The vineyard of the Lord is the house of Israel
St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic Church
1500 Brookdale Road, Naperville, IL 60563 e-mail: mainoffice@stapostle.org
630 355-8980 (Main Office) Visit us on the internet at www.stapostle.org
630 305-6318 (Religious Education)
630 355-0521 (Facsimile)

Parish Staff

Priests
Rev. Don E. McLaughlin – Pastor, x102, dmclaughlin@stapostle.org
Rev. Rodolphe Arty, C.S.C. – Parochial Vicar, x103, rarty@stapostle.org
Rev. Bob Colaresi, O. Carm. – Weekend Associate, robco@robco.org

Permanent Deacons
Michael (Kathryn) Barrett – x220, meabarry@att.net
Jim (Mary Jo) Breen – 630.357.4853, jimb4853@gmail.com
Larry (Susan) Kearney – x225, lrkearney@comcast.net
Chuck (Sue) Lane – x220, chucklane2@juno.com
Pat (Mary Jo) Lennon – x220, presence.now@gmail.com

Liturgy
Scott Knisley – Director of Liturgy and Music Ministries, x111, sknisley@stapostle.org
Lori Culberson – Liturgy Coordinator, x120, lculberson@stapostle.org

Faith Formation
Sandy Renehan – Principal at All Saints Catholic Academy 630.961.6125
Patti Dougherty – Director of Religious Education, x109, pdougherty@stapostle.org
Brett Adams – Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministry, x117, badams@stapostle.org
Peggy Goralski – Director of Middle School Faith Formation, x123, pgoralski@stapostle.org
Chari Rosales – Director of Adult Education & RCIA, x138, crosales@stapostle.org
Marcie Coronado – Religious Education Assistant, x118, mcoronado@stapostle.org

Outreach and Social Justice
Michael Ryder – Director of Outreach & Social Justice, x121, mryder@stapostle.org
Anne Schultz – OSJ Partner, x113, aschultz@stapostle.org
Claire Kryczka* – OSJ Financial, x137, ckrbczka@stapostle.org

Pastoral Care
Jan Olah – Director of Pastoral Care, x124
Felicia Lawlor*, M.S., R.N. – Faith Community Nurse, x104, flawlor@stapostle.org

Administration
Janet Simmons – Finance/Business Officer, x106, jsimmons@stapostle.org
Diane McCue – Gen Office Administrative Asst, x101, dmccue@stapostle.org
Kathy Ferguson – Gen Office Administrative Asst, x100, mainoffice@stapostle.org
Angie Tuttle – Bulletin and Web Editor, Liturgy Asst, x110, attuttle@stapostle.org
Elizabeth Fisher* – Evening/Saturday Receptionist
Mary Wright* – Evening/Saturday Receptionist
Mary Derwinski* – Administration Asst, x143, mderwinski@stapostle.org
Bob Hartmann* – Facility Manager, x133, facility@stapostle.org

Pastoral Leadership Community (Parish Pastoral Council)
Ron Davis
Mike Murray
Ileen Rominger
Att Smilak

Commission Representatives
Gail Jindrich – Worship and Liturgy
Chris Baker – Faith and Spiritual Formation
Joanne Bordage – Service and Outreach
Jeff Berta – Stewardship
Mike Myers – Finance Council/Administration

Ex-Officio
Fr. Rod Arty – Parochial Vicar
Fr. Don McLaughlin – Pastor

Sacrament of Reconciliation
Reconciliation is available Saturday, 3:30 to 4:15 p.m., in the Reconciliation Room of the Chapel. Our priests are available during the week by appointment. Communal Penance services are held occasionally during the year.

In the Hospital or Home Bound
Call the Church Office to receive prayer/Eucharist from a priest, deacon or Minister of Care.

Baptism
Baptisms are usually celebrated 2-3 Sundays each month at a 12:30 p.m. service. On selected dates, Baptisms are celebrated at weekend Masses. Parents are required to attend an awareness and renewal evening 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 630.305.6318 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 630.355.8980.

Counseling Service
Call Samaritan Interfaith 630.357.2456 or Jan Olah, Pastoral Care 630.355.8980 x 124.

Sunday Nursery
Nursery care is available for your child age one (walking) to four at the 9:30 a.m. Mass. For more information call the church office.

Liturgy Schedule

Daily
(Mondays — Fridays)
Communion Service — 6:30 a.m.
Rosary — 8:10 a.m.
Mass — 8:30 a.m.
(Saturdays)
Mass — 8:30 a.m.

