



Saint Thomas More R.C. Church

210 Horseneck Road | Fairfield, NJ 07004

973-227-0055 | www.STMChurch.net

Live-Streaming Guide

Spring 2020

We will stand united in prayer... As the Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) and situation revolving around it continues to unfold, St. Thomas More Parish stands committed to our mission to build up the Kingdom of God and the Body of Christ in Fairfield.

As we remain spiritually connected through our communal prayer, we pray for: the end of the spread of the Coronavirus, good health and healing in all the world, the Parish Family of STM, all those affected in any way by the disease, and that all people would turn to Our Risen Lord in their lives.

We hope you will continue to join us in our prayer through this difficult time via live-stream. This guide has been prepared to help you with practical and spiritual tips to have the most prayerful live-stream viewing experience.

*Have no anxiety about anything, **but in everything by prayer** and supplication with thanksgiving **let your requests be made known to God**. And the peace of God, which passes all understanding, will keep your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.*

- Philippians 4:6-7

Tips & Troubleshooting

Getting to the Stream

- **If you regularly use Facebook and have an account**, you can get to the live-stream by searching for "St. Thomas More Parish" in the FB search box and going to our page. The live-stream should be one of the most recent posts. *Depending on your notification settings, you may even get an alert when STM goes live and you can click to go to the stream right from your notifications.*
- **If you do not have a Facebook account**, you can get to the Live-Stream by using the link on our website under the "[STM Live-Stream Link](#)" news post. Or, you can click [here](#). Once you are brought to our FB page, you can click on the live-stream video or scroll down to view the most recent videos archived on the page. Scroll past, click "not now", ignore, or "X" out of any pop-up inviting you to "Sign In" or "Create an Account".

- **If you cannot find the live-stream video**, you are likely on the page before the live-stream has begun. Generally, we start our live-stream 2 minutes before the scheduled liturgy or service is about to begin. To get the stream, you can refresh the website page or close the website/app out and go back to the stream by following the steps above. *You may need to do this a few times before the live-stream becomes accessible to you as a broadcast.*

Issues during Streaming

- **If you cannot hear anything at all**, the video is likely muted on your device or your device audio is turned off/muted. Raise the volume on your viewing device. If that does not fix the problem, look in the lower right-hand corner of the video for a speaker icon. If there is an "X" next to it, tap the speaker to un-mute your video.
- **If the audio quality is poor or muffled**, raise or lower your device volume for the crispest possible sound. Laptop or desktop internal speakers tend to not give the best audio quality. iPhones, iPads, and tablets generally have higher quality speakers for listening. Most viewers experiencing audio issues are using laptop computers. To help your listening experience, try using headphones, earbuds, or an external speaker if you cannot try using another device. *Please note that you may need to regulate your device volume throughout the live-stream for the best experience. In other words, when a reading is being proclaimed or prayers are being offered, the volume might need to be raised but when a hymn is being played/sung, the volume might need to be lowered.*
- **If the audio, video, or both pause, lag, or crash completely**, you can wait a few seconds for the live-stream broadcast to catch up. If the broadcast does not catch up to proper viewing and listening, you likely need to refresh or relaunch the stream. *You should use the steps listed under "Getting to the Stream" to do this if you are having trouble.*

Features of Facebook Live (for those who are signed into Facebook)

- **Liking/Sharing the Live-Stream:** Once you can locate the live-stream post or view the stream, we encourage you to like the post and share the live-stream to your Timeline/Newsfeed. This will allow your family and friends to more easily locate and view the stream if they wish.
- **Comments:** During the live-stream, comments can be offered which are viewable during and after the broadcast. We encourage you to offer your prayer intentions which you would like us to all pray for during the Liturgy as comments in the live-stream. Try to keep other comments to a minimum to allow for the most prayerful experience as possible.
- **Reactions:** The reaction icons are accessible throughout the live-stream. Feel free to use them!

Prayerful Insights

Participation in the Mass or Liturgy virtually via live-stream is not ideal. The public prayer of the Church is meant to be a celebration and a gathering to participate fully, actively, and consciously in the mysteries of Jesus Christ. However, live-stream broadcasts allow for a prayerful, guided, and spiritual encounter with Almighty God who is always present to us all. Through these difficult times and in prudence and protection of one another, we can remain united in prayer via live-stream.

Here are some helpful tips and questions:

- **Pray with the Readings.** Prayerfully read the [Daily Mass Readings](#) before the Liturgy begins. *How do they relate to you or to others today? What is the Word of God speaking to you? How can you actively respond to Him? How is the Spirit of God leading you to pray?*
- **Make a dedicated and prayerful space.** *Where and how can you pray best? What will help you best unite yourself spiritually to the Liturgy? A prayer before? An image, statue, or crucifix? What will help lead yourself into a Spiritual Communion?*
- **Troubleshoot beforehand, put distractions away, and focus in.** *Can you try going to the live-stream early or doing a "dry-run" with the video archive to be sure you and your device are ready? Is your device up to date and ready for a live-stream broadcast? Can you turn off or mute notifications on your phone or other devices to help you focus?*
- **Please help us stand united in prayer!** Though we are separated from each other physically, we are spiritually connected. Offer your prayer intentions throughout the live-stream, pray for one another, and check in with one another. *How can you remain closely connected to your brothers and sisters in Christ? Can you join us for Mass or prayer other times during the week via live-stream? How are we called to allow our spiritual, communal prayer to transform our lives and our Parish Family?*

Offertory Information

- **The mission of STM continues through the COVID-19 pandemic.** Each year, St. Thomas More relies *heavily* on our Easter & Regular Sunday Collections to persevere in our mission.
- **To make your regular offering to our parish, please use our GoFundMe page** after the live-stream broadcast. Any gift offered through this page goes directly to STM and will not be assessed by the Archdiocese. This is the link to make your offering: <https://charity.gofundme.com/o/en/campaign/st-thomas-more-parish-fairfield>
- If you prefer, you can also mail in your collection envelopes to our Rectory (St. Thomas More Parish, 210 Horseneck Road, Fairfield, NJ 07004) or use myEoffering via our website.

May God bless you for your dedication to STM!