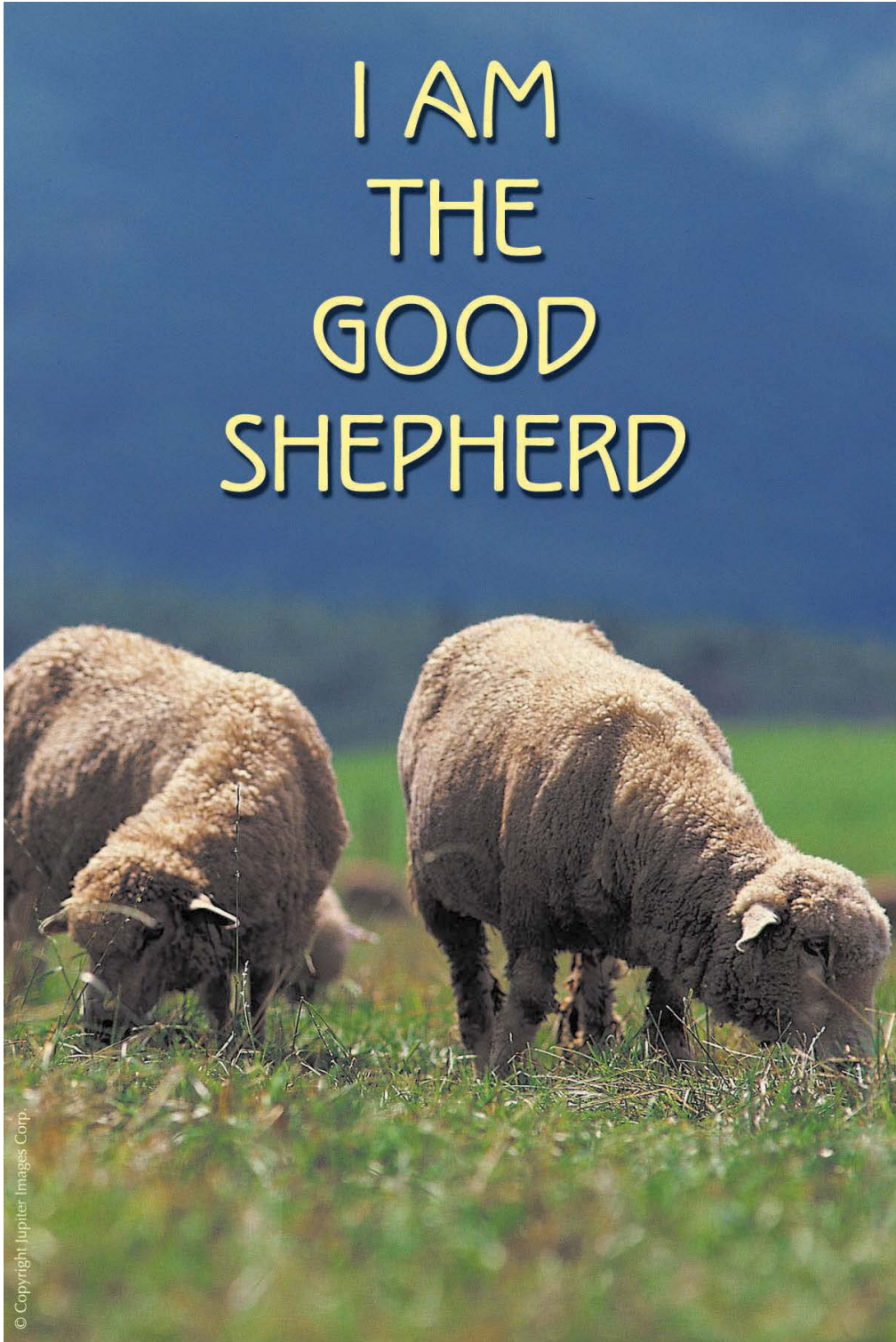


St. Thomas

APRIL 25, 2021 — FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

I AM
THE
GOOD
SHEPHERD



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 or visit us at stapostle.org
Roman Catholic Diocese of Joliet-in-Illinois • Most Rev. Ronald A. Hicks, Bishop

