Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time - February 8, 2015

Jesus cured many who were sick
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
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Rev. Rodolphe Arty, C.S.C. – Parochial Vicar, x 103, rarty@stapostle.org
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Pastoral Leadership Community (Parish Pastoral Council)
Ron Davis – Aileen Rominger
Mike Murray – Matt 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. DoF 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 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
(Mondat — Friday)
Communion Service — 6:30 a.m.
Rosary — 8:10 a.m.
Mass — 8:30 a.m.
(Saturday)
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.
From the Pastor’s Desk...

Whoo hoo! Way to go parishioners of St. Thomas! I’m doing the “happy dance”! As we kick off the 2015 Diocesan Catholic Ministries Annual Appeal (CMAA) this weekend, I am thrilled to report our results from the 2014 campaign. Our parish goal was $139,729. We exceeded our goal in pledges paid by $2,338. The parish gets back 60% of the amount paid over goal. So, St. Thomas has received a check from the Diocese in the amount of $1,402. Since much of the money you donate to the CMAA goes to fund outreach ministries of the Diocese, I have designated our rebate this year will go to our to St. Thomas’ outreach ministries to help St. Thomas parishioners in need. This was the first time since I’ve been here that St. Thomas has met and gone over our parish goal for the annual appeal. We now join five of the six Naperville parishes that have gone over goal and received a rebate check from the Diocese. I thank all who made a gift to last year’s Catholic Ministries Annual Appeal, and ask you to again support the 2015 appeal. Those who didn’t or couldn’t make a gift last year please consider doing so this year. Every little bit helps! Our parish goal for the 2015 Catholic Ministries Annual Appeal is $146,271. Your gift will go a long way to Extend God’s Mercy – the theme of this year’s appeal.

I invite and encourage anyone who ministers in any way at St. Thomas to a day of renewal next Saturday, February 14 and to experience the Joy of the Gospel! After a full day of preaching and healing in today’s Gospel, Jesus retreats to bed, then rises before dawn to slip away into the wilderness to pray. He leaves us with a model that clearly shows that our active ministries depend upon prayer. What we accomplish in a busy day may depend on what we do early in the morning. By surrendering to God first, we are acknowledging that any good we accomplish is only flowing through us. This frees us from any notion that we ourselves are the source.

Come for a morning of prayer and reflection starting with Mass at 8:30 a.m., followed by breakfast, and an inspiring message from Matt Pozen. Be sure to RSVP to Marge Coronado at mcoronado@stapostle.org or 630.355.8980 x118.

Thank you for your ministry and participating in this opportunity for renewal.
Ash Wednesday Services
Wednesday, February 18 is Ash Wednesday. Services are as follows:

6:30 & 8:30 am: Masses with the distribution of ashes

12:00 pm: Prayer Service with the distribution of ashes until 1:00 P.M.

4:30 pm: Prayer Service with the distribution of ashes, led by our Faith Formation Program

7:30 pm: Mass with the distribution of ashes

Finding Life’s Harmony ...

“Get out there and give real help! Get out there and Love! Get out there and testify! Get out there and create whatever you can to inspire people to claim their divine being. This is what has to be done now. There is no time for dallying.”

— Mother Theresa

Challenged by Mother Theresa and inspired by the Gospel what a wonderful week this would be if we all went out into the world and spread the Good News. What is the Good News you ask? The Good News is our salvation through Jesus. Jesus assures us that suffering belongs to this life, but this is not all there is to life. Our kingdom in heaven awaits us with joy, joy, joy.

Like, Jesus, we can be a living Gospel, the Good News in action. We are called to be his arms, his feet and his voice. We need to let the joy of the Good News transform us and inspire us to reach out to those in need. Smile a simple smile. Help a coworker out. We can do no great things, only small things with great love!!!

Deb Scheckel, a St. Thomas parishioner, is founder of Diners Together – a culinary organization based on health and wholeness. She is a women’s enthusiast, helping others create balance in life.

Bring Your Palms!
St. Thomas will be collecting palms from last year to be burned and used for ashes on Ash Wednesday. Baskets will be in the gathering area and narthex.

A Prayer for Our Parish
God, you are the one,
You are the reason we are so fortunate,
So blessed, and on the right road!
You keep picking us up when we fall;
You keep binding our wounds and teaching us to heal others.
Everyone, we should always thank God!
God continues to help us grow, and rains down love to keep us going.
God is strong, and we need that strength
Every day of our life.
When we feel the cold of winter,
And the cold of bitterness, God warms us.
You, God, melt the ice in our heart,
And the heat of your love remains.
Keep speaking, keep prodding us,
Keep sharing your wisdom with us.
Alleluia!

