Liturgical Schedule

**MASS:**
- Saturday 4:30 pm
- Sunday 8 & 10:30 am
- Tuesday-Friday 7:30 am

**RECONCILIATION:**
- Saturday 3:30-4 pm
- Or by appointment

**EUCHARISTIC ADORATION:**
- First Friday of the Month
- Begins at 8 am and concludes at noon with Midday Prayer and Benediction

**CENTERING PRAYER:**
- Tuesday 5:30-6:15 pm

**BAPTISMS:**
- First Sundays of the month during 10:30 am Mass
- Or at 9 am by appointment
You are Called to Help Steer the Future of Our Church

Two years from now, Archbishop Hebda will issue a new pastoral letter. For the first time in any Catholic archdiocese ever, he is asking the people of his archdiocese what the letter should be about. This letter will reflect what he hears from his flock and will set the priorities of our archdiocese for the next 5-10 years. The way to share your feedback is to attend a Synod Listening Session.

We are prioritizing attendance at the following listening sessions, and will be coordinating rides from STM. If you are interested in attending a listening session, please contact the listed parishioner, who is an STM Synod Ambassador working to help our parish share our voices:

- **Sunday, Jan. 5**, 1-4 p.m. at Holy Cross in Minneapolis – Lisa Amman ammansteger@gmail.com
- **Saturday, Jan. 25**, 9 a.m.-noon at St. Peter Claver in St. Paul – Jess Miller jessica.miller51@gmail.com
- **Saturday, Feb. 15**, 9 a.m.-noon at Lumen Christi in St. Paul – Aaron Sinner aaron.j.sinner@gmail.com

Archbishop Hebda has also said he wants to hear from both dedicated Catholics and those who may have walked away. Please consider inviting a friend or family member who is a former Catholic to attend with you.

More info: [www.morecommunity.org/synod-ambassadors](http://www.morecommunity.org/synod-ambassadors)  
Questions? synodambassadors@morecommunity.org

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Year-End Giving  
As you make a plan for your year-end giving, please consider making a donation to Saint Thomas More to support our community and help balance our annual budget! Thank you for your generosity!
National Migration Week 2020
JANUARY 5-11
For nearly a half century, the Catholic Church in the United States has celebrated National Migration Week, which serves as a time for both prayer and action in support of immigrants and refugees. The theme this year is “Promoting a Church and a World for All,” which reflects the need for Catholics to be inclusive and welcoming to all our brothers and sisters. It is with this ideal in mind – that we call for a church that welcomes, protects, promotes, and integrates all, including immigrants and refugees.

If you have ideas of how we can better welcome, protect, promote, and integrate migrants living in our midst, please contact Brian Hefer, Director of Justice & Service, at bhefer@morecommunity.org or call the parish office.

CALL FOR IMMIGRANT SUPPORT DONATIONS
Next weekend, as we celebrate the Feast of the Epiphany, we will also affirm STM’s ongoing commitment to support and advocate for the needs of our undocumented immigrant brothers and sisters.

To fund those efforts, particularly those of our Holy Family Apartment (HFA), there will be a second collection during the Masses of Jan. 4 and 5. Please consider making a donation next week, or any week during the year. One-time or sustaining donations can be made online.

The Catholic Church, Pope Francis and the Society of Jesus have long advocated for immigration reform in the United States. St. Thomas More and its predecessor parishes, Immaculate Heart of Mary and St Luke, have a lengthy history of working with undocumented immigrant persons as advocates and supporters.

Our community acknowledges and respects the federal government’s obligation to protect our borders and uphold our immigration laws. Nevertheless, we agree with the U.S. Catholic Bishops Conference that immigration principals should always be at the service of human dignity and the common good of society. In March 2017, St. Thomas More committed to the following:

- Advocating for justice for immigrants on both local and national level
- Offering space on our campus for organizers, lawyers and community members to meet
- Listening and responding to the best of our ability, to the call and needs of our immigrant brothers and sisters
- Gathering for communal prayer to continually discern the movement of the Spirit in our work, action and lives
- Developing a robust referral program to put those asking for help and guidance in contact with local agencies able to provide that help and guidance

In addition, in response to our parish community’s concerns, STM committed to support a sanctuary effort to open a space in our parish center for persons facing deportation, especially where deportation would separate parents from their children or would separate people brought to the United States as children from the only homes they have ever truly known.

