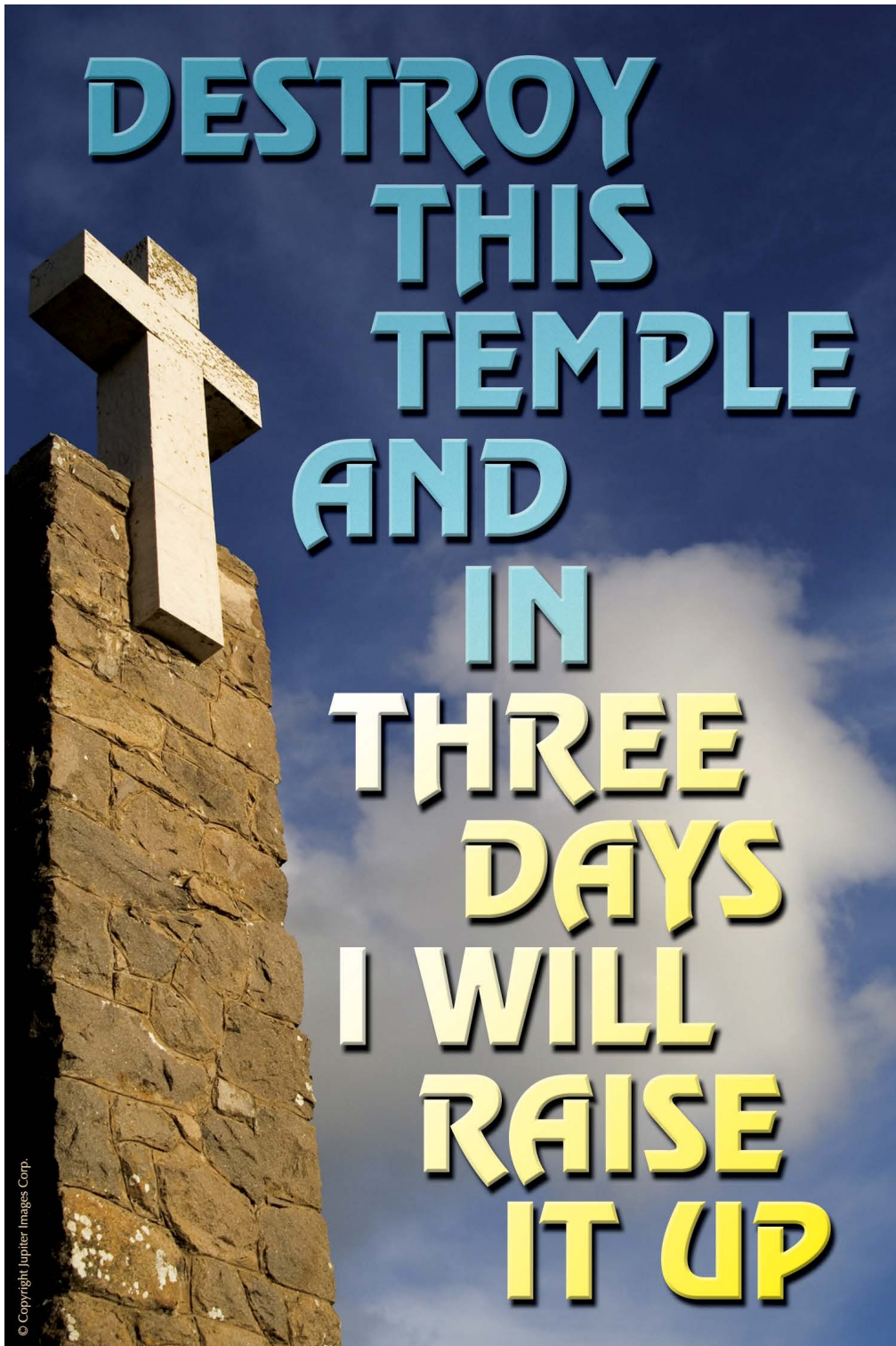


# St. Thomas

MARCH 7, 2021 — THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT



# 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: 9:00 am–8:30 pm, Monday/Thursday; 9:00 am–7:00 pm, Tuesday/Wednesday; 9:00 am–4:00 pm, Friday; 9:00 am–1:00 pm, Saturday  
email to [mainoffice@stapostle.org](mailto:mainoffice@stapostle.org) or visit us at [stapostle.org](http://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](mailto:pdanaher@stapostle.org)  
Rev. Joseph Kappilumakkal, CMI, *Parochial Vicar*, x103, [jkapp@stapostle.org](mailto:jkapp@stapostle.org)

### Priests Assisting on Weekends

Rev. Bob Colaresi, O. Carm., *Weekend Associate*, [robco@robco.org](mailto:robco@robco.org)  
Rev. Matt Lorenz, *Senior Vicar*, Archdiocese of Chicago

### Permanent Deacons

Michael (Kathryn) Barrett — 630.355.8980, x145, [meabarrett@gmail.com](mailto:meabarrett@gmail.com)  
Jim (Mary Jo) Breen — 630.486.3133, [jimb4853@gmail.com](mailto:jimb4853@gmail.com)  
Joe (Carolyn) Cuzzone — 630.355.8980, x224, [DeaconJoeCuzzone@gmail.com](mailto:DeaconJoeCuzzone@gmail.com)  
Larry (Susan) Kearney — 630.355.8980, x225, [lrkearney@comcast.net](mailto:lrkearney@comcast.net)  
Chuck (Sue) Lane — 630.355.8980, x223, [chuck.lane2@icloud.com](mailto:chuck.lane2@icloud.com)  
Patrick (Mary Jo) Lennon — 630.901.3223, [presence.now@gmail.com](mailto:presence.now@gmail.com)