— David Haas

Presider’s Schedule February 14/15
4:30 pm - Fr. Don McLoughlin
8:00 am - Fr. Don McLoughlin
9:30 am - Fr. Dof Arty
11:15 am - Fr. Don McLoughlin
6:00 pm - Fr. Dof Arty

Schedule is subject to change. Changes are posted to the St. Thomas website www.stapostle.org
Pray for Our Parish:

For the sick...
Don Adams, father of Brett
Dennis Miller, husband of Sharron
Elizabeth Wyzgowski
Andrew Mogni, friend of several St. Thomas parishioners;
Dennis Spielman, husband of Sharon
Courtney Mathew, granddaughter of Vicky & Dave Gruenewald
Ken Sichz, husband of Mary
Patricia Twig, aunt of Tricia Makau
Tom Kamin, brother of Corlynn
Maggie Lang, sister of Bill

Please Pray for our Men and Women Serving in the Military
Our parish community would like to recognize and remember the following individuals in prayer:

U.S. Air Force
Staff Sgt. Brooke Sica
AB Jon Babiarz, Special Forces
Cpt Joseph Bennington (Reserve)
Technical Sgt. Shanna Crones

Air Force National Guard
Senior Airmen Jacob Brancalione
Major Eric H. Dolan

U.S. Army
Cpt. Lynnea Jensen
Cpt. A lanca Casey
Staff Sgt. Aaron Simms
PFC Sean Wesley
Army Ranger Medic Jeremy See
Cpt. Matthew Haselhorst

U.S. Marine Corps
Capt Brad Rothman
Lt. Colin Miller-Ratcliffes
LCpl Brandon Tagliavia
LCpl Oliver Buckley
LCpl Tommy Baldacci
Col James Arthur Hogberg

U.S. Navy
Ensign Jason Coons
Alex Metzger
Airman Alex Dworak

Naval Reserve
CDR Lance Klosterman, MD

U.S. Coast Guard

Call the parish office 630.355.8980 to include someone you love in the Military prayer list.

For the deceased...
Hank Longo, cousin of Don Manderscheid
William Johnston, father of Kim Flaherty
Bess Patterman, mother of Jan Arvin
Russell Rabinsky, son of Carol
Arthur Churches, cousin of Sharron Miller
Bill Ward, brother of Betty Wampach

Liturgy Schedule & Mass Intentions
Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Monday, February 9, 2015
6:30am Communion Service
8:30am †Regino Tuazon, by Tess Tuazon & Family
†Mary Hanak, by Dale & Betty Jarvas

Tuesday, February 10, 2015
(Saint Scholastica, Virgin)
6:30am Communion Service
8:30am †Francis E. Pratt, by Kathryn M. Pratt
†Anne Battisto, by Joseph Battisto

Wednesday, February 11, 2015
(Our Lady of Lourdes)
6:30am Communion Service
8:30am †Harold Russell, by Kathryn M. Pratt
†Frank Wittry, by Helen Wittry

Thursday, February 12, 2015
6:30am Communion Service
8:30am †Bill Bolger, by Ertha & The Lucado Family
†Barb Diedrichs, by Tom Diedrichs

Friday, February 13, 2015
6:30am Communion Service
8:30am †Willie Johnson, by George Bertone

Saturday, February 14, 2015
(Saints Cyril, Monk, and Methodius, Bishop)
8:30am †Bill Bolger, by Family & Friends
4:30pm Vigil: Sixth Sunday Ordinary
†Jonathan Weiger, by Mom & Dad
†Lucille & Richard Bican, by Mary Lou Welch

Sunday, February 15, 2015
(Sixth Sunday Ordinary)
8:00am For the People of St. Thomas
9:30am †Bob Cotner, by The Howley Friends
†Dorothy Pernerillo, by Audrey Easton
11:15am †Fr. Don Kennes, by Eugene & Jeanette Kennes
†Ian Stables, by The Purcell Family
6:00pm †Marilyn Tykal, by The Urso Family
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.

February 15—Mark 1:40-45

Today, we are able to control our skin problems with God’s gift of modern medicine. However, during Jesus’ time, this knowledge was not available. A leper, an outcast in Jewish society, begged to be cured. With Jesus’ touch, he was healed. Jesus does not seek glory for himself in the miracles he performs but simply cares deeply for others. Follow Jesus’ example and walk humbly with God.

