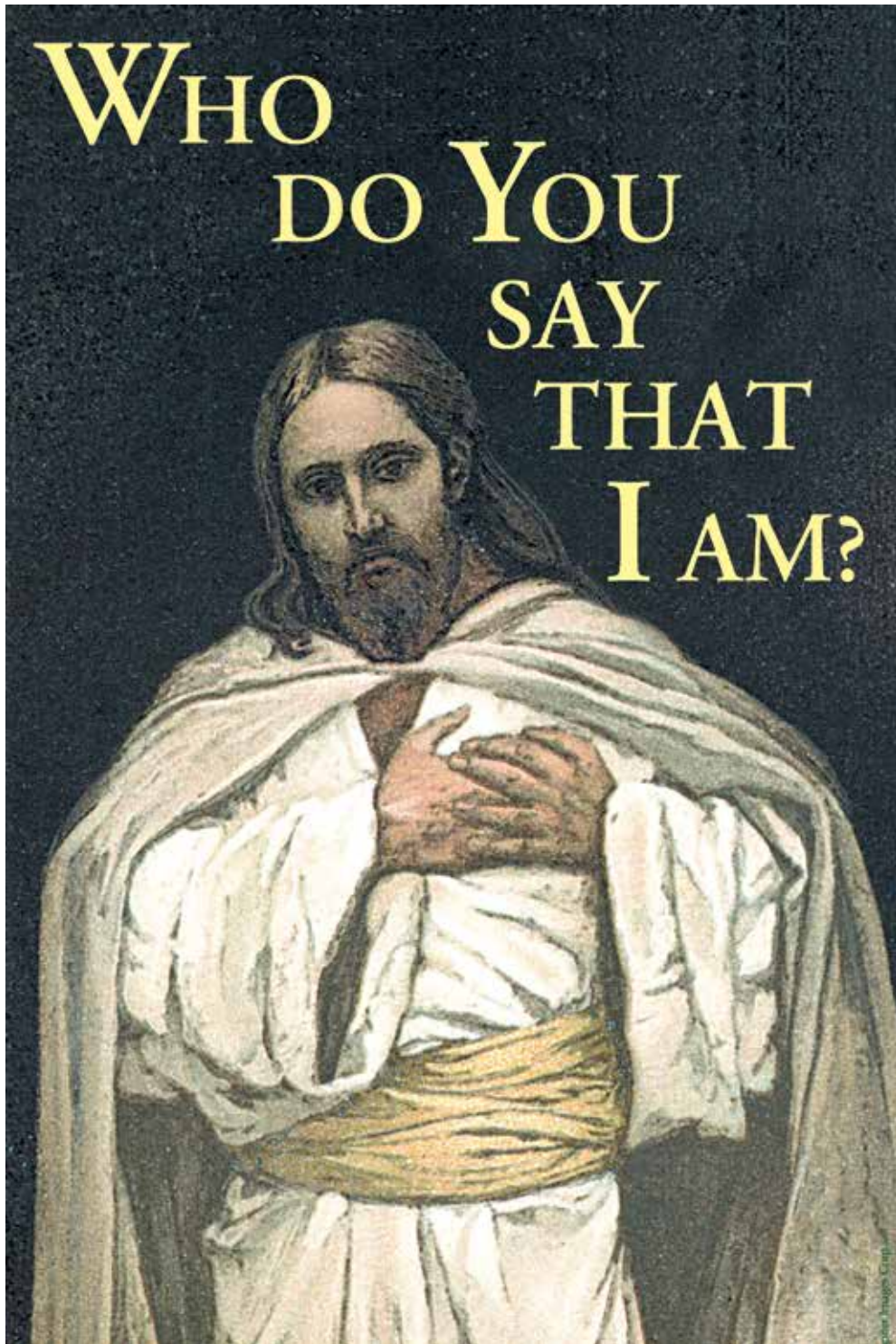


St. Thomas

AUGUST 23, 2020 — TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



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

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@gmail.com

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

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

Margie Marshall, *Principal at All Saints Catholic Academy*, 630.961.6125

Lorraine Katz, *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, *Faith Formation Administrative Assistant*, x118, mcoronado@stapostle.org

