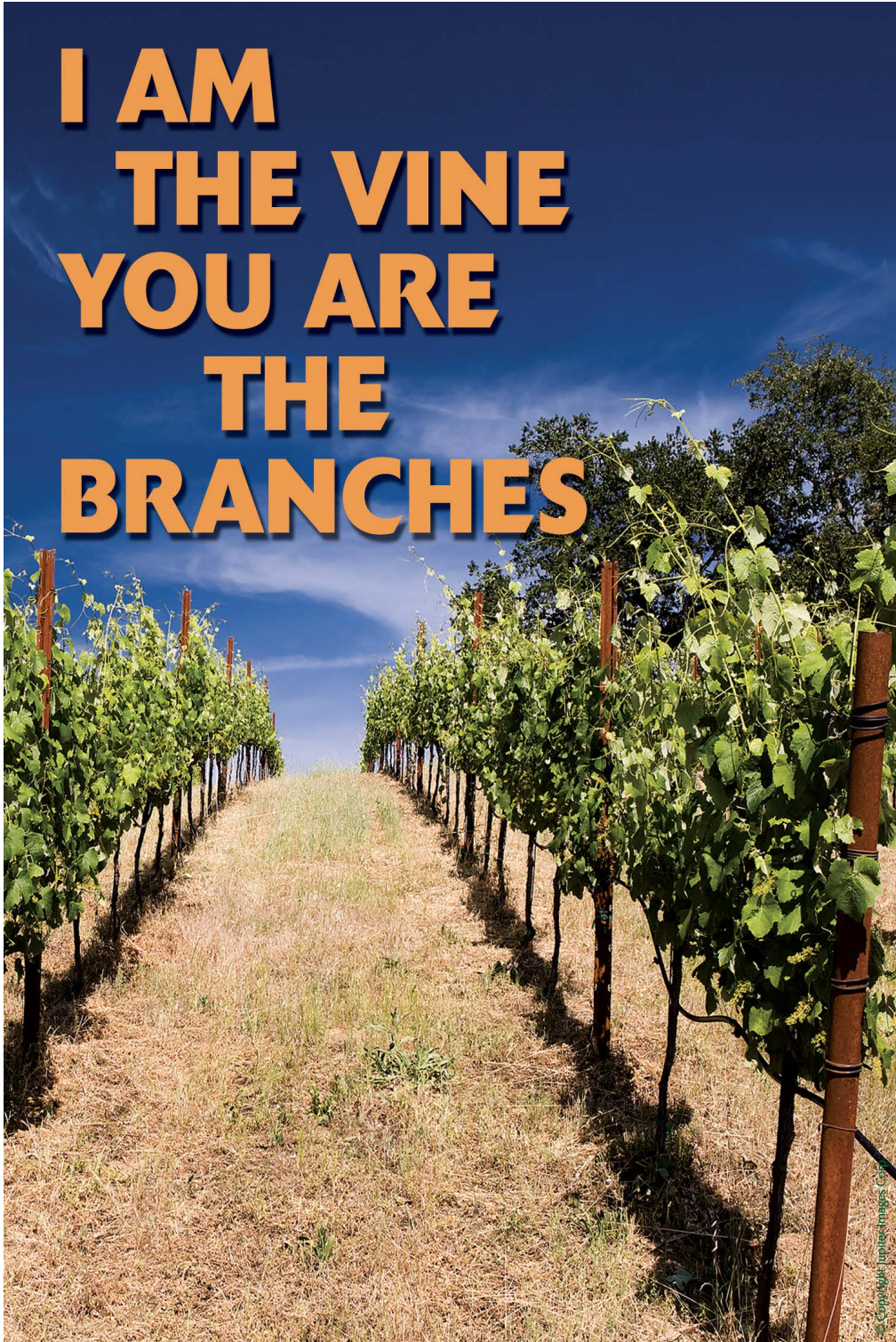


# St. Thomas

MAY 2, 2021 — FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

**I AM  
THE VINE  
YOU ARE  
THE  
BRANCHES**



# 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)  
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### Pastoral Care

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Felicia Lawlor,\* *Faith Community Nurse*, x104, [flawlor@stapostle.org](mailto:flawlor@stapostle.org)

### Administration

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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 Sundays each month at a 1:00 pm service. Three times a year on selected dates, Baptisms are celebrated during weekend Masses. Parents are required to attend a Baptismal awareness and renewal session prior to the Baptism. Call or email 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,

Children of our parish either have received Eucharist for the first time last weekend or will receive this weekend and next. Let's always remember that, while it is a special day for our children, their families and our parish, God is the focus as we celebrate the sharing of His love through the great and

very special gift of His Son's Body and Blood. We celebrate God's call to our children to approach His table and receive the gift of His life.