Since July 2017, the Holy Family Apartment (HFA) has served multiple families. We, through our volunteers, have accompanied these families and their needs, providing food and shelter, clothing, medical attention, translation services, connection and immigration/asylum resources, legal counsel, education, and spiritual support.

This care and accompaniment has been made possible by our STM volunteers and by financial donations specifically tagged for Immigrant Support. Any and all help is greatly appreciated. Thank you for your ongoing commitment and support!

DONATE: Visit www.morecommunity.org/give, navigate to Our Sunday Visitor (OSV), then select the “immigrant support” fund. If you donate by check, please write “Immigrant Support” in the memo line.

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Conversations with Friends
Join us in praying for detainees in detention centers. Parishioners are also encouraged to write letters to or visit the following detainees:

Canuto (Guatemala)    Kingsley (Nigeria)
Felipe (Mexico)       Peter (So. Sudan)

Questions? Visit conversationswithfriendsMN.org or contact Brian at bhefer@morecommunity.org
Accompaniment Study Group  
**6-WEEK STUDY BEGINNING JANUARY 9**
After receiving some great feedback on Bill Huebsch’s Art of Accompaniment presentation, we are ready to discern what accompaniment might look like here at St. Thomas More, and we need input! Starting in the New Year, we are going to begin with studying Pope Francis’ apostolic exhortation, *The Joy of the Gospel*. We are offering 2 times for this 6-week study:

- **Thursday Mornings 9:30-10:30 am**  
  January 9, 16, 23, 30, February 6 & 13

- **Thursday Evenings 7-8 pm**  
  January 9, 16, 30, February 6, 13, & 20

**Interested?** To sign up, email Carol Arend at carend@morecommunity.org or call the parish office.

Attention Knitters and Wanna-Be-Knitters  
**JANUARY 13, 7-9 PM, PARISH CENTER**
Our STM knitting and crocheting group makes prayer shawls for our community members experiencing difficulties and blankets for children baptized in our parish. We meet on the third Monday of every month from 7-9 pm (with the exception of this January when we will meet on January 13) in the Parish Center. Please come! Knitters of all abilities are welcome. There are experts who can guide you.

**Questions?** Please contact Mary Pat at jmclysdale1@gmail.com or call Carol in the parish office.

Interfaith Climate Justice Convergence  
**JANUARY 19, 1-3PM, HAMLINE CHURCH UNITED METHODIST**
Interested in organizing for climate action in your faith community? Come to the Saint Paul Interfaith Climate Justice Convergence! Interfaith Creation Care-St. Paul invites you for an afternoon of presentations and breakout sessions to learn about how faith communities are engaging in action, connect with fellow community members, and map out plans for the future. All are welcome.

**Questions?** Email carend@morecommunity.org

Restorative Justice Conference and Groups  
**CONFERENCE FOR RESTORATIVE JUSTICE AND RECONCILIATION**  
**JANUARY 23, 8:30 AM - 3 PM, HOLIDAY INN, LAKE ELMO**
This one-day conference will be open to all victim/survivors, interested and relevant stakeholders, and anyone who has been impacted by the clergy sexual abuse crisis. Watch for more details in the coming weeks.

**RESTORATIVE JUSTICE GROUPS:**  
**Support Group for Family Members of Victims/Survivors of Clergy Sexual Abuse**
Join others who are relatives of these victim/survivors as they try to grasp and understand the trauma their loved one has suffered. This group typically meets on the second Tuesday of the month. This group will not meet in January or February 2020.