### Liturgy and Music

Jim Clauer, *Director of Liturgy and Music*, x111, [jclauer@stapostle.org](mailto:jclauer@stapostle.org)  
Samantha Delke, *Associate Director of Liturgy and Music*, x120, [sdelke@stapostle.org](mailto: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](mailto:lkatz@stapostle.org)  
Peggy Goralski, *Director of Middle School Faith Formation*, x123, [pgoralski@stapostle.org](mailto:pgoralski@stapostle.org)  
Dorothy Grantham, *Director of Youth/Young Adult Ministry*, x117, [dgrantham@stapostle.org](mailto:dgrantham@stapostle.org)  
Chari Rosales, *Director of Adult Education and RCIA*, x138, [croales@stapostle.org](mailto:croales@stapostle.org)  
Jenni Kennedy,\* *Faith Formation Administrative Assistant*, x118, [REAdmin@stapostle.org](mailto:REAdmin@stapostle.org)

### Outreach and Social Justice

Michael Ryder, *Director of Outreach and Social Justice*, x121, [mryder@stapostle.org](mailto:mryder@stapostle.org)  
Anne Schultz, *OSJ Partner*, x113, [aschultz@stapostle.org](mailto:aschultz@stapostle.org)  
Sally Meno, *OSJ Associate*, x137, [smeno@stapostle.org](mailto:smeno@stapostle.org)

### Pastoral Care

Jan Olah, *Director of Pastoral Care*, x124  
Felicia Lawlor,\* *Faith Community Nurse*, x104, [flawlor@stapostle.org](mailto:flawlor@stapostle.org)

### Administration

Janet Simmons, *Finance/Business Officer*, x106, [jsimmons@stapostle.org](mailto:jsimmons@stapostle.org)  
Diane McQueen, *Gen Office Administrative Asst.*, x101, [dmcqueen@stapostle.org](mailto:dmcqueen@stapostle.org)  
Kathy Ferguson, *Gen Office Administrative Asst.*, x100, [mainoffice@stapostle.org](mailto:mainoffice@stapostle.org)  
Casey Braun,\* *Communications Coordinator*, x110, [cbraun@stapostle.org](mailto:cbraun@stapostle.org)  
Chris Ridge,\* *Evening/Saturday Receptionist*  
Mary Wright,\* *Evening/Saturday Receptionist*  
Mary Derwinski,\* *Administration Asst.*, x143, [mderwinski@stapostle.org](mailto:mderwinski@stapostle.org)  
Sue Sportiello,\* *Financial Asst.*, x143, [ssportiello@stapostle.org](mailto:ssportiello@stapostle.org)  
Bob Hartmann,\* *Facility Manager*, x133, [facility@stapostle.org](mailto: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

Rev. 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

## Letter from the Bishop



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

On Laetare Sunday, the Fourth Sunday of Lent (March 14), our diocese will take up the Catholic Relief Services Collection. Your support of this collection serves Jesus in the guise of the poor and vulnerable in some of the most marginalized communities in our world.

Catholic Relief Services was founded in 1943 by the Catholic Bishops of the United States to serve World War II survivors in

Europe. Since then, with the generous support of our parishioners, CRS has expanded and served over 130 million people in more than 100 countries across five continents. It is the official international humanitarian agency of the Church in the United States.

This past year during the global pandemic, CRS is responding in the world's most vulnerable communities — distributing soap, hygiene kits and personal protection equipment, sharing prevention messages that help minimize risk and ensuring access in these communities to food and clean water.

For over 75 years, their mission has been to assist impoverished and disadvantaged people overseas, working in the spirit of Catholic social teaching to promote the sacredness of human life and the dignity of the human person. They serve people based solely on need, regardless of their race, religion or ethnicity. Within the United States, CRS engages Catholics to live their faith in solidarity with the poor and suffering people of the world.

Your support of this collection makes a difference for so many around the globe. To learn more about the collection and the people who benefit, please visit [usccb.org/catholic-relief](http://usccb.org/catholic-relief).

Diocese of Joliet parishioners who wish to support this great work can do so either by giving at their parish on March 14, donating your spare change to one of the many “rice bowl” boxes circulating our diocese or by giving online.

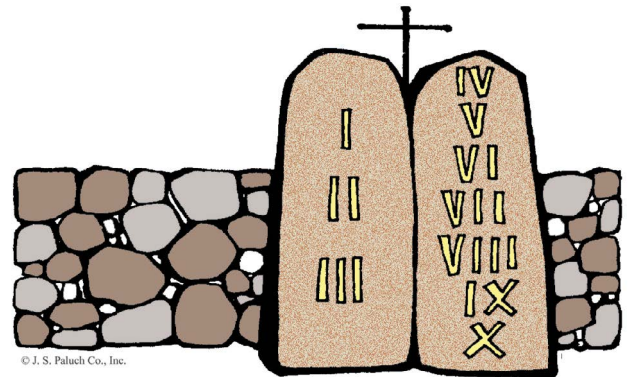
Paz y bien,

**Most Reverend Ronald A. Hicks**  
Bishop of Joliet



*Funds received for the Catholic Relief Services collection in the Diocese of Joliet will be disbursed to the USCCB Office of National Collections, for the benefit of the The Catholic Relief Services Collection.*

*The Catholic Relief Services Collection supports six Catholic agencies that serve the vulnerable and marginalized at home and abroad. Support the collection at Mass! #JesusInDisguise #1church1mission*



## Third Sunday of Lent

March 7, 2021

*I, the LORD, am your God ... You shall not have other gods besides me.*  
— Exodus 20:2a, 3

### 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 [stapostle.org](http://stapostle.org)*

#### Weekend — Must sign up online to attend

Saturday Mass of Anticipation: 4:30 pm

Sunday: 9:00 am and 10:45 am

*All three weekend Masses will also be livestreamed and available to watch on demand at [stapostle.org](http://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.

## Welcome New Parishioners

Ronald Genot and Kiara Rivera

## Church Office Hours

Please note the office hours effective through March.

