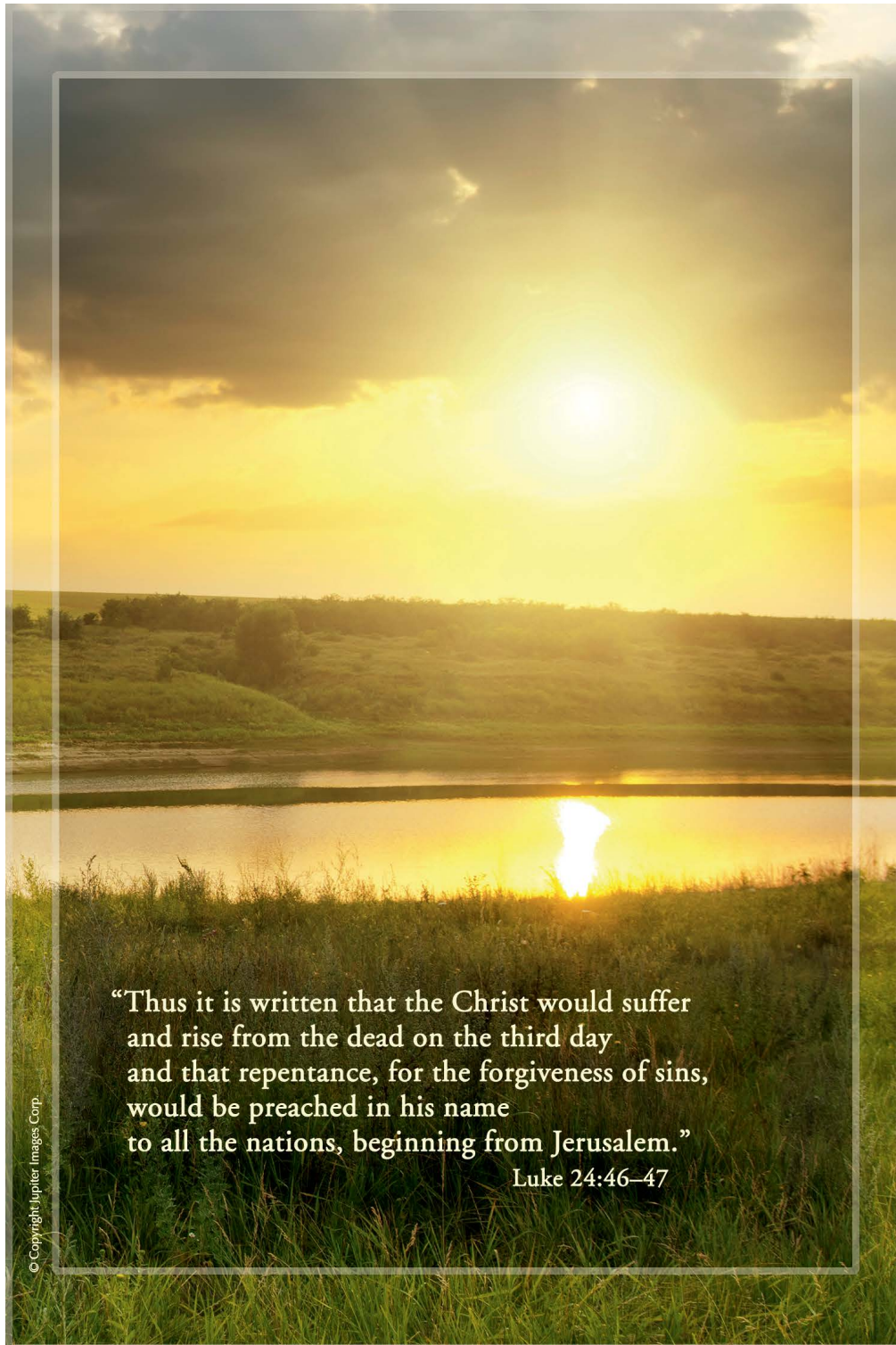


# St. Thomas

APRIL 18, 2021 — THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER



“Thus it is written that the Christ would suffer  
and rise from the dead on the third day  
and that repentance, for the forgiveness of sins,  
would be preached in his name  
to all the nations, beginning from Jerusalem.”