C.A.R.E. CORNER

Let’s wrap up our series on St. Paul with some concluding remarks. Paul stood up to a very pagan, multi-cultural and distracted world. Some things never change, do they? Yet Paul bravely and boldly preached to any audience who would listen. He tirelessly proclaimed his faith even though it was in direct contention to, and radically different from, the ways of the world in which he lived. But God is always at work in the world. And God used Paul’s individual talents, passions and character to accomplish God’s own work. God uses our individual gifts as well and we need to recognize that and be receptive to it, just as Paul was.

Paul was very universally minded. He often took up collections in his church communities to be shared with other church communities facing persecution. He is an excellent example of someone with an indomitable spirit, tremendous courage and great perseverance in spite of every imaginable physical and emotional struggle. So, in conclusion, perhaps it would be good to remember these words Paul wrote to Timothy - and to us - in 2 Timothy 1:8b: “Bear your share of hardship for the gospel with the strength that comes from God.” Paul knew that God was the secret power behind his strength. We need to remember the same thing.

"the grace of God utterly and wholly permeates our lives, just as they are in the present moment. All of our failures and weaknesses are absolutely irrelevant in the face of such all-pervading grace."

James Finley

Come and recharge your spiritual batteries with these events at the Carmelite Spiritual Center led by Dr. Jim Finley. Register today!

The Spirituality of Healing

Thursday, Feb 12, 9:00 am to 4:30 pm
with James Finley, Ph.D

Dr. Jim Finley will facilitate a one-day retreat on February 12 exploring a seven step, contemplative approach to the decisive role spirituality can play in healing trauma and all forms of suffering. Intended for clinicians, pastoral counselors, spiritual directors, trauma survivors, those in twelve-step recovery programs and for all who are interested in the spiritual dimensions of healing.

The day will include short periods of silent meditation and discussion of the themes presented. CEU units pending. $75 - to register: www.ilmidwestmalespirituality.org.

Falling In Love with God

the Teachings of St. John of the Cross

Feb 13-15, 2015
with James Finley, Ph.D

Dr. Jim Finley will lead this weekend conference/retreat, providing an introduction to the spiritual teachings of the Carmelite mystic St. John of the Cross, with an emphasis on how he guides us through the dark night of the soul. This retreat will be held from February 13 through 15 at the Carmelite Spiritual Center in Darien.

The retreat is intended for sincere beginners as well as those more experienced in the practice of contemplative prayer. Periods of silent meditation, personal reflection and discussion of the themes presented. Conference cost is only $175 - room and board available at local hotels.

These events are held at the Carmelite Spiritual Center, 8433 Bailey Rd, Darien, Illinois. To register for one or both: www.ilmidwestmalespirituality.org.

Dr. James Finley is a renowned retreat leader, Merton scholar, and master of the Contemplative Way. See a sample of his teaching style and storytelling at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FsZmG90nOLI
**Soul Searchers Meet February 14**

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 mystic visions and contemplative prayer. “Let nothing trouble you. All things are passing; God never changes. He who possesses God lacks nothing.” This month’s reading: Chapters 26-30.

The next meeting of Soul Searchers is February 14 from 9:15 to 10:30 a.m. in the Rectory Basement. Come whenever your schedule allows and enjoy a thought provoking experience. All are welcome to attend this monthly discussion group.

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**St. Thomas Parish Mission**

**March 2—4 with Fr. Lawrence Jagdfeld**

Be sure to mark your calendar for the 2015 Parish Mission with Fr. Lawrence Jagdfeld. Fr. Lawrence will be at St. Thomas for the weekend liturgies preceding the three days of morning and evening sessions.

Pick up a flyer at the exits for details.

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**Irish Mass at St. Thomas**

The West Suburban Irish will celebrate an Irish Mass at St. Thomas the Apostle Church in Naperville, honoring St. Patrick, on Wednesday, March 11, beginning at 6:30 p.m. There will be a Soda Bread Reception held afterwards, along with entertainment. All are invited to attend.

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**News From All Saints Catholic Academy**

All Saints Catholic Academy fourth grade language arts classes recently penned persuasive essays with the subject of discussing the value and impact of a Catholic education. Nora Mehring has been a student at All Saints since she was in preschool, and is a student in Mrs. Grissinger’s fourth grade class. She has a twin brother, Camden, and an older sister, Jaclyn, also at All Saints. She wrote the following:

“With God anything is possible”. Come to All Saints Catholic Academy! All Saints is a great school to go to because it has wonderful teachers. It has been around for ten amazing years. You should go to All Saints because you can pray at school anytime in the day, and have a fantastic education.

