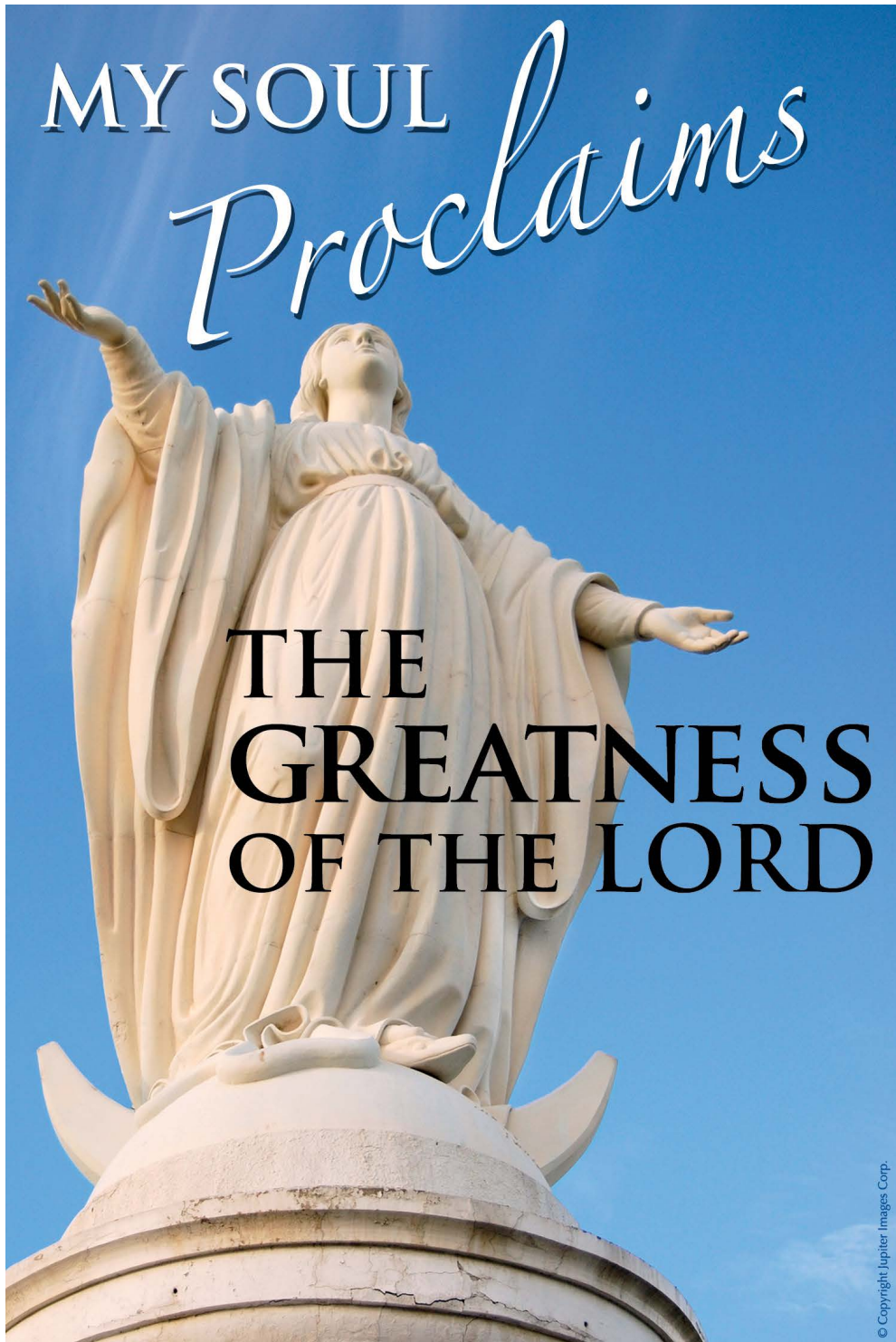


St. Thomas

AUGUST 15, 2021 — THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY



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–7:00 pm, Monday–Thursday; 9:00 am–12:00 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

Jim (Mary Jo) Breen — 630.486.3133, jimb4853@gmail.com

Joe (Carolyn) Cuzzzone — 630.355.8980, x224, DeaconJoeCuzzzone@gmail.com

Larry (Susan) Kearney — 630.355.8980, x225, lkearney@comcast.net

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Bob Hartmann,* *Facility Manager*, x133, facility@stapostle.org

