Palm Sunday - March 29, 2015

Blessed is He who comes in the name of the LORD
Parish Staff

Priests in Residence
Rev. Don E. McLaughlin – Pastor, x102, dmclaughlin@stapostle.org
Rev. Rodolphe Arty, C.S.C. – Parochial Vicar, x 103, rarty@stapostle.org
Rev. Matthew Lorenz

Permanent Deacons
Michael (Kathy) Barrett – x220, meabarrett@att.net
Jim (Mary Jo) Breen – 630.486.3133(vm225), jimb4853@gmail.com
Larry (Susan) Kearney – x225, lrkearney@comcast.net
Chuck (Sue) Lane – x220, chuckklane@juno.com
Pat (Mary Jo) Lennon – 630.901.3223, 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
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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, pggoralski@stapostle.org
Chari Rosales – Director of Adult Education & RCIA, x138, crosales@stapostle.org
Marge Coronado – Religious Education Assistant, x118, mcoronado@stapostle.org

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Pastoral Care
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Angie Tuttle – Bulletin and Web Editor, Liturgy Asst, x110, atuttle@stapostle.org
Elizabeth Fisher* – Evening/Saturday Receptionist
Mary Wright* – Evening/Saturday Receptionist
Mary Derwinski* – A Administration Asst, x143, mderwinski@stapostle.org
Marylin DmEeo* – Database Coordinator (T/T/H), x107, mdeemo@stapostle.org
Bob Hartmann* – Facility Manager, x133, facility@stapostle.org

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 Borendale – Service and Outreach
Jeff Berta – Stewardship
Mike Myers – Finance Council/Administration

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

* indicates part-time staff

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
(Monday – Friday)
Communion Service — 6:30 a.m.
Rosary — 8:10 a.m.
M Mass — 8:30 a.m.
(Saturday)
M 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.
Welcome Guests and Visitors!

We’re so glad you’re here and invite you to walk the path of faith with us. St. Thomas strives to provide a spiritual home where all are welcome, where the healing, reconciling, liberating love of God is shared by all. We believe the church is the sacrament of God’s saving presence in the world, join us!

From the Pastor’s Desk...

One might wonder why we read today this long account from Mark’s gospel of Jesus’ suffering and death at the start of Holy Week. It’s because this story has the power to move us emotionally and to locate us personally in the story. You see, the Passion of Jesus is our story as well. This story walks us through the stages of our own faith development. Mark’s Passion take us to the blank zone before faith, to find in Jesus’ own struggle the faith we need for the unfinished work of our own encounters with grief and loss. What is now already revealed in Jesus is still a work in progress in us. The outcome is assured from God’s side but incomplete on our side because Easter faith must still be received and incorporated into our own story, our walk through the shadowy ambiguities to come, the decisions to be made and the challenges to be faced. If the dramatic, communal sharing of Mark’s Passion quickens our heartbeat and brings to mind the many murders that affront us each day in the news, the crimes that hurt and abandon the poor and desperate among us, the crushing despair of millions around the world caught below the safety nets of economic and social survival – then we are accompanying Jesus in his walk to Calvary today. If the images of the Passion help us join our own moments of betrayal, loss and loneliness for the sake of love to the moments of Jesus, then we are renewing our baptismal commitment to die with him in order to rise with him. If we share his struggle to bring justice and peace, then our sufferings are redemptive for others. And if we find in Jesus’ innocence a clearer sense of our own sinfulness – our silence and neglect in the face of the suffering of others, our failure to risk love when it is required of us or offered to us – then we are facing our need for God’s mercy and forgiveness.

Today we are invited to consciously dedicate the week ahead as holy, to enter it and deliberately focus our minds and hearts on the holy work of accompanying Jesus….to the table of the Last Supper….to the garden of his agony….to the trial before his accusers….and finally, to the cross that awaits him. We are witnesses and also full participants because this is OUR story. This is how we will get to Easter.

Palm Sunday
The Passion of the Lord
March 29, 2015

[Christ Jesus] humbled himself, becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.
— Philippians 2:8

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Easter Flower Fund

You are invited to make a donation toward an Easter Lily or flowering plant in recognition of a loved one. The names of these individuals will be on a display board at the Easter Masses.