Luke 24:46–47

# 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–7:30 pm, Monday–Wednesday; 9:00 am–8:30 pm, Thursday; 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)  
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Larry (Susan) Kearney — 630.355.8980, x225, [lrkearney@comcast.net](mailto:lrkearney@comcast.net)  
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Patrick (Mary Jo) Lennon — 630.901.3223, [presence.now@gmail.com](mailto:presence.now@gmail.com)

### Liturgy and Music

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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)  
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### Outreach and Social Justice

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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*  
Noble Charles

Alison Ohl  
Brittany Tres

### Commission Representatives

Carrie Wujek, *Faith & Spiritual Formation*  
Susan Wood O'Leary, *Finance*  
Deb Scheckel, *Parish Life*

Linda Bailey, *Service*  
Barbara Mambu, *Stewardship*  
Jeff Balsewicz, *Worship*

### Ex-Officio

Rev. Philip Danaher, *Pastor*  
Janet Simmons, *Recording Secretary*

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 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,

Today's gospel from Luke describes the first time the disciples saw the risen Jesus. Instead of rejoicing at seeing our risen Lord, as the Gospel of John described their first meeting with Him, according to Luke they were terrified because they thought they were seeing a ghost.

Might they also have been terrified because of their actions when Jesus was arrested before He died? Instead of protecting Him from harm, as they promised they would, they left Him. It's understandable that the disciples could have been reluctant to meet the risen Jesus. After all, how would they have treated someone who abandoned them in their hour of need?

While it might have been surprising to the disciples that Jesus did not bring up the past, that's what He hopes we have come to believe whenever we ask for God's forgiveness; that all is forgiven and forgotten.

That was God's way of forgiveness which Jesus commissioned His followers to preach 2,000 years ago. That is still the way which God forgives today.

In the Word,

*Fr. Danaher*



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## Third Sunday of Easter

April 18, 2021

*You alone, O LORD, bring security to my dwelling.*

— Psalm 4:9

### 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!

## Welcome New Parishioners

Peg McKenna

### Would you like to become a parishioner?

Call Kathy Ferguson in the General Office at 630.355.8980, x100.

## Church Office Hours

Please note the office hours effective through June.

9:00 am–7:30 pm Monday–Wednesday

9:00 am–8:30 pm Thursday

9:00 am–4:00 pm Friday

9:00 am–1:00 pm Saturday

Schedule subject to change. 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 author of life you put to death, but God raised him from the dead (Acts 3:13-15, 17-19).

**Psalm** — Lord, let your face shine on us (Psalm 4).

**Second Reading** — We have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous one (1 John 2:1-5a).

**Gospel** — Thus it is written that the Christ would suffer and rise from the dead on the third day (Luke 24:35-48).

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:** Acts 6:8-15; Ps 119:23-24, 26-27, 29-30; Jn 6:22-29

**Tuesday:** Acts 7:51 — 8:1a; Ps 31:3cd-4, 6, 7b, 8a, 17, 21ab; Jn 6:30-35

**Wednesday:** Acts 8:1b-8; Ps 66:1-3a, 4-7a; Jn 6:35-40

**Thursday:** Acts 8:26-40; Ps 66:8-9, 16-17, 20; Jn 6:44-51

**Friday:** Acts 9:1-20; Ps 117:1bc, 2; Jn 6:52-59

**Saturday:** Acts 9:31-42; Ps 116:12-17; Jn 6:60-69

**Sunday:** Acts 4:8-12; Ps 118:1, 8-9, 21-23, 26, 28, 29; 1 Jn 3:1-2; Jn 10:11-18

## A Prayer for Our Parish

*Draw us forth, God of all creation.  
Draw us forward and away from limited certainty  
into the immense world of your love.  
Give us the capacity to even for a moment  
taste the richness of the feast you give us.  
Give us the peace to live with uncertainty,  
with questions,  
with doubts.  
Help us to experience the resurrection anew  
with open wonder and an increasing ability  
to see you in the people of Easter.  
Amen*

## Presider Schedule April 24–25

### Saturday, April 24

4:30: Fr. Bob Colaresi with Deacon Joe Cuzzone

### Sunday, April 25

9:00: Fr. Philip Danaher with Deacon Larry Kearney

10:45: Fr. Philip Danaher

*Presider schedule is subject to change.*

## Weekend Mass Schedule

The 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 all Masses.*

### Monday, April 19, 2021

8:30 am †Dionisio and Simeona Estoesta, by Buddy and Mely

### Tuesday, April 20, 2021

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

### Wednesday, April 21, 2021

8:30 am †Elizabeth Jacob, by Buddy and Mely Mallorca

### Thursday, April 22, 2021

8:30 am †Fe Simeon, by Buddy and Mely Mallorca

### Friday, April 23, 2021

8:30 am †Mary Growney, by John Growney

### Saturday, April 24, 2021

4:30 pm *Mass of Anticipation*

†Ann Jendryk, by Patricia Riggs

†Mary Growney, by John Growney

### Sunday, April 25, 2021

*Fourth Sunday of Easter*

9:00 am †Jim Rioux, by Ann Rioux

†Lorraine Theresa Sowa, by Delia Lopez

10:45 am †Freda Burg, by Joe and Carolyn Cuzzone



*"The great fifty days of Easter are not an unwelcome, unrealistic obligation to 'party on,' even if we don't feel like it, but an invitation to explore more deeply 'the weather of the heart,' to awaken our memory of God's presence and power in our lives, to look more closely at all the rich and varied textures of creation."*

— Nathan Miller, theologian

### Third Sunday of Easter: Still Giving Peace

In Saint Luke's story of the trip to Emmaus, four things stand out about Jesus. He stands and walks in their midst. He answers questions and calms fears. He proclaims resurrection Good News. He eats with them. Jesus is still in our midst, doing the same every day!

