

DECEMBER 17TH, 2023 — THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

St. Thomas More Parish with St. Bernadette Mission



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PASTOR: FR. ANTONIO BAROL

Please Pray For those who are sick, especially:
George Korcsok, Joselyn Evelyn, Mary Wilson,
Paul Gould, Sandra Pilipinko, Victoria Meneses.
Also pray for Luke & John Paul (twin g'babies of Fran our
previous parish financial secretary).
Please Pray for all the deceased members of the Parish
especially †Tony Bloemen

MASS SCHEDULE: WEEK OF DECEMBER 10, 2023

ST. THOMAS MORE RECTORY CHAPEL
WEDNESDAY 5:00 PM
THURSDAY and FRIDAY 10:00 AM

ST. THOMAS MORE CHURCH, MILLBROOK
SATURDAY: 4:00 PM

DEC. 16 – For the People of the Parish
SUNDAY: 9:00 AM

DEC. 17- For the Eternal rest of †Frank
and †Carmela Battaglia

ST. BERNADETTE, NESTLETON
SUNDAY: 11:00 AM

DEC. 17 - For Peace in the World and Safety
to travellers.

***** IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER *****

Friday, December 15th - 24th, 6: 30 pm - 'Simbang Gabi' (**details next page) @ Immaculate Conception, P'boro.
Saturday, January 13th - St. Thomas More CWMC monthly meeting.
Sunday, January 21st - Coffee Sunday, following 9 a.m. Mass
Sunday, February 11 - Pancake Sunday, following 9 a.m. Mass

CHRISTMAS WEEK MASS SCHEDULE

Sunday, December 24 - Christmas Eve

4:00 PM St. Thomas More - Millbrook with children Christmas Play at start

7:00 PM St. Bernadette, Nestleton

Monday, December 25 - Christmas Day

10:00 AM St. Thomas More, Millbrook

Sunday December 31 - New Year's Eve

3:00 PM Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Holy Hour (Divine Mercy chaplet), followed by
the Holy Rosary and Benediction.

4:00 PM Mass - for the intention of Pope Francis for Peace and Reconciliation in the world

Monday, January 1- Solemnity of Mary the Mother of God (A Day of Obligation)

9:00 AM – St. Thomas More, Millbrook

11:00 AM – St. Bernadette, Nestleton

Pictorial Directory Update: Our Pictorial Directories have "ARRIVED". We have now taken delivery of the Parish Pictorial Directories for the folks who participated. For anyone not available last weekend to pick-up their copy, the Committee will also reach out to arrange to get your directories to you. Thank you to your CWMC and everyone who supported this project.

PLEASE VISIT THE DIOCESE OF PETERBOROUGH WEBSITE FOR UPDATES AND LINKS TO ON-LINE MASSES
<https://www.peterboroughdiocese.org/en/index.aspx>

Please contact Fr. Tony for details about arranging baptisms, marriages,
birthday or anniversary announcements or blessings, or mass devotions.

FR. TODY'S MESSAGE FOR THIS WEEK

Dear Sisters/brothers, parishioners of St. Thomas More and St. Bernadette,

Our Scripture Readings for this 3RD Sunday of Advent – B

First Reading: Isaiah 61. 1-2a, 10-11: "Isaiah has been sent to proclaim good news to those in need. He rejoices in the Lord who will be shown to be the God of justice and peace." Psalm Response: "My soul shall exult in my God."

Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 5. 16-24: "Paul admonishes that Christians should rejoice. He prays that the Christ-bearer will be free from any semblance of evil, but rather will grow in holiness."

Gospel: John 1. 6-8, 19-28: "John the Baptist is the forerunner of Jesus. John gives witness to Jesus by his preaching."

Theme: 'We are called to straighten up the rough and rugged spots in our lives so that Jesus who stands always in our midst can have easy entrance into our hearts with his joy and peace.'

With permission from Bishop Daniel Miehm, the Filipino community of Peterborough invites families and friends to their Traditional ****Simbang Gabi**** 9 evening masses before Christmas starting on Friday, December 15 at 6:30 in the evening at the Immaculate Conception Church. I will be the celebrant for the first evening so I invite you to come and join us.

I will invite children for a general rehearsal on Saturday December 23 at 11:00 AM for our short Christmas play. A little treat is also prepared for those who would come and practice. If your child or children cannot come please for the rehearsal, when you come for the 4PM mass on the 24th, dress them as a shepherd. They will be part of the group of shepherds who will visit the manger.

Please, get a Missal and prepare for mass by reading, praying and reflecting on the Sunday readings.

The 2024 offertory envelopes are now ready for pick up, please take yours home and if you have no assigned number, please, take one box home and for the couple of Sundays, write your name so that your name can be registered in the parish offertory system. If you decide to switch or donate through a hassle-free offertory, you can pick a "Pre-Authorized Offering Plan" form and follow the instructions. Thank you very much for your generous contribution that makes St. Thomas More and St. Bernadette an almost self-supporting parish.

If you are new to the area; Welcome and please, fill up a Registration Form and give it to the usher.

Please, make St. Thomas More Church alive for future generations by including the parish in your will.

May God bless you with good health and good things in life this Christmas season and the coming year 2024.

Fr. Tony

Quote of the week: "Do not be troubled or weighed down with grief. Do not fear any illness or vexation, anxiety or pain. Are you not under my shadow and protection?"
(Our Lady of Guadalupe's message to Juan Diego
Cuahtlatotzin.)

Pope's Prayer Intention for December: For persons with disabilities; We pray that people living with disabilities may be at the center of attention in society, and that institutions may offer inclusive programs which value their participations.

VOLUNTEERS ARE URGENTLY NEEDED

There are many ways that you could volunteer in our Parish. Our church relies on volunteers to assist in regular maintenance and scheduling. Following are some areas you could help: Oversee/assist with maintenance of the outdoors such as keeping the lawns and gardens groomed, some snow removal from Church steps and walkway. Oversee flowers for the Altar. Assistance in cleaning inside the Church and Hall. For more information please email: stmcwcouncil@gmail.com.

Please, continue to visit our diocesan website for more information concerning our Five Year Diocesan Pastoral Plan and other websites are also found for our continued spiritual nourishment.

<https://www.peterboroughdiocese.org/en/about-us/pastoral-plan.aspx>.

St. Thomas More Parish offers eGive.

Enroll: <https://www.peterboroughdiocese.org/en/get-involved/donate.aspx>