9:00 am–8:30 pm Monday and Thursday

9:00 am–7:00 pm Tuesday and Wednesday

9:00 am–4:00 pm Friday

9:00 am–1:00 pm Saturday

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

## Readings for Today

**First Reading** — The law was given through Moses (Exodus 20:1-17 [1-3, 7-8, 12-17]) or Exodus 17:3-7.

**Psalms** — Lord, you have the words of everlasting life (Psalm 19) or Psalm 95.

**Second Reading** — We proclaim Christ crucified; the foolishness of God is greater than human wisdom (1 Corinthians 1:22-25) or Romans 5:1-2, 5-8

**Gospel** — Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up (John 2:13-25) or John 4:5-42 [5-15, 19b-26, 39a, 40-42]

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:** 2 Kgs 5:1-15b; Ps 42:2, 3; 43:3, 4; Lk 4:24-30
- Tuesday:** Dn 3:25, 34-43; Ps 25:4-5ab, 6-7bc, 8-9; Mt. 18:21-35
- Wednesday:** Dt 4:1, 5-9; Ps 147:12-13, 15-16, 19-20; Mt 5:17-19
- Thursday:** Jer 7:23-28; Ps 95:1-2, 6-9; Lk 11:14-23
- Friday:** Hos 14:2-10; Ps 81:6c-11ab, 14, 17; Mk 12:28-34
- Saturday:** Hos 6:1-6; Ps 51:3-4, 18-21ab; Lk 18:9-14
- Sunday:** 2 Chr 36:14-16, 19-23; Ps 137:1-6; Eph 2:4-10; Jn 3:14-21  
Alternate readings (Year A):  
1 Sm 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a; Ps 23:1-6; Eph 5:8-14; Jn 9:1-41[1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38]

## Prayer

*O God, the author and source of all life and light,  
you gaze into the depths of our inmost hearts.  
Never permit the powers of darkness  
to hold your people captive,  
but open our eyes by the grace of your Spirit,  
that we may be able to look on your Son  
and see the One you sent to illumine the world,  
so that, seeing,  
we may believe and worship Jesus as the Lord  
who lives and reigns with you  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God for ever and ever.  
Amen*

## Presider Schedule March 13–14

### Saturday, March 13

4:30 pm – Fr. Philip Danaher

### Sunday, March 14

9:00 am – Fr. Joseph Kappilumakkal

10:45 am – Fr. Matt Lorenz with Deacon Joe Cuzzone

*Presider schedule is subject to change.*

## New Mass Schedule

Beginning this weekend (March 6–7) weekend Mass times are:

**Saturday 4:30 pm**

**Sunday 9:00 am**

**Sunday 10:45 am**

Sign-up will continue to be necessary and available on the St. Thomas website. All Masses will be streamed live with an outdoor communion option.

## Liturgy Schedule and Mass Intentions

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

### Monday, March 8, 2021

8:30 am †Dorothy Siroky, by Lisa Hjorth

### Tuesday, March 9, 2021

8:30 am †Freda Burg, by St. Thomas Staff

### Wednesday, March 10, 2021

8:30 am †Vito Battisto, by The Battisto Family

### Thursday, March 11, 2021

8:30 am †Anslem Rebeiro, by Vinod Anslem and Family

### Friday, March 12, 2021

8:30 am †Rosemary Marlovits, by Carol Ann Fisher

### Saturday, March 13, 2021

4:30 pm *Mass of Anticipation*

†Rita Sawickis, by Mary, Kelly, Samantha, Emma and Meghan

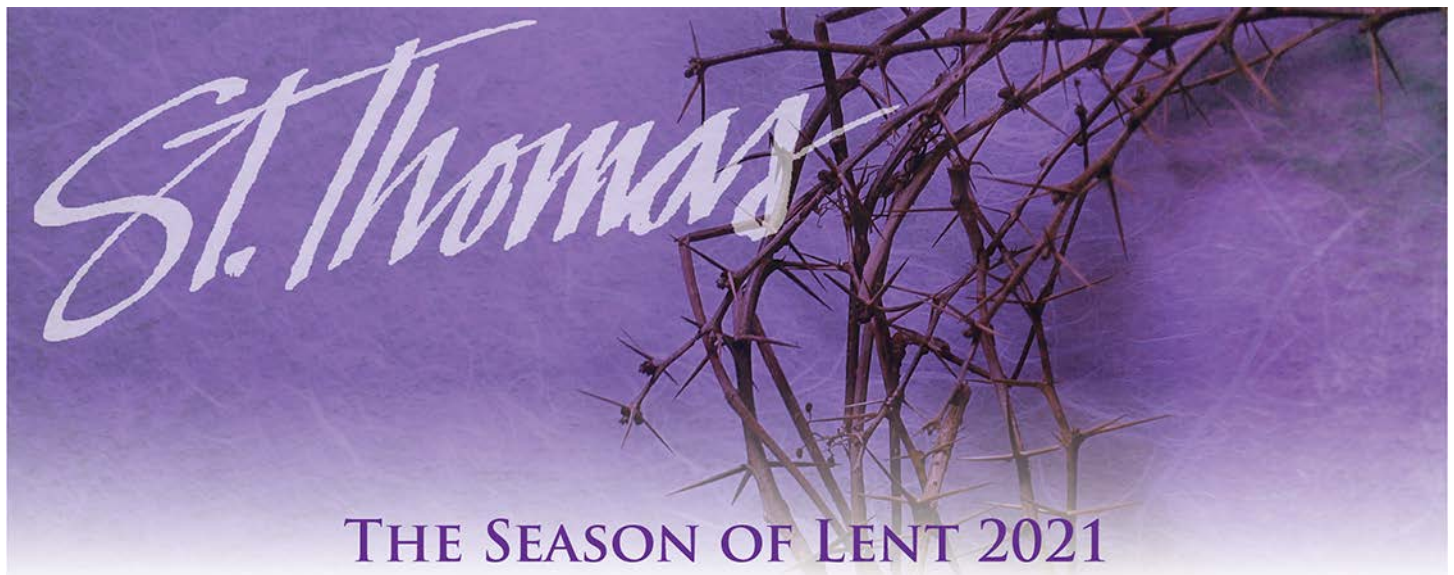
### Sunday, March 14, 2021

*Fourth Sunday of Lent*

9:00 am †Benjamin Parrilli, by The Parrilli Family

†Patrick Flynn, by Jennifer Streff

10:45 am †Reynaldo Rivera, by Justin and Erlina Hurtado



### Third Sunday of Lent: Words and Deeds

The psalm sings out, "Lord, you have the words of everlasting life." The reading from Exodus gives the ten words (commandments) on relationship with God, holiness of Sabbath (Sunday for us) and right behavior for earthly life. This all leads us to everlasting life.

