

# St. Thomas

OCTOBER 24, 2021 — THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

The Lord has done great things for us;  
we are glad indeed.

— Psalm 126:3

# 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,

The blind man whom Jesus healed in the gospel, Bartimaeus, was someone who did not let fear control his life. He did not allow the crowd which was telling him to keep quiet to intimidate him. In fact, he only shouted louder for Jesus to help him.

Think how different our Christian community, descendants of the Old Testament people of Israel, might have been if those we hold up as our heroes had let fear control their lives. When called by God to lead the people of Israel out of Egypt, Moses himself acknowledged that he was no leader but did as God asked. It would have been natural for the teen-aged shepherd named David to be afraid when he was told that he had been chosen to be King of Israel.

Then there is, of course, Jesus Himself who came into our world as one like us in all things, except sin, with the same emotions as we do, including fear. It is said that one of the biggest fears is that of public speaking, a fear which Jesus might have had but which He refused to prevent Him from proclaiming the Good News of God's love for the world. Certainly we see His fear during His agony in the garden, fear which He did not allow to stop Him from becoming both the Victim for our sins and the King of glory.

One thing about crying out to God, as Bartimaeus did, is the fear of our prayers not being answered the way we wanted them answered. Instead of letting the fear of God saying "no" control our relationship with Him, why not allow Him to control our lives and let Him give us what we need?

Many thanks to all of you who do not fear to answer God's call to support the many ministries St. Thomas the Apostle parish through sharing your gifts of time, talent and treasure.

In the Word,

*Fr. Danaher*

## Liturgy Schedule

### Daily

Mass: 8:30 am, Monday–Saturday

### Weekend

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 30–31

### Saturday, October 30

4:30 pm: Fr. Bill Etheredge

### Sunday, October 31

8:00 am: Fr. Joseph Kappilumakkal with Deacon Joe Cuzzone

9:30 am: Fr. Philip Danaher

11:15 am: Fr. Jim Curtin 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.

## New Parishioners

Kwame and Kristal Davis and Family

Mitch and Juanita Showalter and Family

Anmar and Melissa Siochi and Family

## 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](mailto: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



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## Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

October 24, 2021

*The LORD has done great things for us; we are glad indeed.*

— Psalm 126:3

### Readings for Today

**First Reading** — I will lead the people to brooks of water, on a level road, so that none shall stumble (Jeremiah 31:7-9).

**Psalm** — The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy (Psalm 126).

**Second Reading** — It was not Christ who glorified himself, but rather the one who said to him: You are my son: this day I have begotten you (Hebrews 5:1-6).

**Gospel** — Immediately the blind man received his sight and followed Jesus on the way (Mark 10:46-52).

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 8:12-17; Ps 68:2, 4, 6-7ab, 20-21; Lk 13:10-17