Parish Staff

Priests in Residence

Rev. Philip Danaher, *Pastor*, x102, pdanaher@stapostle.org
Rev. Joseph Kappilumakkal, CMI, *Parochial Vicar*, x103, jkapp@stapostle.org

Priests Assisting on Weekends

Rev. Bob Colaresi, O. Carm., *Weekend Associate*, robco@robco.org
Rev. Matt Lorenz, *Senior Vicar*, Archdiocese of Chicago

Permanent Deacons

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

Liturgy and Music

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Samantha Delke, *Associate Director of Liturgy and Music*, x120, sdelke@stapostle.org

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Lorraine Katz, *Director of Religious Education*, x109, lkatz@stapostle.org
Peggy Goralski, *Director of Middle School Faith Formation*, x123, pgoralski@stapostle.org
Dorothy Grantham, *Director of Youth/Young Adult Ministry*, x117, dgrantham@stapostle.org
Chari Rosales, *Director of Adult Education and RCIA*, x138, croales@stapostle.org
Jenni Kennedy,* *Faith Formation Administrative Assistant*, x118, REAdmin@stapostle.org
Eileen Cruz,* *Faith Formation Administrative Assistant*, x118, REAdmin@stapostle.org

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

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

Administration

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Kathy Ferguson, *Gen Office Administrative Asst.*, x100, mainoffice@stapostle.org
Casey Braun,* *Communications Coordinator*, x110, cbraun@stapostle.org
Chris Ridge,* *Evening/Saturday Receptionist*
Mary Wright,* *Evening/Saturday Receptionist*
Mary Derwinski,* *Administration Asst.*, x143, mderwinski@stapostle.org
Sue Sportiello,* *Financial Asst.*, x143, ssportiello@stapostle.org
Bob Hartmann,* *Facility Manager*, x133, 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,

We often hear news stories — good and bad — about children of the rich and famous. The thing is, if they did not belong to a well-known family, they would not have been mentioned in the news. Young people getting married is hardly a newsworthy event, unless it's the child of a president.

Whether they like it or not, children lose their privacy, they live in the public eye, when their parents are "rich and famous."

When you think about it, we are all children of the "rich and famous." As we heard from St. John's letter in the second reading, "We are God's children." You can't get any more rich and famous than that!

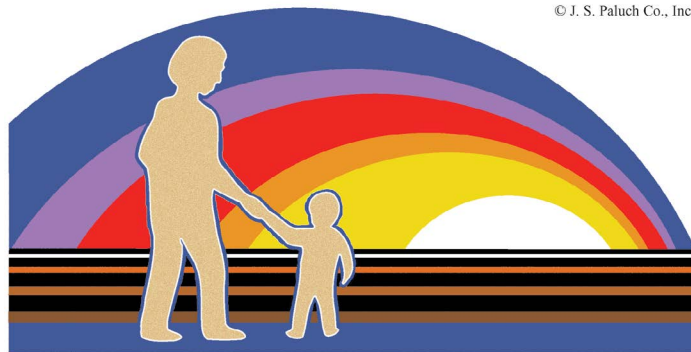
And just as children of public officials, of famous actors, are encouraged not to do anything that would embarrass the family, it's the same with each of us. As children of God, we are expected to behave in a certain way. We are expected to do our best to be like God. We should be appalled, for example, at those who call themselves Christians, baptized children of God, and yet do not demonstrate the same love God has for all people.

To be a child of God is a great responsibility. To be a child of God is the greatest honor we can receive, an honor to be shared with everyone we meet.

This weekend, we begin our celebrations of our children receiving Eucharist for the first time. As we congratulate our children and their families, may they and all of us continue to share the nourishing love which we receive each and every time we receive our Lord's special gift of Himself through the Eucharist.

In the Word,

Fr. Danaher



Fourth Sunday of Easter

April 25, 2021

See what love the Father has bestowed on us that we may be called the children of God.

— 1 John 3:1

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

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

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

John and Margaret Detwiler and Family

James Gettings

Michael and Melissa Kolkay

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 — There is no salvation through anyone else (Acts 4:8-12).