- How will I be faithful?
- How will I keep Sunday?
- What right behavior, what mercy work will I do this week?

For information and a schedule of all activities and services during Lent from Ash Wednesday through Easter Sunday at St. Thomas, please check the St. Thomas website for the Season of Lent 2021 brochure.

### Lent Reconciliation

The St. Thomas community will celebrate a Lenten communal reconciliation service Wednesday, March 24, 2021, at 7:00 pm. Liturgy of the Word will be followed by the opportunity for individual confession with a priest.

### Virtual Lenten Taize

We will have a **VIRTUAL** Lenten Taize service Monday, March 15, 2021 at 7:00 pm. You are invited to light a candle at home as you participate in this service from there. Watch the St. Thomas website ([stapostle.org](http://stapostle.org)) for the streaming link.

### Stations of the Cross

*Fridays of Lent*

*7:00 pm in the Church*

The Way of the Cross has always been a powerful and popular part of the faith tradition and devotional life for Catholics throughout the ages. The early practice of Christians attempting to retrace and walk the path of Jesus has always been a treasured way to commemorate the Passion and Death of Christ.

*To maintain safety guidelines for our community members, Stations of the Cross will take on a different form this year. While all are invited to pray in the church space, there will not be a procession to each station. All gathered will remain socially distanced in their pew, with projections assisting the faithful in going through each station and providing verbal responses. Music will not be included.*

*Preregistration is not required but you will need to fill out a contract tracing form. You may fill it out upon arrival at St. Thomas or save time and download it from our website at [stapostle.org](http://stapostle.org) and bring it with you. Maximum occupancy is 125.*

#### March 12, March 26

The *Scriptural Stations of the Cross* are based on those celebrated by Saint Pope John Paul II on Good Friday in 1991. They are an alternative to the traditional stations as a way of more deeply reflecting on the Scriptural accounts of Christ' Passion.

#### March 19

Through the simple, intimate, yet powerful words of *Everyone's Way of the Cross*, those on the journey are invited to grow closer to Christ by embracing the mystery of suffering in the world.

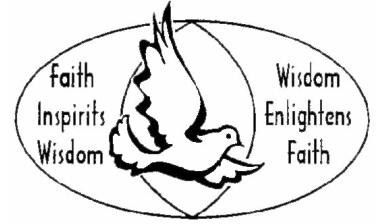
# Faith and Formation Commission — Adult

## C.A.R.E. CORNER

Why is injustice so pervasive? According to Franciscan priest Fr. Richard Rohr when we get content inside of our group of neighbors, friends, family, work or even church colleagues, we suffer from “structural indifference.” Only an outsider to that group can truly recognize the negative side of our group or system.

Insiders of any group tend to be dualistic by nature: they automatically divide and separate themselves from all those who are not members of their group. Members of any group tend to cling to the illusions of security, possessions or power that are common within their own group. It's only by moving toward the edge of their group's comfort zone that members can open up to new perspectives. And other perspectives can lead to greater insight, wisdom and compassion.

If we are insiders to privileged positions, we are not as likely to have the fuller perspective that allows us to see what life is like for those in non-privileged positions. All social systems that are run by one predominant group, such as the educated or the wealthy, tend to tilt the laws in their own favor. That of course pretty much automatically pits those laws against all other groups, such as the less educated and the poor. We probably don't even think about this — it's just the way things are. And we tend to accept this as the norm and as something too complicated to change.



## A Lent podcast: “The Word”

A Lent podcast “The Word” is being offered by Fr. James Martin, S.J. and the staff of *America* magazine. A new reflection will be available every other day throughout Lent.

Subscribe to “The Word” on Apple, Spotify, Google or Americamagazine.org/podcasts.

Lenten reflections are also available through [mayslakeministries.org](http://mayslakeministries.org) and [loyolapress.org](http://loyolapress.org).

These opportunities are offered to aid in deepening and enriching your faith life during the season of Lent and beyond.

## How to be Married and Stay Engaged

The Inter-parish Marriage Enrichment Team presents its 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Event: How to be Married and Stay Engaged, Back to Back, Face to Face and Shoulder to Shoulder.

- Deepen your friendship and commitment
- Remember God's place in your marriage
- Enjoy a relaxing time together reconnecting

Live virtual presentation by Dr. Jim Healy Saturday, March 20, 2021, from 10:00 am–1:30 pm (includes lunch break) in the comfort of your own home.

For more information and to register visit [imetevents.org](http://imetevents.org).

## Adult Confirmation Prep

If you are 18 years of age or older and have not yet received the Sacrament of Confirmation, preparation sessions will be starting soon. Adult Confirmation will take place at the Cathedral of St. Raymond in Joliet on both April 18 and May 2.

If you wish to be confirmed, please contact Chari Rosales in the Adult Faith Formation Office at [croales@stapostle.org](mailto:croales@stapostle.org) or 630.355.8980, x138.

You will need to have a copy of your baptismal certificate and the name of your sponsor.

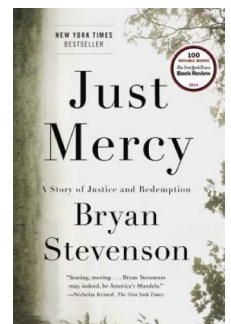
## CHALLENGE Yourself this Lent

*“We are all more than the worst thing we have ever done.”*

— Bryan Stevenson, Author of *Just Mercy*

Lent reminds us that our sinfulness does not negate our relationship with God. He is abundantly loving and merciful and waits for us to return to him. Examine this idea in the context of social justice with the story of Bryan Stevenson's work.

There's still time to join St. Thomas Reads: *Just Mercy* presented by the Faith and Spiritual Formation Commission. If interested sign up online at [stapostle.org](http://stapostle.org) or contact Peggy Goralski at [pgoralski@stapostle.org](mailto:pgoralski@stapostle.org) or 630.355.8980, x123.