- Who needs words and deeds of resurrected peace?
- To whom will I tell the Good News of the dead and risen Christ in our midst?
- After being fed at the table of the Lord, whom can I feed?

#### See How Your Gift to the CMAA Helps Our Ministries

The Catholic Ministries Annual Appeal (CMAA) is well underway. Thank you to everyone who has already pledged a gift to the 2021 CMAA. Every gift, large or small, brings us closer to our parish's 2021 CMAA goal of \$174,100.

To witness how gifts to the CMAA help our ministries, view a vignette about the Christian Formation ministry on the St. Thomas website at [stapostle.org](http://stapostle.org) (*Type CMAA in the search box.*) Ryan Purcell, director, shares how thankful their ministry is for all the CMAA does to shine the light of Christ on families such as the Burnett's, and provide resources to help strengthen the domestic church.

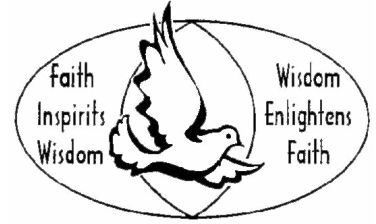
If you have yet to make your gift, please prayerfully reflect on how you can best support the CMAA. Please return your pledge card in the mail or make a secure gift online at [jolietdioceseappeal.org](http://jolietdioceseappeal.org) or text DONATE to 815.205.1949.



# Faith and Formation Commission — Adult

## C.A.R.E. CORNER

A great example of one individual who effected great change was Mother Teresa, who said “I believe God loves the world through us — through you and me.” She certainly showed the world a great deal of love through her many acts of loving kindness to those who were not members of her culture, color, religion or native language. If the world primarily comes to know God through the actions of humans, perhaps it’s not a surprise why so many people out there question the existence and goodness of God. In all of human history, we have not done a very good job of acting primarily out of love for one another.



Mother Teresa looked to Jesus as her role model. And Jesus treated people with dignity, compassion, forgiveness, patience and mercy — especially the poor, the outsiders and those who seemed to count for nothing in his society. So Mother Teresa did the same. That’s why she could legitimately say “The world is changed by your example, not your opinion.” How about us? Do we care more about our opinion than about our example? Like Mother Teresa, what can we do personally to alleviate the plight of those who are discriminated against for the color of their skin, their gender, their sexual orientation, their age, their religious affiliation or their visible disabilities?

## 21-Day Challenge

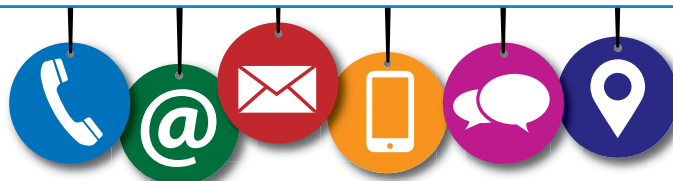
Spring is in the air. We take our cue from the new growth emerging from the earth to remind ourselves that hearts and minds need to grow too.

To help with that, the Racial Justice Committee is asking you to take on the 21-Day Racial Equity Challenge found at <https://www.debbyirving.com/21-day-challenge/>. Each day (which need not be consecutive) you can select from the website a category inviting you to either: read, listen, watch, notice, connect, engage or act. There are many selections under each category. Included is a chart you can use as a tracking tool to note your choices. Some selections take only a few minutes; others will ask you to invest a bit more time. It’s an engaging way to diversify your habits and meet people, cultures and issues you may not be aware of.

While this is an individual pursuit, please let Chari Rosales at [croales@stapostle.org](mailto:croales@stapostle.org) know if you participate so we know how many of us take advantage of this opportunity. Additionally, please indicate if you would like to be part of small-group discussions on what you have read, heard, noticed or done.

In Lent, we focused on Education around matters of equity and inclusion, reminding ourselves of how much God cherishes each and every person. Now, in this Easter season, charged with Jesus’ mission of healing and reconciliation, we rise to the challenge of putting into Action what we have learned.

Come on, St. Thomas family — let’s do this!