Psalm — The stone rejected by the builders has become the cornerstone (Psalm 118).

Second Reading — See what love the Father has bestowed on us that we may be called the children of God (1 John 3:1-2).

Gospel — The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep (John 10:11-18).

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 11:1-18; Ps 42:2-3; 43:3, 4; Jn 10:1-10

Tuesday: Acts 11:19-26; Ps 87:1b-7; Jn 10:22-30

Wednesday: Acts 12:24 — 13:5a; Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8; Jn 12:44-50

Thursday: Acts 13:13-25; Ps 89:2-3, 21-22, 25, 27; Jn 13:16-20

Friday: Acts 13:26-33; Ps 2:6-11ab; Jn 14:1-6

Saturday: Acts 13:44-52; Ps 98:1-4; Jn 14:7-14 or (for the memorial) Gn 1:26 — 2:3 or Col 3:14-15, 17, 23-24; Ps 90:2-4, 12-14, 16; Mt 13:54-58

Sunday: Acts 9:26-31; Ps 22:26-28, 30-32; 1 Jn 3:18-24; Jn 15:1-8

A Prayer

Good Shepherd,
Teach us to follow you
to care for all that are close to us,
to protect those who are threatened,
to welcome those who are rejected,
to forgive those who are burdened by guilt,
to heal those who are broken and sick,
to share with those who have little or nothing,
to take the time to really know one another
and love as you have loved us.

Good Shepherd,
Teach us to follow you
to spread compassion to those who are far away,
to speak for those who are voiceless,
to defend those who are oppressed and abused,
to work for justice for those who are exploited,
to make peace for those who suffer violence,
to take the time to recognize our connectedness,
and to love as you have loved us.

Good Shepherd,
Teach us to follow you
and to be faithful to calling you gave us
to be shepherds in your name.

John van de Laar, © 2009 Sacredise

Presider Schedule May 1–2

Saturday, May 1

4:30 pm: To be determined

Sunday, May 2

9:00 am: To be determined

10:45 am: To be determined

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 26, 2021

8:30 am †Emy Parales Zamora, by Mr. and Mrs. Manolo and Lana Uy

Tuesday, April 27, 2021

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

Wednesday, April 28, 2021

8:30 am †James Caulfield, by Dick and Adela Auskalinis

Thursday, April 29, 2021

8:30 am †Nick Khoury, by Buddy and Mely Mallorca

Friday, April 30, 2021

8:30 am †Sylvestre Papillon, by The Lucado Family

Saturday, May 1, 2021

4:30 pm *Mass of Anticipation*

†Maria Lopez, by The Cardenas Family

Sunday, May 2, 2021

Fifth Sunday of Easter

9:00 am †Edward DeGeeter, by Buddy and Mely Mallorca

†Loretta Krolopp, by Ann Mitchell

10:45 am †Margaret and Donald Lipke, by Mary and Neil Orton



"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

Fourth Sunday of Easter: Still Shepherding

It is not uncommon to sing Psalm 23 at funerals and we sing a version of this Psalm at Mass today. Our Shepherd leads, protects and feeds, not only with the dead and the grieving, but with each of us and all of us who are always loved as beloved children, sheep of the flock.

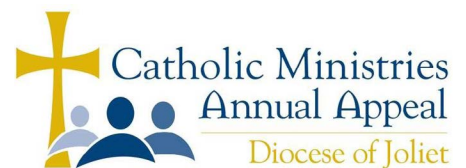
- To what and to whom is the Shepherd leading me this week?
- How will I share Christ's love?
- Whom can I protect and feed?

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 (*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.

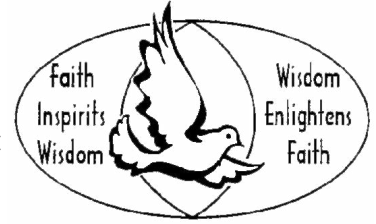
If you have yet to make your gift, please prayerfully reflect on how you can best support the CMAA. Please return your pledge card in the mail or make a secure gift online at jolietdioceseappeal.org or text DONATE to 815.205.1949.