**Tuesday:** Rom 8:18-25; Ps 126:1b-6; Lk 13:18-21

**Wednesday:** Rom 8:26-30; Ps 13:4-6; Lk 13:22-30

**Thursday:** Eph 2:19-22; Ps 19:2-5; Lk 6:12-16

**Friday:** Rom 9:1-5; Ps 147:12-15, 19-20; Lk 14:1-6

**Saturday:** Rom 11:1-2a, 11-12, 25-29; Ps 94:12-13a, 14-15, 17-18; Lk 14:1, 7-11

**Sunday:** Dt 6:2-6; Ps 18:2-4, 47, 51; Heb 7:23-28; Mk 12:28b-34

## Liturgy Schedule and Mass Intentions

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

**Monday, October 25, 2021**

8:30 am †John Egermann

**Tuesday, October 26, 2021**

8:30 am †Gerhard Beinhauer, by a friend

**Wednesday, October 27, 2021**

8:30 am †Vito Battisto, by Battisto Family

**Thursday, October 28, 2021**

*Saints. Simon and Jude, Apostles*

8:30 am †David Joseph Madden and Josephine Bartusiak, by the Bartusiak Family

**Friday, October 29, 2021**

8:30 am †Joanne Gillerlain, by Mary Ann MacCarthy

**Saturday, October 30, 2021**

8:30 am †Elmer Palma, by Buddy and Mely Mallorca

4:30 pm *Mass of Anticipation*

†Ferdinand de Guzman by Amy de Guzman

†Gerald Beck, by Minihan Family

**Sunday, October 31, 2021**

*Thirty-First Sunday Ordinary*

8:00 am †Jennifer Cliff, by Phyllis Cliff

9:30 am †Edythe and Joseph Caruso, by Joe and Gloria Caruso  
†Deceased Members of The Lopez Family, by Amy DeGuzman

11:15 am †Thomas O'Grady, by Tom and Mary Clare O'Grady

## Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time: Reflecting on God's Word

Our gospel is a response to an illness — of a blind man who shouted at Jesus to hear him. No whispered prayer here. His faith made him shout to Jesus, and to believe that he could be better. He threw away all he had — a cloak — and knew he had found all he needed, the faith that made him strong. This faith gave him energy as he jumped at the sound of Jesus' name.

Sight returned later; the first gift was faith. Our faith helps us see the world as God sees it. We see creation as the beauty of God and care for it, and men and women as images of God and we care for them. We see beyond labels and categories to everyone as a child of God, and our brother and sister. This is the 'eye of faith.'

The way of Jesus is the way of light, and of healing, so that nothing inside ourselves can block us from receiving the light of God, the light of his love.

Lighten our burdens Lord, and enlighten our darkness and may we walk in your ways.

*Donal Neary SJ*

# MUSIC MAKERS

St. Thomas the Apostle



## Congregational Singing and Choirs are BACK!

Recently the Diocese of Joliet lifted restrictions on congregational singing and choirs. This was not a change that we anticipated, but very much welcome, so parishioners can more fully engage in the Mass. Please note that singing is physical exercise and uses muscles that must be kept in shape. Over 18 months ago is the last time we've had any type of large musical group gathering, so please be patient as it will take some time to get voices back in shape before they return on Sundays. There are still restrictions on masks, distancing, etc. Small group ensembles will return at the beginning of November. This year, we are not able to celebrate Lessons and Carols as we would normally — with a large gathering in the church, lectors, musicians, etc. Instead, we will be doing virtual prayer services released each Sunday of Advent with which our St. Thomas the Apostle community members can engage at home. See the website for more details. Begins Sunday, November 29.

## Assisted Listening Devices

Did you know that St. Thomas has assisted listening devices to help the hearing impaired who need just a boost of sound? These devices are located in the Narthex of the church and can be used while attending Mass here. They can either be used with earphones or with a T-coil loop, which allows you to use your hearing aid when you switch it to Tele-coil mode.

We are missing several of these units, so if you have one at home that you took by mistake please return it to the Narthex so others can use it as well. It is costly to replace them.

## All Saints

Monday, November 1 is the Solemnity of All Saints — This is not a holy day of obligation this year, as previously published. We will have Mass at 8:30 am 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. During the mass, you will be invited to light a candle in memory of you loved one as their name is proclaimed within a ritual of remembrance. You are also invited to participate by bringing a token of remembrance (*such as a photo, item of jewelry, book, etc.*) of your loved one to be placed in the Narthex before Mass begins; surrounded by other reflections of beauty and light.

## Book of Life

During the month of November, there will be a display to remember our beloved departed in the St. Thomas Narthex. Also, there is a book for you to enter names of deceased loved ones. All the names that are entered in this book will be prayed for in a special way during the month of November.

