

St. Thomas

ST. THOMAS · THE · APOSTLE · PARISH

25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

9-24-06



St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic Parish

1500 Brookdale Road, Naperville, IL 60563 e-mail: mainoffice@stapostle.org

630 355-8980 (Main Office)

630 305-6318 (Religious Education)

630 355-0521 (Facsimilie)

Visit us on the internet at www.stapostle.org

Pastoral Staff — Full Time

Rev. Joel Fortier – Pastor, jfortier@stapostle.org

Rev. Mark Cote – Associate Pastor, fr_mark_c@yahoo.com

Rev. Bob Colaresi, O. Carm. – Weekend Assistant

Rev. Mr. William Worden, D. Min. – Deacon, ext. 105

Rev. Mr. Chuck Lane – Deacon, ext. 220, chucklane2@juno.com

Rev. Mr. Jim Breen – Deacon, 630-357-4853, jimb4853@yahoo.com

Rev. Mr. Larry Kearney Deacon, lkearney@comcast.net

Gerry Czerak – Business Manager, ext. 106, gczerak@stapostle.org

Corinne Seguin-Dart – Director of Junior High Youth Ministry, ext. 117

Patti Dougherty – Director of Religious Education, ext. 109, pdougherty@stapostle.org

Julie Frazier – Liturgy and Music, ext. 111, jfrazier@stapostle.org

Robert Frazier – Liturgy and Music, ext. 112, rfrazier@stapostle.org

Jim Melton – Director of High School Ministry,

ext. 123, hopedawg1@stapostle.org

Jan Olah – Director of Pastoral Care, ext. 124

Chari Rosales – Director of Adult Education & RCIA ext. 138, crosales@stapostle.org

Michael Ryder – Director of Outreach, ext. 121

Pastoral Care Staff — Part Time

Audrey Casey, BSN, Parish Nurse volunteer, ext 104, acasey@stapostle.org

Felicia Lawlor, M.S., R.N., Parish Nurse volunteer, ext 104, flawlor@stapostle.org

Support Staff — Full Time

Nancy Cirno – Religious Education Assistant, ext. 118, ncirno@stapostle.org

Lori Culberson – Liturgical Assistant, ext. 120, lculberson@stapostle.org

Kathy Ferguson - Receptionist, ext. 100, mainoffice@stapostle.org

Diane McQueen – Parish Assistant, ext. 101, dmcqueen@stapostle.org

Anne Schultz – Outreach & Adult Faith Formation Assistant, ext. 113,

aschultz@stapostle.org

Angela Tuttle – Liturgy Assistant & Communications Coordinator, ext. 110, atuttle@stapostle.org

Support Staff — Part Time

Pat Berkhout – Evening/Saturday Receptionist, ext. 119, nitecrew@stapostle.org

Marge Coronado – Evening Receptionist, ext. 119, nitecrew@stapostle.org

Marilyn DeMeo – Database Coordinator (T/Th), ext. 107, mdemeo@stapostle.org

Jorge Gonzalez – Custodian

Sue Sportiello – Accounts Payable (M/W), ext. 107, ssportiello@stapostle.org

Ted McKeown - Facility Coordinator, ext. 133, facility@stapostle.org

Theresa Sheliga – Sacristan Coordinator, ext. 116

Lynne Vehlewald – Librarian, ext. 125, library@stapostle.org

Pastoral Leadership Community

Bob Bohanek

Mary Johnson

Ivan Deatsch

Rosemary Krol

Pam Foster

Carolyn Lowrie

Guy Francesconi

Ray Vogt

Julee Gard

Glenn Weir

Commission Facilitators

Worship

Gwen Wells

Parish Life

Pam Foster

Faith Formation

Lorraine Katz

Administration

Dave Otto

Service

Phil Meno

Stewardship

Steve Obendorf

Doug & Maureen Johnson

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday reconciliation is available after 8:30 a.m.

Mass, 3:30 to 4:15 p.m., or after the 4:30 p.m. Mass

in the Reconciliation Room of the Chapel. Fr. Joel

and Fr. Mark are available during the week by ap-

pointment. Communal Penance services are held

occasionally throughout the year.

Sick and Home Bound

Call the Church Office to receive prayer/Eucharist

from a priest, deacon or Minister of Care.

Baptism

Baptisms are usually celebrated two Sundays each

month at a 1:45 p.m. service. On selected dates, Bap-

tisms are celebrated at weekend Masses. Parents are

required to attend a two-part awareness and renewal

program prior to the Baptism. Call the Church Office

a few months in advance to make arrangements.

Matrimony

A couple planning on being married at St. Thomas

should contact the church six months in advance.

One year is preferred. Either the bride or groom, or

their parents, must be a registered parishioner for at

least three months prior to calling to set a date.

Religious Education

Call the 305-6318 to register.

RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults)

Any person wanting to learn more about the Catholic

Faith, or to join our Catholic community should call

the church at 355-8980.

Counseling Service

Call Samaritan Interfaith 357-2456 or Jan Olah,

Pastoral Care 355-8980 x 124.

Sunday Nursery

Nursery care is available for your child age one

(must be walking) to four at the 9 & 10:45 a.m. Mass.

For more information call the church office.

Liturgy Schedule

Daily

(Monday — Friday)

Rosary — 8:10 a.m.

Mass — 6:30 & 8:30 a.m.

(Saturday)

Mass — 8:30 a.m.

Weekend

Saturday Vigil — 4:30 p.m.

Sunday — 7:30, 9:00, 10:45 a.m.,

& 12:15 p.m.

*Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament every
first Friday of the month 9 a.m. — Noon.*

Dear Friends,

We are going through a lot of changes and the world is certainly in a precarious place. All that doesn't make for a very secure feeling. I'm sure you feel it with me. It seems that we stand on the brink of global confrontation with the Muslim world. Our insertion into the middle of the Arab world in a conflict that is at best confusing. Our legitimate claims for defense after Sept. 11 seem to have been diverted into a war whose purposes are not at all clear and which was started preemptively against any and all ethical norms for a "Just War" as taught by the Catholic Church.

The revelation of the selfless sacrificial love of Jesus is not consistent with the world's plan...

We can speak and name clearly the evils of abortion. We need now to speak and name clearly the evils of this war. It has made the world a more dangerous place. Even innocent, though terribly ill advised and regrettable references by the Pope play into that context.

We must step back and ask ourselves the question St. James asks us in the second reading today.

"Where do the conflicts among you come from? Is it not your passions... You covet but do not possess." He says, "The fruit of righteousness is sown in peace for those who cultivate peace."

Are we, and how can we cultivate peace? We are given a model and example of that in the gospel today. St. James tells us that, "Where jealousy and selfish ambition exist, there is disorder and every foul practice." In the gospel today we see just that happening among the Apostles no less.

Jesus asks them, "What were you arguing about on the way?" They were arguing about who was the most important, "the greatest". Jesus takes the opportunity to stop teaching them: "*If anyone wishes to be first, they shall be the last of all and the servant of all.*" How, in our greatness as a nation and as a people are we doing that?


Jesus had been reflecting just before their argument that "The Son of Man is to be handed over to people who will kill him, and three days after his death the Son of Man will rise." The gospel tells us they did not understand this kind of talk and clearly they did not. They didn't even want to ask or talk to him about it. The revelation of the selfless sacrificial love of Jesus is not consistent with the world's plan, but it is consistent with God's plan for true greatness and peace.

We must learn to understand and commit ourselves to the way of Jesus, the way of the cross. We must demonstrate that we are good partners in the world; we are indeed not just in it for ourselves, but that we are indeed in it for others; that we uphold the common good with all our resources, strength and might. What would it look like if all the lives, and physical/financial resources that are spent each month, that are going up in smoke, who know where and for what, were used for the development of peoples.

It begs the question of how much we really are of the mind-set of selfless sacrificial love, of how much we really are of the heart and mind of Christ. In these days it is not a rhetorical question. The future of the world depends on the answer to it—believe. It is part of my faith as a Christian.

I pray that we could listen to and learn from the teaching of Jesus today.

With you in the Heart of Christ,



Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

September 24, 2006

The fruit of righteousness is sown
in peace for those who cultivate peace.

— James 3:18

Worship Commission

New Sunday Evening Mass

The Sunday evening mass, planned especially for youth and young adults, will begin Sept. 24. It will be held in our **St. Thomas Church at 8:00 P.M.** This is both a change of place and time from last year. Our visiting artist, John Angotti, will be directing a new praise band for these liturgies.

John Angotti at St. Thomas & CDs

There is a posting on our web site listing all of the dates that John Angotti will be at St. Thomas this coming year. The next Sunday that John will be at Mass is October 29. We have several of John's CDs for sale in the Liturgy Office at a cost of \$15 each which is \$2 off the list price of \$17. Call or see Julie or Robert if you're interested.

Need help following the Mass?

There is an order of service for Mass in our church hymnal beginning at #153 for those who are less familiar with the responses. The book also provides short explanations about the various parts of the Eucharist.

For the Physically Challenged

Hearing assistance devices, large print worship aids, and wheelchairs are available in the Narthex for those who need them. Several locations in Church are clearly marked/reserved for those in wheelchairs.

Cross and Gift bearers

Anyone may carry the cross in procession or bring the gifts of bread and wine forward to the Altar at a weekend liturgy. You may also sign up in advance to do this on a special date. See the Host-Greeter Captain in the Narthex before Mass or call Lori Culberson

25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

BEING POWERFUL

Putting others first is one of the greatest challenges in a world that places so much emphasis on being powerful. Americans, for the most part, pride themselves on being a "super power." Power, in and of itself, is not the problem. What can become problematic is the way that power is used. Our example of the perfect use of power, of course, is the Lord Jesus himself. Fully human and fully divine, the Lord put all the power that had been given to him at the service of others. Unfortunately, when one hears comments such as "he is a very powerful man" or "it is a very powerful country," one usually thinks of people or countries that use power to place themselves above apparently weaker people or places. The Gospel is a challenge to turn this notion on its head. We have each been given much power—the power flowing from Christ—in our baptism. Today we are called to use this power to place the needs of others before our own.

Something New -

St. Thomas Praise / Prays

We had a wonderful gathering this past Wednesday evening for our first St. Thomas Prays / Praise Event. We hope to have an audio recording of it available for those who may have missed it. When this recording becomes available we will announce it in this bulletin and on our web site. The next St. Thomas Wednesday evening events with John Angotti are scheduled for Oct. 25, Nov. 8, Dec. 6, Feb. 21, 2007 and Mar. 14. Watch for more details.

Welcome Cards

Welcome cards are available for anyone to make a comment or suggestion, ask a question, or express a need. They are always available at the drop off box located in the hallway between the Main Office and the Chapel. The cards also provide a handy reference for our St. Thomas contact information and liturgy schedule.

Prayers at Mass

There is a red book in the Narthex for anyone to write a special prayer intention. This book is brought forward at each weekend mass and placed on the Altar. You may also call the Main Office at any time to ask for the name of someone who is sick or deceased to be added to the Sunday Prayer of the Faithful.

