Rooted in the Gospels and formed by Ignatian spirituality, the mission of the Catholic Community of Saint Thomas More is to glorify God by our lives.
**Community & Opportunities**

**Sponsor A Student**

**OUR STUDENTS NEED YOUR HELP!**

We do not want to turn away a single child because of financial need. Over the past few years, our students’ needs for tuition assistance have increased. In response, we gave a total of $181,000 in tuition discounts, to our families who qualified, for the 2019-2020 school year. However, we are in need of a more sustainable solution. Rather than continuing to give unfunded tuition discounts, we are creating a dedicated fund for tuition assistance which will ensure the viability of Saint Thomas More for generations to come!

30% of our students qualify for reduced tuition, but we are not always able to meet the full need for which many families qualify. Our families are making huge financial sacrifices to ensure their children are educated in the Jesuit tradition. And according to Catholic teaching, we are called not to be indifferent to their sacrifices, but to a deep sense of solidarity and active responsibility for our families in need. Our goal is to make sure students of all backgrounds know they are welcome here.

We ask you to prayerfully discern sponsoring a student’s tuition so we can continue to educate students in the Jesuit tradition and provide a loving home to all who arrive at our door. If we don’t invest in our young people today, what will our church look like tomorrow? Together, let’s stand in solidarity with the children of our parish school!

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<th>GIVING CIRCLES (2020-2021 TUITION RATES)</th>
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<td>Ignatian Circle</td>
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**DONATE BY MAY 2!**

We have started a GoFundMe fundraiser for this campaign with a goal of $81,000! We need your help to get the word out about this fundraiser. Please share our GoFundMe with your friends, family, and supporters of Catholic education! We will also accept donations by check or through our online giving platform (OSV)—just select the Sponsor A Student fund.

More info and link to donate:
www.morecommunity.org/sponsorastudent

**Free Store Update**

We served 35 people on Feb. 1! They are most grateful to you for supporting this community outreach. We wish you all could have witnessed the joyful, smiling face and excitement of one of our first time guests. A young woman found some layette items, a bouncy chair, and bathtub as she and her husband prepare for the arrival of their first child!

Questions or interested in volunteering? Visit www.morecommunity.org/free-store, email STMfreestore@morecommunity.org or call Mary at 612-432-2422 or Mary Beth at 708-805-0151

**Immigrant Justice Trainings for Precinct Caucuses**

**FEBRUARY 16, 9-10:20 AM, PARISH CENTER LIBRARY**

Saint Thomas More’s Immigrant Solidarity Ministry and Justice in Action Committee encourage parishioners to advance the cause of immigrant justice at Minnesota’s February 25 precinct caucuses for all major political parties.

These trainings will provide context for our work with other Catholic churches in Minnesota on immigration and help prepare us to advance immigrant justice in Minnesota in 2021. We will use the Feb. 25 caucuses to raise up a powerful Catholic voice across parties that speaks to what’s been happening to immigrants and how it violates our values and our faith. Register for one of the trainings at http://bit.ly/onebodycaucus.

For more information: Contact Lisa Amman at ammansteger@gmail.com or Aaron Sinner at aaron.j.sinner@gmail.com.

Make sure to take our Parish-Wide Discipleship Survey by March 1! www.morecommunity.org/survey
Attention Knitters!
**FEBRUARY 17, 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 in the Parish Center. Knitters of all abilities are welcome. There are experts who can guide you.

Questions? Contact Mary Pat at jmclysdale1@gmail.com or call Carol Arend in the parish office.

STM Moms Group Meeting - Join Us!
**FEBRUARY 18, 7:30-9 PM, PARISH CENTER**
At our next meeting, we will be joined by Barb Larkin, director of the STM Preschool for a discussion on child development. We meet every third Tuesday of the month in the Parish Center. We gather for support, fellowship, and fun. Please come!

Questions? Contact Carol Arend at carend@morecommunity.org or call the parish office.