## Prayer

*Gracious and Awesome God,  
we offer our prayer to you  
with full acceptance of our weaknesses,  
and our compliance and assent to all those things  
which keep us from your path,  
your values,  
and your vision for how we are to live.  
Come and give us the strength  
to surrender,  
to empty ourselves,  
to embrace the humble way of your Son,  
Jesus, the Christ: our way, our path, and our Lord.  
Amen*

## 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



## Save the Date

### John Angotti: A Christmas Concert

Sunday, December 5, 2021

Second Sunday in Advent

3:30 pm

Visitation Parish, 779 S. York St.,  
Elmhurst, IL 60126



## Save the Date

### Advent by Candlelight

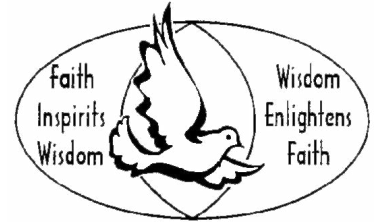
Advent by Candlelight will be held in person this year at St. Thomas the Apostle. Mark your calendar for Tuesday, December 7.

Stay tuned for more details.

## C.A.R.E. CORNER

“Church” is where we gather to worship as a liturgical assembly, in ways we cannot if we go it alone. Our worship space offers us room for the many. It offers us a décor and ambiance that we are not likely to reproduce for just ourselves. It offers us the opportunity to participate in communal prayer. It offers us choirs and music we cannot make on our own. And it offers us a worship rubric that has been handed down for centuries, connecting us to the worship of our ancestors in faith, which was always communal rather than just private.

The sanctuary is also our gathering place. We come together as people of faith, as People of God, in a place where we are assured that God is indeed present. It is also as Church that we participate in the re-presentation of the sacrifice of Jesus in the Eucharist. As Church we are nourished with the body of Christ so we may become the Body of Christ. And that gives Church a much higher purpose than just as a gathering place of fellowship. Church is our trajectory: the place where we hear the “Good News,” the place where we use our divine gifts, the place where we are fed with God’s own life. It is also a place of opportunity to publicly give thanks to the God who made us.



## 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!

## Art Fair

Mark your calendar for the 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Arts & Craft Fair at St. Thomas. The event will be held November 13–14.

Artists who will be participating work in photography, handmade jewelry, painting, leather art, quilting, Christmas ornaments — and so much more!! This is a fun event for artists to share their talent and a great way to do some early holiday shopping.

We hope you will join us!

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE CATHOLIC CHURCH PRESENTS  
**THE 22ND ANNUAL FINE ARTS & CRAFT FESTIVAL**  
FEATURING LOCAL ARTISTS' ORIGINAL ART AND CRAFTS INCLUDING: PAINTINGS—PHOTOGRAPHY—JEWELRY—DRAWINGS CERAMICS—MIXED MEDIA—WOOD CRAFTS—FIBER ART

SATURDAY & SUNDAY  
NOVEMBER 13 & 14, 2021  
SATURDAY 10–6 PM  
SUNDAY 9–1:30 PM  
1100 BROOKDALE RD. NAPERVILLE, IL 60563  
FOR INFORMATION CONTACT:  
dryder27@gmail.com 937-974-4363

Some artists don't have charge card machines, preferred method of payment is cash or check, thank you!

## “I am St. Thomas” Program

Thank you for celebrating Commitment Sunday with us this weekend. Your commitment to our parish through our “I am St. Thomas” Program will continue to bring life to our community. If completing your Commitment Card was not possible at Mass, you may visit the St. Thomas website at [stapostle.org](http://stapostle.org) and complete an electronic Commitment Card or you can mail your card to the church.

Our goal is 100 percent participation! Thank you for your generosity and support of St. Thomas the Apostle Church!



### News from All Saints Catholic Academy

#### 5<sup>th</sup> Grade is FANTASTIC!

Recently in fifth grade, we began our class favorite Saint Project! This long term assignment challenges the students to create a research paper that explores their chosen saint's life. The paper then serves as the source for each student to create a two minute speech that hones their public speaking and ministerial skills.

