



# *St. Thomas More Catholic Student Parish*

**421 Monroe Street, Kalamazoo, MI 49006**

(269) 381-8917 • Fax (269) 381-0195

e-mail: [sttoms@sttomskazoo.org](mailto:sttoms@sttomskazoo.org) website: <http://www.sttomskazoo.org>

Office Located at 1333 W. Lovell Street

Office Hours: Monday - Friday 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. (Closed Noon - 1:00 p.m. daily)

## **PARISH STAFF**

Sharon Froom, MA, LLP, Pastoral Counselor  
Deacon Pat Hall, Pastoral Team  
Sr. Sue McCrery, CSJ, Pastoral Team  
Marian Nelson, Pastoral Team  
Fr. James Richardson, Pastoral Team  
Fr. Ken Schmidt, Pastoral Team  
Deacon Joe Schmitt, Pastoral Team  
Jerry & Molly Mechtenberg-Berrigan, Youth Faith Formation  
Michele Cretsinger, Parish Secretary  
Patty Donovan Haley, Religious Education Coordinator, 343-6256  
Marianne Lippi, Development Secretary  
Martha Reid, Bookkeeper  
Lyle Smith, Maintenance

## **MASS SCHEDULE**

Saturday 6:00 p.m.  
Sunday 9:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m., 5:30 p.m., 7:30 p.m.  
Daily Mass 5:15 p.m.

## **SACRAMENTAL CELEBRATIONS**

Baptism, Reconciliation, Marriage — Call the parish office to set an appointment. Please note that the period of marriage preparation is at least six months. If you know of anyone who is sick or homebound, please call the parish office.

## **PASTORAL ASSISTANCE**

Staff members are available for appointments. Please call the parish office at 381-8917 or call Catholic Family Services at 381-9800

**PARISH MISSION STATEMENT**—*We, the people of St. Thomas More Parish, gifted and led by the Holy Spirit, are called to build up the kingdom of God among the college communities of Kalamazoo. Diverse, yet one, we are called to be the Body of Christ, to praise and worship our Heavenly Father, to proclaim God's Word, to love and serve others, especially the poor and neglected. We welcome all into our parish family who wish to share in this mission.*

## SACRAMENTAL LIFE

### SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR NEXT WEEKEND

April 18, 2010

Acts 5:27b-32, 40b-41 Revelation 5:11-14 John 21:1-19

The next scheduled **BAPTISM** of infants will take place Saturday, April 17 during 6:00 p.m. Mass. Parents and godparents are expected to participate in a class before the celebration of this sacrament. The next scheduled baptism class is Monday, April 18 at 7:00 p.m. To register call the parish office at 381-8917.

### *Congratulations to*

**Priya Maureen Allison** daughter of Robert and Teagan

**William Blaise DeFour** son of Matthew and Autumn

**Elena Christine Czuk** son of Christopher and Frances  
who were baptized here at St. Tom's last weekend.

Our next **PRE-MARRIAGE MEETING** will be held on Sunday, April 18, 2010 following the 11:30 a.m. Mass. Couples planning to marry within the next year should plan on attending one of these meetings. You must register before attending. Please call 381-8917.

## SCRIPTURE READINGS THIS WEEK

### MONDAY, APRIL 12 - SATURDAY, APRIL 17

Monday	Acts 4:23-31	John 3:1-8
Tuesday:	Acts 4:32-37	John 3:7-15
Wednesday:	Acts 5:17-26	John 3:16-21
Thursday:	Acts 5:27-33	John 3:31-36
Friday:	Acts 5:34-42	John 6:1-15
Saturday	Acts 6:1-7	John 6:16-21

## KEN'S KALEIDOSCOPE

I hope that this Easter season is a good and holy time to realize again the presence and power of God in your life. Some people aren't sure how to recognize that – I refer you to a site called Other6.com – which ask people to post their answer to one or two simple questions: *Where have you found God today?* and *Where do you need to find God today?* And you can read other responses there, which may help you recognize God in "the other six days of the week."

## THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

### SUNDAY, APRIL 11

9:30 & 11:30 Children & Worship

### MONDAY, APRIL 12

6:00 p.m. Rosary for Vocations  
6:00 p.m. Meditation and Centering Prayer  
8:30 p.m. SMT

### TUESDAY, APRIL 13

12:00 p.m. AA/AI Anon  
7:00 p.m. RCIA - Mystagogy  
8:00 p.m. Student AA

### WEDNESDAY, APRIL 14

6:30 p.m. Women's Group  
6:30 p.m. Parish Council Meeting  
7:00-10:00 p.m. More at Midweek

### THURSDAY, APRIL 15

10:30 a.m. Yoga  
6:00 p.m. Rosary for Peace  
6:00-8:00 pm Love and Logic Parent Workshop  
8:00 p.m. Student AA

### FRIDAY, APRIL 16

12:00 p.m. AA/AI Anon  
6:00-9:00 p.m. Evening of Reflection for College Graduates

### SATURDAY, APRIL 17

8:00 a.m. Women's AA  
12:00 p.m. AA  
4:45 p.m. Shawl Ministry  
6:00 p.m. Baptism during Mass  
7:00-9:00 p.m. Parent discussion & exchange about sending your child to college

### SUNDAY, APRIL 18

9:30 & 11:30 Children & Worship  
9:30 a.m. Baptism during Mass  
12:45 p.m. Marriage Prep Meeting  
1:00 p.m. Baptism  
2:00 p.m. Wedding Ceremony Planning

## MASS SCHEDULE

### SATURDAY, APRIL 10 – *Easter Saturday*

8:30 p.m. † Richard Simmons  
brother-in-law of Jerry & Sylvia Pahl

### SUNDAY, APRIL 11 – *2nd Sunday of Easter - Divine Mercy Sunday*

9:30 a.m. People of the Parish  
11:30 a.m. Peace in the world  
5:30 pm. † Juan Carlos Almonte  
requested by Katerina Druan  
7:30 pm. † Bill Liston requested by Geri Schubert

### MONDAY, APRIL 12 –

5:15 p.m. People of Maria Madre de los Pobres

### TUESDAY, APRIL 13 – *St. Martin*

5:15 p.m. Sick and shut-ins of our parish family

### WEDNESDAY, APRIL 14

5:15 p.m. Vocations

### THURSDAY, APRIL 15

7:00 p.m. Sisters & girls at Casa Amparo

### FRIDAY, APRIL 16

2:00 p.m. Heartland Communion Service  
5:15 p.m. † Michael Halcisak father of Justin Halcisak

### SATURDAY, APRIL 17

8:30 p.m. † Deceased members of the  
Coyne, Jako, and Kilcourse families

### SUNDAY, APRIL 18 – *3rd Sunday of Easter*

9:30 a.m. † Irene Marazas mother of Joanne Barretta  
11:30 a.m. People of the parish  
5:30 pm. † Bill Liston requested by Beth Schubert  
7:30 pm. † Jesús Gonzalez Blazquez  
father of Rocio Gonzalez Romero

The Pastoral Staff, the RCIA Team, Sponsors and the entire St. Tom's Initiating Community would like to congratulate and welcome the following who celebrated the sacraments at the Easter Vigil:



**Celebrated Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist**

Kristi Kelly  
Mike Miller  
Sean O'Brien

**Received into full communion with the Catholic Church and celebrated Confirmation and Eucharist**

Trevor Dahl  
Ashley Emerson  
Andrew Polishak  
Denise Posey  
Bobbe Taber

**Confirmed and received First Eucharist**

Denisse Mayers  
Jessica Van Iddeking

**Congratulations to Autumn and Matthew DeFour whose baby William celebrated Baptism**

## STUDENT NEWS

**College students anticipating graduation** this spring or summer are invited to St. Tom's on Friday, April 16, from 6:00 – 9:00 pm, for An Evening of Reflection on "Life After College, What's Next?" The evening will include food, prayer, sharing college experiences, and preparing a Catholic resume. Call the office (269) 381 8917 to sign up.