Lent Small Group Ignatian Retreat
**WHAT ARE YOU LOOKING FOR?**
This year’s Lenten retreat is from David Shields, S.J. from Casa Romero Renewal Center, an urban bilingual retreat center located on Milwaukee. This small group retreat offers you an opportunity to experience the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius of Loyola in a modified format. You are asked to commit to weekly small group meetings and to pray with the material provided to you for 20-30 minutes a day. The cost to participate is $10 per person.

- **Tuesday Afternoons (12-1:30 pm) Begins Feb. 25**
- **Wednesday Evenings (7-8:30 pm) Begins Feb. 19**
- **Young Adult Group (7-8:30 pm) Begins Feb. 19**

Signup: [www.morecommunity.org/lent-retreat](http://www.morecommunity.org/lent-retreat)

Acolyte Training
**FEBRUARY 22, 9-11 AM, CHURCH**
The ministry of the acolyte is a key role in our liturgical celebrations as they assist the priest and other ministers in the prayer and overall flow of our communal worship. This ministry is open to those in Grade 5 and beyond!

Interested? Email liturgyschedule@morecommunity.org or call Lucas Tomlinson in the Parish Office

New “Not So Young Adults” Group Seeks Input!
**FEBRUARY 22, AFTER MASS**
Several people in the STM community are working to form a Not So Young Adults Group! Why should the young people have all the fun? If you have an interest, please pop by our table after Mass on Saturday, February 22.

Questions? Contact Jeanne jkenney@morecommunity.org or call Carol Arend in the parish office.

Caucus for Climate
**FEBRUARY 25, 2020**
Climate justice is a top priority for Minnesotans! We need thousands of people, including you, attending your neighborhood caucuses. Participating in caucuses on February 25th is how we shape party platforms and discuss candidates. The only way we’ll get candidates who will champion a livable and healthy planet for all is using our numbers and people power.

Go to [www.caucusfinder.sos.state.mn.us](http://www.caucusfinder.sos.state.mn.us) to find your caucus location and an explanation of the process. We need bold leadership on climate at all levels of government. This year we have a once-in-a-generation opportunity to set MN on a path to a 100% clean and equitable energy future. We know the stakes are high for the planet and people who are suffering. As people of faith, we can bring compassion and action.

After Masses this weekend, you can get a sample resolution at the STM Care for Creation table!
Dorothy Day Ministry Needs Volunteers!
If one of your New Year resolutions is to volunteer more, we have the perfect opportunity for you!
On the 3rd Friday of every month, STM volunteers prep and serve dinner for clients of Dorothy Day. Volunteers are needed 2-4 pm for dinner prep, as well as 4-5:45 pm for dinner service. It’s a wonderful opportunity to see the face of God in those most in need in our community. If you are interested, please contact Lisa at lisa.welch@cctwincities.org for more info and to be added to monthly email request for volunteers.

Ash Wednesday Mass Schedule:
FEBRUARY 26
7:15 AM, 8:30 AM, & 7 PM

Stations of the Cross
FEBRUARY 28, 5 PM
Join us for Stations of the Cross from 5-5:30 every Friday during Lent. The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be offered at 4:30 pm prior to Stations.

Lenten Fish Frys
FEBRUARY 28, MARCH 13, & MARCH 27 (5:30-8 PM)
SCHOOL CAFETERIA
Cost is $12 for adults, $6 for ages 5-12, and free for ages 4 and under. Meal includes all-you-can-eat fried cod, mashed potatoes, french fries, macaroni and cheese, coleslaw, dinner rolls, cookies, and lemonade. Beer, wine and soda will be available for purchase. Stations of the Cross will be held at 5 pm. All are welcome!

Ashes to Easter Booklets
Booklets for your Lenten journey will be available for parishioners titled From Ashes to Easter, Our Lenten Journey with Pope Francis. During this season of Lent, prayer, fasting and almsgiving you are invited to use one of these booklets and journey with Pope Francis during the season of Lent. Books may be located at the doors of church.