Outreach and Social Justice

Michael Ryder, *Director of Outreach and Social Justice*, x121, mryder@stapostle.org

Anne Schultz, *OSJ Partner*, x113, aschultz@stapostle.org

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

Pastoral Care

Jan Olah, *Director of Pastoral Care*, x124

Felicia Lawlor, *Faith Community Nurse*, x104, flawlor@stapostle.org

Administration

Janet Simmons, *Finance/Business Officer*, x106, jsimmons@stapostle.org

Diane McQueen, *Gen Office Administrative Asst.*, x101, dmcqueen@stapostle.org

Kathy Ferguson, *Gen Office Administrative Asst.*, x100, mainoffice@stapostle.org

Casey Braun, *Communications Coordinator*, x110, cbraun@stapostle.org

Elizabeth Fisher, *Evening/Saturday Receptionist*

Mary Wright, *Evening/Saturday Receptionist*

Mary Derwinski, *Administration Asst.*, x143, mderwinski@stapostle.org

Sue Sportiello, *Financial Asst.*, x143, ssportiello@stapostle.org

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:

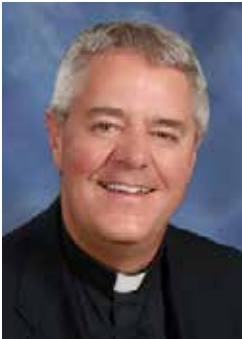
All Saints Catholic Academy

1155 Aurora Ave

Naperville, IL 60540

630.961.6125

in the word



with
fr danaher

Dear Parish Family,

Today we hear Jesus give Simon, son of Jonah, a new name — Peter, from the Latin word “petrus,” meaning “rock.” But look at what kind of “rock” Peter would be. Moments after Peter’s great profession, “You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God,” Jesus foretold His suffering, death

and resurrection, to which the Rock would say, “God forbid, Lord! No such thing shall ever happen to you.” Jesus’ response to that was, “Get behind me Satan.” It was this same Rock who would deny being his Lord’s follower three different times.

Like Peter, our Church has not always been a solid rock. Membership was decimated by government sponsored persecutions. Scandals have inflicted the Church over the centuries. Yet the Church—our Church—has not only survived but thrived because we have made the same profession of faith as Peter did, “You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.” We believe that the Son of the living God is with us, always encouraging us. We will not collapse. We will continue to grow.

I want to take this opportunity to sincerely thank our volunteers who perform an outstanding service to welcome worshipers to Sunday and weekday Masses. Jesus said to Peter that God had influenced Peter to make his profession of faith that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the Living God. Perhaps God is trying to influence other parishioners to step up as greeters and ushers for our liturgies during the Pandemic. If you are not yet a volunteer, please open your hearts to helping us in this important ministry.

In the Word,

Fr. Danaher



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Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time

August 23, 2020

“Whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven; and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.”

— Matthew 16:19

Liturgy Schedule

Daily

Mass: 8:30 am, Monday – Friday

In addition, the St. Thomas Deacons record a Daily Prayer Service that is available to watch on demand at www.stapostle.org

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

Reconciliation

St. Thomas offers the Sacrament of Reconciliation before the Saturday 4:30 pm Mass. Reconciliation will be from 3:30–4:15 pm in the Galilee Room. Please check the website for full details.

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

In answer to Jesus' query about his identity, the disciples tell Jesus what others are saying about him. Jesus is not simply initiating an open discussion. He is leading the disciples to a personal understanding and profession of who he is. Peter arrives there when he acclaims, "You are the Christ." Each of us must come to this same personal profession about who Jesus is through our own personal encounters with Him.

Readings for Today

First Reading — Eliakim is destined by God to be a father to those who live in Jerusalem (Isaiah 22:19-23).

Psalm — Lord, your love is eternal; do not forsake the work of your hands (Psalm 138).

Second Reading — How deep are the riches and the wisdom and the knowledge of God! (Romans 11:33-36).

