

# St. Thomas More Catholic Parish

Convent Station, NJ

973-267-5330 • [www.stmnj.org](http://www.stmnj.org)



*As a faith community, we keep in mind who have asked us to pray for them, that they may experience the healing power of our gracious God. Special requests for prayers at liturgy and donations made in honor of loved ones. These intentions and names of our sick are noted on the Table in the Remembrance Book and on the Weekly Sheet.*

They are Israelites;  
they are the ADAPTERS,  
the GLORIOUS,  
the GENTILES,  
the going of the LAW,  
the WORKS, and the  
PROPHETS,  
the PATRIARCHS,  
and from them,  
according to the flesh,  
is the CHRIST,  
who is over all



August 13, 2017 • Day of the Lord

## Affordable Housing—Habitat

Morris Habitat is looking for qualified applicants to own affordable homes through our program. Pass this along to anyone who could use this information. Register online at Morris Habitat Homeownership Download Document Morris Habitat for Humanity, 274 So. Salem St, Randolph, NJ 07869. Flyer on bulletin board.

## Grateful for Her Generosity

A few months ago, we heard of Pat Faust's death and funeral at Assumption. This week we received a gift that she left the parish from her estate. We are grateful for her life and for her generosity.

## Religious Education

It's time to prepare for Rel. Education for next year. Please register your children by clicking on the link on the front of the parish website.

We are also looking for volunteers in the parish to help with coordinating or teaching in the program.

## Scriptures during the Week

Meditate on the scriptures during the week. **Take Five for Faith** is located on the website. Pull down "Faith Formation" and find it at the bottom.

## Holy Hour for Peace

The Sisters of Charity invite you to a monthly Holy Hour of Quiet Prayer at their Chapel, this Tuesday and the 3rd Tuesday of every month, 6:30–7:30 pm. Info: [mtracey@scnj.org](mailto:mtracey@scnj.org). All are welcome.

## Preparing for the Future

With housing on Park Avenue expanding by Danforth Road and Columbia Tpke, we need to prepare. We should be contacting realtors and design marketing materials. For this reason we would like to put together a group to investigate the best way to market ourselves for new residents and to welcome them when they arrive. Help us prepare.

## Divorced/Separated Support

Are you or someone you know separated or divorced? Little Flower Church in Berkeley Heights is offering a 12-week support group designed to provide healing before, during, and after the divorce process, Wednesdays, 7:30–9 pm, Sept, 20–Dec.13. Registration is required. Info and registration: [www.lfbhnj.org](http://www.lfbhnj.org), email: [divorceministry.lf@gmail.com](mailto:divorceministry.lf@gmail.com) or call the church office at 908-464-1585.

## PREPARING FOR NEXT WEEK'S LITURGY

### 20<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

First Reading: Isaiah 56:1-7

This last part of Isaiah contains words of a prophet who lived after the Jews returned from exile. Today's passage speaks of salvation being offered to all, regardless of ethnic origin or social condition. Christians have seen in this an anticipation of the message that Jesus will preach.

Second Reading: Romans 11:13-32

This is the conclusion of Paul's thoughts about how Jewish people are going to participate in the saving grace of Jesus. Paul was Jewish and he loved his own people. He was disappointed that most of them had not accepted the Gospel. Paul hoped that his success in converting the Gentiles would encourage the Jewish people to take a second look at the message of Jesus.

### This Week's Question

**For Adults:**  
When have you doubted the loving care of God for you as the apostles did in the boat?

**For Children:**  
How do you know that Jesus is with you at all times?

## Hiding behind liturgy

Liturgy is action. Jesus said “Do this to remember me,” not “read pages 456 to 473 to remember me!” The word “liturgy” means “work,” “work of the people.” And it is work of the people, not for the people (which is the distinction between liturgy and magic). Liturgy is something we do together (the Greek “Do” in “Do this to remember me,” is plural).

We have inherited a tendency to think of worship as primarily the words, and much of our energy in liturgical revision has focused on getting the words right. Words are powerful, and using them carefully is important, but our tradition has always seen there is more to worship than words. Processions, vesture, banners, music and singing, bread and wine, architecture, colour, flowers, incense, candles, and gestures, are but some of the elements of worship.

The non-verbal has usually been thought of as enhancing and interpreting words. Happily, actions and symbols are returning to their central position in worship. Actions, gestures, signs, and symbols, do not interpret words. It is the words which interpret the actions. Liturgy is action.

The Eucharist is not a collection of unrelated verbal components. The parts of the liturgy are all inter-connected and the presider needs to convey this flow to the assembly. Familiarity with the liturgical structure helps prevent presiders from creating dams which stop the flow of the service. When a community is comfortable with the structure, and sees the “slots” into which an assortment of elements can be inserted, they will worship with confidence even when the elements are varied.

from Fr. Bosco Peters

### What's Happening This Week?

**Tuesday**  
**Assumption of Mary**

Masses: 8:15  
12:10 & 7 pm



**Every Sunday**  
Pound A Week

### Stewardship of Treasure

Last week's  
Collection:  
\$ 5460



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The Feast of the Assumption is the oldest and greatest feast of Mary. Orthodox Christians call August 15 the Dormition (“falling asleep”) of Mary. Saint John Damascene, described his belief that after Mary’s death, her body was raised to live with God forever. That Mary’s body—not just her soul—is in God’s presence is a sign of the holiness of creation. The human body is not evil—it is good. Death is not the end of creation—it is the beginning of eternal life. As Mary, the model believer and sign of the church, is gathered in, we hope we too will be part of this harvest. Copyright © 1997, Archdiocese of Chicago: Liturgy Training Publications.



**Gratitude is the fairest blossom which springs from the soul.**

**Henry Ward Beecher**

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### Weekly Eucharists

**Saturday 5 pm**

**Sunday, 9 am, 11 am, 7 pm**

**Monday – Saturday: 8:15 am**

**Reconciliation**

**Saturday 3:30 pm or by appt.**

**Holy Days**

**8:15 am, 12:10 pm, 7 pm**

### Parish Office Hours

**Mon. - Wed, 9:30–2 pm**

*Other times & days,  
call to see if office  
is open.*

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