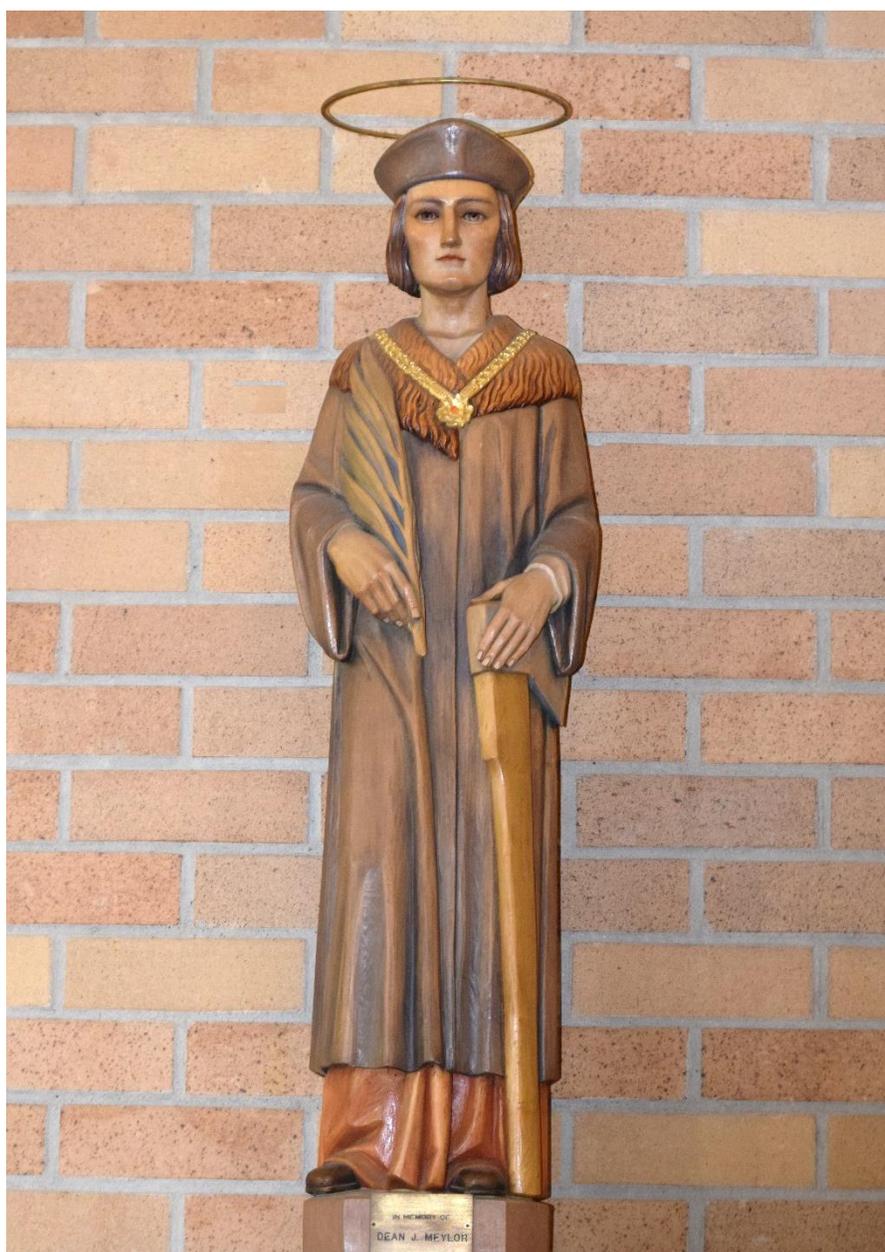


The Church of St. Thomas More
Lake Lillian, Minnesota
1936 - 2016

Closing Mass
Most Reverend John M. LeVoir



August 28, 2016

Welcome
Introductory Rite
Gathering Hymn

Gather Us In

GATHER US IN

Marty Haugen



1. Here in this place new light is stream-ing, now is the
2. We are the young— our lives are a mys - t'ry, we are the
3. Here we will take the wine and the wa - ter, here we will
4. Not in the dark of build-ings con - fin - ing, not in some



1. dark - ness van-ished a - way, See in this space our
2. old— who yearn for your face, We have been sung through-
3. take the bread of new birth, Here you shall call your
4. heav - en, light years a - way, but here in this place the



1. fears and our dream-ings, brought here to you in the light of this
2. out all of his - t'ry, called to be light to the whole hu-man
3. sons and your daugh-ters, call us a - new to be salt for the
4. new light is shin - ing, now is the King - dom, now is the



