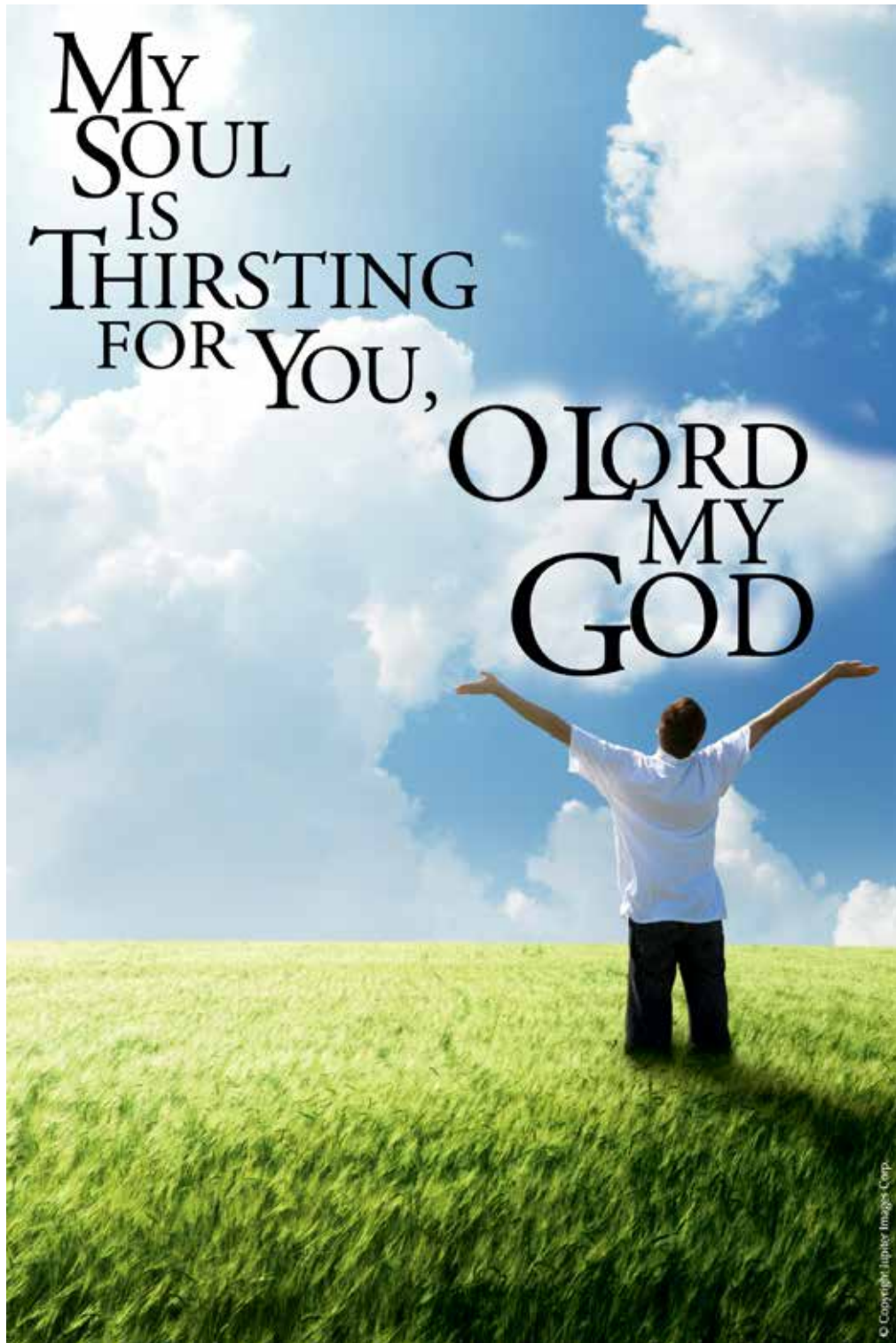


St. Thomas

NOVEMBER 8, 2020 — THIRTY-SECOND 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. Ronald A. Hicks, Bishop

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, 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

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

Lorraine Katz, *Director of Religious Education*, x109, lkatz@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

Beth Cecil, * *Faith Formation Administrative Assistant*, x118, REAdmin@stapostle.org

Jenni Kennedy, * *Faith Formation Administrative Assistant*, x118, REAdmin@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

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

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

Chris Ridge, * *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

Mike McCormick

Brittany Tres

Commission Representatives

Carrie Wujek, *Faith & Spiritual Formation*

Linda Bailey, *Service*

Susan Wood O'Leary, *Finance*

Barbara Mambu, *Stewardship*

Deb Scheckel, *Parish Life*

Jeff Balsewicz, *Worship*

Ex-Officio

Fr. Philip Danaher, *Pastor*

Rev. Joseph Kappilumakkal, *Parochial Vicar*

Janet Simmons, *Recording Secretary*

*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 2:00 pm service (will move to 1:00 pm in 2021). 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,

Something about repeating words or phrases in our prayers is that they oftentimes become routine without our even giving them another thought. Look at these words from the Lord's Prayer; "Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us." Do we ever stop to

think that we are saying that we will forgive others in the same way we're asking God to forgive us?