First of all, we do service projects. We donate clothes to people in need. We also have a Martin Luther King Day of Service. We bring money in envelopes to Mass, and they are brought to an orphanage. We work together for the service projects. Doing service projects makes us feel good because we are doing things for the people less fortunate than us.

Another reason to go to All Saints is we have Mass every Wednesday. You can do a reading part or carry the Cross or Offertory gifts. Each week, a different class prepared the mass. Everyone receives a part, and we also get to have Communion. Having parts in Mass and going every Wednesday helps us learn more about God.

The most important reason to go to All Saints is our faith community. Students, teachers, the principal, and parents all work together to be the best faith community ever. We pray for people who are in need, people who are sick, and people who have lost someone that they love. Parents can volunteer to help with field trips, or help in the lunchroom. The teachers educate the students well and explain things too. A good faith community helps people be like Jesus.
Meet an Amazing Young Person… Elizabeth Casey

Betsy has been actively involved in many aspects of St. Thomas since early childhood, when she was enrolled in pre-kindergarten religious education classes. Since that time, Betsy has participated in St. Thomas music ministry (all choirs through high school), and has volunteered as a Scripture Safari helper, altar server, Harvest Sunday volunteer, and Care Pantry Christmas Party volunteer. Betsy attended the Youth Leadership Conference twice, and while a student at Coe College, she completed an internship at Standing Rock Indian Reservation in the Dakotas.

After graduating from Coe College, Betsy returned to her St. Thomas family and continues to be involved with St. Thomas’ mission work on the Pine Ridge Reservation, and ministering as a sacristan, Eucharistic minister, lector, and commentator. Betsy served as one of the event coordinators for the 2014 St. Thomas picnic. She currently works as an Administrative Assistant in the Religious Education department at the Diocese of Joliet.

Betsy is currently reviewing graduate programs in religious studies. She hopes to complete her doctorate in theology and plans to teach others. Her passion and enthusiasm for her Catholic faith is contagious and she has inspired her family in various ways to strengthen their faith formation by attending classes and increasing volunteer time.

Middle School Religious Education Class Schedule

Monday, Feb 9, 23: RE classes meet at All Saints, 7:15 pm
Saturday, Feb 21: RE classes meet at All Saints, 8:30 & 10:30 am
There are no middle school RE classes on Saturday, Feb 14 and Monday, Feb 16.
**Just5Days Middle School Mission Trip**

**WHO:** Students completing grades 6, 7, 8  
**WHEN:** July 6-10  
**WHERE:** St. Joe, Michigan  
**WHAT TO EXPECT:** a 5-day experience of service, hands-on learning, prayer, liturgy, and community building, an unforgettable week, and a whole lot of fun!  
**COST:** $285  
**SIGN-UP DEADLINE:** March 1  
**REGISTRATION FORMS:** outside of Peggy Goralski’s office  
**QUESTIONS/ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:** Go to www.just5days.org or contact Peggy at pgoral-ski@stapostle.org or 630.355.8980, Ext. 123.

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**Grandparents Day at St. Pat’s**

Middle school students... spread some ‘Valentine’s Day cheer’ by volunteering at Grandparents Day at St. Pat’s on Saturday, February 14, from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. Volunteers should meet at St. Thomas at 9:00 a.m. to 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.

**Ash Wednesday Family Prayer Service and Faith Activity**

On Ash Wednesday, February 18, there will be a family prayer service with the distribution of ashes at 4:30 pm. Families are invited to attend the service together as a prayerful way to begin their Lenten journey. Immediately after the service, from 5:15 to 6:15 pm, families are invited to come together for dinner and to make a craft that can be used as a reminder of the Lenten season. This family faith activity will take place in the St. Thomas gym. The cost to cover the pizza dinner and craft supplies is $5 per person or $15 per family. Sign-up deadline is February 15. Sign-up forms are available outside the Religious Education office. If you have questions or would like more information, contact the RE office at 630.305.6318.

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**Volunteers Needed for Living Stations of the Cross**

Middle school students are invited to be part of the Living Stations of the Cross Service which takes place on Good Friday, April 3. The Stations are ‘acted out’ with still-poses (no speaking required!). This is a wonderful opportunity for students to come to a deeper understanding of the depth of God’s love for us. Practices will be held on Wednesdays, from 4:30 to 5:30 pm, beginning February 25. If you are interested or would like more information, contact Peggy Goralski at www.pgoralski@stapostle.org or 630.355.8980, Ext. 123.