Faith and Formation Commission — Adult

C.A.R.E. CORNER

So its all come down to this. We know there is a problem of injustice in our world. And we know we need some tangible solutions to right those injustices. The reality is that we can all contribute to those solutions. And the place from which we all need to start is with an examination of the condition of our own hearts. Can we get to the point where we can see all others as sacred and precious by virtue of their humanity? Can we get to the point where we can recognize the value of all members of society for whatever gifts and skills they bring to the table? Can we end the perpetuation of prejudicial ideas of groups of people who look different than us? How do we move off of our own complacency?



Our behaviors reflect our habits, and habits are very powerful. Changing our behavior — even for the better — can be painstaking work, as we were likely reminded this past Lent. Unfortunately, the catalyst for change in our behavior is often some experience of great sorrow or loss that then allows us to see the plight of others who have suffered in a similar way. But could we choose to be proactive about righting injustices without having suffered from them ourselves, because we know that is the right thing to do? What would be required of each of us to right some of the wrongs that pervade our society today? Have you ever thought about what you could do personally? Meet us back here next week as we begin exploring the possibilities.

21-Day Challenge

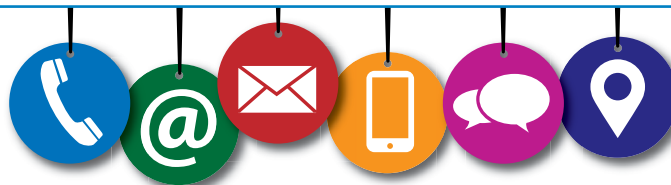
Spring is in the air. We take our cue from the new growth emerging from the earth to remind ourselves that hearts and minds need to grow too.

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 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

Follow St. Thomas on Facebook

Download the St. Thomas App for your phone



News from All Saints Catholic Academy

Our Fantastic Fifth Grade

After a relaxing Easter and Spring Break, our fantastic fifth graders are ready to finish strong as we approach the end of this amazing year.

In math, students have worked on adding and subtracting fractions, multiplying fractions and have even computed problems with mixed numbers! In our recent unit, we have started graphing ordered pairs.

In religion, students continue to explore the Gospel each week. This helps them to be more attentive to and understand what they are hearing in our weekly school masses, as well as at their home parishes.

In language arts, our infamous duck project is currently underway! Over a two week time frame, students 'adopt' a rubber duck. They share their adventures with the class in a duck journal, storyboard and a Google Slides presentation. How fun!

Recent novel studies have included the following books: *Number the Stars* and *Esperanza Rising*. In our analysis, we work on improving our reading comprehension as well as identifying figurative language.

In science, we just completed a unit on electricity. We have now embarked on our final and most well liked unit — animals! Students will research different animals, and learn about their adaptations, basic needs, and much more. Additionally, students also participate in weekly hands-on experiments.

In social studies, we recently finished a chapter about South America. In it, students researched a country and then 'taught' the class what they had learned through a Google Slides presentation. The students really enjoyed the opportunity to be the "teacher" for a day.

All preschool through grade 8 students have experienced continuous, safe, 5-day, full day in person instruction since August 2020.

We currently have limited openings available at most grade levels for the 2021-2022 school year. Contact us at 630.961.6125 for more information.



A big thank you to our ASCA Blue and Gold Sponsor:

Country Financial Services

**For your generous partnership in the All Saints
2020 Dinner Dance Auction — The Crystal Gala**



Faith and Formation Commission — Youth



St. Thomas the Apostle

**RELIGIOUS
EDUCATION**

First Eucharist Liturgy Communion Procedures:

First Eucharist Liturgy are on the following dates:

Saturday, April 24 at 10:30 am

Saturday, April 24 at 4:30 pm

Sunday, April 25 at 9:00 am

Saturday May 1 at 10:30 am

Saturday May 1 at 4:30 pm

Sunday May 2 at 9:00 am

Sunday May 9 at 9:00 am for older First Communicants

During these liturgies, the First Communicants and parents are invited to come forward first to receive Communion followed immediately by their families. Other guests and the rest of the assembly will wait to receive communion, allowing all First Communicants and their families to receive first. Eucharistic ministers will proceed to their assigned stations as usual but will remain facing the altar at their assigned stations until all First Communicants and their families have received. Then, ushers will invite the rest of the assembly to receive, including the other guests of the First Communicants. We thank you for your patience as the children and their parents receive Eucharist.

