

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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RCIA Director & Deacon Dr. John Pigott
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Deacon Tom Schott
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Parish Secretary: Teresa Medford ext. 200
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RE Coordinator: Chelle Breedlove ext. 202
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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 29

- 8:30 am **Mass** †Patricia Gill
By the Parish Family
- 11:00 am **Mass** †Jean Clabour
By the Parish Family
- 5:00 pm **Mass** †Illene "Sue" Cockriel
By the Parish Family
- 6:00 pm **College Sports and Snacks**

Mon. November 30

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

Tues. December 1

- 5:15 pm **Mass** †Nieves and Quirico Posa
By Tita Posa
- 7:00 pm **Journey of Faith (RCIA)**

Wed. December 2

- 7:30 am **Mass** †Andrew "Andy" Kershen
By the Parish Family
- 7:30 pm **College Night/Supper**
- 9:00 pm **Mass Student Led**

Thurs. December 3

- 5:15 pm **Mass** †Annie Spann
By the Parish Family

Fri. December 4

- 7:30 am **Mass** †Ruth Ann Coyle Detzer
By the Parish Family

Sat. December 5

- 3:00 pm **Confessions**
- 5:00 pm **Mass** Intentions of the Parish Family

Sun. December 6

- 8:30 am **Mass** †Muoi Vo
By the Pham Family
- 11:00 am **Mass** Intentions of the Parish Family
- 5:00 pm **Mass** †Victoria Claravel
By Tita Posa

Readings for the Week of Nov 29-Dec 6

- Sun: Jer 33:14-16/1 Thes 3:12-4.2
Lk 21:25-28, 34-36 (3)
- Mon: Rom 10:9-18/Mt 4:18-22 (684)
- Tues: Is 11:1-10/Lk 10:21-24 (176)
- Wed: Is 25:6-10a/Mt 15:29-37 (177)
- Thurs: Is 26:1-6/Mt 9:27-31 (179)
- Fri: Is 29:17-24/ Mt 9:27-31 (179)
- Sat: Is 30:19-21, 23-26/Mt 9:35-10:1,
5a, 6-8 (180)
- Sun: Bar 5:1-9/Phil 1:4-6, 8-11
Lk 3:1-6 (6)

Ministry Schedule December 5 & December 6

Altar Servers

Saturday

- 5:00pm Michael Scanlon, Arianna Gracia

Sunday

- 8:30am Rebecca Gunter, Brandon Montano, Jessica Trilli
- 11:00am Andres Kenney, Hannah Johnson, Maya Hoffman
- 5:00pm Risa Walters, Janice Wilson, Katie Byers

Lectors

Saturday

- 5:00pm Richard Messner, Marcia Messner

Sunday

- 8:30am Earl Whitman, Tom Koszoru
- 11:00am Michelle Breedlove, Mark Krittenbrink
- 5:00pm Joe Walters, Tyler Lofgren

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

Saturday

- 5:00pm Valli Marti, Stephen Bonner, Mary Bonner,
Greg Schultz, Virginia Schultz

Sunday

- 8:30am April Anderson, Gerry Whitman, Salva Gabert,
Joe Lies, Charles Gill
- 11:00am Steve Edge, Veronica Edge, Caridad Marchand,
Kathy Heiple, Jodie Edge, Doris Edge,
John Holter, Dan Lawrence, Rigo Gutierrez
- 5:00pm Arn Henderson, Bea Henderson, Joseph Mecham,
Susan Mecham, Bobby Meiners, Jose Santiago,
Linda Fields, Jim Fields, Lindsay Hemingway

Ushers

Saturday

- 5:00pm Jane Wrede, Leila Kondo, Rae Quijano

Sunday

- 8:30am Heidi Koszoru, Kathleen Kershen, Drew Kershen
Leroy Montano
- 11:00am Steve Patrick, Mike Tobin, Susy Calonkey,
Steve Calonkey
- 5:00pm Bill Huntington, Corey Gill, David Allbritton

Hospitality Schedule

	8:30 Mass	11:00 Mass
Dec. 6th	Hinton Family Corbett Family	Holter Family
Dec 13th	Patrick Family	O'Dea 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 29, 2009: 1st Sunday of Advent

Catholic Social Teaching: Rights and Responsibilities

1st Reading: Jeremiah 33:14-16

Psalm: 25

2nd Reading: 1st Thessalonians 3:12-4:2

Gospel: Luke 21:25-28, 34-36

Advent is a time for waiting, but not for wasting time. In the chill of a winter wind, we are driven inside to the warmth: the warmth of the room and interior peace of our soul. Taking time to reflect on the meaning of patience, we see the ability to celebrate the season with gratitude. A hurried agenda filled with idol consumerism and daily anxieties are left behind. Hands of service make us increase and abound in love for one another and strengthen our heart. With prayer to make us increase and abound in love for one another and strengthen our heart. With prayer to escape the tribulations of holiday excess, we venture outside in hope, to gaze for the star of Bethlehem soon appearing on the horizon —and the promise will be fulfilled.

