those who regularly attend weekday Masses what they would prefer to do.

- The church would be open for praying as normal. Only the west and east doors would be unlocked during the day.
- The heat would be on in the church beginning Friday mornings until Sunday afternoons. This would also cover any weddings.
- The Friday school weekday Mass would be moved from 11 AM to 9 AM.
- Adoration would be moved from Thursdays to Fridays from 10 AM until 3:30 PM.
- The church would be heated and used for funerals. Funerals could preferably be held on Fridays at 10:30 am which would not require heating the church on other days.
- The temperature throughout the school will be lowered by two degrees. The school buildings would be lowered when not in use and during holiday breaks.
- More Martyr Hall and the modular classrooms will only be heated when in use (MMH-3 PM-9PM, Sundays thru Thursdays)
- The temperature in the Parish Office and the gym will be lowered as well.
- Space heaters, both electric and gas, will be banned. They would defeat the purpose of saving energy and would be a fire hazard.

Concern was voiced about the teachers being here late at night. There are those who feel this is a security issue that needs to be addressed.

Jim Conrady suggested that PSR move into the school so the modulares are not heated on Sundays.

Duane Bradley said sacrifice is needed. Wear a coat when you come here.

Fr. Bill state we are lucky we tuck pointed the church this summer. That will help some. He also said we can not ignore this issue regarding the energy.

Mike Gennett stated we are in the process of reprogramming all the thermostats and adding programmable ones where needed. This plan would be implemented the First Week of Advent (Sunday afternoon November 27<sup>th</sup>). It would run for an unforeseeable time frame. We don't

want to set a cut off date in the event of a late winter. Lent does not begin until March 1 which is one advantage this year.

Fr. Bill stated that Mike Gennett will need to plan week by week with Maintenance to adjust any programming that might be required based upon our schedule.

Even though no formal vote was taken, all council members were supportive of the actions that must be taken to control our energy expenses this winter.

**Deanery update** – The Archbishop has approved our Pastoral Plan. We will be clustering with Holy Trinity in Batavia. That means someday we will share a Pastor with them. It probably means eventually dropping one of our Sunday Masses. The good news is that Lexington Run, the big housing development off Ohio RT 32, is in Holy Trinity's district. That means we will be able to legally market our school in that area. Kathy Hornschemeier stated that St. Veronica is already marketing in that housing development.

Fr. Bill stated there are still lots of rumblings about the pastoral region that includes St. Bernadette, St. Peter's (New Richmond), and St. Mary's (Bethel). The former Holy Name in Blanchester has received permission to cluster with Wilmington instead of with the former combination of St. Patrick and St. Martin.

In conclusion, Fr. Bill stated the parish is sailing into deeper and deeper waters.

The next meeting was set for Monday, November 7, at 7 PM. Vic Ivers asked for a motion to adjourn. Kathy Hornschemeier made the motion and Janet Tate seconded it.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:04 PM. Fr. Bill led with a brief prayer.

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**SUBMITTED ORGANIZATION REPORTS FOLLOW:**

## Parish Council Committee Report Form

(Please copy and paste to a Microsoft Word Page. When completed, send via email no later than Friday, October 14, 2005, to all parish council members at [parishcouncil@sttm.org](mailto:parishcouncil@sttm.org))

### **St. Thomas More Organization Report for the Monday, October 17, 2005 Parish Council Meeting**

Organization Name: STM Boosters

Key Organization Leaders/Officers:

President - Laura Allen, Vice President - Pete Bouley, Secretary - Melissa Gerome, Treasurer - Teri Scales. Athletic Director - Tim Allen

- Highlights/Key Accomplishments during 2004-5: (This is not intended to be a laundry list of everything the group has done, but rather a overview of the key accomplishments this past year):

Improved communication and relationship with Parish Council;

Revamped several areas of the program such as gym scheduling, coach selection, playing time and ongoing self evaluations to better serve parish athletes - child protection compliance is also going very well;

Facility improvements - Established firm 2x/week cleaning contract, painted gym lobby, finished the floor, contributed approx. 50% of gym utility costs; contributed \$6,000 towards parish debt. This summer, added artwork to the gym floor (the artwork also helped cover a number of deep scuffs).

Short list of old issues not resolved from 2004-5:

■

None.

- Short list of new issues that Parish Council needs to be aware of:

The Boosters will soon submit design ideas to Council for approval of a mural in the gym lobby that will emphasize Christian values in athletics. The mural labor is being donated by our floor artist, Charlie Scales.