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**High School News:**

**High School Summer Missions Forms Out Now**

Teens interested in doing a mission trip this summer, whether locally, out of state, or internationally, interest forms are now available. You can stop by the gathering area or youth ministry office and pick up a hard copy or go to the youth ministry website to download it. Completed forms should be turned in to the Youth Ministry Office ASAP so we can make a decision on which types of trips we’re able to offer. Dedicated and passionate adult leaders are also needed to accompany teens on their trips. Contact Brett in the Youth Ministry Office at badams@stapostle.org or 630-731-7721 with questions or to get involved.
Service Commission—Outreach & Social Justice

St. Thomas Homeless Alliance Ministry—Letters to Governor Rauner

During today’s Masses and next weekend parishioners will have the opportunity, should they agree with the content, to take a social justice action and sign a letter to Governor Rauner asking him to prioritize state funds for homeless families and students in Illinois, specifically

- Restore Homeless Education funding to $3 million. A record 59,112 students were identified as homeless during the 2013-2014 school year.
- Restore Homeless Prevention funding to $6 million from current $4 million. 88% of households stay housed after using homeless prevention funds.
- Maintain funding of Homeless Youth Programs at $5.6 million. Homeless youth provides emergency shelter, and longer-term housing for unaccompanied youth. 82% of youth served by this program in Illinois moved into safe, stable housing.
- Maintain funding of Emergency and Transitional Housing at $9.4 million. Provides some funding to Hesed House PADS and DuPage PADS where St. Thomas parishioners serve. Even at this funding level, last year 55,422 people were turned away from Illinois housing services.

(Above statistics provided by various state agencies.)

It is understood that the Illinois economic situation will likely require cuts in many areas. There are many hard choices the governor will have to make. The letters are intended to encourage the governor to prioritize the homeless services in his considerations.

If you missed the opportunity at Mass and would like to sign a letter, you can go to www.stapostle.org and type “Governor Letter” in the Search Window and print out a copy of the letter. All signed letters can be returned to St. Thomas to the collection points in the Narthex and Gathering Area after Masses next weekend (February 14/15).

The offering of letters opportunity is being organized by St. Thomas parishioner Jim Piccetti from the Chicago Coalition for the Homeless.

Pax Christi

Are you ready to strive for peace?

The symbol of Pax Christi (Peace of Christ) is the Barbed Wire and The Rose. It is peace rising out of confinement or exclusion; love out of subjugation. Pope Francis says in “The Joy of the Gospel,” that “The Gospel tells us constantly to run the risk of a face-to-face encounter with others, with their physical presence which challenges us, with their pain and their pleas, with their joy, which infects us in our close and continuous interaction.” He also says, “Don’t be afraid to undertake apostolic work, responding to neighbor’s needs. It is a joyful, fulfilling response to God’s love.”

If you are ready to strive for the peace of the nonviolent Christ, working for social justice to gain peace, then join Pax Christi St. Thomas Servants at the meeting on February 8, at 6:30 p.m. in the Cana Room at St. Thomas the Apostle parish. If you have questions, please call Nancy Oetter at 630.904.3859.

St. Thomas Cares

Georgeanne is in a drug abuse rehabilitation program on an outpatient basis requiring medication and counseling. She has also had medical problems and has not been able to work. She lives with a family member who is on a small fixed income. She asked for help to pay her weekly fees to continue the rehab program. With Georgeanne’s permission, St. Thomas Cares contacted the rehabilitation provider and verified the information she had provided. She is due to complete the program in early February. Over the last four months, St. Thomas Cares paid for four weeks of the program (totaling $260).
Catholic Vocabulary Test

**AMEN:** The only part of a prayer that everyone knows.

**One-time Individual or Family Service Opportunity**

One of the findings of the parish survey for Outreach & Social Justice was to provide opportunities for families and individuals to do service without requiring a long term commitment. See the following from Feed My Starving Children. FMSC has helped feed malnourished children in our Haiti Twinning village.

**Feed the Need!**

The fourth annual Naperville Feed the Need 2015 Mobile Pack will be held on Sunday and Monday, February 15-16 at North Central College. Nearly 4,000 volunteers are needed to pack 800,000 rice based nutritious meals. They will be shipped to starving children around the world! About 270,000 of those meals will be delivered to the Ebola-stricken countries in Africa!