## Stay Connected to St. Thomas

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

Follow St. Thomas on Facebook

Download the St. Thomas App for your phone



St. Thomas the Apostle

# RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

## First Communion Masses and First Communicants

In January, Our First Communicants and families committed to preparing for the sacrament of Eucharist. As they finish their preparation, we ask the faith community to hold these families in prayer. Below is a list of First Communicants and their First Eucharist Mass. If you have neighbors and friends receiving their First Communion, we invite you to attend their Mass. In the loving spirit of St. Thomas, please welcome these First communicants, their families and guests.

### Saturday, April 24, 10:30 am

Ava Ambrosino  
Henry Blecha  
Nathan Brasile  
James Haas  
Jacob Klein  
Hailey Kowalik  
Matthew Lempicki  
Kayla McGrath  
Erin McKernan  
Juliana Rao  
Ivy Stewart  
Emily Troutman

### Saturday, April 24, 4:30 pm

Alexis Ballard  
Graham Behrns  
Brigid Dunne  
Evangeline Ferguson  
Graham Hinz  
Everett Johanneson  
William Mitchell  
Ari Pereira  
Katy Phelan  
Brienne Pollard  
Daniel Ryan  
Alexa Wojciechowski

### Sunday, April 25, 9:00 am

Allison O'Hara  
Avery Ross-Stewart

### Saturday, May 1, 10:30 am

Axel Alvarez  
Nora Auffant  
Penelope Belgio  
Rachel Benner  
Michael Bumber  
Elliott Clark  
Brooke Cooper  
Evan Durnas  
Lillian Franczyk  
Sophia Gonzalez  
Nicolas Martinez  
Chase Pine  
Reed Pine

### Saturday, May 1, 4:30 pm

Emily Albiniak  
Ella Burgdorf  
Ryan Carey  
Noelle Grossert  
Jonah Lee  
Molly Marshall  
Noah Mira-Phoxay  
Ryan Modaff  
Vivian Sida  
Mark Thies  
Gabriel Valencia  
Andrew Wagester

### Sunday, May 2, 9:00 am

Frances Abecia  
Amira Adam  
Habib Adam  
William Basi  
Kiela Keyser  
Ben Kraywinkle  
Edison Leonard  
Scarlett Lopez

### Sunday, May 9, 9:00 am

Fort Baguio  
Mia Beach  
James Beach  
Piper Grosshuesch  
Esmeralda Salmeron  
Guadalupe Salmeron  
Haddie Stilling  
Josie Stilling  
Ayden Wielgos

# Faith and Formation Commission — Youth



St. Thomas the Apostle

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

### First Communicant Church Visit

First Communicant families, please remember to sign up online for the First Communicant Church visit to go over how to receive Communion. Pick up and drop off is at the Church entrance. Please have your child bring the "Blest Are We" booklet for the Church visit. Please use your car tag if you were in RE classes for pick up and drop off.

### Scripture Safari

Scripture Safari will be happening June 21–25 with a special Mass on June 26.

Participants and teen volunteer sign-up registration will be available in April.

Be part of this exciting journey. Children entering kindergarten through fifth grade are participants this year. Teen helpers are those entering sixth grade and older.



### Wanted: Adult Leaders and Helpers for Scripture Safari

Scripture Safari will soon be here! It's scheduled for June 21–25. Do you have a few hours to share with children in our faith community of St. Thomas? Adults are especially needed for this wonderful ministry. One of the beautiful things during the week is witnessing Jesus work in every volunteer and participant. Come be part of the Scripture Safari team. No experience needed.

Find out more by contacting Lorraine Katz at [lkatz@stapostle.org](mailto:lkatz@stapostle.org) or 630.355.8980, x109.

### More Letters from our First Communicants

Dear St. Thomas family ...

I am nervous to make my First Communion. Please keep me in your prayers.

Please pray for me as I prepare for my first Communion. I fell excited. First communion is special to me because Jesus is inviting me to his table and I get to take the host at Mass.

Please pray for me as I get ready to receive my First Holy Communion.

I am very excited to make my First Communion. It is in May. Please pray for me.

Please pray for me as I get ready for my first communion. I am very excited for my special day and can't wait to grow in the church.

Please pray for me. I'm excited to get my first Communion. I'm also excited to share in the church meal. Thanks for the support.

Please pray for me as I do my first Holy Communion. I'm soooooo excited for the big day. Please pray for me.

I'm excited because it's my first time getting the bread. Now, I can finally go up with my family to receive the body and blood of Christ. I feel like getting communion makes me feel closer to God.

Please bless me on my way to getting my first holy communion. I will need support because I am a little bit nervous on my journey to getting my first holy communion and also very excited. Thank you for support!

