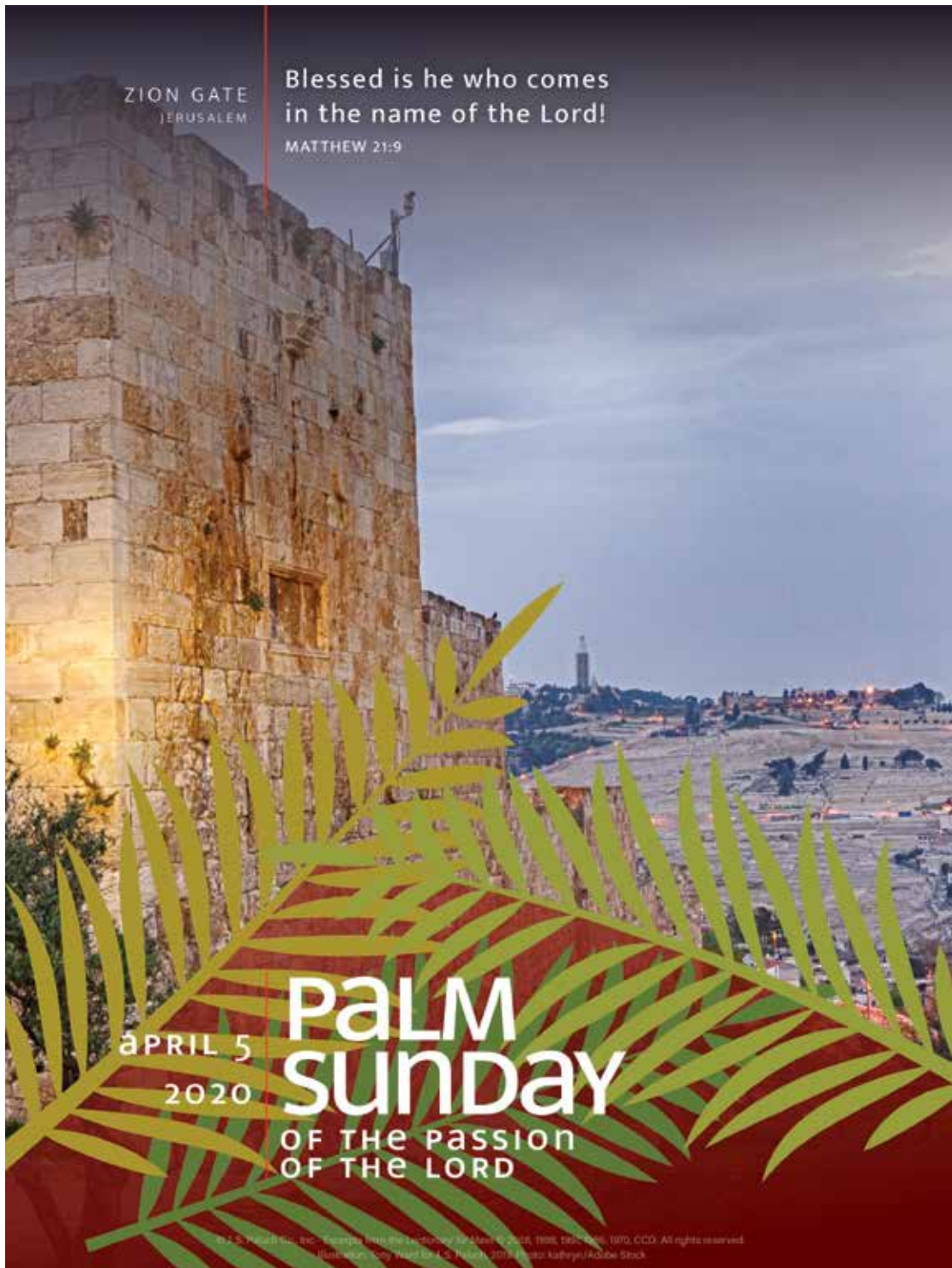


St. Thomas

APRIL 5, 2020 — PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD



St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic Church

1500 Brookdale Road, Naperville, IL 60563 | 630.355.8980 (Main Office) | 630.305.6318 (Religious Education) | 630.355.0521 (Fax)

Office Hours: 8:30 am to 8:30 pm, Monday–Thursday; 8:30 am to 4:30 pm, Friday

email to mainoffice@stapostle.org or visit us at www.stapostle.org

Roman Catholic Diocese of Joliet-in-Illinois • Most Rev. R. Daniel Conlon, Bishop • Most. Rev. Richard E. Pates, Apostolic Administrator