Gospel — Jesus asked the disciples, "Who do you say that I am?" Peter replied, "You are the Christ" (Matthew 16:13-20).

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: Rv 21:9b-14; Ps 145:10-13, 17-18; Jn 1:45-51

Tuesday: 2 Thes 2:1-3a, 14-17; Ps 96:10-13; Mt 23:23-26

Wednesday: 2 Thes 3:6-10, 16-18; Ps 128:1-2, 4-5; Mt 23:27-32

Thursday: 1 Cor 1:1-9; Ps 145:2-7; Mt 24:42-51

Friday: 1 Cor 1:17-25; Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 10-11; Mt 25:1-13

Saturday: 1 Cor 1:26-31; Ps 33:12-13, 18-21; Mk 6:17-29

Sunday: Jer 20:7-9; Ps 63:2-6, 8-9; Rom 12:1-2; Mt 16:21-27

Prayer

Christ Jesus,

we believe

that you give us a cross

as a gift

to enable us

to share in the freedom

that you alone can give.

Help us to let go of all the things

that keep us far from you.

Help us to embrace your cross

so that it may become our cross,

our gift, our hope,

and our path to new life.

Amen.

Presider Schedule August 29–30

Saturday, August 29

4:30 pm – Fr. Joseph Kappilumakkal

Sunday, August 30

9:30 am – Fr. Philip Danaher

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, August 24, 2020

8:30 am †William Raef, by The Battisto Family

Tuesday, August 25, 2020

8:30 am †Mass

Wednesday, August 26, 2020

8:30 am †Jo Kuffner, by Gene Foley

Thursday, August 27, 2020

8:30 am †Ronald Buettner, by Mary Wright

Friday, August 28, 2020

8:30 am †Mass

Saturday, August 29, 2020

8:30 am †Rosario Quattrochi, by The Battisto Family

4:30 pm *Mass of Anticipation*

†Hugh Armstrong, by Bob, Terri and Tony

†Tom McGrath, by Bear and Kathy Ferguson

†Ferdinand DeGuzman, by The DeGuzman Family

Sunday, August 30, 2020

Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 am For the People of St. Thomas

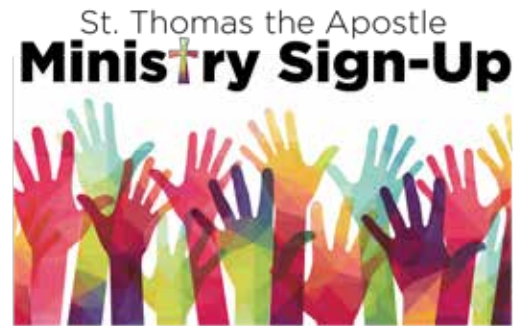
9:30 am †Mary Patricia Storto, by Mark and Dottie Storto

11:15 am †Mary Anne Krajewski, by Paul and Carol

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!



Exciting New Ministry Opportunities!

With COVID-19 we have had to re-imagine and revamp many things we do with Liturgy as our primary way of reaching parishioners is now via the internet. We began recording Masses beginning Sunday, March 22, and now are livestreaming our two weekend Masses for people to be able to watch from home live or watch at their convenience. Thanks to a generous donation, last weekend we began using a new professional camera that allows us to zoom, pan and show the congregation to provide an even better sense of connection for those watching at home. With this new technology comes the need for additional help. There are two new ministry options that are outlined below. If you would be interested in helping out with either of them, contact Jim Clauer, Director of Liturgy and Music, at 630.355.8980, x111 or jclauer@stapostle.org. One-on-one training will be provided. Both of these ministries would also be great for teens who know and enjoy technology.

Camera Operator (Videographer)

The main responsibility of this ministry is to operate the camera during Mass. You will zoom in and out, pan the camera to the correct area of focus during the Mass. If you have ever used a camcorder, you will have no trouble doing this, as it is basically all the same. There will be a minor secondary responsibility of starting and ending the livestream on the computer.