Organization Name: St Vincent de Paul

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> Leaders/Officers: Bob Guenther- President, Terri Zeiser- Treasurer, Leslie

> Molitor-Secretary

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> Highlights/ Accomplishments 2004-5: (1) Completion of Thomas More House

> (2) Implementation of envelope system and second collection which has  
> increased donations. (3) Increased membership by five. (4) Developed  
> program with school and psr for food drives to maintain our food  
pantry.

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> Old Issues not resolved from 2004-5: (1) Occupancy of Thomas More House.

> Referrals have been received from Salvation Army but for various reasons

> potential clients did not follow through. (2) House has been made  
> available to Catholic Charities , at their request, for a possible evacuee  
> family but we have received no formal request. (3) Several Agencies and  
> other St Vincent de Paul Conferences have been notified about the house  
> but we have not received many inquiries.

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> New Issues: Continue to seek clients who may meet the criteria for  
> occupancy of the Thomas More House.

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> Parishcouncil mailing list

> [Parishcouncil@sttm.org](mailto:Parishcouncil@sttm.org)

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## Parish Council Committee Report Form

**St. Thomas More Organization Report for  
the Monday, October 17, 2005 Parish Council Meeting**

Organization Name: St. Thomas More School

Key Organization Leaders/Officers: Peg Fischer, Principal

Joan Cardone, STMEC President

### **Students**

- Students are completing the annual standardized tests. Students in grades 2, 4, 6 and 8 are taking both the Terra Nova Achievement Test and the Invue cognitive ability assessment. Results should be available for parents and review by STMEC before Christmas.
- Students in K-3 have completed their first of three assessment using Dibels. This is an excellent tool for identifying students who are struggling with reading and directing interventions to help build necessary skills.
- St. Vincent DePaul has requested that students help replenish the food pantry. We'll be collecting through the beginning of November. Classes also have been contributing for victims of the hurricanes earlier this fall.

### **Faculty**

- Teachers have completed their Individual Professional Development Plans for this year. All plans have been reviewed by the local professional development committee designated by the Archdiocese.
- Classroom observations began last month. This year the "Pathwise" domains are being used to provide specific feedback to teachers as to areas for improvement.

### **Facility**

- Desks for the new classrooms (conference B and C) have arrived and been put into service. They're a big improvement over lunchroom tables, but are multi-purpose and will allow the conference rooms to continue to be used for meetings, Bingo, etcetera.

### **Marketing**

- The school website has been updated, and an online alumni registration form posted. The marketing committee is reviewing materials for registration, and a protocol for handling potential school families so that we can give a consistent message about the

quality and strengths of our school. Special work is being done to prepare for Catholic Schools Week at the end of January.

Short list of old issues not resolved from 2004-5:



*Where will we put classrooms as we continue to grow?*

■ Short list of new issues that Parish Council needs to be aware of:

### **How can Parish Council Help?**

- It's helpful to get "fresh eyes" looking at our marketing efforts. A review of the school website would be appreciated. Let me know what you like, and more importantly-what's missing. Approach it from the standpoint of someone outside of our community who is looking for Catholic education. Send feedback to [principal@sttm.org](mailto:principal@sttm.org).

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### **St. Thomas More Parish Council Committee Report**

Month: October 2005

Committee Name: Elizabeth Ministry

Committee Reporter: Valerie Malott and Maria Pour

- Highlights/Key Current Activities (This is not intended to be a laundry list of everything the committee is doing, but rather a few key highlights of activities):

- Welcomed 12 new ministers
- Hosted the Marian Event in May, with prayer service over expectant moms led by Deacon Jerry, rosary service by Rosary Prayer Circle, school family crowned Mary, ice cream social afterwards. Over 150 people attended event.
- Created and Conducted an Orientation Programs for all ministers
- Expanded presence on STM Web by adding
  - Minister Sign-up form
  - Lending Library Resource List (over 40 books and videos being added to the library)
  - Minutes of Meeting
  - Prayer Requests (offer 3 opportunities: email, Blessing Bouquet, link to National Site)
  - Sponsor/Donor Form
  - Contacts
- Created 6 additional roles (Membership Coordinator, Education Coordinator, Prayer Coordinator, Lending Librarian, Adoption Support, Grandparent Support)
- Attended Ministry Fair
- Ministered to two additional families (heart transplant infant, birth of surviving twin)

■ Key activities over the next 2 months:

- Developing a Respect Life Service with Deacon Jerry on October 18<sup>th</sup>, rosary service with
- Create Minister Training and Best Practices
- Assist in the creation of, and host, Memorial Service in November for those who have lost baby(ies) through miscarriage, infant child loss, regretted abortion
- Fund Raising
  - Raffle Bengal's blanket

- Create parish cookbook with proceeds going to the Elizabeth Ministry and the school library

■ What specific help/support is needed from Parish Council?

