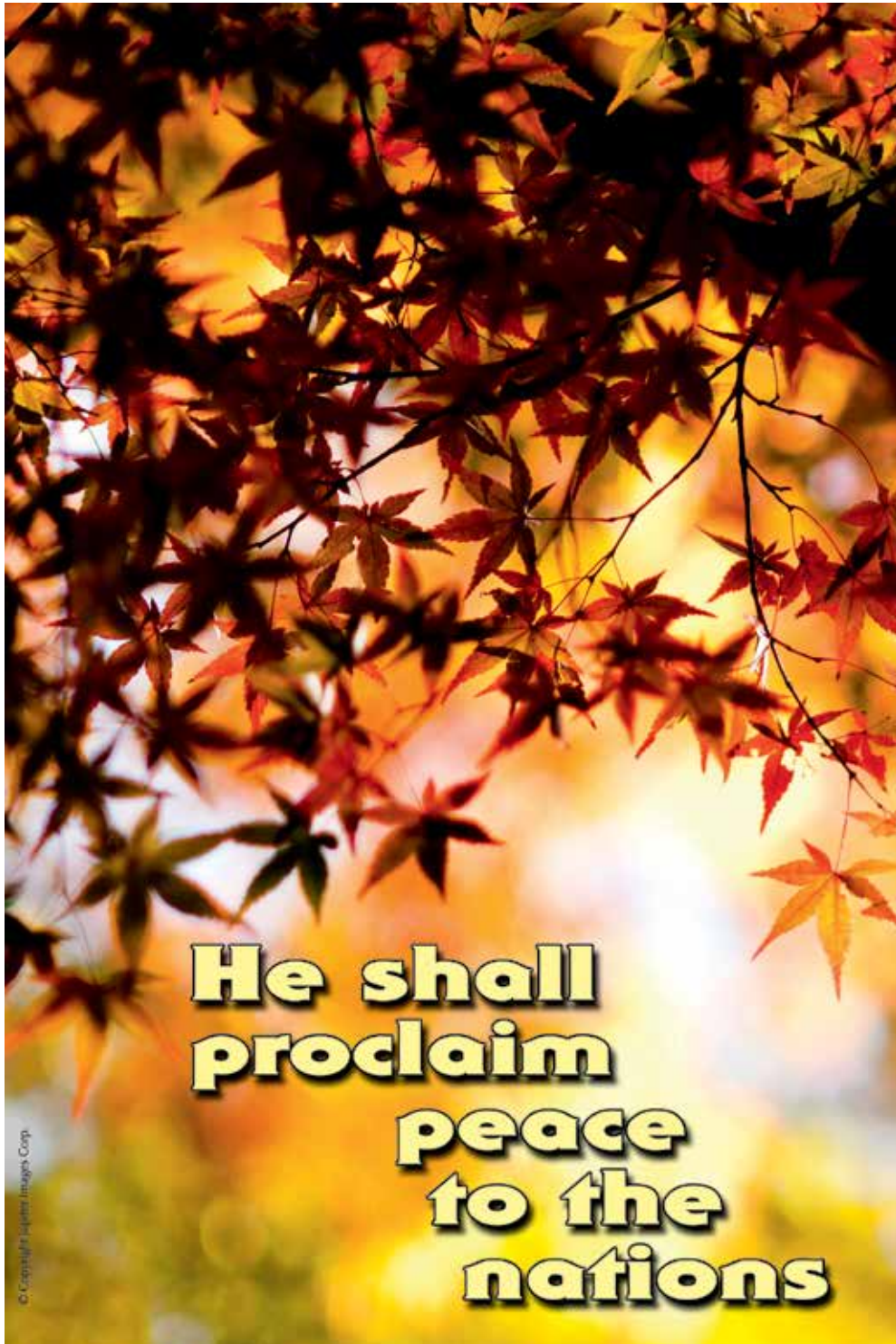


St. Thomas

JULY 5, 2020 — FOURTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



**He shall
proclaim
peace
to the
nations**

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. Richard E. Pates, Apostolic Administrator

Parish Staff

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

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

Priests Assisting on Weekends

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

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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, lkearney@comcast.net

