the TOWER

Serving St. Thomas More Catholic Church Since 1970

November 29, 2026 | VOLUME 56 NUMBER 48 | First Sunday of Advent



ABOUT OUR CHURCH

PARISH CLERGY

Pastor
Rev. Eddie Martin

Permanent Deacon
Rev. Mr. Joe Scimeca

Permanent Deacon
Rev. Mr. Paul Soileau

PARISH STAFF

Administration
Ms. Sarah Neau

OCIA & Baptisms
Mrs. Tricia Greely

Religious Education
Ms. Bridget Day

Executive Secretary
Mrs. Ellen Guidry

Receptionist
Mrs. Daphne Bihm

Music Director & Liturgy
Mrs. Mallory Sollie

Ministry Assistant
Ms. Caroline Lucas

Sacristan
Mrs. Kay Fetterman

Maintenance
Mr. Alex Ho

Custodial
Mr. Roosevelt Hamilton
Mr. Rommell Richard

Office Phone Number
225-275-3940



St. Thomas More Catholic Church

Our Mission

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.

Office Hours

Mon.- Thurs.: 8 am - 12 pm; 1 - 5 pm
Fri.: 8 a.m. - 12 pm

Parish Worship Schedule

DAILY MASSES
Monday, 12 pm; Tuesday: 6 pm;
Wednesday:12 pm Thursday: 8:45 am
WEEKEND MASSES
Saturday: 4:30 pm Vigil
Sunday: 8 am, 10 am, and 5 pm
ROSARY
Wednesday: 11:30 am
1st & 3rd Sunday: 9:30 am
RECONCILIATION
Wednesdays: 11:15 - 11:45 am,
Thursdays: 8 - 8:30 am,
Saturdays: 3:15 - 4:15 pm,
and by appointment.

Let's Stay Connected

Stay informed and connected with our parish community.

website: stmbr.org/church

weekly e-newsletter: sign up to receive - under Links/Resources

email: churchinfo@stmbr.org

facebook.com/stmchurchbr

instagram.com/stmbrevents

Submission Deadlines

Submit bulletin notices and social media requests two weeks prior to publication/posting. Send submissions to churchinfo@stmbr.org

Online Offertory Option

To access our online offertory giving, please follow the QR code. Thank you for your generosity!

Stewardship

Sharing Our Time, Talent & Treasure

Stewardship is our grateful response to God's blessings. Through prayer, service, and generosity, we are called to share the gifts God has given us. Our parish offers many opportunities to share your time and talents through ministries that support our worship, strengthen our community, and serve those in need. There is a place for everyone to serve. To learn more about our parish ministries and how you can get involved, visit **stmbr.org/church/ministries.**

PASTOR'S LETTER



Advent

Human beings can not live without hope. Unlike the animals, we are blessed - or cursed - with the ability to think about the future. We may fear or embrace it. And we attempt to influence it, minimize its effect on us, or control it. Animals only live in the present; they lead reactive lives - we can lead proactive lives. That is why we must have hope. We need something to live for, not simply something to avoid or live in anxiety over.

We all hope for our children to have a better life than we did. We hope to have ample food and resources to live comfortably. We hope for health and prosperity for ourselves and our loved ones. We hope for peace and justice to reign over all the world.

These have been the hopes of all peoples throughout time (tyrants excepted). Yet we have reason to be filled with great hope that eluded the peoples of thousands of years ago. Christ has come and given us the promise of eternal life! He also assures us that if we follow His teachings and seek to do His will, we can experience a JOY in this life that far exceeds the value of any other earthly endeavor.

So Advent has two basic themes: first, we celebrate His promise to establish His reign at the Second Coming. We clean out our spiritual closets of anything that does not bring us closer to Him. Secondly, we relish the historical fact that Jesus has already come, redeemed us, and offered us eternal life. Like John the Baptist and Mary, we have great insight into divine knowledge. The revelation we need to bring to a world that is broken and lost in many ways.