Give Up Waste for Lent!
Almost at the beginning of his encyclical, Laudato Si, Pope Francis talks about our “throwaway economy” and its impact on our common home. He calls on each of us to take steps to improve the health of the planet. These needn’t be big steps. But the message is clear: do something! This is a message that is clearly rooted in the gospels and teachings of the Catholic Church. Indeed, as Francis says, “What is the purpose of our life in this world?... What is the goal of all our work and all our efforts? What need does the earth have of us?... Unless we struggle with these deeper issues, I do not believe that our concern for ecology will produce significant results.”

This Lent the Care for Creation Committee is echoing Francis’ call by asking all parishioners to make an effort to reduce the waste they voluntarily create each day. This call has three parts to it. The first involves reading selective passages from Laudato Si to better understand how these actions are part of Christ’s call to help Him build the Kingdom of God here on earth. The second is identifying specific small steps we all can take to reduce waste. And finally, to help ensure that this is a prayerful and spiritually meaningful activity, we will provide questions for you to reflect on during Lent. In addition, there will be an evening of reflection and discussion centered around Laudato Si on Tuesday evening, April 14th, in the parish center. All are welcome!

Each week, during the first five weeks of Lent, we will identify one of five specific types of waste to focus on reducing for that week. Specific readings (selected “paragraphs,” or numbered sections) and reflection questions from Laudato Si, as well as suggestions for specific actions, will be published in the parish bulletin and e-bulletin and posted on the parish website. The order of the weekly topics and selected passages are designed to take you through all chapters of the encyclical. The C4C Committee has several used copies of Laudato Si, which are available for you to take in the rear of the Church. You just have to agree to give it to someone else when you are done with it! The entire text of Laudato Si is also available online.
Junie B Jones The Musical Jr.
- Friday, March 6 (7PM)
- Saturday, March 7 (7PM)
- Sunday, March 8 (2PM)

Take a trip back to first grade and bring the whole family to enjoy Junie B. Jones The Musical Jr! Follow Junie B. as she discovers the joys and tribulations of friendships, keeps top-secrets, and sports new glasses—while keeping her humor strong and her spirits high! Kids and adults alike will be reminded of the importance of individuality, while watching Junie B. and her friends tackle first-grade head-on!

Tickets are $10 Adults; $5 Ages 2-10; Under 2 Free; $30 per family*

Online: www.moretheater.brownpapertickets.com
In-person: School office or after masses next week, Feb 22-23, and Feb 29-Mar 1

*Family rate only available when purchased in-person

Feed My Starving Children
MARCH 7, 11 AM - 12:30 PM,
990 LONE OAK ROAD, EAGAN, MN

This Lent, help pack meals for God’s children at Feed My Starving and help FEED THE WORLD! All parishioners, families, and adults are welcome to participate in the parish wide Lent activity. There are age restrictions so please check the fmsc.org website if you have questions. Space is limited so register early! Families and adults are responsible for their own transportation.

Register: https://bit.ly/2GXfLno
Questions? Email Brian bhefer@morecommunity.org or call the parish office.

Midwest Province’s Annual Lenten Morning of Prayer
MARCH 8, 10:30 AM
All parishioners are welcome to the Midwest Province’s Annual Lenten Morning of Prayer here at Saint Thomas More. Father Chris Krall, SJ will celebrate Mass followed by a reflection after in the school cafeteria. Food and drink will be provided!

Father Krall, a Marshfield, WI native, is a 2005 graduate of Boston College and is currently in PhD studies at Marquette University.

Register: www.jesuitsmidwest.org/Lent2020
Registration is required!