Wedding Workshop Change of Date

There has been a change of date for our next Wedding Workshop to help couples prepare the liturgy and select music for their wedding. The next workshop will be Saturday, **January 13** and not January 6 as previously announced. Call Diane in the Main Office to sign up for this session.

Pray for Our Parish

25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

By your will, O God, revealed in Christ, whoever wants to be first must become last of all, and you have made a child the measure of your kingdom.

Give us wisdom from above, that we may welcome the word of your Son and come to understand that in your sight, the greatest of all is the one who becomes servant of all.

*We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God for ever and ever.
Amen.*

From: [Prayers for Sundays and Seasons](#),
Liturgy Training Publications. www.ltp.org

FIRST IS BEST?

"I'm first!" "No, I'm first!" "Mom, tell Ronnie that I get to be first this time!" From the earliest moments of our lives, there is something ingrained in us that is convinced that first is best. If not chosen first for the sports team, we are immediately deflated. We are coached to be "in first." We spend hours of waiting time in order to be first in line. We are caught in a culture that makes being first the highest priority. Against this backdrop, we come to church and hear a Gospel such as the one proclaimed today from Mark: "If anyone wishes to be first, he shall be the last of all and the servant of all" (Mark 9:35). This is a passage all about power.

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TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — The wicked say: With revilement and torture let us put the just one to the test (Wisdom 2:12, 17-20).

Psalm — The Lord upholds my life (Psalm 54).

Second Reading — The wisdom from above is full of mercy and good fruits (James 3:16 — 4:3).

Gospel — Whoever receives one child such as this in my name, receives me (Mark 9:30-37).

For the sick...

Baby Benjamin Baxter, friend of Lois Sheridan
Bob Hamman, husband of Jeanne
Romulo Briones, father of Jojo
Bob Monaghan, nephew of Mary Anne & Bob Buckman
Eve Rejman, daughter-in-law of Bruno & Loretto

For the deceased...

Alonzo Throckmorton, nephew of Angie Tuttle
Caroline Senger, mother of Terry
Jack Ryan, brother of Joe
Laurence Casale, grandfather of Ron Kurza

For the recently married...

Anne Kolkay & Terence Maynard

Mass Intentions...

Tuesday, September 26, 2006

8:30 †Lucille Wilkins, by Pat Wilkins

Wednesday, September 27, 2006

8:30 †Diann Pelletier, by The Bennett Family

Thursday, September 28, 2006

8:30 †Toni Hurley, by Al & Nanette Wild

Friday, September 29, 2006

8:30 †Raymond & Marcella Dolan, by The Muhlenfeld Family
†Virginia Watkins, by Joe & Diane Battisto
†Sr. Anne James

Saturday, September 30, 2006

4:30 †Elizabeth Massaro, by The Carroll Family
†Alice Belter, by Gene & Carol Rados

Sunday, October 1, 2006

7:30 †William Compton, by Ron & Betty DiMonte
9:00 Special Intention, by The Viehl Family
10:45 For the People of St. Thomas

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Prv 3:27-34; Lk 8:16-18
Tuesday: Prv 21:1-6, 10-13; Lk 8:19-21
Wednesday: Prv 30:5-9; Lk 9:1-6
Thursday: Eccl 1:2-11; Lk 9:7-9
Friday: Dn 7:9-10, 13-14 or Rv 12:7-12a; Jn 1:47-51
Saturday: Eccl 11:9 — 12:8; Lk 9:43b-45
Sunday: Nm 11:25-19; Ps 19; Jas 5:1-6; Mk 9:38-43, 45, 47-48

Faith and Spiritual Formation Commission

Wednesday Morning Scripture Study

Come to St. Thomas for Wednesday Morning Scripture Study to explore the Letter to the Hebrews. Learn how our Christian faith, centered in Jesus, offers forgiveness of sins and friendship with God. Discover how Jesus makes his followers sure of what they hope for with proof of the things that cannot be seen.



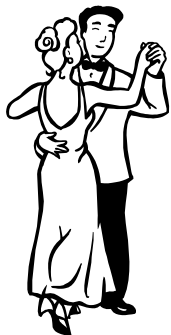
The group will meet Wednesdays September 20, 2006 thru May 16, 2007 from 9:00 to 11:30 a.m. in the Senior Center. Child care is available. An orientation for new members only will be held Wednesday, September 13 in the Senior Center from 9:00 to 10:30 a.m.

To register, or for questions, contact Chari Rosales at 355-8980 or Geralyn Parrillo at 717-9705.

Ballroom Dancing

Whether you are a beginner or just want to brush up your skills, learn to dance the Foxtrot, Waltz, Tango, Rumba, Cha Cha,, Salsa, or Swing!

Put on your dancing shoes and plan to attend! Thursday Sessions: Sept 28, Oct 5, 12, and 19, 7:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Classes to be held in the gym. Each session is \$20.00 per couple; proceeds to benefit ALPHA. Forms can be found on the wall outside the main office.



*Please return form to
St. Thomas Main Office*

Sign up deadline is September 24th

C.A.R.E. CORNER

Do you find Catholicism to be too ritualistic and devoid of the Spirit of God? Here at St. Thomas, we would be hard-pressed to believe the presence of God was not manifest in our community and our liturgies. Yet, many people who are unfamiliar with the ways of the Catholic Church and it's teachings hold numerous, long-held, mistaken ideas about our church. Over the centuries, the Catholic Church has been accused of being un-Christian, un-biblical and idolatrous. Perhaps it is time to set the record straight. Uncovering the truth about the Catholic Church could help all of us more fully appreciate the richness of our faith heritage.