**Join us for Supper this weekend after 5:30 pm Mass. FREE** for college students & young adults! The menu includes spaghetti dinner, beverage and dessert. Don't miss the great conversation and fellowship shared during dinner.

**Wednesday, April 14 More at Midweek** – 7:00 pm Quiet prayer; 7:30 Praise and Worship; 8:15 gather for pizza and the scheduled evening activity.

**To honor our graduating college seniors** we invite you to join us for Baccalaureate on Friday, April 30 at 7:30 p.m. If you are a graduating senior, please call the parish office, 381-8917 or email [michele@sttomskazoo.org](mailto:michele@sttomskazoo.org) with the number of guest planning to attend.

## SISTER PARISH

The risen Lord said to Thomas: "Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed." When St. Tom's delegation visits our sister parish *Maria Madre de los Pobres* in El Salvador, during the day's debriefing we often ask of ourselves, "Where have I seen Jesus today?" There are a remarkable number of answers and they all concern the wonderful people of El Salvador because we see Him in their actions every day. You can believe and both see and be Christ in Action! We have one person signed up for November's delegation and are looking for more. Please contact Jerry Pahl at 372-7937 for more information. You can also act in Christ by sponsoring one or more high school or college students from our sister parish. Through their education they can serve others...and walk in Christ's footsteps. There is more information in the narthex. Thank you and celebrate...He has risen!

## HERE AT ST. TOM'S

**Preparing for College** – High school seniors are welcome to join us for the Sunday Supper this weekend, followed by a practical discussion with college students about the transition from high school to college. Also **Parents planning to send a child off to college next fall are invited** to join us next Saturday, April 17 after the 6:00 pm Mass for a simple supper and discussion with parents of college students/graduates, to learn from their experience, ask questions, share your concerns. Whether it's your first child heading to college, or they're already graduated, come to discuss the college scene. Call our office (269 381 8917) to sign up for this parent exchange.

**Women's Group** – Wednesday, April 14, 6:30–8:00 pm We'll talk about the women in the early Church, using the handouts shared at the March 20<sup>th</sup> retreat. Additional copies will be available at the meeting. Come to learn about our early church mothers.

**Operation Rice Bowl**—It's time to turn your bowls in. There is a box in the narthex for Rice Bowls. Thank you for the support of this very important project.

**Mondays** — 6:00 - 6:40 pm **Silent Prayer and Meditation** in the Bronco Room. Need some quiet prayer time? Join us for a brief devotional reading followed by 25 minutes of prayer & meditation in shared silence.

**Yoga** — Experience the benefits of Yoga. Increased strength, balance, and flexibility. Stronger core, reduced stress, relaxed and clear mind. Join us on Thursday mornings at 10:30 am in the Cougar Room. All levels welcome – no experience necessary. Bring a yoga mat if you have one. Donations accepted (suggested amount of \$5 - \$10).

**Shawl and Prayer Ministry** provides shawls made with prayer. Our time together centers on silent prayer as well as blessing shawls that are completed. The next scheduled Shawl Ministry meeting is Saturday, April 17 at 4:45 in the Chapel Mary Mother of the Poor. Basic knitting or crochet skills are needed.

**24/7 Access to St. Tom's Blessed Sacrament Chapel**—Our architects were advised to situate our Blessed Sacrament Chapel in such a way that pray-ers could some day access it independently while the rest of the church was closed. Well that day has arrived! The chapel can now be accessed 24 hours a day, 7 days a week by a personal access card that can be issued to interested parishioners. The coded card merely needs to be flashed within inches of the proximity reader and the chapel door will be electronically unlocked. Interested parishioners need to apply for their personal access card. The application will be reviewed by the Pastoral Team for approval. Please note: that if it is past open hours for the church, one would not have access to restrooms or public telephone. All pray-ers are encouraged to bring their own cell phones for emergency calling. As a security measure, there is



a video camera in the chapel. The camera is not actively monitored by anyone, but a recording can be accessed the next day if anything is noticed amiss. Our Blessed Sacrament Chapel is a wonderful environment to share one's concerns, hopes and fears in the presence of our living Lord. A \$5.00 refundable deposit is required. **Those interested should obtain and submit their application at the parish office.**

