I am the Bread of Life
Dear Parish Family,

On Sunday, Aug. 2, the Men’s Club had a wonderful family day at Lake Sherwood Clubhouse and Pool. It was a great afternoon and a huge success. The men grilled sausage, hamburgers and hot dogs. Everyone had a wonderful time.

This weekend school backpacks will be blessed at all Masses. All of our students from preschool through college are invited to bring their empty backpacks to Mass. A special tag for the backpacks will be given to all students. I hope a lot of students participate in this special blessing.

The Women’s Ministry will host *Beignets & Bacon* on Sunday, Aug. 9, in the activity center from 7-11 a.m. Please join us for this back to school fellowship.

I celebrated a Mass for the teachers on Aug. 6. I think they feel, like most of the young people, that summer was too short, but they are all excited to be back for the new school year. Many of the teachers have been here fixing up their rooms for the return of their students on Aug. 7, next week being the first full week of school. Let us make this year a blessed and very good year!

I am sorry to say that I will miss all the fun things at the start of school. I fly out of New Orleans on Aug. 8 to Killarney, Ireland to celebrate a wedding for good friends. I am back in the office on Aug. 18 and will share more about my trip upon my return.

In Christ,

Fr. Tom

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Our New Guide Book & Directory is Here!

Look in your mailbox for our new Guide Book & Directory. They should be arriving in the coming week.

The advertisers helped provide this service at no cost to our congregation. We encourage you to think of them in the future as your needs arise. If you are interested in advertising next year, contact amandavogt@guidebookpublishing.com for more information.

Please familiarize yourself with the ministries and organizations at our church located in the front of the book. New this year, is an electronic PDF version of the Guide Section of the book which you can download to your computer, smart phone, or tablet at your convenience.

To download the Online Guide Section:
- Click on our state followed by our city
- Click on the name of our congregation to download the book

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**SACRAMENTAL LIFE**

**Weekend Mass** Sat., 4:30 p.m.; Sun., 8 a.m., 10 a.m., 12 p.m., 5 p.m.

**Weekday Mass** Mon., Wed. and Fri.: 6 a.m.; Tues., Thurs. and 1st Sat.: 8:45 a.m.

**Communion Service** Saturday, 8:45 a.m.

**Reconciliation** Thurs., 8-8:30 a.m.; Sat., 3:15-4:15 p.m.; and by appt.

**Baptism** Call the parish office in the early stages of pregnancy.

**Marriages** Call the parish office at least six months before the wedding date to make arrangements.

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**PARISH MISSION STATEMENT**

In a caring environment dedicated to celebrating the Catholic faith and modeling the life of Jesus Christ, St. Thomas More Church provides worship, education, ministerial and social opportunities for the spiritual growth of the parish family.

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**READINGS FOR THE WEEK**

Monday: 2 Cor 9:6-10; Ps 112:1-2, 5-9; Jn 12:24-26

Tuesday: Dt 31:1-8;Dt 32:3-4ab, 7-9, 12; Mt 18:1-5, 10, 12-14

Wednesday: Dt 34:1-2; Ps 66:1-3a, 5, 8, 16-17; Mt 18:15-20

Thursday: Jos 3:7-10a, 11, 13-17; Ps 114:1-6; Mt 18:21 -- 19:1

Friday: Jos 24:1-13; Ps 136:1-3, 16-18, 21-22, 24; Mt 19:3-12

Saturday: Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab; Ps 45:10-12, 16; 1 Cor 15:20-27; Lk 1:39-56

Sunday: Prv 9:1-6; Ps 34:2-7; Eph 5:15-20; Jn 6:51-58

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All parishioners are invited to join us for a
Ministry Appreciation Fellowship
after the 8 a.m. & 10 a.m. Masses on Sunday, August 23, 2015
in the STM Parish Activity Center
in honor of St. Thomas More Parish Volunteers
Mark your calendars and plan to attend!

Hosted by the STM Parish Stewardship Committee

Financial Peace University at STM
Make plans to join us as we head back to school for Dave Ramsey’s Financial Peace University (FPU). FPU is a practical, entertaining and fun nine week class in which we will learn how to be better managers of our finances by following a plan to achieve and live debt-free lives. The 1½ hour class sessions will be held on Wednesday evenings at 7 p.m. beginning on September 10, 2015 in the STM Parish Activity Center.