And so we begin a series covering some of the most common misconceptions of Catholicism. Meet us back here next week, and for several weeks thereafter. It is quite possible some of these false notions could be yours.



Alpha Meal Hosted by Eucharistic Ministers

The ALPHA Team and guests wish to thank the Eucharistic Ministers for providing dinner this past week. We appreciate your support and generosity as you minister to both body and soul.

Leyte Benefit Concert

The benefit concert for the victims of Leyte, Philippines is Saturday, September 23 from 7:00 – 11:00 P.M. in the Gym. A big thanks to Karl Pineda and our Aisian Awareness Committee for putting on this event.

Breathe Peace

The Ecumenical Outreach Ministry
Invites You to Attend
An Interfaith Spiritual Retreat

Spiritual teacher
Sri Shuddaanandaa "Baba"
presents a weekend retreat at the
Carmelite Center in Darien
where you will experience
living the inner peace
already present within you.

*Friday Sept 29, 5:30 p.m.
thru Sunday Oct 1, noon*

Cost: \$165.00 per person
(includes meals and lodging)
Details: Call Joanne Wade (parishioner)
or Chari Rosales (630) 355-8980

**Call today
to register!**



Ninth Annual Fine Arts Exhibit at St. Thomas

The Celebration of the Arts Ministry of St. Thomas the Apostle invites artists to participate in the Ninth Annual Fine Arts Exhibit including three dimensional work, fine arts crafts, and photography. The exhibit will take place on Saturday and Sunday, November 4 and 5 in the Ministry center. Entry forms are in the Church office. The deadline for registration is October 6, 2006.

Call Chari Rosales at
355-8980 Ext. 138 for more information.

Gifts Discovery Workshop

"Is a lamp brought in to be placed under a bushel basket or under a bed, and not to be placed on a lampstand?" —Mark 4:21

OVERVIEW

(and "Pre-workshop" assignments)
Sunday, Oct 8
(after 7, 9 & 10:45 a.m. Mass)

WORKSHOP

Wednesday, Nov 7, 7 p.m.



Everyone has gifts. God gives them to us so that we may become fully alive in Christ = every cell of Christ's body—and thus come into a deeper relationship with Jesus for our own sake and the sake of our family, work life, church and community. St. Thomas invites you to an "Gifts Discovery Workshop." On October 8 after the 7:00, 9:00 and 10:45 a.m. masses, there will be a short meeting in the Ministry Center for those who have signed up for the workshop. You will receive an overview of the workshop and a pre-workshop assignment. The workshop will take place in the Lighthouse at 7 p.m. on November 7. The evening will begin with prayer and scripture followed by a gift inventory and discernment time to begin the process of understanding who we are and where we are called in life.

Seating will be limited to 90. Please RSVP to
Larry Kearney at (630) 717-1882

Gatherings Kick-Off Weekend

Are You:

- Called to gather...
In Community
To Pray
To Serve?
- Interested in sharing your faith in a "small Church community"?
- Looking to encourage one another and be encouraged on your life's journey?



If so, GATHERINGS is for you! Come on September 24/25 to learn more about small faith communities at St. Thomas. There will be a short reflection after Communion, an opportunity to sign-up to join a community, and current members available to answer any questions you may have. No experience required! Questions? Contact Anne Schultz in the Adult Faith Formation Office 355-8980 Ext 113.

Religious Education

First Communion Preparation



First Communion Preparation begins in the First Grade to receive the sacrament in Second Grade. Registration for Religious Education is now due, so please remember to register your First Grader.

Call the Religious Education Office (305-6318) for more details.

19th Annual Bishop's Mass With Persons with Special Needs

Come and celebrate liturgy with Bishop J. Peter Sartain at noon on Sunday, October 15, at the Cathedral of St. Raymond, 604 North Raynor Avenue in Joliet. Lunch will follow immediately in the Joyce Center. Call Jen at the Diocesan Religious Education Office at 1-815-727-6411 (ext. 260) for a luncheon reservation.

Note: Interpreter for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing will be provided. If you would like to learn more about the ministry to persons with special needs, contact Patti Dougherty 355-8980 ext. 109.

Trec High School Ministry

It's Opening Day! TREC kicks off on Sunday night. We start at 6:30 p.m. in the Church at St. Thomas. After some TREC Vision, it will be off to small groups for our first Quest group meeting. While the Quest groups meet, our parents will get their TREC Orientation for the night. Then, at 8 p.m. we reveal TREC Mass 2006, with our new band. Our high school students lead the singing for another great year. Everybody is welcome for the Sunday Night Mass. It will be great to see you all there!

In other TREC news, the Emmaus Retreat is October 1. It is full. If you signed up, be here at 9 a.m. We also kick off with APEX on October 4 at 7:30 p.m. in the Cabin. Finally, high school hoops begins on November 28, start to get your team together and call Jim or check out the website for the registration packet. For all other information, or for the yearly calendar, check out www.trecministries.org. And don't forget the high school hotline, 712-8732...call Jim anytime. Please pray for all of our students as we begin our ministry season.

Junior High Ministry...walking the walk and talking the talk!

The Junior High Ministry has for the past several years sponsored the Grandparent Program at the St. Patrick's Residence next door to St. Thomas. One Saturday a month children sign up to **meet at church** for a brief prayer and then head over to the Residence to lead **an hour long** activity of a craft or a Bingo game. The students are ready for parent **pick-up at 11:30 at the Residence**. In turn, the residents of St. Patrick's retire to the dining room remarking upon the cleverness and kindness of youth today. Junior High youth will be asked to indicate an interest in this ministry during Religious Education classes. Sat., Oct. 7, will be our first visit to St. Pat's for an orientation at the times and places stated above. Thereafter, the students will meet on the second Saturday of each month until April. Please consider sharing your time and enthusiasm with these terrific people. Parent volunteers are certainly welcome to accompany the group. Further information can be obtained through the R.E. office at 305-6318.

