

St. Thomas More

100 Stinson, Norman, OK 73072
(405) 321-0990 • fax (405) 321-0964
www.stm-ou.org

Office Hours: Mon.—Fri. 8:30 am to 4:30 pm
Lunch 12 pm—1 pm

Pastoral Staff & Information

Reverend Ray K. Ackerman
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Deacon Tom Schott
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Parish Secretary: Teresa Medford ext. 200
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Website Editor: Richard Love
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Volunteer Information: ivolunteer@stm-ou.org

St. Vincent de Paul: 329-5372

Prayer Line: 360-4147

Bulletin Deadline: Tuesday @ 12 noon

Mission Statement

The Mission of St. Thomas More University Parish is to serve the spiritual, educational, and social needs of the Parish and to evangelize the larger community as expressed by our Catholic tradition.

Vision Statement

The desire of our hearts is to be a vibrant sacramental Catholic community that prays, learns, cares and shares in ways that compel us to witness to the power of the presence of God and to build God's kingdom.

Weekly Mass Schedule

Saturday Vigil Mass: 5:00 pm

Sunday Masses: 8:30 am, 11 am & 5 pm

Monday Communion Service: 7:30 am

Daily Masses: Tues. & Thurs. 5:15 pm
Wed. & Fri. 7:30 am

Rosary: Following daily Mass

Sacramental Ministries

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Saturdays, 3-4:30 pm or by personal appointment.

Sacrament of Baptism: Parents requesting infant baptism must be registered members of the Parish for at least six months and must contact the parish office for an appointment.

Sacrament of Matrimony: Couples must be registered in the parish for at least six months, and need to contact Father Ackerman six months prior to the date of marriage.

STM Journey of Faith Fall/Spring '09-10 "COME TO THE WATER, THE SOURCE OF ALL LIFE"

If you are interested in learning about what being a Catholic is about, or if you are **RE**-thinking becoming a Catholic, or if you are a baptized adult Catholic who has not received the sacrament of Confirmation, or if you simply desire to discover the existential meaning of your life, then the STM **RCIA** program is for you! The **Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults** is a **Journey of Faith** which runs from August to May, with meetings at STM each Tuesday at 7 pm. By attending, you are not committing yourself to baptism or to being received into the Catholic Church, but simply exploring your journey with Christ. If you would like to find out more, please contact **Deacon Pigott**.

Sacrament of the Sick: Parishioners facing surgery or struggling with serious illness may request this sacrament by calling the Parish office.

Visit the Blessed Sacrament Chapel and Pray for... the preservation of dignity and sanctity of all life: victims and survivors of violence; troubled marriages; vocations; peace; justice; our service men and women and their families; the hungry; the homeless; the abused; the unemployed; and our youth. †

Parish Schedule

Sun. November 22

- 8:30 am **Mass** †Herman Desch
By the Parish Family
- 11:00 am **Mass** †Belim Moreno
By the Parish Family
- 5:00 pm **Mass** †Javier Restrepo
By the Parish Family
- 6:00 pm **College Sports and Snacks**

Mon. November 23

- 7:30 am **Communion Service**
- 7:00 pm **Men of Honor/Women of Grace**

Tues. November 24

- 5:15 pm **Mass** †Joan Ivester
By the Parish Family

Wed. November 25

- Office Closes at Noon**
- 7:30 am **Mass** †Charles Sunderland
By the Parish Family
- 7:00pm **Mass Blessing of the Bread & Wine**
- 9:00 pm **Mass No Liturgy Thanksgiving Break**

Thurs. November 26

Office Closed Happy Thanksgiving!