Thank you for your prayers that you have said for these children as they meet Jesus in this most holy sacrament.

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. Want to feel energized with your faith? Come be part of the Scripture Safari team. No experience needed.

Find out more by contacting Lorraine Katz at lkatz@stapostle.org or 630.355.8980, x109.



Thank You

The Faith Formation/ Religious Ed. Department would like to extend their heartfelt "Thank You" in appreciation to those who have served in the formation of our children's faith, especially those who have helped with this Sacrament of First Eucharist.

Gratitude is extended to:

- Jim Clauer, Director of Liturgy and Music
- Samantha Delke, Associate Director of Liturgy and Music
- Our musicians and singers for their beautiful music
- Our Sacristans, Greeters, Eucharistic Ministers and Ushers
- Especially our First Communicants, their parents, grandparents and Godparents

A special "Thank You" to:

- Our Pastor, Fr. Philip Danaher
- Fr Joseph Kappilumakkal, Parochial Vicar
- Fr. Bob Colaresi, our Weekend Associate
- Our Deacons: Mike Barrett, Jim Breen, Joe Cuzzone, Larry Kearney, Chuck Lane and Patrick Lennon
- The All Saints and St. Thomas staff; Tricia Serna, our Second Grade Coordinator; Eileen Cruz and Jenni Kennedy, our Faith Formation Assistants

The following volunteers have given of their time, love and sharing of their faith to these First Communicants.

- Janet Bailey
- Gregory Burgess
- Jennifer Burgess
- Lilianna Ernst
- Melissa Ernst
- Caryn Phelan

Question of the week ...

How do you recognize when Jesus calls you?



Thank You Middle School Catechists and Volunteers

Middle school religious education at St. Thomas happens because of a dedicated group of catechists and volunteers.

These volunteers include our catechists: Mary Wright, Julia Krupa, Darlene Dionne-Karales, Mary Szczap, Kathy Powell, Elijah Powell, Chris Baker, Jen Kennedy, John Kennedy, Tim Berglind, Tanya Galer, Sean Elliffe, Karen Curran and Vicki Agustsson.

There are also volunteers who are willing to work behind the scenes to ensure our programs run smoothly. These volunteers include Bernie Salzig, John Growney, Carolyn Vondran and Gina Howley.

Thanks to all of these volunteers for sharing the gifts of their time and talent with St. Thomas middle school students. Especially in this pandemic year, the dedication of our volunteers is a gift to the whole St. Thomas faith community.

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.

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>.

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. 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 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 Night, April 29.

Catholic Baseball/Softball Camp

WHO: Boys and Girls, ages 8-14

WHEN: July 27-28, 8:00 am – 3:00 pm

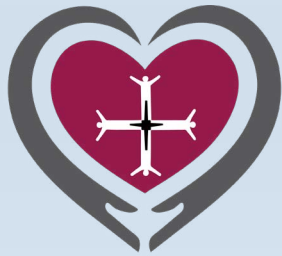
WHERE: Montini Catholic High School, Lombard, IL

COST: \$150

REGISTRATION: Go to catholicssportscamps.org

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.

Service Commission — Pastoral Care



PASTORAL CARE
St. Thomas the Apostle

Make Me an Instrument of your Healing

*Inspired by and adapted from the Prayer
of St. Francis*

Lord, make me an instrument of your
healing;

Where there is disappointment in a test
or procedure, make me into a comfort;

Where there is confusion at a diagnosis
or treatment, make me into clarity;

Where there is illness of any kind, make
me into care and comfort;

Where there is anguish in death, make
me into hope.

