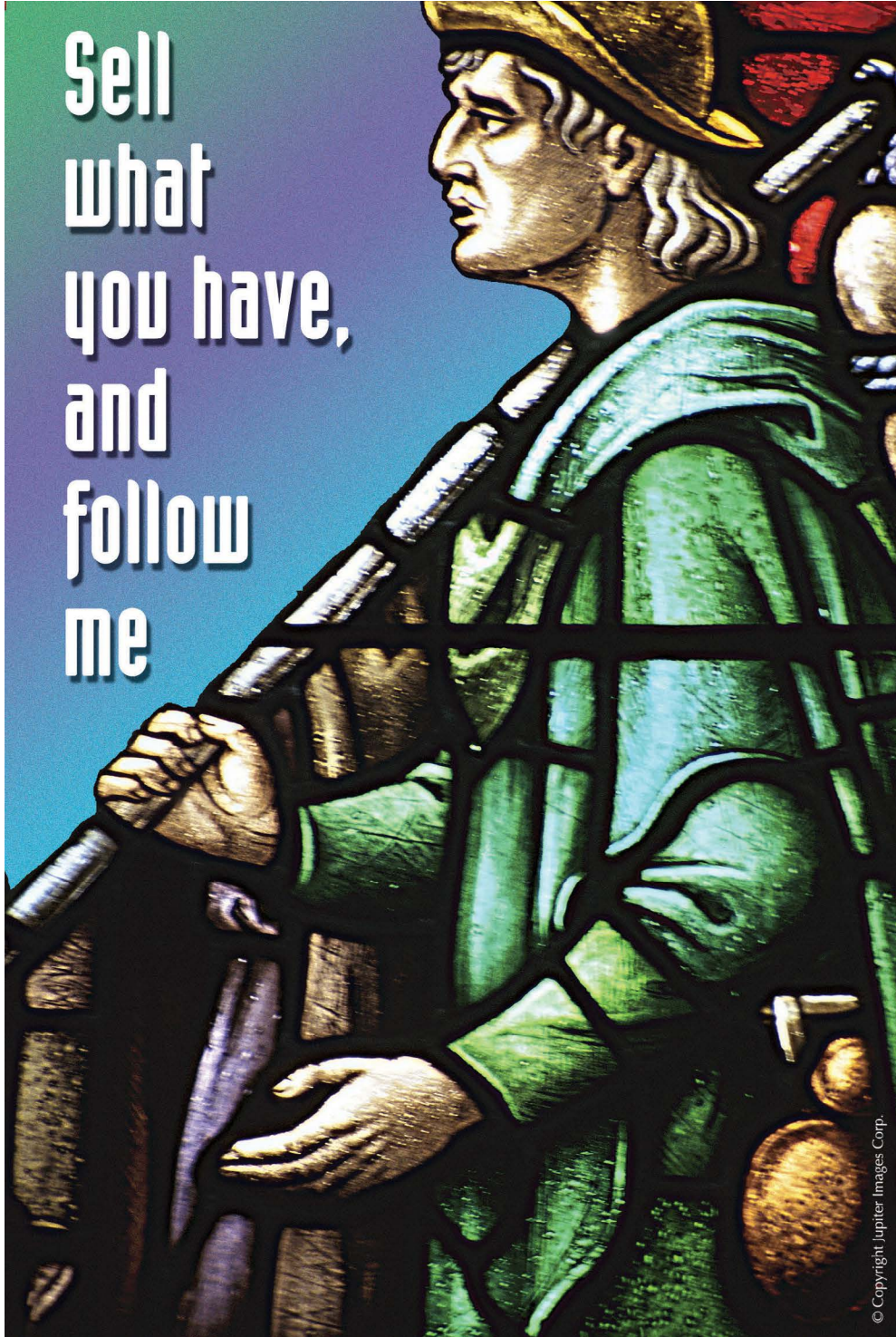


St. Thomas

OCTOBER 10, 2021 — TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic Church

1500 Brookdale Road, Naperville, IL 60563 | 630.355.8980 (Main Office) | 630.305.6318 (RE) | 630.355.0521 (Fax) | mainoffice@stapostle.org | stapostle.org
Roman Catholic Diocese of Joliet-in-Illinois • Most Rev. Ronald A. Hicks, Bishop

Office Hours: 8:30 am–4:30 pm, Monday–Friday.

Gathering Area reception desk is staffed 9:00 am–8:00 pm Monday–Thursday; 9:00 am–4:30 pm, Friday; and 9:00 am–1:00 pm, Saturday

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, lrkearney@comcast.net
Patrick (Mary Jo) Lennon — 630.901.3223, presence.now@gmail.com

Liturgy and Music

Kay Agustin, *Liturgy Administrative Assistant*, x112, litadmin@stapostle.org
Jim Clauer, *Director of Liturgy and Music*, x111, jclauer@stapostle.org
Samantha Delke, *Associate Director of Liturgy and Music*, x120, sdelke@stapostle.org

Faith Formation

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

Margie Marshall, *Principal at All Saints Catholic Academy*, 630.961.6125

Outreach and Social Justice

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

Pastoral Care

Felicia Lawlor, *Faith Community Nurse*, x104, flawlor@stapostle.org
Jan Olah, *Director of Pastoral Care*, x124

Administration

Casey Braun, *Communications Coordinator*, x110, cbraun@stapostle.org
Mary Derwinski, *Administration Asst.*, x143, mderwinski@stapostle.org
Bob Hartmann, *Facility Manager*, x133, facility@stapostle.org
Maureen Januszewski, *Gen Office Administrative Asst.*, x100, mainoffice@stapostle.org
Diane McQueen, *Gen Office Administrative Asst.*, x101, dmcqueen@stapostle.org
Chris Ridge, *Evening/Saturday Receptionist*
Janet Simmons, *Finance/Business Officer*, x106, jsimmons@stapostle.org
Sue Sportiello, *Financial Asst.*, x143, sspartiello@stapostle.org
Mary Wright, *Evening/Saturday Receptionist*

Parish Pastoral Council

Susan Wood O'Leary, *Chair* Alison Ohl
Noble Charles Brittany Tres
Dave Johanneson

Commission Representatives

Linda Bailey, *Service* Susan Wood O'Leary, *Finance*
Jeff Balsewicz, *Worship* Carrie Wujek, *Faith & Spiritual Formation*

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 Maureen Januszewski in the Church Office a few months in advance to make arrangements.