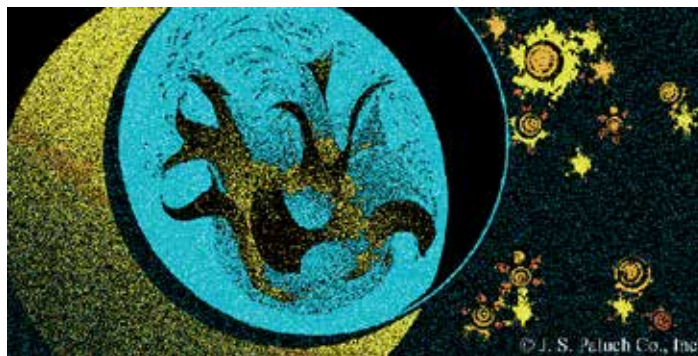
Then there are these words at the end the Nicene Creed; "I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come." Do we really look forward to our own passing from this world to the next? How often have we heard, maybe even said ourselves, "If I die," instead of "When I die?"

What about the prayer after the Lord's Prayer? "By the help of your mercy, we may be always free from sin and safe from all distress, **as we await the blessed hope and the coming of our Savior, Jesus Christ.** The coming of Jesus is the end of the world. Is it truly a "blessed" hope or is our end something that we don't want to think about?

According to today's second reading from St. Paul's letter to the Thessalonians, our end is truly a blessed hope. "We do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters, about those who have fallen asleep, so that you may not grieve like the rest, who have no hope... Thus we shall always be with the Lord. Therefore, console one another with these words."

As we await the blessed hope of the coming of Jesus, let us believe and trust that it is also a blessed hope for our Lord Himself for us to come to Him so that He can finally welcome us with open arms to His kingdom of eternal peace and joy.

In the Word,



Thirty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time

November 8, 2020

Stay awake, for you know neither the day nor the hour.

— *Matthew 25:13*

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

Church Office Hours

Starting in November, the office hours at St. Thomas will be:

9:00 am–3:00 pm Monday–Friday

9:00 am–1:00 pm Saturdays

Evenings will vary according to needs. You can call to check on times before coming. Please enter through Door A.

Worship Commission — Liturgy and Music

Reflection on the Readings

It's easy to become complacent about life, our faith and our commitments when we get caught up in the demands of daily life. As we approach the end of this liturgical year, we are called to pay attention to what really matters. Today's readings remind us to focus on the bigger picture of eternal life and to question our focus, our energy and how we use our resources. We are called to look away from the superficial and to remember that time is not unlimited. We do not know the day nor the hour when we will be thrust into eternity. How are we preparing for it?

Readings for Today

First Reading — Wisdom is easily discerned by those who love her (Wisdom 6:12-16).

Psalm — My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God (Psalm 63).

Second Reading — Since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died (1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 [13-14]).

Gospel — Stay awake! You know neither the day nor the hour (Matthew 25:1-13).

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: Ez 47:1-2, 8-9, 12; Ps 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9; 1 Cor 3:9c-11, 16-17; Jn 2:13-22

Tuesday: Ti 2:1-8, 11-14; Ps 37:3-4, 18, 23, 27, 29; Lk 17:7-10

Wednesday: Ti 3:1-7; Ps 23:1b-6; Lk 17:11-19

Thursday: Phlm 7-20; Ps 146:7-10; Lk 17:20-25

Friday: 2 Jn 4-9; Ps 119:1-2, 10-11, 17-18; Lk 17:26-37

Saturday: 3 Jn 5-8; Ps 112:1-6; Lk 18:1-8

Sunday: Prv 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31; Ps 128:1-5; 1 Thes 5:1-6; Mt 25:14-30 [14-15, 19-21]

They are with us still

By Kathleen McTigue

*In the struggles we choose for ourselves,
in the ways we move forward in our lives
and bring our world forward with us.*

*It is right to remember the names of those
who gave us strength in this choice of living.
It is right to name the power of hard lives well-lived.*

We share a history with those lives. We belong to the same motion.