I am nervous to try my first communion. Please pray for me

### Question of the week ...

Have you shared the Good News with anyone lately?







We are so glad that we could bring you the Living Stations of the Cross. A sincere thank you to all who made it possible:

- Nadia Bocher, Abby Galer, Matt Galer, Peter Galer and Joe Howley provided the actions for each of the Stations.
- Lauren McCormick and Mia Rios so beautifully told the story and provided the narration.
- Margaret Cotner helped with rehearsals and on the day of the filming, and joyfully and enthusiastically did whatever was needed.
- Claire Curran, Jacob Lee, Hope Nagai, Willow Nagai. Mike Brose, Sojourners (directed by Margo Stone) and Frank Trujillo generously shared their gift of music.
- Alora Foley provided some of the images used throughout Stations and also the masks worn by the actors.
- Lisa Brose photographed and filmed and Mike Brose produced the video. They patiently took all of the pieces and wove them into something prayerful and beautiful. Their heart-prints are all over Living Stations and we are so grateful.

*a big*  
**shout**  
**OUT!**

## Shadow Experience, Tours and Summer Camps at St. Francis

For those interested in pursuing St. Francis as a high school option, students in grades 7 through 11 are welcome to spend three periods with a St. Francis High School student during the months of April and May. Families of interested students can meet with a member of the Admissions Team and tour the building. Appointments are personalized to accommodate one family at a time. For more information, go to [www.sfhscollegeprep.org](http://www.sfhscollegeprep.org).

A wide variety of camps and clinics are available for students entering grades 3-12. Camps on art, various sports, band, choir, English, technology and theatre are offered. For information or to register, go to <https://sfhs.8to18.com/accounts/login>.

### Catholic Baseball/Softball Camp

**WHO:** Boys and Girls, ages 8-14

**WHEN:** July 27-28, 8:00 am – 3:00 pm

**WHERE:** Montini Catholic High School, Lombard, IL

**COST:** \$150

**REGISTRATION:** Go to [catholicssportscamps.org](http://catholicssportscamps.org)

Registration is currently open and will be limited to 50 campers. The Catholic Baseball/Softball Camp is the only Catholic sports camp that will be offered this summer.

## High School Youth Ministry Service Projects:

### Bread Tag Recycling Program for Wheelchairs

We've partnered with SCARCE for this recycling project. SCARCE works with Danielle Cares for Chairs to recycle bread tags. Funds raised through recycling bread tags provide mobility equipment for those in need. You can go to <https://www.scarce.org/bread-tag-recycling-provides-wheelchair/> for more information. Please help us by collecting bread tags. We have a box on the RE credenza in the Gathering Area marked "Bread Tag Recycling Program" for bread tags.

### Super Crayon Project

We are collecting crayons for SCARCE. Good condition full sized crayons will be put together in packets for teachers to use with their classes. The broken crayons will be separated by color and peeled so that they can be melted down for children with special needs. If you have some old crayons you no longer want, drop them off at St. Thomas. There is a crayon drop off box in the Gathering Area. High School youth who would like to help with this project should call or email Dorothy Grantham at 630.355.8980, x117 or [ym@stapostle.org](mailto:ym@stapostle.org). This is a project that can be done at home!

### Journey 1 Online Retreats

For those who are in Year 1 of Confirmation preparation, please sign up for the online retreat on either Friday, April 23, from 6:00–9:00 pm or Friday, May 7, from 6:00–9:00 pm. Call or email Dorothy Grantham at 630.355.8980, x117 or [ym@stapostle.org](mailto:ym@stapostle.org) to sign up if you have not done so yet.

### LIFE Community Nights

Open to High School teens for prayer, sharing, service and games on Thursday Nights: April 22 and April 29.

# Service Commission — Pastoral Care

From the Office of the Parish Nurse

## Prebiotics, Probiotics and Your Health

You are what you eat. Or more accurately, you are what you feed the trillions of little critters that live in your gut.

The lining of your gut, like every surface of your body, is covered in microscopic creatures, mostly bacteria. These organisms create a micro-ecosystem called the microbiome. And though we don't really notice it's there, it plays an oversized role in your health and can even affect your mood and behavior.

Not surprisingly, what you feed your microbiome may have the biggest impact on its health. And the healthier it is, the healthier you are. The key to a healthy microbiome is nourishing a balance among the nearly 1,000 different species of bacteria in your gut.

There are two ways to maintain this balance — helping the microbes already there to grow by giving them the foods they like (prebiotic) and adding living microbes directly to your system (probiotic).