This gift of His life is not something which our First Communicants, along with all of us called to the table of the Lord, keep to ourselves. In St. John's letter which we heard today, he encouraged his readers, addressing them as children, "to love, not in word or speech, but in deed and truth." As our Risen Lord has shared His life and love with us in the sacramental signs of bread and wine, so are we called to share His life and love not just by our words, but also by our heartfelt actions.

The word "mass" comes from the Latin word meaning "to send." When we are told to go at the conclusion of every Eucharistic liturgy, we are sent to share the same heartfelt love which Jesus offers us around His table. He is the focus of all our liturgical celebrations. He wants to be the focus, the center, of our actions with each other.

Congratulations to our young people who will celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit in a new and special way in the Sacrament of Confirmation during a liturgy at 11:00 am next Saturday, May 8. They are not the future of the Church. They are the Church. Let us pray that they will be very involved in service in our parish and in our community.

In the Word,

*Fr. Danaher*



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## Fifth Sunday of Easter

May 2, 2021

*Let us love not in word or speech but in deed and truth.*

— 1 John 3:18

### 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.

### 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** — Barnabas reported to the apostles how Saul had seen the Lord on the way (Acts 9:26-31).

**Psalm** — I will praise you, Lord, in the assembly of your people (Psalm 22).

**Second Reading** — This is God's commandment: that we may believe and love (1 John 3:18-24).

**Gospel** — I am the true vine; whoever remains in me will bear much fruit (John 15:1-8).

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:** 1 Cor 15:1-8; Ps 19:2-5; Jn 14:6-14

**Tuesday:** Acts 14:19-28; Ps 145:10-13ab, 21; Jn 14:27-31a

**Wednesday:** Acts 15:1-6; Ps 122:1-5; Jn 15:1-8

**Thursday:** Acts 15:7-21; Ps 96:1-3, 10; Jn 15:9-11

**Friday:** Acts 15:22-31; Ps 57:8-10, 12; Jn 15:12-17

**Saturday:** Acts 16:1-10; Ps 100:1b-3, 5; Jn 15:18-21

**Sunday:** Acts 10:25-36, 34-35, 44-48; Ps 98:1-4; 1 Jn 4:7-10 or 1 Jn 4:11-16; Jn 15:9-17 or Jn 17:11b-19

## A Prayer

*When you heard that voice  
and knew finally it called for you  
and what it was saying  
— where were you?*

*Were you in the shower, wet and soapy,  
or chopping cabbage late for dinner?*

*Were you planting radish seeds or seeking one lost sock?*

*Maybe wiping handprints off a window  
or coaxing words into a sentence.*

*Or coming upon a hyacinth or one last "No."*

*Where were you when you heard that ancient voice,  
and did "Yes" get born right then and did you weep?*

*Had it called you since before you even were,  
and when you knew that, did your joy escape all holding?*

*Where were you when you heard that calling voice,  
and how, in that moment, did you mark it?*

*How, ever after, are you changed?*

*Tell us, please, all you can about that voice.*

*Teach us how to listen, how to hear.*

*Teach us all you can of saying "Yes."*

From Nancy Shaffer, Instructions in Joy (Skinner House, 2002)