Matrimony: A couple planning on being married at St. Thomas should contact the church six months in advance. One year is preferred. Either the bride or groom, or their parents, must be a registered parishioner at least three months before setting a date. Call Diane McQueen to schedule.

Religious Education: Call 630.305.6318 to register.

RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults):

Any person wanting to learn more about the Catholic Faith, or to join our Catholic community should call the church at 630.355.8980.

Counseling Service: Contact Jan Olah, Pastoral Care 630.355.8980, x124.

Sunday Nursery: Nursery care is available for your child age one (walking) to four at the 9:30 and 11:15 am Masses. For more information call the church office.

Our Outreach Twinning Parishes:

St. Thomas the Apostle has an ongoing twinning relationship with the following parishes:

St. Marie Madeleine in Duchity, Haiti
St. Agnes on the Lakota Indian Reservation,
Manderson, South Dakota
St. Nicholas in Aurora, Illinois

Our Parish School:

All Saints Catholic Academy
1155 Aurora Ave
Naperville, IL 60540
630.961.6125

in the word



with
fr danaher

Dear Parish Family,

Today's gospel describes how a man went away sad after he heard Jesus encourage him to give up his possessions first, and then follow Him. He probably expected Jesus to welcome him with open arms, but instead heard something he did not want to hear.

I don't think that the rich man was the only one who had a sad expression on his face. I think that Jesus was also disappointed with what had happened. Here was someone who came to Jesus and appeared interested in becoming his follower. Jesus didn't have to go searching for him. In the early days of Jesus' public ministry, he called the fishermen Peter, Andrew, James and John who immediately dropped what they were doing and became his followers. What we don't read in the bible is how many others Jesus asked to follow him and who either said "no" or who just ignored him.

One of my favorite quotes in the bible is from the Letter to the Hebrews "For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who has similarly been tested in every way, yet without sin. So let us confidently approach the throne of grace to receive mercy and to find grace for timely help." Our Lord can sympathize with disappointments in our lives because He had them also. Like the rich man in the gospel, there were others who said "no" to Him.

Yet look at all of us who have said "yes." Many of us have said "yes" to the Lord in spite of disappointing, even tragic setbacks in our lives. Look at what so many do during their grief for a deceased loved one or after a natural disaster has destroyed everything they owned. They go to their house of worship. They, and all of us, pray to the One who always listens to our cries and who offers us His help. We look with faith and hope to God who always looks on us with love.

Next week, we begin our annual "Increased Offertory Program." As I have in the past, I will speak at all the weekend masses as I encourage all of us to not only consider our financial contribution to our parish, but also our contributions through our time and talent.

As Jesus looked with love on the rich man in the gospel, let us always remember that God also looks with love on each of us as we all do our best to heed His call to follow Him through our sharing the wealth of His love through our time, talent and treasure.

In the Word,

Fr. Danaher

Liturgy Schedule

Daily

Mass: 8:30 am, Monday–Saturday

Weekend (Please Note New Mass Times)

Saturday Mass of Anticipation: 4:30 pm

Sunday: 8:00 am, 9:30 am and 11:15 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 details.

Presider Schedule October 16–17

Saturday, October 16

4:30 pm: Fr. Philip Danaher

Sunday, October 17

8:00 am: Fr. Philip Danaher

9:30 am: Fr. Philip Danaher with Fr. Edmund

11:15 am: Fr. Philip Danaher with Deacon Jim Breen

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 Maureen Januszewski in the General Office at 630.355.8980, x100.

Calling All Men!

Would you be interested in learning more about membership in our St. Thomas Knights of Columbus council? For an introduction, contact David Yelaska at cseaaskme@gmail.com.

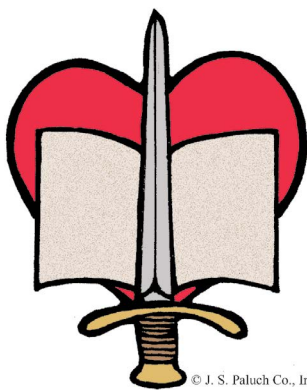


Church Office and Building Hours

St. Thomas offices are open 8:30 am–4:30 pm Monday through Friday. The reception desk in the Gathering Area is staffed 9:00 am–8:00 pm Monday–Thursday; 9:00 am–4:30 pm Friday; and 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



Twenty-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

October 10, 2021

The word of God is living and effective, sharper than any two-edged sword.
— Hebrews 4:12a

Readings for Today

First Reading — I pleaded, and the spirit of wisdom came to me. All good things together came to me in her company (Wisdom 7:7-11).

Psalm — Fill us with your love, O Lord, and we will sing for joy! (Psalm 90).

Second Reading — Indeed the word of God is living and effective (Hebrews 4:12-13).

Gospel — It is easier for a camel to pass through the eye of a needle than for one who is rich to enter the kingdom of God (Mark 10:17-30 [17-27]).