1. day. Gath-er us in— the lost and for - sa - ken, Gath-er us
2. race. Gath-er us in— the rich and the haugh-ty, Gath-er us
3. earth. Give us to drink the wine of com - pas - sion, Give us to
4. day. Gath-er us in and hold us for ev - er, Gath-er us



1. in— the blind and the lame; Call to us now, and we shall a -
2. in— the proud and the strong; Give us a heart so meek and so
3. eat the bread that is you; Nour-ish us well, and teach us to
4. in and make us your own; Gath-er us in— all peo-ples to -



1. wa-ken, we shall a - rise at the sound of our name.
2. low - ly, give us the cour-age to en - ter the song.
3. fash-ion lives that are ho - ly and hearts that are true.
4. geth-er, fire ___ of love in our flesh and our bone.

Opening Greeting

Bishop LeVoir: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

Bishop LeVoir: The Lord be with you.

All: And with your spirit.



Penitential Act

Bishop LeVoir: Brothers and sisters, let us acknowledge our sins, and so prepare ourselves to celebrate the sacred mysteries.

All: I confess to Almighty God and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have greatly sinned, in my thoughts and in my words, in what I have done and what I have failed to do, through my fault, through my fault, through my most grievous fault; therefore I ask blessed Mary ever-Virgin, all the Angels and Saints, and you, my brothers and sisters, to pray for me to the Lord our God.

Bishop LeVoir: May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life.

All: Amen.

Bishop LeVoir: Lord, have mercy.

All: Lord, have mercy.

Bishop LeVoir: Christ, have mercy.

All: Christ, have mercy.

Bishop LeVoir: Lord, have mercy.

All: Lord, have mercy.

Gloria

Mass of Christ the Savior

Dan Schutte

REFRAIN

Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God in the high -
est. And on earth peace, on earth peace to peo-ple of good
will. will. A - - - men.
A - - - men.

VERSE 1

1. We praise you, we bless you, we a-dore you, we
glo-ri-fy you, we give you thanks for your great glo-ry,
Lord God, heav'n-ly King, O God al-migh-ty Fa-ther. to Refrain

VERSE 2

(all voices)

2. Lord, Je - sus Christ, On - ly Be - got - ten Son, Lord God,
Lamb of God, Son of the Fa - ther, you take a - way the
sins of the world, have mer - cy on us; you take a - way the
sins of the world, re - ceive our prayer; you are seat - ed at the
right hand, the right hand of the Fa - ther, have mer - cy on us. to Refrain

VERSE 3

3. For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the
Lord, you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ,
with the Ho - ly Spir - it in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. to Refrain

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Opening Prayer

Liturgy of the Word

First Reading

Sirach 3:17-18, 20, 28-29

My child, conduct your affairs with humility, and you will be loved more than a giver of gifts. Humble yourself the more, the greater you are, and you will find favor with God. What is too sublime for you, seek not, into things beyond your strength search not. The mind of a sage appreciates proverbs, and an attentive ear is the joy of the wise. Water quenches a flaming fire, and alms atone for sins.

Lector: The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Psalm

Psalm 68



R. God, in your good-ness, you have made [a home,] a home for the poor.

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Text: © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Committee on English in the Liturgy, Inc. (ICEL).

Second Reading

Hebrews 12:18-19, 22-24A

Brothers and sisters:

You have not approached that which could be touched and a blazing fire and gloomy darkness and storm and a trumpet blast and a voice speaking words such that those who heard begged that no message be further addressed to them.

No, you have approached Mount Zion and the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and countless angels in festal gathering, and the assembly of the firstborn enrolled in heaven, and God the judge of all, and the spirits of the just made perfect, and Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant, and the sprinkled blood that speaks more eloquently than that of Abel.

Lector: The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Owen Alstott



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Gospel

Luke 14:1, 7-14

Fr. Steve: The Lord be with you.

All: And with your spirit.

Fr. Steve: A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

All: Glory to you, O Lord.

On a sabbath Jesus went to dine at the home of one of the leading Pharisees, and the people there were observing him carefully.

He told a parable to those who had been invited, noticing how they were choosing the places of honor at the table. “When you are invited by someone to a wedding banquet, do not recline at table in the place of honor. A more distinguished guest than you may have been invited by him, and the host who invited both of you may approach you and say, ‘Give your place to this man,’ and then you would proceed with embarrassment to take the lowest place.

Rather, when you are invited, go and take the lowest place so that when the host comes to you he may say, ‘My friend, move up to a higher position.’ Then you will enjoy the esteem of your companions at the table. For every one who exalts himself will be humbled, but the one who humbles himself will be exalted.”