Weekend
Saturday Vigil — 4:30 p.m.
Sunday — 8:00, 9:30, and 11:15 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
every first Friday, 9:00 — 5:00 p.m.
Every year the Catholic Church in the United States observes October as Respect Life month. The theme this year is "Each of Us is a Masterpiece of God’s Creation". With the extraordinary synod on the family convened by Pope Francis going on in Rome right now, the theme takes on even more significance. All of us belong to a family and it is there that the dignity of each member must be affirmed. Cardinal Sean O’Malley, O.F.M. Cap. of Boston is chairman of the Bishop’s Conference on Pro Life Activities. I would like to share with you some excerpts of Cardinal O’Malley’s reflections for Respect Life month. He writes:

“Pope Francis has captivated the world with his humility, warmth and compassion for each person. Vivid accounts of his tenderness for ‘the least of these’ – the elderly, the imprisoned, those with disfiguring disabilities, the unborn, and many more – seize our attention. Why? At the heart of each of these interactions is a truth which resonates in our hearts, revealing to us something essential to understanding ourselves and our purpose. We are loved. In his 2013 Day for Life Greeting, Pope Francis conveyed that ‘even the weakest and most vulnerable, the sick, the old, the unborn and the poor, are masterpieces of God’s creation, made in his own image, destined to live forever, and deserving of the utmost reverence and respect.’ We see Pope Francis living out the truth of these words in his actions. We want to be part of a society that makes affirmation and protection of human rights its primary objective and its boast. Yet to women faced with an unexpected pregnancy, abortion is often presented as their only ‘choice’. A large percentage of children pre-diagnosed as having Down syndrome are never given the chance to live outside their mothers’ wombs. Elderly members of our families fear they will become burdensome and seek physician assisted suicide. These tragedies go directly against respect for life, and they represent a direct threat to the entire culture of human rights. What can be done to prevent this? We must draw close to Jesus in prayer and in the sacraments. We must ask the Lord for the grace to see ourselves and others as he sees us – as masterpieces of his creation. When God created each of us, he did so with precision and purpose, and he looks on each of us with love that cannot be outdone in intensity or tenderness. We must look at ourselves and at others in light of this truth and treat all people with the reverence and respect which is due.”

Although we set aside October to particularly pray for respect for all human life, let us never cease this urgent work!
Worship Commission—Liturgy & Music

Pet Blessing
St. Thomas’ annual pet blessing will take place THIS weekend, Sunday, October 5 at 1:00 p.m. in the south yard by the labyrinth. Bring your furry, finned, or flying friend for a prayer service and blessing in honor of St. Francis, the Patron Saint of Animals. All pets are welcome!

Sound System Updates
St. Thomas is in the middle of sound system updates. This includes moving the soundboard to the back of the church, which allows for soundboard operators to give a better mix of the microphone levels in the church. This new system will also allow the soundboard to be run by an Ipad. All of this is being done to help give clarity and better sound to the spoken word and music, as well as to make it less distracting when adjustments need to be made during mass. Please be patient while the work is being done... but you can look forward to the clarity and beauty of the spoken word and musical elements.

A Prayer for Our Parish
Eternal God,
whose signature we see, if we dare to look, in the creation of the universe, help us this hour to look and to listen for Your handwriting and Your voice in this place, among these people.
Connect our temporary praise to Your timeless rhythms, Your ageless melodies, Your everlasting joyful noise.
Guide us now to focus upon You, knowing that in You, our distractions become new possibilities for action.
Breathe life into our singing, our praying, our speaking, our listening, our touching, that all these activities might become more than they are.
In our worship we reach out to You, O God, knowing that You have already enfolded us in Your arms.
In Jesus, we pray. Amen.

Presider’s Schedule October 11/12
4:30 pm – Fr. Bob Colaresi
8:00 am – Fr. Dof Arty, Deacon Mike Barrett
9:30 am – Fr. Bob Colaresi, Deacon Larry Kearney
11:15 am – Fr. Dof Arty
6:00 pm – Fr. Don McLaughlin
Schedule is subject to change. Changes are posted to the St. Thomas website www.stapostle.org

October 5, 2014, Page 4

All Saints
Friday, November 1 is the Solemnity of All Saints – A Holy Day of Opportunity this year, although not a Holy Day of Obligation. Mass will be in the Church at 8:30 a.m. On this day the Church honors all the saints of heaven, God’s holy ones - known and unknown to us. We celebrate all the holy men and women who, throughout the ages, exemplified the faith; whose lives, in some way or another, mirrored the Paschal Mystery of Christ in profound ways. This day, coupled with the November 2 commemoration of all the faithful departed (All Souls), stands at the beginning of the month of November - a month in which we remember and pray for the dead.

All Souls Day
The annual All Souls Day Liturgy will be held at St. Thomas on Sunday, November 2 at the 11:15 a.m. Mass. Those who have died this past year will be remembered in a special way. You are invited to participate by bringing a candle forward during the Prayer of the Faithful when your loved one’s name is called (candles provided). You may also bring a picture or memento to place on the tables in front of the sanctuary in memory of your loved one. The liturgy will be followed by a reception in the Gathering Area. For More information, call Lori Culberson: 630.355.8980 x 120.