*They too were strengthened by what had gone before.
They too were drawn on by the vision of what might come to be.*

*Those who lived before us,
who struggled for justice and suffered injustice before us,
have not melted into the dust, and have not disappeared.*

They are with us still. The lives they lived hold us steady.

*Their words remind us and call us back to ourselves.
Their courage and love evoke our own.*

*We, the living, carry them with us:
we are their voices, their hands and their hearts.*

We take them with us, and with them choose the deeper path of living.

From Becoming: A Spiritual Guide for Navigating Adulthood (Skinner House Books)

Presider Schedule November 14–15

Saturday, November 14

4:30 pm – Fr. Philip Danaher

Sunday, November 15

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, November 9, 2020

8:30 am †Edward DeGeeter, by Buddy and Mely Mallorca

Tuesday, November 10, 2020

Saint Leo the Great, Pope and Doctor of the Church

8:30 am †The Lopez Family, by Amy DeGuzman and Kids

Wednesday, November 11, 2020

Saint Martin of Tours, Bishop

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

Thursday, November 12, 2020

Saint Josaphat, Bishop and Martyr

8:30 am †Bill Mann, by Buddy and Mely Mallorca

Friday, November 13, 2020

USA: Saint Frances Xavier Cabrini, Virgin

8:30 am †John Zeitz, by The Kovach Family

Saturday, November 14, 2020

8:30 am †Dean DeGeeter, by The Schmitts and The Cuffs

4:30 pm *Mass of Anticipation*

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

†Rita Hugh Armstrong, by Bob, Terri and Tony

†Dean DeGeeter, by The Schmitts and The Cuffs

†Jeanne Bielenda, by John and Beth Dobby

Sunday, November 15, 2020

Thirty-Third 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 †Margaret Gambs, by The Nesterowicz Family

Thanksgiving Day Mass

St. Thomas' Thanksgiving Day Mass will be Thursday, November 26 at 9:00 am in the Church. Fr. Philip Danaher will be the Presider. All are invited to bring bread and wine that you will use over the Thanksgiving holiday to be blessed at this Mass. You will keep these items in the pew with you, and after the liturgy, you will take home the items that you brought.

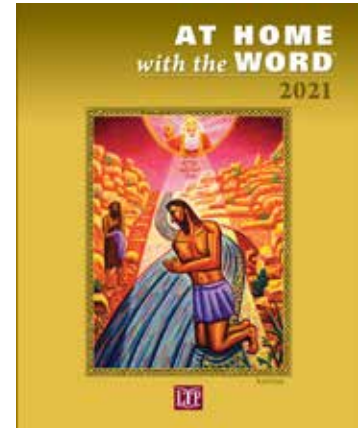


At Home with the Word

The *At Home with the Word* book is a great tool for breaking open the Sunday Scriptures at home — helping you to reflect further on God's Word, and preparing to celebrate the Sunday Liturgy. Commentaries about the readings assist in comprehension and a deeper dive into the Sacred Scripture.

Books are for sale at the Front Desk Monday–Friday, 9:00 am–3:00 pm or Saturday, 9:00 am–1:00 pm

Regular Print \$9.00
Large Print \$13.00
Check or exact cash ONLY.



WORSHIP Wednesday St. Thomas the Apostle

The Liturgy and Music Department at St. Thomas the Apostle is working to provide a new, virtual faith activity for the community. As the Youth Choir cannot resume this Fall, the orientation for these weekly services is geared toward children and families, but of course all children of God can benefit from Scripture, Prayer and Song.

Each Wednesday, a video will be posted on the website of a short (less than 10 minutes) service of Word and Song, provided by varying members of the St. Thomas staff and community. These Worship Wednesdays will give a mid-week opportunity to gather in prayer, delve into scripture and unite in song.

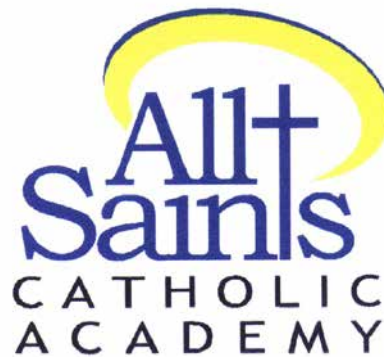
Please join us!