Then he said to the host who invited him, “When you hold a lunch or a dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your relatives or your wealthy neighbors, in case they may invite you back and you have repayment. Rather, when you hold a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind; blessed indeed will you be because of their inability to repay you. For you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous.”

Fr. Steve: The Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ

Homily by Most Reverend John M. LeVoir

Prayers of the Faithful

Response: Lord, hear our prayer

Liturgy of the Eucharist

Preparation of the Gifts Hymn

For the Beauty of the Earth

DIX



1. For the beau - ty of the earth, For the glo - ry of the skies,
2. For the beau - ty of each hour Of the day and of the night,
3. For the joy of hu - man love, Broth - er, sis - ter, par - ent, child,
4. For your Church, that ev - er - more Lifts its ho - ly hands a - bove,
5. For Your - self, O Gift Di - vine To our world so free - ly giv'n,



1. For the love which from our birth O - ver and a - round us lies:
2. Hill and vale, and tree and flow'r, Sun and moon, and stars of light:
3. Friends on earth and friends a - bove; For all gen - tle thoughts and mild:
4. Of - f'ring up on ev - 'ry shore A pure sac - ri - fice of love:
5. For that love from which will shine, Peace on earth and joy in heav'n:



1-5. Lord of all, to you we raise This our gift of grate - ful praise.

Text: 77 77 77; Folliot S. Pierpont, 1835-1917. Music: Conrad Kocher, 1786-1872.

Bishop LeVoir: Pray, brothers and sisters, that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.

All: May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands for the praise and glory of his name, for our good and the good of all his holy Church.

Preface Dialogue

Bishop LeVoir: The Lord be with you.

All: And with your spirit.

Bishop LeVoir: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them up to the Lord.

Bishop LeVoir: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right and just.

Holy

Mass of Christ the Savior

Dan Schutte

Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly Lord God of hosts. Heav-en and
 earth are full, are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - nal Ho -
 san - nal Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is
 he who comes, who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -

The musical score is written on four staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It features a melody with various note values including quarter, eighth, and sixteenth notes, as well as rests. There are trills and triplets indicated by a '3' over a group of notes. The piece concludes with a double bar line and repeat dots.

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Memorial Acclamation

Mass of Christ the Savior

Dan Schutte

When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup, we pro-
 claim your Death, O Lord, un - til you come a - gain.

The musical score is written on two staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It features a melody with quarter, eighth, and sixteenth notes, and rests. The piece concludes with a double bar line and repeat dots.

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Amen

Mass of Christ the Savior

Dan Schutte

A - men. A - men. A - men.

The musical score is written on one staff in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It features a melody with quarter, eighth, and sixteenth notes, and rests. The piece concludes with a double bar line and repeat dots.

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The Lord's Prayer

All **Our Father,**

Bishop LeVoir: Lord Jesus Christ.... Who live and reign for ever and ever.

All: **Amen.**

Bishop LeVoir: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

All: **And with your spirit.**

Lamb of God

Mass of Christ the Savior

Dan Schutte

The image shows a musical score for the 'Lamb of God' section. It consists of two staves of music in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff begins with a repeat sign and contains the lyrics: '*Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the'. The second staff starts with a first ending bracket labeled '1..' and ends with a double bar line and the word 'Final'. The lyrics for the second staff are: 'world, have mer-cy on us. world, grant us peace.'

Bishop LeVoir: Behold the Lamb of God, behold him who takes away the sins of the world. Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.

All: **Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.**



Communion Hymn

I am the Bread of Life

Verses



1. _____ I am the Bread of life. You who
 2. The bread that I will give is my
 3. Un - less _____ you eat of the
 4. _____ I am the Res - ur - rec - tion, _____
 5. Yes, Lord, _____ I be - lieve that _____



come to me shall not hun - ger; _____ and who be -
 flesh for the life of the world, _____ and if you
 flesh of the Son of Man _____ and _____
 I _____ am the life. _____ If you be -
 you _____ are the Christ, _____ the _____



lieve in me shall not thirst. _____ No one can come to
 eat _____ of this bread, _____ you shall live for
 drink _____ of his blood, and drink _____ of his
 lieve _____ in _____ me, _____ e - ven _____ though you



me un - less the _____ Fa - ther _____ beck - ons.
 ev - er, _____ you shall live for _____ ev - er.
 blood, _____ you shall not have life with - in you.
 die, _____ you shall live for _____ ev - er.