## Presider Schedule May 8–9

### Saturday, May 8

4:30: Fr. Matt Lorenz with Deacon Larry Kearney

### Sunday, May 9

9:00: Fr. Bob Colaresi with Deacon Joe Cuzzone

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, May 3, 2021

8:30 am †Lauriano and Gaudiosa Mallorca, by Buddy and Mely Mallorca

### Tuesday, May 4, 2021

8:30 am †Mary Gowney, by John Gowney

### Wednesday, May 5, 2021

8:30 am †Rosita Boado Eslao, by Buddy and Mely Mallorca

### Thursday, May 6, 2021

8:30 am †George and Hilda Heck, by Family

### Friday, May 7, 2021

8:30 am †Elsie Breen, by Jim and MaryJo Breen

### Saturday, May 8, 2021

4:30 pm *Mass of Anticipation*

†John Egermann

†Laverne Biske, by Dawn Oliver

†Martha Lopez, by Lisa and Larry Hjorth

### Sunday, May 9, 2021

*Sixth Sunday of Easter*

9:00 am †For the Recipients of the Project Love Mother's Day Cards

10:45 am †Armando Vega, by Delia Lopez



*"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

## **Fifth Sunday of Easter: Still Bearing Fruit**

Who is the vine, who are the branches, who is the grower? We know this story and the answers by heart. It draws us into the second reading (1 John 3:18-24) about the behaviors of beloved children. We are Easter children who believe and love, who think and act.

- What needs pruning in my life?
- What Word of God, what truth do I need to hear?
- How will I "love one another just as he commands us"?

### **Anointing**

The past year has been difficult for us all. Each of us has had to face different challenges, some more complicated than others. As a Catholic community of faith, we have the Holy Sacraments to give us strength, nourishment and healing.

On Saturday, May 15 at 1:00 pm, we will be celebrating the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick during a Mass. Anyone, of all ages, can benefit from this sacrament — as many times as needed! There are no limits to anointing, as we are all in need of healing of various troubling conditions — physical, mental, emotional or spiritual.

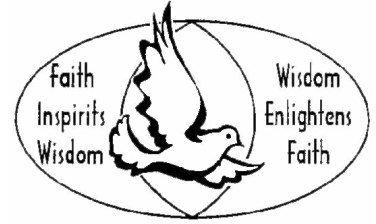
Please join us for this special celebration. No online registration is necessary. Contact tracing will be done upon entry.

# Faith and Formation Commission — Adult

## C.A.R.E. CORNER

The prophet Isaiah invited his community to change their social patterns in order to loosen the bonds of injustice, lift the burdens of others and free the oppressed (Isaiah 58:6). Our Church invites us to do the same. So let's get down to the nitty-gritty here. What do we actually need to do differently to make our world

the better place that we all say we want? Let's revisit our seven principles of Catholic Social Teaching to see what we can do to make concrete changes that would result in greater social justice for more people. The first of those principles is recognizing the sanctity and value of all life, from conception to natural death, simply by virtue of our humanity. There are just some things that are more important than self interests, and the sacredness of life in general is one of them.



Are people more important to you than things, and if so, does your life show evidence of that? Perhaps you could support your local pregnancy resource center with your time, talents or treasure, or put your energy into resource centers in neighborhoods which serve women of color and lesser economic means. At the very least, could you pray for a heightened sense of womb-love in all women who are currently with child, but especially for those women who are considering eliminating their unborn child from the equation? Might you be willing to educate yourself about legislation that works against the dignity of the unborn, the elderly, and everyone in between? We must challenge ourselves to see Christ in the face of every human being and to work at that with diligence.

## Answers to Questions You Have About the COVID-19 Vaccine

**Tuesday, May 4, 2021**

**6–7 pm**

**ZOOM EVENT; REGISTRATION REQUIRED**

You will receive a link to the Zoom meeting  
24 hours before the presentation.

Join our educational Zoom event. Learn about the COVID-19 Vaccine and get answers to the most common concerns regarding side effects and efficacy.

If you have a question you would like Dr. Hill to answer during the presentation, please submit it in the comments when you register.



**Kalisha Hill, MD, MBA, FCAP**  
*Chief Medical Officer*  
AMITA Health St. Mary's Hospital  
Kankakee



To register, scan the code with your smartphone camera;  
visit [AMITAhealth.org/classes-and-events/](https://AMITAhealth.org/classes-and-events/)  
or call 855.MyAMITA (855.692.6482)

**AMITA** HEALTH®



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  
Brianna 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  
Ryan Modaff  
Noah Phoxay-Mira  
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 Baggio  
Mia Beach  
James Beach  
Piper Grosshuesch  
Kayden Komorek  
Esmeralda Salmeron  
Guadalupe Salmeron  
Haddie Stilling  
Josie Stilling  
Ayden Wielgos

# Faith and Formation Commission — Youth



St. Thomas the Apostle

**RELIGIOUS  
EDUCATION**

Dear St. Thomas Family,

Thank you for your patience as we celebrate First Communion Mass with the First Communicants, their families and guests. Please note the schedule below. First Eucharist Liturgies are continuing on the following dates and times:

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.