Faith and Formation Commission — Adult

C.A.R.E. CORNER

The Catholic Church has always had a **target** on it's back. It has been **criticized** and faced **adversity** for the 2000 years of its existence. And with today's global and 24/7 media, that is ever more apparent. The hallmark of Christianity was to promote a worldview that included God: the Author of Life who created our universe; the Master Architect who was and is in charge and has a master plan; the Divine Parent who gave us life and infuses our lives with significance. We humans were made to live according to God's plan for human life. And God calls us humans to a life of connection with and dependence on God, and to a life of sacrifice that puts others first, a life of service to one another, a life that focuses on what matters most to God.

Christians have always been **challenged** to live differently than the rest of the world. Jesus left us the Greatest Commandment: to love the Lord with all your heart, soul, mind and strength and to love others as if they were you, yourself. In the face of so much **opposition**, can we, today's Christian disciples, live courageously and confidently for the Lord and be effective representatives of his Church? Can we love all of our neighbors and even our enemies as Jesus commanded? Can we be peacemakers and reconcilers and take responsibility for our own misdeeds, rather than pointing fingers elsewhere and blaming others? Such lofty goals always pose a **challenge**.



News from All Saints Catholic Academy

Second Grade is a Great Year to be a Saint

The second graders at All Saints Catholic Academy have been **hard at work** during this first quarter at school, which just ended at the end of October — **43 days of 5 day in person instruction!**

In Religion class, students have been learning about church celebrations, the two parts of the Bible and how each one of us can accept God's invitation through scripture. Every week, we read, break open and discuss the coming Sunday's Gospel.

Second grade is a big sacrament year. Students have begun the journey to preparing for their first reconciliation. The children are learning **how to make good decisions** and **how to be the best versions of themselves!**

In Language Arts, students have tackled realistic fiction, fantasy and expository text, examining the characteristics of each. Our second graders have reviewed and reinforced all of the short vowel sounds as well as blends. This school year, they will spend a lot of time **building reading fluency and comprehension skills.**

The second graders **love having their own iPads** in our classrooms. They are **exploring new books** with Epic!, **practicing their math skills** on IXL and **learning to share with their families** using Seesaw.

All Saints has welcomed **many new students to the school**, and in particular, in the second grade. Students have enjoyed making friends, and, most of all, having the opportunity **to be back at school with their teachers and other children.**

What a blessing it has been to return to school this year!

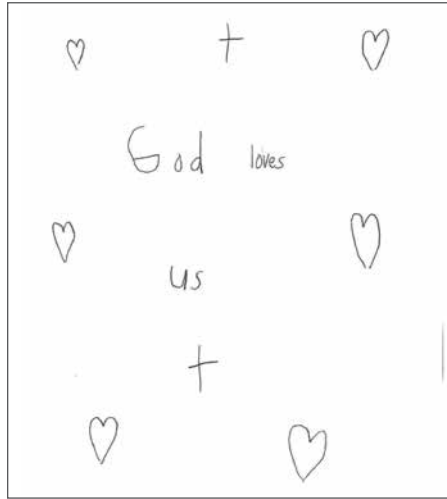


Fifth Graders Spruce up the Bulletin with their Artwork

Fifth graders in RE took some time to lend their artistic talents to the bulletin. Their efforts are below. You can see them in color on the St. Thomas website at www.stapostle.org.



~ Adam



~ Will



~ Simon



~ Damian



~ Giuliana



~ Grace



~ Timid

Faith and Formation Commission — Youth



St. Thomas the Apostle

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Reminder First Communion Home Books Available

First Communion booklets are available for pickup by parents who have a child who will receive their First Communion in the spring. This is for parents who previously attended a First Communion parent enrichment session with an older sibling. Parents who recently attended a First Communion parent enrichment session received a book at the session. The home booklets are to work with your child to help prepare for First Communion. Contact Lorraine Katz at lkatz@stapostle.org or 630.355.8980, x109 for more information.

Third Grade RE Classes

Third Grade RE students recently came to the Church for RE classes. There, they visited with Father Danaher, learned about Our Lady of Guadalupe, toured the Church and learned to pray the labyrinth. Did you know St. Thomas has an outdoor labyrinth for praying anytime? Thank you to Mary Beth Nagai, who helped the third grade catechists in this event.

Reconciliation Parent Enrichment Session

Is your child in fourth grade Religious Education classes or home school option? Then, you are invited to a Parent Enrichment Session for First Reconciliation. The meeting is November 14 at 11:00 am or the make-up session November 16 at 7:15 pm. This is for parents only. You need to only attend one meeting. Please contact Lorraine Katz at lkatz@stapostle.org or 630.355.8980, x109 if you didn't receive an information packet in the mail.