A suggested donation of $10 should be sent in with the attached order form, or you may fill out an order envelope in the church office. Orders must be received by Monday, March 30.
Stations of the Cross

Stations of the Cross will be held each Friday of Lent at 7:30 p.m. in the Church. Prayer, response, song, movement, and art will be used to help us reflect on Jesus' greatest act of love for us. Having a simple meal (observing Friday as a day of fasting) and attending this service yourself or with family/friends can be a wonderful Lenten practice.

Holy Week Taize

St. Thomas will have Holy Week Taizé Prayer on Monday, March 30 at 7:30 p.m. in the Lighthouse. Taizé prayer, a style of prayer used by the ecumenical religious community from Taizé, France, is characterized by a calming, meditative atmosphere, simple sung refrains, scripture readings, ritual action, and vocal and silent prayer. Come center your heart to prepare to celebrate the Holy Week Liturgies.

Anne Meuser Dedication

Please join us this weekend in the Lighthouse immediately following the 9:30 mass for a brief dedication celebration naming the room in honor of our founding Director of Music and Liturgy, Anne Meuser.

A Prayer for Our Parish

On this day of great rejoicing, Lord Jesus Christ, when we welcome You as our King and Savior, we also walk in the shadow of Your cross.

Hosanna! We cry.
Blessed are You who come in God's name to save us. Hosanna!

Strengthen our faith on this Palm Sunday so that when the time comes to carry the cross we might still call out to You with heartfelt praise.
Give us the grace and the courage to follow You this Holy Week from death to resurrection, from darkness to the fullness of light.

We need You, Lord Jesus Christ, our Savior.
Hosanna!
Amen.

Holy Week Schedule

Monday, March 30
7:30 p.m. - Taizé Prayer with RCIA presentation of the Lord’s Prayer

Holy Thursday, April 2
7:30 p.m. - Evening Mass of the Lord’s Supper with Foot Washing and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until Midnight. Bring bread and wine to be blessed and gifted to another family.

Good Friday, April 3
3:00 p.m. - Stations of the Cross. Includes dramatization, music, prayer, reflections and Veneration of the Cross
7:30 p.m. - Celebration of the Lord’s Passion. The liturgy of Good Friday with a dramatic retelling of the passion, veneration of the cross and Communion

Holy Saturday, April 4
12:00 p.m. - Blessing of Easter Foods
7:30 p.m. - Easter Vigil. This is the pinnacle liturgy of the entire year with Baptism, Confirmation, and First Eucharist for the Elect. Bring bells to ring and take home Easter water.

Easter Sunday, April 5
Masses at 7:30, 9:30, 11:30 a.m. in the Church, as well as 9:30 and 11:30 a.m. in the Gym.

Presider’s Schedule April 4/5

Schedule is subject to change. Changes are posted to the St. Thomas website www.stapostle.org
7:30pm - Fr. Don McLaughlin, Presider and Fr. Dof Arty, Concelebrant
7:30am (Church) - Fr. Don McLaughlin
7:30am (Church) - Fr. Bob Colaresi, Deacon Patrick Lennon
9:30am (Gym) - Fr. M att Lorenz
11:30am (Church) - Fr. Dof Arty
11:30am (Gym) - Fr. Bob Colaresi
Pray for Our Parish:

For the sick...
Jim McGrath, husband of Dorothy
Maureen & Paul Milano, daughter and son-in-law of Carol & John Corrigan
Andrew Kryczka, son of Claire & John
Rebecca Bolger, aunt of Bridie Strowe
Palesa Mutle, friend of Trisha Makau
Denny Miller, husband of Sharron

For the deceased...
Chris Ryder, son of Mike and Nonie Ryder
Harold Throckmorton, father of Angie Tuttle

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 Airman Jacob Brancaleon
Major Eric H. Dolan

U.S. Army
Cpt. Lynnea Jensen
Cpt. Alanna Casey
PFC Sean Wesley
Army Ranger Medic Jeremy See
Cpt. Matthew Haselhorst
Lt. Joseph Zito
1st Lt. Chris Turley
Spc. Zachary Howell
Cpt. Mike Reilly
Staff Sgt. Jeffrey Crones

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

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

Naval Reserve
CDR Lance Klosterman, M.D.