So let us begin this Advent with spiritual introspection and make sure our lives align completely with His teachings. And let our greatest hope be to please the One who has given us life itself! Only then may we effectively bring the Hope of Eternal Life into our desperate world.

God bless!

Fr. Eddie

As we begin Advent, we light the first candle, a small flame shining amid the darkness in our lives and in our world. It symbolizes our longing, our faith, and our hope in Christ.

This week, let prayer be the candle you light each morning. Take a quiet moment to turn your heart toward God, welcome Christ's light into your life, and renew your hope in His coming.



Pray:

Lord, the flame of my faith may be small, but my longing for You is great. Let Your light shine through the darkness in my life and in our world. Strengthen my hope, guide me through this day, and prepare my heart for Your coming. Come, Lord Jesus. Be our light and our hope. Amen.

Advent prayer and reflections: onlineministries.creighton.edu/daily-prayers-advent/praying-first-week-advent

OUR PARISH FAMILY

Welcome

We are so happy you are here! Whether you are visiting for the first time, returning to the Church, or seeking a parish home, we welcome you with joy. We invite you to become part of our parish family and to grow with us in faith, fellowship, and service.

Interested in becoming a parishioner? We would love for you to make our parish your spiritual home. Registration forms are available in the church, at the parish office, or on our parish website.

WORSHIP & FAITH

Congratulations, Newly Confirmed!

Congratulations to all those who have received the Sacrament of Confirmation on Tuesday, Oct. 20! May the gifts of the Holy Spirit strengthen and guide you as you continue your journey of faith.

Andrew Alley
Norah Arthurs
Adrian Aucoin, III
Cecilia Aycock
Daisy Bailey
Jude Bailey
Jacob Becker
Esme Bergeron
Finn Blackwell
Heloise Bordelon
Aurelia Bordelon
Audreanne Bordelon
Heidi Boudreaux
Hallie Boudreaux
Lyra Bradley
Evanna Broussard
Nevaeh Brown
Vivienne Bryant
Benjamin Bryant
Owen Buckley
Matthew Calongne
Betsy Campbell
Juliet Chaisson
Wren Claudet
Noelle Collins
Giselle Collins
Karson Dang
Avery Daniels
Andrew David
James Davis
Joseph Do
Sophia Do
Justin Do
Chelsea Do
Ayden Doan-Truong
Luke Douet
Charles Ducote
Teagan Galloway
Anjali George
Alexi Gourgues
Anna Gremillion
Lilly Guillot
Milana Harrington
Jude Hartdegen
Drewe Henley
Logan Hoang
Charles Holder
Anna Jackson
Lilith Johnson
Isabella LaBauve
Jennifer Le
Sebastian Le
Lincoln Ledell
Londyn Lewis
Iris Linder
Luke Llaneza
Jude Long
Ernest Lucas
Isabella Luong
Taylor Luong
Henry Macaluso
Henry McCarney
Alexander Medina-Schmidt
Hayes Meyer
Rory Morgan
Jude Morris
Scarlett Murrell
John Nguyen
Quentin Nguyen
Ethan Nguyen
Aiden Nguyen
Brian Nguyen
Esohe Omorotionmwan
Manuela Ortiz Fandiño
Grace Pham
Cameron Pilgrim
Jonathan Pons
Charlie Rawls
Evan Raymond
Ian Raymond
Reagan Rush
Karleigh Ryes
Jonathan Samaha
Gabe Schexnayder
Isabella Schittone
Adeline Schwartz
Cameron Sharer
Elinor Tessier
Haley Thomas
Peyton Tidwell
Lily Toler
Mason Tran
Jenny Tran
Rosie Tran
Khloe Tran
Mandy Tran
Charlotte Trascher
Camillia Truong
Sofia Tumminello
Amelie Uffman
Dean Widmer
Will Widmer
Jack Wilkinson
Lucillle Williams
Nathan Wylie
Alex Zanovec



SANCTUARY LIGHT

The sanctuary light in the church will burn in memory of Katherine and Thomas Carmody the week of November 29 as requested by Daphne and Wayne Bihm.