# Easter Flower Fund

You are invited to make a donation toward Easter Flowers in recognition of a loved one. The names of these individuals will be on a display board at the Easter Masses. A suggested donation of \$10 per name (exact change or check made payable to St. Thomas the Apostle) should be sent in with the order form. The completed form and payment should be placed in an envelope, to the "Attn of Kathy Ferguson" and can be mailed in, brought in through Door A during the building open hours or placed in the offertory collection basket. If you have any questions, please contact Kathy Ferguson at [mainoffice@stapostle.org](mailto:mainoffice@stapostle.org) or 630.355.8980, x100.

**Orders must be received by Friday, March 26.**

## Easter Flower Fund

*I would like to make a contribution toward Easter flowers.*

In Honor Of:

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PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

By:

---

PHONE #

AMOUNT ENCLOSED

*Please return this form to the church office by Friday, March 26.*

# Faith and Formation Commission — Youth



St. Thomas the Apostle

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

### March First Communion Prayer Service

The March First Communion Prayer Service is “It’s About Celebrating In the Breaking of the Bread.” The remaining March prayer service is Thursday, March 11, 2021, at 7:00 pm. Please RSVP online. Sign-ups are closed 24 hours before the prayer service. If three people are coming, please sign up three for three seats. Please bring your “My Mass Booklet” to the prayer service.

### First Reconciliation Services Information

First Reconciliation services for fourth and fifth graders are at the church on Saturday March 13, 20 and 27 at 1:00 pm. Due to safety issues, only two parents and the child(ren) receiving the sacrament of Reconciliation may attend. Online reservations for the date of your Reconciliation service are requested. Please see your email for reconciliation reservations. Please contact the Faith Formation Office or Lorraine Katz at [lkatz@stapostle.org](mailto:lkatz@stapostle.org) or 630.355.8980, x109, if you have any questions with reserving your date.

Please pray for these children and their families that they may always know the love and forgiveness that God offers through this sacrament. May we too, know the joy of forgiveness that comes with this sacrament. Please contact the Faith Formation Office for more information about the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

### Family Stations of the Cross

As the weather turns nicer, how about enjoying the outside in a prayerful way this Lent? Families are invited to walk the Stations of the Cross outside this year. A prayer guide is available to borrow, leading your family through each station, with a leader and youth response. The walk will take about 15-20 minutes. Please contact Lorraine Katz at [lkatz@stapostle.org](mailto:lkatz@stapostle.org) or 630.355.8980, x109, to borrow guides and arrange a time to walk the stations. The stations start at the back of the parking lot where outside RE classes began in the fall and end near the outdoor labyrinth. It is a nice place to pray and walk.



Save the date for  
**Scripture Safari**  
coming this summer  
**June 21–25, 2021.**

### Important Dates for Elementary RE

#### Saturday

March 13 – RE Classes meet

March 20 – RE Classes meet (last class)

#### Tuesday

March 9 – RE Classes meet

March 16 – RE Classes meet

March 23 – RE Classes meet (last class)

### Question of the week ...

Evaluate your Lenten promise  
and progress?



## Middle School Welcomes Fr. Bill Etheredge

Middle school students are invited to celebrate with a special mass on Sunday, March 7, 2021, at 3:00 pm. Fr. Bill Etheredge will be the presider and homilist for the liturgy. Because there are restrictions on the number of people that can safely gather for mass, preregistration (on the St. Thomas website, [stapostle.org](http://stapostle.org)) is strongly encouraged. Come, celebrate and worship together.



## Teens with Character

Middle school students ... Teens with Character will meet on Sunday, March 14, from 4:30–6:00 pm, at St. Thomas. Bring your face mask and join us. Games, faith sharing, and checking in with each other are all part of the Teens with Character experience. We would love to see you!

## Living Stations 2021

St. Thomas middle school youth are continuing the tradition of providing a meaningful Good Friday prayer experience with Good Friday Living Stations. This year, the music, prayers, and enacting each of the Stations will be filmed and woven together into a beautiful prayer experience. Good Friday Living Stations will then be available online. We hope that you will take the time to pray and remember with us.

## 2021 Confirmandi

Congratulations to all those who received the Sacrament of Confirmation on February 13, 2021, with Bishop Ronald Hicks presiding. Our prayers continue to be with them all!

Ramon <i>Sebastien</i> Arteaga	Margaret Marusin
Tyler <i>Bernardo</i> Bresnick	Ethan <i>Christopher</i> Meyers
Emma <i>Clare</i> Buranosky	Ryan <i>Francis</i> Miller
Ryan <i>Michael</i> Carroll	Kyle <i>Richard</i> Mueller
Anthony <i>John</i> Cotner	Luke <i>Sebastian</i> Mueller
Lillian <i>Clare</i> Cuculich	Brooke <i>Teresa</i> Napolitano
Ryan <i>Isadore</i> Davidson	Sophia <i>Rosalia</i> Neill
Bella <i>Kateri</i> Delgado	Katie <i>Cecilia</i> Pastore
Sebastien <i>Anthony</i> Duchatellier	Joseph <i>George</i> Quaranto
Kate <i>Margaret Mary</i> Follin	Madilyn <i>Elizabeth</i> Saad
Courtney <i>Mary</i> Fournier	Marley <i>Joan</i> Schroeder
Alina <i>Philomena</i> Gasior	Alison <i>Agatha</i> Sutton
Michelle <i>Joan</i> Hess	Stephanie <i>Dymphna</i> Svec
Noah <i>Geoffrey</i> Hrubesky	Kaitlin <i>Teresa</i> Swanson
Logan <i>Michael</i> Jaramillo	Jacob <i>Christopher</i> Vu
Amelia <i>Agatha</i> Kellen	Luke <i>Francis</i> Wagner
McKenzie <i>Anne</i> Kolnicki	Hailey <i>Anne</i> Zoeller
Sophia <i>Joan</i> Lodge	

## Just5Days Update

The Center for Ministry Development, which organizes Just5Days, announced that the Just5Days mission trip experiences are canceled for this summer. Safety was their primary concern as they made the difficult decision to do this. This is such an impactful week for the middle school students who attend and the group that had expressed an interest in attending this year would have represented St. Thomas so very well.