Parish Pastoral Council

Susan Wood O'Leary, *Chair*

Alison Ohl

Noble Charles

Brittany Tres

Dave Johanneson

Commission Representatives

Carrie Wujek, *Faith & Spiritual Formation*

Linda Bailey, *Service*

Susan Wood O'Leary, *Finance*

Jeff Balsewicz, *Worship*

Ex-Officio

Rev. Philip Danaher, *Pastor*

Rev. Joseph Kappilumakkal, *Parochial Vicar*

Janet Simmons, *Recording Secretary*

*indicates part-time staff

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Reconciliation is available Saturday, 3:30 to 4:15 pm, in the Reconciliation Room of the Chapel. Our priests are available during the week by appointment. Communal Penance services are held occasionally during the year.

In the Hospital or Home Bound: Call the Church Office to receive prayer/Eucharist from a priest, deacon or Minister of Care. Augusta Diana, Coordinator of Ministers of Care, 630.355.8980, x140 or Jan Olah 630.355.8980, x124.

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,

It is with mixed emotions that I announce to you that Deacon Michael Barrett has retired from active ministry. We join with Bishop Hicks who wrote the following in his letter to Michael; "I want to thank you on behalf of all the people of the Diocese for your many years of faithful service to the Lord."

Michael and his wife Kathryn have been active in joint ministries over the last 40 years primarily in Baptism and Marriage preparation. They have taken on leadership roles at the parish, diocesan, and nationally (NACFLM — National Association of Catholic Family Life Ministers) levels. They have worked in preparing engaged couples (200+) for marriage over 5 sessions in their home setting. Michael was also very active in the RCIA process for more than 20 years.

Since ordination, Michael has completed five units of CPE (Clinical Pastoral Education) at UIC and received a master degree in Pastoral Studies from Loyola University in 2009. This education has enhanced Michael's role as a Chaplain at various nursing facilities.

Michael and Kathryn also worked as a team in assisting at baptisms at St. Thomas. They also co-hosted the marriage preparation workshop at STA.

Michael and Kathryn are extremely grateful for all the help and encouragement that parishioners of St. Thomas have gifted them with. After 14 years of ordained ministry, Michael and Kathryn felt that retirement seems appropriate because of age and health issues. Michael and Kathryn wrote that "Our prayers will continue for St. Thomas and we will still be available by email at meabarrett@gmail.com."

Michael and Kathryn, on behalf of St. Thomas the Apostle parish, may you always feel in your hearts and minds the blessings of the Lord as you begin a new journey in your lives as His faithful followers.

In the Word,

Fr. Danaher

Liturgy Schedule

Daily

Mass: 8:30 am, Monday–Saturday

Weekend

Saturday Mass of Anticipation: 4:30 pm

Sunday: 9:00 am and 10:45 am

The Saturday 4:30 pm Mass will be livestreamed with an outdoor communion option.

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 Reconciliation Room. Please check the website for full details.

Presider Schedule August 21–22

Saturday, August 21

4:30 pm: Fr. Joseph Kappilumakkal

Sunday, August 22

9:00 am: Fr. Matt Lorenz with Deacon Jim Breen

10:45 am: Fr. Bob Colaresi with Deacon Joe Cuzzone

Presider schedule is subject to change.

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 September 6.

9:00 am–7:00 pm Monday–Thursday

9:00 am–12:00 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.



Michael and Kathryn Barrett

Worship Commission — Liturgy and Music



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The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

August 15, 2021

Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb.
— Luke 1:42

Readings for Today

First Reading — The vision concerning the woman clothed with the sun (Revelation 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab).

Psalm — The queen stands at your right hand, arrayed in gold (Psalm 45).

Second Reading — Christ, the firstfruits; then those who belong to him (1 Corinthians 15:20-27).

Gospel — Mary praises God in the Magnificat (Luke 1:39-56).

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: Jgs 2:11-19; Ps 106:34-37, 39-40, 43ab, 44; Mt 19:16-22

Tuesday: Jgs 6:11-24a; Ps 85:9, 11-14; Mt 19:23-30

Wednesday: Jgs 9:6-15; Ps 21:2-7; Mt 20:1-16

Thursday: Jgs 11:29-39a; Ps 40:5, 7-10; Mt 22:1-14

Friday: Ru 1:1, 3-6, 14b-16, 22; Ps 146:5-10; Mt 22:34-40

Saturday: Ru 2:1-3, 8-11; 4:13-17; Ps 128:1b-5; Mt 23:1-12

Sunday: Jos 24:1-2a, 15-17, 18b; Ps 34:2-3, 16-21; Eph 5:21-32 [2a, 25-32]; Jn 6:60-69

Choirs are back!!