O Great Physician, grant that I may not
so much seek

To be served as to serve

To be praised as to praise

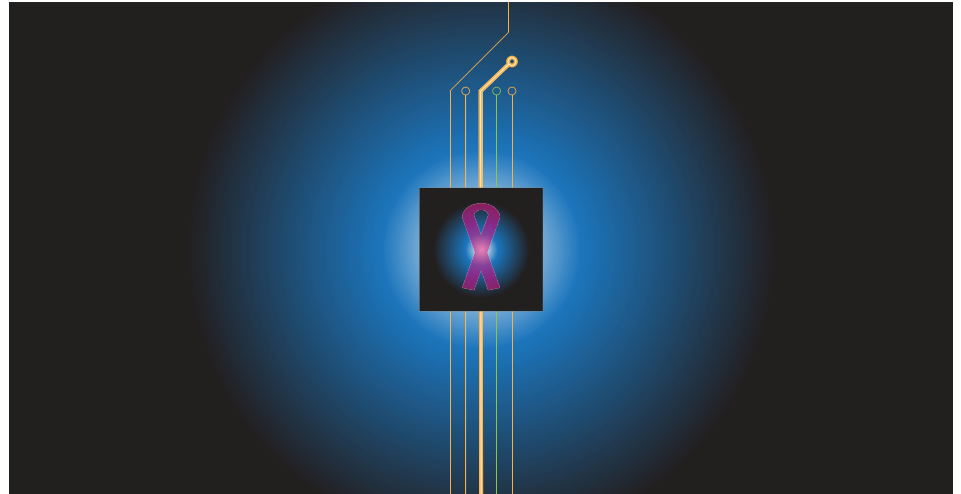
To be loved as to love.

For it is in giving that we receive,

It is in healing that we are healed,

And it is in dying
that we are born to eternal life.

Amen



From the Office of the Parish Nurse

Using Artificial Intelligence to Assess Breast Cancer

Software that uses artificial intelligence (AI) may help improve cancer diagnosis. QuantX, developed in Chicago, uses AI to analyze breast MRIs. Radiologists can use the technology to help assess if breast lesions are cancerous. Research shows the technology led to a 39 percent reduction in missed cancers, according to a clinical trial.

Maryellen Giger, PhD, a professor of radiology at the University of Chicago, developed the technology, which the FDA cleared in 2017.

"You can think of breast cancer screening as Where's Waldo?" she says, referring to the puzzle books where one searches for a character who blends in with background images.

QuantX, now owned by Chicago-based company Qlarity Imaging, generates a 3-D image that radiologists can rotate to see the size and location of a tumor. They can use that image to decide whether to conduct a biopsy.

Though patients are unlikely to know if a doctor used the software, it's now in hospitals and imaging centers around the country. Down the line, similar software could be used to diagnose other cancers, like in the prostate and lung.

Resource: Susan Carter, Chicago Health/Spring Summer 2021



From the Behavioral Health Ministry
St. Dymphna Mass Celebration



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

St. Dymphna Mass, Patron Saint of Those Struggling with Emotional/Mental Illness

St. Dymphna is the patron saint of people living with emotional and mental illness. Her mother died when Dymphna was 17. Her father struggled with emotional and mental difficulties following his wife's death. These difficulties led to her martyrdom. Cures and miracles were attributed to her and as a result highly successful

treatment centers are named for her.

The Behavioral Health Ministry is offering a Mass at St. Thomas on Monday, May 24, 2021, at 7:00 pm to commemorate her courage and strength and for her plight to provide care and treatment for people with mental illness.

Come to celebrate her life and to pray for those who struggle with emotional/mental illness and their families.

Please call Susan Kearney to register or for more information at 630.355.8980, x108 or email her at sdkearney@comcast.net.

Prayer to St. Dymphna:

Dear Saint Dymphna, you gave us an example in your own life of firm faith. Neither flattery, earthly rewards nor the threat of death caused you to waver in your fidelity to God. Please help us then, amid the uncertainties of life, to imitate your wholehearted dedication to Christ. Be good enough to come to our aid in our need, and pray for us to God. Amen.

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

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.

Service Commission — Outreach and Social Justice

“You are witnesses” — Parishes without Borders

“In fact, if I were to characterize St. Thomas the Apostle parish in one phrase it would be: a parish without borders.”

Those words were spoken by Tom Cordaro during his reflection at all the Masses last weekend. That is high praise, and yet we are challenged to do more. Last weekend was an Outreach and Social Justice weekend at St. Thomas. Tom Cordaro provided a reflection 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 reflection is available for viewing or reading on the St. Thomas website home page.