Multimedia Coordinator

The main responsibility of this ministry is to handle the slides we project on the screen before and during Mass. They will close out the pre-Mass slide show and queue up the slides we use during Mass. And then manually advance the slides used during Mass in-sync with the congregation using a wireless remote. On some occasions it may also mean playing a video. Basic PowerPoint knowledge is helpful, but not required.

St. Thomas Lenten Project Revival

Due the COVID-19 pandemic, there was no opportunity to collect donations for Bethany House. We are reviving the 2020 Lenten project in August to help Bethany House help others.



Bethany House of Hospitality

Welcome the Stranger

Bethany House provides housing and support services to young immigrant women as they journey to independence. The project goal is \$7,000. Please make a donation, as you are able:

- Little Brown Boxes (place in basket at Mass exits, drop off at church Monday–Friday, 9:00 am–12:00 pm)
- Check “St Thomas OSJ” with “Bethany House” in memo. (basket at Mass exits, drop off at church Monday–Friday, 9:00 am–12:00 pm, mail to St. Thomas OSJ)
- On-Line Donation <https://www.osvonlinegiving.com/1479/DirectDonate/76402>. Be aware that a credit card processing charge of 3.4% will be deducted from donation.

Elizabeth’s Story

Imagine you are 18 years old and have spent fully half of your life searching for a safe and welcoming place. Elizabeth fled the Democratic Republic of the Congo at nine years old to escape a brutal civil war . . . and after refugee camps in Angola and Brazil, she finally arrived at Bethany House. She is working on her high school diploma and has just received a work permit. Efforts to find her family left in Angola have been unsuccessful, but Elizabeth holds out hope. For now, the people at Bethany House are her family.

“Oh, I’m Free!” Mary’s Story

What does Bethany House mean to Mary? “Oh, I’m free!” BHH works so these young immigrant women can be free of a traumatic past . . . free to dream widely, and sometimes wildly, about their future. Mary has lived at BHH for six months. She works a full-time factory job. She saves her money for driving lessons and a future apartment. She prepares to take the GED tests. “I can do things that I was never able to do in my past life.”

Bethany House of Hospitality

Located in Chicago and sustained in some ways by a number of women’s religious communities, Bethany House of Hospitality offers housing and support services to young immigrant women as they journey to independence. Bethany House residents are currently from El Salvador, Ethiopia, Eritrea, Guatemala, Somalia, Venezuela, Honduras, Saudi Arabia and Sudan.

Faith and Formation Commission — Adult

C.A.R.E. CORNER

In the year 410, the city of Rome was sacked by the Huns. The Catholic Church was a major presence throughout the Empire, but especially in Rome. **Challenges** to the Church just kept coming. By the late fifth century, the Roman Empire had collapsed, leaving the people without any local political or military leadership. The conquering pagan kings rushed in and took over. But the Catholic Church and her bishops remained. And even in the midst of these **difficult circumstances**, the Church rose to the **challenging** task of helping people move forward.

It was our Church leaders who began to introduce the Christian faith to the pagans. And even though cities and property had been destroyed, the monasteries survived. The monks continued to preach about Jesus Christ; they spread the faith; they taught people how to read and write. And they were the ones who overcame numerous **obstacles** to protect the Scriptures and other Christian writings. In their wisdom, they also protected Greek and Roman books, literature, poetry, and law texts which otherwise we would have no knowledge of. This was also the era of St. Patrick and his missionary efforts to Ireland — the northern most part of the Empire at the time.

Bible Study this Fall

This Fall, we will again continue the Study of the Bible on Wednesdays and Thursdays.

Wednesday class is from 9:30–11:30 am and starts September 9. We will be studying the two Books of Samuel. Samuel has a list of wonderful characters. These are Books in the Old Testament but please consider studying them. You will be able to relate to the Books of the New Testament as well as the happenings of today.

Thursday class is either 9:30–11:30 am or 7:30–9:00 pm (you choose) and starts September 10. Thursday class will be an exploration in story, song and discussion of the Book of Psalms, the ‘prayer book of the Bible’ that covers every human emotion and circumstance.