The Liturgy and Music office at St. Thomas the Apostle is excited to resume choirs this Fall.

Starting in September, Music Makers of all ages will return to ministry — bringing more joy and life to our liturgies through song. See the parish website for registration opportunities.

**And a special note for our STA youth — kids as young as entering kindergarten through grade 12 are invited to be involved in music ministry! See the website for group descriptions and rehearsal times.



Liturgy Schedule and Mass Intentions

Please note, all the weekend intentions will be read at all Masses.

Monday, August 16, 2021

8:30 am †Perla Esma, by Buddy and Melly Mallorca

Tuesday, August 17, 2021

8:30 am Bob Bartusiak, by Mary Bartusiak

Wednesday, August 18, 2021

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

Thursday, August 19, 2021

8:30 am †Manuel Gutierrez, by The Gutierrez Family

Friday, August 20, 2021

St. Bernard, Abbot and Doctor of the Church

8:30 am †Thomas O'Grady, by Tom and Mary Clare O'Grady

Saturday, August 21, 2021

St. Pius X, Pope

8:30 am Mass

4:30 pm *Mass of Anticipation*

†Rupert Malone, by Ken and Maxine Wiejaczka

Sunday, August 22, 2021

Twenty-first Sunday Ordinary

9:00 am End to the Pandemic

10:45 am Students Returning to School

Prayer

Assumption of Mary

O God of the covenant,
with dancing and song
our people Israel welcomed into their midst
the ark of your presence.

John the Baptist leaped with joy in his mother's womb
at the advent of Christ borne within Mary.

As you lifted up Mary, your chosen vessel of grace,
to share body and soul in Christ's victory over death,
so make us like her
in bearing your word and obeying it,
that with her we may magnify your holy name.

We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God for ever and ever.

Amen.

Reflection

On November 1, 1950 Pope Pius XII, in his Encyclical Letter *Munificentissimus Deus*, proclaimed, declared and defined to be divinely revealed dogma that "... the Immaculate Mother of God, the ever Virgin Mary, having completed the course of her earthly life, was assumed body and soul into heavenly glory." Some ask why, how, when and where? Those are fair questions. The simple answer is "It's a mystery!" But it is more important to ask, "Why not?" Why would Jesus not want to honor the young girl who accepted God's call to be his mother (at great risk to her life), who carried him in her womb and gave birth to him in a cave, who watched him grow and was with him when he died on a cross, and who rejoiced at his Resurrection by assuming her uncorrupted body to be with him in heaven for eternity? The world would be a much better place if we all honored our parents, family, friends and the strangers who often do so much for us that we do not appreciate! Once again Jesus reveals to us that gratitude is the beginning of generosity

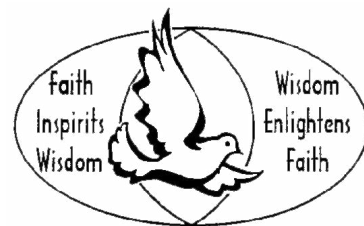
Faith and Formation Commission — Adult

C.A.R.E. CORNER

We now come to Commandment of Justice #3. Jesus cautioned us to "Stop judging, that you may not be judged. For as you judge, so will you be judged" (Matthew 7:1-2) We all make judgments and establish opinions. But we don't

always judge wisely. We often establish our opinions based upon hearsay or limited information or long held biases, rather than upon reality or purer motives. So perhaps its time for all of us to be more honest about ourselves, more open minded and more virtuous with regard to our own motives.

Its likely easier to blame others for their problems than it is to blame ourselves for any participation in those problems. That takes the responsibility off of us. If their problems were totally of their own doing, then it would be up to them to make changes in order to make things better for themselves. Within that mindset, the rest of us would not have to personally engage in the hard work of making any changes within ourselves. But Jesus, the Great Healer, always calls us toward change for the better. So he sought the goodness in all people. And doesn't everyone prefer to be lifted up rather than dragged down or held back? Can we build up others as God builds us up? We are the Body of Christ. It is our job to be the hands and feet of Christ in the world now, as St. Teresa of Avila suggested we are and must be.



Biblical Institute Now Online

An exciting opportunity is now being offered! For the first time, the full 4-year cycle of the Biblical Institute of the Diocese of Joliet is being offered online in Zoom format. Join participants from our parish, our diocese and around the country in this program designed for adult learning with systematic study, discussion and prayer touching all the books of the Bible.