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: Rom 1:1-7; Ps 98:1-4; Lk 11:29-32

Tuesday: Rom 1:16-25; Ps 19:2-5; Lk 11:37-41

Wednesday: Rom 2:1-11; Ps 62:2-3, 6-7, 9; Lk 11:42-46

Thursday: Rom 3:21-30; Ps 130:1b-6ab; Lk 11:47-54

Friday: Rom 4:1-8; Ps 32:1b-2, 5, 11; Lk 12:1-7

Saturday: Rom 4:13, 16-18; Ps 105:6-9, 42-43; Lk 12:8-12

Sunday: Is 53:10-11; Ps 33:4-5, 18-20, 22; Heb 4:14-16; Mk 10:35-45 [42-45]

Liturgy Schedule and Mass Intentions

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

Monday, October 11, 2021

St. John XXIII, Pope

8:30 am Thanksgiving for the Noronha Family

Tuesday, October 12, 2021

8:30 am †Ed Eckerson, by Kathy Singer and Family

Wednesday, October 13, 2021

8:30 am †Gail Ruhnke

Thursday, October 14, 2021

St. Callistus I, Pope and Martyr

8:30 am †James Maul, by Jacobi Family

Friday, October 15, 2021

St. Therese of Jesus, Virgin and Doctor of the Church

8:30 am †Lilia Domingo, by Buddy and Melly Mallorca

Saturday, October 16, 2021

St. Hedwig, Religious; St. Margaret Mary Alacoque, Virgin, BVM

8:30 am †Mary Gowney, by John Gowney

4:30 pm *Mass of Anticipation*

Bob and Molly Petersen 30th Anniversary, by The Petersen Children

†William Flanagan, by Patricia and Ann Flanagan

Sunday, October 17, 2021

Twenty-Ninth Sunday Ordinary

8:00 am †Jenni Anderson, by Mom, Dad and Kerri

9:30 am †Mary Ann Skarr, by Tom Cuculich

†Jim Franz, by Betty Dillman

11:15 am †Jakob Salzig, by Peggy Goralski

New Mass Schedule

St. Thomas has returned to its old Sunday morning Mass schedule: 8:00 am, 9:30 am and 11:15 am. The Saturday 4:30 pm Mass continues as well, but the Sunday, 6:00 pm Mass will not be returning at this time.

MUSIC MAKERS

St. Thomas the Apostle



Musicians Needed

Although we cannot currently sing, we are looking for people who play piano, bass, guitar or drums. If you would like to get involved, please contact Jim Clauer at jclauer@stapostle.org.

Twenty-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time: Reflecting on God's Word

Boston College professors recently studied "super-rich" Americans (worth \$25 million or more). Surprisingly, wealth affects every aspect of their lives, and often negatively. Marriage and friendship can be difficult ("Do you love me or love my money?"). Rich parents worry that their children will fritter away their lives. Jesus challenged the rich young man in today's Gospel to free himself of the burden of wealth that was keeping him from the fullest possible life with God. Wealth is not evil as long as we do not let it own us. Wealth, in the form of skills, time, or money, is not an end but a means: a means to create a home; raise children; provide hospitality; to give time, attention, love, charity, and money; and to share with church and community for the well-being of all. Jesus promised that the one who gives us any possessions for his sake will be saved.

Living Stewardship Now

What portion of your spare time, your abilities and your money are you giving to Christ through his church? Only you can give what you have — no one else can give it for you.

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Prayer

Great God of Heaven and Earth,

you call us to leave behind our preoccupations
and to follow you into the future.

Sometimes we find your call challenging.

We are comfortable, maybe even complacent, in our present.

May this act of giving be a gesture of our willingness

to follow where you lead.

In Jesus' name, we pray.

Amen.

All Saints

Monday, November 1 is the Solemnity of All Saints — A Holy Day of Obligation and also one of Opportunity. We will have Masses at 8:30 am and at 7:00 pm in the Church. On this day the Church honors all the saints of heaven, God's holy ones — known and unknown to us. We celebrate all the holy men and women who, throughout the ages, exemplified the faith; whose lives, in some way or another, mirrored the Paschal Mystery of Christ in profound ways. This solemnity honors all the saints; in particular those who are not individually recognized throughout the year. This day, coupled with the November 2 Commemoration of All the Faithful departed (All Souls), stands at the beginning of the month of November — a month in which we remember and pray for the dead.

All Souls Day

Our annual All Souls Day Liturgy will be held at St. Thomas on Tuesday, November 2 at 7:00 pm. Those who have died this past year will be remembered in a special way. You are invited to participate by bringing a candle forward during the Prayer of the Faithful when your loved one's name is called (candles provided). You may also bring a picture or memento to place on the tables in front of the sanctuary in memory of your loved one.

Save the Parental Notice of Abortion Law

State lawmakers are meeting October 19 and they are considering repealing the Parental Notice of Abortion Act. We must act to prevent this!

72 percent of all Illinois voters agree that parents or an adult guardian should be informed if their child is seeking an abortion, yet the Illinois General Assembly continues to threaten the repeal of Illinois' Parental Notice of Abortion law.

Please join us in contacting your state legislators to support our God-given right to support and protect our children. Go to www.ilcatholic.org to read the Illinois bishops letter and to find out how to contact your state legislator to defeat this bill.

And, please ask another family member or friend to help join the effort to defeat this bill.



Annulment Information Day

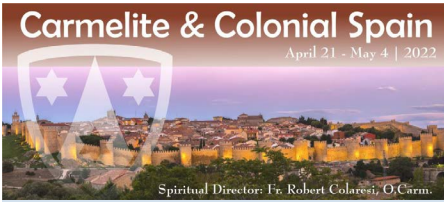
The office of Family Ministry of the Diocese of Joliet is sponsoring an Annulment Information Day Saturday, November 13, 2021, from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm via Zoom. This event is free.

People interested in petitioning for an annulment, those already in the process, or anyone who wants information about the annulment process are welcome to attend. The meaning of the word "annulment," myths and questions will be addressed. There will be time for discussion and prayer.

This informative seminar will include input by and discussion with Tom Kerber of the Diocese of Joliet Tribunal and Valerie Maty, the Associate Director of The Office of Family Ministry.

This is a free presentation and includes some materials sent to all registrants. Pre-registration is required by November 8. Register online at <https://bit.ly/3f0oInP>.

Faith and Formation Commission — Adult



Pilgrimage to Carmelite and Colonial Spain April 21–May 4, 2022

Led by Fr. Bob Colaresi, O. Carm.,
Spiritual Director

Following in the footsteps and spirituality of Saints Teresa of Avila and John of the Cross, the great Carmelite Doctors of mysticism and spirituality, we will visit Avila, Alba de Tormes, Salamanca, Fontiveros and Segovia.