We welcome all newcomers. The cost is only for the book. New Members should contact Chari Rosales at croales@stapostle.org or 630.355.8980, x138.

Faith and Formation Commission — Youth

From the New Director of Elementary Religious Education

Hello Everyone,

I am excited about our elementary RE program this year! Please read this as it mentions important changes to RE classes. The Religious Education classes will start soon on September 12 or 15 so if you haven't registered, please get this on your to do list soonest. It really helps for planning purposes.

Please know, this year's classes follow the State of Illinois safety regulations. They are also being reviewed and approved by the Diocese of Joliet. The safety of you and your children is most important to us.

You are an integral part of the St. Thomas family. St. Thomas Religious

Education is an extension of our faith family, where children learn that Jesus loves everyone and one is never alone.

RE Class Tuesday 4:30–5:45 pm

RE Class Saturday 8:30–9:45 am

- Outside Initially on St. Thomas the Apostle Grounds
- Tuesday Inside at St Thomas the Apostle Church Ministry Center
- Saturday Inside at All Saints Catholic Academy

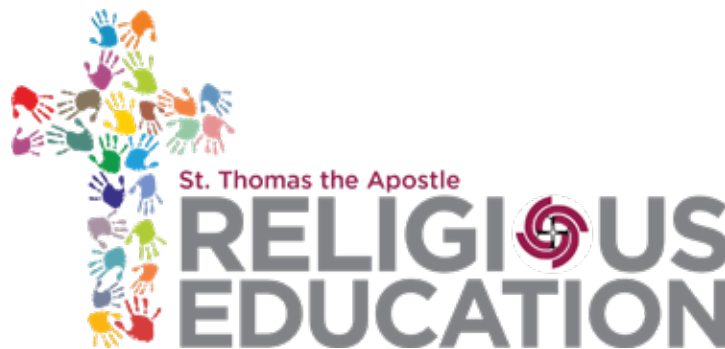
Another option is homeschooling your child(ren) where you are the teacher. You will receive a book and other supporting material as well as a regular check-in on your child's progress. I look forward to our exciting Religious Education journey together. Please feel free to contact me so that I may address any of your concerns.

Lorraine Katz

Elementary DRE

lkatz@stapostle.org

630.355.8980, x109



Be sure to go to the St. Thomas website at www.stapostle.org to watch a short video Lorraine put together introducing herself to St. Thomas.

Religious Education Registration

Religious education registration materials for the 2020-2021 year are available online at <https://www.stapostle.org/religious-education/registration-forms/>. Return registration forms as soon as possible. Early registration helps us in our planning.

Your gifts are needed! Catechists and Aides are needed! We could use your help in the following ways: elementary grade catechists for grades 1, 2 and 5, elementary grade aides, middle school (in-person) catechist for Saturday morning classes and middle school Zoom catechist. Our RE year begins soon. Please consider volunteering.

All Catechists Meeting: Chasing Joy

Elementary, middle school, high school and adult catechists are invited to start the year together by attending the All Catechists Meeting on Tuesday, August 25, from 7:00–9:00 pm. Dr. Terry Nelson-Johnson will present Chasing Joy. Terry's art is the written and spoken word. Through storytelling, poetry and humor, Dr. Nelson-Johnson challenges us to enter more deeply into the mystery of grace, the mystery of spirit, the mystery of God. If Joy is one of the most important gifts that we have to offer the world as Christians and catechists, let's spend some time together to consider how we might more fully, authentically live in the midst of it, always.

We will be holding this meeting in the church. (Enter through the main doors of the church). **We are asking that catechists sign up online for the meeting. Please sign up at www.stapostle.org.**

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."

The COVID pandemic has allowed for some new and different ways to minister to and with middle school students. There is currently a need for an in-person Saturday morning 6th grade catechist. If you are hesitant to be in a group of students, you can still minister to middle school students by being a catechist for a Zoom middle school RE class. Like Christine says, it is an amazing journey. If you EVER thought 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.