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, Nov. 30 - 12 p.m.: Holy Souls in Purgatory
Tuesday, Dec. 1 - 6 p.m.: Patrick Husband
Wednesday, Dec. 2- 12 p.m.: Holy Souls in Purgatory
Thursday, Dec. 3 - 8:45 a.m.: Sylvia Benoit
Saturday, Dec. 5 - 4:30 p.m.: Denver Denison, Annette and Lester Bordelon, John Casteix III, Aaron Provine, Louis Pham, Lucia Vu, Jacob Le, Holy Souls in Purgatory
Sunday, Dec. 6 - 8 a.m.: Patrick Husband; **10 a.m.:** Carolyn Perrault; **5 p.m.:** STM Families, Friends, and Neighbors

PRAYER LIST FOR THE SERIOUSLY ILL

Kindly remember in your prayers the following individuals who are seriously ill: Louis LaBauve, Becky Cline, Tim Bonin, Joe Bonin, Kathie Moise, Myra Wyble

PRAYER LINE

For urgent and immediate prayer requests, call Sharon Hebert at 225.978.1246 (leave your name and number if no answer) or email kennyshar69@att.net.

ACTIVE DUTY MILITARY PRAYER LIST

Remember in your prayers: Capt. Austin Starks, PFC Alyssa Richardson, SSG Brian Edwards, SPC Havyn Henley, PO3 Tytan Henley, MAJ Nate Conlon, MASA Landry Helmke, E-5 David Meyers, SGT Nicholas Lee, SSgt Carlos Burn, CPO John W. Arceneaux, and LCpl Joseph Lemoine, MSgt. Phillip Culotta, E-2 Trevor Scott Rivette, MP Josua Brice Darbonne, AB Landon Schmit

(Add/edit: receptionist@ stmbr.org.)



The **G.A.L.S. Ministry** invites children in Pre-K 3 through 6th grade to **Nativity Night, an evening of Christmas crafts, games, treats, music, and faith-filled fun** as we prepare our hearts for the birth of Jesus!

📅 Friday, December 11 ⏰ 5:30–8:30 p.m.
📍 STM Gym 🎁 FREE admission!

REGISTER NOW! Space is limited, and registration is required. Scan the QR code or register at **stmbr.org/news/nativity-night**



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Bambinelli Sunday Fellowship
hosted by G.A.L.S. Ministry
Sunday, December 13th
following 10:00 am Mass
Advent crafts, Nativity photo op, and breakfast treats!
Baby Jesus figurines blessed at all Masses Dec. 12-13.

The STM Senior Ministry
– 55 & Alive –
invites all parishioners to take part in an Advent Reflection as we prepare our hearts to welcome Christ at Christmas.

Take a little time away from the busyness of the season to pause, pray, and reflect on the true meaning of Advent.

Allow this opportunity to renew your spirit and deepen your faith as we prepare for the celebration of Christ's birth.

ADVENT REFLECTION
Thursday, December 3
9:30 – 11:30 a.m.
Activity Center

Begin the morning with 8:45 a.m. Mass, followed by coffee and fellowship with baked goods and pastries.

The Advent Reflection, led by Deacon Paul Soileau, will begin at 10:30 a.m.

Please RSVP to the church office, 225-275.3940 by Dec. 1.

Angel Tree: Select Your Angel This Weekend

St. Thomas More Parish's annual Angel Tree Project is underway! Coordinated by the G.A.L.S. Ministry, this year's project will support St. Vincent de Paul, Xavier Catholic School, Volunteers of America, and local families.**Angel ornaments are available at the back of the church through November 29**, with ministry members present before and after Mass to assist you. **Wrapped gifts with the ornament securely attached to the outside must be returned to the church or office by December 6**. For questions or if you would like to help with this meaningful outreach, please contact Megan Campagna at mscampagna@cox.net.





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Have you grown apart?
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Manage conflicts effectively.
Forgive and rebuild trust.
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Come and discover what God intends for your marriage

Next Retreat is Jan 29-31, 2027