Parish Staff

Priests in Residence

Rev. Philip Danaher, *Pastor*, x102, pdanaher@stapostle.org

Rev. Joseph Kappilumakkal, CMI, *Parochial Vicar*, x103, jkapp@stapostle.org

Priests Assisting on Weekends

Rev. Bob Colaresi, O. Carm., *Weekend Associate*, robco@robco.org

Rev. Matt Lorenz, *Senior Vicar*, Archdiocese of Chicago

Permanent Deacons

Michael (Kathryn) Barrett — 630.355.8980, x145, meabarrett@att.net

Jim (Mary Jo) Breen — 630.486.3133, jimb4853@gmail.com

Joe (Carolyn) Cuzzone — 630.355.8980, x224, DeaconJoeCuzzone@gmail.com

Larry (Susan) Kearney — 630.355.8980, x225, lrkearney@comcast.net

Chuck (Sue) Lane — 630.355.8980, x223, chuck.lane2@icloud.com

Patrick (Mary Jo) Lennon — 630.901.3223, presence.now@gmail.com

Liturgy and Music

Jim Clauer, *Director of Liturgy and Music*, x111, jclauer@stapostle.org

Samantha Delke, *Associate Director of Liturgy and Music*, x120, sdelke@stapostle.org

Faith Formation

Melissa Santos, *Principal at All Saints Catholic Academy*, 630.961.6125

Patti Dougherty, *Director of Religious Education*, x109, pdougherty@stapostle.org

Peggy Goralski, *Director of Middle School Faith Formation*, x123, pgoralski@stapostle.org

Dorothy Grantham, *Director of Youth/Young Adult Ministry*, x117, dgrantham@stapostle.org

Chari Rosales, *Director of Adult Education and RCIA*, x138, croales@stapostle.org

Marge Coronado, *Religious Education Assistant*, x118, mcoronado@stapostle.org

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Sally Meno, *OSJ Associate*, x137, smeno@stapostle.org

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Elizabeth Fisher,* *Evening/Saturday Receptionist*

Mary Wright,* *Evening/Saturday Receptionist*

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Marilyn DeMeo,* *Database Coordinator (T/Th)*, x107, mdemeo@stapostle.org

Bob Hartmann,* *Facility Manager*, x133, facility@stapostle.org

Parish Pastoral Council

Barbara Mambu, *Chair*

Alison Ohl

Todd Galer

Anne Scanlan

David Johanneson

Commission Representatives

Linda Bailey, *Service*

Deb Scheckel, *Parish Life*

Jeff Balsewicz, *Worship*

Susan Wood O'Leary, *Stewardship*

Mary Beth Nagai, *Faith Formation*

Ex-Officio

Fr. Philip Danaher, *Pastor*

Rev. Joseph Kappilumakkal, *Parochial Vicar*

*indicates part-time staff

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Reconciliation is available Saturday, 3:30 to 4:15 pm, 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 two to three Sundays each month at a 12:45 pm service. On selected dates, baptisms are celebrated during weekend Mass. Parents are required to attend a Baptismal awareness and renewal session prior to the Baptism. Call Kathy Ferguson in 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 at least three months before setting a date. Call Diane McQueen to schedule.

Religious Education: Call 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: Contact Jan Olah, Pastoral Care 630.355.8980, x124.

Sunday Nursery: Nursery care is available for your child age one (walking) to four at the 9:30 and 11:15 am Masses. For more information call the church office.

Our Outreach Twinning Parishes:

St. Thomas the Apostle has an ongoing twinning relationship with the following parishes:

St. Marie Madeleine in Duchity, Haiti

St. Agnes on the Lakota Indian Reservation, Manderson, South Dakota

St. Nicholas in Aurora, Illinois

Our Parish School:

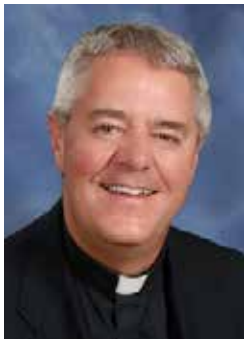
All Saints Catholic Academy

1155 Aurora Ave

Naperville, IL 60540

630.961.6125

in the word



with
fr danaher

Dear Parish Family,

Whenever the names of the Twelve are listed in the gospels, “the one who turned traitor” always follows the name of Judas Iscariot.