Fri. November 27

No Liturgy/Office Closed

Sat. November 28

- 3:00 pm **No Confession/OU Game**
- 5:00 pm **No Liturgy/OU Game**

Sun. November 29

- 8:30 am **Mass** †Pat Gill
By the Parish Family
- 11:00 am **Mass** †Jean Clarbour
By the Parish Family
- 5:00 pm **Mass** †Annie Spann
By the Parish Family

Readings for the Week of Nov 22-29

- Sun: Dn 7:13-14/Rv 1:5-8/Jn 18:33b-37 (161)
- Mon: Dn 1:1-6, 8-20/Lk 21:1-4 (503)
- Tues: Dn 2:31-45/Lk 21:5-11 (504)
- Wed: Dn 5:1-6, 13-14, 16-17, 23-28
- Thurs: Dn 6:12-28/Lk 21:20-28 (506)
- Fri: Dn 7:2-14/Lk 21:29-33 (507)
- Sat: Dn 7:15-27/Lk 21:34-36 (508)
- Sun: Jer 33:14-16/1 Thes 3:12-4.2
Lk 21:25-28, 34-36 (3)

Ministry Schedule November 28 & November 29

Altar Servers

Saturday

5:00pm No Liturgy/OU game

Sunday

8:30am Rebecca Gunter, Gabriella Scheiner, Valerie Pham
11:00am John Robb, Kelsey Robb, Tyler Keupen
5:00pm Jonathan Kron, Susan Murphy, Sherritta Harris

Lectors

Saturday

5:00pm No Liturgy/OU game

Sunday

8:30am Helen Patrick, Al Patrick
11:00am Miranda Shaughnessy
5:00pm Charles Gill, Harold Castano

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

Saturday

5:00pm No Liturgy/OU game

Sunday

8:30am Amy McElhaney, Stacy Schrank, Barbara Foley, John Fagan, Cathy Fagan
11:00am Steve Edge, Veronica Edge, Becky O'Dea, Terry O'Dea, Kathy Heiple, Jodie Edge, Doris Edge, John Holter, Rick Pendergraft
5:00pm Susan Mecham, Joseph Mecham, Bill Huntington, Bea Henderson, Arn Henderson, Sims Beeler, Bill Hersey, Bobby Meiners

Ushers

Saturday

5:00pm No Liturgy/OU game

Sunday

8:30am Russell Koch, K. Denton, Jr.
11:00am Jim Weller, James Robb, Joe Sher
5:00pm Corey Gill

Hospitality Schedule

	8:30 Mass	11:00 Mass
Nov 29nd	Cachero Family	Marissa Cassidy Jay Coleman
Dec 6th	Hinton Family Corbett Family	Holter Family

Thank you to all our wonderful families!

St. Thomas More News and Announcements

Prayer Blanket Ministry

Some dedicated ladies of our parish have been busy making Prayer shawls and throws to be given to those who are seriously ill. These are made with special prayers for healing and are blessed by Father Ray. If you know of anyone who needs the comforting thought of knowing prayers are being said for them, please contact Louise Kay at 364-8867. Also, volunteers would be welcomed to help with the crocheting.

The Word Feeding Justice

November 22, 2009: Christ the King

Catholic Social Teaching: Solidarity

1st Reading: Daniel 7:13-14

Psalm: 93

2nd Reading: Revelation 1:5-8

Gospel: John 18:33b-37

The waiting of Advent, penance of Lent, passion of the Triduum and daily embrace of the Divine molding our human experience of ordinary time brings us to the close of the liturgical year. We have spiritually savored each season. God showed humility in the stable, the mercy, and compassion of a forgiving heart, listening to God in prayerful surrender and daily work for justice and peace while we lift up the least in society. We follow God's star to bring gifts of our time to serve others, forgive our brothers and sisters, stand at the foot of the cross of injustice and in our daily lives to experience God's holy presence. God comes to testify to the truth and release us from sinfulness to freedom.

Individual Reflection: Revelation 1:5-8

Make a list of the liturgical seasons and one way you can be more attentive to them. Keep this with your calendar as a reminder to focus on these ideas during the coming liturgical year.

Food Pantry

The food pantry is being visited regularly and is providing a helping hand to many people every month. We would like to ask that the following items be donated:

Spaghetti sauce and noodles, canned fruits, vegetables and meat, cereal, macaroni & cheese, Lipton noodles, boxed meals, hamburger/tuna helper, peanut butter & jelly, spaghetti, boxed potatoes, rice, beans, ramen noodles, applesauce, pudding, juice, shampoo, conditioner, toothpaste and brushes, soap, laundry detergent, cleaning supplies, etc.