Congratulations, Fr Don!
This week, on October 10, St. Thomas Pastor, Fr. Don McLaughlin, will celebrate his 33rd Anniversary of Ordination to the Priesthood. This is a wonderful accomplishment for our wonderful and much loved Pastor. If you would like to send him a card, email, or even just congratulate him, we know it would be much appreciated.

Save the Date ... for St. Thomas Music Makers’ annual Cabaret on October 17 at 7:30 p.m. in the gym. This year’s theme is “Songs from TV & Movies”. Tickets are $25, and will go on sale beginning next weekend after all masses. This is a huge fundraiser for music ministry – and is guaranteed to be a night of great music and fun. There will be raffle drawings, hors d’oeuvres, dessert, drinks, and so much more! Mark your calendars now, and make plans to attend this 21+ event.
Please Pray for Our Parish:
The sick...
Matt Schwartz, son-in-law of Jim & Nora Paul
Charlotte M. Roberts, mother of Lisa Heide
Jane Ragel, sister of Mary, friend of Mary Ann Ryk
Sr. Geraldine M Cтанамара, aunt of Donna
Steve Potts, husband of Joanne
John Hogberg
Sophia M. Cм enamin , niece of Maureen Overman
Kathy Freeman, sister of Christine Davila
Bob Casey, husband of Ruth
Kim Sidari, niece of Pat Haynes
Dennis Miller, husband of Sharon
Mary Anne Poepping, grandmother of Jess Allured

The deceased...
Janice Wilson, mother of Amy Solliard
Dolores Franz, mother of Rich
Victoria Borizov, friend of Jess & Jon Allured;
Terence & Malsa M Cм enamin, family of Maureen Overman

Liturgy Schedule & Mass Intentions
(27th Sunday in Ordinary Time)

Monday, October 6, 2014
(Saint Bruno, Priest; Blessed Marie Rose Durocher, Virgin)
6:30am Communion Service
8:30am For all those suffering with chronic illness

Tuesday, October 7, 2014
(Our Lady of the Rosary)
6:30am Communion Service
8:30am For all attending the Joliet Diocesan Retreat for Priests

Wednesday, October 8, 2014
6:30am Communion Service
8:30am For all attending the Joliet Diocesan Retreat for Priests

Thursday, October 9, 2014
(Saint Denis, Bishop and Companions, Martyrs, Saint John Leonard, Priest)
6:30am Communion Service
8:30am For all attending the Joliet Diocesan Retreat for Priests

Friday, October 10, 2014
6:30am Communion Service
8:30am For Fr. Don’s 33rd Anniversary of Ordination

Saturday, October 11, 2014
(BL John XXIII, Pope BVM)
8:30am For Safety of our Troops
4:30pm Vigil: Twenty-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time
†Dave Waldschmidt, by Donnelle, Ethan & Claire Waldschmidt
Special Intention for the Eschmeyer Family

Sunday, October 12, 2014
(Twenty-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time)
8:00am †John Easton, by Audrey
†Dave Waldschmidt, by Donnelle, Ethan & Claire Waldschmidt
9:30am †Richard Haynes, by The Goralski Family
†Lucy Colaresi, by John & Barb Dvorak
11:15am For the People of St. Thomas
6:00pm †Aurea Portalatin, by Eduardo, son

Call the parish office 630.355.8980 to include someone you love in the Military prayer list.
C.A.R.E. CORNER

Why does God always make the first move when dealing with us humans? What does God want from us? God wants to draw us into an ongoing relationship with Him. That’s another storyline theme that weaves throughout the entire Bible. And not just any old relationship will do. God is interested in a special relationship – one that is covenantal. A covenant is a solemn agreement between two parties, more serious and personal than just a friendship or a legal contractual arrangement. God intends all relationships with Him to be covenantal.

Since God initiates these covenantal relationships, God gets to establish the terms of the covenant. Those terms are not negotiable. The terms of the covenant represent God’s expectations, moral standards and ethical behaviors, which we see in the 10 Commandments and the Beatitudes. Such terms always call us to become the best versions of ourselves, as God created us to be. But we humans like to do things our own way, which typically ruptures our right relationship with God and with each other. We always have a choice of which path to follow; our own or God’s. If we abide by the terms of the covenant, it will keep God at the center of our life. And if we’re right with God, we’re likely to act justly and compassionately toward others, keeping us right with them as well. That’s how peace and harmony are made possible. So - how are you doing when it comes to adhering to God’s intentions for a covenantal relationship with you?

October 5, 2014, Page 6

Faith and Formation Commission—Adult

Seek. Ask. Find.
The GOSPEL for the 1st and 21st Centuries
To prepare for next Sunday's homily, read the Gospel several times during this week, and let your mind and spirit begin to nurture the seeds of God’s word.

Oct 12 — Matthew 22:1-14
Have you ever attended a party where one of the guests was rude and inconsiderate of his host? This Gospel speaks of a man without his wedding garment. He was not poor but unappreciative and unchanged by the invitation to the King’s banquet. We are invited to share in the Eucharistic Banquet. How have you responded to that invitation?