Maybe one of the great unanswered questions in history is why did Judas betray Jesus. Did Judas feel betrayed by Jesus’

triumphant entry into Jerusalem which we remember today; that Jesus was really out for political power? Did Judas think that Jesus would show His divine power when confronted by the Jewish and Roman leaders?

No matter what his reasons were, Judas added to the tragic events surrounding Jesus’ death by taking his own life. Like the other disciples, Judas had heard Jesus describe God’s never-ending mercy. Unlike the others, Judas did not give the risen Jesus a chance to show God’s never-ending mercy.

Like the followers of Jesus, we too mourn Jesus’ death. But we do not despair as Judas did. Instead we follow the example of the eleven disciples and wait for the risen Lord to show us God’s faithfulness and love.

During these times of pain and uncertainty, I want to close with this prayer, adapted from the Liturgy of the Anointing of the Sick.

“Lord our God, please grant us comfort during this time of sickness and sorrow. When we are afraid, give us courage. When we are afflicted, give us patience and strength. When we are dejected, share with us your hope. When we are alone, assure us of the loving and caring support of your loving, caring and holy people. Amen.”

In the Word,

Fr. Danaher



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Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

April 5, 2020

God greatly exalted [Christ] and bestowed on him the name which is above every name.

— *Philippians 2:9*

Liturgy Schedule

Cancelled until further notice

Daily

(Monday–Friday)

Communion Service: 6:30 am

Rosary: 8:10 am

Mass: 8:30 am

Divine Mercy Chaplet: 9:00 am

(Saturday)

Rosary: 8:10 am

Mass: 8:30 am

Divine Mercy Chaplet: 9:00 am

Weekend

Saturday Mass of Anticipation: 4:30 pm

Sunday: 8:00, 9:30, and 11:15 am, 6:00 pm

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament every First Friday

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. Join us!

Would you like to become a parishioner?

Call Kathy Ferguson in the General Office at 630.355.8980, x100



This year marks the 35th Anniversary of St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic Church. Throughout this commemorative year, we as a parish family will explore the CHERISHED, CHARGED, CHALLENGED theme through liturgy, service and study.

Worship Commission — Liturgy and Music

Reflection on the Readings

When our lives imitate the pattern of Christ's life — when we offer ourselves in humility and in sacrifice for the sake of others — we are truly proclaiming that Christ is Lord.

Readings for Today

Gospel at the Procession with Palms — Jesus' entry into Jerusalem (Matthew 21:1-11).

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 Matthew (Matthew 26:14 — 27:66 [27:11-54]).

The English translation of the Psalm Responses from Lectionary for Mass © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.

Readings for the Week

- Monday:** Is 42:1-7; Ps 27:1-3, 13-14; Jn 12:1-11
- 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; Rv 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, 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, 4bcd, 5-6 or Ps 51:12-15, 18-19;
h) Rom 6:3-11; i) Ps 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23;
Mt 28:1-10
- 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 Mt 28:1-10 or (at an afternoon or evening Mass)
Lk 24:13-35

Liturgy Schedule and Mass Intentions

Due to the cancellation of all Masses, the intentions below will be honored during the Mass that is being celebrated and recorded for our parishioners this weekend. The Mass will be made available on the St. Thomas website.

Monday, April 6, 2020

8:30 am For the People of St. Thomas

Tuesday, April 7, 2020

8:30 am For Health and Safety to All

Wednesday, April 8, 2020

8:30 am †Vincent and Shirley Shepard, by Mely and Buddy Mallorca

Thursday, April 9, 2020

Holy Thursday

Friday, April 10, 2020

Good Friday

Saturday, April 11, 2020

Holy Saturday

Sunday, April 12, 2020

Easter Sunday

7:30 am †Bradley Powell, by Elijah Powell Family

9:30 am †Johnathan Weiger, by Parents

†Jose Maria Lopez, by Jesus Lopez and Family

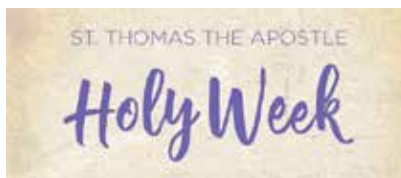
†Andrew Kovach, by Jerry and Mary Kovach

11:30 am †Philip Reddy, by Kristen and Steve Schneider and John and Kristin Boytim

†Danuta Chihocka, by Agata Chalupka and Family and Mariola Shelemej and Family

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.