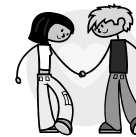
Improving Your Parenting Skills

While your child is attending Religious Education classes, or during morning coffee once a week with your neighbors, would you like to work on your parenting skills and attitudes? To help parents explore their own attitudes, to make choices that include God as our partner and that will be most effective for your own family, we will be using the book, "Ten Bible Characters Every Parent Should Meet" by Diane Overgard and Janice Rubin. Interested parents are invited to contact Patti Dougherty in the Religious Education Office (305-6318). Please call by September 30, so that our groups can begin.



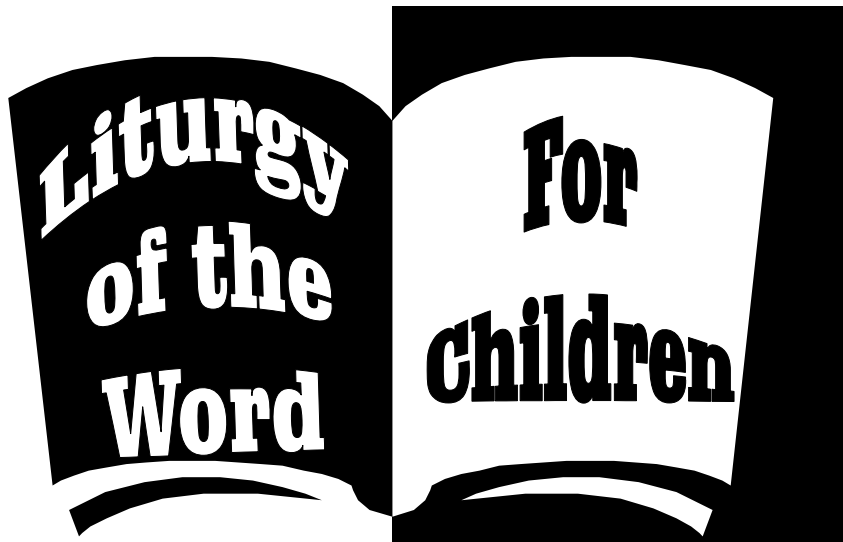
Parenting Series *When you were a teenager the world was different.*

A generation ago parents had the luxury of living in a culture where society, media and parental values all lined up. *That has changed.* Today both parents and our children are faced with new and complex challenges.



Parent to Parent, a prevention program, provides a gathering place for parents to share support, encouragement and information with other parents. This is an 8 week video/discussion series designed to help us guide our children safely and productively into adulthood.

Join us on Mondays from 7:15pm – 8:30pm, during Jr. High Religious Education; Oct. 16, 23, 30, Nov. 13, 27, Dec. 4, 11, 18; Hill Middle School Resource Center. Contact the facilitator, Donna Regan (parishioner).



This program will resume September 24, 2006 at 9:00 and 10:45 a.m.

Goal:

The children's Liturgy of the Word at Sunday Mass has the goal of helping children to participate more fully as members of the community gathered for worship. During the time of the regular Liturgy of the Word, the children are gathered separately to hear the Gospel story of the day proclaimed in language, activities, music and prayer appropriate to their age.

For Whom:

Liturgy of the Word for Children is for children in pre-kindergarten through grade 3 (children must be four years old and able to attend the group on their own). Pre-K, kindergarten, first and second grades meet in meeting rooms two through five off the Gathering Area, while second grade meets in the Cabin down the hall by the Resource Center. In addition, five times a year we have Liturgy of the Word for fourth and fifth graders, held in the rooms by the Cabin.

There is no registration for Liturgy of the Word for Children. Children of the above ages may attend either the 9:00 a.m. or the 10:45 a.m. Liturgies.

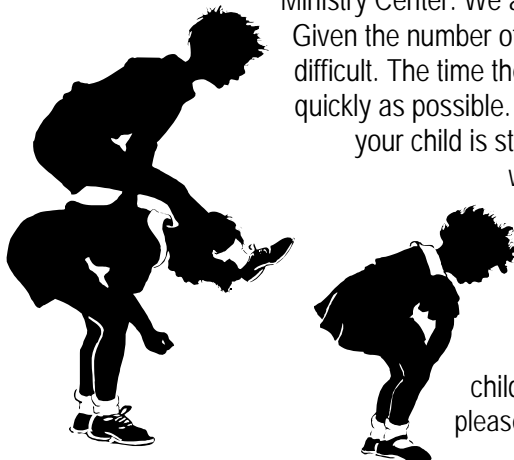
Procedure:

The children will be invited by the Presider to leave Church following the Opening Prayer when the assembly is seated for the Readings. Adult helpers will be present to direct them to the meeting rooms in the Ministry Center. We ask that parents not accompany the children beyond the Church doors.

Given the number of children and space available, additional persons make movement more difficult. The time the children have is limited, so we attempt to gather them in their groups as quickly as possible. Before Mass, it would be helpful to walk the child through the pattern. If your child is still fearful, it would be better to wait until he/she is more comfortable after watching the process for a while.

The children are brought back to church after the Prayers of the Faithful. At that time, please watch for your child, standing in your place if necessary to be seen. Adult helpers will always make certain each child finds his or her place.

We hope that you will take advantage of this opportunity to have your children hear the Word of God in a meaningful way. If you have any questions, please call Patti Dougherty 355-8980, ext. 109.