Mining Wisdom’s Gold: Four-letter Words to Live By
A half-day workshop for men and women is being offered from 9:00 a.m. to noon on Saturday, October 18, by Edna C. Groves, M.S., founder of Words That Endure. In this introduction to writing a ‘legacy letter,’ participants will focus on capturing those elements of your life you want those who come after you to know – in your own words, sharing what’s important to you – your values, principles, faith, ethics. Pre-registration is necessary and closes October 14. Cost is $60 (10% early bird discount if postmarked by September 27). Flyers with registration details are available in the Gathering Area.

Note From Fr. Don...
I ask for your prayers this week, as all the Joliet Diocesan priests will be on retreat at Mundelein. The retreat begins Monday evening, October 6 and ends with lunch on Friday, October 10 (my 33rd anniversary of ordination). Fr. Dof will not be going on the retreat, as he is a religious order priest (Holy Cross), and the religious order priests working in the Diocese usually attend retreat with their religious community (which Fr. Dof did in August). Following lunch on Friday I will be driving to Terre Haute, Indiana to meet a few classmates who graduated with me from Indiana State University in 1974. We are attending the ISU homecoming events that weekend marking 40 years since we graduated from college. (I can’t believe I’ve been out of college 40 years!). I don’t even remember if or when I ever went back for homecoming. I know it’s not been in the 33 years I’ve been a priest. I will be return on Sunday, October 12 to celebrate the 6:00PM Mass.
Outdoor Mass at Sts. Peter and Paul Cemetery
“Light of My Life”

Bring the family and enjoy the 20th annual “Light of My Life” outdoor Mass will be held in Sts. Peter and Paul Cemetery, corner of Columbia and North Ave., Naperville, October 12, at 6:15 p.m. (This mass fulfills your Sunday obligation.) The intention of this evening is to dedicate a luminaria as a silent tribute to any person(s) who may have touched your life in a special way, deceased or living, past or present. Bring your own chairs or a blanket to sit on.

Volunteers Needed: Help from home by printing bags, or on Sunday October 12, 9:30 a.m. for setup, 5:00 p.m. to light the bags, assist with parking, and on October 13 at 9:00 a.m. for clean up.

Also Needed: 4 pick-up trucks, SUV’s or vans, for a couple of hours for set up on Sunday morning, and on Monday for cleanup.

For More Information: Contact Rita 630-355-2740 or Cheryl at 630-505-0276.

Parking: If possible, use street parking to reserve cemetery space for elderly and handicapped.

Forms are available on the St. Thomas website: www.stapostle.org

Gratitude from Fr. Bob,

A belated but none-the-less sincere thank you to so many of you for your prayers, Masses, Mass enrollments, cards, e-mails and personal expressions of sympathy as God called my Mom, Lucy A. Colaresi, home. Mom is at peace after so many years of struggle as God erased her memory and identity. Now she knows how loved she is as God’s beloved daughter, in union with Quinto, her husband, our Dad. The prayers, concern and love of so many people like yourselves gave me and my family great strength at a time of confused feelings of loss and celebration. While the celebration of her life was more “relief” than “grief,” I do feel the grief of losing someone who loved me into life and nurtured so much in me – and take comfort that she is now in the Communion of Saints, where she smiles forever.

Your supportive friendship is deeply appreciated. Blessings and gratitude.

Fr. Bob Colaresi, O. Carm.

Men’s Christian Fellowship Group — Fall Men’s Night

Journeying to a NEW and HEALTHIER Fall Men’s Night

October 10

The St. Thomas Annual Fall Men’s Night will be held on Friday evening, October 10 at 6:00 p.m. The evening’s speaker is Jerry Hayes, who will be presenting a motivational talk on Journeying to a Healthier New Life. Jerry, with his wife Estella, are St. Thomas parishioners, and were the winners of season seven of NBC’s reality TV show, Biggest Loser.

Dinner (sandwiches and all the “trimmings”) and refreshments will be served. Tickets are $15 and can be purchased after masses this weekend in the Gathering Area.

Soul Searchers Meet October 11

St. Thomas Soul Searchers meets once a month to explore and discover truths in Teresa of Avila’s The Book of My Life. Saint Teresa lived in Spain at the time of the Inquisition, an accomplished woman in a 16th century world dominated by men. She was a Carmelite nun, reformer of monasteries and the first woman Doctor of the Church. Teresa wrote books about her mystical visions and contemplative prayer. “Let nothing trouble you. All things are passing; God never changes. He who possesses God lacks nothing.” The Sept. reading: Chapters 6-10.

The next Soul Searchers meeting will be October 11 from 9:15 to 10:30 a.m. in the Rectory Basement. The group will read The Book of My Life by Teresa of Avila, New Seeds, 2008 edition translated by Mirabai Starr. Come whenever your schedule allows and enjoy a thought provoking experience. All are welcome to attend this monthly discussion group.
Families: Take some time to discuss and reflect on the readings.