Questions? Please contact Dan at dobrien@jesuits.org

Synod Listening Sessions - Last Call!
Our opportunity to share our feedback with Archbishop Hebda for the future our archdiocese will soon come to a close. The final listening session in the east metro is:

March 7, 9 am - 12 pm at Transfiguration (Oakdale, MN)

If you have not yet had a chance to participate, please make attendance a priority! Our archdiocese will be enriched by hearing from as many of us as possible.

More info: www.archspm.org/synod
Questions? synodambassadors@morecommunity.org

Community & Opportunities
Mothers, Grandmothers, Daughters, Sisters
Friends Retreat: “The Friendship of Women"
*Presented by Susan Stabile*

**MARCH 28, 9 AM - 3 PM, CHRIST THE KING RETREAT CENTER (BUFFALO, MN)**

Because we are communal beings who need companions on our journey, authentic friendship is a necessary dimension of the Christian life. Yet we don’t always attend to the sacred dimension to friendship. It is also the case that, historically, less attention has been paid to the friendship of women than to male friendships.

This retreat day offers an opportunity to reflect on the friendships of women and the qualities that sustain it. We will consider what we learn from women of scripture, as well as more modern day women and our own experiences about the way God has created us for relationship. Our day will include time for individual reflection as well as sharing.


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**Eucharistic Ministers Needed at St. Joseph’s Hospital**

Volunteers are needed at St. Joseph’s Hospital to bring the Eucharist to patients. Training will be provided. For more information about this important ministry please contact Gordon Palzer at gordy.p@comcast.net.

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**Environmental Tip from Care for Creation**

Going shopping? Invest in reusable grocery bags, produce bags, bulk food bags, and any necessary containers to buy bulk items (olive oil, eggs, maple syrup, sugar, coffee). Many co-ops and Whole Foods have bulk aisles with a wide range of items. Avoid packaging whenever possible. If you buy packaged items, always choose paper/glass/metal over plastic.

[www.morecommunity.org/care-for-creation](http://www.morecommunity.org/care-for-creation)

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**Pray for Our Kohima Ministry Travelers!**

Six members of our parish, including our pastor, will be traveling to Umbir, India beginning Monday to meet with parishioners and staff of our sister parish, St. Francis Xavier. The purpose of the trip is to get to know one another better and to explore ways to grow our nascent relationship. Please pray for the success of this trip.

[www.morecommunity.org/sister-parish](http://www.morecommunity.org/sister-parish)

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**Save the Date: "More Hats & Horses Gala" Annual School Auction**

**MAY 2, 2020**

Break out your fancy hats and place your bets on us at the STM annual auction! Silent and live auction packages will share a focus on family fun, date nights and sports events. Have a blue-ribbon worthy donation to add to the mix? Contact Anna Thibert ([annakthibert@gmail.com](mailto:annakthibert@gmail.com)) or Emerald Gratz ([emerald_gratz@hotmail.com](mailto:emerald_gratz@hotmail.com)) for your donations, questions, and ideas!

Saturday, February 15
Synod Listening Session 9 am - 12 pm
Lumen Christi
Free Store Drop-Off 12-1 pm
School
Free Store Open Hours 1-3 pm
School
Reconciliation 3:30-4 pm
Church
Mass 4:30 pm
Church
Bake Sale 5:30 pm
Church

Sunday, February 16
Mass 8 am
Church
Immigration Caucus Training 9-10:20 am
PC Library
Bake Sale 9 am - 12 pm
Church
Mass 10:30 am
Church

Tuesday, February 18
Mass 7:15 am
Church
Centering Prayer 5:30 pm
Church

Wednesday, February 19
Mass 7:15 am
Church
School Prayer Service 8:30 am
School

Thursday, February 20
Mass 7:15 am
Church

Friday, February 21
Mass 7:15 am
Church

Saturday, February 22
Acolyte Training 9-11 am
Church
Reconciliation 3:30-4 pm
Church
Mass 4:30 pm
Church

Sunday, February 23
Mass 8 am
Church
Mass 10:30 am
Church