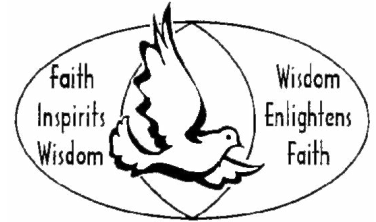
We also include history and heritage of Spain, including the Islamic and colonial elements. Thus we visit Granada, Cordoba and Seville, along with Madrid and Toledo. Spain is a wonderful country, rich in history and heritage. It hosted the golden age of enlightenment, when Christianity, Judaism and Islam co-existed with a great sense of peace, wisdom and mutual respect. Parallel schools of mysticism and spirituality mutually enriched each other. Reactionary Catholicism manifested in the Inquisition, eventually destroyed this time of enlightened peace when the Jews and Moslems were expelled from Catholic Spain in 1492.

Cost: \$4,550 – double occupancy.

For brochure, information or registration, please contact the Carmelite Spiritual Center at 630.969.4141 or retreats@CarmeliteSpiritualCenter.org.

C.A.R.E. CORNER

“Church” is a place where we know we will find other like-minded people of faith who can help us grow in our own faith journey. Its also a place that offers us saintly examples of holy lives which can help to sustain us. Church is a community that is intended to look and act differently from that of the predominant culture. Church communities try to incorporate all the different gifts of their members. They strive to cooperate rather than to compete; to share and give rather than just to take; to unite rather than divide; to forgive and reconcile, to sacrifice. All these of course point to the qualities, character and actions of Jesus who is the Head of our Church.



That makes our Church a place where we can experience God's self-giving love, where we come to know God and learn to be disciples of Christ. Church strives to be a place of holiness and wholeness. Church is the place where we are encouraged and supported in our attempts to grow in our likeness to God by practicing that which is in imitation of Christ. And we know that's hard. Jesus himself lost disciples who could not accept his difficult teachings. He even asked his closest disciples (see John 6:67) "Do you also want to leave?" Our Church can help us understand there really is no where else to go.

The Rack is Back!

Once again, the Reading Rack in the Gathering Area is stocked with Catholic magazines and books of seasonal interest from our Resource Center. October is dedicated to the Rosary so be sure to look for our Marian selections. Coming in November will be lives of the saints. All items are available to be checked out for two weeks using the self-checkout book on the top shelf of the Rack. Please return and check in the materials after two weeks so that others may enjoy them.

Happy reading!

Calling all artists!

St. Thomas will host the 22nd Annual Arts & Craft Fair on November 13–14!

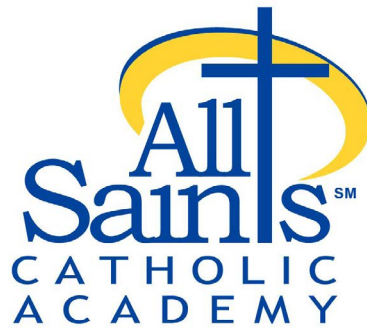
We have space for artists who want to display and sell their craft and to date have registered artists working in photography, handmade jewelry, painting, leather art, quilting, Christmas

ornaments — and so much more!! The due date for registration is October 1. There is no entry fee, but 20 percent of the total amount sold will be donated to our partner parish St. Nicholas Church in Aurora. This is a fun event for artists to share their talent and a great way to do some early holiday shopping.

For entry forms or questions, please contact Donna Ryder at dryder27@gmail.com or 937.974.4363.



St. Thomas the Apostle
November 13-14, 2021



News from All Saints Catholic Academy

Every Child is an Artist (Pablo Picasso)

All Saints is proud to offer art specials to all students at All Saints — from preschool through 8th grade. Exposure to the arts allows children to learn to create, design, generate and compose new ideas. Art can also help children develop vocabulary, complex thinking and keen observation skills.

Welcome to ASCA Art 2021! This year, students will be doing creative projects related to our school theme 'Shine Bright'. At every grade level each project begins with a lesson in art history and inspiration from an accomplished artist. All Saints even has an Art Club for students who want to dive deeper.

All of our 'budding artists' are collaborating to create a school mural in the style of Henri Matisse, who was a widely regarded 20th century colorist. Students have created a Matisse inspired nameplate with shapes and stars which will become the light radiating from the center star on the mural. Following completion of the mural, each grade will be working on fall compositions that reinforce the concepts of color, form and shading.

A few of the artists who will be inspiring our fall projects include Frida Kahlo, Vincent van Gogh and Caravaggio. One of the upcoming highlights of this year will be our winter African Art Unit to celebrate African History month in February.

It is a great time to be a Saint at All Saints!



Faith and Formation Commission — Youth



St. Thomas the Apostle

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Children's Liturgy of the Word

Children's Liturgy of the Word during the 9:30 am Mass has been delayed for the safety of all. However, you can still pick up children's liturgy of the word material for your children preK – through third grade. The liturgy of the word material is fun and colorful and often includes a game and other fun activities while teaching about this week's gospel at the child's level. Children's Liturgy of the Word materials are available each week in print or digitally with a code. You are encouraged to stop by and pick some up for your children. Contact Lorraine Katz at lkatz@stapostle.org or 630.355.8980, x109 for more information.

Children's Liturgy
of the **Word**

First Eucharist Parent Enrichment Session

The Parent Enrichment Session for First Eucharist is Saturday, October 30, 2021, from 1:00–2:30 pm at St. Thomas the Apostle Church. A make-up session is scheduled for Monday, November 8, 2021, from 7:00–8:30 pm in the Church.

Only one parent, who desires to have their child receive First Communion in the spring of 2022 and is in their second year of faith formation, needs to attend. The session will cover Theology of the Eucharist by Fr. Philip Danaher and Preparation for Eucharist presented by Lorraine Katz.

Please RSVP to the Faith Formation Office at REAdmin@stapostle.org or lkatz@stapostle.org. If you have any questions, please contact Lorraine Katz at lkatz@stapostle.org or 630.355.8980, x109.

Question of the week

What things do you hold onto that keep you from Jesus?

Important Dates for Middle School RE

October 16, 23

Saturday middle school RE classes meet.