Social Justice Stations of the Cross

Resource for Good Friday — Stations or the Cross at Home

Stations of the Cross on Good Friday will not be happening this year at St. Thomas. We are providing you with the option of following in the steps of Jesus from home this Good Friday. The “Way of the Cross: Toward Justice and Peace” stations are truly unique and powerful. To experience these stations, go to www.stapostle.org and type “Stations” in the search window.

Through the Stations of the Cross, we spiritually follow in the footsteps of Jesus. He suffered for the sins of the world. Today, Christ’s suffering continues through the cries of the thousands of men, women and children who are abandoned and abused, ill and without homes ... especially in this time of the virus. God enacts the ultimate preferential option with the poor through this experience of the cross.

Throughout history, women and men have followed the path of Jesus. Many died young; some after years of being witnesses of God’s love. The “Way of the Cross: Toward Justice and Peace” follows the final journey of Jesus and highlights 14 of those who walked in his footsteps. These saintly people, from many walks of life, reveal to us that the power of faith can overcome death and lead us to resurrection. Below are two of the 14 remarkable people.

Thomas More

Thomas More, Lord Chancellor of England under King Henry VIII, was one of the outstanding lay people of his time. In 1534 he was imprisoned in the Tower of London because he refused to give absolute allegiance to the king, giving his absolute allegiance to Christ instead. Thomas was tried, convicted of treason, and beheaded after fifteen months in prison. His letters from prison reflect his view that a believing Christian must be an active Christian.



“O Lord, give us the grace to read or hear the Gospel of your bitter passion not with our eyes or our ears in the manner of a past time, but that it may so sink into our hearts that it stretches to the everlasting profit of our souls ... Though faith is the first gate into heaven, the person who stands at the gate and does not step forward in the way of good works will not enter into where the reward is.”

Joan of Arc

Joan of Arc, the patroness of France, was an illiterate peasant teenager who led French troops against English forces in 1430. She was taken prisoner and held in jail for about a year. Joan was tried as a heretic, sentenced to death, excommunicated and at the age of nineteen, she was burned at the stake. At her trial she defended her faith.



“All my words and deeds are in the hands of God. With regard to them I bow to Him. And I swear to you that I do not want to do anything contrary to the Christian faith, and if I have done or said anything ... I do not want to defend it, but will repudiate it. If I am condemned — and I see the fire, the wood made ready, and the scaffold — and when I am in the fire, I shall not say differently from what I have already said.”

Holy Week at Home

Five Simple Ways to Celebrate Holy Week at Home

Create a simple prayer space in your home and gather there to pray during the week.

Palm Sunday: At your regular Mass time, read the first Palm Sunday Gospel (Mt 21:1–11) and meditate on or discuss what Jesus might be thinking as he enters Jerusalem for the last time.

Holy Thursday: Bake bread for sharing at dinner; make a ritual of stripping the dinner table of all cloths and decorations after dinner.

Good Friday: Pray the Stations of the Cross at 3:00 pm.

Holy Saturday: In the morning, read Psalm 64 and break your Good Friday fast solemnly with a simple meal.

Easter Sunday: Dress up the dinner table again. Include candles and crosses so that the candy baskets aren’t the only festive items present. Sing Alleluia and read the Easter Gospel (Matthew 28:1-10) with solemnity and joy.

Look online for other suggestions for celebrating Holy Week at home, to deepen and enrich your experience at this time of social isolation.

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Faith and Formation Commission — Adult

Jesus clearly lived his life for the benefit of others. He said he came to serve (Mark 10:45). Jesus told people to share what they had (Luke 12:33) and to serve others (Luke 22:26). Jesus said be humble if you want to be exalted (Luke 14:11). So, as his disciples, we are called — **charged** — to do the same. Rather than live in a self-centered manner, we are to gift our time, talent and treasure for the benefit of others.

C.A.R.E. CORNER

Jesus wanted us to see that the gift of self is the greatest gift we can ever give. We have numerous examples of saints throughout the centuries who were model disciples in the sense of serving others and sharing their particular gifts and talents in order to make the world around them a better place. And of course, their inspiration was Jesus. Certainly Jesus' gift of self was the greatest gift we could ever receive. By gifting himself, Jesus changed the world — but only because his message and example lived on.