Fourth Grade Mass

Reminder: Fourth grade students and their families are invited to the fourth grade Mass on Saturday, November 14 at 4:30 pm. The fourth graders have been working very hard on learning about the Mass. They will be contributing in various ways throughout the Mass.

Religious Education Tuition Angel

Would you like to be a tuition angel for a family attending Religious Education (RE) classes? For some of our St. Thomas families, it is a struggle to pay their RE tuition. If you can help, the fees are: \$120 for one child, \$200 for two children or \$260 for three children. Checks are made payable to St. Thomas the Apostle. Please write tuition gift on the memo line of the check. Please send it to the Faith Formation/Religious Education Office, attention Lorraine Katz. Thank you for your generosity of being a tuition angel. It is greatly appreciated.

Question of the week ...

How is Jesus a gift in your life?



Harvest Sunday Thank You

There was plenty about this Harvest Sunday that was different. We decreased the number of routes, offered the drive-through donation drop-off for families, offered the option to donation through Amazon and changed the way that we did the food sorting and packing.

We wondered what kind of response there would be to a food drive during a pandemic. A pandemic can force a lot of changes, but it can't change things like generous hearts and willing spirits. Your response to Harvest Sunday was overwhelming. Although final numbers are not yet available, we do know that we far surpassed our numbers from last year.

Thank you to all of the volunteers ... those who covered neighborhood routes, those who braved the cold at Casey's and those who helped with the sorting and packing. Thank you, also, to all of those who donated food. You are the hands and feet of Christ in our hurting world!



Middle School Students Tape Boxes for Harvest Sunday

It takes many people doing many tasks in order for Harvest Sunday to be successful. All food collected is packed into boxes. The boxes arrive flat on pallets; they need to be taped so they are ready to go! On Saturday morning, October 31, Middle School students taped and taped and taped some more. The group put together 605 boxes.

The Middle School students brought energy and enthusiasm to their work. They were doing God's work to help feed those who do not have enough to eat. The morning was an example of the Good News being proclaimed through servant action.

Thank you to all from Middle School who participated in the box taping. Thank you to Peggy Goralski, Director of Middle School Religious Education, for involving the students in a great St. Thomas tradition.

A BIG shout

A BIG shout out goes to our St. Thomas young people who took part in the parish celebration of World Youth Day weekend: Joe Howley, James Reitmann, Katelyn Garlough and Lorelai Garlough who proclaimed the readings, and Samantha Miles and Kevin Schuele who witnessed as to how St. Thomas has impacted their faith. Thank you so much!



Teens with Character

Middle school students ... Teens with Character will meet on Sunday, November 15, from 4:30–6:00 pm, at St. Thomas. Bring your facemask and join us. Games, faith sharing, checking in with each other are all part of the Teens with Character experience. We would love to see you!



Important Dates for Middle School RE

November 7, 14, 21
November 9, 16

Saturday middle school RE classes meet
Monday middle school RE classes meet

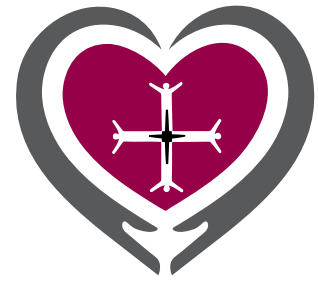
Service Commission — Pastoral Care

From the Behavioral Health Ministry Acknowledging Our COVID-19 Losses and Planning Healthy Holidays

Wednesday, November 11, 2020

7:00–8:30 pm

Virtual/Online Zoom Meeting offered by St. Thomas the Apostle



PASTORAL CARE

St. Thomas the Apostle

We have experienced all kinds of losses due to COVID-19 this year. Grieving those losses can be exhausting, yet it is important and healthy to do so. And our holidays this year may be missing some of our favorite traditions and people. We have to figure out how to celebrate holidays with healthy practices and in a way that is meaningful to us, perhaps even starting some new traditions. During this meeting, we will acknowledge the losses as well as consider new ways to bring hope, laughter and gratitude to this 2020 holiday season.

This is open to the community as well as St. Thomas parishioners. There is no cost, but you must register, have an email address, a personal computer, tablet or smartphone, and be familiar with the basics of joining a Zoom meeting. For information or to register, or if you have a need we might help with, call Susan Kearney, Coordinator of Behavioral Health Ministry, 630.355.8980, x108 sdkearney@comcast.net by Monday, November 9. We'll confirm your email, and then you will receive an invitation via email to the Zoom meeting the day before, on November 10.