October 18, 25

Monday middle school RE classes meet.

There will be no RE classes on October 9 and 11.

Teens with Character Kickoff: THIS WEEKEND ... October 10

St. Thomas
Teens with
Character will
kick off the year
with a meeting
on Sunday,



October 10, from 4:30–6:00 pm in the St. Thomas gym. Teens with Character allows middle school students the chance to gather together, explore faith topics in a fun way, learn about upcoming service projects, grow in faith and have a whole lot of fun. All middle school students and friends are welcome!!! So that we can safely gather, facemasks are required. Email Peggy Goralski at pgoralski@stapostle.org if you plan on attending.

RE Tuition Angel

Would you like to be a tuition angel for a family attending Religious Education (RE) classes? For some of our St. Thomas families, it is a struggle to pay their RE tuition. If you can help the fees are: \$145 for one child, \$240 for two children or \$315 for three children. Please make checks payable to St. Thomas the Apostle Church. Please write tuition gift on the memo line of the check. Please send it to the Faith Formation/Religious Education Office, attention Lorraine Katz. Thank you for your generosity of being a tuition angel. It is greatly appreciated.

Our Lady of Fatima Rosary Rally

Saturday, October 16, 2021, 12:00 pm

Are you looking for an outdoor safe family faith activity? Come and pray at the Our Lady of Fatima Rosary Rally. October 16, 2021, at 12:00 pm. Our own Lourdes Chew is one of the Rally Team Captains. Sign up via email FatimaRosaryRally@gmail.com. When you sign up include name, phone, station wanted and number of people. Contact Lorraine Katz at lkatz@stapostle.org or 630.355.8980, x109. or Lourdes Chew with questions.

OUR LADY OF FATIMA



Be a Part of Harvest Sunday

Week of October 31: Flyer distribution

November 7: Food collection, drive-by food drop off and food collection at Casey's

Volunteers are needed to make Harvest Sunday a success. Here are ways that you can help:

- Sign up to deliver flyers and collect donations from Harvest Sunday neighborhood routes. These routes will be in some of the Naperville and Aurora subdivisions closest to St. Thomas (Brookdale, Cress Creek, Longwood, Stonebridge, and more).
- If you are not in one of those subdivisions, consider building your own route for flyer delivery and donation pickup ... for example, cover your street or a few blocks in your neighborhood. Flyers will be provided.
- Help solicit donations at Casey's Foods on November 7 during a 2-hour shift.
- Drop off your family's donation during the drive-through food collection on November 6 and 7.
- Volunteer to help with the drive-through food donation on November 6 and 7, carrying donations from cars into the ministry center.
- Help sort and pack the food collected. The number of people in the gym at one time will be limited. This activity will take place on November 7 and also during the week, if necessary.

To volunteer, sign up at www.stapostle.org/harvest-sunday (sign-ups open this weekend). Volunteers of all ages are needed. This is an excellent family service project.



a big shout OUT!

A BIG shout out goes to middle school RE classes for making fleece blankets for the Pine Ridge Reservation. Thank you for your gifts that will warm the body and warm the heart!





Harvest Sunday

“For I was hungry and you gave me food ...”

Matthew 25:35

Harvest Sunday is our parish’s response to the call of Christ to “feed the hungry”. This food drive enables St. Thomas and two other food pantries to supply food to those in need.

Volunteers (all ages) Needed To ...

- Deliver fliers and collect bags of food from specific subdivision routes.
- “Build your own Neighborhood Route”, deliver fliers, pick-up food.
- Collect food donations at Casey’s Foods.
- Sort and pack the food at St. Thomas. **COVID restrictions will be in place for 2-hour shifts over three days, as needed. Masks required. Small numbers of volunteers per shift.** (See reverse side for “job descriptions”).

- Sign-up online at www.stapostle.org and click on **Harvest Sunday**

Oct. 31-Nov. 3

Distribute neighborhood fliers.

Sunday, Nov. 7

Collect food from Neighborhoods.

Sunday, Nov. 7

Collect food at Casey’s.

Nov. 7-9 & Nov. 13

Sort and box food. Pack trucks Nov. 13.



Three Ways To Donate Food For Harvest Sunday

1.

CURB DONATION: If you **DO** receive a flier on your door, place your food donation at the curb by 11:00 am on Harvest Sunday.

2.

DRIVE-THRU DONATION: If you **DO NOT** receive a flier on your door, make a drive-thru donation at St. Thomas (Door C-South side of the building) during the following times:

- Saturday, November 6, from 4 – 6 pm.
- Harvest Sunday, November 7, from 9 am – 5 pm.

3.

ON-LINE DONATION: Food donations through Amazon.com.

It is easy. Order from a list of items with a variety of prices.

Select St. Thomas Gift Registry Address. Use link below.

<https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/1KGBPLY5FZVYG?type=wishlist>



Harvest Sunday

Volunteer Job Descriptions

To Volunteer ...

Go to www.stapostle.org and click on the **Harvest Sunday** link. Once you sign up, detailed instructions will be emailed to you.

Questions: Contact Peggy Goralski (pgoralski@stapostle.org, 630.355.8980 x123)

Subdivision Routes in Naperville and Aurora

- Volunteer responsible for both flier delivery and food pickup for your route (generally 175-200 homes).
- **October 31-November 3:** Deliver fliers to home door knobs.
- **Sunday, November 7:** Pick up donated bags of food by curb between noon and 3:00 and deliver to St. Thomas.

Build Your Own Route!

- **For neighborhoods NOT in the Naperville and Aurora routes we cover.**
- Create your own route in your own neighborhood with as many homes as you would like. (examples: next door and across the street, both sides of the street on your block, your cul-de-sac, etc.)
- Volunteer responsible for both flier delivery and food pickup for your route.
- **October 31-November 3:** Deliver fliers to home door knobs.
- **Sunday, November 7:** Pick up donated bags of food by curb between noon and 3:00 and deliver to St. Thomas.