Words to Encourage and Guide

If you're about to start ninth grade:

Congratulations on a job well done, finishing eighth grade during a pandemic. Now that high school is here and everything for your generation is changing, continue to grow in empathy and connect with a new person each week. Making memories starts with taking risks, putting yourself out there and including those left behind in what's going on.

If you're about to start twelfth grade:

Your last year of high school will not be like you dreamed, with all our traditional milestones. But be patient. Your final year of high school will still be filled with the anxiety of completing college applications, the discomfort of waiting so long for their approval/disapproval and meeting new friends (albeit via Zoom or some other online platform).

Have patience for your teachers and administrators as they figure out what is best for your school with this super contagious virus on the loose. Take initiative to contribute to the conversations at your school. After all, your generation's call is to transform this world beyond even what many of us adults even think is possible.

(Excerpts from "Words to encourage and guide, wherever you find yourself during this pandemic" by Jocelyn Sideco, National Catholic Reporter)

thank you

Dear St. Thomas Faith Family,

Thank you for the lovely notes, cards and emails, for the beautiful flowers and handprints, for your generous gifts, all wishing me well on my retirement. I am overwhelmed with gratitude.

We are all on a journey striving to deepen our relationship with Jesus, and live out our faith, as we love our families and manage our jobs, so that we may care for our families, and others as Jesus has taught us.

My time at St Thomas has been a wonderful part of that journey. I have been very blessed to be a part of this faith community, serving you, and especially the children and their families. Thank you for trusting me, encouraging me and forgiving me when I made mistakes.

I have been blessed to work alongside such a dedicated staff for 29 years, and I am especially blessed and grateful for our dedicated volunteers. YOU are such faith-filled servants of the Lord.

Your commitment and dedication to sharing our faith, especially with the youth of this parish, has been awe-inspiring. To you I say "Thank you." Thank you for serving! Everything I did was easy because of all you.

St. Thomas has been my calling, my second family and a true gift to me. While I am retiring in August, I look forward to continuing to participate in this community in a new way.

In closing, I will pray for you, I name you in my heart and ask all God's blessings be upon you.

Peace,
Patti Dougherty

Question of the week ...

Who are you called to be?



Service Commission — Pastoral Care

From the Office of the Parish Nurse:

Nutrition Knowledge — Hydrated and Healthy

Our bodies are about 70% water. We know water is good for us, but do we know why?

Water is essential for every system in our body because when we take in water, it goes in through our digestive system and is then distributed through our blood to every part of our body. This carries with it the good nutrients that we need and delivers them where they are beneficial, and then carries away the toxins that result from our body processes. If our blood is low on water, it makes that distribution and elimination very inefficient. Think of adequate hydration as “flushing” our body to clean out the bad things and keep our cells clean and working properly.

Our basic daily water need is our weight in pounds divided in half to give us our ounces of water needed each day: $140\text{lbs.}/2 = 70$ ounces. We will need more if it's hot or we are sweating.

Do we need more than plain water? Yes and no. There are times when we need to replenish electrolytes, and a hydrating/electrolyte beverage (low or no sugar, please) is best:

- Exercising more than one hour
- Sweat heavily during exercise
- Vomiting or diarrhea
- Heat exposure for long periods

But ... generally regular water is just fine. There is a trend out there to add minerals to our water. This may be helpful to keep our trace minerals at a good level if we are not eating a good variety of foods. In this case, a pinch of pink Himalayan salt mixed into a glass of water can provide a small amount of a wide array of minerals that may be lost on the purification process of our water. Drinking water leads to healthy hydration and a healthy body. Drink up everyone!

Resource: *Patty Minta RDN, LDN*

From the Behavioral Health Ministry

Opioid/COVID-19

The opioid crisis and COVID-19 pandemic are intersecting with each other and presenting unprecedented challenges for families and communities.

People who suffer from the disease of addiction are particularly vulnerable to both catching the coronavirus and having a more severe disease when they do catch it. There are many reasons for this, but they boil down to something called social determinants of health. According to the CDC people suffering from addiction are vastly more vulnerable to coronavirus, as they are more likely to be homeless, poor, smokers with lung or cardiovascular disease, under-or uninsured, or have experienced serious health and socioeconomic issues from drug addiction. The social isolation that is so critical to preventing the spread of coronavirus prevents people from attending peer-support groups, which are such a vital source of emotional and spiritual support to people struggling to stay in recovery.