All those interested must register at http://www.daveramsey.com/fpu/locations/class/1002640/atid/l_in and order materials at $93/family. Babysitting will be available if arranged in advance with the church office - call Melanie at 225-275-3940.

Sacristy volunteers needed
Sacristy volunteers are needed in the church for routine tasks such as cleaning the chalice and wine goblets, refilling the holy water fonts, dusting the tabernacle, and straightening the books in the pews. This is a simple, but very rewarding ministry! If you are interested, contact Jacques Pourciau at the church office at 275-3940.

Food for the Poor
Collection Weekend
August 15 - 16
Please bring donations of canned goods and staples to Masses and leave them in the back of the church.

THE BEGINNING OF EVERYTHING
Everyone recognizes the truth of good proverbs, and so they endure from generation to generation. The Russians have a surprisingly bold one that fits this Sunday's Gospel: "Bread is the beginning of everything."

Judging from the first reading, Elijah might have felt that it was too late for bread--too late for life itself. This great prophet was at the end of his rope and endurance. Then, not one, but two angels visit him. One offers food and drink. The other gives startling directions. For Elijah, this food from the angels is bread for his journey. On the strength of the heaven-sent gift of food, he walks to the mountain of God.

In today’s Gospel, Jesus offers himself, not just as bread for the journey, but as bread for life itself. He gives his flesh as life for the world. "I am the bread of life” (John 6:48). He is the beginning of everything.
MASS INTENTIONS

FLOWER DONATIONS
The ambo flowers next weekend, Aug. 15-16, are donated in memory of Felix Olivier by Rosa Olivier.

SANCTUARY LIGHT
The sanctuary light in the chapel will burn in the memory of Leven LeJeanne the week of Aug. 9 as requested by his wife, Dorothy LeJeanne.

MASS INTENTIONS
Monday, Aug. 10 – 6 a.m.: Clarence Ledoux
Tuesday, Aug. 11 – 8:45 a.m.: Souls in Purgatory, Rosalyn Fontenot, Mary Kiem, Kathy and John Crabtree
Wednesday, Aug. 12 – 6 a.m.: Tree of Life
Thursday, Aug. 13 – 8:45 a.m.: Tran Van Ngac, Tran Van Chu, Nguyen Thi Tin, Le Thi Choe, Manny Fernandez
Friday, Aug. 14 – 6 a.m.: Eugenie Abella
Saturday, Aug. 15 – 8:45 a.m.: Communion Service; 4:30 p.m.: Charles Tureau, John F. Grosch, III, Dr. Manuel R. Vilaret, Amelie M. Olivier, Ancil Otts
Sunday, Aug. 16 – 8 a.m.: Elaine Podorsky, Dr. Fathy Saleh, Leona Knoll Norman, Joseph Clarence Norman; 10 a.m.: Harris Ducote, Phyllis Ann Arrighi, Anthony Noto; 12 p.m.: Stephen Anthony Maher, Ricky Metz, Blanche Daigre; 5 p.m.: For the People

THE WEEK AHEAD AT ST. THOMAS MORE

Monday, Aug. 10 – Legion of Mary, 10 a.m.; Bible Study, 6:30 p.m.; Contemporary Choir, 7 p.m.
Tuesday, Aug. 11 – Bible Study, 9:45 a.m.; RCIA/RCIC, 6:30 p.m.
Wednesday, Aug. 12 – Gambling Support, 7 p.m.; Wednesday Night Rosary, 7 p.m.; Parish Choir Practice, 7:15 p.m.
Thursday, Aug. 13 – Confession, 8 a.m.; Bread of Life, 9:45 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.; Single Seniors Mexican Train, 1 p.m.; STM School Open House Grades K-4, 5:30 p.m.; Men’s Ultreya, 7 p.m.
Saturday, Aug. 15 – Confession, 3:15 p.m.; Festival Appreciation Dinner, 7 p.m.
Sunday, Aug. 16 – Holy Name Society, 7:30 a.m.; Sunday Nursery, 10 a.m.; STM Youth Back to School Bash, 2 p.m.

Remember loved ones
St. Thomas More Church has a number of ways you can remember and honor a loved one: Mass intentions, burning sanctuary lights, dedicating altar flowers and Gather hymnals. Contact Jacques Pourciau in the church office to secure a small arrangement for the lectern or a larger floral arrangement for under the crucifix. Gather hymnal donation forms can be found on the church website and in the church office. Contact Ashla Buchanan in the church office, Monday—Thursday (8-12) for Mass intention and sanctuary light requests.