U.S. Coast Guard

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

Welcome New Parishioners...
Emily Hanson
The Huerta-Hernandez Family
The MacDuff Family
The Conrad Family
The Clay Family
The Eric Ball Family
The Abraham Family

Liturgy Schedule & Mass Intentions

(Palm Sunday)

Monday, March 30, 2015
(Monday of Holy Week)
6:30am Communion Service
8:30am †Will Worden, by Family
†Fr. Don Kenny, by Eugene & Jeannette Kenny
†Jenni Anderson, by Mom & Dad

Tuesday, March 31, 2015
(Tuesday of Holy Week)
6:30am Communion Service
8:30am †Christopher Ryder, by Jan & Ed Olah

Wednesday, April 1, 2015
(Wednesday of Holy Week)
6:30am Communion Service
8:30am †Bess Patterman, by The McManus Family

Sunday, March 5, 2015
(Easter Sunday)
7:30am †Jerzy Luzeniecki, by Rich Murawski
Church †Willie Johnson, by Lisa & Larry Hjorth
9:30am †Stanley Wozniak, by Helen & Tim
Church Swanson
9:30am †Bess Patterman, by Lori Culberson &
Auditorium Patti Dougherty
11:30am †Greg Disparate, by Jo-Ann Disparate
Church †MaryLou & Ciro Pinto, by Albert Pinto &
Auditorium Family
11:30am For the People of St. Thomas
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.

April 4 - Mark 16:1-7
He is risen! Let us rejoice and be glad! Mary Magdalene, the mother of James, and Salome go to the tomb to anoint the dead body of Jesus. The stone had been moved. Imagine their amazement when they encounter an angel who tells them that Jesus has been raised. He is alive! This Easter, may the Risen Jesus be present to you, enriching and in-spiriting your life. Go out and spread the Good News!

An Evening with St. Therese, the Little Flower
Sophia’s Circle invites all women to spend the evening of April 17, from 6:30-9pm, with St. Therese of Lisieux, as portrayed by Marcia Whitney-Schenck, who has a master’s degree in art history from the University of Chicago and has developed a multi-faceted portrayal of the beloved saint. Come and hear Therese’s story in her own words with photographs from her early life and her religious life. Hear from Therese’s eldest sister, Mother Agnes. Experience a reader’s theatre on Therese’s last days through the eyes of her sister, Celine.

The life of St. Therese of Lisieux and her short autobiography has inspired people throughout the world. Be inspired. Be a part of this special evening.

To register, email your name and phone number to Marge Coronado at mcoronado@stapostle.org or phone her at 630.355.8980 x138. If you are registering friends (please do!), please include their names and contact info. A $10 fee is payable at the door.

Soul Searchers Meet April 11
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 34-36.

The next meeting of Soul Searchers is April 11 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.

Confirmation for Adults
If you are a practicing Catholic over the age of 18 who has not yet been confirmed, this is your opportunity to complete your sacramental initiation and re-commit yourself to your faith. Preparatory sessions will be held from 12:30-1:45pm in the Galilee Room on Sundays from April 12-May 3. On Saturday, May 9, a retreat will be held after the 4:30pm Mass until 8:30pm (dinner included). Confirmation will be conferred by the bishop in the Cathedral of St. Raymond in Joliet at 2pm on Sunday, May 17.

To take part in this process, please contact Chari Rosales in the Adult Faith Formation Office at crosales@stapostle.org or 630.355.8980 x138.
**Parenting Seminars**

“360 Youth Services” offers parenting seminars that will equip parents with practical, everyday tools to use with their children. Attendance is free but RSVP’s are requested. “360 Youth Services” is located at 1935 Brookdale Rd, Suite 119. Space is limited. Contact Anggie Michalak for more information or to RSVP at 630.717.9408 ext. 1139 or at amichalak@360youthservices.org.

The following session is offered 9:30 – 11:00 a.m.: Saturday, April 18 - Effective Discipline Strategies for Your School Aged Child.”