Service Commission

Outreach

LIFE CHAIN 2006

Join the Life Chain in Naperville Sunday, October 1, 2006 from 2:30 – 3:30 pm. The chain begins at the NE corner of Washington and Ogden. Signs are available at the event. The concept is simple – hundreds of pro-life people holding life-affirming signs as motorists pass by while silently praying for an end to abortion. Over 1,000 chains will be formed across the USA and Canada on this day.

Visit www.NationalLifeChain.org for more information. Sponsored locally by Illinois Citizens for Life 852-5448.

Respect-Life Sunday Diaper Drive

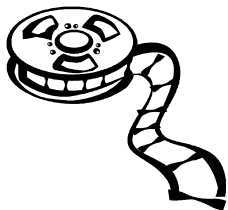
So far this year the Pro-Life ministry has had two of our four quarterly diaper drives. We bring all these diapers to Birthright – a crisis pregnancy center here in Naperville. The first two drives were hugely successful.

Next weekend as part of Respect Life Sunday, we'd like to arrange for the third quarterly diaper drive. Will you bring to church **Sept 30/Oct 1 one package of diapers and/or wipes** to be placed in the crib or playpen provided? Thank you once again for your amazing generosity!

*Come to the movies -
FREE admission*

“AN INCONVENIENT TRUTH “

Showing on Tuesday, October 3 promptly at 7:00 p.m., in the Lighthouse.



This film which was shown in theaters offers scientific data on global warming, and will help people understand that curbing our appetite for fossil fuels is truly a moral imperative.

This screening presents an opportunity for our community to look squarely at our own practices and begin a deeper conversation about what we can do to become even more a part of the solution to this critical human problem.

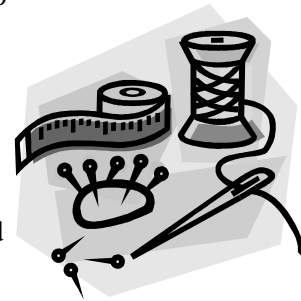
BOUTIQUE FANTASTIQUE

Need some gift ideas for the upcoming holidays? Come to the “Boutique Fantastique” on Saturday, Sept. 30th, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Hinsdale Community House, 8th and Madison Sts., Hinsdale. Complimentary refreshments will be provided by Project Love.

Purchase beautiful and unique items from local artists and crafters. Help

Project Love raise funds for mothers in need. This special division of the Illinois Citizens for Life Charitable Trust helps pregnant Illinois women and new mothers who have exhausted other sources of aid.

Project Love has provided financial assistance to more than 475 Illinois mothers and their children in the 10 years of its existence. For further information or to donate, please call the ICL office at 630-852-5448, or e-mail icl@innocent.com. You may also get information through the ICL web page at www.pair.com/icl.



DIVERSITY DINNER – SATURDAY, OCTOBER 7

The Racial Justice Ministry is planning the Fifth St. Thomas Diversity Dinner on Saturday, October 7, 2006. The dinner will follow the 4:30 p.m. liturgy. Guest musicians and dancers will help celebrate the theme of diversity throughout the evening. Past Diversity Dinners have provided a great opportunity to enjoy and celebrate the unique gifts of various cultures through food, music, dance, art, and children's activities. Participants will bring a dish to share representing their heritage. This is a family event.

This is a great opportunity to meet fellow parishioners in an activity designed to help create a parish community that is open and welcoming to all. Please call the Outreach office for a reservation (355-8980-ext113). A free will donation will be accepted.

Pastoral Care

A New Pastoral Care Ministry Begins

There is a new ministry, *Healing the Soul*, that may meet a special need for you. If you have experienced a physical or emotional trauma or challenge at some time in your life and you feel it's time to strengthen your faith journey and move beyond the experience, this may be the group for you. The aim will be to give mutual support to those who have suffered or are currently suffering through a mental or physical condition. It will be based in scripture as well as other inspirational materials. This will be a safe place where you will be able to share with complete confidentiality. The goal will be to bring healing, faith and hope for a future peace as you journey with Christ.

The group will meet every other Monday evening, starting October 2, in the rectory basement. Your commitment to the group needs to be consistent to build trusting relationships with one another. Meetings will be 7:30 to 9:00 p.m. with a gathering time starting at 7:15. The facilitator is Jo Anderson, joined with a representative from *Life Worth Living*, Counseling Group. To learn more, contact Jan Olah in the Pastoral Care Office, 355-8980 Ext. 124 or Jo Anderson (parishioner).

Parish Nurse Notes:

Prayer shawls have been delivered to over 150 St. Thomas parishioners going through a recent crisis of body, mind or spirit. We have received many words of thanks and testimony to the feelings of love, care, and prayerful touch from the St. Thomas prayer shawl recipients. The shawl ministry asks that all of St. Thomas continue to pray for these needy parishioners as they recover, heal, gain strength and/or cope with their personal crisis.

8 million people will die this year because they are too poor to stay alive



You can help make a difference by participating in this year's STEP event on Sunday October 8th at All Saints Catholic Academy. The St. Thomas Community will join participants from 4 other parishes as well as All Saints students and their families on this journey of solidarity with the poorest of the poor.

STEP is composed of 5 components all intended to increase our identification with Christ's preferential option for the poor.

Prayer: To open our hearts to those in need and to Christ who will guide us in our efforts to assist them.

The Solidarity Walk (1.2 miles): To walk in solidarity with our brothers and sisters around the globe who walk miles every day to meet their needs for survival.

Education: To inform and raise awareness regarding poverty on the local and global level.

Advocacy: This station provides opportunities to take action for justice. By becoming proactive on poverty issues we show that Christ's compassion calls for an active response not a passive one.