**Prebiotics** are specialized plant fibers. They act like fertilizers that stimulate the growth of healthy bacteria in the gut. Prebiotics are found in many fruits and vegetables, especially those that contain complex carbohydrates, such as fiber and resistant starch. These carbs aren't digestible by your body, so they pass through the digestive system to become food for the bacteria and other microbes. The list of prebiotic foods is long, from asparagus to yams. A quick internet search will yield dozens of examples, as will a consultation with a registered dietitian.

Nowadays, the list of prebiotic supplements might be even longer, but they usually contain a complex carbohydrate such as fiber. Supplement companies market products to specific conditions, such as bone health and weight management, claiming that their ingredients enhance the growth of specific kinds of bacteria.

**Probiotics** are different in that they contain live organisms, usually specific strains of bacteria that directly add to the population of healthy microbes in your gut.

Like prebiotics, you can take probiotics through both food and supplements. Probably the most common probiotic food is yogurt. Yogurt is made by fermenting milk with different bacteria, which are left in the final product. Other bacteria-fermented foods, such as sauerkraut, kombucha and kimchi, are also good sources of probiotics.

Probiotic supplements also contain live organisms. A single dose may include a particular strain of microbe or blend of microbes. Like with prebiotic supplements, probiotic supplement companies market products to specific conditions, such as irritable bowel syndrome.

A registered dietitian can help you sort through the food sources or prebiotics and probiotics.

### Keep in mind

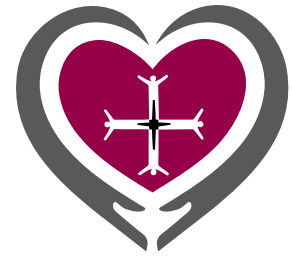
One thing to understand about supplements is that there are many, many kinds. For instance, one type of bacteria commonly used is lactobacillus. But there are more than 120 species of lactobacillus, and at least a dozen of them are used as probiotics.

What's more, there are several other types of bacteria, each with dozens of species, making for a variety of available probiotics. And even when you select a kind of bacteria, the amount in the supplement can vary between brands.

When taking a probiotic, research the condition you wish to address and select the probiotic based on that condition. Also, keep in mind that while a probiotic may show promise in treating a condition, it's likely that the research is still in early stages.

While the supplement may have improved a condition for a few people in a very limited circumstance, it may not work as well in supplement, talk to your doctor first.

*Resource: The Mayo Clinic Staff*



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



## Save the Date

### Behavioral Health Ministry St. Dymphna Mass Celebration

Monday, May 24, 2021  
7:00 pm at St. Thomas

*Watch for further details in the bulletin and website*



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.



*God, thank you for Spring and the hope of warmer, longer, brighter days.*

*Thank you for the coming of growth and life and birth.*

*Thank you that things are coming awake in the world.*

*This is what our calendar says, and we do see some signs that it is real.*

*But we also still struggle with the residual layover of winter.*

*Now we ask that you bring into reality all that belongs in this season. Your word says that we will have provision, and hope, and joy, and health and loving relationships here and now in this life.*

*We ask that what belongs in this season would become actual in our practical lives.*

*We hope in you and in your promises. We hope in your gift of Spring.*

*- Author Unknown*

# Service Commission — Outreach and Social Justice



## Care Pantry Drive-Thru Donations

Care Pantry volunteers accepted drive-thru donations on Tuesday, April 6, 2021. We collected 225 bags of food from people in 46 vehicles. Thank you to all who were able to donate.

The next Drive-Thru donations date is Tuesday, May 18 from 9:00–11:00 am and 6:00–7:00 pm. Check the website and the weekly bulletin closer to the date for a list of needed items.

## Food Drive at Monarch Landing

On three Tuesday mornings in March, people from the St. Thomas Care Pantry drove to



Monarch Landing to pick up food donations. The residents of Monarch Landing donated an estimated 267 bags of food and paper products to the Care Pantry. The food was often already sorted by category, which made it easy to load, unload and unpack. In addition to the food and paper products, donations of \$515 were received.

A big Thank You to Nellie Lannin at Monarch Landing who coordinated the drive and who worked with representatives from both Monarch Landing and St. Thomas to make the drive a success. Executive Director Mark Trnka and Sue Anderson, Chairperson of the Monarch Landing Volunteer Committee, authorized the food drive.

Thank you to our neighbors for helping to feed the hungry!

## OSJ Weekend

### “You are witnesses”: Parishes without Borders

Tom Cordaro — Guest Homilist

This weekend of April 17–18 is an Outreach and Social Justice weekend at St. Thomas. Tom Cordaro is providing the homily at all the Masses. He is a passionate and effective advocate for social justice, and is a long-time interfaith leader in the Naperville community.

Tom’s homily will be available for viewing or reading on the St. Thomas website home page beginning next Wednesday, April 21.