Faith and Formation Commission — Youth

Pray the Living Stations of the Cross

One of the traditions of the St. Thomas faith community is to pray and experience the Living Stations of the Cross on Good Friday. Even though we won't be able to gather together this year, you can still pray the Stations of the Cross at home, or pray and walk the outdoor Stations at St. Thomas.

The text that is used on Good Friday at the Living Stations prayer service is provided at www.stapostle.org with pictures from a previous year's prayer service.

May the meditations, reflections and prayers bring you comfort and peace as you reflect on the love of our ever-generous God, and the life-giving sacrifice of Jesus, who poured out his life so that we could have everlasting life.

Check This Out!

During these days when our lives and routines being turned upside down, give yourself a treat and check out www.skitguys.com. The Skit Guys, Tommie and Eddie, have been best friends since high school. Together, they have created hundreds of videos on faith-related topics, often with a modern twist. Their video series, Last Words of Christ, is a wonderful way to prepare for Holy Week. (Go to <https://skitguys.com/videos/last-words-of-christ>.) It is sure to be prayerful watching.

Looking Ahead

Religious education registration materials (Pre-K through Grade 8) for the 2020-2021 year will be available on June 1.

Chaperone Needed

An adult (male) chaperone is still needed for the Just5Days middle school mission trip. The trip will take place from July 13–17 to St. Joseph, Michigan. Don't miss out on your chance to meet an amazing group of middle school students who will inspire you with their willingness to put their faith into action. If interested, contact Peggy Goralski at pgoralski@stapostle.org or 630.355.8980, x123.



Camp Rock 2020

- WHAT** Camp Rock is a 4-day, 3-night camp for middle school students sponsored by Joyful Hope Presentations
- WHEN** June 12–15, August 6–9
- WHO** Any student currently in grades 6, 7 or 8
- WHERE** Dickson Valley Camp, Newark, IL (near Plano, IL)
- COST** \$350 (\$25 discount if registering before April 15)
- REGISTRATION** Go to www.camprock.me.
- QUESTIONS** Contact John Lamperis at john@camprock.me
- ACTIVITIES** Prayer, Bible study, Mass, swimming, canoeing, archery, campfire, indoor gym and climbing wall, hiking, sports, music, skits and crafts

Question of the week ...

How will you live out Holy Week?



Service Commission — Pastoral Care

From the Behavioral Health Ministry

Seven Ways to Overcome Challenges and Live a More Resilient Life

Source: *Renew* by UnitedHealthcare.org



Why do we fall? So we can learn to pick ourselves up. Here are 7 ways to pick ourselves up and live with more resilience.

- 1. Flex the Muscle** — Practice building resilience just as you would work out any other part of the body. We all have muscles just like we all have resilience; the more we use it the stronger it gets.
- 2. Look Ahead** — Dwelling on problems and “feeling victimized” leads to unhealthy habits. Resilience won’t make problems go away according to Mayo Clinic but will give you the ability to see past them. Building resilience will help to find enjoyment in life and to better handle stress.
- 3. Get Dressed** — Getting up and getting dressed is half the battle during dark days. Find a reason to show up and be social.
- 4. Give a Hand** — Working with our hands can distract depression and redirect the mind to new interests, ideas and opportunities. Carrie Barron M.D. writes in her book, *The Creativity Cure*, how simply activating our fingers can improve resilience and lift mild to moderate forms of anxiety or depression.
- 5. Don’t Give Up** — Colonel Sanders didn’t give up his dream of opening Kentucky Fried Chicken while living in his car. He perfected the recipe and hit the jackpot when he franchised. He said, “One has to remember that every failure can be a stepping stone to something better.”
- 6. Don’t Throw it Away** — Rejection can be extremely difficult, just ask such authors as C.S. Lewis, J. K. Rowling or Stephen King. What is important with these writers is that they never gave up. Sometimes we have to go on when we don’t feel like it.
- 7. Begin Again** — In building resilience, Mayo Clinic suggests finding something that gives a sense of accomplishment to make every day meaningful. Having a purpose is important to “help you look toward the future with meaning.”

Lord, thank You for another day in this quiet waking moment.

I thank You for the beauty of nature

A breakfast table laden with nourishment

Mind, heart, hand and feet to carry me through the day.

New vision to face the grind of a monotonous routine of duty

Give new light to our humdrum tasks

And bless my fellowmen and women who like me

Have awakened to begin their daily round.

May they come to know just as I have the joy of offering to You

All the blessings this new day brings.

