



St. Thomas More Catholic Student Parish

421 Monroe Street, Kalamazoo, MI 49006

(269) 381-8917 • Fax (269) 381-0195

e-mail: 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**

May 2, 2010

Acts 14:21-27 Revelation 21:1-5a

John 13:31-33a, 34-35

BAPTISM—Parents and godparents are expected to participate in a class before the celebration of this sacrament. The next scheduled baptism class is Monday, May 17 at 7:00 p.m. To register for the class or to schedule a baptism call the parish office at 381-8917.

*Congratulations to***Nicklas Adam Anderson** son of Brian and Kristen**Elizabeth Helen Haas** daughter of Christopher & Suzanne**Emma Marie Rayman** daughter of Andrew & Candace**Mykaila Ann Scamazzo** daughter of Antonio & Dawn who were baptized here at St. Tom's last weekend.

Our next **PRE-MARRIAGE MEETING** will be held on Sunday, May 23, 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.

FAMILY PERSPECTIVE—Inserting the word "sheep" for "children," the gospel reads: "My children hear my voice, I know them and they follow me." Have TV, videos or internet taken your role as shepherd of your children? When they "hear your voice" what message are they hearing? If we don't act as we believe, we will believe as we act ... and so will our children.

MASS SCHEDULE**SATURDAY, APRIL 24** — *St. Fidelis of Sigmaringen*

6:00 p.m. Peace in the world

SUNDAY, APRIL 25 — *Fourth Sunday of Easter*

9:30 a.m. † Karen Kupavris sister of Bob Holzwarth

11:30 a.m. † Renee Bradshaw mother of John Bradshaw

5:30 pm. Students preparing for exams

7:30 pm. Bishop Paul J. Bradley (living)

MONDAY, APRIL 26

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

TUESDAY, APRIL 27

5:15 p.m. Vocations

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 28 — *St. Peter Chanel**St. Louis Mary de Montfort*

5:15 p.m. For son Michael Patrick on his birthday requested by the Morozowich family

THURSDAY, APRIL 29 — *St. Catherine of Siena*

5:15 p.m. † Frank Tucker requested by the Sullivan family

FRIDAY, APRIL 30 — *St. Pius V*

2:00 p.m. Heartland Communion Service

5:15 p.m. College graduates and families

SATURDAY, MAY 1 — *St. Joseph the Worker*

6:00 p.m. † Betty McErean

requested by Barbara & Carl Vitt

SUNDAY, MAY 2 — *Fifth Sunday of Easter*

9:30 a.m. † Susan Rousos requested by the Spoerl Family

11:30 a.m. Peace in the world

7:30 pm. People of the parish

SACRAMENTAL LIFE**MONDAY, APRIL 26 - SATURDAY, MAY 1**

Monday	Acts 11:1-8	John 10:1-10
Tuesday:	Acts 11:19-26	John 10:22-30
Wednesday:	Acts 12:24—13:5	John 12:44-50
Thursday:	Acts 13:13-25	John 13:16-20
Friday:	Acts 13:26-33	John 14:1-6
Saturday	Acts 13:44-52	John 14:7-14

SISTER PARISH NEWS

"I have made you a light to the Gentiles..." YOU are a great light! The people of St. Tom's have always been so kind, generous, considerate...YOU are a great light! And you now have the opportunity to be a light to our brothers and sisters of El Salvador. We still need sponsors for high school and college students at Maria Madre de los Pobres. We know that these difficult financial times make it hard to find any extra monies, but think of how difficult it is for our students who suffer financially always, yet still have the courage to persevere. There is sponsorship information in the Narthex. We are also looking for delegates to visit our sister parish in November. For more information, please contact Jerry Pahl at 372-7937.

THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH**SUNDAY, APRIL 25**—Exam Week Support Church Open**8:30 a.m. Sunday – 10:00 p.m. Tuesday**

9:30 a.m.	Baptism during Mass
11:30 a.m.	Nursery
12:30 p.m.	First Eucharist Practice
12:30 p.m.	RCIA Mystagogy
6:30 p.m.	Sunday Supper

MONDAY, APRIL 26

6:00 p.m.	Rosary for Vocations
6:00 p.m.	Meditation and Centering Prayer
7-10:00 p.m.	A Cappella
8:30 p.m.	SMT

TUESDAY, APRIL 27

12:00 p.m.	AA/Al Anon
7:00 p.m.	West Main Hill Neighborhood Association
8:00 p.m.	Student AA

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 28

6:30 p.m.	Women's Group
-----------	---------------

THURSDAY, APRIL 29

10:30 a.m.	Yoga
6:00 p.m.	Rosary for Peace
6:00-8:00 pm	Love and Logic Parent Workshop
7:00 p.m.	RCIA Team Meeting
8:00 p.m.	Student AA