Below are excerpts from Tom’s reflection:

- Today we need parish communities that are willing to move out of their comfort zones in order to embrace a world that has been fractured by the hatred, ignorance and fear of demagogues who seek adulation and worship from their followers without regard to the damage that they do. The world desperately needs the witness of parish communities that are willing to follow the lead of the Holy Spirit in breaking down barriers and creating unity without insisting on uniformity.
- Jesuit writer, Fr. James Martin, reminds us that Jesus never said, “Feed the hungry only if they have papers.” “Clothe the naked only if they are from your country.” “Welcome the stranger only if there is zero risk.” Jesus never said: “Help the poor only if it is convenient.” “Love your neighbor only if they look like you.”

Tom Cordaro has served as the Justice & 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.



Update from St. Agnes

On Wednesday, April 14, 11 members of the Lakota ministry met via Zoom with Father Edmund and Joyce Tibbitts from St. Agnes on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation. Carol Redell, facilitator of the St. Thomas Lakota Nation Committee, provides an update.

Cause for the Canonization of Nicholas Black Elk

There was some encouraging news concerning the canonization process of Nicholas Black Elk. A request has come from Rome for the actual books mentioned in the bibliography that accompanied the original canonization packet. In addition, the Bishop of the South Dakota diocese is planning a trip to Rome in the fall and may bring back some news. Events planned for Black Elk in June and the memorial mass in August may or may not be held based on current pandemic conditions. Joyce is working on 10-15 information/bulletin boards about Black Elk. The bishop is encouraging more awareness and education to all the parishes in the diocese. (There are two dioceses in South Dakota – Rapid City for the western part of the state, including St. Agnes, and Sioux Falls for the eastern part of the state.) The goal is to offer these boards for use in other parishes. There is also work being done for a Zoom presentation for the third and fifth graders at Red Cloud School.

St. Agnes Parish News

Joyce reported there are plans in the works to put a new roof on the church, to put up some new fencing, and to demolish a house behind the parish hall (that has been condemned) that belongs to the church. Father Edmund still wants to have his garden this summer but there is some question because he is planning to be gone the month of July and it’s not sure if he can find someone to take over during that time.

We talked about the annual coat and blanket collection and Father Edmund and Joyce said they are open to having it this year depending on conditions both at St. Agnes and at St. Thomas. A final decision will be made soon.

Father Edmund reported that things are slowly opening up at Saint Agnes. They are able to have Mass on Sundays with limited attendance but they are not yet able to have their social hour after Mass. He was hopeful that they would soon be able to continue this practice by holding the social hour outside now that the weather is a bit warmer.

Education and Sacraments

Joyce is working on redoing the entire Religious Education Program at St. Agnes. Two young people will be confirmed soon and Joyce’s two sons are the two newest altar servers.

Holy Week went well. Some activities were held outside, including a prayer walk. Many youth attended. Funerals continue to be graveside only; sadly, one of the oldest members of Saint Agnes passed away last week.

Every student on the rez has been provided an iPad or a laptop. Joyce said students are doing OK. No one is doing excellent or outstanding. Not every child has an adult in his or her life able/willing to ensure Zoom lessons take place each day. The breakfast and lunch bags are still being delivered to students.

There is a new high school on the rez – Lakota Tech. Anyone on the rez is eligible to attend. It opened last August and is near Wolf Creek School in the town of Pine Ridge. Class days are split half vocational training and half traditional school subjects. Students from as far as Wanblee (90 miles from Pine Ridge) are attending. Bus service is provided. If students live off the main roads near Pine Ridge, they are picked up by a person driving a Suburban.

Summary

It was good to see both of them and I think the other members of the ministry appreciated the chance to visit with them. It provided another way of strengthening our relationship and deepening our connection.



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

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 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

St. Thomas Cares

Ben has been living at Extended Stay for quite some period of time. He came to this area for a job as a maintenance worker and that had allowed him to live week-to-week at the motel, but did not allow him to save money for security deposit and first month for an apartment. He was counting on his stimulus check to help make that happen.