People Need People

- On average, 1 in every 7 people entering a hospital will need blood.
- Hospitals can only receive blood from volunteer donors.
- Shortages of all blood types most often occur during summer and winter holidays.
- The number one reason blood donors say they give is they “want to help others.”

Source: Versiti, Inc.

Let's focus on helping others and sign up to donate.

Saturday, November 21, 2020

9:00 am–2:00 pm

Albert Ruben Riverwalk Community Center, 305 W. Jackson Avenue, Naperville

To reserve a spot click on the link below:

https://donate.illinois.versiti.org/donor/schedules/drive_schedule/5588373

Every Blood Donor is a Hero!

If you have any questions, please contact Diane McQueen at dmcqueen@stapostle.org or 630.355.8980, x101.



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

From the Office of the Parish Nurse: Parkinson's Disease: The Basics Part I

What is Parkinson's Disease?

Parkinson's disease (PD) is a neurologic condition caused by insufficient levels of dopamine in the brain. The neurotransmitter (chemical messenger), dopamine, is essential for normal movements. PD affects about 1 percent of people older than 60 years of age, and it affects more men than women. In early-onset Parkinson's disease, symptoms appear before the age of 50. Some reports suggest that 10 percent of all cases are early onset.

What are the Risk Factors?

The disease ordinarily begins in middle or late life, and the risk continues to increase with age. Having a close relative with the condition increases the chances that you'll also develop the disease, however, your risks are still small unless you have many relatives in your family with condition. Ongoing exposure to herbicides and pesticides may put you at a slightly increases risk.

What are the symptoms?

Recent research has found that Parkinson's disease begins years and possibly decades before motor problems appear. The earliest motor symptom usually involves a subtle tremor in the hands.

Other symptoms may include:

- Loss of the ability to smell.
- Diminished facial expression, a soft voice, and small handwriting.
- Trembling in the hands, arms or legs that tends to begin on one side of the body.
- Rigidity of muscles in the arms, legs and trunk.
- Slower movement, in advanced stages, hesitancy or transient freezing of movement may develop.
- Trouble with balance and coordination.
- Depression and other mood changes, difficulty sleeping.
- Difficulty planning and carrying out tasks, memory problems.

Source: National Library of Medicine, National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke Brain & Life

Caregiver Support Group

"Listen," a caregiver support group meets at St. Elizabeth Seton Catholic Church. Please email wlisten2017@gmail.com or call Joe at 630.569.1635 with any questions.

Please Continue Giving to St. Thomas

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.

From the Behavioral Health Ministry

The following is from the Australian Bishops conference who this year chose Mental Illness as their Justice Issue:



Jesus, you invite us all into the fullness of life.

May we support one another to flourish in body, mind and spirit.

Strengthen our commitment to ensure that nobody falls through gaps in our systems of care.

People called you mad.

Help us to recognize you in those who suffer mental ill-health today.

Show us how to eliminate stigmatization of mental ill-health from our parishes, schools, communities and organizations.

You drew near to those who were suffering in body or mind.

May we too feel your nearness when we struggle with mental health challenges.

May we be one as members of Your Body.

You invite us to share in your ministry of love and true compassion.

May we be empowered by your Spirit to reach out to all people in need.

May we build communities of welcome and inclusion.

Amen

SUPPORT ST. THOMAS

Please, give

Service Commission — Outreach and Social Justice

Harvest Sunday

A Bit Different this Year

Harvest Sunday was a success under challenging circumstances. In normal times, by 6:00 pm on Harvest Sunday evening, we know the results ... that is, how many boxes of food were sorted and packed. And St. Nicholas and the Sisters of Notre Dame have already loaded their trucks, each with 40% of the food gathered. But this year, final counts aren't available by the bulletin publishing deadline. But we do know that this year will be comparable to other years. Thank you, St. Thomas.

Normally it is organized chaos with 80 or more volunteers in the gym sorting and packing food at the same time. But this year was different, as we could have no more than 20 volunteers in the gym for two-hour shifts doing the sorting and packing. Volunteers had their temperature taken and all wore masks at all times. The volunteers were able to social distance at the tables where the food was unpacked from the bags donated. There were 10 foot box packing stations marked on the gym floor. They did a great job, but when the last shift ended, there were still hundreds of bags of food on the sorting tables and blanketing the floor waiting to be sorted and packed. More shifts of packing and sorting were scheduled for the weekdays following Harvest Sunday.