By the request of our parishioners, we would like to have people whose **last name is A through L bring items on the first two Sundays of the month** and those whose **last name is M through Z the last two Sundays of the month**. This by no means will mean that any donation will not be received with much gratitude. With thanks to all the generous people in the parish.

The Harvest Bazaar is Coming.....

The Harvest Bazaar, hosted by the Martha and Mary's Guild, will be Next Saturday and Sunday, November 21 & November 22 after the Masses. It will be in the Atrium Saturday from 8:30 am until 4:30 pm. There will be an opportunities to buy WONDERFUL baked goodies, made by our talented parishioners. Also available are HOLIDAY CRAFTS AND GIFTS, white elephants, LOVELY ELEGANT GIFTS, Holiday decorations, and a number of raffle items. Tickets are \$1.00 or 6 tickets for \$5.00. You will choose where you would like to place your tickets for a chance to win. There are the following items: a Queen-size quilt, made by STM quilters, a beautiful gray alpaca crocheted shawl, made by Marge Early, a baby quilt made by Pat Urell, a Wine & Cheese basket made by Barbara Foley, a celebration photo album, made by a St. Vincent de Paul client, a 7 piece set of Corning ware bake ware, and a Christmas basket made by Nancy Jones. WE NEED YOU TO COME AND PARTICIPATE, as customers, bakers, crafters, and people to donate gifts and white elephants. If you have any questions, please call Pat at 447-1505. Thank you and God bless.

P. S. YOU MAY BUY RAFFLE TICKETS FOR ALL THE ITEMS AFTER MASSES STARTING THIS SUNDAY!

Parish Council minutes can be found on the Parish website at: <http://www.stm-ou.org/parishcouncil>

Remember the poor... Please remember to drop a donation in the poor box as you exit the church. All proceeds go to the St. Vincent de Paul Society who assist the needy of Norman and Noble.

Please call the office with Mass requests, funeral scheduling, sacramental ministries, questions, or if you are moving.

STM NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS (cont'd)

Birth Choice Crisis Pregnancy Center

Located at 457 West Gray, Norman

is in need of many items to help restock their reserves. The "wish list" includes:

Newborn Diapers up to size 5

Newborn Outfits up to size 2

Wash cloths and wipes

Baby shoes

New or Used Maternity clothes (tops and bottoms)

Baby wash and shampoo

Baby food in jars or boxes

Formula/Good Start

Receiving blankets

Cash donations are always welcome too and checks should be made out to BIRTHCHOICE at PO Box 94533 in Oklahoma City 73143.

Thank you for your support of our babies!

Volunteers!!! We need your time and talent. In return you will receive many blessings and meet a lot of wonderful people. **CALL 360-9555.**

Job Wanted:

Stephen Ouandji, 17, a young parishioner here at St. Thomas More, would be interested in any odd job that you may have. Gardening, raking, mowing, babysitting are all things he would be ready and willing to do. His transportation is a bike, so you would need to give explicit directions or be willing to pick him up. Please call him at (405) 701-8412.

Mass Drivers Needed

Would there be anyone in the Parish who would like to volunteer to drive someone, occasionally, to Mass because they are unable to do so? Please call the office at 321-0990 if you would like to help with this. Thank you.

Religious Education News

Baptismal Seminars Schedule for 2009-2010

All parents and godparents are required to attend a Baptismal seminar. St. Thomas More will offer Baptismal seminars on the following dates:

December 20th 12:30 pm in Library
for (preferred Baptismal dates
the Christmas season are
Dec. 27th and Jan. 10th)

February 21st 12:30 pm in Library
(for any Baptism during the
Easter season)

May 16th 12:30 pm in Library
(for any summer Baptism)

Registration is required for any seminar. Please call Chelle Breedlove at 321-0990 ext 202.