Then came a non-work related injury that required surgery and a month long rehabilitation ... all without any income. His stimulus check kept him in the motel through his rehabilitation, but then was without any funds as he was starting back to work. He had found an apartment that was affordable, but not available until the end of the month, three weeks away and he needed to provide a \$500 deposit to hold the apartment for him.

St. Thomas Cares paid for a week in the motel. That allowed Ben to use his first partial paycheck for the apartment deposit. And we told Ben that we could help for security deposit if needed.



Save the Date

St. Vincent de Paul Clothing Drive — June 26–27

Great News! A clothing drive will happen at St. Thomas the weekend of June 26-27! Donation bags will be made available closer to the actual drive.

Only clothing, linens and small housewares and electronics will be accepted. NO baby equipment, furniture or TVs.

Watch the bulletin and website for further details.

Stewardship and Administration

The Week Ahead

Monday, April 26

Tuesday, April 27

10:00–11:00 am Care Pantry Food Distribution, Outside
7:00–9:00 pm Insight, Zoom Meeting

Wednesday, April 28

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

Thursday, April 29

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

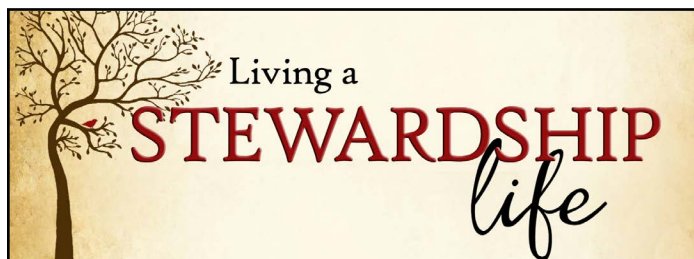
Friday, April 30

Saturday, May 1

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, May 2

9:00–10:00 am First Eucharist Mass
9:00 am–12:00 pm RCIA, Senior Center



There was not a needy person among them, for as many as owned lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold. They laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.

– Acts 4:34-35

During this Easter season we are hearing readings from the Book of Acts, a recollection of the early Church. Last weekend Tom Cordaro, Justice and Outreach Minister of St. Margaret Mary Church in Naperville, came to speak to us about reaching out. He spoke of a Church without boundaries and how we, St. Thomas parish, have been noticed as a church without boundaries. (You can hear his reflection in the Masses of April 17-18 on the video replay on the St. Thomas website). He pointed out what we have done so well. We have used our gifts of time, talent and treasure to reach out to those in need, whether they be geographically distant from us or in our own community, never asking for “papers” or church or parish affiliation. It was good to be reminded how much good we do, even as some think we do not do enough. And it was good, as someone later pointed out, how much more we can aspire to do.

If you have a need or if you would like to help in some way, please contact the Office of Social Justice. St. Thomas is always willing to help and is always willing to welcome helpers.

Last weekend's stewardship of financial gifts

Weekly Sunday Offertory

April 11, 2021	
Sunday Collection Offering*	\$9,362
Credit Card Online Giving	none this week
Automatic Direct Debit (5 th and 20 th each month)	\$22,007
Mailed in and stock donations	\$12,487
Total for the week	\$43,856
*Based on Collection Counters Reports prior to bank confirmation	
Fiscal Year (7/1 to 6/30)	\$1,459,924
Weekly Average 7/1/2019 to date	\$35,608
Offertory Goal Year to date	\$1,381,253
Over/short of goal to date	\$78,671
Goal for Fiscal Year 7/1 to 6/30	\$1,751,833
Percent of Annual Sunday Offertory Goal	83%
Remaining for Fiscal Year goal	\$291,909

This week, the Sunday collection is \$78,671 ahead of goal so far this year. Capital needs restricted gifts were \$100 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!

Checked These Listings Lately? Thank You to Our Advertisers!

Make it a habit to check these advertisers when you need a product or a service.
And when you purchase, be sure to mention you saw their ad in the St. Thomas bulletin!

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- GREAT LOYALTY - 41%** of households do business with a company specifically because they are advertising in the church bulletin.
- GREAT PRODUCT - 62%** of households keep the church bulletin the entire week as reference.

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