Tom has served as the Justice and Outreach Minister at St. Margaret Mary Parish in Naperville for almost 24 years. This involves providing social justice education and advocacy opportunities for parishioners supported by Catholic Social Teaching. He also co-founded Naperville CARES (now merged with Loaves & Fishes Community Services), which provides cars and emergency assistance to those in need in the Naperville area. Tom has also been instrumental in fostering inter-faith collaboration and cooperation throughout DuPage County, including organizing annual World Peace Day Interfaith Prayer Services on the first Sundays in January.



## Help Project Love

### Help Moms in Need

*(Parishioner Eileen McGleam is Director of Project Love, the charitable program of Illinois Right to Life.)*



To my Fellow Parishioners,

The mission of Project Love is to provide grants to pregnant women and new mothers who are in a financial crisis. We help with rent, utility bills and other urgent expenses. We are a 501(c)3 charity, and you can read more about us at the [www.IllinoisRightToLife.org](http://www.IllinoisRightToLife.org)

Normally at this time of year, Project Love offers beautiful Mother’s Day and Father’s Day cards at local churches. This is one important way we raise money for our grants. We are not able to offer the cards this year as the churches are closed. Thus, I am offering you an alternative opportunity to receive these beautiful cards and also support Project Love in the process. We will send you all the Mother’s Day Card and Father’s Day cards that you would like in the mail. See below for details.

There will be Masses celebrated at St. Thomas and another parish on Mother’s Day and Father’s Day for the intentions of all the recipients of the cards.

The inside of each card says, “A donation to Project Love has been made in your honor.” The cards are suitable for your mother or any mother, for instance, daughter, daughter-in-law, sister or any other person who is a great mother. Likewise, the Father’s Day cards are suitable for any father you would like to honor.

We ask that you please send \$5 for each card. If you would like to make an additional donation to Project Love, we would be most grateful. Checks should be made payable to: “Illinois Right to Life” with “Project Love” on the memo line and sent to the address below with your order. We will be happy to receive your order and send cards in the mail within a day or two.

### There are two ways to order:

1. Go to [www.stapostle.org](http://www.stapostle.org) and type “Project Love” in the Search Window. That will give you access to an order form as well as a selection of cards to choose from. Send the form to the address below.
2. Simply send your check with a note indicating the number of Mother’s Day and Father’s Day cards you would like. We will select cards for you.

Thank You!

Project Love, c/o Eileen McGleam, 7180 Springside Avenue, Downers Grove, Illinois 60516

## Knights of Columbus Pasta Dinner To Go

The St. Thomas Knights of Columbus are holding a Drive-Thru Pasta Dinner on Saturday, April 24 from 5:00 to 7:00 pm. Net proceeds benefit the St. Thomas Care Pantry.

Dinner includes: pasta with marinara sauce (*Marinara Sauce donated by Fiamme Pizzeria Napolitana – Naperville*), meatball, green salad, bread and dessert. Pick up will be curbside at St. Thomas.

The cost is \$10 per meal. Payment can be made by cash or check to “St. Thomas the Apostle” with “Pasta” in the memo.

Reservations are encouraged to provide an advance count, but are not required. All are welcome. Sign-up on the St. Thomas website at [stapostle.org](http://stapostle.org).

Meal payment and pick-up on Saturday, April 24 from 5:00–7:00 pm. Drive to the payment table by the Gathering Area doors. Make your payment. Then you will be directed around the church to the Care Pantry entrance (across from the Care Pantry Garden) to pick up your pasta dinner(s).



## Waterleaf Miracle of the Month

On March 9, “Georgia” came to Waterleaf and stated “I took the Plan B pill and thought I took care of this pregnancy.” But she went to a clinic, where her pregnancy was confirmed. She told her Waterleaf advocate that if she was pregnant, she and her boyfriend, “Don,” wanted an abortion. She took another pregnancy test which came back positive. During her ultrasound, both Don and Georgia seemed fascinated by the heartbeat and when the baby hiccuped, wanted to know if that was normal.

On March 19, the couple returned and stated they have chosen to parent. “I’m worried about telling my parents, they may kick me out of the house!” she shared. Still, they were determined to face any obstacles that may be presented. Georgia was interested in the support they can receive from the Aspire Education and Resource Center, including signing up for medical insurance. Georgia has since been to see her OB doctor and continues to work with her Resource Specialist to begin parent education classes.

Keep Waterleaf and their patients, like Georgia and Don, in your prayers. Your support brings the gift of life.