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**AFF Becoming Catholic**

Seven people have spent the last several months praying, studying and reflecting on their desire to become fully initiated members of the Catholic Church. They are Kelsie Bennington, Danielle Deck, Robert Fairless, Michael Garcia, Karen Kimble, Elizabeth Robertson, and Brandon Wilson. Please keep them in prayer as they await Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist at the Easter Vigil on April 4. At Masses on March 8, 15, and 22, they participated in the Rites of Scrutiny, looking into their hearts for signs of God’s presence, acknowledging their need of God and asking this community for blessings and prayerful support.

If you, or someone you know, is interested in exploring the possibility of becoming Catholic, please get in touch with Chari Rosales in the Adult Faith Formation Office at crosales@stapostle.org or 630.355.8980 x138. All are welcome at any time.

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**Reporting Sexual Abuse**

Anyone who has reasonable cause to suspect the sexual abuse of a minor by a member of the clergy or other Church personnel is urged to report the matter immediately. To inform the Diocese of Joliet, call Sr. Mary Frances Seeley, OSF (Victim Assistance Coordinator) at (815) 221-6118 or write the Diocese of Joliet, Blanchette Catholic Center, 16555 Weber Rd, Crest Hill, IL 60403. AIso contact DCFS (Department of Children and Family Services) at 1-800-252-2873 or call the office of the local County States Attorney.

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**2015 Pilgrimages led by Fr. Bob**

**Carmelite & Colonial Spain: April 12-24, 2015, Celebrating the 500th Anniversary of the Birth of St. Teresa of Avila** - includes Madrid, Toledo, Granada, Cordoba, Seville, Segovia, Salamanca, Avila, Alba de Tormes, and Fontiveros.

**France, July 12 - 21, 2015:** includes Lourdes, Lisieux, Alençon, Normandy Beaches, and Paris, following the life & spirituality of St. Thérèse of Lisieux

**Holy Land - November 1 - 12, 2015:** The faith experience of a lifetime. Includes Jerusalem, on the Mount of Olives, Gethsemane, Way of the Cross, Western Wall, Bethlehem, Ein Karem, Zion Hill, Judean Desert, the Dead Sea, Massada, Qumran, Emmaus, Jaffa, Caesarea, Mount Carmel, the Galilee, Nazareth, Cana, Capernaum, Mt. of Beatitudes, Sea of Galilee, Tabgha, River Jordan, Mt. Tabor, Beith Shean, and so much more.

A flyer with more information is displayed by the parish main office. For more information and brochure, please contact Darlene, Carmelite Spiritual Center, 630-969-4141 or retreats@carmelitespiritualcenter.org
Faith and Formation Commission—Youth

Authentic Life for 20s & 30s

Young Adults

The Lenten series for young adults is underway, but it’s not too late! If you are young adult 21 and over and are seeking spiritual nourishment and a community to share your journey and struggles with, then this is a perfect opportunity for YOU!

Authentic Life meets every Wednesday from 6:30-8:30pm from this week, through April 8th. Format includes a dinner, followed by small group discussion of the upcoming Sunday’s Gospel story and other reflection materials. Cost is free, but free-will offerings are much appreciated. Suggested donation amount for participation is $5 per session, but any amount is welcome. Child care is available for those needing it, with advanced notice. This week’s session will be held at a group member’s home and include dinner and discussion from 6:30-7:45pm followed by serving at Feed My Starving Children from 8:00 – 9:30pm. To sign-up for the series and to be on the contact list, or to serve at FMSC simply e-mail or call Brett (badams@stapostle.org; 630-731-7721).

High School LIFE Retreat Weekend Wrap Up

Thanks to all who offered prayers and support for this weekend’s high school LIFE Retreat weekend! Our theme was, “He Carries Your Cross”. It was a profound weekend full of faith, fellowship, and transformation. If you’re a high school sophomore and above or an adult who would like to get involved in this powerful ministry, contact Brett in the Youth Ministry Office, (badams@stapostle.org; 630-731-7721).

Families: Take some time to discuss and reflect on the readings.

Question of the Week...

How do you prepare for Easter?

Living Stations

You are invited... to the moving and prayerful experience of Living Stations. Middle school students will reenact the Stations of the Cross on Good Friday, April 3, at 3 pm. Join the St. Thomas faith community for this special time of prayer, reflection, song, and adoration of the cross.