## *The Easter Alleluia*

from a discourse on Psalm 148 by St. Augustine (148:1-2; CCL, vol. 40. 2165-2166)

Our thoughts in this present life should turn on the praise of God, because it is in praising God that we shall rejoice for ever in the life to come; and no one can be ready for the next life unless he trains himself for it now. So we praise God during our earthly life, and at the same time we make our petitions to him. Our praise is expressed with joy, our petitions with yearning. We have been promised something we do not yet possess, and because the promise was made by one who keeps his word, we trust him and are glad; but insofar as possession is delayed, we can only long and yearn for it. It is good for us to persevere in longing until we receive what was promised, and yearning is over; then praise alone will remain.

Because there are these two periods of time - the one that now is, beset with the trials and troubles of this life, and the other yet to come, a life of everlasting serenity and joy - we are given two liturgical seasons, one before Easter and the other after. The season before Easter signifies the troubles in which we live here and now, while the time after Easter which we are celebrating at present signifies the happiness that will be ours in the future. What we commemorate before Easter is what we experience in this life; what we celebrate after Easter points to something we do not yet possess. This is why we keep the first season with fasting and prayer; but now the fast is over and we devote the present season to praise. Such is the meaning of the *Alleluia* we sing.

Both these periods are represented and demonstrated for us in Christ our head. The Lord's passion depicts for us our present life of trial - shows how we must suffer and be afflicted and finally die. The Lord's resurrection and glorification show us the life that will be given to us in the future.

Now therefore, brethren, we urge you praise God. That is what we are telling each other when we say *Alleluia*. You say to your neighbor, "Praise the Lord!" and he says the same to you. We are all urging one another to praise the Lord, and all thereby doing what each of us urges the other to do. But see that your praise comes from your whole being; in other words, see that you praise God not with your lips and voices alone, but with your minds, your lives and all your actions.

We are praising God now, assembled as we are here in church; but when we go our various ways again, it seems as if we cease to praise God. But provided we do not cease to live a good life, we shall always be praising God. You cease to praise God only when you swerve from justice and from what is pleasing to God. If you never turn aside from the good life, your tongue may be silent but your actions will cry aloud, and God will perceive your intentions; for as our ears hear each other's voices, so do God's ears hear our thoughts.

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

**CLASSES MEET ON SUNDAYS**

10:10-11:10 (English) or 11:45 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. (bilingual)  
at St. Joseph Catholic Church on Lake Street

**Patty Donovan Haley**  
**Religious Ed. Coordinator - 343-6256**

**Religious Ed is heading into it's final weeks.** Classes preparing for the sacraments of First Reception of Eucharist (1<sup>st</sup> Communion) and Confirmation are into their final lessons. Please remember that receiving a sacrament does NOT mean that your child's religious education is complete. ALL Catholics should continue to study and learn about their faith no matter what their age.

Vacation Bible School planning is underway. This year we are attempting something new. Our VBS program will run ONCE A WEEK for five (5) weeks beginning on Wednesday June 23, 2010. If you have the time to help with one night or on all five nights, please call Patty Haley at 343-6256. Registration information will be available in May. This is a perfect opportunity for students to earn community service credits for the following school year.

**ATTENTION ALL HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH:**

Please join the High School Youth Group and the Student Ministry Team tonight for 6:30 Supper and a Roundtable Discussion at 7pm. College Student Members of St. Tom's will share about their transition from High School to College. Start thinking about your future now!

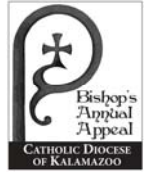
The **MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP** will meet Monday night, April 12<sup>th</sup>, from 6:30 to 8 in the Youth Room at St. Joe's. All Middle Schoolers are welcome. Please call Molly or Jerry Mechtenberg-Berrigan for more information on either of these events (269)-492-1206, [godsyouth@stomskazoo.org](mailto:godsyouth@stomskazoo.org).