Question of the Week...
How do you care for our world?

First Communion Preparation

First Communion Preparation begins in the First Grade to receive the sacrament in Second Grade. Registration for Religious Education is still going on, so please contact the Faith Formation / Religious Education Office (630.305.6318) for more details and to register your First Grader now.

Celebration of Saints

This year, religious education classes in grades 3 through 8 are choosing a saint (or saints) to research as a class. By learning about a saint, the students will have an example of how an ‘ordinary’ person lived a life of virtue. From there, students can reflect on how they might also embrace these characteristics in their everyday lives. Each class will create a pamphlet about the saint or saints chosen. The pamphlets will be on display the weekend of October 25-26 for all parishioners to view as a Celebration of Saints.

In addition to classes researching saints, individual students, groups of siblings or friends, or family members are also invited to choose a saint to research and to create a pamphlet about the life of that saint to add to the Celebration of Saints display. If you are interested, pick up instructions and paper outside the Religious Education office. Questions? Contact Patti Dougherty (pdougherty@stapostle.org) or Peggy Goralski (pgoralski@stapostle.org). Completed saint pamphlets are due in the RE office by October 22.

Be a Part of Harvest Sunday — Volunteer Sign Up

October 26: Flyer distribution
November 2: Food collection and packing

Harvest Sunday takes place on October 26 (flyer delivery) and November 2 (food pickup).

Help is needed. Stop at the Harvest Sunday table after masses on October 11-12 and October 18-19 to sign-up to volunteer.

See the insert in today’s bulletin.

Celebrating Young People

As a way to celebrate the 30th anniversary of St. Thomas, we would like to highlight amazing young people who have graced our parish. Do you know an amazing young person (age 30 or younger, past or present parishioner)… someone who is living out their faith in ways that their life is an example to others?

We would like to hear about them. Forms are available in the Narthex, Gathering Area, or outside Peggy Goralski’s office. For questions or more information, contact Peggy at pgoralski@stapostle.org or 630.355.8980, Ext. 123.

YOU ARE MORE THAN AMAZING — YOU ARE AWESOME!
Feed My Starving Children Food Packing

On Thursday, October 23, from 6 to 7:30 p.m., middle school students and their families are invited to pack meals at Feed My Starving Children (500 Exchange Court, Aurora). To reserve a spot to volunteer, sign up online at www.fmsc.org. Click on Volunteer, then click on Permanent Site and Join a Group. Enter the Join Code: 512590. If you have questions or would like more information, contact Peggy Goralski at 630.355.8980, Ext. 123 or pgoralski@stapostle.org.

Teens with Character Kickoff: October 19

St. Thomas Teens with Character will kick off the year with a meeting on Sunday, October 19, from 4:30 to 6 p.m. in the St. Thomas gym. Dinner (pizza) will be served, so bring your appetite! Teens with Character allows middle school students the chance to gather together, explore Catholic Social Teaching in a fun way, learn about upcoming service projects, grow in faith, and have a whole lot of fun. All middle school students and friends are welcome! So that we are sure to have enough food, email Peggy Goralski at pgoralski@stapostle.org if you plan on attending.

Catholic High School Information for Prospective Students

Are you interested in finding out more about the opportunities for a Catholic high school education? Come to Doughnut Sunday on October 19. Representatives from Benet Academy, Joliet Catholic High School, Marmion Academy, Montini High School, and Rosary High School will be on hand with information and to answer your questions. Grab a doughnut, visit with the high school representatives, and get your questions answered.

High School Youth Ministry News...

Freshmen Small Groups Are Now Underway—Beginning with the Freshmen Retreat at Camp Manitoqua on October 4th, small groups for freshmen are now underway. If you have a freshmen son or daughter and have not yet signed-up for a small group, it’s not too late! Small group leader names and general meeting times and locations are now posted on the youth ministry website (www.discoveryouthministry.com). Check out the remaining options and choose a group time that works for you and your family. Contact Brett in the Youth Ministry Office with any questions.

Youth Ministry Corner

This past Saturday, I found myself at the White Sox game. This game was special because it was also celebrating Sox player, Paul Konerko. Many of the fans were waving signs. One sign caught my attention—it said, “Paul Konerko, a class act.”

I began thinking about what it is that makes someone ‘a class act’. Paul Konerko is a hard worker, a leader, and a man very dedicated to his family. He has tremendous talent and used it to the best of his ability. But, it’s more than that.

In today’s second reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Philippians, St. Paul also has a list of qualities that makes someone a class act. St. Paul writes, “Finally, my brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is gracious, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things.”

Although not all of us have the talent to do what Paul Konerko did, heeding the words of St. Paul, we can still be a class act!

