

## Keeping the doors open in trying times (cont.)

### FORMING THE FAITHFUL

- + Provided instructions online for an AT-HOME MAY CROWNING
- + BIBLE STUDY Completed the Matthew and the Ten Commandment series for adults
- + FATHERS, FRIENDSHIP AND FAITH went online
- + Provided instructions for PRAYER IN THE DOMESTIC CHURCH
- + CATECHESIS OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD lessons offered online
- + Promoted a WILDLIFE WEEK photo blast

### SUPPORTING FAMILY AND FAITH

- + Offered DOMESTIC CHURCH materials
- + HONORED moms in May and dads in June
- + Created a family-friendly program on DISCOVERING THE SAINTS
- + CELEBRATED LAUDATO SÍ WEEK (May 16-24)



A dove window painting from a Domestic Church activity.

### FAITH IN ACTION

- + Sold SAINT JOSEPH TABLE cookies (from *The Peak*)
- + RAISED \$6,235.50 for \$20 for Lent
- + Continued to promote the Seton Center FOOD DRIVE
- + Coordinated the BACK-TO-SCHOOL DRIVE for Seton Center
- + Kept up the monthly ministry with ONE CITY CAFÉ
- + Continued serving the homeless through UPLIFT
- + Continued BLOOD DRIVES through the Community Blood Center
- + Promoted a virtual shower for COMMUNITY LINC in April
- + 16 member team walked in May for OUTPACE POVERTY
- + Coordinated meals for 100 through HOPE FAITH MINISTRIES

### CONNECTING COMMUNITY

- + KEPT THE PARISH OFFICE ACCESSIBLE since March 22.
- + SUNDAY BULLETIN: continued. Since the March 22 bulletin, mailed out 160+ bulletins every week, emailed to 2,000 addresses and it averaged over 4,000 website hits a month.
- + CALLED 671 households, BLESSED homes and DELIVERED holy water, Saint books, and Divine Mercy CDs as requested.
- + WEBSITE page views May 1 - Oct 1 increased 70% from last year, the number of users increased 15%, they visited 50% more times and stayed 400% longer.

## Our commitment to STM School

452 AT-HOME & CONNECTED LEARNERS REGISTERED FOR 2020-21

### BY YOUR GENEROSITY



AIR FILTRATION



TOUCHLESS FAUCETS



TEMPERATURE SENSOR



WATER BOTTLE STATIONS

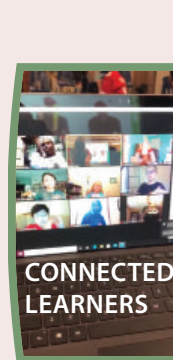


8TH GRADE GRADUATION (57 GRADUATED)



PLEXIGLASS SHIELDING

### A SAFE PLACE FOR LEARNING



CONNECTED LEARNERS



## Why pledge? being responsible stewards

### Supporting the establishment of a responsible budget

Your pledge sets the stage for the annual budget. It lets the parish office know that you intend to continue your contributions through the end of the calendar year so a responsible budget can be set.

### Supporting parish staff in keeping you connected and informed

Your completed pledge form (with whatever amount you choose) is especially important so we confirm or update your contact information. Our new database has a cost per person. In updating the database your pledge will assure us that you are still active at STM.



## A GUIDE for your prayerful consideration



## Keeping the doors open in trying times

Our church since Covid restrictions began March 22

### SACRAMENTS AND PRAYER

- + ONLINE MASSES began March 29. That web page has been accessed over 2,700 times a month
- + LIVE-STREAMED Triduum Masses
- + OPENED THE CHURCH for private prayer April 5
- + DAILY PUBLIC MASSES begun May 18
- + SUNDAY PUBLIC MASSES began Pentecost Weekend (May 31)
- + HOSTED 24 Hours for the Lord (March 20-21)
- + Offered EUCHARISTIC ADORATION on Divine Mercy Sunday and in recognition of the feast of Corpus Christi
- + DOUBLED CONFESSION TIMES in May
- + PROMOTED STATIONS of the Cross both inside and outside the church Added Resurrection Stations for the Easter season
- + ONLINE ROSARY offered a weekly in May hosted by STM ministries
- + PRAYED NOVENAS for moms (215 downloads in May), for the Holy Spirit, and for Saint Thomas More.
- + SACRAMENTS & LIVES CELEBRATED Mar 22 through September: 28 baptisms, 41 First Communions, 43 Confirmations and 33 funerals



Easter Vigil live streamed



outdoor stations

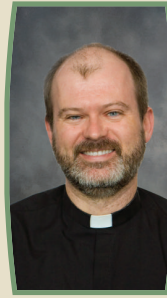
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## From Father Justin

Faithful People of Saint Thomas More,

First, a word of gratitude from me as your pastor.