FRIDAY, APRIL 30

12:00 p.m.	AA/Al Anon
7:30 p.m.	Baccalaureate

SATURDAY, MAY 1 **WMU Commencement**

8:00 a.m.	Women's AA
9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.	Deaconate Formation
12:00 p.m.	AA
4:45 p.m.	Shawl Ministry
6:00 p.m.	First Communion

SUNDAY, MAY 2

9:30 a.m.	Children & Worship
11:30 a.m.	Children & Worship and Nursery

RCIA JOURNEY OF FAITH



Hello, my name is Sean O'Brien and I am currently a sophomore majoring in Accountancy at Western Michigan University. My interests are Michigan Football, spending time with friends and family, watching a good movie, and playing sports such as tennis outside. I am looking forward to meeting all of the great people that are at St. Tom's and taking part in some of the wonderful activities that take place at St. Tom's.

I was called by God to join RCIA by my late grandmother, Rose, who sought after me to be a companion in attending church. I being someone who had never really gone to church growing up, saw it as a wonderful opportunity to become not only closer with my grandmother, but God as well. With my grandmother passing away in March and not having the opportunity to spend this time with her, I still felt as though God was calling me to become closer with him and the church. After seeking St. Tom's as a place to become closer with Christ, the RCIA process was everything I had hoped for and more. Not only have I continued to grow in my journey of faith, I am also blessed to have the support I have had from my friends and family. The most exciting part of the whole process for me though is to see that through this, I feel as though it has brought my family closer together. My mother and father now attend mass every weekend and to see that I have had that impact on our family is something I will cherish for the rest of my life. I see this as a beginning to my journey of faith and will continue to grow as the years go on. This has been quite possibly the greatest thing to have ever happened to me and I hope that the St. Tom's community will always be there for me for support the rest of the way.

HERE AT ST. TOM'S

Women's Group—Wednesday, April 28 at 6:30 p.m. in the Cougar Room. We will continue our discussion about women in the early church and today's church.

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, May 1 at 4:45 in the Chapel Mary Mother of the Poor. Basic knitting or crochet skills are needed.

KEN'S KALEIDOSCOPE

The free publicity provided by the *Gazette* about our parish commissioning a piece of art was great, and caught us by surprise. Of course it also provoked questions because we had not communicated that information to you. The biggest question was "where did that money come from?" It is all money donated and designated specifically for "art for the new church." It did not come from the Sunday collection or the Bishop's Annual Appeal. The \$10,000 is the commission to pay for the piece of art, not a prize or reward to the artists for being selected.

Thirty artists attended a meeting at the church last Tuesday to see the worship space and the actual site for the new piece – large north wall. It will be a cross inspired by our parish celebration of Good Friday and the Stations of the Cross, remembering that the cross is both a sign of Jesus' defeat by death and his victory by resurrection.

Artists will submit proposals due by the end of September. Those proposals will be reviewed by a committee of our local Arts Council to make sure they are viable-feasible and within the parameters set by us. Carol Yager will represent our parish on that committee. Then the parish Art Committee will review the proposals and narrow them down to two or three, and ask the artists to make a mock-up of their proposal. Parishioners will have a chance to give their input before a final selection is made. The goals are that the new piece will be installed by the end of June, 2011.

The Bishop's Annual Appeal – The new format emphasizes that this is the bishop's personal request for support for the universal church, beyond the specific parish. It supports the annual operation of over fifty ministries in the diocese, including adult faith formation; deacon and seminarian formation; catechist and religion teacher formation; youth ministry; and it pays the bishop's salary! It pays for ministry with people with special needs; ministry with Latinos; and programs for protecting children and young people, and much, much more. The new Annual Appeal moves some special collections back to the parish so during the year there will be six collections that used to be in the KDSA.

While this year's annual budget decreased, our pledge target increased 7.5%. That is because the formula to calculate the target changed this year. The formula is this: 16.5% of (the Sunday collection minus \$600 per student in a Catholic school). The target does not include contributions to the mortgage fund, Salvadoran Scholarship Fund or other contributions made to the parish.

The goal, as ever is for 100% participation by the parish. Maybe you have never given before – could this be the year you give for the first time? Others have been consistently generous – dare we ask for a 7.5% increase in your gift this year? (I know it's a lot – I felt it in my own pledge.) Spreading it over 10 months helps a little.

For those of you who received your envelope packs and have already turned in your envelope with a pledge to the old KDSA campaign, please know that we will automatically apply your gifts to the Bishop's Annual Appeal. You do not need to complete a different form. If you have any questions, please contact our bookkeeper, Martha Reid, at the office.