This year we found new ways for donations to be made. We didn't have as many fixed neighborhood routes, and parishioners who didn't receive a flyer on their door were encouraged to drive-thru and drop off their donation at St. Thomas on Harvest Sunday. We also had an online option for food donations through Amazon.com. The week before Harvest Sunday, we were receiving Amazon deliveries every day.

Check next week's bulletin for the final results. Thanks to all who were able to donate. Thanks to the many volunteers who delivered flyers and picked up food on the neighborhood routes, who created their own neighborhood routes, who stood at Casey's foods in the cold wind, who sorted and packed food in the gym. Together we created a St. Thomas Harvest Sunday miracle.



Volunteers arriving to sort and pack in the gym.



Social distance sorting in the gym.



Bags awaiting sorting at end of Harvest Sunday.

Jobs Ministry – PATH Job Seeker Networking Opportunity

The St. Thomas Jobs Ministry is merging with the similar ministry at the Compass Church. The new ministry is named “The PATH Group.”

Program Name: ‘Networking Night’ at the PATH Group

Program Speaker: Job Seekers

Date: November 10, 2020

Time: 6:30–9:15 pm

Meeting Type: Virtual, Zoom Webinar



Networking has proven to be the most effective method in the Job Search process and on November 10, the PATH Group will be featuring ‘Networking Night’ at the PATH Group. The PATH Group ‘Networking Night’ is all about introductions, connections, suggestions, referrals and encouragement!

Attendees will be asked to introduce themselves, share their Marketing Handbills, ‘Get & Give’ suggestions, and make valuable connections that will enable them in their job search.

PATH Group programs are being conducted utilizing the Zoom platform and will require advance registration. Interested parties should contact Fred Johnson at fred.c.johnson50@gmail.com in order to receive registration information and/or register utilizing the meeting link (<https://bit.ly/3kxw8sZ>).

After registering for the meeting, a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting will be sent to the registrant.

DuPage United DuPage County Board Candidate Action Affordable, Accessible and Supportive Housing

St. Thomas is a founding member of DuPage United, a non-partisan organization of DuPage County churches, mosques, synagogues and other non-profit institutions. For more information go to www.DuPageUnited.org.

DuPage United held a virtual action with all the candidates for the DuPage County Board. The topic was affordable, accessible and supportive housing. The need for such housing in DuPage County was defined. The example of the 1212 Larkin project in Elgin (that was supported by the Fox River Initiative a sister organization of DuPage United) demonstrated the possibility. Candidates then participated in break-out discussion rooms with constituents from their district.

At the end of the action, each candidate committed that if they won election, they would visit 1212 Larkin with DuPage United.

Thanksgiving Turkey Drive November 21–22 Weekend

Yes, there will be a Thanksgiving Turkey Drive this year. We normally collect turkeys at five masses. This year it will be a challenge as there are only two masses with limited attendance. We normally have a goal of 800 or 900 turkeys, and we distribute the bulk of them to the Marie Wilkinson pantry and other pantries in Aurora. This year those pantries are purchasing Thanksgiving boxes from Northern Illinois Food Bank.

Our goal this year is 200–250 turkeys for our Care Pantry families, St. Nicholas Pantry (our twinning parish in Aurora), and St. Patrick’s Residence next door to the church.

We will have drive-thru turkey donations on the weekend of November 21–22. Saturday from 4:00–6:00 pm and Sunday from 8:30 am–12:00 pm.

If you are able, please drive a turkey to St. Thomas! As we are blessed, so we are called to bless others.

Pax Christi Illinois 2020 Annual Gathering Zoom Webinar

A New World is Possible: Embodying the Peace of Christ once the Ballots are Counted

Saturday, December 5, 1:00 pm

To register in advance for this Zoom Webinar go to:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/join/zoom/registert/ZAtde6vrTkoG9T05XxgQBQFxEsnJIH8qOQJ>

Speaker: Johnny Zokovitch, Pax Christi USA Executive Director

Johnny will be speaking about the challenges and opportunities we face in light of the results of the national elections in November. His presentation will be followed by two responders and will include an opportunity to ask questions.

Responder: Adrienne Alexander is a former member of the Pax Christi National Council. She has worked at AFSCME Council 31 since 2010 and currently serves as Director of Intergovernmental Affairs. She serves on the boards of the Catholic Labor Network and Arise Chicago, a nonprofit organization that works at the intersection of faith and workers’ rights. She lives in Chicago with her husband and two daughters, where they attend St. Benedict the African Parish.

Lauren Bailey is Pax Christi USA’s National Field Organizer. She joins Pax Christi USA after receiving her Master of Social Work with a concentration in community and social justice. Her previous work was based in Ohio and focused on education and advocacy efforts surrounding abolition of the death penalty, increasing food accessibility, promoting comprehensive immigration reform, and preventing homelessness.