Religious Education News (cont'd)

Next Children's Mass

The next Children's Mass will be on **December 13th at 11 am.** The Third Sunday of Advent is **Gaudete Sunday**, the "pink candle" Sunday. This is when we light the pink candle on the Advent wreath. **Gaudete** is the plural form of the Latin verb, gaudete meaning "to rejoice".

There will be no RE classes on November 29, 2009 due to Thanksgiving Break.

The first weekend in December, **Epiphany Pageant practice will begin. The Epiphany Play will take place on January 3rd at 4 pm, before the 5 pm Mass.** Children from all the classes will be invited to participate in the pageant.

All Saints Catholic School News

Construction continues on our brand new gymnasium! Log on to our school website at www.allsaintsnorman.org The 12,000 square foot facility that includes a gymnasium and multi-purpose space, a commercial kitchen, concession stands, a lobby, storage and PE facilities is set to be completed in the Spring 2010. The school has raised \$1,000,000 of the \$1,250,000 budget. Help us over the final hurdle! Make your pledge or donation at the website above. Thank you for all of your support.

We need 40 science fair judges! The 14th annual ASCS Science Fair will be held December 2-4 at the school. Judges are needed for various shifts on Thursday, December 3rd from 8:30 am until 2 pm. Most years, we have around 250 projects on display! Contact Dr. Bragg if you are willing to help at 447-4600 or tbragg@ascs.org

The **All Saint's 4-H clubs** are working in conjunction with the St. Vincent de Paul Society of St. Joseph's to collect coats for distribution at Food for Friends. Coats may be dropped off at All Saint's or St. Joseph's.

A few openings still exist- Pre-K, Grade 1, Grade 4 and Grade 5. Interested families should download the application off our school website (above) and contact the school for an admission interview.

Support your parish school by saving designated coupons/ labels from Campbell Soup, General Mills, Tyson, and Coca Cola. Collection boxes are in the school atrium or you may drop them off at the office at STM. Attention Homeland shoppers-register your One Card so that the school receives credit for your purchases. Our school code is: **62052.**

Catholic Radio may now be heard on FM 96.5 in the metro Oklahoma City area! Tune in and listen form 2 pm until dusk.

News in the Diocese

40 Days for Life Campaign will be taking place from September 23 to November 1

The prayer vigils will run from 6 am to 8 pm from September 23 through November 1 and will take place at the Warr Acres abortion facility located at 6112 NW 63rd St., Oklahoma City, OK 73132 (It's across the street from the 7-11 on NW 63rd, west of MacArthur Blvd). In Norman at The Abortion Surgery Center, 2453 Wilcox Drive. The more people are aware of this, the more people will sign-up to help, and the more human lives in the womb can be saved! The 40 Days of Life campaign is part of a nationally coordinated pro-life campaign. It is the nation's largest united pro-life effort to hold peaceful prayer vigils outside of abortion facilities across the United States. Since its inception in 2004, the movement has spread across the United States borders to Canada and even around the world to places like Denmark. For more specific information on the 40 Days of Life, visit the official website at:

<http://www.40daysforlife.com>

November in National Awareness month-

And it is a special time to celebrate the gift of life that is shared when infants and children are welcomed into loving families. Adoption is the best option for women and families who are unable to welcome a child into their lives. For decades, our Catholic Charities has been a reliable source of help to provide the best care for children, mothers, and families in Oklahoma who choose adoption. Your support of the Catholic Charities' appeal helps to make adoption and maternity services possible. Please consider an annual pledge to Catholic Charities today. To donate, call 405-523-3000 or visit Catholic Charities on line at

www.catholiccharitiesok.org

Catholic Campaign for Human Development

Families in poverty pay more than half of their income for rent or mortgage payments. Affordable housing is inaccessible to low-income people. Through the Catholic Campaign for Human Development, Catholics offer hope and help to families to overcome poverty. CCHD shares in Jesus' mission to "bring good news to the poor...release to the captives...and to let the oppressed go free..."(Luke 4:16) Support the national collection as you can.