Blessings,
Peggy

Grandparents Day at St. Pat’s

Middle school students... spread some sunshine by volunteering at Grandparents Day at St. Patrick’s Residence on Saturday, October 11, from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. Volunteers should meet at St. Thomas at 9:00 a.m. and then walk over to St. Pat’s together. At St. Pat’s, volunteers help the residents get to and from mass, serve coffee and cookies, and visit. Middle school students and friends are welcome.

Mark your calendar DONUT SUNDAYS this fall:

Oct 19
Nov 9
Dec 7
(with Santa!)
DuPage Homeless Alliance

Last January a group of St. Thomas parishioners met around the issue of homelessness with the thought of understanding what options were available to the homeless in DuPage County and identifying where there were gaps. The DuPage Homeless Alliance has evolved from that beginning and is now under the auspices of DuPage United and the Chicago Coalition for the Homeless which brings to bear more resources, leadership, and relationships. St. Thomas remains a key member of the Alliance.

September 23 Meeting Summary
(For complete meeting notes go to www.stapostle.org and type “homeless” in the Search window.)

There are currently four main areas of focus and small teams are doing further research in each of the areas. If you are interested in becoming involved in one of the areas, contact Mike (mryder@stapostle.org, 630.355.8980)

- Affordable Housing – The 40 acres of the DuPage county fairgrounds is coming available for public use. This group is looking at potential and varying affordable housing (supportive & non-supportive) options for that land, as well as identifying possible allies that would support such use for the land.

- Landlord/Tenant – Why are landlords in some cities (Naperville for one) allowed to discriminate against potential tenants that have section 8 vouchers? This group will talk with the Naperville Fair Housing Commission and some local landlords, as well as look at how other cities treat potential tenants with vouchers.

- Mental Health – mental health issues often lead to homelessness and keep people in the homeless cycle. This group is looking at what options are available and what new approaches are being used in other areas.

- 211 Number – In most of the US, there is a 211 phone number Information & Referral (I&R) service that directs people to available services. DuPage County Human Services has a highly regarded I&R service but only during normal business hours. This group is looking at the scope of the services in relation homeless and near-homeless.

Fill That Truck!
The St. Vincent dePaul Fall Clothing Drive is this weekend with Vincentians present to collect your donations from:

- **Saturday:** 4:00—5:30 p.m.
- **Sunday:** 7:00 a.m.—12:30 p.m. and 5:30—7:30 p.m.

Clothing and home goods of all kinds are accepted – even non-working electronics (Computers, Monitors, Printers, Faxes, Phones, TV s--FLAT SCREEN ONLY, Radios, Stereo Equipment, Any Electrical Item) which are recycled for parts. Torn and stained clothing is sent to a secondary market where they are taken apart and given new life. They will even take old bicycles which are repaired and provided, free of charge to the homeless so they can get around.

The majority of donations will be sold in the Joliet, Aurora and West Chicago stores at little or no cost. Items are priced very low to allow the poor to shop with dignity. And last year, with your help, they were able to provide over $200,000 in free clothing, housewares and furniture to needy families. Some of the money earned at the stores is returned to the St. Thomas St. Vincent dePaul ministry so they can help parishioners and neighbors with rent and utilities. Donating items you no longer need, you can Care for God’s Creation, provide Options for the Poor and Vulnerable and support Human Dignity!

Life Chain Today

**Sunday, Oct 5 — 2:00 TO 3:00 pm**

NE Corner of Washington & Ogden Naperville

For details, visit www.stapostle.org under “News”.

October 5, 2014, Page 10
Bread of Life Funds Distribution Report
Fiscal Year July 2014 to June 2015

Each year St. Thomas tithes a percentage of the Sunday collections to the Bread of Life (BOL) Committee for distribution through four channels:
1. St. Thomas Outreach & Social Justice Ministries
2. Local (Chicagoland) Organizations
3. National Organizations
4. International Organizations

The tithing percentage is based on the parish budget reality. When the economy declined severely a number of years ago the tithing % needed to be reduced from 8% to 4% and has remained at that level. This fiscal year (July 2014 - June 2015) the St. Thomas Finance Committee allocated $74,895

The Bread of Life Committee made the decision again this year to apply the entire amount to St. Thomas internal ministries in order that they might continue their same level of outreach and social justice work. Each ministry provided input on 1) how the funds were used last year, and 2) what their funding request was for this year. The Bread of Life Committee reviewed the information and made the following allocations.