What we need to do now is reach out more than ever to those who are struggling with addiction, and provide them with the resources, such as online meetings, so that they are not alone and forgotten during this dual crisis of coronavirus and addiction.

Source: *health.harvard.edu*



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

Summer Mission Appeal Results

Ertha Papillon was our “virtual” mission speaker to benefit her orphanage and school in our Haiti Twinning community. To date donations totaling \$11,300 have been received. Thank you, St. Thomas!

Ertha was very excited to hear the news. She asked that \$8,000 be wired at this time. Her plan is to use the funds to begin work to partially complete the second building construction to allow the boys to have their own sleeping space. Currently all 18 children are crowded into a single building. When completed, the building will also house a dining space for everyone.

If you would like to help Ertha with a donation, there are two ways

1. Checks can be written to “St. Thomas OSJ” with “Ertha” in the memo and sent to St. Thomas OSJ – ATTN: MIKE (1500 Brookdale Rd. Naperville, 60563)
2. The shortcut to donate on-line is <https://www.osvonlinegiving.com/1479/DirectDonate/76238>. Be aware that a credit card processing charge of 3.4% will be deducted from your Ertha Mission Appeal donation.

Mèsi anpil (Creole: Thank you very much)

A Miracle in the Middle of a Pandemic

Fr. Greg Boyle founded Homeboy Industries in 1992, located in East Los Angeles in the midst of multiple gang territories. Homeboy Industries employs and trains thousands of former gang members every year. The following are excerpts from a Los Angeles Times article by Steve Lopez. To read the entire article got to www.stapostle.org and type “miracle” in the Search window.

In the middle of a pandemic, a miracle came to Father Greg Boyle and Homeboy Industries. Peter Laugharn of the Conrad N. Hilton Foundation called Homeboy the largest gang intervention, rehab and reentry program in the world, and said the \$2.5-million award “speaks to the power of standing with people who have been systemically marginalized, creating space for them to heal and invest in their future, with the intention of ending the socioeconomic inequities that impact communities.”

For Boyle, humility is habit. He noted that he is not the recipient of the award; Homeboy is. That includes all the employees and volunteers and all the young men and women who grew up scared, abused and alone, slid into gang life and then knocked one day on Father Boyle’s door, broken, tired and looking for a chance to learn a skill and walk away from trouble.

As if on cue, Alex, 34, whom I’d met at Homeboy a couple of years ago, came over to say hello under the big tent. He just had a baby and wanted to connect with Boyle, who’s going to perform the baptism. Alex told me he’s been doing well, for the most part, since I last saw him. You often hear two voices, he said, one telling you to go for the easy money on the streets, the other telling you there’s no future in that. The latter voice sends him home, and home is here, on North Spring, just across the street from Chinatown. A tap of the heart from the padre. Go in peace.

In normal times, Boyle is on the road more than a trucker. He packs a bag and takes homies with him on speaking tours, or to put a face to the characters in his acclaimed books — “Tattoos on the Heart: The Power of Boundless Compassion” and “Barking to the Choir: The Power of Radical Kinship.”

And the good news goes beyond the humanitarian award. Just as the staff was lamenting the forced closure of the Homegirl café, Homeboy was able to line up city and county contacts and began producing 10,000 a meals a week for shut-ins and homeless people.

“It kept everybody working, and in the bakery, we have everything from cookies to coffee cake that people are ordering online,” Boyle said. “People are buying tins of cookies and sending them to folks. On paper we would have thought this was going to be a bad moment, but there’s kind of a remarkable, generous spirit out there.”

Tap the heart, spread the word.

St. Thomas Cares

St. Thomas Cares received an email from Loaves & Fishes regarding a family of five in need of hotel help.