- Continued support
- Opportunity to host parish sponsored coffee and donuts – possibly November (timing close to proposed Memorial Service) and/or January 2006 for Epiphany Party

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**St. Thomas More Organization Report for  
the Monday, October 17, 2005 Parish Council Meeting**

Organization Name: Vocation Committee

Key Organization Leaders/Officers: Michael Thomas, Pat Tekulve, Matt Fiest

- Highlights/Key Accomplishments during 2004-5: (This is not intended to be a laundry list of everything the group has done, but rather a overview of the key accomplishments this past year):

We are in the process of forming this committee. On the First Thursday of the month to begin adoration we are saying a Rosary for Vocations. We are hoping to grow the membership in the next few months. More later.

■ Short list of old issues not resolved from 2004-5:

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**St. Thomas More Organization Report for  
the Monday, October 17, 2005 Parish Council Meeting**

Organization Name: Senior Ministry / Chancellor's Club

Key Organization Leaders/Officers:

■ Highlights/Key Accomplishments during 2004-5: (This is not intended to be a laundry list of everything the group has done, but rather a overview of the key accomplishments this past year):

On October 10, we took our first sponsored Bus Trip to The Abbey of Gethsemani in Bardstown Kentucky. Fifty-five people went on the daylong trip. We invited people form the Comboni Auxiliary to join us. In addition we had folks from IHM, St Veronica, and St John Fischer parishes. We can't wait to do it again. Our membership continues to grow.

■ Short list of old issues not resolved from 2004-5:

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**St. Thomas More Organization Report for  
the Monday, October 17, 2005 Parish Council Meeting**

Organization Name: Director of Religious Education

Key Organization Leaders/Officers: Becky Ready

■ Highlights/Key Accomplishments during 2004-5: (This is not intended to be a laundry list of everything the group has done, but rather a overview of the key accomplishments this past year):

### Parish School of Religion (PSR):

We presently have 209 students. The year is off to a good start! We are using a new textbook series: Faith First Legacy Series. Last year we were elected as the site for the company's marketing video for this new series. This video has been shown all over the country and parts of the world in the publisher's efforts to sell their products. The publisher is Resources for Christian Living.

We have added monthly music lessons for grades one through three. Erin Phelps has graciously agreed to come and teach our little ones some sacred music.

### Sacraments

We have 62 students preparing to celebrate first reconciliation. Our first meeting was October 11. Our next meeting will be Nov. 29 and the celebration will be December 6.

We have 44 students preparing to celebrate confirmation. We have started a new process this year. We had our first prep meeting October 12. At that time nineteen parents came to the forefront and accepted the role of parent leaders following a lengthy discussion on the responsibilities parents have to be their children's first and primary teachers in religion. These leaders will be guiding seven small faith community groups of candidates separated by gender in discussion and activities related to our confirmation manual between the months of January through April. They will also be small group leaders during the retreat in May. On November 9 we meet with the candidates and their sponsors for an orientation session. A special liturgy at 10:00 on December 11 will welcome all candidates into the preparation process for confirmation.

### RCIA

We have eight official candidates at this moment who have entered into our Rite of Christian Initiation. Our Rite of Acceptance is scheduled for November 24 when they will all publicly acknowledge their desire to become Catholic at the noon mass and the community will accept their intentions. Our team has grown this year to include: Sandy Cullins, Joe Burkart, Mary Verdin, Vickey Brazier, Tony Tozzi (a seminarian from the Athenaeum), Deacon Jerry and myself.

We also have two teens who have entered into the Rite of Christian Youth process. (RCIY) Pat Rieck is our master catechist. She has begun meeting with them on Sunday mornings.