- DuPage United $10,000 – Same as last year. DuPage United’s “job gap” effort culminated in the formation of Career Connect Metro West to match qualified job seekers to training and subsequent manufacturing jobs. St. Thomas dues are significant to DuPage United budget.
- Habitat Ministry $2,000 – Reduction of $2,000 from last year. Each Habitat week requires $2,000 to purchase materials used by volunteers (who pay their own expenses). There will be two Habitat weeks in Tutt-wiler, Mississippi again this year. The second week will be funded with $2,000 remaining from last year when only one team traveled to Tutt-wiler.
- Haiti Twinning $15,200 – Reduction of $1,240 from last year. $15,200 goes to Ste. Marie-Madeleine parish operations annually. The additional $1,240 last year went to internal ministry expenses (e.g., fees to send funds, telephone communication costs, etc). There were enough funds remaining from last year to cover these expenses for this year,
- Lakota Relationship $3,500 – No funds were allocated last year as funds remained from the previous year. The allocation this year is to cover expenses related to another visit of St. Agnes parishioners to St. Thomas and to cover shipping the children’s winter clothing that was collected.
- Saint Vincent de Paul (SVDP) $31,695 – Essentially the same as last Year ($31,000). Emergency rent and utility needs are still up. We expect continued SVDP store sales monies coming to our SVDP ministry for distribution. St. Thomas Cares will also provide funds if needed.
- Transitional Housing $12,500 – Same as last year. We hope to go to a third family in the program this year if we can find mentors.

Bread of Life Committee Members (Robin Franczy, Eileen Lane, Gail Micheau, Mike Ryder, Dwin Tongo)

11th Annual
Sleep Out Saturday
November 1

Families, youth groups, and individuals are invited to collect to sleep out in boxes, tents, and cars on the lawns and parking lots of St. Thomas the Apostle. This county-wide event raises awareness and raises funds to assist the growing number of homeless families in our area to return to self-sufficiency through the Bridge Communities transitional housing services. St. Thomas Transitional Housing is supporting 2 families currently.

New this year -- Families can participate in a portion of the evening program without sleeping out. Stay tuned!

A St. Thomas youth team is planning the activities for the November 1 evening leading up to the sleep out. Watch for details.

Sign-up tables will be in the Gathering Area the weekends of October 18/19 and October 25/26. For further information about Sleep Out Saturday or the work of the St. Thomas Transitional Housing Ministry, call facilitator Frank Szymanek (815.592.7154) or SOS Coordinator Larry Drummond 973.953.2382. You can also visit www.sleepoutsaturday.org.
Service Commission —  Pastoral Care

Early Fall is ideal Flu Shot Time

This time of year many doctors and other health professionals begin talking about the importance of flu prevention and flu shots. The flu shot champions report that the vaccine is an “antidote” that can reduce the chances of catching the flu virus by 70 to 90 percent.

Although the flu season doesn’t peak until about January or February, a flu shot administered in early fall should be protective through most of the season. The earlier in the season the flu shot is given, the less likely you are to catch the flu virus. It is also important to note that the vaccine can take up to two weeks to become effective.

Anyone over 6 months of age should have a flu shot, especially pregnant women, individuals 65 and over, and those with chronic medical conditions e.g. asthma, heart disease, or diabetes. Along with traditional Flu vaccine availability, a high-dose flu vaccine is available for those 65 and older who may have a weakened immune system. Check with the doctor if the high-dose vaccine is the appropriate vaccine for you.

Individuals may develop mild symptoms following the injection. Potential aches, slight fever, and runny noses are seen, but these symptoms are minor compared to the actual flu illness. A flu shot is not an iron-clad guarantee against sickness, but it is a distinct advantage when the virus makes its entrance.

(A adapted from Edward HealthAware Newsletter publication J. Gibson, M.D.)

Twelve Facts You Should Know About Spine Surgery: Tuesday, Oct 14, 7-8:30 p.m. Edward Hospital Education Center Auditorium, FREE. Join Ronjon Paul, M.D. orthopedic spine surgeon with Vivek Mohan, M.D. orthopedic spine surgeon of DuPage Medical Group who will speak on the most important facts to know about spine surgery. Call 630.527.6363 to register or on line at www.edward.org/classes

American Cancer Society Wig Boutique: Brand new wigs are offered at NO CHARGE! We will help you find the perfect color and style, all in a relaxed private setting. For more information or to schedule a wig fitting, call 1.800.227.2345

Grief Recovery: Grief Recovery Groups are held in the Edward Education Center on the Naperville campus two days a week: Wednesday mornings, 10-11:30 a.m. and Thursday evenings: 7:30-9:00 p.m.

Call the Grief Hotline for more information 630.527.5056 If you have experienced the loss of an infant or child, help is available through the SHARE or Sharing HOPE programs— 630.527.3263.

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(A adapted from Edward HealthAware Newsletter publication J. Gibson, M.D.)

Resources
If you want a St. Thomas Minister of Care to visit you at home or while in the hospital, please call the Pastoral Care Office 630.355.8980 x 124.

Counseling Service
Call Samaritan Interfaith, 630.357.2456 or Jan Olah, Pastoral Care, 630.355.8980 x 124.

NAMI offers support for family members of individuals with mental illness. Family Support Group meets the 1st and 3rd Monday evening of each month at Linden Oaks Outpatient Center, Room 207 1335 North mill Street, Naperville 7:00—8:00 p.m.

A.E.D. LOCATIONS
A utomatic E xternal D efibrillator

1. Gathering A rea
2. Church
3. Lighthouse E ntrance Wall
4. Rectory Basement
Stewardship Commission

Last Weekend’s stewardship of financial gifts...

