New Book Study Group
All Wednesdays in May (4th, 11th, 18th, and 25th).

Fr. Brent Otto, SJ will lead a discussion of Fr. Greg Boyle’s book *Tattoos on the Heart* at Ignatius House from 12:30 to 2:00 pm and will lead sessions at St. Thomas More from 7:00 to 8:30 pm in the St. Julie Room.

For more information visit www.ignatiushouse.org under both Quick Registration and Enrichment & Education. Spaces are limited for each session so please register as soon as possible.

In an effort to improve communications in the parish, we have completely redesigned and reorganized the parish bulletin. This particular issue represents our first attempt, for this is an on-going project. We hope that improved parish communications will enable you to participate more fully in the life of the parish. If you have any comments or suggestions for how we can make our communications even better, contact Fr. Mark at mhorak@stmga.org.
At the Masses this coming week, the people of St. Thomas More will remember the following persons along with all the living and dead.

**SUNDAY, April 24, 2016**
- 8:00 AM The members of STM
- 9:30 AM The members of STM
- 12:00 PM The members of STM
- 5:30 PM The members of STM

**MONDAY, April 25, 2016**
- 12:15 PM Monica Black
- 5:30 PM Alice Ryan †

**TUESDAY, April 26, 2016**
- 5:30 PM Esperanza Rodriguez †

**WEDNESDAY, April 27, 2016**
- 12:15 PM Joan Carroll †
- 5:30 PM Jesse Eddleman †

**THURSDAY, April 28, 2016**
- 5:30 PM Ron Stark †

**FRIDAY, April 29, 2016**
- 12:15 PM Sr. Mary Sponsa Beltran †
- 5:30 PM Thomas K Mathews †

**SATURDAY, April 30, 2016**
- 9:00 AM Donald Myers †
- 5:30 PM Frank Melf †

**SUNDAY, May 1, 2016**
- 8:00 AM The members of STM
- 9:30 AM The members of STM
- 12:00 PM The members of STM
- 5:30 PM The members of STM

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**PARISH MISSION**

**WHEN:**
- May 16-18, Mon, Tue, Weds. evening
- 7:00 – 8:30 pm

Come and be renewed in the call from Jesus Christ as our parish hosts Rev. Bruce Maivelett, SJ from Ignatius House Jesuit Retreat Center in Atlanta for 3 nights during our Spring Parish Mission.

**The Parish Mission will focus on**

1. The Life of St. Ignatius and the fundamental aspects of Ignatian Spirituality
2. How to Live in the Moment – Experiencing God’s Unconditional Love for Us
3. Our purpose in Life – the Principle and Foundation & Gratitude – Living and Loving in our parish today!

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**STAFF**

- **Rev. Mark Horak, S. J., Pastor**
  mhorak@stmga.org
- **Rev. Pat Earl, S. J., Parochial Vicar**
  pearl@stmga.org
- **Ms. Karyl Davis, Financial Administrator**
  kddavis@stmga.org
- **Religious Education Coordinators**
  - **Ms. Elaine Phillips**
    Lifeteen teens@stmga.org
  - **Ms. Michele McHale Pickard**
    EDGE youth@stmga.org
    Adult Faith mcp@stmga.org
- **Mr. Joe Messina, Director of Music & Liturgy**
  jmessina@stmga.org
- **Ms. Ann Dugan, Stewardship Coordinator**
  adugan@stmga.org
- **Ms. Marie Diebold, Parish Secretary**
  mdiebold@stmga.org
- **Mr. Vince DeSantis, Plant Manager**
  vds@stmga.org
- **Ms. Charlotte Collins, Receptionist**
  ccollins@stmga.org
- **Ms. Corky Pagoria, Receptionist**
  cpagoria@stmga.org
- **Mr. Jerry Raymond, Principal, S. T. M. School**
  jraymond@stmga.org

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**PRAYER LIST**

Mike Allain
Flora Chen
Cleo Coleman
Sherry Garrett
Joe Giordano
Kelly Hughes
Ricky Jacobs
Marilyn Kaut
Michael Lynn
Bruce Militello
Aubrey Morgan
Joanne Nurss
Annie Phinessee
Paula Pungello
Jacqueline Reese
Laura Seaman
Danny Shriver
Marshall Sussin and family
Bernice Vavro
Terry Walters
Joni Warrington

To add the names of those who are seriously ill or remove names please contact Charlotte Collins 404-378-4588 or ccollins@stmga.org

Please update regularly. You may add names or special intentions in the book outside of the Adoration Chapel.
One of the best ways to speak of the Church is as the community of believers in whom and through whom Jesus continues to be alive and active in the world. In other words, the Risen Jesus continues his work of loving the world in and through the community of the baptized.

In the Catholic tradition, the sacraments are the preeminent ways in which we can see and experience Jesus at work in and through us, the Church. In our celebration of the sacraments, Jesus’ living and loving and dying and rising becomes present and accessible to us and to others. We do Jesus when we do the sacraments.

Because the sacraments reflect and strengthen our identity as the Body of Christ, they are necessarily communal in nature. We should celebrate them as community whenever possible.