■ Short list of old issues not resolved from 2004-5:



■ Short list of new issues that Parish Council needs to be aware of:

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- > Organization Name: Music Ministry
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- > Leaders/Officers: Margaret Osinski/William Hoffbauer
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- > Highlights/ Accomplishments 2004-5: (1) The new hymnal is in the pews and
- > look very nice. Most feedback from the congregation is positive. (2) The
- > new year for the children's choir has started and we have a few
- additions.
- > (3) Have appealed for new members for the choir and have started
- > practicing
- > for Christmas.
- >
- > The Contemporary group is seeking a couple of members for their group
- to
- > fill some slots that have opened up. They need two singers and a bass
- > player. If you should know of anyone, please let Bill know.
- >
- >
- > Old Issues not resolved from 2004-5: We are still in need of new
- members
- > especially instrumentalists.
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- > New Issues: Continue to seek full an active participation at all liturgies
- > from the congregation and to encourage instrumentalists to share their
- > talents.
- > \_\_\_\_\_
- > Parishcouncil mailing list
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**St. Thomas More Organization Report for  
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Organization Name: PTO

Key Organization Leaders/Officers: Board members: Katrina Shepherd, Robyn Yates, Kim Steinmetz, Theresa Willenbrink, Susan Kamphaus

- Highlights/Key Accomplishments during 2004-5: (This is not intended to be a laundry list of everything the group has done, but rather a overview of the key accomplishments this past year):

PTO was able to provide @\$19000.00 worth of upgrades to STM for the 2004-2005 year, including: \$4000. for new books for school library, \$2000. for debt reduction for parish, \$4000. for new cabinets in Heider Hall & tables/chairs for conference rooms, PA systems for modular classrooms, Sound Field Amplification Systems for 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> grade classrooms, 50% of cost of “one call system”, 2 new commercial size coffee makers for parish use, \$200. donation to Julyfest bid n buy.

Thank you to everyone who helped make these things possible, either by volunteering their time or participating in fundraisers.

- Short list of old issues not resolved from 2004-5:

We are still in need of volunteers to commit to the Scrips programs, which generates thousands of \$ every year.

- Short list of new issues that Parish Council needs to be aware of:  
Nothing at this time

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**St. Thomas More Organization Report for  
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Organization Name: Girl Scouts

Key Organization Leaders/Officers: Theresa Bradley

- Highlights/Key Accomplishments during 2004-5: (This is not intended to be a laundry list of everything the group has done, but rather a overview of the key accomplishments this past year):

1. In the spring, the Girl Scout troops once again bought and planted flowers in front of and to the side of the church.
2. In connection with Darline Foltz, the 8<sup>th</sup> Grade GS troop has been working on a service project to improve the Fr. Wack Library. Throughout the summer months, the 9 girls put in a combined total of 175 hours cleaning, sorting, typing cards, cataloging and rearranging the books in the library. Many hours of work still remain to be completed. Some of the books were discarded because of their condition and others will be sold in the book sale in early December.

It is our hope, that through this project, more parishioners will be made aware of the many valuable Catholic resources available to

them in the Fr. Wack Library. A date will be set in the future for a grand reopening. The 8<sup>th</sup> grade troop also made bookmarks to be distributed at this time. The service hours earned by the girls will go towards earning their GS Silver Award and their Marion Medal.

■ Short list of old issues not resolved from 2004-5:

■ Short list of new issues that Parish Council needs to be aware of:

1. Many of the STM girls are benefiting from the Girl Scouting Program. We have 80 girls and 32 adults participating in 8 troops. The troops and leaders are listed below:  
Kindergarten-Penny Barton-6 STM students  
1<sup>st</sup> Grade-Amanda Scales-13 STM students, 1 non-STM  
2<sup>nd</sup> Grade- Brigitte Gentile-12 STM students  
3<sup>rd</sup> Grade- Carey Rivard-13 STM students, 2 non-STM  
4<sup>th</sup> Grade- Lisa Miller-10 STM students  
5<sup>th</sup> Grade-Terri Osterholz-8 STM Students  
6<sup>th</sup> Grade-Theresa Bradley-6 STM students  
8<sup>th</sup> Grade-Theresa Bradley-9 STM students
2. Several of the troops made fleece blankets to send to the children of the hurricanes through the Project Linus Program.
3. Service wide lock-in at the Clermont YMCA on November 5.
4. Court of Awards for STM Troops on Tuesday, November 8.
5. 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Troop will be hosting a fundraiser in the parish dining hall offering babysitting for a parents shopping day on Saturday, December 3 from 9am-3pm. The funds earned during this event will be used towards their trip to Savannah, GA (the birthplace of Girl Scouts in the US) in June.
6. Thanks for your continued support!

**St. Thomas More Organization Report for  
the Monday, October 17, 2005 Parish Council Meeting**

Organization Name: Boy Scouts

Key Organization Leaders/Officers: Dee Archer

■ Highlights/Key Accomplishments during past few months:

**Death of Former Scouter.** We were saddened by the death of Robert Lamping, former Scoutmaster for our Troop for 8 years, who passed away in September. Troop members and former members attended the funeral.