For more information contact St. Thomas Pax Christi Facilitator Nancy Oetter at nloetter@comcast.net.

Stewardship and Administration

The Week Ahead

Monday, November 9

7:00–8:30 pm Journey 1, Youth Center
 7:00–8:30 pm Confirmation Class, Lighthouse
 7:15–8:30 pm Middle School RE, Ministry Center

Tuesday, November 10

10:00–11:00 am Care Pantry Drive Around
 4:30–5:45 pm RE at St. Thomas, Ministry Center

Wednesday, November 11

9:15–11:15 am Wednesday Bible Study, Zoom Meeting
 7:00–8:30 pm Grief for the Holidays, Zoom Meeting
 7:15–8:45 pm Faith Formation Commission, Zoom Meeting

Thursday, November 12

9:15–11:15 am Thursday Bible Study, Senior Center
 6:30–8:30 pm Youth Ministry, Youth Center
 7:30–9:00 pm Thursday PM Bible Study, Zoom Meeting

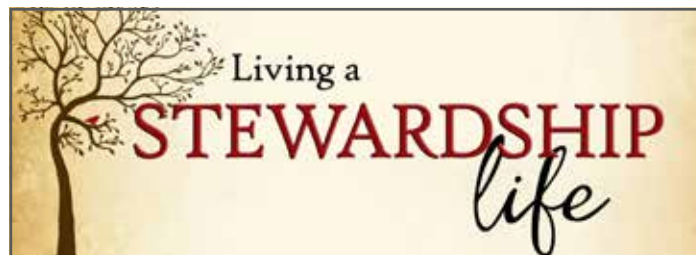
Friday, November 13

Saturday, November 14

8:30–11:45 am RE at All Saints Academy
 11:00 am–12:15 pm Reconciliation Parent Meeting, Church
 3:30–4:15 pm Reconciliation, Galilee
 4:30–5:30 pm RE Fourth Grade Mass, Church

Sunday, November 15

9:00–11:30 am RCIA, Senior Center
 2:00–3:00 pm Baptisms, Church
 4:30–6:00 pm Teens with Character, Gym
 7:00–9:00 pm Journey Night, Church



- **Living as a Steward:** We are called to collaborate with God in the work of creation, redemption and sanctification. This is a stewardship in a profound way. In this manner, human productivity on any scale is seen as God's work.
- **Stewards of the Church:** Each member of the Body of Christ has an obligation due to baptism to build up that Body. A stewardship way of life leads the member to evangelization, human solidarity, social justice, ecumenism and the Eucharist. The members are called to bring these fruits into all spheres that they work in: the diocese, the parish, the domestic church and the world.
- **The Christian Steward:** Good stewards see the evidence of God in all things, small and large. This leads to fruits of love, trust, accountability and generosity. Jesus and the Blessed Virgin Mary serve as their examples. They give without measure.

*Stewardship: A Disciple's Response,
 United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, 1992*

Last weekend's stewardship of financial gifts

Weekly Sunday Offertory

October 25, 2020	
Sunday Collection Offering*	\$13,977
Credit Card Online Giving	none this week
Automatic Direct Debit (5 th and 20 th each month)	\$27,583
Mailed in and stock donations	\$7,372
Total for the week	\$48,932
<small>*Based on Collection Counters Reports prior to bank confirmation</small>	
Fiscal Year (7/1 to 6/30)	\$549,657
Weekly Average 7/1/2019 to date	\$32,333
Offertory Goal Year to date	\$572,715
Over/short of goal to date	(\$23,058)
Goal for Fiscal Year 7/1 to 6/30	\$1,751,833
Percent of Annual Sunday Offertory Goal	31%
Remaining for Fiscal Year goal	\$1,202,176

This week, the Sunday collection is \$23,058 behind goal so far this year. Capital needs restricted gifts were \$105 this past week. We are grateful to those who recognize the need and responded.

Diocesan Appeal 2020

Parish Appeal Goal	\$174,600
Pledges Received	\$142,339
Percent of Goal pledged to date	81.52%
Unpaid pledges	\$11,000
Paid to Date	\$131,339
Percent of goal paid to date	75.22

Help Wanted

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

Full-time, Administrative Assistant and Ecclesiastical Notary, Diocese of Joliet

Part-time Evening Maintenance, St. Jude Parish, New Lenox, IL

Part-time office secretary, Saint Mark Catholic Church, Wheaton, IL

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