Many thanks to our middle school students for saying yes and to the St. Thomas faith community for your past support of the Just5Days experience and our middle school attendees with your prayers and affirmation.

Other opportunities for middle school group service are being explored. Continue to watch the bulletin and website for updated information.

## Important Dates for Middle School Religious Education

**March 8, 15, 22** — Monday middle school RE classes meet

**March 13, 20** — Saturday middle school RE classes meet

**March 7** — Middle School Mass, 3:00 pm

# Service Commission — Pastoral Care



## Blood Drive

Saving a life is a great thing! So let's declare Saturday, March 13, Save a Life Day!

Click [here](#) to reserve a time to donate blood. The link is also available on the St. Thomas website at [stapostle.org](http://stapostle.org). **This is the last chance to reserve a time to donate blood.** Remember, saving a life is a great thing!

*You are eligible to donate if you received either COVID-19 vaccine on or before March 10. It doesn't matter which company's vaccine you received and it doesn't matter if it was the first or second dose of the vaccine.*

## Blood Drive

March 13, 2021, 9:00 am–2:00 pm

### New Location

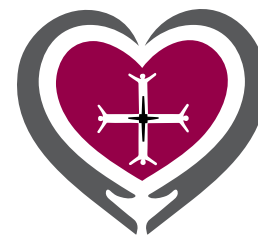
Fort Hill Activity Center  
20 Fort Hill Dr.  
Naperville  
In the Multi-Purpose Room

*If you have any questions, contact Diane McQueen at [dmcqueen@stapostle.org](mailto:dmcqueen@stapostle.org) or 630.355.8980, x101.*

## From the Office of the Parish Nurse: 5 Easy Ways to Find Healthier Options While Grocery Shopping

- 1. Read Food Nutrition labels, even for so-called “healthier” foods.** Ingredients and nutrient content can vary a lot by brand and preparation. When there's more than one choice, compare labels. Choose the item with the lowest amount of sodium, saturated fat, trans fat and added sugars.
- 2. Beware of sneaky ingredients.** For example, sodium and added sugars go by many different names, making it harder to tell just how much is in there.
- 3. Choose frozen, canned or dried produce when fresh isn't available or practical.** It can be just as nutritious as fresh, and will last longer. Choose canned fruit packed in water, light syrup or its own juice. With canned and frozen vegetables, choose the product with the lowest amount of sodium. Heavy syrups and sauces can add unwanted ingredients to your healthy fruits and veggies.
- 4. Choose whole-grain foods.** Lots of products claim to be, but there's a simple way to know for sure. Look for the word “whole-grain” (or followed by the grain name) as the first item in the ingredients list. And we're talking more than just bread. Include crackers, cereals, tortillas, pasta and other grain foods in your whole-grain quest.
- 5. Look for the Heart-Check mark to quickly and easily identify foods that can be part of an overall healthy eating plan.** When it's on the label, you know the product has been certified by the American Heart Association to meet specific science-based nutrition requirements. The Heart-Check is easy to spot and takes some of the guesswork out of comparing Nutrition Facts label information.

For more information, contact your nearest American Heart Association office, call 1.800.AHA-USA1 (1.800.242.8721) or visit [www.heart.org/cause](http://www.heart.org/cause).



PASTORAL CARE

St. Thomas the Apostle



## 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 Behavioral Health Ministry Kids, Parents and Academic Fatigue

Are you one of those parents who constantly remind your child about his or her schoolwork? Are you tired of having to remind your child to study for her exam? And do you worry that if you were to stop your constant reminding he will stop studying and even fail his classes?

Most of us would prefer to leave the responsibility of school and homework where it belongs — with our children. But how can we do that and know that they won't fail all of their classes? Following are some ideas about what parents can do to help their children take responsibility for their homework and reduce the stress that kids and parents feel about schoolwork.

**Talk to your child.** Let them know that you are aware of the pressure they are under. Ask them if you can help them feel less stressed about school. We want to let children know that school is important, but it is not the only thing that counts.

**Remind Less.** Today's children expect their parents to remind them about homework. In fact, most children would think something is seriously wrong if they weren't reminded to do it. They expect to be told that they have an exam the next day, and they expect to be asked if they did "all of their homework correctly." When they fail to meet these demands, they feel discouraged. So surprise her by reminding her less about her responsibilities.

Constant reminding by parents sends a message telling the child that: "You can't be expected to follow through on your own. You need others to help you because you are irresponsible." Such messages are discouraging. And discouraged kids don't do their homework. Make sure your child has done her homework, but do so with an encouraging attitude.

**Encourage (don't pressure) schoolwork.** Children don't like homework, and neither do parents. But for many kids homework is a requirement and grades are often dependent on its successful completion. Set aside a regular time for homework, help if needed. Avoid power struggles and look for ways to encourage your child by commenting on the positive things that they do. Notice your child's efforts and improvements when it comes to homework. It's important that homework is completed and done correctly, but what is more important is that your child did his best.

**Appreciate your child.** Children who feel accepted and loved for who they are and who feel capable of doing what is asked of them have good self-esteem. They are likely to succeed not only in school, but in life. So avoid making school the only important part of your child's life. Allow there to be other avenues in which they can succeed and notice your child's efforts and competence in these areas. And finally, notice your child's effort. Decide to focus on the effort he puts into a project or a challenge rather than focusing on the end result. The positive comments we give during an activity are more important than those we give at its completion.

### 8 Keys to Building Resilient Children

1. Lead and set limits in ways that promote self-discipline and self-worth.
2. Be empathic.
3. Teach your child problem-solving and decision-making skills.
4. Express your love unconditionally.
5. Help your child recognize that mistakes are experiences from which to learn.
6. Help them identify and build upon their strengths.
7. Be flexible in your thinking and in or approach.
8. Communicate your confidence in your child.

Resource: *SamaraCare, SamaraCareCounseling.org*



SUPPORT ST. THOMAS

Please, give

## Please Continue Giving to St. Thomas

We continue to follow the guidelines set 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.