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

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

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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,

She might not be as well-known as Mark Twain or Walt Whitman, but Emma Lazarus was considered to be an important American author/poet in the 19th century. One of the first successful Jewish American authors, her most famous poem, written in 1883, is titled "The New Colossus" which is engraved on the Statue of Liberty, a poem

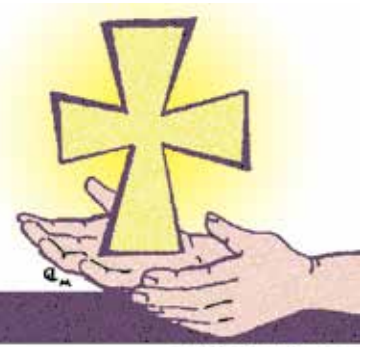
made famous by the following words, "Give me your tired, your poor, your huddled masses yearning to breathe free."

Today's gospel contains the following words from the most prominent Jewish speaker the world has ever known, words which are very similar to those of Emma Lazarus. "Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened, and I will give you rest."

On this July 4th weekend, as we thank God for the courage of so many who made our country what it is today, may we never forget the tired, the poor, the labored and burdened. May we never forget those in our midst as well as those who look to the United States as a beacon of hope, as a place to find rest from oppression. May we never turn our backs to those who truly love our nation and yearn to breathe free.

In the Word,

Fr. Danaher



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Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

July 5, 2020

"Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened, and I will give you rest."

— *Matthew 11:28*

Liturgy Schedule

Daily

Mass: 8:30 am, Monday – Friday

Weekend — Must sign up online to attend

Saturday Mass of Anticipation: 4:30 pm

Sunday: 9:30 am

Both weekend Masses will also be livestreamed and available to watch on demand at www.stapostle.org

Thank You!

The Worship Commission and St. Thomas the Apostle Staff would like to thank Alora Foley and Margie Myers for their creativity and dedication to the Art and Environment Committee over these past 15 years. The entire St. Thomas community has benefited from the work of these ladies through the visual transformation of the church for liturgical seasons, holidays and special celebrations. As they step down from leadership positions, please take a moment to thank them in person or through prayer for their incredible work in making St. Thomas the Apostle Church a Spirit-filled place of prayer and worship.



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

“Come to me all who labor and are burdened and I will give you rest.” What is your greatest burden? Will you bring it to Jesus?

Readings for Today

First Reading — Rejoice heartily, O Jerusalem! For see, your savior comes (Zechariah 9:9-10).

Psalm — I will praise your name for ever, my king and my God (Psalm 145).

Second Reading — The one who raised Christ from death will give life to your mortal bodies also (Romans 8:9, 11-13).

Gospel — Come, all you who labor and are burdened, and I will give you rest (Matthew 11:25-30).

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: Hos 2:16, 17b-18, 21-22; Ps 145:2-9; Mt 9:18-26

Tuesday: Hos 8:4-7, 11-13; Ps 115:3-10; Mt 9:32-38

Wednesday: Hos 10:1-3, 7-8, 12; Ps 105:2-7; Mt 10:1-7

Thursday: Hos 11:1-4, 8e-9; Ps 80:2ac, 3b, 15-16; Mt 10:7-15

Friday: Hos 14:2-10; Ps 51:3-4, 8-9, 12-14, 17; Mt 10:16-23

Saturday: Is 6:1-8; Ps 93:1-2, 5; Mt 10:24-33

Sunday: Is 55:10-11; Ps 65:10-14; Rom 8:18-23; Mt 13:1-23 [1-9]

Presider Schedule July 11–12

Saturday, July 11

4:30 pm – Fr. Philip Danaher

Sunday, July 12

9:30 am – Fr. Joseph Kappilumakkal

Presider schedule is subject to change.

Liturgy Schedule and Mass Intentions

Please note, because we currently only have two weekend Masses, all the weekend intentions will be read at both Masses.