So, for instance, we strongly encourage parishioners to have their children baptized in the course of a Sunday Mass. Then the whole community, and not just the family of the one being baptized, can celebrate this ritual incorporation of a new member into the Body of Christ. I am pleased that many families are choosing this option. Just this past Sunday at the 9:30 am Mass, parishioners John and Ashley Everette brought their daughter, Audrey, to the parish community for Baptism. It was a wonderful occasion for all those present and participating. Indeed, the least favored option should be to baptize someone in a “private” ceremony apart from the rest of the parish community. As a Jesuit friend of mine used to say, “There is no such thing as a private Baptism.”

We encourage couples who are marrying to plan to be married in the course of a Sunday Eucharist. This doesn’t happen often, but in my experience, when it does, the wedding becomes a source of great joy for the parish community. Just as we experience and express our desire for deeper communion with Jesus and with one another at Eucharist, we can see the love of God for all of us reflected in the love of husband and wife.

We encourage families whose child is receiving First Eucharist to celebrate that event in the course of a Sunday Mass. At a Sunday Mass, the child comes to the table for the first time and experiences communion with not just his or her classmates, but with the larger parish community. We have offered this option to the families of the children making First Eucharist, and many have agreed to do this.

How much better and more meaningful is it to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation is the course of a communal reconciliation service. And how much more inspiring to celebrate the Sacrament of Anointing in a communal setting, where the larger community, not just a family member or two (or worse, the priest and the sick person alone) can participate in the ritual.

Unfortunately, our celebration of the Confirmation of our young parishioners has typically happened in separate weeknight celebrations apart from the community’s ordinary Sunday gathering for Eucharist. Still, I hope that those parishioners who are able to do so will join this celebration of the Spirit who animates and enables us to live faithful to the Gospel. Perhaps someday we will be able to schedule Confirmations during Sunday Eucharist.

Ideally, we would even celebrate Sunday Eucharist in one large gathering – everyone together for one Mass on a Sunday morning! Yes, for practical reasons, we have multiple Sunday Masses, but we can sometimes lose sight of the unity we are in Jesus when we break up into smaller groups.

If celebrating sacraments is “doing Jesus,” we should do them together whenever we can.

Fr. Mark

**SCRIPTURE READINGS**

Find the scripture readings for today and everyday on the US Conference of Catholic Bishops website: [www.usccb.org/bible/readings](http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings)
DONUTS & COFFEE IN MULHERN AFTER THE 8:00 & 9:30 AM Masses

For activities, info or questions about the STM Life Teen or EDGE visit: stmgaparish.org & click on the Youth Programs.

Life Teen contact Mrs. Elaine Phillips:
404-378-4588 X 126, teens@stmga.org

EDGE contact Mrs. McP:
404-378-4588 X 119 or youth@stmga.org

TEEN HAPPENINGS (9th to 12th grade)
• May 1st is the last day of class for LifeTeen
• We still need teen helpers for Vacation Bible School June 27—July 1! Please contact Elaine Phillips at ephillips@stmga.org.

EDGE MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH (6th to 8th grade)
• April 24 EDGE 5th Grade Retreat 3—5PM. FREE!
• April 24 EDGE Meeting

PARISH GIVING
In gratitude for the gifts we have received from God, parishioners and visitors made a joyful return to the Lord. Thank you for helping St Thomas More to continue carrying out Christ's Mission and Ministry.

Parish Offertory Goal $30,288.00
April 9-10 Offertory $18,618.59
Online $7,579.50

Total $27,198.09

Second Collection Notice
The second collection on April 30th and May 1st will be for your subscription to the GA Bulletin. If you do not receive the GA Bulletin and would like to, please call the parish office at 404-378-4588, email mdiebold@stmga.org, or make a note on the GA Bulletin envelope in your packet. Annual subscription is $23.00. Extra envelopes will be available in the narthex.

STAND FOR THE RIGHT TO LIFE
Please, join us during our public prayer vigils at the abortion facility located on Cliff Valley Way on Saturday mornings at 8:30 am. For info contact Aileen Barreca 404-558-3276 (Stmcathforlife@aol.com) or Jayme Caspall jcaspall@gmail.com.
ADULT FAITH EDUCATION

ST. THOMAS MORE YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY
Contact: Kirsten Wehner or Alex Brown at 404-765-6291 or email us at thomasmore.yam@gmail.com. Follow us at https://www.facebook.com/STMYoungAdultMinistry.