## Scripture Safari Registration Coming Soon

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 the middle of May. 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. 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](mailto: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 stay connected to Jesus?



## Middle School Religious Education, 2021-2022

Plans are underway for the 2021–2022 middle school RE year. Saturday and Monday classes will take place at All Saints. You will be notified when registration materials for the 2021–2022 year are available online. Our hope is that those families who, for health reasons, could not attend RE this past year will consider being part of our middle school program this coming year.

## 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 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.



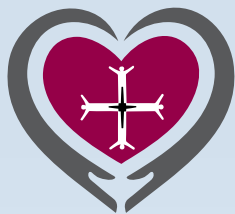
## Stay Connected to St. Thomas

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

Follow St. Thomas on Facebook

Download the St. Thomas App for your phone

# Service Commission — Pastoral Care



## PASTORAL CARE

St. Thomas the Apostle

May 2021

Dear St. Thomas Parishioners,

*In the midst of the COVID-19 Pandemic period and during a January 2021 interview, Pope Francis said,*

*"I believe that morally everyone must take the vaccine. It is the moral choice because it is about your life, but also the lives of others."*

*Vaccine is defined as a biological preparation that provides active acquired immunity to a particular infectious disease.*

*The effectiveness of vaccination has been widely studied and verified. Vaccines proven effective include influenza vaccine, HPV vaccine and chicken pox vaccine. The World Health Organization reports that licensed vaccines are also currently available for 25 different preventable infections.*

*Pope Francis and the Pastoral and Wellness Care offices along with the St. Thomas the Apostle Staff, strongly support the administration of COVID-19 vaccines for all eligible individuals.*

*While believing and understanding in the value of caution, that is because of fear, uncertainty and disbelief, Pastoral Care Nursing wish to offer personal support to those who require assistance.*

*It isn't just about saving your life but saving the lives of others.*

**Felicia Lawlor**

Faith Community Nurse

**Jan Olah**

Director of Pastoral Care

## From the Behavioral Health Ministry Depression Awareness

Children and adolescents are currently more vulnerable to depression due to the prolonged isolation from this pandemic. However, parents can help their child prevent or manage symptoms of depression by noticing the warning signs, being there for them and encouraging the use of healthy coping skills.



### Warning Signs To Look Out For

Not all parents know when their child needs help with their mental health. So, let's look at some of the warning signs for the onset of depression.

- Mood changes that are unusual for your child — it could be an increased feeling of irritability, anxiety or anger.
- Behavioral and communication changes — you may notice that your child has begun to communicate less with peers, avoids communication on social networks or does not want to communicate with relatives for no apparent reason.
- Lack of interest in usual activities — if your child abruptly abandons their hobbies for no reason.
- Trouble falling asleep and waking up.
- Physiological change — weight gain or loss due to increased appetite or lack of it.
- Unwillingness to study and a decline in academic performance.
- Bad memory and concentration.

The above symptoms may indicate that it's time to get your child professional help. You can start by talking to them about how they are feeling, and if your suspicions are confirmed, getting them professional help.

### How To Help Them Cope:

#### **Establish Trust**

The relationship with your child plays a significant role. You need to establish trust with your child, and for that, you need to be able to talk openly with them and show that you can help.

#### **Start with Yourself**

If you are lamenting every day that you are tired of self-isolation, or you tell the whole family how many infections there were per day, it might negatively impact your mental health. It's important that you practice healthy coping skills to set a positive example and to be more emotionally available to help your child.

#### **Reward Your Child for Academic Success**

If you notice that your child is losing the desire to learn because of distance learning, then come up with good motivation or encouragement. For example, you can incentivize your child by offering gifts, prizes or their favorite meal at the end of the school week if they stay on task.

#### **Spend Time Outdoors**

Spending time in your backyard during isolation can be helpful to boost their mood. But it will be even better if you arrange a family trip outside your home at least once a week. It can help your child feel less isolated to go out into the world.

Remember that a period of isolation is a good opportunity to improve your relationship with your children and give them the attention they need. If they are struggling with their mental health, don't lose hope, you can help them get through the tough days of this pandemic.

Source: NAMI, [nami.org](http://nami.org)

Anna Medina, Submission to the NAMI Blog.