Monday, July 6, 2020

8:30 am †Gene Czajka, by Dick and Adela Auskalnis

Tuesday, July 7, 2020

8:30 am Mass

Wednesday, July 8, 2020

8:30 am †Bill Mann, by Dick and Adela Auskalnis

Thursday, July 9, 2020

8:30 am For Patience and Understanding

Friday, July 10, 2020

8:30 am Mass

Saturday, July 11, 2020

4:30 pm Mass of Anticipation)

†Philip Roddy, by Steve and Kristen Schneider and John and Kristina Boytim

Sunday, July 12, 2020

Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 am †Darrell Johnson, by Mom and Dad

9:30 am For the People of St. Thomas

11:15 am †Stefania Danczuk, by The Liberio Family

Prayer

Dear Lord,

On this Independence Day,

I am reminded of all those who have sacrificed for my freedom, following the example of your Son, Jesus Christ.

Let me not take my freedom, both physical and spiritual, for granted.

May I always remember that my freedom was purchased with a very high price.

My freedom cost others their very lives.

Lord, today, bless those who have served and continue to give their lives for my freedom.

With favor and bounty meet their needs and watch over their families.

Help me to live my life in a way that glorifies you, Lord.

Give me the strength to be a blessing in someone else's life today, and grant me the opportunity to lead others into the freedom that can be found in knowing Christ.

Amen.

Faith and Formation Commission — Adult

C.A.R.E. CORNER

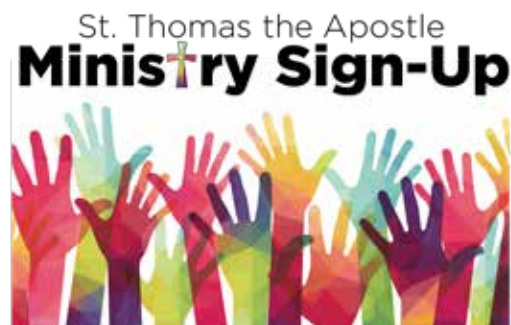
The early disciples of Jesus did not have cushy lives. They faced all the same **obstacles** that Jesus had. Peter and John were frequently arrested, beaten and imprisoned (see Acts 4 for example). James was the first of the 12 Apostles to be killed for preaching his faith in Christ (see Acts 12:2). We also have the Scripture story of the martyrdom of St. Stephen (Acts 7). Tradition tells us Peter was martyred in Rome in the late '60s for being a "Christ" follower. And he wasn't the only one. Almost all of the original 12 apostles were martyred for being leaders of the new "religion" that became known as Christianity. This is not just old or past news. Christians remain one of the most **targeted** and **persecuted** religious groups in our time.

Most of our information regarding the earliest years of Christianity comes from the letters we have that were written by St. Paul. At the time, Paul was traveling to preach the gospel — the Good News of the Risen Christ. The good news stories of Jesus had not yet been put into writing. The first gospel written gets attributed to Mark and is dated around the year 65 AD. Paul underwent three mission trips of approximately three years each, between the years 46 and 57 AD. Paul himself traveled thousands of miles to preach the Gospel and **endured** all manner of **impediments** including mockery, beatings, riots, shipwrecks and multiple imprisonments. But he accepted all those **challenges** anyway, because he believed the message he was proclaiming was that important.

Ministry Sign-up

As we have learned the past few months, even with the church building closed, there are so many ways that St. Thomas continued to be church, being the hands and feet of Christ to our faith community and in the world. We need to continue that spirit of service, perhaps now more than ever.

We need you. There are talents and gifts unique to you that are needed at St. Thomas. A wonderful way to use those talents and gifts would be to volunteer for a ministry. The brochure outlining the ministries at St. Thomas is updated and online. The actual sign-up process can also take place online. Consider sharing your gifts and talents with our faith community. We need you!



Patti Dougherty Day is Coming!

As many of you know, Patti Dougherty, our Director of Religious Education, will be retiring on August 1. As a way to honor and thank Patti for her many years of ministry and service to St. Thomas, we are declaring Monday, July 13, to be Patti Dougherty Day at St. Thomas. Be sure to check out details below for ways to thank Patti and to wish her well.