To find out more about The Biblical Institute, attend a Preview in one of these ways:

1. In person at the Year 2 registering site at Our Lady of Mercy parish in Aurora on Saturday, August 28 at 9:00 am
2. A Zoom preview on Thursday, August 19 at 7:00 pm. Sign up by going to www.dioceseofjoliet.org or emailing Dr. Joan Gorski, the Institute's Director, at dr.jgorski@gmail.com
3. A pre-recorded preview

Spread the Word Bible Studies

"Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly . . ." (Colossians 3:16)

Adult Bible Studies will resume in just a few short weeks. Spend some time exploring Sacred Scripture with knowledgeable guides and strong community support as we pray and discuss the Word of the Lord. Multiple options exist; choose the one that best fits your time and interest:

- 1) The Gospel of John: Wednesdays 9:15–11:15 am, weekly September 8–May 25, 2022
- 2) The Catholic Epistles — Peter, James, John and Jude, weekly September 9–June 2, 2022
 - A) Thursdays 9:15–11:15 am
 - B) Thursdays 7:30–9:00 pm

No prior knowledge of Scripture is necessary — newcomers are most welcome as are long-time students of the Bible. To participate, please contact Chari Rosales, Director of Adult Faith Formation, at 630.355.8980, x138 or crosales@stapostle.org.

Why Does Going to Mass Really Matter?

That's a great question as we continue to emerge from months of virtual worship services. Why is our physical presence essential at Mass?

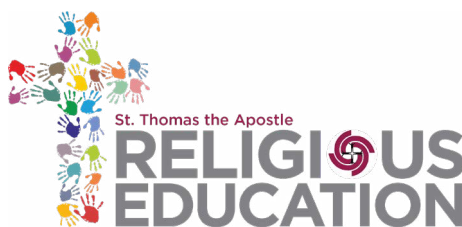
That's the focus of the next online session of **Be Formed: A 90-Day Discipleship Experience** sponsored by the Secretariat for Christian Formation of the Diocese of Joliet. Hosted by Fr. Burke Masters, the program aims to help participants form Christian community, learn how to pray and form life-long virtuous habits so that you can conform your life more closely to the person of Jesus Christ.

This cycle of **Be Formed** will run from September 10 to December 8. Registration is now open and will run thru August 17. For more information or to register go to www.dioceseofjoliet.org/beformed.

Faith and Formation Commission — Youth

Parents and Catechists ... Important Dates for Religious Education

- Tuesday, August 24, All Catechists Meeting, 7:00 pm
- Sunday, August 29, RE Kickoff Mass and a chance to meet catechists, 10:45 am Mass with meet and greet following Mass
- Monday, August 30, Middle School Catechists Meeting, 7:00 pm
- Tuesday, August 31, Elementary Catechists Meeting, 7:00 pm
- Saturday, September 11, Elementary and Middle School Saturday RE sessions begin at All Saints
- Monday, September 13, Middle School Monday RE sessions begin at All Saints
- Tuesday, September 21, Elementary Tuesday RE sessions begin at Brookdale School



Pre-Kindergarten or Kindergarten Faith Formation Classes

Do you have a Pre-Kindergarten or Kindergarten child in the fall (age 4 or 5 by September 1)? Faith formation classes are available for your child. Children entering Pre- Kindergarten in the fall have a choice of attending faith formation classes Tuesday 4:30–5:45 pm or Saturday 8:30–9:45 am. Children entering kindergarten may attend classes on Saturday morning 8:30–9:45 am. Registration material is available outside the Faith Formation Office or is available online to be printed, filled out and returned with payment. Please contact the Faith Formation Office for more information at 630.355.8980, x118 or Lorraine Katz, x109.

Attention First Grade Parents

Did you know two years of faith formation instruction are needed for your child to receive the sacrament of the Eucharist for the first time?

If you have a child starting first grade in the fall, then register your child **now** to start their faith formation classes. Registration material is available outside the Faith Formation Office or is available online to be printed, filled out and returned with payment. Please contact the Faith Formation Office if you have questions at 630.355.8980, x118.