Refrain



And I will raise you up, and I will raise you



up, and I will raise you up on the last day.

Text: John 6; Suzanne Toolan, SM, b.1927; translator unknown
 Tune: BREAD OF LIFE. Irregular with refrain; Suzanne Toolan, SM, b.1927; acc. by Diana Kodner, b.1957
 © 1966, 1970, 1986, 1993, GIA Publications, Inc.

Prayer after Communion

Bishop LeVoir: Let us pray....

We ask this through Christ, our Lord.

All: Amen.

Liturgical Objects and Vessels of the Church of St. Thomas More

The vessels and objects used in our liturgies are meant to be handled and used. Their character as sacramentals derives from the role they play in mediating relationships between the believers themselves and between believers and God. Like treasured possessions and personal gifts, they are no mere “things” to be bought and sold, used and tossed away, but symbols with significance in the lives of the users.

The word “Mass” that we use to describe our celebration of the Eucharist means; “to be sent”. Having celebrated this final Mass today in this church we are sent as we have been in the past and will continue to be in the future. We are sent to be Disciples of Christ! Like the first disciples we are asked to take only what is needed, the basics, on the journey.

As part of our procession out today we will take a few of the liturgical objects and vessels from this church and bring them to those churches where the members of the Church of St. Thomas More have now joined. These liturgical items represent what is most basic and fundamental to our faith and what we need as we are sent to “go and make disciples,” the living presence of Jesus Christ to one another.

Next weekend these liturgical items will be part of the opening procession and received by the church where you as disciples are going to worship. These items will then become a part of that worship space and will be used within the liturgy in order to help mediate new relationships between the believers and between believers and God.

Statue of St. Isidore the Farmer: The patron saint of farmers and those who work the land. This statue has stood in the sanctuary of our church because the members of our parish, many of them farmers have relied on the intercession of St. Isidore to bless their crops and labor. This statue is being carried in procession by Elaine and Jon Anderson and Barb Stahl, representing those families who have now joined the Church of St. Mary in Bird Island.



Chalice and Communion Cups: These sacred vessels hold for us divinity. This chalice and these communion cups hold in full measure the blood beyond all price, the refreshing drink of our salvation: Christ's blood poured out and given for all. As priest and people have come to drink of this precious gift we strive to become the gift we have received for one another. These sacred vessels are being carried in procession by Pam and Lyle Lundstrum, representing those families who have now joined the Church of St. John in Hector.



Statue of St. Thomas More: The patron saint of this local church. St. Thomas More is known for his depth of knowledge and his willingness to defend the faith against heresy. This statue has stood in the sanctuary of our church as a reminder for us to continue growing in our knowledge of the faith and our love for the Lord and his church. This statue is being carried in procession by Nancy and Greg Muench, representing those families who have now joined the Church of St. Mary in Willmar.



Concluding Rites and Solemn Blessing

Bishop LeVoir: The Lord be with you.

All: And with your spirit.

Bishop LeVoir: Bow your heads and pray for God's blessing.

Bishop LeVoir: May God, ...

All: Amen.

Bishop LeVoir: And may the blessing of almighty God, the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit come down on you and remain with you for ever.

All: Amen.