Meet an Amazing Young Person...Hannah Micheau

Hannah has grown up as an active member of St. Thomas. Over the years, she has been a member of the LIFE retreat team and the Teens with Character Core Team, served as a Eucharistic minister, Scripture Safari helper, and alter server, volunteered at PADS and as a Liturgy of the Word teacher, participated in and coordinated Sleep Out Saturday, and she has participated in mission trips. Hannah is now a busy high school student involved in Key Club and dance. She still finds time to volunteer as a Liturgy of the Word teacher, LIFE retreat team member, and she makes mission work an important part of her life.

Hannah is living her faith in many ways. Participating in LIFE retreat planning gives her a chance to help others in their faith formation process. She makes service to others a regular part of her life by her participation in PADS, Liturgy of the Word, and Sleep Out Saturday.

Young Adult Bible Study

A small group of young professionals in their 20s have started a young adult Bible study which meets monthly. If you’re interested in finding out more e-mail or call Brett (badams@stapostle.org; 630-731-7721).
Middle School Religious Education

THANK YOU

We arrive at the end of another middle school religious education year. Middle school religious education at St. Thomas happens because of a dedicated group of catechists and volunteers.

These volunteers include our catechists: Steve Purduski, Carrie Wujek, Leanne M eyer-Smith, John Kennedy, Eva Thurman-K eup, Christine Ramirez, Maureen Overman, Michelle Krzmarzick, Mary Szczap, Joanna M cK ee, Lynne Nolan, Darlene Dionne-K arales, Christina Coronado, Josh M cCor-mack, Lorraine K atz, Christine Cast, and Jo rgette M on-tilla. There are also several catechist aides, administrative helpers, hall monitors, and substitute catechists who help to make each class session run smoothly.

These volunteers are: Tami Wagener, Janet Foy, Patty Laughlin, Amy Duran, Sheleigh Bishop, Karen Curran, Trish A., Tim M ichael, John Davis, Cindy Newendyke, Chris Baker, Pat Caruso, and Lucy Drew. Thanks to all of these volunteers for sharing the gifts of their time and talent with St. Thomas middle school students.

Liturgy of the Word with Children

Important Dates

On Easter Sunday, children will not have their own special Liturgy of the Word. It will resume on the following Sunday, April 5 at the 9:30 and 11:15 a.m. masses. Please note that there are only two more Sundays: April 12 and 19 for Liturgy of the Word with Children as the following weekends are devoted to First Eucharist and Mother’s Day.

On April 12 we will include 4th and 5th graders in our Liturgy of the Word with Children. They will meet in the Youth Center (the Cabin), next to the 3rd grade room.

High School Summer Missions Leaders Needed

Dedicated and passionate adult leaders are needed to accompany teens on their service mission trips this summer. Exact trips will be determined based on the availability of adult leaders, so if this is something that speaks to your heart, contact Brett in the Youth Ministry Office (badams@stapostle.org; 630-731-7721) as soon as possible! The only prerequisites are an open heart to serve God and a love and care towards teenagers. The following trips are being considered:

- Young Neighbors in Action – 7 day, overnight – June 21-27 – Omaha, Green Bay, or Cleveland
- Young Neighbors in Action – 7 day, overnight – July 5-11 – Omaha or Chicago
- Young Neighbors in Action – 7 day, overnight – July 12-18 – Chicago or Washington D.C.
- Summer Witness in Mission – 6 day, overnight – July 20-26 – Local Chicago suburbs
- International Experience – 8-9 day, overnight – July 28-Aug. 4* (tentative) – Haiti or Nicaragua

Serving in the Name of St. Thomas

The St. Thomas Just5Days middle school mission trip team is looking forward to their week of service in St. Joseph, Michigan which will take place from July 6-10. Please keep this trip in your prayers... pray that their experience will be marked by joy and hope, that their service to those in need will be fruitful, and that they will grow in knowledge and faith through the experience. The team’s youth members include Abbey Borden, Jack Cook, Sophia Cook, Arianna Fritz, Kelly Harrington, Hope Nagai, Emily Nagy, Luisa Posada, Camryn Rodriguez, and Sara Swanson.