**New Eagle Scouts.** Congratulations to our newest Eagle Scouts: Matt Deininger and John Newby. Ceremonies for both were in August.

**Summer Camp.** 22 Boy Scouts from our Troop attended Camp OYO in Portsmouth, Ohio, at the end of June; two Scouts from Troop 671 also attended with us.

**High Adventure.** Scouts who are Star Rank and above traveled to the Smokey Mountains and Gatlinburg, Tennessee for whitewater rafting and sightseeing.

**Court of Honor** at STM picnic shelter last week of August. Many merit badges and rank advancements awarded.

**Ad Altare Dei.** Several Scouts are preparing to receive this religious emblem.

**Yard Sale/Bake Sale/Cookout.** We received many nice donations, including furniture. We sent \$100 to Matthew:25 Ministries for hurricane victim assistance, plus a large box of other needed items. We continue to collect donations for this purpose.

**Civil War Reenactment Campout** – October 28-30 at Lower Craig; we have been assigned to the Confederate Army.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Veterans Memorial Event at Union Township Veterans Memorial Park.** November 5. We'll help the Cub Scout Pack place another 1,200 crosses for fallen soldiers.

**November Campout.** At East Fork Lake State Park or Mammoth Cave area.

**Merit Badge Challenge.** Applications now being accepted.

Short list of old issues not resolved from 2004-5:

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None.

■ Short list of new issues that Parish Council needs to be aware of:

None.

**St. Thomas More Organization Report for  
the Monday, October 17, 2005 Parish Council Meeting**

Organization Name: Cub Scouts

Key Organization Leaders/Officers: Dee Archer

■ **Highlights/Key Accomplishments during past few months/Upcoming plans:**

**September School Sign-Up Night.** New registrations bring the present Pack membership to 40 Cub Scouts.

**"Fall Into Adventure" District Event.** Several from our Pack attended this outdoor fun at Cub Adventure World, and said it was a lot of fun.

**Campout at the Cub World Fort.** October 8-9. We had a great time despite the chilly weather. About 80 people total in attendance. Included visit from Miami Township fire department, members of the Cincinnati Observatory, and Mass around the campfire by Father Paul Donahoo of the Combomi Missionaries.

**Popcorn Sale.** Going on now until November 3. We are selling for three weekends in front of Kroger (booked last year), as well as individual Cub Scout sales. This is our largest fundraiser of the year.

**Next Pack Meeting** will be a Halloween Party in October.

**Veterans Day 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Memorial Event.** We are building 1,200 more crosses for the memorial. The service will be on November 5. Thanks to Committee Chair Regina Herbolt, all funding for materials and supplies for this event have been paid for by various private donations. Kits for building crosses were distributed October 16, 2005 - WCPO Channel 9 covered the distribution. Several TV stations and local newspapers will cover the ceremony. More good PR for St. Thomas More!

■ **Short list of old issues not resolved from 2004-5:**

None.

■ Short list of new issues that Parish Council needs to be aware of:

None.

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## Parish Council Committee Report Form

**St. Thomas More Organization Report for  
the Monday, October 17, 2005 Parish Council Meeting**

Organization Name: St. Thomas More JulyFest 2005

Key Organization Leaders/Officers: Jeff and Rhonda Roberts; Gail and Michelle Stultz; Dave McCarthy

■ Highlights/Key Accomplishments during 2004-5: We had a great weekend for JulyFest 2005!! Financial report will be issued after 10/24/05 meeting with Fr. Bill, Mike Gennett and Co-Chairs.

No major changes for layout in 2006, we received many compliments on this year's layout and will keep same with just a flip-flop of food and midway to accommodate food being close to the beer garden.

This was the first year in many that a St. Thomas More parishioner, Dick Schuler was in charge of our Casino. This was a major undertaking and involved additional expense for new chips, card shuffling machines, and shoes for dealing. We had several training sessions and acquired approximately 50 dealers. This was very successful thanks in large part to Dick Schuler, Ed McCarty and the volunteer dealers who did a great job. A decision will be made in early January regarding the Texas Hold' Em tournament component of the festival, as attendance was down considerably this year—this is a trend being seen area wide.