Weekly Sunday Offertory
September 28, 2014

- Sunday Collection Offering: $16,951
- Automatic Direct Debit (5th & 20th each month): none this week
- Mailed in & stock donations: $9,121
- Total for week: $26,876

*Based on Collection Counters Reports

Fiscal Year (7/1 to 6/30) to date:
Weekly Average 7/1 to date: $33,641
Offertory Goal Year to Date: $468,096
Over/short of goal to date: ($30,760)
Goal for Fiscal Year 7/1 to 6/30: $1,872,383
Remaining for Fiscal Year goal: $1,435,047

Parish Appeal Goal: $139,729
Pledges Received: $147,697
% of Goal pledged to date: 105.70%
Unpaid pledges: $27,097
Paid to Date: $120,600
Percent of goal paid to date: 86.31%
Number of Appeal Donors: 722

Diocesan Appeal 2014

Money is a terrible master but an excellent servant.
— P. T. Barnum

Thank you to all parishioners who have completed and submitted your Commitment Card to the church. As a reminder, all commitments need to be submitted to the church no later than October 5 to be accounted for in the final Summary Report. Please complete and submit your card to the church even if you are unable to make a change to your current level of giving. For those registered parishioners not currently supporting the church with regular offertory gifts, please consider a monthly gift to support the needs of our parish.

Today’s Readings

First Reading — The vineyard of the Lord is the house of Israel (Isaiah 5:1-7).

Psalm — The vineyard of the Lord is the house of Israel (Psalm 80).

Second Reading — God’s peace will guard your hearts and minds (Philippians 4:6-9).

Gospel — The kingdom of God will be given to those who will produce its fruit (Matthew 21:33-43).


Readings for the Week

Mon: Gal 1:6-12; Ps 111:1b-2, 7-9, 10c; Lk 10:25-37
Tues: Gal 1:13-24; Ps 139:1b-3, 13-15; Lk 10:38-42
Wed: Gal 2:1-2, 7-14; Ps 117:1-1bc, 2; Lk 11:1-4
Thurs: Gal 3:1-5; Lk 1:69-75; Lk 11:5-13
Fri: Gal 3:7-14; Ps 111:1b-6; Lk 11:15-26
Sat: Gal 3:22-29; Ps 105:2-7; Lk 11:27-28
Sun: Is 25:6-10a; Ps 23:1-6; Phil 4:12-14, 19-20; Mt 22:1-14 [1-10]
October Keynote Speaker
Wednesday, Oct 22, 7:00 p.m.
"Own Your Interviews" - Lauren Milligan

Every job seeker knows that the MOST stressful part of a job search is the interview. How many times have you left the interview feeling that you did a great job, only to find out that the job was offered to another candidate? Or worse, how many times have you said something in an interview that you wish you hadn’t said? You second-guess yourself right up to the moment of the next interview... making the same mistakes again.

What if you walked into an interview today and saw a panel of six executives sitting in front of you? Would your brain be saying, “bring it on!” or would your eyes be darting for the exits?

Lauren’s presentation will help prepare you for even the toughest interview scenarios. Her clients have actually said they can’t wait for their next interview! Lauren will show you how to prepare for an interview, how to keep focused during the interview and how to properly follow-up after the interview. She’ll cover the psychology behind certain questions and how to stay on track, no matter how much an interviewer tries to throw you off your game. Behavioral Interview techniques will also be thoroughly examined, which is a method that most employers are implementing into their recruiting process. This two-hour session will give you tools you need to ace any interview until the day you retire.

Lauren Milligan is the head Resume Expert and Job Coach at ResuMAYDAY, a one-stop-shop for Career Management and Career Development. Her team of resume writers is comprised of experts in their own industries, ensuring that each client is paired with a resume writer who understands the language of their business, and how to sell that message to employers. She is a well-known speaker on career-related topics, and has contributed to hundreds of seminars, workshops and tutorials. She has been a frequent guest on Chicago television and radio where her quick-witted and ‘No Wimps Allowed’ attitude resulted in her own online radio show. Her background in recruiting and management steered Lauren to discover how much she truly enjoys helping people land that perfect job. For more information, www.ResuMAYDAY.com.

Fri, Oct 3, 9:30 am: Andy Nathan presents "Effectively Using Social Media in Your Job Search". Learn the amazing secrets to using LinkedIn, Twitter, Facebook, and WordPress (Blogging) to find your next job. Andy is a social networking schmoozer at Smart at the Start, a social networking consulting company. He helps businesses and individuals utilize social networking to increase their revenue stream. He's in the Top 40 Twitter Users in Chicago.

Fri, Oct 10, 9:30 am: Jan Marino presents "Take Back Your Career". Discover how the job market has changed. Learn about how to play the career game and who should be on your team. Jan is a personal career management and personal branding expert, speaker, author and founder of High Gain Companies, Inc.
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