**Victim/Survivor Support Group**
Join with other victims/survivors of sexual abuse who share a similar experience and who want to provide each other with support, affirmation, hope, and empowerment. The group typically meets on the third Monday of the month. This group will not meet in January or February 2020.

**Questions?** Please contact Paula Kaempffer, Outreach Coordinator for Restorative Justice and Abuse Prevention for the Archdiocese, at 651-291-4429.

Save the Date - 2020 Cana Dinner  
**FEBRUARY 8, 5:30 PM, SCHOOL AUDITORIUM**
St. Thomas More invites married couples to our annual Cana Dinner, to be held on Saturday, February 8, 2020 after 4:30 Mass. Save the date! More information will be available in January.

**Questions?** Email carend@morecommunity.org
**Mass Intentions**

**Saturday, December 28** - STM Community
8 am - STM Community - Theresa Loney
10:30 am - Lucille “Lou” Roby

**Sunday, December 29**
8 am - STM Community
10:30 am - STM Community

**Tuesday, December 31**
4:30 pm - George S. Jurgensen

**Wednesday, January 1**
10 am - Hildegard Schwankl

**Thursday, January 2** - William John Cosgriff

**Friday, January 3** - Michael Johnston

**Saturday, January 4** - John Donais

**Sunday, January 5**
8 am - Marilyn M. Hallman
10:30 am - STM Community

**Offices**

**Parish Center & Church**
1079 Summit Avenue, St. Paul, MN 55105-3004
8 am-4 pm, Monday & Friday
TEL 651-227-7669 (Nicole Johnson)
parish@morecommunity.org
www.morecommunity.org

**Saint Thomas More School**
1065 Summit Avenue, St. Paul, MN 55105-3004
7:30 am-3:30 pm, Monday-Friday
TEL 651-224-4836 (Carol Ney)
info@morecommunity.org
www.school.morecommunity.org

**Quick Contacts**

General Questions - parish@morecommunity.org
Sacraments - bhefer@morecommunity.org
Bulletin/Website - aharmon@morecommunity.org
Calendar - njohnson@morecommunity.org
Free Store - stmfreestore@morecommunity.org
Liturgy Schedule - liturgyschedule@morecommunity.org
Prayers/Pastoral Care - carend@morecommunity.org
STM School - info@morecommunity.org
Weddings - carend@morecommunity.org
Young Adults - youngadults@morecommunity.org

**Calendar**

**Saturday, December 28**
Reconciliation 3:30-4 pm  Church
Mass 4:30 pm  Church

**Sunday, December 29**
Mass 8 am  Church
Mass 10:30 am  Church

**Tuesday, December 31 - Office Closed**
Mary Mother of God Mass 4:30 pm  Church

**Wednesday, January 1 - Office Closed**
Mary Mother of God Mass 10 am  Church

**Thursday, January 2**
Mass 7:15 am  Church

**Friday, January 3**
Mass 7:15 am  Church
Eucharistic Adoration 7:45 am - 12 pm  Church
Benediction 12 pm  Church

**Saturday, January 4**
Reconciliation 3:30-4 pm  Church
Mass 4:30 pm  Church

**Sunday, January 5**
Mass 8 am  Church
Mass 10:30 am  Church
Synod Listening Session 1 pm  Holy Cross

**Grow Clean Air**

Looking for a great Christmas gift idea? STM Care for Creation has an opportunity for you to give a gift that helps fight climate change! The Catholic Climate Covenant has joined with the International Small Group and Tree Planting Group (TIST) to support tree planting in Africa, an area that is highly impacted by deforestation and poverty. Scientists say planting trees could be the single most effective way to fight climate change.

A donation to TIST will help counteract the devastating effects of deforestation, erosion, famine, droughts and floods, “grow clean air”, and help poor communities earn income and become self-sufficient. You can plant a tree for $1 or sponsor a grove (1000 trees) for $650. Donate in your loved one’s name for the perfect Christmas gift!

Signup at www.morecommunity.org/plant-trees