St. Thomas Lenten Project

**Unlocking Communities**  
**Goal \$10,000**

**\$11,200**

**Collected as of**  
**April 9**  
**112%**

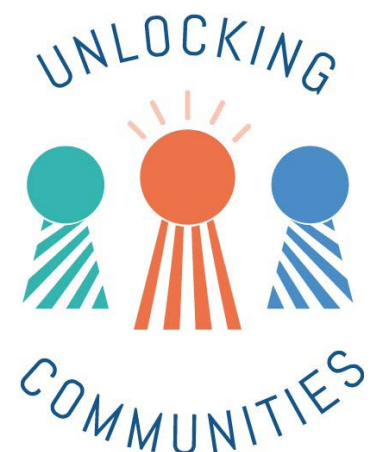
**Goal Exceeded**

**Thank you, St. Thomas**

This year the Lenten project benefits Unlocking Communities and more specifically, their African initiative. The goal was to raise \$10,000. As of April 9, the total received was \$11,200 (112% of the goal). Thank you to all who were able to help make this happen.

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.

Go to [www.unlockingcommunities.org](http://www.unlockingcommunities.org) for more information and a short video.



# Stewardship and Administration

## The Week Ahead

**Monday, April 19**

**Tuesday, April 20**

7:00–9:00 pm PPC, Zoom Meeting

**Wednesday, April 21**

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

**Thursday, April 22**

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

6:30–8:30 pm Life Community Night, Gym

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

**Friday, April 23**

**Saturday, April 24**

10:30–11:30 am First Communion Mass, Church

3:30–4:15 pm Reconciliation, Galilee

4:30–5:30 pm First Communion Mass, Church

**Sunday, April 25**

9:00 am–12:00 pm RCIA, Senior Center

1:00–2:00 pm Baptism, Church

## Last weekend's stewardship of financial gifts

### Weekly Sunday Offertory

April 4, 2021	
Sunday Collection Offering*	\$5,969
Credit Card Online Giving	\$17,404
Automatic Direct Debit (5 <sup>th</sup> and 20 <sup>th</sup> each month)	none this week
Mailed in and stock donations	\$10,105
Total for the week	\$33,478
*Based on Collection Counters Reports prior to bank confirmation	
Fiscal Year (7/1 to 6/30)	\$1,416,068
Weekly Average 7/1/2019 to date	\$35,402
Offertory Goal Year to date	\$1,347,564
Over/short of goal to date	\$68,504
Goal for Fiscal Year 7/1 to 6/30	\$1,751,833
Percent of Annual Sunday Offertory Goal	81%
Remaining for Fiscal Year goal	\$335,765

This week, the Sunday collection is \$68,504 ahead of goal so far this year. Capital needs restricted gifts were \$590 this past week. We are grateful to those who recognize the need and responded.

### Diocesan Appeal 2021

Parish Appeal Goal	\$174,100
Pledges Received	\$119,095
Percent of Goal pledged to date	68.41%
Unpaid pledges	\$13,926
Paid to Date	\$105,169
Percent of goal paid to date	60.41%

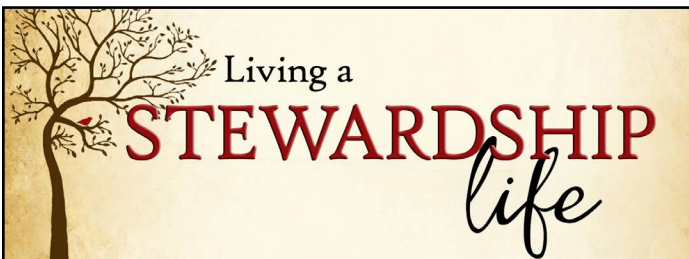
## Smart Moves in Giving to St. Thomas

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!



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!**



*In everything I showed you that by working hard in this manner you must help the weak and remember the words of the Lord Jesus, that He Himself said, "It is more blessed to give than to receive."*

Luke 20:35

One of the groups in our parish that works hard is the Knights of Columbus. Whenever there is a need, the Knights step up, if they are able. Every year we have enjoyed their Fish Fries and they have helped out with our parish picnics. The old deck off the Lighthouse was cleared by them so our new one could be built. There have been many activities organized that have had the help of our local Council.

On the evening of April 24, the Knights of Columbus will be sharing their time and talent and their treasure to hold a drive-thru Pasta Supper. All proceeds will be given to the St. Thomas Food Pantry. The cost of a great meal of pasta (with marinara sauce from Fiamme Restaurant), salad, bread and a cookie is \$10. It is best to sign up on our website. Checks, made payable to St. Thomas ("pasta" in the memo), or cash will be paid at pick-up. Pick up will be curbside between 5:00–7:00 pm.

Please consider having a great dinner on April 24 and help fund our Food Pantry. Our clients will thank you and we thank the Knights of Columbus.

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

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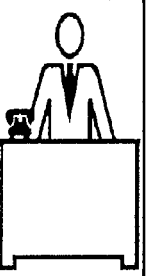
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