# FREE

# CAR CARE SAFETY CLINIC

## FOR SENIORS 50+



## SATURDAY, MAY 8

### from 8:00am-12:00pm

Lisle Township • 4711 Indiana Avenue, Lisle

Event will be COVID-19 group compliant  
No reservations are required for this rain or shine event  
A bag of healthy snacks will be provided while you wait

### The Naperville & Lisle Townships TRIAD invites Seniors 50+ to bring their cars for a FREE Comprehensive Auto Safety Inspection

Bring your vehicle to Lisle Township on Saturday, May 8 to ensure that it is up to safety standards and ready for summer. A free multi-point vehicle inspection will be performed, which includes checking fluids, belts, hoses, tires, lights, signals, wipers, and more.

For your own safety, you will remain in your car throughout the inspection. You must wear a face covering when interacting with volunteers. A bag with healthy snacks and important information will be provided to you while you wait.

**SNACKS PROVIDED BY:** Amazon Fresh, Naperville

**For more information, call Lisle Township at 630-968-2087**

**SPONSORED BY:** Naperville & Lisle Townships

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Tread Wear, Condition & Pressure
- FLUIDS**  
11 Inspection Checks
- INTERIOR**  
Gauges, Lights & Seat Belts
- WIPERS & WINDSHIELD**  
Condition





## 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](mailto: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

## St. Thomas – A Parish Without Borders – Tom Cordaro Reflection

*"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 the weekend of April 17-18, 2021. That is high praise, and yet we are challenged to do more. Tom's reflection is available for viewing or reading on the St. Thomas website home page.

Tom Cordaro has served as the Justice and Outreach Minister at St. Margaret Mary Parish in Naperville for 24 years. He co-founded Naperville Cares, the emergency services arm of Naperville's Loaves and Fishes organization, and is a leader in interfaith activities in our larger community.

### 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."



## A Prayer for Racial Justice

**Let this day be not an end, but a beginning**

On the afternoon of April, 20, 2021, a guilty verdict was announced in the trial of the Derek Chauvin related to the death of George Floyd. That evening Rev. Mark Winters posted the following prayer on Facebook.

*"God of our weary years, God of our silent tears, God who has brought us thus far on the way — let this day be not an end, but a beginning; a beginning of a reckoning that drives us to change our nation and our world. We have suffered under the lie of white supremacy for far too long.*

*"Today, a jury in Minnesota took down a brick of that unjust system, and so we praise you, God of liberation, for faithful and courageous jurors. But inspire each of us, Mighty One, to keep fighting for liberation, keep dismantling systems of inequality, and to keep following your blueprints for a more righteous and just community, on earth, as it is in heaven.*

*"In Christ Jesus we pray; Amen."*

Reverend Mark Winters is the Pastor of the First Congregational United Church of Christ in Naperville.

## PATH May 11 Meeting

*"By failing to prepare, you are preparing to fail"*  
- Benjamin Franklin

The PATH Group . . . a job search support ministry will be hosting a virtual meeting and panel discussion, "Through the Lens of a Recruiter," on Tuesday, May 11 at 7:00 pm.

Today's sales professionals employ a structured process to ensure successful selling outcomes. As a job seeker, you have now assumed the role of Chief Sales Officer for a product you know intimately . . . YOU! The interview becomes your platform to illustrate and demonstrate the value you can deliver.

Mike Cooper is the Founder, Head Chef and Certified Sales Coach, at Sales Kitchen, a sales training and consulting company. Mike will share the sales technique that will help you confidently present yourself during the Interview process (PAPCE — Preparation | Approach | Presentation | Close | Evaluation).

### Register in advance for this webinar

[https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_F5mDsNHRlyl5vc473jKEw](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_F5mDsNHRlyl5vc473jKEw) or contact Fred Johnson at [fred.c.johnson50@gmail.com](mailto:fred.c.johnson50@gmail.com). Once you have registered for the event, you will receive the Zoom meeting information in a confirmation email.



## 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

## Happy Birthday!

### Project Love Celebrates 25 Years of Service

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

Since 1996, Project Love has distributed about three quarters of a million dollars to 1,450 pregnant women and new mothers in need, saving families from evictions and utility shutoffs. All funds come from individual donations.

Pregnancy centers screen the women, verify their finances and send Project Love an application, which is reviewed by a grant committee. When a grant is approved, the money goes to the client's creditor to pay their bills. Project Love also sends the moms a note, sending prayers for them and their families.