Collect Food from Casey's Foods

- **Sunday, November 7: Shifts: 9 - 11am, 11am - 1pm, 1 - 3pm, 3 - 5pm.**
- Stand outside of Casey's Foods handing out flyers as people enter and collecting food donations as people leave.
- Customers are very friendly. This activity is especially family friendly!
- Transport food collected back to St. Thomas.

Sort and Box Food at St. Thomas

- **COVID restrictions will be in place for 2-hour shifts over three days, as needed. Masks required. Small numbers of volunteers per shift.**
- If you sign up for a shift later in the week and all the food has been sorted and packed, you will receive an email indicating your help will not be needed. So check your email the night before.
- **Saturday, November 6: 4 - 6pm:** Accept drive thru donations from parishioners, put in gym.
- **Sunday, November 7: Shifts 9 - 11am, 11am - 1pm, 1 - 3pm, 3 - 5pm:** Accept drive thru donations from routes and from parishioners, sort and pack food in gym.
- **Monday, November 8: Shifts 9 - 11am and 3:30 - 5:30pm:** Sort and pack food in gym.
- **Tuesday, November 9: Shift 3:30 - 5:30pm:** Sort and pack food in gym.
- **Saturday, November 13: 10 - 11:30am:** This is a special shift to load the trucks from St. Patrick's Church in Joliet (Fr. Dof's church) and the Sisters of Notre Dame with the food boxes packed during the week.

Thank You!

Service Commission — Outreach and Social Justice

Haiti Twinning Sponsor-a-Child Education is the Key

Education continues to make a difference. Over the 22 years of “Twinning,” St. Thomas added classroom after classroom to two elementary schools and the secondary school until the village had its first high school graduation in 2009. One graduate, Dr. Nickson Polyte, is now serving as the doctor at the Healthcare Clinic built by St. Thomas. And many of the young community leaders that responded to the earthquake devastation are St. Thomas graduates. St. Thomas High School is the highest rated school in the large Grand Anse Area.



Elementary school students ... Everyone has the answer!

Quality teachers assure a quality education. Over 95 percent of the students pass the government exams. (The average in Haiti is around 50 percent.) Funds collected help with the salaries for the quality teachers at St. Thomas Secondary/High School and Ertha’s Elementary School.

The need this year is larger due to the earthquake. Many of the families lost their homes and will have difficulty in paying the school fees.

Sponsor-a-Child Donations

Due to the pandemic, we will use the same process as last year. In non-pandemic years, with your donation after Mass, you select a picture(s) of a Duchity student for your refrigerator or other place as a reminder to pray for all the students in Duchity. This pandemic year, you can make a donation and receive pictures in the following ways:

Suggested Donation \$50 ... but any amount welcomed with gratitude.

- Drop off donation at St. Thomas (Narthex after Mass or Gathering Area). Select picture(s) from display in Narthex and Gathering Area.
- Checks written to “St. Thomas OSJ” with “SAC” in the memo and sent to St. Thomas OSJ – ATTN: MIKE (1500 Brookdale Rd. Naperville, 60563). *Note: Checks are preferable as there is a 3.4% charge for credit card donations. Send note with check with address and number and gender of picture(s) needed. Pictures will be mailed.*
- Online donation: <https://www.osvhub.com/stapostle/funds/haiti-twinning-education-sponsor-a-child>. Email Mike Ryder at mryder@stapostle.org with address, number and gender of picture(s) needed. Pictures will be mailed.

Knights of Columbus

Drive-Thru Oktoberfest Saturday October 23

The St. Thomas Knights of Columbus are holding a Drive-Thru Oktoberfest Dinner on Saturday, October 23, from 5:00 to 7:30 pm. Advance reservations can be made on the St. Thomas website now! www.stapostle.org.

Dinner includes bratwurst or hot dog on bun with side of sauerkraut, schnitzel with side of sour cream, pretzel, spaetzle and dessert. The dinner price is \$12 per meal with a reservation or \$15 the day of the drive-thru if no reservation. Payment can be made by cash or check made payable to “St. Thomas the Apostle.”



Christmas Card Project 2021

St. Thomas is joining with “Companions Journeying Together” again this year to provide Christmas cards for people who are incarcerated. Incarcerated people are isolated. A simple card lets them know they are not forgotten.

Companions has requested blank Christmas cards, signed Christmas cards (first name only) with a message (if you choose) and postage stamps (especially needed). Messages should be uplifting and express compassion and caring concern.

If you choose to provide cards, please follow these guidelines from the prisons very carefully.

DO...

- use cards that represent a diverse population
- place stamps in a separate envelope, NOT on card envelopes
- separate and rubber band cards signed by children
- refrain from using cards that talk about masses or novenas

DO NOT...

- use markers or crayons when signing the cards
- sign any cards that contain glitter in any amount
- enclose anything, seal envelopes or place stamps on envelopes

Please return all cards and postage stamps to the box in the Gathering Area by Sunday, October 31.

Thank you!

40 Days for Life St. Thomas Prayer Day

The 40 Days for Life prayer vigil is being held at Planned Parenthood from September 22 through October 31. Saturday September 25 was the St. Thomas prayer day, sponsored by the St. Thomas Knights of Columbus. St. Thomas parishioners were steadfast and were on site from 7:00 am–6:00 pm. The highlight of the day was the living rosary organized by Our Lady of Mercy parish. About 75 people attended.

The prayer vigil is continuing through October 31. The location is Planned Parenthood (3051 E. New York St., Aurora) behind Waterleaf Women's Center. Parking available at Waterleaf. You are not required to sign up ... feel welcome to go and pray anytime!

40 Days for Life is a beautiful opportunity to join others in peaceful prayer and keeping vigil. Through God, lives are changed during 40 Days for Life. When communities rally in this effort, God works miracles. The "no show" rate for abortion appointments increases dramatically while people are praying outside.

Photo: St. Thomas Knights of Columbus keeping vigil at 40 Days for Life.



October — Respect Life Month Women's Health Protection Act (HR 3755)

"The month of October brings with it our annual observance of Respect Life Month. As part of the Year of St. Joseph declared by Pope Francis, this year's celebration highlights the example of that great saint. As the faithful protector of both Jesus and Mary, we find in St. Joseph a profound reminder of our own call to welcome, safeguard and defend God's precious gift of human life.