Amen

Source: Your Catholic Guide

Pastoral Care Resources

For Spiritual Support and Prayer,
please contact the following individuals if you are in need of assistance:

Counseling

Jan, Pastoral Care Office
630.355.8980, x124
Diane, General Office
630.355.8980, x101

Health Resource

Parish Nurses
Felicia, 630.355.8980, x104
Jan, 630.355.8980, x124

Hospital/Pastoral Care Info

Edward Hospital has a pastoral care department with a Catholic Chaplain for an emergency anointing or a Eucharistic visit.

St. Thomas Pastoral Care visit

Jan, Pastoral Care Office
630.355.8980, x124
Diane, General Office
630.355.8980, x101

Service Commission — Outreach and Social Justice

Care Pantry Continues to Provide Food

The St. Thomas Care Pantry provided drive-thru service on the regularly scheduled Tuesday, March 24. We received a larger than usual monthly food order the day before. Forty-two families received food and four more families have already called to arrange for pickup later this week. Families received a **FULL** box of staples: milk, eggs, sweet potatoes, frozen dinners, sausage and pizza.

Here's how it worked. We placed cones outside with instructions in English and Spanish. Guests were asked to stay in their car and pop their trunk open. Michelle Hunt, Care Pantry facilitator, greeted each family from a distance and provided them with an instruction and prayer sheet. Once the trunk was open, each volunteer placed their particular item



Drive-Thru Instructions

in the person's trunk ... while wearing gloves and maintaining social distance. One person was in charge of the boxes, another the bags of frozen items, etc. The person on egg duty went last to place the eggs safely among the other food items.

It was good to see and check in with some of our Care Pantry families. People were very appreciative of the food. We plan to do a similar process for the next scheduled Care Pantry on April 7. We are very appreciative of those who have asked how best to help the Care Pantry at this time. Discussions are happening. Please keep checking the website for updates.



Michelle Hunt, Care Pantry Facilitator, providing a warm hello and instructions to a Care Pantry guest.

Haiti and the Virus

Pray for Haiti and out Twinning Community

Theresa Patterson is the head of the Parish Twinning Program that matches Haitian parishes with parishes in the US. She matched St. Thomas with Ste. Marie-Madeleine in Duchity in 1998 She sent the following information.

That dreaded call finally came last week. The coronavirus had reached Haiti. A Haitian musician in Port-au-Prince who came from Paris and a foreigner from Belgium in the parish of St. Michel de l'Attalaye tested positive by the country's National Laboratory. I wrote this email on Friday and by Monday morning five more cases had been identified.

The news has replicated what we have experienced here in the U.S. — hysteria and fear. Panic buying of food and gas has been taking place throughout the weekend. Grocery stores are open, but the owners have jacked their prices up considerably. For now, the banks are still open from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm.

The President has declared all factories and schools closed, imposed a curfew from 8:00 pm to 5:00 am, prohibited meetings of more than 10 people, and halted all airlines flying into Haiti. The Ministry of Health has basically said that the government will have to depend on the private facilities for treatment and do not have the capability to address adequately the ensuing crisis. They have also announced that there are only 1,000 tests in the country.

It remains to be seen what the aftereffect will be of the introduction of the coronavirus in Haiti, but with the lack of water, sanitation and health facilities, the outcome could potentially be lethal. Also, the high density of population in Port-au-Prince hugely complicates efforts at social distancing.

Please Stay Safe and Be Blessed — Theresa, Parish Twinning Program

The Haiti Twinning Medical Mission Cancelled

Based on the above, the Haiti Twinning Medical Mission scheduled for April 25–May 2, has been cancelled. The next scheduled mission trip is in the fall.

Please pray for the Ste. Marie-Madeleine parish and the larger community of Duchity.

Outreach and Social Justice Office Open for Business!

The Outreach and Social Justice Office (Mike and Anne) will be able to access email and voicemail even if the St. Thomas building is closed. Do not hesitate to contact us in these challenging times.

The SPIRIT is with you!

St. Thomas is Here for You

In these difficult times, if you need help, if you are having anxiety or if you just need someone to talk to, call St. Thomas at 630.355.8980 and leave a message. Someone will call you back within 4-6 hours. They may call back on a blocked number so please answer all calls.



The St. Thomas Community Helping Each Other

Note: The Outreach and Social Justice Office (Mike and Anne) will be able to access email and voicemail even if the St. Thomas building is closed.