From Archbishop Beltran: For a week in early October, the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City was audited by an independent firm retained by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops who reviewed the Archdiocese and its parishes for compliance with the **Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People**. I am pleased to announce that the Archdiocese was found to be compliant with the Charter. Without the dedicated efforts of many-members of the clergy, archdiocesan staff members, parish facilitators, the Archdiocesan Review Board, our principals, teachers DREs, youth ministers and many others-the Charter's promise to protect our children now and in the future could not be fulfilled. I wish especially to thank each of you for supporting the Safe Environment Program in prayer and action and for your commitment to restoring trust and harmony in our faith communities. Thank you and God Bless.

Catholic Charities' Adopt-a-Family Christmas Program Need Your Help

There is no greater gift than to help a family in need for the holidays. The Adopt-a-Family program was created to assist families with their Christmas celebration. Without the benefit of an adoption, these families otherwise would not be able to celebrate due to their hardships. Last year, volunteers and sponsors allowed Catholic Charities to provide presents to 286 families. This year, the goal is to provide presents for 350 families.

Sponsors come in many shapes and sizes. They can be families, individuals, small businesses or large corporations. Many sponsors find the experience so fulfilling that they participate in the program year after year. With the help of generous sponsors and volunteers like you, Christmas blessings will be shared with families throughout Oklahoma City to make Christmas 2009 a celebration they will never forget.

Catholic Charities thanks all of our past Adopt-a-Family sponsors and volunteers for your generosity. Please call **Cassie Neahring at 526-2308** to volunteer or the **Adopt-a-Family Program at 523-3026** to sponsor a family.

Catholic School Leadership at Notre Dame

The University of Notre Dame in South Bend, Indiana is currently accepting applications for its program in educational administration designed especially for preparing Catholic school principals. The Master of Arts (M.A.)

Degree is part of the Alliance for Catholic Education (ACE) program. All certified teachers interested in the principalship are encouraged to apply. For more information, call (574) 631-4449, or visit <http://ace.nd.edu>. The online application is now available on this site.

Catholic Charities Needs Your Support-

Thank you to all who have pledged to the Catholic Charities Annual Appeal. If you have not yet pledged, please consider making a donation toward the \$2.4 million goal. With the economy down, requests for charitable assistance are way up, and your gift is very important. If you would like more information about the appeal, please feel free to contact Catholic Charities at (405)523-3000

Our Lady of Mercy Retreat Center

Two Advent opportunities for women are coming up! Located at: **Our Lady of Mercy Retreat Center
2801 S. Shartel Avenue
Oklahoma City, Ok 73109
24 Hour Retreat
December 11-12**

OR

**December 12th for a
Women's Day Advent Retreat**

For information/ registration, call Sister Betty at (405) 634-1968.

Thank You!

Dear St. Thomas More Parishioners,

I want to take this opportunity to thank each and every one of you for your participation in the Gala this year. I want to especially recognize Jack and Pat Murray, Joe and Carolyn Sher, Harold and Kathy Heiple and Louise Kay for their dedication to the to Mass Baskets and for the wonderful success of each. I am sure all of you have heard by now, but the 8:30 am Mass is the official winner of the Mass basket competition with their basket that raised \$1300!! Congratulations and keep posted for the date of your breakfast compliments of the OU students.

This year the attendance reached over 200 and it was wonderful to see friends from St. Joseph's and St. Mark's. The auction was a wonderful success and made nearly \$16,000 (almost \$3000 more from last year) and the evening overall made just over \$24,000.

I want to thank our wonderful sponsors: Benvenuti's, Norman Plumbing Supply, Joe's Place Fine Wine & Spirits, Drs. Irwin, Dr. Fields, Waggoner's Heating & Air, Knights of Columbus 8523, MA+ Architecture, Mercy Health & BancFirst. Please keep these generous business owners in mind this holiday season and throughout the year.

I welcome any suggestions and comments and want to extend my thanks again for all that was accomplished this year.

God Bless,

Christy Meiser