Despite the mysterious circumstances surrounding Mary's pregnancy, St. Joseph took her into his home at the word of the angel. He guided their journey to Bethlehem, found shelter and welcomed the infant Jesus as his son. When Herod threatened the life of the Christ Child, St. Joseph left his homeland behind and fled with Jesus and Mary to Egypt.

Like St. Joseph, we are also called to care for those God has entrusted to us — especially vulnerable mothers and children."

*Most Reverend Joseph F. Naumann
Chairman U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' Committee on Pro-Life Activities*

Women's Health Protection Act (WHPA) (HR 3755)

Recently, the House of Representatives passed H.R. 3755. Per the fact sheet provided by the US Conference of Catholic Bishops, this bill would impose abortion on demand nationwide at any stage of pregnancy through federal statute. Immediately upon passage, the WHPA would invalidate state laws banning abortion at any stage of pregnancy:

- A. Pre-viability abortions would be allowed across the country for any reason.
- B. Post-viability abortions would be allowed nationwide without meaningful limitation.

The complete USCCB Fact Sheet and Archbishop Naumann's letter to Congress can be viewed on the St. Thomas Website by entering HR 3755 in the search window or clicking on the links below.

- [USCCB Fact Sheet](#)
- [Archbishop Naumann's Letter to Congress](#)

The term "viability" means the point in a pregnancy at which, in the good-faith medical judgment of the treating health care provider, based on the particular facts of the case before the health care provider, there is a reasonable likelihood of sustained fetal survival outside the uterus with or without artificial support.

Take Action

Please educate yourself on the Women's Health Protection Act and express your opinion to your elected officials. If you are opposed, go to <https://www.votervoice.net/USCCB/Campaigns/88618/Respond>.



Saints Peter and Paul Church Service Commemorating Police Officers

The Saints Peter and Paul Knights of Columbus are sponsoring a special service commemorating police officers killed in the line of duty in 2021. There will also be a special blessing and reception for current and retired law enforcement officers and their families.

The service is Thursday, October 14, 2021, at 7:00 pm at Saint Peter and Paul Church (36 North Ellsworth Street, Naperville).

For more information and to reserve your place at this important service email Thomas.wronski@gmail.com or call 630.791.0320.

Service Commission — Pastoral Care

From the Behavioral Health Ministry

October is Mental Health Education Awareness Month

When someone you care about hurts you, you can hold on to anger, resentment and thoughts of revenge — or embrace forgiveness and move forward.

Forgiveness: Letting Go of Grudges and Bitterness

By Mayo Clinic Staff

Who hasn't been hurt by the actions or words of another? Perhaps a parent constantly criticized you growing up, a colleague sabotaged a project or your partner had an affair. Or maybe you've had a traumatic experience, such as being physically or emotionally abused by someone close to you.

These wounds can leave you with lasting feelings of anger and bitterness — even vengeance.

But if you don't practice forgiveness, you might be the one who pays most dearly. By embracing forgiveness, you can also embrace peace, hope, gratitude and joy. Consider how forgiveness can lead you down the path of physical, emotional and spiritual well-being.

What is forgiveness?

Forgiveness means different things to different people. Generally, however, it involves a decision to let go of resentment and thoughts of revenge.

The act that hurt or offended you might always be with you, but forgiveness can lessen its grip on you and help free you from the control of the person who harmed you. Forgiveness can even lead to feelings of understanding, empathy and compassion for the one who hurt you.

Forgiveness doesn't mean forgetting or excusing the harm done to you or making up with the person who caused the harm. Forgiveness brings a kind of peace that helps you go on with life.

What are the benefits of forgiving someone?

Letting go of grudges and bitterness can make way for improved health and peace of mind. Forgiveness can lead to:

- Healthier relationships
- Improved mental health
- Less anxiety, stress and hostility
- Lower blood pressure
- Fewer symptoms of depression
- A stronger immune system
- Improved heart health
- Improved self-esteem

For more insight into how to understand the dynamics of forgiveness please go to Mayo Clinic (mayoclinic.org)



BEHAVIORAL HEALTH
St. Thomas the Apostle

PrimeTime October Presentation Emergency Preparedness

The Prime-Time group will be meeting on October 20, 2021, at 10:00 am in the Lighthouse with Soraya McLaughlin, the Community Risk Reduction Coordinator from the Naperville Fire Department. Soraya will be covering all aspects of fire and life safety and will also include information on emergency preparedness. The presentation will cover everything from the address on your home, to smoke alarms and holiday decorations, etc.

What should you have prepared should you need to call 9-1-1? We'll cover that too! This presentation is to disseminate important fire and life safety information to the PrimeTime group in order to encourage citizen action regarding safety strategies. Did you know that falls, in and around the home, are top causes of injuries to older adults? Older adults are also at a greater risk than others of perishing in a house fire. Many of these and other injuries result from hazards that are easy to overlook — but also easy to fix! By spotting these hazards and taking simple steps to correct them, you can prevent injuries to yourself or visitors to your home.

If this is a topic that interests you, come on out on October 20 at 10:00 am in the St. Thomas the Apostle Lighthouse to meet Soraya and learn some important life-saving information!!!

***Please note that at this time PrimeTime is only providing water and prewrapped snack items. Feel free to provide your own breakfast beverage and/or snack. Additionally, masks are required for indoor events. Thank you for your patience with these health and safety guidelines.*



From the Office of the Parish Nurse Blood Pressure Screening this Weekend

Blood Pressure Screening is available after the 9:30 am and 11:15 am Masses **this Sunday, October 10.**

The screening sites are; the first office on the right (Deacon's office) and the second office on the right (Parish Nurse Office) as you enter the WEST WING of the Church.

No appointment or doctor's order needed.



FAITH COMMUNITY NURSE
St. Thomas the Apostle



Save the Date for the Next Blood Drive

We Are Back at St. Thomas!