Cultural Awareness: This station through music, food and comparative exhibits tries to give a sense of life in Haiti, the Philippines, and Honduras and that we are all created in the "oneness" of Christ.

Please join us on October 8. Registration begins at 1 p.m. at All Saints Catholic Academy. You can pick up forms to register at St. Thomas after mass on the weekends of September 24 and October 1. Please help make a difference. Proceeds from the walk will go to Catholic Relief Services. For more information please call John St. Laurent (parishioner) or Liz Michalski (parishioner).



Stewardship Commission

Campbell's Labels and General Mills Box Tops for Education

All Saints Catholic Academy is again collecting labels to earn points and cash for the school. Please help us by clipping and saving General Mills Box Tops for Education.

The box tops are on dozens of cereal boxes, Pillsbury rolls and frozen items, Cottonelle toilet paper, Kleenex, Zip lock bags, Hamburger Helper, Better Crocker potatoes, Old El Paso Mexican products, and Hefty table ware. In addition, we are saving Campbell Labels for Education, which can be found on a variety of soup products, Pepperidge Farm items, Prego and Franco American, and V8. Please drop in the box located in the back of church.

Stewardship... A Way of Life

Last Weekend's stewardship of financial gifts...

| | | |
|-----------------------------------|--------|----------|
| Weekly Sunday Offertory (week 12) | | |
| Envelopes | 21,253 | \$24,491 |
| Loose | 3,238 | |
| Automatic Direct Debit | | 0 |
| Mailed in & stock donations | | \$3,315 |
| Total for week | | \$27,806 |

*Based on Collection Counters Reports

| | |
|------------------------------------|-------------|
| Fiscal Year (7/1 to 6/30) to date: | \$387,764 |
| Weekly Average 7/1/06 to date: | \$32,314 |
| Sunday Offertory Goal YTD | \$408,000 |
| Goal for Fiscal Year 7/1 to 6/30 | \$1,768,000 |
| Remaining for Fiscal Year | \$1,380,236 |

All Saints Catholic Academy Partners With MidAmerica Bank COMMUNITY Banking

All Saints Catholic Academy has partnered with Mid America Bank to raise funds for our scholarship program. This scholarship program provides financial assistance for those who desire a Catholic education for their children but need additional help. Mid America will make awards to All Saints Catholic Academy for new checking (\$25), Money Market Account (\$15), Savings Account (\$10) and CD with a term of 12 months or more (\$10). In addition, if you already bank with MidAmerica, you can "link" your current account to earn money for ASCA. ASCA will earn 2% of any interest that is earned on any interest-bearing account. (This does not change your interest amount in any way.)

To "link" your account, you can go to your local branch or call Wendy Miller, 630-637-3792, and give her your account number and ask her to link it to All Saints Catholic Academy, #2671. No personal information regarding your account is released to the school. This program will run on a continuous basis.



2006 Diocesan Annual Appeal Diocese of Joliet

Diocesan Appeal Results as of September 6, 2006

| | |
|--------------------------------|-----------|
| Parish Appeal Goal: | \$142,254 |
| Pledges received at St. Thomas | \$98,608 |
| % of Goal pledged to date: | 69.3% |
| Remaining amount to goal: | \$43,646 |

All of us share in the life of the Diocese of Joliet. We are many people, but one Church. If you have not made a gift to the Annual Appeal, please do so today. Your gift will touch many lives. Thank you.

Parish Life Commission

50 *and Holding*
Mature Adults
Young at Heart

If you are 50 or over, you are cordially invited to join our group. We always welcome fresh ideas and new friends. Couples and singles are welcome.

Upcoming meetings and activities include:

Oct 4, 1:30 p.m., Lunch at Olive Garden, 620 S Rt 59. Call Bill Huff 983-6103 by Oct 1 if you plan to attend.

Oct 15, 7:30 a.m., Mass for deceased members.

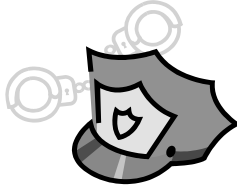
Oct 18, 7 p.m., Monthly meeting in Gathering Area. Octoberfest Brats and Beer & finalizing plans for next year. Speaker: Ray Kammer

NOTE: Shirley Mann has agreed to serve as "Sunshine Lady" for the club. Please give Shirley a call if you know of a member who is ill, in the hospital, or in need of some encouragement.

There's no better time than NOW to join 50 and Holding. If interested, call Bill Huff at 983-6103. Hope to see you!

Fall Men's Night

The Fall Men's Night, sponsored by the Men's Christian Fellowship Group, is scheduled for Friday evening November 10, 2006 beginning with dinner at 6:30 pm, with a speaker to follow. Our speaker will be David Dial, chief of the Naperville Police Department. Chief Dial has been the Chief of Police since 1990. Please plan to attend this very informative Men's Night.



CURRENT - Young Adult Ministry for People in their 20's and 30's

We would love to share our faith with you! Check out the Speaker Series on Relationships October 4th at St. Thomas at 7:00. Contact Dave at davem@olmercy.com. And the Happy Hour is back on October 6th at Buffalo Wild Wings at 6:00. Get in touch with Kris at kdulski@calamos.com for information. Then on the 10th, the I&M Canal Yacht Club is back at White Fence Farm. Come by for the food and stay for the speaker. Email Dawna at dchiara-monte@midwestheart.com. If you want any other information about Current, check out www.currentministry.com!

SAM
SINGLE ADULT MINISTRY

S.A.M. - Single Adult Ministry is a community for all Christian single adults 45 and over. The ministry promotes balance in single life through spiritual, service and social functions. It offers singles an opportunity to celebrate life.