During the COVID-19 outbreak, those who contract the virus, those who are exposed to the virus, and those who are at high risk will be in a quarantine or near-quarantine situation. For their health and the health of others, they need to remain at home during this time. Those in that situation may need help with basic needs (food, medication or other required items).



Do You Need Help?

If you need help or assistance with basic needs as described above, please call or email the St. Thomas Outreach and Social Justice Office (see below). We will make every effort to provide the assistance needed. If funds are an issue, please discuss that with the Outreach and Social Justice Office when you contact us.

Are You Able To Help?

If you are in good health and not in the high risk category, and if you are willing to provide assistance to parishioners in need as defined above, please call or email the St. Thomas Outreach and Social Justice Office (see below). The OSJ Office will screen all assistance requests and will contact you with all the information needed for you to safely provide assistance. If you have any questions, call the OSJ Office

Outreach and Social Justice Office

Mike Ryder: mryder@stapostle.org or 630.355.8980, x121

Anne Schultz: aschultz@stapostle.org or 630.355.8980, x113

“Letters of Love”

Provide Encouragement to a Person in a Nursing Home

Nursing home residents are not allowed visitors at this time. Many of the residents may be lonely, scared, sad, or anxious. While you are sheltered in place, pull out your fun papers, crayons, colored pencils, stickers, etc. and let your creative juices flow! Draw a picture, send a note, or write a letter to a person in a nursing home. All ages can do this! Keep the messages positive and hopeful. Brighten your day and the day of someone else by using the art supplies you have saved for “someday.”

A parishioner gathered mailing information from four area facilities and received very positive comments about the letters — “that would be wonderful” and “love, love the idea.”

Meadowbrook-Manor Naperville

Current Resident
720 Raymond Drive
Naperville, IL 60563

Monarch Landing

Front Desk
2255 Monarch Drive
Naperville, IL 60563

St. Patrick's Residence

Attn: Jenny MacDougall, Activity Director
1400 Brookdale Road
Naperville, IL 60563

Please send 4 cards-one for each unit. The activity director will distribute the cards to the head nurse on each floor and the nurse will share the cards with the residents.

Tabor Hills

Attn: Jun Jun, Director of Activities
1347 Crystal Avenue
Naperville, IL 60563

Stewardship and Administration

Please Continue Giving During COVID-19

We miss you at Mass! Our weekend Masses are cancelled in response to directives from the Diocese of Joliet to reduce the risk of exposure to COVID-19. We pray you are healthy and remain so until we can again joyfully celebrate Mass together.

There are two easy to use options to continue giving so you can support St. Thomas during the COVID-19 social distancing period:

Option 1: Sign Up For Online Giving

THE EASIEST AND BEST OPTION! St. Thomas partners with Our Sunday Visitor (OSV) which gives an online interface where you can create a secure account to enter your credit card number and manage your giving.

Option 2: Mail Your Envelopes

Even though you weren't able to drop your donation envelopes in the collection basket, you can still mail your donation using one of the postage paid return envelopes in your envelope packet.

The parish address is:

St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic Church
1500 Brookdale Road
Naperville, IL 60540

St. Thomas Is Grateful For You

We are very grateful for your continuing support, especially through this health crisis, to be the vibrant and engaging faith home you come to for spiritual nourishment. Let us continue to pray for the day when we can once again lift our voices to God in praise as a community of faith.



Even the geese are practicing social distancing ...

Checked These Listings Lately? Thank You to Our Advertisers!

Make it a habit to check these advertisers when you need a product or a service. And when you purchase, be sure to mention you saw their ad in the St. Thomas bulletin!

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Advertise With Us!

If you own a business or know of a local business that might like to support your local Catholic parish by advertising in its parish bulletin, please contact J.S. Paluch. Grow your business by advertising in the church bulletin and create strong connections with your target audience. Benefits include:

- GREAT COVERAGE - 97%** of all households attending church take at least one church bulletin home every Sunday.
- GREAT VALUE - 70%** of all households are aware of and look at the advertising in the church bulletin and 68% of households surveyed when making a choice between businesses are inclined to choose the one who advertised in the church bulletin.
- GREAT LOYALTY - 41%** of households do business with a company specifically because they are advertising in the church bulletin.
- GREAT PRODUCT - 62%** of households keep the church bulletin the entire week as reference.

Learn More About Advertising In Your Parish Bulletin
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