Parish Stewardship Summary
Fiscal Year 07/01/15—06/30/16
Collections for the week of July 19, 2015
The gifts of God that the angel brought to Elijah—food, water, rest and encouragement—were given, not for his own good alone, but to strengthen him for service. How am I using my gifts to serve others?

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Why Be Catholic?

Matthew Kelly, founder of The Dynamic Catholic Institute, a Cincinnati-based non-profit organization whose mission is to re-energize the Catholic Church in America inspire people to discover and rediscover Catholicism, offers 10 Great Reasons to Be Catholic (Decision Point, The Dynamic Catholic Institute, 2014):

- This is the Church is founded by Jesus Christ.
- The Catholic Church has relieved more suffering than another other group of people in the history of the world. This includes caring for the sick, the hungry, the lonely, the homeless, the uneducated and the imprisoned.
- We have history and mystery.
- We have the Saints.
- We believe in the power of prayer.
- It is the same all around world.
- We are the premier defender of human rights.
- You are called to be part of something bigger than yourself.
- The Eucharist...Jesus Christ is fully and truly present in the Eucharist.
- You always answer God’s calling!

To help you grow in your understanding of the faith of the Catholic Church St. Thomas More is offering classes for those interesting in becoming Catholic. The Rite of Christian Initiation for Adult and Youth (RCIA) ministry is a wonderful way to grow in wisdom and understanding of the truths of Catholicism and the foundations of the faith. Classes are held weekly in Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m. in the parish office. Please contact Sarah Neau (sarah@stmchurch.org) or Dina Martinez (dina@stmchurch.org) for more details and registration. You may also call the office at (225)275-3940. Classes are on-going and life giving! Come and See!
### Youth Confirmation News

St Thomas More Church joyfully welcomes 52 youth as they enter the sacramental preparation phase for Confirmation. We ask our parish family to pray for our youth to experience the power of the Holy Spirit and have a meaningful journey. Come Holy Spirit!

**Confirmation Orientation**  
Sunday, Aug. 23 after 5pm Mass, STM Parish Activity Center  
For Candidates, Sponsors (if possible) and Parents

**Confirmation Retreat**  
Saturday, Aug. 20  
For Candidates, Small Group Facilitators and Adult Volunteers  
8:30 a.m. Gather in the STM Activity Center Parking Lot  
9 a.m. Departure to Rosaryville Retreat Center  
11 p.m. Return to STM

**Confirmation Sessions**  
Sundays, Sept. 6 - Oct. 18, STM Parish Activity Center  
3 - 4:50 p.m. Gathering & Sessions  
5 p.m. Mass (MANDATORY)  
Parents and sponsors are always welcome!

**Sacrament of Confirmation**  
Wednesday, Oct. 21, 7 p.m.

### Bread of Life Series: Become What You Receive

**Session Four – The Truth**  
Presentation by Jacques Pourciau  
Thursday, August 13 at 9:45 a.m. and repeated at 6:30 p.m.  
STM Parish Activity Center—Main Hall

**Session Five/Final Session - The Spirit Gives Life**  
Presentation by Fr. Matthew McCaughey  
Thursday August 20 at 9:45 a.m. and repeated at 6:30 p.m.  
STM Parish Activity Center—Main Hall

### OUR PARISH FAMILY

#### IN SYMPATHY

Heartfelt sympathy is extended to the family of Barbara Lee who died on July 23. She is survived by daughters Cherie Pourciau and husband Mark, Maria Landry and husband Mark, sons Robert Lee, Jr. and wife Lorinda, Kele Lee and wife Lele, eight grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

### FOREVER YOUNG

**Aug. 19:** (DATE CHANGE)  
6:30 p.m. in the coffee shop. RSVP Bernice Hoffman at 275-7294 by Monday, Aug. 17.

### KCs CORNER

9/3: Dinner & Rosary, 6:30 pm, KC Hall  
9/3: Business meeting, 7:30 pm, KC Hall  
10/1: Dinner & Rosary, 6:30 pm, KC Hall  
10/1: Business meeting, 7:30 pm, KC Hall

### MEN’S CLUB CORNER

8/29: Prayer Breakfast, 7 am, YH  
8/30: BBQ Fundraiser, AC

### SINGLE SENIORS

**Aug. 13** – Lunch at Crowne Plaza Hotel, 3728 Constitution Ave.  
Call Bob Baudry at 247-8673.
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225.819.3250
www.amramp.com

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