Drive-by Reception in Celebration of Patti



To allow St. Thomas a chance to express appreciation of how Patti has impacted our faith community, you are invited to a drive-by reception in her honor. The reception will take place in the St. Thomas lot on Monday, July 13, from 3:00–4:30 pm and from 6:00–7:30 pm. Come by and wish Patti well.

Let's Give Patti a Hand ... a Special Thank You from the 'Children' of St. Thomas

If you have children who have gone through religious education, or made their first communion or first reconciliation here, or if your children attend the Children's Liturgy of the Word, you have been touched by Patti. If your family has enjoyed a Donut Sunday, or a parish picnic, you have been touched by all that Patti did behind the scenes.

The children of St. Thomas mean the world to Patti and have always been the focus of her ministry here. One of the ways that was evident was the handprints of first communicants that we would see around the building. As a special thank you from the children (or those who once were children here!), we are asking that you trace your handprint and write a special thank you message to Patti on your handprint. You can give it to her at the her drive-by reception on July 13.

Let us all give Patti a hand!



Faith and Formation Commission — Youth

Striving to be Missionary Disciples

Pope Francis has challenged Catholic young people around the world to be missionary disciples. If this had been a normal year, there would have been a group of middle school students heading to St. Joseph, Michigan, for a week of service and learning as part of the Just5Days experience.

Even though the mission trip experience can't happen this year, our youth have continued to be of service and lead lives of faith. And they still need our support.

How can we support our youth as they strive to grow as disciples of Jesus? Affirm the gifts that you see in our young people. I am constantly touched by how amazing our young people are, how full of energy and hope they are and how they want to make the world a better place. Like all of us, though, they gain confidence from encouragement.

And, continue to pray for our young people, that the light of faith may burn brightly in their lives for they are St. Thomas!

Question of the week ...

What burden do you want to give over to Jesus?



Religious Education Registration

It's finally coming! Registration materials for the 2020–2021 religious education year (pre-K through 8th grade) will be available the week of July 6. You will receive an email when the registration packet is uploaded to the St. Thomas website. Thanks for your patience and understanding.

Scripture Safari “Family” Style: Hidden Gifts

Everything is different this year, including Scripture Safari, our Vacation Bible School. Due to COVID-19 and the inability to keep children, and our youth and adult volunteers, totally safe, we are offering instead a Family event where you monitor your own family's safety outside. You will be able to choose an outdoor session offered on Monday or Tuesday, July 27–28, with three different time frames. Wednesday and Thursday are the rain dates.

For families, we will have fun faith activities **OUTSIDE** and around our campus, called Scripture Safari Family Style: Hidden Gifts. This is for all ages in your family, as once you arrive, there will be the ability to pick the activities that appeals most to your family, guided by the adult volunteers, who will help you with physical distancing.

Sign-up will be through SignUpGenius allowing you to pick your choice of day and time. The fee of \$5 per family, payable at the entrance table, covers basic supplies and takeaways. Each session will run for an hour and a half, with only 10 families at each session. We will physically distance families around the outside of the church building, and plan our activities in a way to avoid sharing of materials or sanitizing in between. Keep in mind bathrooms are available for emergency use only.

Please remember, sign-up is for families with a parent or caregiver over 18 in attendance to monitor your family's safety.

We have households, with their adult and youth, volunteering at stations. The adult in the household will keep their family's safety in mind. Sadly, there will not be other youth volunteers this year and they will be sorely missed but the priority is to keep everyone safe during this pandemic. If your family, along with an adult, would like to volunteer, please let us know!

The link for this event will be emailed out on July 9. If you did not get an email about this already and want to sign up, please email parishioner, Ann Cotner, at aecotner@yahoo.com for the link to be sent to you on July 9. If you find that all sessions are full, please let us know. We will add more sessions, weather permitting.

We hope you are interested in this family faith activity and will mark your calendar now for these dates:

Thursday, July 9 Watch for emailed link to Sign Up Genius and sign up for a session:

Monday, July 27 9:00–10:30 am OR 12:00 pm–1:30 pm OR 6:00–7:30 pm

Tuesday, July 28 9:00–10:30 am OR 12:00 pm–1:30 pm OR 6:00–7:30 pm

An Incredible Journey Awaits!