APRIL 2010	Sunday Collection	Growing in the Spirit Mortgage Fund
Weekly Target	\$ 12,550.00	\$ 3,350.00
4/4 - Easter Sunday	14,721.75	950.00
4/11		
4/18		
4/25		
Electronic gifts	4,530.50	1,319.35
Total gifts to date for April 2010	19,252.25	2,269.35
Operating budget to date for April 2010	12,550.00	3,350.00
Difference in March 2010	6,702.25	(1,080.65)
Fiscal year to date (+/-)	5,156.61	(70,461.21)

PLEASE SUPPORT OUR BULLETIN ADVERTISERS

These businesses make it possible  
for our bulletin to be printed without cost to our parish.  
Thank You

**We will conduct the Bishop's Annual Appeal** (formerly KDSA) in our parish over the next few weeks. Please prayerfully consider what you as an individual and as a family can pledge to support the works of Bishop Paul Bradley and the educational, pastoral and religious programs and services offered by our diocese. Our parish goal is 100% participation and with your gift we can do it. Remember, no gift is too large or too small.



**AREA HAPPENINGS**

Mark your calendars! St. Augustine's Cathedral School's **"Once in a Blue Moon Garage Sale"** will be held on Saturday, April 24 from 7:00a.m.-3:00p.m. at St. Augustine's Crowley Center, 600 West Michigan Avenue, downtown Kalamazoo. Lots of great stuff to be had! All proceeds benefit St. Augustine Cathedral School and our community. For more information, go to [stakzoo.org](http://stakzoo.org) and click on the "Once in a Blue Moon" button.

**Support Hackett's Alternative Spring Break!** Shop at D & W April 11-17. Give the cashier school code: **96278.ASB** will earn 2% of total purchases.

**St. Catherine of Siena Divorce Ministry** will host a 7 week session for those whose marriages have broken or are ending, and who wish to rebuild their lives. We will meet weekly on Thursdays from April 15 to May 27, from 6:45-9:00 p.m., in the Siena Conference Room, lower level. St. Catherine is located at 1150 West Centre, Portage. We will use the Rebuilding book, which will be available for purchase of \$10. Sessions are free. If you plan to attend please email [divorceministry@stcatherinesiena.org](mailto:divorceministry@stcatherinesiena.org), or phone 269-978-2334.

**The Hackett Catholic Central Home and School Organization**, St. Augustine PTO, St. Monica Boosters and St. Catherine Sienna Parish invite you to attend an entertaining and educational evening titled: **STAND STRONG AS A PARENT** with Dr. Ray Guarendi Thursday, April 15, 7:00 pm at Hackett Catholic Central Auditorium. Cost is FREE and babysitting provided by CSGK 7th - 12th grade students Dr. Guarendi is a nationally recognized parenting expert who has written several books on parenting, has appeared on Oprah and is the father of 10 children! Questions: Contact Mickey Smith (269) 552-5598 or Colleen Takacs (269) 388-7424

**"Many sign and wonders were done . . ."** (First reading) A retreat weekend together can let the Holy Spirit work wonders in your Marriage. The remaining 2010 Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekends are July 23-25 in Kalamazoo and October 15-17 in Grand Rapids. Make plans now to reserve your spot on a weekend. For more information, contact Bob & JeanAnn McCann, 616-847-0582.

**New Infant Car Seats Needed for Caring Network.** Caring Network of Kalamazoo offers childbirth preparation and parenting classes for teens throughout the year. We provide a new car seat as an incentive for teen parents who successfully complete the classes. Our funding for this important program has run out due to the increase in demand and we still need about 15 more carriers. We are asking for new (state law require they be new) infant carriers (not convertible) for easier use on the city buses. Donations or gift cards may be dropped off at the Caring Network Van Domelen Center, located at 1441 S. Westnedge Ave., Monday-Friday 8:30 am-5:00 pm. Questions? Call 269-381-1234.