Orientation for New Families in Religious Education

Will this be your child's first year attending St. Thomas' Religious Education Program? Come to a brief orientation in the Gathering Area of the Ministry Center:

Monday, August 16, 4:30–5:00 pm
Tuesday, August 17, 6:00–6:30 pm
Monday, August 23, 6:00–6:30 pm

Please RSVP (preferred) to the Faith Formation Office, REAdmin@stapostle.org or 630.305.6318 or to Lorraine Katz, lkatz@stapostle.org or 630-355-8980, x109.

Orientation will cover drop off and pick up procedures, books, dates, grade level events and communication. Children are welcome.

Question of the week

How is Mary, the mother of Jesus, our Mother?

Catechists Needed

The Ministry of Catechesis Needs You!

We are so excited to be able to offer in-person religious education classes this year. In order to keep class sizes manageable and allow for social distancing, more catechists are needed at the middle school and elementary grade levels. If you EVER thought about ministering as a catechist, helping to form the faith of amazing young people, NOW is your chance!!! Training is provided. For more information or to volunteer, contact Peggy Goralski at pgoralski@stapostle.org or 630.355.8980, x123 or Lorraine Katz at lkatz@stapostle.org or 630.355.8980, x109.



All Catechists Meeting Keepers of the Memory of God

Elementary, middle school, high school and adult catechists are invited to start the year together by attending the All Catechists Meeting on Tuesday, August 24, from 7:00–9:00 pm.

The newly revised Directory for Catechesis (2020) states that "The catechist is ... a keeper of the memory of God ..." (113). What exactly does that mean? How does that impact what we do in faith formation sessions? Join us as we delve into these questions, share insights and memories, and learn from each other. To facilitate planning, those wishing to attend the All Catechists Meeting should register online at stapostle.org.

RE Kickoff Kickoff Mass and Chance to Meet Catechists

On Sunday, August 29, the new religious education year will kick off at the 10:45 am Mass. All religious education families (Pre-K through grade 8) are invited to attend that liturgy. Immediately after the 10:45 am Mass, there will be a chance to meet RE catechists and volunteers. Mark your calendars for August 29 and be on hand to help kick off another wonderful RE year!

Teens with Character Core Team

Attention 7th and 8th grade

students: If you would like to take a more active role in Teens with Character, and help to plan and lead the Teens with Character



meetings, then join the Teens with Character Core Team. The Core Team meets immediately before each Teens with Character meeting to plan the games, activities and group discussion for each meeting. During Teens with Character meetings, Core Team members take an active role in welcoming and in leading the meetings. If you are interested in being part of the Core Team, contact Peggy Goralski at pgoralski@stapostle.org or 630.355.8980, x123.

The 2021-2022 Teens with Character meeting dates are October 10, November 14, December 12, January 9, February 13 and March 13. All Teens with Character meetings take place from 4:30-6 pm, in the St. Thomas gym. Middle school students and friends are welcome!

Young Adult Samuel Group

The Diocese of Joliet is sponsoring the Samuel Group for Young Adults aged 20-35. Samuel Group is a community of like-minded young adults who are striving for holiness and seeking a deeper relationship with God. Over seven months, you'll learn how to deepen your prayer life, discover the rules of discernment by St. Ignatius of Loyola and receive guidance from a spiritual director.

Samuel Group is more than a "discernment group." It is a program designed to help young adults know themselves and how to live in the freedom of a relationship with Jesus Christ and trust in His plan for their lives. Understanding one's vocation first comes from understanding how God is calling each person to live each day in the present moment, free from past wounds and the lies of the world.

The first session begins September 19, 2021. Check out this link for more info: <https://www.dioceseofjoliet.org/yam/sectioncontent.php?secid=22>

High School News

Registration for 2021-2022

Registration packets for 2021–2022 High School Religious Education Journey program are now available. Forms may be downloaded online at <https://www.stapostle.org/st-thomas-confirmation-program/>. Hard copies may be picked up in the Gathering Area or outside of the Religious Education and Youth Ministry Offices. Registration is for a year-long commitment in the two-year program preparing teens to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation. There are other opportunities offered as well for teens if they have already been confirmed or are not interested in receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation at this time. **THE REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS AUGUST 15.** Contact Dorothy Grantham with questions or for more details (dgrantham@stapostle.org).

Catechists and More Needed for High School Ministry

Catechists, small group leaders and other roles currently need to be filled to support the upcoming year of high school youth ministry programs. If you have a love of teenagers and are willing to share your faith, contact Dorothy Grantham at ym@stapostle.org to discuss how your skills and talents may be a match for youth ministry.