Saturday, November 20, 2021

9:00 am–2:00 pm in the gym

More details to come.

Nature Walks Lift the Spirits, Sharpen Thinking

Research continues to find evidence that spending time in greenspace supports clearer thinking and a brighter mood.

When COVID-19 pandemic narrowed the options for workouts and other activities, many people rediscovered the simple pleasures and cardiovascular benefits of a walk outside. Breathing in fresh air (when safe) and being surrounded by green lawns, trees, flowers and the rest of nature's bounty can leave you feeling energized and focused, but also relaxed at the same time.

While a walk anywhere at any time can be a healthy choice, a walk in nature may have an enhanced ability to lower stress, says psychologist Louisa Sylvia, PhD, Associate Director of the Dauten Family Center for Bipolar Treatment Innovation at Massachusetts General Hospital. "Walking is a wonderful way to practice mindfulness, especially with interesting or pretty surroundings, as you tend to want to observe and describe what you see, which are core aspects to being in the moment or being mindful," she explains. "We know walking is linked with improved mood, such as reductions in anxiety and depression."

Gifts from the Great Outdoors

Numerous studies in recent years have arrived at the same conclusion: Spend more time in greenspace or outdoors in a relaxing setting and your brain reaps the benefits. Most recently, in a study published in the *World Journal of Biological Psychiatry*, researchers from the Max Planck Institute for Human Development in Munich, Germany, used brain scans to demonstrate how time spent outdoors has a positive impact on how we think and feel.

In the study, researchers regularly examined a group of city dwellers for six months and took frequent magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) scans of their brains to look for any noticeable changes related to time spent outdoors, physical activity levels and any other factors. What the scans revealed was that time spent outdoors was positively related to gray matter, regardless of other influencing factors.

"Our results show that our brain structure and mood improve when we spend time outdoors," says study author Simone Kuhn, of the Max Planck Institute. "This most likely also affects concentration, working memory, and the psyche as a whole."

Gray matter in the brain is made up mostly of neuron cell bodies and non-neuron brain cells called glial cells, which help fuel neurons. Glial cells have other important functions, including regulating blood flow to the brain and clearing out excess chemicals and other debris from the brain. Gray matter includes parts of the brain responsible for memory, speech, emotions, sensory perception, muscle control and other functions.

The researchers note that the study echoes anecdotal evidence that a walk can make you feel better, but that the findings provide evidence that so-called "green prescriptions," such as outdoor walks could serve as an important intervention in treating a variety of mental disorders.

Resource Massachusetts General Hospital September 2021

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

Stewardship and Administration

The Week Ahead

Monday, October 11

7:00–8:30 pm Middle School Catechists, Lighthouse

Tuesday, October 12

10:00–11:00 am Care Pantry Food Distribution

7:00–9:00 pm Elementary RE Catechists, Ministry Center

Wednesday, October 13

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

7:15–8:45 pm Faith Formation Commission, Senior Center

Thursday, October 14

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

6:30–8:30 pm Life Retreat Planning, Gym, Youth Center

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

Friday, October 15

Saturday, October 16

8:30–9:45 am Middle School RE at All Saints Academy

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

9:00 am–9:30 pm Life Retreat, Ministry Center

9:00–10:30 am Saturday Men's Group, Cana

12:00–1:00 pm Rosary Rally, Gathering Area

3:30–4:15 pm Reconciliation, Reconciliation Room

Sunday, October 17

9:00 am–9:30 pm Life Retreat, Ministry Center

1:00–2:00 pm Baptism, Church

Last weekend's stewardship of financial gifts

Weekly Sunday Offertory

September 26, 2021

Sunday Collection Offering* \$9,015

Credit Card Online Giving reported monthly

Automatic Direct Debit \$26,035
(5th and 20th each month)

Mailed in and stock donations \$4,853

Total for the week \$39,903

*Based on Collection Counters Reports prior to bank confirmation

Fiscal Year (7/1 to 6/30) \$431,566

Weekly Average 7/1/2021 to date \$33,197

Offertory Goal Year to date \$436,403

Over/(short) of goal to date (\$4,837)

Goal for Fiscal Year 7/1 to 6/30 \$1,745,600

Percent of Annual Sunday Offertory Goal 25%

Remaining for this fiscal year goal \$1,314,034

This week, the Sunday collection is \$4,837 behind goal so far this year. Capital needs restricted gifts were \$70 this past week. We are grateful to those who recognize the need and responded.

Diocesan Appeal 2021

Parish Appeal Goal \$174,100

Pledges Received \$149,320

Percent of Goal pledged to date 85.77%

Unpaid pledges \$5,250

Paid to Date \$144,070

Percent of goal paid to date 82.75%

Restricted Gift Policy Effective November 1, 2017

- 1) Notwithstanding restricted donation funds active since July 1, 2015, all individual new-purpose restricted donations exceeding \$500.00, whether solicited or unsolicited, must be approved by the pastor prior to solicitation or receipt/acceptance, whichever is earlier. This provision is effective November 1, 2017.
- 2) Restricted donations will be expended before the second fiscal year-end after the fiscal year of receipt. If the donation has not been expended in accordance with the restriction within two fiscal year-ends, the donated funds will be directed to a related ministry use and notice given to donors where practical. For example, if donations for the purchase of a new musical instrument received in November 2016 (FY16-17) exceed the cost of the instrument, the excess funds will support or supplement music ministry no later than June 2019 (FY 18-19). The funds may continue to be held for the restricted purpose beyond this time if the extended time is approved by the pastor.
- 3) With respect to restricted funds on hand at adoption of the policy, every effort should be made to fulfill reasonable donor expectations that the funds will be expended for the intended purpose within the timeframe described in 2 above. In cases where fulfillment expenditures are no longer practical, permission should be sought from the donor(s) to redirect the funds to a related ministry and expended within the timeframe described above. The pastor may extend the holding period.

Notice will be published in the bulletin and website notifying donors of the new restricted donation and expenditure policy, and thereafter at least semi-annually. Donors of a restricted gift of \$500.00 or more will receive a copy of the policy at the time of the donation.

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