Camp Rock 2015

WHAT: Camp Rock is a 4-day, 3-night camp for middle school students sponsored by the Joliet and Rockford dioceses.

WHEN: June 11-14 & Aug. 6-9

WHO: Any student currently in grades 6, 7, or 8

WHERE: Dickson Valley Camp, Newark, IL (near Plano, IL)

COST: $300.00 (including $80 non-refundable deposit)

REGISTRATION: Go to www.camprock.me and click on the Camp Rock logo and you will be directed to the main page with a link to the registration forms. There is a $25 discount for registering by April 1.

QUESTIONS: Contact John Lamperis at john@camprock.me

ACTIVITIES: swimming, canoeing, prayer, archery, Bible study, campfire, indoor gym and climbing wall, mass, hiking, sports, music, skills, crafts
Doctor in Duchity

Dr. Ricardo began working at the Bon Samaritan Clinic in our Haiti Twinning community last November. He received his medical degree in 2013 and completed his Haitian social service year in 2014. He is treating patients, proactively educating the community on preventive practices, and taking a mobile clinic to the outlying chapels some distance from the clinic.

Catholic Vocabulary Test

JONAH: The original ‘Jaws’ story.

PFLAG

PFLAG is primarily a support group for parents, families, and friends of lesbians and gays. The monthly confidential meetings offer a non-judgmental outlet for feelings. There is factual education about sexual orientation through guest speakers, documentaries, literature, and open discussions.

PFLAG Aurora/Fox Valley

Meetings the SECOND Sunday at 2 pm
New England Congregational Church, 406 W. Galena Blvd, Aurora
pflagaurorafoxvalley@pflagillinois.com, 630.415.0622

PFLAG DuPage

Meetings held the THIRD Sunday at 2 pm
St. Paul Lutheran Church, 515 S. Wheaton Ave., Wheaton, pflagdupage@yahoo.com, www/pflagdupage.org, 630.415.0622

For more information, feel free to contact the St. Thomas Pastoral Care Office or OSJ Office (confidentiality assured).
**Divided Families-Responding with Faith**

*A story about a wife, a husband, and a 600 mile fence*

Come for Pizza and Discussion about this hour-long documentary which explores the impact of current US immigration policies on Amy and Carlos, a young family from West Chicago, IL. Because Carlos was brought to the US illegally from Mexico as a child, they encounter severe penalties and barriers as they attempt to gain his resident status. Like thousands of families in this situation, they want to do the right thing, but there seems to be no path to follow.

Watch the story of their decade-long struggle, and learn how faith organizations across Chicago are working to keep families like theirs together. Archbishop Jose H. Gomez, chairman of the USCCB Committee on Migration has stated: “The status quo of our current system causes much suffering among immigrants and their families and must end”.

Please RSVP by Wednesday, April 15 to Anne Schultz at St. Thomas-630.355.8980, x113 or aschultz@stapostle.org.

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**Save these two dates!**

**30th Anniversary Parish Dinner Dance**
Saturday, June 6, 2015 at Bobak’s Signature Room
- 6 p.m. – 7 p.m. Appetizers and Cash bar
- 7 p.m. – 11 p.m. Dinner and Dancing (Cash Bar)
- Tickets on sale soon!

**30th Anniversary Closing Mass and Reception**
Sunday, June 7, 2015
- 11:15 a.m. Mass, Reception to follow
- Sign up in May to bring food to our reception.

Want to sponsor our Dinner Dance and bring down our costs? Forms are available in the Main Office.

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**Waterleaf Volunteer Opportunities**

Have you thought about volunteering but haven’t found your niche? Waterleaf, a local crisis pregnancy center, is in need of some dedicated volunteers.

Client Advocate: Client Advocates are the first “face” of Waterleaf to clients and critical to the success of the Waterleaf mission. They provide support and care to the clients in addition to personal and consistent follow-up. Available times: Monday 8:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. and Saturday 8:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

Teen Advisory Board (TAB): TAB members are comprised of enthusiastic girls AND guys from various area high schools. They keep Waterleaf in touch with the “pulse” of our primary demographic for marketing and outreach as well as fundraising efforts. Meets Monthly. If you or somebody you know is interested in either of these positions, please download an application at waterleafwc.org or call Sheryl Finn at 630.701.6270.