LIFE Retreat Planning Starts

Any teen who has already attended a LIFE Confirmation Retreat is invited to join us on TEAM. We are planning for our August 28 –29 LIFE Retreat on Thursdays from 6:30–8:15 pm at St. Thomas. Contact Dorothy at ym@stapostle.org if you have any questions.

High School Ministry Schedule At A Glance

August 15 – Deadline to turn in first year service hours; High School Year 2 Registration Deadline

August 22 – High School Confirmation Program Year 1 Registration Deadline

August 26 – LIFE Retreat Planning Meeting 6:30pm

August 28–29 – LIFE Confirmation Retreat

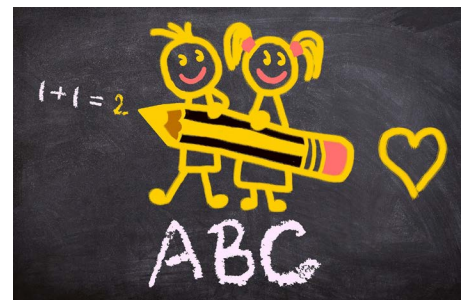
Service Commission — Outreach and Social Justice

St Thomas Cares

Car Donation Needed for Edna

Edna is now in her apartment in our area. She is on a fixed SS Disability income of \$850. However, expenses here are higher than where she used to live. She has Housing Choice Voucher, which reduces her rent greatly. However, she has a car payment of \$450 a month, which she cannot afford, leaving \$400 for remaining monthly expenses. (When she initially bought the car, someone else was making the car payment for her. However, that person is no longer making the payments.) Her credit rating and income do not allow her to refinance for a lower car payment. She will need to give up the car.

If you are considering purchasing a new car, please consider donating your older vehicle. If you have a car that is not being utilized, please consider donating the vehicle. St. Thomas Cares will have the donated vehicle inspected for safety and will provide for any repairs required. Contact Mike in the Outreach and Social Justice Office at mryder@stapostle.org or 630.355.8980, x121.



School Supplies Collection

Just a reminder that St. Thomas is collecting new school supplies on behalf of its Care Pantry families with school age children through August 15. For a complete list of needed items, please visit stapostle.org.

The Situation in Haiti Uncertainty and Fear

Father Fritz Louis was the founding Pastor of Ste. Marie-Madeleine, our Haiti Twinning parish ... and he also spent one year with us at St. Thomas as an Associate Pastor. He is currently visiting and attended a recent Haiti Twinning Council meeting. He was asked about the current situation in Haiti. Below is a summary of his comments.

There are two words ... uncertainty and fear. The uncertainty is that the people don't know what will happen next. The fear is because of the gangs. The violence they bring to Port-au-Prince affects the entire country.

The uncertainty is the politics and the government. The new Prime Minister has formed a new government, but many were a part of the old government so no change is guaranteed. The Prime Minister has said there will be elections this year, but no one believes that can happen so fast. The Prime Minister needs to somehow find a basic consensus among the political leaders on the vision for the future and they need to map out a plan.

The fear is the violence in Port-au-Prince. The first problem to be solved is the gang activity. The gangs control Port-au-Prince. They block the roads, steal from people, hijack trucks, and kidnap people ... all with much violence. Recently a truck carrying oxygen to a hospital for Covid patients was stolen. The city of Port-au-Prince must be secured. The right of people to move around safely must be returned.

The police are disorganized. Some work for the gangs. Some are gang leaders. It would be a good thing for the UN to once again provide a peace-keeping force in Haiti. The Prime Minister has asked for such help, but no answer yet from the UN. The Prime Minister also asked the US for support, but that did not happen.

While the violence is concentrated in Port-au-Prince, it has a profound effect on the rest of the country, especially the southwest which includes Duchity. There is only one road out of Port-au-Prince to the southwest and it goes through an area controlled by three gangs. They are almost always blocking the roads. Supplies like gasoline and food cannot get to the countryside. Prices for everything have risen sharply.

For the future to be better, the uncertainty and the fear must end.

Father Fritz asks that we pray for the people of Haiti.

WHITE FRAGILITY

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

Chapter 10 White Fragility and the Rules of Engagement

DiAngelo: "Stopping our racist patterns [often unconscious] must be more important than working to convince others that we don't have them."

DiAngelo identifies the unspoken framework for discussing the topic of racism. The framework was deduced from her experience working with fellow whites related to the characteristics of white fragility laid out in previous chapters.