## Save the Date: Wellspring Event

April 21, 2021  
Zoom Meeting  
Watch for further details

Wellspring

# Service Commission — Outreach and Social Justice



## Drive-Thru Care Pantry

Want to honor Catholic Sisters? Donate food at the next St. Thomas Drive-Thru Donations Date on March 9!

Catholic Sisters Week is celebrated March 8-14, 2021. Recognizing the food insecurity in so many communities these days, the Sisters of the Congregation of St. Joseph say: "We can think of no greater way for people to thank us than by joining our efforts to feed the hungry in Christ's name!"

As you may know, Sister Marlene Schemmel, CSJ, started the Care Pantry here at St Thomas back in 1989. Let's honor her by making a special effort to stock it during Catholic Sisters Week.

Bring donations to St. Thomas on Tuesday, March 9 from 9:00–11:00 am or 4:00–5:00 pm. Place the items in the trunk or the back of your vehicle, stay in your vehicle and we will remove the items for you. Items will be collected outside Door C, which is across from the labyrinth. As you start to drive around the building, you will see orange cones with instructions.

In order to serve our Care Pantry families in the best possible way, we are requesting items unavailable from the food bank and items we particularly need. Please bring the items listed below:

- cake mix
- jello
- pasta
- pasta sauce
- side dishes
- cereal
- mac n cheese

Cash and check donations also accepted for the St. Thomas pantry. Make checks out to "St. Thomas OSJ" with "Care Pantry" in the memo section. If you would like to send along a note to Sr. Marlene, these will be collected and forwarded to her.

Questions? Contact Anne Schultz in the Outreach and Social Justice Office at 630.355.8980, x113. Thank you for your generosity!

# WHITE FRAGILITY

The St. Thomas Solidarity Coalition Ministry is periodically providing chapter summaries of the book "White Fragility" by Robin DiAngelo. We encourage you to purchase the book and follow along with us as we, as the author states, "challenge racism." It is a challenging book, and not always an "easy read." It might challenge your beliefs. That is a good thing in these times.

## Chapter 5: The Good/Bad Binary

At the core of DiAngelo's analysis is the contention that most White people define racism only as an individual act of prejudice and discrimination. This narrow definition explains why they feel so attacked and therefore so defensive in conversation about racism. Good people are not racist; therefore any suggestion that one might be a part of a racist system is an attack on one's morality. That false dichotomy inhibits and even prevents progress in eradicating systemic racism.

Certain assertions frequently made by White people reveal this good/bad binary framework. DiAngelo divides such statements into two categories: those that claim color-blindness and those that claim to accept and celebrate color. Both categories function as ways to exempt one from responsibility for or participation in the problem. DiAngelo lists over twenty such statements and discusses several in detail. Examples include the following:

- I was taught to treat everyone the same.
- Focusing on race is what divides us.
- Everyone struggles but if you work hard ...
- I have people of color in my family.
- I marched in the '60s.
- I live in a diverse neighborhood.

Each of these assertions prevents discussion about the ways race functions in society, thereby keeping inequality in place. Rather than perpetuating the defensive posture, White people can choose to ask the more important questions: Where am I on the continuum that seeks to interrupt racism in society and How do I know my intentions match the reality?

## Questions for Thought and Discussion

- Which of the six statements listed above resonate most strongly for you?
- Which of the two categories do they fit into?
- How might someone who is Black hear them in the context of their experience in society?

## 10 Ways to Fight Hate Reintroduced

During the Season of Lent, St. Thomas will reintroduce the flyers "10 Ways to Fight Hate" as part of the parish focus on Racial Justice. The flyers were originally provided in 2018–2019 and were a collaborative effort among the St. Thomas Immigration/Refugee Initiative,

Pax Christi and Solidarity Coalition ministries. Each flyer provides information, scripture, song, Catholic Social Teaching and suggestions to put each of the "10 Ways" into action.

The third weekend in Lent, March 6–7, highlights "Educate Yourself" and "Create an Alternative." It can be difficult to identify truth from falsehood. Take time to investigate the source of information and the evidence on which claims are made. Acts of kindness don't need to be authorized or scheduled. Opportunities surround us every day. Change takes time, courage and humility.

To read the flyers, click [here](#).



## Pro-Life Ministry

### Action Needed

*"The Catholic Church proclaims that human life is sacred . . . We believe that every person is precious."*

*~ US Conference of Catholic Bishops*

The Illinois legislature is considering a bill that will usurp the rights of Illinois parents, put the health of minor girls at risk, end the lives of countless preborn children and protect human traffickers and sexual predators. HB 1797 would repeal Illinois' last remaining pro-life law: The Parental Notification of Abortion Act (PNA).

The current PNA simply requires that parents be notified when their minor daughter plans to have an abortion. If there is a compelling reason, such as abuse, why a girl cannot tell her parents, she can receive permission from a judge to have an abortion without the parents being notified. Since this law went into effect in 2013, it resulted in a decrease of 1,000 abortions annually in Illinois.

It is imperative that as pro-life Christians and citizens, we move quickly to show our opposition to HB 1797 and ensure the Parental Notification of Abortion Act stays in place.

Educate yourself on the HB 1797, and if you agree this bill should not be passed, contact your Illinois legislators and ask them to vote "No" on HB 1797.

## PATH March Meetings

The PATH Group, a jobs ministry dedicated to helping job seekers in their search for employment, will host two virtual meetings in March.

- **March 9 – The Informational Interview**  
... **Knowledge is Power!** In today's current environment, you may find yourself considering a completely different career path. If that's the case, Informational Interviews are among the most valuable ways to explore new career options.
- **March 23 – How to be the Key to the Solution**  
... **Selling Your Value.** Job Seekers are looking for a job while employers are looking for individuals who can make them money, save them money, solve a problem, and of course, make them look good as a result of hiring the right candidate.



For more information, go to [stapostle.org](http://stapostle.org) and type "PATH" in the Search Window.