Christine Ramirez served as a middle school catechist for two years while she was in high school. When writing about the experience, she reflected, “Thank you so much for allowing me to be a middle school catechist. These past two years have been an incredible journey and experience.”

Because middle school RE uses All Saints school space, it is not yet certain what restrictions will be in place for middle school RE classes this fall. With the potential for smaller classes, more middle school catechists are needed. Like Christine says, it is an amazing journey. If you EVER thought about ministering as a catechist, helping to form the faith of amazing young people, NOW is your chance!!! There are hopes and dreams for middle school faith formation that can only be realized with your help. For more information and to volunteer, contact Peggy Goralski at pgoralski@stapostle.org or 630.355.8980, x123.

Service Commission — Pastoral Care

From the Behavioral Health Ministry: July in National Minority Mental Health Month

COVID-19: The Mental Health Impact on People of Color and Minority Groups

Some groups may face a disproportionate mental health impact during the COVID-19 pandemic. These include people of color, migrants and people of various ethnic backgrounds.

Although the pandemic is mentally and emotionally affecting many people, past evidence suggests that it may affect certain communities more than others — particularly because they have reduced access to mental health services and other healthcare resources.

The fact that people of color and certain other ethnic groups may face a more severe and longer lasting mental health impact than white populations is explained by the fact that they are often unable to access appropriate mental healthcare.

According to the American Psychological Association (APA), a large number of people in the U.S. who identify as a person of color or as belonging to a minority ethnic group experience a significant degree of marginalization. This is a top risk factor for poor mental health outcomes in the long-term.

The APA explains that this is because discrimination and marginalization can hinder socioeconomic growth as well as access to appropriate formal mental health support.

Besides systemic biases, discrimination and financial barriers, another significant obstacle that sometimes stands in the way of people's access to healthcare is language.

Stigma surrounding mental health issues in culturally homogeneous groups can also stop people from seeking the support they need.

As with all complex healthcare issues, there is no easy answer when it comes to redressing the disparities in access to formal support. Both researchers and members of the public have been outlining some viable ways forward, and some employers are already making an effort to step up to the challenge.

Resource: Medical News Today, medicalnewstoday.com



From the Office of the Parish Nurse Shield Yourself from the Sun and Bugs, Too

In the same way you need to take care to protect your muscles and joints when gardening, you also need to protect your skin from the sun and bites when outdoors.

Use a sunscreen labeled “broad-spectrum” or “UVA/UVB-protection” that has an SPF of at least 30. Don't forget to apply sunscreen on those easily missed places on your body, such as your neck, ears and any exposed scalp (better yet, wear a hat). Don't ignore your lips: Choose a lip balm with SPF of 30 or higher.

Use an insect repellent containing DEET, picaridin, IR3535, or oil of lemon eucalyptus (which can all be applied to exposed skin) and permethrin (which should be sprayed only on your clothes). Don't wear insect repellent underneath your clothes. When you return indoors, remember to check your clothing and skin for ticks.

Wear protective gloves, sturdy shoes, long pants, sunglasses and a wide-brimmed hat to protect you from the sun's harmful rays and from insect bites, as well as from sharp objects and garden chemicals, if any are used.

Make sure your tetanus and diphtheria (Td) vaccination is up to date. You need a booster shot every 10 years. The bacterium that causes tetanus is found in soil and can enter your body through cuts in the skin.

Source: U of C, Berkley Wellness Letter May 2020

Blood Drive Update

COVID-19 Can challenge us but not defeat us!

Because we won't be open to hosting an event in the gym on July 14, we had to find another way to make sure we could keep our drive alive.

Naperville Park District can safely accommodate our Blood Drive but not on our original date. Our new date is:

Saturday, July 25, 2020

9:00 am–2:00 pm

**Alfred Rubin Riverwalk Community Center
305 W. Jackson Avenue, Naperville**

Due to the change in both date and location, we are asking you to sign up on the Versiti website for this drive only!

To schedule, go to www.versiti.org/IL, load the Versiti Donor app, or call (800) 7TO-GIVE.