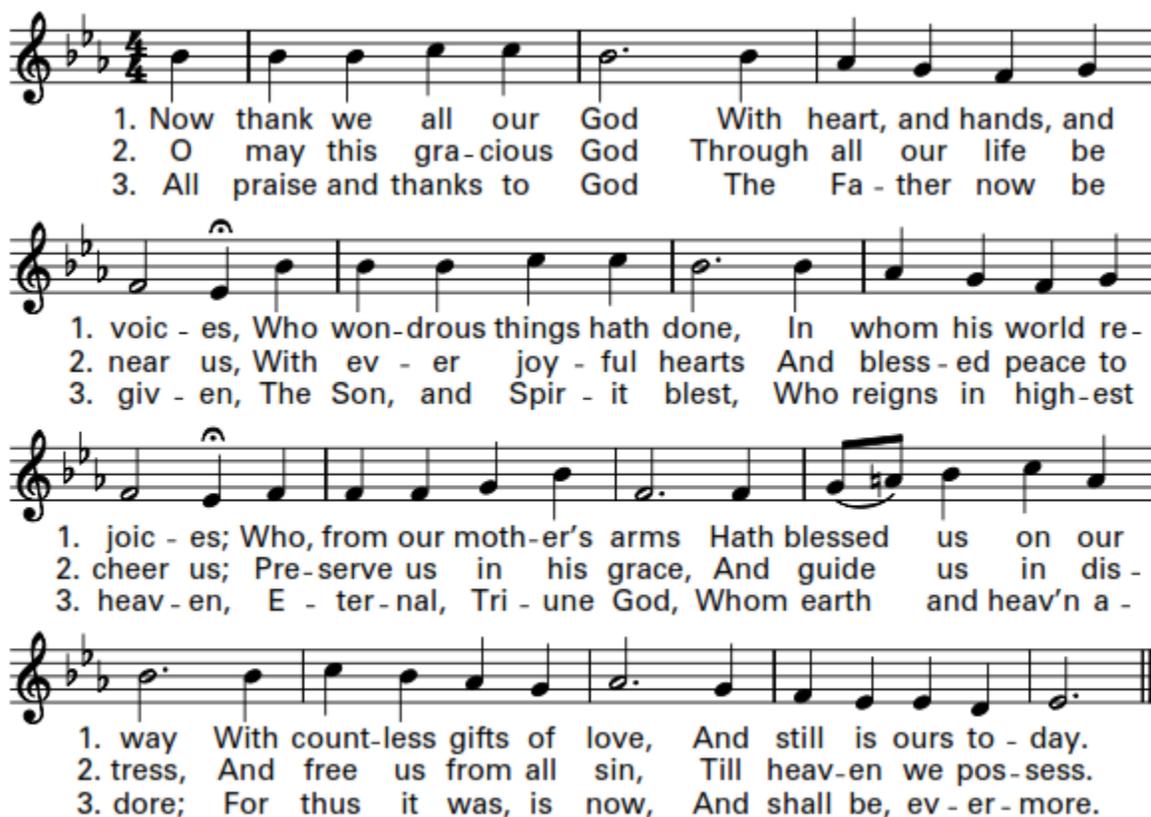
Bishop LeVoir: Go in peace.

All: Thanks be to God.

Sending Forth Hymn

Now Thank We All Our God

NUN DANKET



1. Now thank we all our God With heart, and hands, and
2. O may this gra-cious God Through all our life be
3. All praise and thanks to God The Fa-ther now be

1. voic - es, Who won-drous things hath done, In whom his world re-
2. near us, With ev - er joy - ful hearts And bless - ed peace to
3. giv - en, The Son, and Spir - it blest, Who reigns in high-est

1. joic - es; Who, from our moth-er's arms Hath blessed us on our
2. cheer us; Pre-serve us in his grace, And guide us in dis -
3. heav - en, E - ter - nal, Tri - une God, Whom earth and heav'n a -

1. way With count-less gifts of love, And still is ours to - day.
2. tress, And free us from all sin, Till heav-en we pos-sess.
3. dore; For thus it was, is now, And shall be, ev - er - more.

Text: 67 67 66 66; Sirach 50:22-24; Martin Rinkart, 1586-1649; tr. by Catherine Winkworth, 1827-1878, alt.
Music: Johann Crüger, 1598-1662; adapt. by William H. Monk, 1823-1889, fr. Felix Mendelssohn, 1809-1847.

You are welcome to take this worship aid home with you today.

Immediately after Mass, a photo will be taken in the sanctuary of all those in attendance. Please gather in front of the altar. After the photo is taken, you are invited to join all parishioners – past and present – for brunch celebrating the life and legacy of the Church of St. Thomas More.



Sharing the life of Christ
Being the love of Christ

The priests and staff of the Catholic Area Faith Community of Jesus
Our Living Water would like to thank you for attending this liturgy.



St. Thomas More Church was founded on the Feast of St. Thomas More as a mission of Sacred Heart in Raymond, on March 5, 1936. The first services were held in a dingy railroad station at the Lake Lillian depot with Father William Murphy offering Mass for some ten families. Later that year, a small house on Main Street in Lake Lillian was purchased, enlarged, and used as a church. When fire destroyed the church in 1941, the basement of a school was used for worship. When it became too small, Mass was celebrated at the Bill Kosel home until a basement church was ready in the fall of 1941.

Father Howard Halloran received the approval of the bishop to proceed with erecting a new church. The present church was started in the spring of 1957 and dedicated in July, 1958 by Bishop Alphonse Schladweiler.

The parish remained a mission of Raymond until 1965 when the first resident pastor, Father Merle Monnens, came to live in Lake Lillian.

St. Thomas More has been a member of the Catholic Area Faith Community of Jesus Our Living Water since the area faith community's inception in 2006 along with the Churches of St. Patrick in Kandiyohi, Our Lady of the Lakes in Spicer, and St. Mary in Willmar.