At home, students create costumes that will help them look like their saint and bring their saint to life. They also collect objects that were important to their saint or that their saint may have been known for.

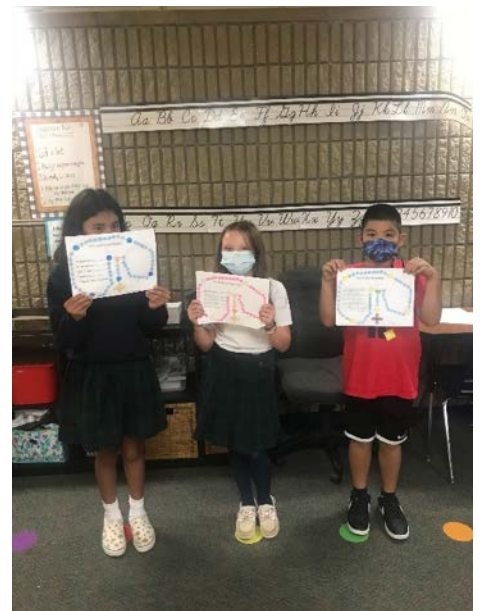
During Catholic Schools Week at the end of January, students will not only don their saint costumes, but embody their chosen saint in presentations to the rest of the school.

Students have also been learning about the beautiful Rosary prayer throughout the month of October and collectively praying the various mysteries as a class.

One special fun activity for first–fifth grade students that has returned to ASCA this year is Art Awareness. In this program, parent volunteers visit classrooms to share art concepts

in an extracurricular way, and then guide students to create a work of art that illustrates what they have learned. A recent fifth grade lesson focused on the concept of optical illusion art, which the students thoroughly enjoyed.

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



# Faith and Formation Commission — Youth



St. Thomas the Apostle

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

### Zoom Meeting about Religious Education Classes

With Lorraine Katz, Director of Elementary Religious Education!

- Find out what your child is learning!
- Find out what you can do at home to support what they are learning in class.
- Find out the yearly goals.
- Learn about upcoming events like Grade Level Masses and other things going on.
- Ask questions.

**When? Wednesday, October 27, 2021 at 7:00 pm for parent's only**

Find the Zoom link in your email by Wednesday morning. Questions? Contact the Faith Formation Office at 630.305.6318 or REAdmin@stapostle.org or contact Lorraine Katz at lkatz@stapostle.org or 630.355.8980, x109.

### 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.

### First Eucharist Preparation Information Packets

First Eucharist information packets have been mailed to parents of First Communicants, who are in their second year of formation, whether in Religious Education or attending All Saints Catholic Academy, St. Thomas' Regional school. If you didn't receive the registration form and information concerning the parent enrichment session and family prayer services, please contact Jenni or GERALYN in the Faith Formation Office at 630.305.6318 or REAdmin@stapostle.org. You may also contact Lorraine Katz at lkatz@stapostle.org or 630.355.8980, x109.

### Question of the week

What do you want Jesus to heal for you?

### Third and Fourth Grade RE Church Visits

Children in third grade Religious Education classes are visiting our Church Saturday, October 23 at 8:30 am to learn more about the Mass, labyrinth prayer and Our Lady of Guadalupe. This will be during their religious education classes.

Children in fourth grade Religious Education classes are visiting our Church Tuesday, October 26 to learn more about the Mass, baptism reenactment and the saints. Please drop off and pick up at the Gathering Area Doors.

### First Reconciliation Parent Enrichment Session of Fourth and Fifth Grade Children

The Parent Enrichment Session for First Reconciliation is Saturday, November 6, 2021, from 1:00–2:30 pm at St. Thomas the Apostle Church. A make-up session is scheduled for Tuesday, November 16, 2021 from 7:00–8:30 pm in the Church. Only one parent, who desires to have their child receive First Reconciliation in the spring of 2022, needs to attend. The session will cover Theology of the Reconciliation by Fr. Philip Danaher and Preparation for Reconciliation, 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.