Every donor must wear a mask.

Any questions, contact Diane McQueen at 630.355.8980, x101 or dmcqueen@stapostle.org

Please continue to help us save lives!



Service Commission — Outreach and Social Justice

A Message to the St. Thomas Community from the Solidarity Coalition Ministry **When we say “we,” who do we mean?**

That question presents itself to us in these days of many revelations. The Solidarity Coalition was formed almost three years ago by St. Thomas parishioners who answered an open invitation to meet and discern what action we could take in response to white supremacist violence in Charlottesville, Virginia. In 2019 we completed the ten-month project of awareness raising called 10 Ways To Fight Hate, which culminated in a parish-wide invitation to declare our rejection of hatred and to commit to be lights of God's love in the world.

Until now, our primary focus has been on recognizing how people of good will inadvertently contribute to prejudice and discrimination of all kinds. We are now in the midst of a crisis not foreseen even at the time of the events that called us together. The evidence of racial prejudice both individual and structural has been revealed in ways many of us have been blind to and unwilling to acknowledge. And any attempts to talk together are made more difficult by the physical distancing imposed by the COVID-19 pandemic. With this letter, the Solidarity Coalition is reaching out to each member of our St. Thomas community to take an active part in our next steps.

***To our community members who are people of color:** Here at St. Thomas, the Solidarity Coalition's voice has been almost entirely from the perspective of white experience. We remain committed to self-education and to work for transformative structural change in our society. But it is clear to us that we who are white need to listen to people who are experiencing in their own lives the daily oppression and the pain that follows.*

We cannot know the fullness of pain and outrage experienced by people of color. We cannot speak authoritatively for people of color. We acknowledge that we have made errors that caused pain to you and reveal our ignorance and arrogance. That is why we are especially reaching out to our St. Thomas sisters and brothers of color. We ask you to lend your voices. We value your insights, your shared wisdom, and your ideas as to the meaningful steps to be taken here in our own parish community and beyond. Please tell us your stories. Help us to know what is truly helpful. Lead us into greater solidarity with you, so that we can walk together and speak as one people in the work for justice.

***To our teen and young adult community members:** We need your perspective and insight on how to change our world. Every generation faces its own challenges. Your parents' and grandparents' generations are passing on a torch to you, because clearly the work for justice is not finished. Add for us your experience and your visions for the future.*

***To all the St. Thomas community:** At this moment, the Solidarity Coalition is a small, though committed, group. We need more people to engage with the ongoing work of education, advocacy, and deepening relationships across our differences. There are many gifts among us and many levels of time available, but this is a moment that calls out for a broad, committed and ongoing response. Let's work together, supporting each other as we work toward the fullness of love God calls us to create.*

When we say “we,” we want to be speaking with the voices of all of us at St. Thomas the Apostle Faith Community.

Jane Barnes (For the St. Thomas Solidarity Coalition)

If you can lend your voice and your time to the Coalition or have questions or comments, please contact Jane at jbarnes114@ntsource.com or Anne Schultz in the Outreach and Social Justice Office at aschultz@stapostle.org or 630.355.8980, x113.

St. Thomas Cares Grant **To St. Nicholas Food Pantry**

St. Thomas has a twinning relationship with St. Nicholas Parish in Aurora. More than 95% of the St. Nicholas community is of Mexican ancestry.

The St. Nicholas Food Pantry is a beneficiary of the St. Thomas Harvest Sunday food drive each November. We also provide a number of hams or turkeys each Thanksgiving, Christmas and Easter for their pantry families.

The pandemic has had a significant economic effect on many St. Nicholas families. As a result the food pantry has tried to adjust to the need by providing food to families every week, instead of every other week.

St. Thomas Cares provided a \$1,000 grant to the St. Nicholas Food Pantry, and, with their agreement, purchased \$1,000 of food from Northern Illinois Foodbank. That resulted in an estimated \$7,000 of food at retail prices.

Please pray for all who are in need of food in these difficult times.