To achieve this goal, volunteers are needed to pack meals at the four shifts on Sunday and one shift on Monday morning. Your two hours of packing time will fly by, and you will be energized as you join others in becoming the hands and feet of Christ, helping to feed his children.

Packers/Helpers are especially needed on Sunday, February 15 on the 9 to 11 a.m. and 7 to 9 p.m. shifts, and the Monday, February 16, 9 to 11 a.m. shift. More information about the mobile pack can be found on the Feed The Need! website: www.feedtheneednaperville.org. You can register to pack on the website.

**Soup & Bread Night**

The Lector Ministry of St. Thomas the Apostle presents the 22nd Annual Soup and Bread Night on Wednesday, February 25, from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. in the St. Thomas Gym. The Lector Ministry invites you, your family, and friends for a simple Lenten meal of Soup and Bread. More than 20 homemade soups will be provided by members of the Lector ministry. They are always excellent!

Emily Pettinger, one of the St. Thomas “Amazing Young People” will speak about her experiences serving at a children’s home in rural Honduras-Amigos de Jesus. Amigos de Jesus is dedicated to enhancing the spiritual, physical, emotional, social, and intellectual growth of those who have been abandoned, abused, and living in poverty on the streets. A free will offering will be taken to support the work of Amigos de Jesus.

**Seniors Invited to Defer Property Taxes**

Qualified senior citizens aged 65 years and older are invited to apply for the Senior Citizens’ Real Estate Tax Deferral Program offered by the State of Illinois through the DuPage County Treasurer’s office. This program allows qualified senior citizens to defer up to $5,000 of their current property tax amount. The deferral is treated as a loan and accrues six percent simple interest until the amount is either paid back or the property is sold. To qualify, the senior citizen’s household income cannot exceed $55,000. Additionally, the property must be used exclusively for the owner’s primary residence. The application period closes March 2, 2015. You may either call the DuPage County Treasurer’s Office at 630.407.5900 or go online at treasurer.dupageco.org for more information.

**Free Tax Preparation**

TAP (Tax Assistance Program) offers free tax preparation for individuals earning up to $25,000 and households earning up to $50,000 annually. For more information pick up a flier on the credenza in the Gathering Area.

**Do you know of someone in need of a good career job opportunity?**

Career Connect is a nonprofit organization committed to finding solutions for individuals seeking meaningful, long-term careers. They serve the unemployed, underemployed, and otherwise struggling individuals, and are committed to finding good jobs for good people.

Training is given in skills that provide the necessary qualifications for manufacturing jobs with good wages and benefits, with advancement opportunities, and with career-long potential.

The next Recruiting Session is at St. Thomas on Saturday, February 28 at 2:00 p.m. Contact Joe Dutra at JoeDutra@CareerConnectMW.org.

For more information pick up a flyer in the Gathering Area or contact Mike in the Outreach and Social Justice Office (mryder@stapostle.org, 630.355.8980 x121).

**Seniors Invited to Defer Property Taxes**

Qualified senior citizens aged 65 years and older are invited to apply for the Senior Citizens’ Real Estate Tax Deferral Program offered by the State of Illinois through the DuPage County Treasurer’s office. This program allows qualified senior citizens to defer up to $5,000 of their current property tax amount. The deferral is treated as a loan and accrues six percent simple interest until the amount is either paid back or the property is sold. To qualify, the senior citizen’s household income cannot exceed $55,000. Additionally, the property must be used exclusively for the owner’s primary residence. The application period closes March 2, 2015. You may either call the DuPage County Treasurer’s Office at 630.407.5900 or go online at treasurer.dupageco.org for more information.

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**One-time Individual or Family Service Opportunity**

One of the findings of the parish survey for Outreach & Social Justice was to provide opportunities for families and individuals to do service without requiring a long term commitment. See the following from Feed My Starving Children. FMSC has helped feed malnourished children in our Haiti Twinning village.

**Feed the Need!**

The fourth annual Naperville Feed the Need 2015 Mobile Pack will be held on Sunday and Monday, February 15-16 at North Central College. Nearly 4,000 volunteers are needed to pack 800,000 rice based nutritious meals. They will be shipped to starving children around the world! About 270,000 of those meals will be delivered to the Ebola-stricken countries in Africa!