“Wife is the mother of three young children and expecting a fourth soon. Her husband is an automotive tech who lost his job due to COVID. They have been staying in a hotel for many months, looking for permanent housing but being turned down. Now, they are out of money, the hotel will evict them on Friday and there are no shelters open. Loaves & Fishes can give money for a few more days in the hotel, but they need more. They have applied with Bridge Transitional Housing and there is a good chance they will be accepted this Friday. DuPage County and DuPage PADS have both declined to assist at this time. Is there anything you can do to help this family?”

St. Thomas Cares provided one week in the hotel. That was back on July 9. The family was accepted into Bridge Transitional Housing. Recently we received the following thank you from the mother.

“Thank you for your kind donation to my family in our time of need. You provided a roof for my children’s heads when my husband and I could not, and for that I will always be grateful. We will pay this kindness forward to another family in need.”

From the beginning of July through the middle of August, St. Thomas Cares has provided \$5,300 to 20 families in need of emergency assistance — motel, rent, utilities and car repairs, as well as gas cards and Target/Walmart cards. Two cars donated by St. Thomas parishioners were donated to families in need of transportation. St. Thomas paid for the title transfer fees, registration and license plates.

Thank you to St. Thomas parishioners for providing the resources that allow these good works to happen!

Stewardship and Administration

Help Wanted

Please see the St. Thomas website at www.stapostle.org for complete descriptions of the job opportunity listed below.

- Full-time Network Admin/IT Coordinator at the Diocese of Joliet

Restricted Gift Policy Effective November 1, 2017

1) Notwithstanding restricted donation funds active since July 1, 2015, all individual new-purpose restricted donations exceeding \$500.00, whether solicited or unsolicited, must be approved by the pastor prior to solicitation or receipt/acceptance, whichever is earlier. This provision is effective November 1, 2017.

2) Restricted donations will be expended before the second fiscal year-end after the fiscal year of receipt. If the donation has not been expended in accordance with the restriction within two fiscal year-ends, the donated funds will be directed to a related ministry use and notice given to donors where practical. For example, if donations for the purchase of a new musical instrument received in November 2016 (FY16-17) exceed the cost of the instrument, the excess funds will support or supplement music ministry no later than June 2019 (FY 18-19). The funds may continue to be held for the restricted purpose beyond this time if the extended time is approved by the pastor.

3) With respect to restricted funds on hand at adoption of the policy, every effort should be made to fulfill reasonable donor expectations that the funds will be expended for the intended purpose within the timeframe described in 2 above. In cases where fulfillment expenditures are no longer practical, permission should be sought from the donor(s) to redirect the funds to a related ministry and expended within the timeframe described above. The pastor may extend the holding period.

Notice will be published in the bulletin and website notifying donors of the new restricted donation and expenditure policy, and thereafter at least semi-annually. Donors of a restricted gift of \$500.00 or more will receive a copy of the policy at the time of the donation.

Last weekend's stewardship of financial gifts

Weekly Sunday Offertory

August 9, 2020	
Sunday Collection Offering*	\$10,563
Credit Card On-Line Giving	none this week
Automatic Direct Debit (5 th and 20 th each month)	\$22,203
Mailed in and stock donations	\$5,720
Total for the week	\$38,846
<small>*Based on Collection Counters Reports prior to bank confirmation</small>	
Fiscal Year (7/1 to 6/30)	\$196,022
Weekly Average 7/1/2019 to date	\$32,670
Offertory Goal Year to date	\$202,135
Over/short of goal to date	(\$6,113)
Goal for Fiscal Year 7/1 to 6/30	\$1,751,833
Percent of Annual Sunday Offertory Goal	11%
Remaining for Fiscal Year goal	\$1,555,811

This week, the Sunday collection is \$6,113 behind goal so far this year. Capital needs restricted gifts were \$45 this past week. We are grateful to those who recognize the need and responded.

Diocesan Appeal 2020

Parish Appeal Goal	\$174,600
Pledges Received	\$136,344
Percent of Goal pledged to date	78.09%
Unpaid pledges	\$19,707
Paid to Date	\$116,637
Percent of goal paid to date	66.80

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.



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