Sister Marlene Update

(Sister Marlene Schemmel was the original Outreach and Social Justice (OSJ) Director at St. Thomas. Sister Marlene began many of the OSJ ministries that are still going strong. Sr. Marlene is a member of the Congregation of St. Joseph (CSJ). She was recently diagnosed with cancer and is now undergoing treatment. Below is an update on her condition from Mary Jo Hazard)

Parishioners of St. Thomas,

As you may know, Sr. Marlene was diagnosed with kidney cancer in early March. She finished her chemo treatments on June 2. Then some of us Sisters and associates celebrated her birthday on June 12 with a car parade around the CSJ motherhouse, which she thoroughly enjoyed.

This week she's gotten the results of her post-chemo UT scan and the docs say she did exceedingly well ... no surprise knowing her and all of you praying for her! Her kidney removal surgery is scheduled for July 10 at 9:00 am, and will be done robotically. She'll be in the hospital for three days and then to the Center (aka Motherhouse) to recover.

When I asked her if I could reach out to her friends for prayer, here's her response: "MJ, tell whomever you believe will storm heaven! Any prayer from the heart is what I need!"

Some have been asking for Marlene's address. Best to send it now to the Center/ Motherhouse.

Marlene Schemmel, CSJ, Joseph House, 1515 West Ogden Avenue, La Grange Park, IL 60526

Thanks for continuing to hold her in prayer. She's a dear, isn't she?

Couriers of Compassion

The Pen Pal Prison Ministry has adopted a new name that defines its mission ... Couriers of Compassion. In addition to letter writing, they will pray for others and ask you to pray for others that minister within the justice system. Below is the story of one pen pal relationship and its impact on both the St. Thomas Courier and the prisoner. If you have an interest in becoming a Courier of Compassion, contact Jana Minor at jminor86@gmail.com.

Bud's Story

Often we, who are writing to prisoners find that the correspondence touches us our lives in beautiful ways. This happened for Bud who really connected with his prisoner pen pal. They had wonderful discussions.

Recently Bud called me saying he had not heard from James the prisoner for a while. He knew James had cancer. I checked the IL Department of Corrections web site which told me that James was at a hospital. I kept checking. Soon James was no longer listed in the system. He had been incarcerated at Stateville Correctional Center where several men had died from COVI-19. I feared James was one of them and wondered how to confirm this so Bud would know what had happened to his friend.

A few weeks later, I received a letter from James' cell mate. Somehow this man was able to acquire our address and wrote to say that James had died from the virus. He further talked about how much James had enjoyed writing to Bud, how they had become such good friends and wanted to be sure I conveyed that message to Bud.

Bud will never forget James. We will not know in this life how Bud may have helped James prepare for his passing.



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 with the St. Thomas building closed. Due to COVID-19, there is an increase in the number of area families (including parishioners) in need of food and financial assistance. If you are in need of help or if you are aware of anyone else in need of help, please call or email the OSJ Office. Do not hesitate to contact us in these challenging times. The SPIRIT is with you!

Mike: mryder@stapostle.org

630.355.8980, x121

Anne: aschultz@stapostle.org

630.355.8980, x113

St. Thomas Cares and Care Pantry Donations

Many organizations are in need of funds to allow them to help others in this extraordinary situation. Consider making a donation as you are able.

If you would like to make a donation to St. Thomas Cares (includes the Care Pantry), there are two ways:

1. Checks can be written to "St. Thomas OSJ" with "St. Thomas Cares" in the memo and sent to St. Thomas OSJ – ATTN: MIKE (1500 Brookdale Rd., Naperville, IL 60563).
2. Go to www.stapostle.org and click "Please Give" box on the home page. Select "Click here to setup your online giving account." You have the choice of setting up an account or "Quick Give." Click the "funds" drop down list and select the "St. Thomas Cares" fund.
(Shortcut url: <https://www.osvonlinegiving.com/1479/Home/NewQuickGive>.) Be aware there is a 3.4% credit card usage charge deducted from on-line donations.