### This Weekend!!

#### Scout Popcorn Time

It is Scout Popcorn time! Come see the variety of popcorn that is for sale. Support the Cub Scout Pack 125 by buying popcorn this weekend October 23–24, 2021, after all the Masses.

Scout popcorn tables will be outside the gathering area doors after all Masses.

## Be a Part of Harvest Sunday — Volunteers Still Needed

**Week of October 31: Flyer distribution**  
**November 7: Food collection, drive-by food drop off and food collection at Casey's**

Thank you to all who have already signed up to help with Harvest Sunday. Volunteers still especially needed in the following areas:

- Sign up to deliver flyers and collect donations from Harvest Sunday neighborhood routes. As of the time of the bulletin deadline, there were still eight routes in Naperville and four routes in Aurora to be covered.
- Help solicit donations at Casey's Foods on November 7 during a 2-hour shift. Three more volunteers needed.
- 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 during the week, if necessary. Help still needed the afternoon of November 7 and during the week.
- Help load the packed food onto the trucks on Saturday, November 13 from 10:00–11:30 am.

To volunteer, sign up at [www.stapostle.org/harvest-sunday](http://www.stapostle.org/harvest-sunday). Volunteers of all ages are needed. This is an excellent family service project.



## All Saints Playlist

The Church celebrates the Feast of All Saints November 1. It is a wonderful opportunity to reflect on the Saints in our Catholic tradition and the saints, the holy ones, in our lives. The All Saints playlist, A Saintly Adventure, offers many links and suggestions to celebrate saints. Check it out on the St. Thomas website. Enjoy the adventure!



## Important Dates for Middle School RE

**October 23, 30 and November 6**  
Saturday middle school RE classes meet.

**October 25, November 1, 8**  
Monday middle school RE classes meet.

**NOTE:** Classes on November 1 and 6 meet at St. Thomas to allow classes to help with Care Pantry preparations for Harvest Sunday.

## A Message to Young People: You are the Now of God

Next weekend, St. Thomas will call to mind the many contributions of our young people as we celebrate World Youth Day weekend. In the closing Mass homily of the 2019 World Youth Day, Pope Francis encouraged and challenged young people. He spoke to them saying, "You, dear young people are not the future but the now of God. He invites you and calls you in your communities and cities to go out and find your grandparents, your elders; to stand up and with them to speak out and realize the dream that the Lord has dreamed for you ... We are on a journey, keep walking, keep living the faith and sharing it. Do not forget that you are not the tomorrow, you are not the 'meantime'; you are the now of God."

## 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.

## St. Francis High School Open House

St. Francis High School invites prospective students to visit the school and to experience the St. Francis environment.

You can sign up for Open House tours to take place Sunday, November 7. Tours will be given in 40 minute intervals and will be led by our Student Ambassador Leadership Team members.

This is a great way to see the school and ask any questions you may have about St. Francis High School. Tours are by appointment only and are geared toward 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade families.

Go to [www.sfhscollegeprep.org](http://www.sfhscollegeprep.org) to register. St. Francis High School is located at 2130 W. Roosevelt Road in Wheaton.

# Service Commission — Outreach and Social Justice

## Haiti Twinning Thank You!

A huge thank you to all who have been able to help our Haiti Twinning parish and community over the last three months.

- The earthquake relief and recovery response in August was extraordinary. \$69,500 was collected! The funds remaining are being used to purchase building supplies toward the repair of homes in the larger Duchity area for families in the most need.
- The annual Haiti Weekend second collection to support healthcare and education totaled \$13,000.
- The annual Sponsor-a-Child campaign to assure quality teachers total to date is \$6,000 toward a goal of \$30,000. A portion of the Haiti Weekend collection will go toward that goal. Also, Haiti Christmas cards will be made available again this year in December to support education.