The basic misunderstanding present for many, leading to white fragility, is that systemic racism does not exist. Therefore, feedback about racist patterns is almost impossible to be received because it immediately triggers a defense response against a perceived personal attack: "I am not a racist."

The white person wants to feel trusted, safe and respected in such feedback conversations. But these expectations work very effectively to "obscure racism, protect white dominance and regain white equilibrium" ... even when the white person has not consciously chosen to do that.

Many white people leading discussions to explore racism in educational settings spend much time designed to "build trust" among participants. At the core of that effort is the need for the participants to have their intentions acknowledged as good. But because power does not exist equally across race, the conditions for trust set forth by whites actually promote the status quo in which white people set the standards. In fact, those conditions for trust often become an excuse for disengaging from discussion.

There should only be two guidelines for receiving feedback about racism:

1. Foster "racial stamina." Because feedback is necessary for the white person to understand the power position of whites as a whole and to understand white fragility, it is up to the white person to build their racial stamina.
2. Be grateful for feedback which leads to understanding of blind spots and unconscious investments in racism.

DiAngelo says: "Stopping our racist patterns [often unconscious] must be more important than working to convince others that we don't have them."

Hesed House PADS Resumes to Near Normal Monthly Food Donations Needed

St. Thomas Hesed House PADS Ministry serves the homeless at Hesed House in Aurora the first Thursday of every month throughout the year. The ministry prepares and serves dinner and breakfast ... and provides a bag lunch.

When the pandemic lockdown occurred, the St. Thomas volunteers adapted. Food was purchased. The dinner and breakfast meals were prepared and cooked in the St. Thomas kitchen and then delivered to Hesed House. The Hesed House staff reheated and served the food. Bag lunches were also prepared and delivered to Hesed House.

Our volunteers are once again able to return and serve at Hesed House. And beginning in September, we are once again asking parishioners to donate the food items needed each month.

How to donate food for Hesed House

If you are willing and able to provide food for September, you can sign-up on the St. Thomas website Home Page (www.stapostle.org) for specific items. If you enjoy cooking, you can sign up to prepare the entrée or the dessert. Recipes and pans are provided. If cooking is not your greatest gift, there are many other items needed. Please deliver all items to the St. Thomas Gathering Area on Thursday, September 2 before 4:00 pm. Thanks to all that are able to help.



Service Commission — Pastoral Care

From the Office of the Parish Nurse

Save the Dates: Blood Pressure Screenings

Blood Pressure Screenings will be returning monthly to St. Thomas the Apostle Church on Sundays September 2021 through May 2022, subject to parishioner interest and participation.

To assure a level of safety, dependability and accuracy with the blood pressure screening events, Blood pressure Screenings will be offered at St. Thomas following the latest CDC, Coronavirus guidelines regarding masking and hand sanitizing. Recommendations from Harvard Health System for participant involvement will be encouraged. Specific details will follow shortly.



FAITH COMMUNITY NURSE
St. Thomas the Apostle

September 12, 2021	October 10, 2021	November 14, 2021
December 12, 2021	January 9, 2022	February 6, 2022
March 6, 2022	April 3, 2022	May 15, 2022

Digital Home Monitoring Instruction

St. Thomas Parishioners:

Do you have the diagnosis of hypertension, "high blood pressure" (abnormal and/or persistent elevation of blood pressure) in your health history? Do you have questions about your Blood Pressure? Will you or do you now, self-monitor your blood pressure, at the advice of your doctor or for yourself?

Would you be interested in a private, in-person and socially distanced, review of Harvard University's guidelines to Home Blood Pressure Monitoring? This tutorial will be held with all safety criteria in place, social distancing, face masking and disinfecting materials and hands. Blood pressures, however, will optimally be taken on a bare arm, please, be aware.

Scheduling a 20-minute appointment at a convenient time for you, or scheduling on a Blood Pressure weekend Mass is required by calling the general office, Diane McQueen, 620.355.8980, x101 to schedule with the Parish Nurse, Felicia Lawlor.

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



BEHAVIORAL HEALTH
St. Thomas the Apostle

Mental Health First Aid Training at St. Thomas

Saturday, September 11, 2021
9:00 am–3:00 pm

What is Mental Health First Aid?

Mental Health First Aid teaches you how to identify, understand and respond to signs of mental illness and substance use disorders. This training gives you the skills you need to reach out and provide initial support to someone who may be developing a mental health or substance use problem and help connect them to the appropriate care.