Honoring the finest! Mrs. Carey and Mrs. Riker, two very special educators who have touched the lives of many families in our community, will be retiring at the end of this school year. In appreciation for the years of service, parents are making memory quilts incorporating special messages and family signatures. Come add your sentiments at a special signing event, April 26th in the Crowley Center, any time between 11:30-6:00. If you are not available on the 26th, please contact Julie Walen at 373-6104 or jwalen@att.net to add your messages. May 20 will be an Open House day—more details in next week's bulletin.

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

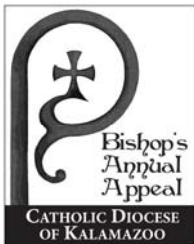
Vacation Bible School planning is underway. This year we are attempting something new. Our VBS program will run ONCE A WEEK for five (5) weeks beginning on Wednesday June 23, 2010. If you have the time to help with one night or on all five nights, please call Patty Haley at 343-6256. Registration information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

YOUTH FAITH FORMATION

No High School Youth Group Meeting Sunday, April 25.

The Middle School Youth Group will meet Monday night, April 26 from 6:30-8 in the Youth Room at St. Joe's.

Questions call
Jerry or Molly at 381-8917, ext. 262



This weekend we conduct our parish's Bishop's Annual Appeal. Christian stewards recognize Christ as the giver of everything we have. We are grateful for these many blessings and seek ways to give back, to return some of these gifts to show our love for Christ and one another. As Christ's disciples, all of us share in the mission of the Catholic Diocese of Kalamazoo.

Only when we work together can we accomplish God's work. Please prayerfully consider a very generous gift to this year's appeal. Our parish goal is 100% participation and with your gift we can do it. Consider increasing last year's gift by a percentage or specific dollar amount. Remember, no gift is too small or too large.

<i>APRIL 2010</i>	Growing in	
	Sunday Collection	the Spirit Mortgage Fund
Weekly Target	\$ 12,550.00	\$ 3,350.00
4/4 - Easter Sunday	14,721.75	950.00
4/11	9,114.94	975.10
4/18	10,083.76	2,620.00
4/25		
Electronic gifts	12,845.50	3,378.15
Total gifts to date for April 2010	46,765.95	7,923.25
Operating budget to date for April 2010	37,650.00	10,050.00
Difference in April 2010	9,115.95	(2,126.75)
Fiscal year to date (+/-)	7,570.31	(71,507.31)

STUDENT NEWS

Join us for a Sunday Supper Cookout. This will be the last Sunday Supper for this school year. FREE for college students & young adults! Don't miss the great conversation and fellowship shared during dinner.

EXAM WEEK SUPPORT – College students, we invite you to pick up a care package after Mass this weekend. **St. Tom's will be open around the clock from 8:30 am Sunday morning through 10:00 pm Tuesday night** - providing you a quiet place to study, to sleep, or to take a study break. We have WiFi throughout our building. Coffee and snacks will be available. If your res halls and roommates are too tense or noisy, come to St. Tom's for some peace and quiet.

**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
with the number of guest planning to attend.

AREA HAPPENINGS

The Calligraphy of the Saint John's Bible A free lecture with Diane von Arx – Friday, April 30, 7-9pm, St. Catherine of Siena Church, 1150 W. Centre, Portage. Diane is a member of the Wales Team of calligraphers and artists responsible for the creation of the Saint John's Bible. She will give a lecture on her artistic work with the Saint John's Bible and invite us to view a copy of the Heritage Edition of the Book of Wisdom which will be on display for the evening. For more information contact the Office of Worship, 269-349-8714, ext. 245.

Bridges Offers Mental Health Counseling — Depression hurts and counseling can help. Bridges, a program at Catholic Family Services, offers compassionate and professional mental health therapy to help restore your quality of life. Flexible daytime and evening appointments available. Medicaid, Medicare and many insurances are accepted. Call for help today at 269-381-9800.

Sidewalk Counseling has been a means for saving of babies' lives from abortion. There will be a class in Sidewalk Counseling given by Ann Scheidler who has had many years of experience saving lives. Please come to St. Monica Parish, Rectory Meeting Room, 534 W. Kilgore Rd on Wednesday, May 5 at 11:30 a.m. (light lunch will be offered/free will offering for class director) Contact Roselyn Case, 269-349-5937 or Ann Norton, 269-203-7214.

Join your community in prayer on Thursday, May 6 — National Day of Prayer Observance, Kalamazoo City Hall, 241 W. South St. Noon to 12:40 pm. (Come for all or part of the observance)

PLEASE SUPPORT OUR BULLETIN ADVERTISERS

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