ADULT EDUCATION BIBLE STUDY
St. Thomas More Parish’s The Word Sunday Adult Bible Study. Every Sunday 10:40–11:50 AM in the Parish Library. For more information, contact Jerry Pendrick at jpendrick1@yahoo.com

RENEW—TUESDAY SCRIPTURE STUDY
A weekly Bible study with Louanne Bachner Tuesdays at 1:30 pm-3 pm in the STM Parish Library. For additional info contact Michele McHale Pickard at 404-378-4588 X119

MEN’S EVENING OF REFLECTION
Meetings are the 1st and 3rd Mondays of each month at 7:30 pm in the Knights Room. For more information about the STM Men’s Evening of Reflection, contact Philip Lee at pal@philiplee.com, or follow us at https://www.facebook.com/groups/STMMER/

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Time/Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Perpetual Adoration</td>
<td>7 days/24 hours Chapel</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rosary for Life</td>
<td>Sunday 10:45 am Adoration Chapel</td>
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<tr>
<td>Holy Hour</td>
<td>Tuesday 6:15 pm Adoration Chapel</td>
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<tr>
<td>Children’s Liturgy</td>
<td>Sunday 9:30 am Mass</td>
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<tr>
<td>Children’s Choir</td>
<td>Sunday 10:45 to 11:15 am Choir Room</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cherub Choir</td>
<td>Sunday 10:45 to 11:15 am Church</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nursery</td>
<td>Sunday 9:30 am &amp; 12:00 Noon</td>
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<tr>
<td>Adult Choir</td>
<td>Thursday 7:00 pm Choir Room</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Nursery available for Adult Choir</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

MONTHLY ACTIVITIES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Date/Time/Location</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cancer Sewing Group</td>
<td>First Thursday of the Month 9:00 am St Julie Room</td>
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<tr>
<td>More Eats</td>
<td>First Wednesday of the Month</td>
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<tr>
<td>Knights of Columbus</td>
<td>Second Monday of the Month in Knight’s Room</td>
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<tr>
<td>St Vincent de Paul</td>
<td>First Sunday of the month in Teacher’s Lounge 9:30 am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Senior Group</td>
<td>Third Wednesday of the month 12:45 pm St Julie Room</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bridge Group</td>
<td>Every other Wednesday 2:00 pm Parish Library</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monthly Food Collection</td>
<td>Second full weekend of every month</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
I give you a new commandment: love one another. As I have loved you, so you also should love one another.”

JOHN 13:34

It is easy to love someone when they love us back. But it takes courage to love someone when we feel unappreciated, used or feel our opinion doesn’t matter. It takes courage to “love my neighbor” when he may be someone I don’t like, someone I don’t know or someone who doesn’t look like me.
**SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM**
For information concerning Baptism, call the parish office at 404-378-4588.

**SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY**
Arrangements with the Church should be made at least 9 months in advance.

**SPONSORS**
Those wishing to act as sponsors for Baptism or Confirmation please note the requirements.
1. The person must be a registered parishioner for at least 3 months.
2. They must be active in the parish community by Mass attendance and by support of the church.

**NEED IN MIND**

**COUPLES CELEBRATING 50TH, 60TH ANNIVERSARIES**
Archbishop Wilton D. Gregory would like to honor couples married in 1966 and 1956 with an invitation to a Golden/Diamond Wedding Anniversary Mass on Saturday, October 1, 2016 at 12:00 noon at Saint Brigid Catholic Church. A reception will follow the Mass for the anniversary couples and their families. Space is limited. Please go to http://tiny.cc/anniversarymass to RSVP for this event and for additional information.

**NATIONAL CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH**
Children are trafficked for forced labor, domestic work, as child soldiers, and for begging; but most children are trafficked for sexual exploitation. There is a demand for younger and younger victims worldwide, and comes from customers in the growing global sex industry. Please pray for the children of the world. For more information, please visit the U.S. Catholic Sisters Against Human Trafficking at sistersagainsttrafficking.org.

**SUNDAY BULLETIN**
Deadline for bulletin notices is Friday the week prior to printing by 9:00 am in written form or via email to bulletin@stmga.org.

**PARISH MEMBERSHIP**
We welcome new families and individuals to our parish. Stewardship booklets are available in the parish office Monday—Friday 9:00 am to 4:00 pm, by asking a priest or usher after the weekend Masses, or in the Immaculata Gift Shop.

Those who move away, change addresses, phone numbers, or family status are asked to notify the parish office at 404-378-4588 or mdiebold@stmga.org.

**NURSERY AVAILABLE 9:30 & 12:00 MASSES**

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**School News**

**STM SCHOOL LENTEN SERVICE PROJECT**
On Holy Thursday, the STM student body with the help of teachers, staff, and parents worked together to make Easter Baskets and sandwiches for kids and families at Action Ministries. Action Ministries requested 151 baskets, but with the generosity of our STM families, we were able to deliver 186 baskets. A group of students, parents, and teachers delivered the baskets and sandwiches to Our House Support Shelter in Decatur and Genesis House in Atlanta on Good Friday. It was a beautiful sight to see our school come together to make a difference in our community.

**ACCEPTANCE LETTERS MAILED**
Acceptance letters to STM School were mailed at the beginning of April. If you applied to STM for the 2016-17 school year and have not heard from us or if you’re interested in learning more about STM School, call Eileen Maron, Admissions Director at 404-373-8456 or contact her via email at ekm@stmga.org.

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**Prayer for Life**

For an end to all laws, which legal-ize the taking of a human life: that our nation might embrace truth and justice; We pray to the Lord:

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**Sacraments**

**SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM**
For information concerning Baptism, call the parish office at 404-378-4588.

**SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY**
Arrangements with the Church should be made at least 9 months in advance.

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**Keep in Mind**

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