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**Care Pantry Easter Ham Collection This Weekend**

Hams will be collected for the St. Thomas Care Pantry this weekend (March 28/29) after all the Masses, including the Sunday 6:00 p.m. Mass.

As always, the hams that are collected will be shared with both St. Nicholas Parish and the Marie Wilkinson Pantry (where they are further distributed to other Aurora pantries).

This year’s goal is 800 hams. (Last year 732 hams were collected.) Please help if you are able. If you are in need of an Easter ham and/or food, please contact Anne in the Outreach and Social Justice Office-630.355.8980, x113.
Carrying our Mission to the Community - Sacrament of the Sick

During the Daytime hours of St. Thomas the Apostle “I am St. Thomas” Mission, Fr. Don and the Pastoral Care Staff and some ministers of care were able to individually visit the Catholic residents in our area nursing homes and assisted living facilities.

Each Catholic resident was blessed, anointed, received Eucharist and was gifted with a prayer square.

A big thank you goes out to all Ministers of Care and Prayer Shawl Ministers for making these three days such an extraordinary spiritual experience for the residents and parishioners of St. Thomas at Meadowbrook, Tabor Hills Independent Living, Tabor Hills Health Care, and Silverado.

A special thank you to the administrative staff at the above mentioned facilities.

We would also like to thank the Ministers of Care to the Seriously Ill, the Health Ministry Nurses, the Prayer Network, the Rosary Ministers and Wellspring Committee for their love and devotion to the St. Thomas the apostle Faith Community.

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.

A.E.D. LOCATIONS
- Automatic External Defibrillator
  1. Gathering Area
  2. Church
  3. Lighthouse Entrance Wall
  4. Rectory Basement

CLUTTER Ain’t CHRISTIAN...
STUFF Ain’t SAINTLY...
Live Abundantly, Without Attachment (or... How to Tidy the Home)

Join Deacon Joe Ferrari, PhD., and Sue Becker on Tues., April 21, from 7:30-9:30pm, as they explore a Christian perspective on how to live with abundance, but not attachment. Using the “Rich Young Man” and Catholic tradition, reflect on how to let go, to let God be the only source to hold onto. Then, learn practical ways to organize your life and your ‘stuff.’ Detach and de-clutter with humor and inspiration!

Joseph Ferrari, PhD., is a Professor of Psychology and “St. Vincent DePaul Distinguished Professor” at DePaul University, Chicago. Ordained in 2013 as a Permanent Deacon, he serves St. Margaret Mary Parish in Naperville. A productivity consultant, author and speaker, Sue Becker is a Certified Professional Organizer.

RSVPs are needed by April 17. To register, contact Marge Coronado at mcoronado@stapostle.org or 630.355.8980. A $10 donation is requested at the door. Presented by Wellspring, a ministry of Pastoral Care and Adult Faith Formation.
Today’s Readings

Gospel at the Procession with Palms — Jesus’ entry into Jerusalem (Mark 11:1-10 or John 12:12-16).
First Reading — In spite of my sufferings I am not disgraced. I am not put to shame (Isaiah 50:4-7).
Psalm — My God, my God, why have you abandoned me? (Psalm 22).
Second Reading — Christ emptied himself, and God filled this emptiness with exaltation (Philippians 2:6-11).
Gospel — The account of Christ’s passion according to Mark (Mark 14:1 — 15:47 [15:1-39]).

Pray Like a Man!
Saturday April 11

Yes, indeed, Men do pray. Oh, it may not be on their knees, or with folded hands, but the fruits of their prayer are clearly visible. Effective prayer leads to action - and men are all about action.

Matt Pozen will be our presenter, and will lead us through those traditionally masculine roles that lay men fill every day. We will become aware of the ways that God speaks unceasingly to all men, even if unwittingly. It will become clear that we are doing God’s work, and it is our prayer.