S.A.M. Ministry Hosts Humanitarian Service Project

The Single Adult Ministry is participating in a project to join us to help the children prepare for school. Whatever you want to donate will be greatly appreciated. i.e. pencils, paper, glue sticks, white glue, notebooks, scissors, folders, highlighters, crayons and anything that says school.

No time to shop? Where do I take supplies? Call Ann Gerding (parishioner) for details. Deadline to submit materials is August 25.

Did you know you can register for your 2006/2007 ministries online?

It's easy as 1-2-3

1. visit www.stapostle.org
2. click on "Login to STA online" and register for a STA account
3. Login with your user name and password, and sign up for your favorite ministries

(Details and FAQs can be found on the Login page)

Administration Commission



Jobs Ministry Weekly Networking Meeting Friday mornings at 9:30 a.m. (after the 8:30 a.m. Liturgy) Lighthouse

The September 2006 St. Thomas Jobs Ministry Meeting will be held on Thursday evening September 28, 2006 at 7:00 pm in the Light House. The speaker will be Al Gustafson. Al is on the staff of Old St. Patrick's Church in Chicago, is a board member and one of the founders of the Career Transition Center. Al is also very active in helping Job Seekers through his involvement with the "Finding Work Without Losing Heart" retreats.

Al's presentation is titled "The Spiritual Invitations of Unemployment". Unemployment, for all its pain and uncertainty, can be a seedbed for spiritual growth. During such change, it often becomes quite clear that the future isn't what it used to be, and for that matter neither are we. Al's presentation will explore the spiritual invitations that accompany a work transition to deepen our sense of self, and more fully express our faith in our daily lives. These invitations include heeding your calling, taking risks, admitting failure, and acknowledging the role of others in our success.

Please plan to attend this very informative meeting on Thursday September 28, 2006 at 7:00 pm in the Light House at St. Thomas the Apostle Church.

For additional information please contact Jim Breen at Jimb4853@yahoo.com.

*Whoever wishes to be first
must be the servant to all*



THE WEEK AHEAD...

- Monday, Sept. 25**
 8:30—11:30 am Gathering Place Café, Gathering Area
 4:15—5:15 p.m. Youth Choir Rehearsal, Church
 6:00—9:30 p.m. New Wine Class, Senior Center
 7:00—9:30 p.m. Just Faith, Resource Center
 7:30—9:30 p.m. Haiti Twinning, Lighthouse
 7:30—9:00 p.m. Meditation, St. Patrick's Chapel
- Tuesday, Sept. 26**
 8:00—8:40 a.m. Wholistic Practices, Gym
 8:30—11:30 a.m. Gathering Place Café, Gathering Area
 10:00—11:00 a.m. Care Pantry, Lighthouse
 4:30—5:45 p.m. R.E. Classes at Brookdale School
 7:00—9:00 p.m. Adult Basketball, Gym
 7:00—9:00 p.m. Finance Committee, Resource Center
 7:30—9:00 p.m. Charismatic Prayer, Meeting Room 2
 7:30—9:30 p.m. Adult Choir Rehearsal, Church
 7:30—9:00 p.m. Befriending Companion Training, Lighthouse
 7:30—9:00 p.m. Bible Basics, Senior Center
- Wednesday, Sept. 27**
 8:30am-11:30 a.m. Gathering Place Café, Gathering Area
 9:00—11:30 a.m. Bible Study, Senior Center
 4:15—5:30 p.m. Joyful Jammers, Church & Senior Center
 6:00—10:00 p.m. ALPHA Course, Lighthouse
 6:30—7:30 p.m. Altar Server Make-up Session, Church
 7:00—9:00 p.m. Apex, Youth Center
 7:00—9:30 p.m. Coed Volleyball, Gym
 7:30—9:15 p.m. Buildings & Grounds/Safety, Meeting Room 4
 7:30—9:30 p.m. Sojourner Rehearsal, Church
- Thursday, Sept. 28**
 8:30 am-11:30 a.m. Gathering Place Café, Gathering Area
 9:30—11:00 a.m. Catechist Study Group, Meeting Room 4
 7:00—9:00 p.m. Dance Lessons, Gym
 7:00—10:00 p.m. Jobs Ministry Lecture, Lighthouse
- Friday, Sept. 29**
- Saturday, Sept. 30**
 8:30—11:45 a.m. R.E. at All Saints Academy
 9:00—10:30 a.m. Men's Christian Fellowship, Resource Center
 9:00am-12:00 p.m. Art Class, Senior Center
 10:00—11:00 a.m. Rainbows, Ministry Center
 2:00—5:00 p.m. Asian Ministry, Gym
 2:00—4:15 p.m. Library Hours, Library
 4:30—6:00 p.m. Voter Registration, Lobby
 4:30—7:00 p.m. RCIA, Senior Center
 4:30—5:45 p.m. S.T.E.P. Table, Gathering Area
- Sunday, Oct. 1**
 7:30am-2:00 p.m. S.T.E.P. Table, Gathering Area
 8:30am-12:30 p.m. Donut Sunday, Gym
 8:30am-12:15 p.m. Care Pantry Open House with 4th grade
 9:00am-9:00 p.m. Emmaus Retreat, Ministry Center
 9:00am-12:00 p.m. L.O.W. with Children, Ministry Center
 12:00--1:00 p.m. Quest Rehearsal, Lighthouse
 1:45—2:45 p.m. Group Baptisms, Church
 4:00—7:00 p.m. Choir Chili Fest, Lighthouse & Senior Center
 6:00—8:00 p.m. Trec Choir Practice, Church
 8:00—9:00 p.m. Trec Mass, Church