What you will learn:

- Common signs and symptoms of mental illness
- Common signs and symptoms of substance use
- How to interact with a person in crisis
- How to connect the person with help

Blended Learning

After completing a 2-hour, self-paced online course, First Aiders will participate in a 5.5-hour (6 hr w/ breaks), in-person, Instructor led class.

Cost

\$23.95

To Register

<https://bmhfa091121.eventbrite.com>

7.5 Continuing education units available; LCPC/LPC, LCSW/LSW, LMFT, RN, and Psychologist.

Stewardship and Administration

The Week Ahead

Monday, August 16

4:30–5:00 pm RE New Parent Orientation, Gathering Area
7:00–9:00 pm Finance Committee, Cana

Tuesday, August 17

10:00–11:00 am Care Pantry Food Distribution, Outside
6:00–6:30 pm RE New Parent Orientation, Gathering Area
7:00 pm–9:00 pm PPC, Cana

Wednesday, August 18

10:00 am–12:30 pm PrimeTime, Lighthouse
7:00–8:30 pm St. Vincent de Paul, Lighthouse

Thursday, August 19

10:00 am–12:00 pm Prayer Shawl Ministry, Emmaus
6:30–8:30 pm Life Retreat Planning Team, Ministry Center

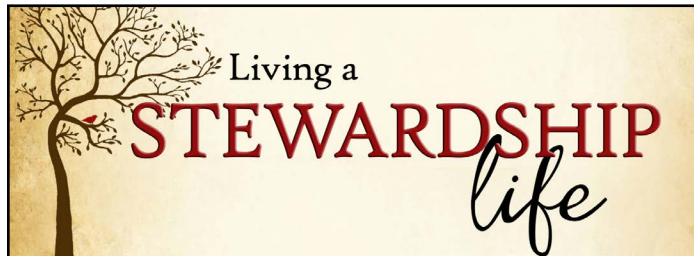
Friday, August 20

Saturday, August 21

9:00–11:00 am Ensemble Rehearsal, Lighthouse
9:00–10:30 am Saturday Men's Group, Cana
3:30–4:15 pm Reconciliation, Reconciliation Room

Sunday, August 22

1:00–2:00 pm Baptism, Church



Stewards of God's gifts are not passive beneficiaries. We cooperate with God in our own redemption and in the redemption of others. We are also obliged to be stewards of the Church — collaborators and cooperators in continuing the redemptive work of Jesus Christ, which is the Church's essential mission. This mission — proclaiming and teaching, serving and sanctifying — is our task. It is the personal responsibility of each one of us as stewards of the Church. All members of the Church have their own roles to play in carrying out its mission:

- Parents, who nurture their children in the light of faith;
- Parishioners, who work in concrete ways to make their parishes true communities of faith and vibrant sources of service to the larger community;
- All Catholics, who give generous support — time, money, prayers and personal service according to their circumstances — to parish and diocesan programs;
- and to the universal Church.

~from a summary of the US Bishops' Pastoral Letter on Stewardship

Last weekend's stewardship of financial gifts

Weekly Sunday Offertory

August 1, 2021	
Sunday Collection Offering*	\$18,641
Credit Card Online Giving	\$15,856
Automatic Direct Debit (5 th and 20 th each month)	none this week
Mailed in and stock donations	\$2,209
Total for the week	\$36,706
<small>*Based on Collection Counters Reports prior to bank confirmation</small>	
Fiscal Year (7/1 to 6/30)	\$189,108
Weekly Average 7/1/2021 to date	\$37,822
Offertory Goal Year to date	\$167,847
Over/(short) of goal to date	\$21,261
Goal for Fiscal Year 7/1 to 6/30	\$1,745,600
Percent of Annual Sunday Offertory Goal	11%
Remaining for this fiscal year goal	\$1,556,492

This week, the Sunday collection is \$21,261 ahead of goal so far this year. Capital needs restricted gifts were \$525 this past week. We are grateful to those who recognize the need and responded.

Diocesan Appeal 2021

Parish Appeal Goal	\$174,100
Pledges Received	\$145,310
Percent of Goal pledged to date	83.46%
Unpaid pledges	\$9,293
Paid to Date	\$136,017
Percent of goal paid to date	78.13%

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!

thank you

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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<p>FINDaPARISH.com Check It Out Today!</p>	<p><i>The Most Complete Online National Directory of Catholic Parishes</i></p>		<p>Naper Auto Works Your One Stop Shop Since 1977</p>	
			 <p>320 N. Mill St. Naperville, IL 60540 (630) 420-2886</p>	

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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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