Individual Reflection: 1st Thessalonians 3:12-4:2

Invite a friend, not involved in social justice outreach, to join you when you volunteer or work on a project this holiday season. Share with them the importance of giving the gift of their time.

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.

Notice to all Group Leaders and Parish Ministers:

Those in need of special access to the church. Door key applications are available in the office after Thanksgiving. Starting on **December 1st, a \$10.00 deposit will be required and all applications are contingent. Issuance requires application approval.**

Adorers of the Blood of Christ Associate Meeting

All are welcome to share the Good News of Jesus Christ through prayer, scripture, spiritual readings and sharing on **Monday, November 30th at 7:00 pm.**

St. Maria De Mattias said, "Let us work to bring about that beautiful of things which the Son of God came to establish in His Blood".

Sister Ursula Schones and STM Associates

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.

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

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.**

Harvest Bazaar Thanks

Members of the Martha & Mary Guild would like to thank everyone who helped with the annual bazaar. The amount raised was \$4622.82 and all monies will go to support the St. Vincent de Paul Society who help the poor of Norman. This year money is critically needed due to the poor economic conditions and many people are out of work.

Thanks to the students who helped to set up and break down the Bazaar. Also the Pancake Breakfast held on Sunday to also help SVDP. Thanks to all those who baked the wonderful goodies and those who made the handmade gifts. Thanks to the donors of White Elephant items and the Elegant gifts table. Thanks to the Young Adults Group, who made a donation, and to all the customers who came, purchased, and made donations.

Thanks to the Quilt Group, who made two quilts, one to raffle and one to sell. Thanks to all the people who donated to the raffle items. Ann Geiger and all of the Quilt group ladies, Barbara Foley and Joe Lies, who donated the Wine & Cheese baskets (two this year), Pat Urell for the baby quilt, Nancy Jones for the Christmas basket, Barbara Crain for the Alpaca shawl made by Marge Early, Joyce Singh for the Corning ovenware and Stand mixer, And to a client of St. Vincent de Paul who donated the photo album.

Winners of the raffle items are as follows:

Queen quilt-Karin Cappe, Wine and Cheese baskets-Matt Biddick & David Storm, Baby quilt-Diane Cotts, Christmas basket-Lauren Stewart, Alpaca shawl-Amy Bergseth, Corning ovenware-Jeanie McLish, and the Photo Album-Judy Urell

Congratulations to all of the winners!

Thanks also to the STM staff for all their help and support.

Come and Join the Secular Franciscans

The next meeting will be on **December 6th at 1:00 pm in the church library.** For more information, please call Mary at 527-0842.

Casino Night for the Primetimers

Coming up on **December 11**, the Primetimers will be Having a Casino Night hosted by the Knights of Columbus. It will begin at 6:00 pm with dinner. More information to follow.....

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
(preferred Baptismal dates for 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.

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".

All Saints Catholic School News

Construction continues on our brand new gymnasium! Logon 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.

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**.

News in the Diocese

NAIC Presents the 1st Annual "Breakfast with Santa" December 5th, 2009

Come and Go Between 8:00 am and 11:00 am at St. John's Episcopal Church

235 West Duffy, Norman, Oklahoma

Adult ticket \$5.00

Child ticket \$3.00

Since 1972, **Norman Addiction Information & Counseling (NAIC)** has provided help and hope to individuals, families and communities impacted by alcohol, other drugs and concurring conditions. NAIC has saved the lives of adults and youth, helped reunite and rebuild families, and empowered communities to keep kids off of drugs. Alcohol and drug addiction continues to be a serious health issue nationally and locally. Our community has identified substance abuse for youth and adults as one of our most serious problems. We know that prevention and treatment work, and recovery is possible. We see it happen every day.

Please call Teresa Seal at (405)321-0022 for ticket or sponsor information.

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 Neahrng 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