## Justice for Immigrants

*"Our response to the arrival of migrating persons can be summarized by four words: Welcome, Protect, Promote and Integrate."*

*~Pope Francis, Fratelli Tutti #129*

Justice for Immigrants (JFI) and a coalition (which include NETWORK and LCWR) are making recommendations to the new Administration and the 117<sup>th</sup> Congress regarding immigration. The recommendations are divided into four general categories: legalization; border policies; enforcement; and root causes. The documents are intended to guide discussions with legislators and the Administration. They can be found in their entirety on the Justice for Immigrants website as follows: <https://justiceforimmigrants.org/jfi-transition-documents/>



## 2021 Lenten Project Unlocking Communities

Lent is a time for prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. This year the Lenten project will benefit Unlocking Communities and more specifically, their African initiative. The goal is to raise \$10,000.

Unlocking Communities was founded and is directed by one of our own — Josh Goralski, who grew up at St. Thomas. Unlocking Communities works in poor third world villages. They train people (mostly women) in smaller villages to be entrepreneurs (providing clean water filters and clean burning stoves for families) — providing self-sustaining economic, health and environmental impacts in communities. Stay tuned for more information during Lent.

### There are three ways to make a donation:

1. Attend Mass and place a donation envelope clearly marked "Lenten Project" in the basket at the church exit.
2. Checks can be written to "St. Thomas OSJ" with "Lenten Project" in the memo and sent to St. Thomas OSJ – ATTN: MIKE (1500 Brookdale Rd. Naperville, 60563).
3. Credit Card: Click **here** to donate. Be aware that a credit card processing charge of 3.4 percent will be deducted from your donation.

# Stewardship and Administration

## The Week Ahead

### Monday, March 8

7:15–8:30 pm Middle School RE, Ministry Center

### Tuesday, March 9

9:00–11:00 am Care Pantry Drive Thru Donations

4:00–5:00 pm Care Pantry Drive Thru Donations

7:00–9:00 pm RE at St. Thomas, Ministry Center

### Wednesday, March 10

9:15–11:15 am Wednesday Bible Study, Zoom

### Thursday, March 11

9:15–11:15 am Thursday AM Bible Study, Senior Center

1:45–2:45 pm Stations of the Cross Practice, Church

7:30–9:00 pm Thursday PM Bible Study, Zoom

7:00–7:45 pm First Eucharist Prayer Service, Church

### Friday, March 12

7:00–8:00 pm Stations of the Cross, Church

### Saturday, March 13

8:30–11:45 am RE at All Saints Academy

9:00 am–2:00 pm Blood Drive at Fort Hill Activity Center

1:00–3:00 pm First Reconciliation, Church

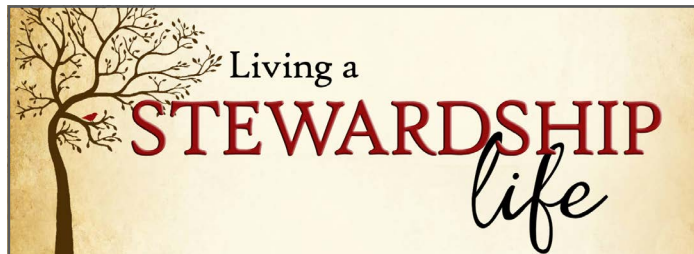
3:30–4:15 pm Reconciliation, Galilee

### Sunday, March 14

9:00 am–12:00 pm RCIA, Senior Center

4:30–6:00 pm Teens with Character, Gym

7:15–8:30 pm Journey I, Gym



*We are Cherished, Charged and Challenged*

Lent has begun and the talk among Catholics focuses on what we are giving up. However let's focus, instead, on what we can do. How are we charged this Lent? How can we use our gifts and how are gifts being provided for us. For example, we are charged to be prayerful. At St.

Thomas we have opportunities to participate in Stations of the Cross on Friday nights during Lent (see the website for a contact tracing form). On March 15 we can log onto the website for a virtual Taize prayer service. And on March 24 there will be a Reconciliation Service at 7:00 pm (see website for a contact tracing form).

We are also charged to give alms. On March 9 there is an opportunity to donate food to our food pantry. We will resume the ham collection the weekend of March 27–28. Our Lenten project this year is "Unlocking Communities" which provides opportunities for women in Africa to become entrepreneurs. This organization was begun by a parishioner, Josh Goralski, who saw a need and used his gifts to provide opportunities for those in need.

Please see the bulletin or website for more details for these and other opportunities to use your gifts this Lent.

## Last weekend's stewardship of financial gifts

### Weekly Sunday Offertory

February 21, 2021

Sunday Collection Offering\* \$10,304

Credit Card Online Giving none this week

Automatic Direct Debit \$27,236  
(5<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> each month)

Mailed in and stock donations \$8,556

Total for the week \$46,096

\*Based on Collection Counters Reports prior to bank confirmation

Fiscal Year (7/1 to 6/30) \$1,211,269

Weekly Average 7/1/2019 to date \$35,626

Offertory Goal Year to date \$1,145,429

Over/short of goal to date \$65,839

Goal for Fiscal Year 7/1 to 6/30 \$1,751,833

Percent of Annual Sunday Offertory Goal 69%

Remaining for Fiscal Year goal \$540,564

This week, the Sunday collection is \$65,839 ahead of goal so far this year. Capital needs restricted gifts were \$467 this past week. We are grateful to those who recognize the need and responded.

## Smart Moves in Giving to St. Thomas

Some parishioners receive tax benefits from gifts to St. Thomas by donating stock or directing their IRA distributions to St. Thomas. Consult your tax adviser or broker/agent to see if these smart moves are right for you. We appreciate your support!

## Help Wanted

Part-time Accounts Receivable Accountant, The Diocese of Joliet

The Diocese of Joliet is seeking to hire a part-time Accounts Receivable Accountant for the Finance Office.

To view a full job description, please click [here](#).



Please take the time to read the ads which make this bulletin possible. Help support these businesses, especially during this time, as they support St. Thomas the Apostle. Mention the bulletin when you patronize their establishments.

**Let them know they are appreciated!**

**Checked These Listings Lately? Thank You to Our Advertisers!**

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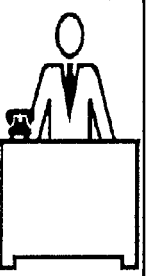
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