Gail and Michelle Stultz have stepped down as Co-Chairs for 2006. We appreciate their time and commitment for the past 3 years. Jenny Arbino has stepped down as Co-Chair of Children's due to moving to IHM. Buffy Clements has stepped down as Bid N Buy Chair due to job commitments and family responsibilities. Melissa

Kellerman has stepped down as Merchandising Co-chair.

■ Short list of old issues not resolved from 2004-5: None at this time.

■ Short list of new issues that Parish Council needs to be aware of: Prayer for good weather in 2006 and that new area chairs will step forward.

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## Parish Council Committee Report Form

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**St. Thomas More Organization Report for  
the Monday, October 17, 2005 Parish Council Meeting**

Organization Name: STM Bingo

Key Organization Leaders/Officers: Rhonda Roberts, Katrina Shepherd, Tom Rastani, Carey Rivard, Neil Desrosiers, James/Shannon Wolfe

- Highlights/Key Accomplishments during 2004-5: Bingo returned to STM on Sept. 8<sup>th</sup> with high energy! We had 77 players in attendance. Our attendance during the month continued to 90 players on Sept. 15<sup>th</sup>; 102 players on both Sept. 22<sup>nd</sup> and Sept. 29<sup>th</sup>.

Our brand is: St. Thomas More has the best bingo players this side of heaven

We have been blessed with wonderful volunteers from the school families, PSR families and parishioners.

The players have been very pleased with our program, prize payout and most importantly the fact that we take their food orders from their seats and deliver it to them!!! ( It's the little things that make them happy).

We will be offering a free dinner the last Thursday of each month. We are hoping to get this sponsored each month.

- Short list of old issues not resolved from 2004-5: N/A
- Short list of new issues that Parish Council needs to be aware of: None— please just spread the word we are back!!

Throw away the first one. I meant implement not implant.

## Parish Council Committee Report Form

(Please copy and paste to a Microsoft Word Page. When completed, send via email no later than Friday, October 14, 2005, to all parish council members at [parishcouncil@sttm.org](mailto:parishcouncil@sttm.org))

**St. Thomas More Organization Report for  
the Monday, October 17, 2005 Parish Council Meeting**

**Organization Name: Deacon's report**

**Key Organization Leaders/Officers:**

**Highlights/Key Accomplishments during 2004-5: (This is not intended to be a laundry list of everything the group has done, but rather a overview of the key accomplishments this past year):**

**23 weddings for 2005 13 scheduled to date for 2006. Both men and women CRHP teams are in formation for weekends in Jan & Feb 2006. Also forming teams to put on weekends for St. Andrew/St. E. Seton. Social Action Comm. Arts & Crafts benefit for Tom Geiger House in June - Held Baby Shower to benefit A Caring Place in Aug.- Organized donations for Hurricane victims sent through Matt. 25 ministries. – took part in CC Life Chain. Worship Comm. Eucharistic Series in April. – Marian devotion in May – Approved new Hymnal – solution to confusion at Mass when a fire alarm is pulled. – New Marriage Guidelines for Archdiocese. Developed and implemented new ministry of wedding coordinator.**

**Short list of old issues not resolved from 2004-5:**

**Short list of new issues that Parish Council needs to be aware of:**

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Parishcouncil mailing list  
Parishcouncil@sttm.org  
<https://mailman.quic.net/sttm.org/listinfo/parishcouncil>

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## Parish Council Committee Report Form

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<b>St. Thomas More Parish Council Committee Report</b>
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Month: October 2005

Committee Name: Youth Ministry

Committee Reporter: Diane Brennan

■ **Highlights/Key Current Activities:**

- 1- We are still going yearly to Appalachia in Dec. with ROC members to donate toys and do service work for Project Merry Christmas - 2004 was very successful!
- 2- Confirmation plans are well under way for 2006! 44 Candidates including adults
- 3- Members continue working on a larger service focus: Matthew 25 coming to visit our next pot luck night
- 4- May be able to join Guardian angels for their monthly trips to Bethany House to feed the hungry
- 5- Students and families have been participating in stronger numbers as lectors, Eucharist ministers, Greeters, welcome group, choirs and expect that to continue to increase

- 6- Looking to involve total youth and young adults to feel identified as members of ministry in all areas of parish life, an all are welcome mentality.
  - 7- May need to rework Super 8 program next summer to include a high school immersion experience.
  - 8- We are wondering if we can pick up donut Sunday if we find sponsors or if the parish will continue to pay for the donuts?
- Key activities over the next 2 months: as above
- What specific help/support is needed from Parish Council? PRAY and invite young people and young adults you know to become more involved!
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