To achieve this goal, volunteers are needed to pack meals at the four shifts on Sunday and one shift on Monday morning. Your two hours of packing time will fly by, and you will be energized as you join others in becoming the hands and feet of Christ, helping to feed his children.

Packers/Helpers are especially needed on Sunday, February 15 on the 9 to 11 a.m. and 7 to 9 p.m. shifts, and the Monday, February 16, 9 to 11 a.m. shift. More information about the mobile pack can be found on the Feed The Need! website: www.feedtheneednaperville.org. You can register to pack on the website.

**Soup & Bread Night**

The Lector Ministry of St. Thomas the Apostle presents the 22nd Annual Soup and Bread Night on Wednesday, February 25, from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. in the St. Thomas Gym. The Lector Ministry invites you, your family, and friends for a simple Lenten meal of Soup and Bread. More than 20 homemade soups will be provided by members of the Lector ministry. They are always excellent!

Emily Pettinger, one of the St. Thomas “Amazing Young People” will speak about her experiences serving at a children’s home in rural Honduras-Amigos de Jesus. Amigos de Jesus is dedicated to enhancing the spiritual, physical, emotional, social, and intellectual growth of those who have been abandoned, abused, and living in poverty on the streets. A free will offering will be taken to support the work of Amigos de Jesus.

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Do you know of someone in need of a good career job opportunity?
Service Commission — Pastoral Care

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.

The morning begins with 8:30 am Mass in the church with Fr. Don. After Mass, breakfast will be served in the gym. The presenter is Matt Pozen. Please R.S.V.P. by February 6 to Marge Coronado - 630.355.8980 x 118 or mcoronado@stapostle.org A free will offering will be graciously accepted.

Join us on February 14 for the JOY of Renewal

“We invite all ministers to a renewed personal encounter with Jesus Christ.”

Pope Francis

Espousing Loss— support group for women and men who have lost a spouse in death. Group meets at Samaritan Interfaith Counseling Center on the third Saturday of each month at 9:00 am Cost: $25 (or talk to Joan about what you can afford)

Caregiver Wives— support group for women caring for a spouse or significant other with a chronic or progressive illness. Group meets at Samaritan Interfaith Counseling Center on the third Saturday of each month at 10:30 am Cost: $25 (or talk to Joan about what you can afford)

Samaritan Interfaith Counseling Center
Enter at side door to the right of main entrance 1819 Bay Scott Center, Naperville Off Book Road just north of 75th Street

No reservations are required. For more information, call Joan Guest at 630.357.2456 ext. 30

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.

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Today’s Readings

First Reading — Job finds life on earth to be drudgery; he is filled with restlessness (Job 7:1-4,6-7).
Psalm — Praise the Lord, who heals the brokenhearted (Psalm 147).

Second Reading — Woe to me if I do not preach the gospel. I have become all things to all, to save at least some (1 Corinthians 9:16-19, 22-23).

Gospel — Jesus cured many who were sick with various diseases (Mark 1:29-39).

Readings for the Week

Mon: Gn 1:1-19; Ps 104:1-2a, 5-6, 10, 12, 24, 35c; Mk 6:53-56
Tues: Gn 1:20 — 2:4a; Ps 8:4-9; Mk 7:1-13
Wed: Gn 2:4b-9, 15-17; Ps 104:1-2a, 27-28, 29bc-30; Mk 7:14-23
Thurs: Gn 2:18-25; Ps 128:1-5; Mk 7:24-30
Fri: Gn 3:1-8; Ps 32:1-2, 5-7; Mk 7:31-37
Sat: Gn 3:9-24; Ps 90:2-6, 12-13; Mk 8:1-10
Sun: Lv 13:1-2, 44-46; Ps 32:1-2, 5, 11; 1 Cor 10:31 — 11:1; Mk 1:40-45

St. Thomas the Apostle  
Jobs Ministry

February Keynote Speaker  
Thursday, February 26, 7:00 p.m.  
"The 2-for-1 Workshop, Negotiating Your Salary and Replace Your Elevator Pitch"  
with Jack Chapman

SALARY NEGOTIATIONS QUIZ:  
Learn the answers to these questions from the "Bible" of salary negotiations.

1. The person who speaks first loses - true or false?  
2. If a recruiter asks, give them your salary history in detail - true or false?  
3. You are better off going around HR and talking directly with hiring decision-maker about salary - true or false?  
4. If the offer is more than 25% lower than your expectations, make salary one of the first things you talk about so that neither of you waste your time.