## Sponsor-a-Child Donations

Thanks to all that have helped to date. 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](mailto:mryder@stapostle.org) with address, number and gender of picture(s) needed. Pictures will be mailed.

## PATH Jobs Ministry Key Volunteers Needed

In September 2020, The St. Thomas Jobs Ministry merged with the similar ministry at the Compass Church. The new ministry is named "The PATH Group."

PATH is a Christ-centered networking and job search support group, created to assist and enable the unemployed, underemployed and misemployed. The PATH acronym comes from Psalm 25. It reflects the need for those in transition to keep trusting the Lord during difficult and challenging times, and to depend on Him totally to teach and lead them down his Path ... People Always Trusting Him.

Moving forward into 2022, volunteers are needed to keep this ministry viable. The following functions need volunteer assistance:

- **Event and Program Planning:** Help identify and schedule PATH meeting presenters.
- **Marketing and Communication Assistance:** Support in producing PATH presentations, fliers, and meeting notices.
- **Technical Support Assistance:** Help with PATH technology (e.g., meeting Zoom and in-person audio-visual support, website support)

For more information, please contact Walt Reilly at 630.842.4450 or [wereilly@comcast.net](mailto:wereilly@comcast.net).

world relief®

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## Assistance to Refugees from Afghanistan

*Below is an update from Eleanor Wegman, facilitator of the St. Thomas Immigration/Refugee Initiative Ministry.*

World Relief (WR) collaborates with local churches and community-based organizations to provide support for immigrants and refugees who are seeking a place to call home. It works to help refugees and immigrants rebuild their lives in the United States.

World Relief, with locations in Aurora and Carol Stream, has already been receiving some Afghani refugees and asylum seekers. Others are being housed in military installations awaiting vetting and approval. WR expects many more people to be resettled in our area in the coming months. In addition, after several years of a decrease, the Biden administration announced an increase in the refugee admissions target for 2022 to 125,000. We had advocated for an increase.

One of the requests from World Relief is for "Welcome Kits," which include many of the basic needs of a family trying to establish a new home. After talking with a representative of WR, the best way for us to help at this time is to offer parishioners an opportunity to donate items to put together one or more Welcome Kits. WR has the necessary items for the families currently arriving and will request donations again when kits are needed, most likely in November. At that time, we will provide information about the kits along with ways to become more personally involved.



## 2021 Coat and Blanket Collection

Report from Carol Redell,  
facilitator of the St. Thomas  
Lakota Ministry

Like everything else this year, COVID had an effect on our Lakota coat and blanket collection. All spring and early summer, we watched conditions here and on the reservation to ensure it would be safe both to collect the items and to deliver them to the reservation. In early August, we decided to go ahead with the collection. Parishioner John



Fr. Edmund and John with the blankets and coats

Przekwas and his brother Paul again volunteered to drive the items to Pine Ridge. Collection dates were set and my dedicated crew of Jean Lane, Jan McShea, Linda McShea, Joan Rodemeyer and Mary Wright sorted and packed the donations.

Everything was set to go on October 1, but we received word from Fr. Edmund on September 24 that there was a spike in COVID cases on the reservation, schools went back to remote, and people were told to shelter in place. We weren't sure what conditions were going to be like on October 1 or if the truck would even be allowed on the reservation!

Plan B was devised. John and his brother would meet Fr. Edmund at Saint Patrick's Church in Chadron, Nebraska. Fr. Todd, St. Patrick's pastor, agreed to store the items until Fr. Edmund could get them to St. Agnes. John and Paul left at 3:35 am on October 1 and returned at 5:35 pm on October 2, driving 1,792 miles in 38 hours. Everything worked out in the end!

### The final totals were:

- 101 blankets
- 77 women's coats
- 30 sleeping bags
- 11 boy's coats
- 48 men's coats
- 19 girl's coats

And lots and lots of hats, scarves and gloves, many of them beautifully handmade!