Project Love is funded entirely by donations from individuals who want to share their love and support for mothers and their families in desperate need. Annual fundraising included a breakfast event and the offering of beautiful Mother's Day and Father's Day cards. See article in today's bulletin. If you would like to donate to Project Love directly, go to [www.IllinoisRightToLife.org](http://www.IllinoisRightToLife.org). Indicate that your donation should go to Project Love in the drop-down list of choices.

#### **Grateful responses from Moms:**

- "Thank you to the wonderful people of Project Love. I am so happy that there are people in this world as nice as you, and hope to pay this favor forward as soon as I am able."
- "My children and I are so appreciative. Our Nicor was disconnected, and it now is restored."
- "Thank you for covering my rent. It came at a much-needed time, and I really appreciate the help Project Love offers to new moms. I am blessed with a beautiful baby boy, and I hope one day to be in the position to help others like myself."

# Stewardship and Administration

## The Week Ahead

### Monday, May 3

7:00–9:00 pm Baptism Meeting, Zoom

### Tuesday, May 4

### Wednesday, May 5

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

### Thursday, May 6

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

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

### Friday, May 7

### Saturday, May 8

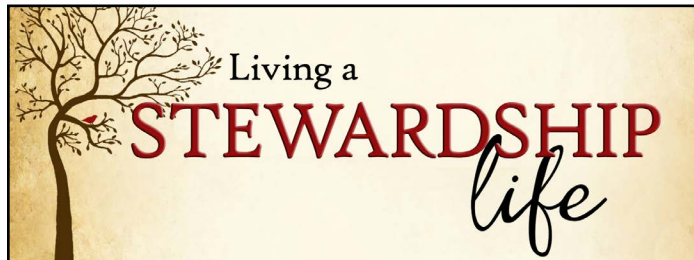
11:00 am–12:00 pm Confirmation, Church

3:30–4:15 pm Reconciliation, Galilee

### Sunday, May 9

9:00–10:00 am First Eucharist Mass

9:00 am–12:00 pm RCIA, Senior Center



In His Parable of the Talents (Matthew 25:14-30), Jesus tells the story of a wealthy man who is going on a long trip. He gives each of his three servants a large sum of money and expects them to take care of the money while he is away. Two of the servants used the money wisely and made a considerable return on their investment. The third servant did nothing with his money, not putting it to good use. Therefore there was no increase in the money he returned to the master. The master was not happy. It did not go well for the third servant.

The expectation is that we use our gifts wisely. Our gifts are not only talents (interesting that the Bible uses the word, “talent,” which at that time meant a large sum of money). We also have gifts of time, talent and treasure that are gifts from God. We often need gentle hints and help to take care of those gifts.

Our Parish has a Stewardship Commission that provides that help and gentle hints of how to use those gifts and when. You have been encouraged by them to support the Church (Parish and beyond) or to volunteer your time in some way. We are in need of a few people to carry on that mission. Here would be a perfect opportunity to use your gifts in a way to benefit our Parish as a whole.

If you are interested, please contact someone on the Parish Council to step up.

## Last weekend's stewardship of financial gifts

### Weekly Sunday Offertory

April 18, 2021

Sunday Collection Offering\* \$10,725

Credit Card Online Giving none this week

Automatic Direct Debit (5<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> each month) none this week

Mailed in and stock donations \$9,345

Total for the week \$20,070

\*Based on Collection Counters Reports prior to bank confirmation

Fiscal Year (7/1 to 6/30) \$1,479,994

Weekly Average 7/1/2019 to date \$35,238

Offertory Goal Year to date \$1,414,942

Over/short of goal to date \$65,052

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

Percent of Annual Sunday Offertory Goal 84%

Remaining for Fiscal Year goal \$271,839

This week, the Sunday collection is \$65,052 ahead of goal so far this year. Capital needs restricted gifts were \$742 this past week. We are grateful to those who recognize the need and responded.

### Diocesan Appeal 2021

Parish Appeal Goal \$174,100

Pledges Received \$124,725

Percent of Goal pledged to date 71.64%

Unpaid pledges \$13,691

Paid to Date \$111,034

Percent of goal paid to date 63.78%

## 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 VALUE - 70%** of all households are aware of and look at the advertising in the church bulletin and 68% of households surveyed when making a choice between businesses are inclined to choose the one who advertised in the church bulletin.
- 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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