[See answers below]

Throw Away Your Elevator Speech  
They usually go like this: "I have 20+ years of diverse experience in "blank," then I got laid off; next, the plant closed; I worked here, there, everywhere. Now I'm back looking for a job again. Do you know anyone that's hiring?"

- No one remembers it.  
- It's boring.  
- It makes you sound like everyone else.

Replace Your Elevator Speech  
with a Couple Minute Profile.

Easy, personal, colloquial, entertaining, engaging, brief, concise, and when it's done right, the person you’re talking to will remember you forever.

[Answers to quiz above: 1-F; 2-T; 3-F; 4-F]

Jack is the owner of Lucrative Careers Inc.. From 30 years of career management practice, Jack has accumulated approaches and ideas that really work. He is also the author of: "Negotiating Your Salary, How to Make $1,000 a Minute".

Fri, Feb 13, 9:30 am: Karen Goins will present The Art of Resilience. Learning resilience tools helps to endure in a sometimes hostile business environment, adapt to new or uncertain circumstances, develop self-awareness, enhance resilience attributes, and look at the lemons of present circumstances and see lemonade.

Karen Goins ACC, SPHR is an organization coach, educator, speaker and author. Karen's firm, KS Goins & Associates LLC, specializes in developing talent through organizational coaching, workshops and educational programs.

THE WEEK AHEAD...

Monday, Feb. 9
4:15—5:45 p.m. Stay, Play & Pray, Gym  
4:15—5:15 p.m. Youth Choir, Church  
6:00—9:00 p.m. Knights of Columbus, Lighthouse  
7:00—9:00 p.m. Baptism Class, Youth Center  
7:00—9:30 p.m. Coed Volleyball, Gym  
7:00—9:00 p.m. Worship Commission, Cana  
7:15—8:30 p.m. Middle School R.E. at All Saints Academy

Tuesday, Feb. 10
4:30—5:45 p.m. Elementary R. E. at All Saints Academy  
7:00—9:30 p.m. Adult Basketball, Gym  
7:00—9:00 p.m. Finance Committee, Cana  
7:00—9:00 p.m. Charismatic Prayer Group, Lounge  
7:00—9:00 p.m. Voices of Faith, Church  
7:00—9:00 p.m. God & Sinners Reconciled, Senior Center

Wednesday, Feb. 11
7:00—8:00 p.m. Transitional Housing, Galilee  
7:15—9:00 p.m. Faith Formation Commission, Cana

Thursday, Feb. 12
9:15—11:15 a.m. Spread the Word Bible Study, Lighthouse  
4:15—5:15 p.m. Jammers, Church  
6:00—7:00 p.m. Journey Praise, Lighthouse  
6:30—8:30 p.m. Life Retreat Meeting, Youth Center  
7:00—8:00 p.m. 1st Eucharist Prayer Service, Church  
7:00—8:00 p.m. Genesis Rehearsal, Lighthouse  
7:00—8:30 p.m. Medical Mission, Cana  
7:30—9:00 p.m. Spread the Word Bible Study, Senior Center West  
8:00—9:00 p.m. Jubilate Rehearsal, Lighthouse

Friday, Feb. 13
9:00—11:00 a.m. Friday bible Study, Senior Center  
9:15am-12:00 p.m. Jobs Ministry, Gym

Saturday, Feb. 14
8:30 am-12:00 p.m. Day of Renewal, Gym  
9:00—10:30 a.m. Men's Saturday Sharing, Cana  
9:00am-12:00 p.m. Art Class, Senior Center  
9:00—11:00 a.m. Grandparent's Day at St. Patrick's Residence  
9:15—10:30 a.m. Soul Searchers, Rectory Basement

Sunday, Feb. 15
7:30—10:30 a.m. RCIA, Senior Center  
9:30am-12:30 p. m. Sunday Nursery  
9:30am-12:00 p. m. Liturgy of the Word for Children , Ministry Center  
12:45—1:45 p.m. Baptism, Church  
4:30—5:30 p. m. Spring Confirmation Classes, Emmaus & Galilee

Fri, Feb 20, 9:30 am: Dale Spencer will present "Overcoming Adversity and Facing Fears", his personal story about a tragic fall he took at age 20 that left him without the use of his legs and changed his life by empowering him to overcome obstacles with a strength he never knew existing within himself. As he talks about how he’s living his life now and rising above physical challenges, he inspires others to actively discover their own full potential and set out to accomplish their highest goals. Dale is both a local and national keynote inspirational speaker.
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Brian or Sally, coordinators  860.399.1785

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