Stewardship and Administration



Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

The Letter to the Hebrews 13:16

If you go on the parish website or APP (easy to download to your Smartphone), you will see, under the Bulletin/News section, a piece about Ministry sign-ups. Every year we ask that you to volunteer your time and talent for a ministry in the parish. You could assist with Mass by being a Lector, Eucharistic Minister or Host/Greeter. You could assist in welcoming new parishioners to St. Thomas by volunteering assist in registering them. You could volunteer to participate in educating our youth or adults in the ways of our faith. Those are only a few of the opportunities to give of your time. A link to a brochure about all the ways you could donate your time is provided. There is also a link to sign up. It could not be easier.

During this time of restrictions of returning to Mass, we are also in need of volunteers to assist with set-up, check-in and ushering. If we increase the numbers of volunteers we can increase the opportunities to attend Mass in person.

Thank you for your consideration and we pray that we are all together again soon.

Last weekend's stewardship of financial gifts

Weekly Sunday Offertory

June 21, 2020	
Sunday Collection Offering*	\$5,269
Credit Card On-Line Giving	none this week
Automatic Direct Debit (5 th and 20 th each month)	\$28,798
Mailed in and stock donations	\$8,625
Total for the week	\$42,692
<small>*Based on Collection Counters Reports prior to bank confirmation</small>	
Fiscal Year (7/1 to 6/30)	\$1,829,648
Weekly Average 7/1/2019 to date	\$35,875
Offertory Goal Year to date	\$1,883,073
Over/short of goal to date	(\$53,425)
Goal for Fiscal Year 7/1 to 6/30	\$1,920,000
\$ of Annual Sunday Offertory Goal	95%
Remaining for Fiscal Year goal	\$90,352

This week, the Sunday collection is \$53,425 behind goal so far this year. We are grateful to those who recognize the need and responded.

Diocesan Appeal 2020

Parish Appeal Goal	\$174,600
Pledges Received	\$129,674
% of Goal pledged to date	74.27
Unpaid pledges	\$24,497
Paid to Date	\$105,177
Percent of goal paid to date	60.24

Help Wanted

Check out our website at www.stapostle.org for more details on the following job postings:

- Part-time Director of Music at St. Mary of Gostyn Catholic Church in Downers Grove

Please Continue Giving During COVID-19

We are reopening St. Thomas slowly under guidelines set for by the CDC and Diocese of Joliet. We are still limited to the number of worshipers and understand that many are unable to join us as they are in the at risk population or they simply aren't comfortable yet. There are two easy to use options to continue giving so you can support St. Thomas during this time:

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

You can also mail your donation using one of the postage paid return envelopes in your envelope packet. Please note that St. Thomas continues to receive and check mail daily. The parish address is: St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic Church, 1500 Brookdale Road, Naperville, IL 60563.

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. We continue to pray you are healthy and remain so until we can ALL joyfully celebrate Mass together again.

SUPPORT ST. THOMAS
Please, give

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!

	<p>Two beautiful locations: 44 S. Mill Street • Naperville, IL (630) 355-0213 • Historic Downtown</p> <p>15219 S. Joliet Rd. • Plainfield, IL (815) 436-9221 • Rte. 59 & Rte. 30</p>	 	<p><i>Friedrich Jones</i> Funeral Homes & Cremation Services www.friedrichjones.com</p>	 <p>Dave Jones, Parishioner Stephanie Jones-Kastelic • Ray Jones</p>
		<p>Esser Hayes Insurance Group Inc. Insurance is Our Only Business Since 1939 With Excellent Companies & Competitive Rates 1811 High Grove • 355-2077</p>		



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		<p>Naper Auto Works Your One Stop Shop Since 1977</p>		
<p>Free Estimates 897-1538</p>	 <p>Siding • Windows • Doors & More Duanne Kleckner — Doug Kleckner</p>	<p>Insurance work New windows Re-siding Use Local!</p>	 <p>320 N. Mill St. Naperville, IL 60540 (630) 420-2886</p>	<p>Please Cut Out This "Thank You Ad" and Present It The Next Time You Patronize One of Our Advertisers</p> <p>Thank You</p> <p>Thank you for advertising in our church bulletin. I am patronizing your business because of it!</p>

WHY ADVERTISE IN YOUR LOCAL CHURCH BULLETIN?

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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.

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