For the last 200+ days, the COVID-19 pandemic has left little of our lives untouched. Many of us have been impacted directly, with loved ones hospitalized or even succumbing to complications from the virus. Some in the parish have been furloughed for a period, or lost their employment permanently. Many of us have quarantined for a stint, canceled travel plans or postponed celebrations. The effects are far reaching.



In response, our STM parishioners have stepped up, allowing us to pivot in these uneven times and afford - often in new and untried ways - opportunities for worship, the education of our young, and the healing balm that is the gathering as a community.

Jesus declares in the 5th Chapter of Matthew that his disciples are "salt and light", equipped to preserve the faith, and attract others into communion with God.

Our stewardship appeal this year is meant to be both an accounting of the ways in which we have sought to use parish resources wisely, and an expression of appreciation for the faithfulness of our members who have enabled us to continue our charge unabated...to be salt and light.

As you discern your financial support for the parish in the year ahead, may this guide provide an overview of the ways in which we have used your investments well.

As you pray over your 2020 pledge form, please consider...

- If you have never pledged before, take the next step and pledge a small percentage or dollar amount. Such a commitment enables STM to be a "light" in the world through our many ministries.
- If you have pledged a small amount, step up your amount by 1% or so. A 10% tithe can be daunting, but, your generosity is a "salt" which helps preserve the faith of the 1,400 households who call STM home.
- If you are already tithing, ask your employer about matching gifts or consider using your occupation in service to Saint Thomas More. (See the back of the pledge form.)

And, if you are uncertain of your pledge in these uncertain times and are not sure what "tithing" dollar amount to mark on your form, please enter a pledge of \$1 to let us know you remain an active member and will do what you can.

Again, know of my appreciation for your efforts during the pandemic to help our community worship, educate, and gather in communion. In times like these, the "salt and light" we offer is a true blessing in the world.

With Gratitude in Jesus Christ,

Father Justin

P.S. -You are always welcome to pledge electronically at [stmkc.com/pledge](http://stmkc.com/pledge)

## Our values as a faith community

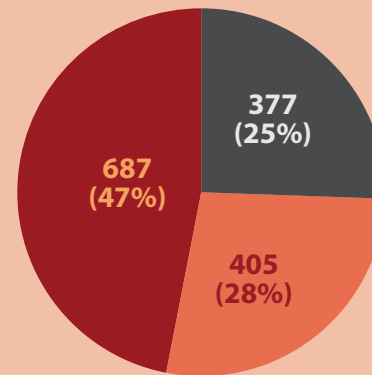
### Disciples at Saint Thomas More:

- Attend Sunday Mass weekly
- Tithe 10%: 5% to STM, 1% to the diocese, and 4% to charities of your choice. (As for the latter, we pray you choose our STM Capital Campaign Extension.)
- Tithe at least two hours of time per week in ministry (See your Guide Book & Directory for opportunities.)



## 2019 Pledges and Contributions

2019 calendar year  
1,470 Total Households  
1,072 Contributed



- Pledged
- Contributed without pledging
- Did not pledge or contribute

Annual Report for 2019-20  
coming soon at [stmkc.com/as](http://stmkc.com/as)

## Matching gifts, IRA's & Estate plans

**Matching gifts** Check with your employer. You may be able to double your giving!

**Tax-Free IRA Gifts** Charitable taxpayers who are 70½ or older can direct "qualified charitable distributions" from their fund administrator directly to the charities of their choice.

**Make Saint Thomas More your "4th child"** After your family and loved ones have been provided for, please consider including a gift to Saint Thomas More in your will.

### Questions?

Contact Tim Waris  
942-2492 x218 or  
[tim@stmkc.com](mailto:tim@stmkc.com)

## Capital Campaign

SECURING  
our  
TIMELESS  
MISSION

### The fruits of your generosity

- ✓ School fire suppression upgrade
- ✓ Church fire suppression
- ✓ School wi-fi upgrade
- ✓ STM Education fund (ongoing)

### In our church



A fire suppression system and a beautiful wood ceiling to enhance our worship space.

The picture at right shows the ever-recurring ceiling stripes that are now covered.

before



Maintenance-free flooring under the pews.



Fans for air circulation and even temperature



Brighter, more energy efficient lighting

## One-year extension: STM Education Fund

**THE EDUCATION FUND** expenditures are guided by a board of parishioners and include the pastor. The funds may be used for financial assistance for specific families or other purposes, as approved by the board and the pastor. Unlike the STM school Endowment, the Education Fund principal can be accessed as needed.