Schedule:
8:30 Morning Mass for those who wish to attend
9:15 Breakfast is Served
10:00 Presentation
11:00 Conclusion

Quarterly Summary of Sunday Giving

In April you’ll receive a summary of your Sunday donations between January 1 and March 31, 2015. If you completed a commitment card during our “I Am St. Thomas” campaign last September, the giving update will provide information on your progress toward your giving goal. Please help us to continue to build the faith community of St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic Church through your generous support of the Sunday collection. We can’t do it without you!

Readings for the Week

Tuesday: Is 49:1-6; Ps 71:1-6, 15, 17; Jn 13:21-33, 36-38
Wednesday: Is 50:4-9a; Ps 69:8-10, 21-22, 31, 33-34; Mt 26:14-25
Thursday: Chrism Mass: Is 61:1-3a, 6a, 8b-9; Ps 89:21-22, 25, 27; Rev 1:5-8; Lk 4:16-21
Lord’s Supper: Ex 12:1-8, 11-14; Ps 116:12-13, 15-16bc, 17-18; 1 Cor 11:23-26; Jn 13:1-15
Friday: Is 52:13 — 53:12; Ps 31:2, 6, 12-13, 15-17, 25; Heb 4:14-16; 5:7-9; Jn 18:1 — 19:42
Saturday: a) Gn 1:1 — 2:2 [1:1, 26-31a]; Ps 104:1-2, 5-6, 10, 12, 13-14, 24, 35; or Ps 33:4-7, 12-13, 20-22; b) Gn 22:1-18 [1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18]; Ps 16: 5, 8-11; c) Ex 14:15 — 15:1; Ex 15:1-6, 17-18; d) Is 54:5-14, Ps 30:2-4, 6-6, 11-13; e) Is 55:1-11; Is 12:2-6; f) Bar 3:9-15, 32 — 4:4; Ps 19:8-11; g) Ez 36:16-17a, 18-28; Ps 42:3, 5; 43:3-4 or Is 12:2-3, 4b-5 or Ps 51:12-15, 18-19; h) Rom 6:3-11; i) Ps 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23; M k 16:1-7
Sunday: Acts 10:34a, 37-43; Ps 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23; Col 3:1-4 or 1 Cor 5:6b-8; Jn 20:1-9 or Mk 16:1-7 or (at an afternoon or evening Mass) Lk 24:13-35
On March 14, 2015, just under 400 guests including school parents past and present, staff and administration, clergy that included Bishops Siegel and Imesch, school board and trustee members, dignitaries and friends of All Saints gathered together to celebrate and toast the 10th Anniversary of All Saints Catholic Academy at our 10 Year Anniversary Benefit and Dinner Dance Auction.

We were extremely excited for this opportunity to come together as a school community to enjoy and appreciate each other, and to acknowledge how meaningful All Saints has been and will continue to be to us and to our children! From the school’s humble beginnings with 288 students in 2005, the school has almost doubled in size, a positive and encouraging sign of the value that a Catholic faith based education holds in the Naperville/Aurora area.

This could not have been accomplished without the generous financial and prayerful support from our sponsoring parishes - St. Margaret Mary, St. Elizabeth Seton, and St. Thomas the Apostle.

There have been 229 students who have graduated from All Saints Catholic Academy since 2009. When the current Class of 2015 graduates this coming May, the number of All Saints graduates will surpass 300 students in total. Today, more than ever, the world needs ethical, Christian, loving, caring and faith filled teachers, doctors, lawyers, business people, journalists, police officers - our future adults who will be in charge. Through Catholic schools, we can accomplish this.

Here is a small glimpse into ‘Where are they now?’ This is just a few students from ASCA’s first graduating Class of 2009 who are now college sophomores:

Hanah Casey Hanah (ASCA Class of 2009) attends Indiana University where she is a Secondary Education - English major with a minor in Spanish.

Patrick Hawley Patrick (ASCA Class of 2009) attends the University of Dayton where he is a Finance major.

Elizabeth Weinewuth Elizabeth (ASCA Class of 2009) attends the University of Dayton where she is an Entrepreneurship and Marketing major with a minor in Spanish. She is also a cheerleader for the Dayton Flyers.

Patrick Short Patrick (ASCA Class of 2009) attends Loras College, where he is a Criminal Justice and Psychology major.

Find out more about All Saints Catholic Academy by visiting our website at www.ascacademy.org, or calling (630) 961-6125.