Thank you to everyone who donated or worked on this project. South Dakota winters are very harsh; the items sent will be well used and appreciated.

## Waterleaf Miracle of the Month

*"This isn't a good time to have a baby..."*

"Becky" had just lost a job she loved and had no insurance when she discovered she was pregnant. Coming to Waterleaf, she was determined to get an abortion, saying, "This isn't a good time to have a baby." She had only told a close friend of her pregnancy. She intended to abort without telling her boyfriend or her family. Despite her intention to abort, Becky continued to come to Waterleaf for additional ultrasounds. Each visit she shared more of her story and her dreams. Every time, the Waterleaf team responded with practical help, prayer and unwavering support. Her advocate encouraged Becky to have an honest conversation with her boyfriend before making a final decision. To Becky's surprise, her boyfriend was very understanding and supportive. Confident in his support and confident in herself, Becky chose life! Becky and her boyfriend came together for her next ultrasound and both were very excited to see the images and hear the heartbeat. Becky commented that she feels so much better now that she decided to parent.

Keep Waterleaf and Becky in your prayers. Your support brings the gift of life.



## Pro-Life Action Alert Parental Notice of Abortion in Illinois

For the past three years, there have been efforts to repeal the state's Parental Notice of Abortion law. Without parental notification a minor could get an abortion at any time without her parents ever being notified. In the upcoming Veto session that begins on October 19, the legislature could once again consider a bill to repeal parental notice.

The existing law does not call for parental consent, only parental notification. The current law also offers exemptions to parental notification, including when a young woman states in writing that she is a victim of sexual abuse, neglect or physical abuse by an adult family member.

For additional information, you can read a Fact Sheet and a letter from all six bishops in Illinois on the St. Thomas website. Type "Pro-Life" in the Search Window.

### Take Action

Please educate yourself on this issue. If you are opposed to repealing parental notification in the case of a minor requesting an abortion, you can email your state representative and state senator by visiting the Catholic Conference of Illinois' Action Center. <https://www.ilcatholic.org/take-action/action-center/?vsrc=%2fCampaigns%2f88725%2fRespond>



## Illinois Right to Life Annual Banquet

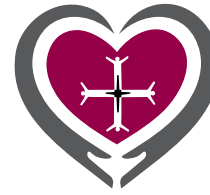
The 48<sup>th</sup> annual Right to Life banquet is being held on Friday evening, November 12. The event will feature former Illinois Supreme Court Chief Justice Robert Thomas as the keynote speaker with Rep. Avery Bourne (IL-95) as master of ceremonies. Evita Duffy will receive the Young Activist for Life award. To make this event even more special, a VIP cocktail hour will host gubernatorial candidates who have the potential to make Illinois pro-life.

The event is being held at The Carlisle Banquets (Lombard, IL). Cocktail Hour 6:00 pm. VIP Cocktail Hour 6:00 pm. Dinner 7:00 pm. Tickets are available at <https://IllinoisRightToLife.org/ActionBanquet/>.

# Service Commission — Pastoral Care

## Honoring St. Thomas Pastoral Care Department During Pastoral Care Week October 24–31, 2021

The St. Thomas Pastoral Care Department recognizes the importance of the whole person; mind, body and spirit. It is a ministry of presence for people, supporting and inspiring the physical, spiritual and mental health and well-being of all the faith community amid times of both ease and challenge. It is a ministry involving staff and many volunteers who serve others by sharing their time, talent and effort to serve others.



PASTORAL CARE  
St. Thomas the Apostle

### Upcoming Pastoral Care Events:

- **Blood Pressure Screening:** Sunday, November 14 after 9:30 and 11:15 am Masses
- **Prime Time Event:** Wednesday, November 17
- **Prayer Shawl Meeting:** Thursday, November 18 at St. Thomas
- **Blood Drive:** Saturday, November 20 at St. Thomas
- **High School Youth Presentation:** Tuesday, November 30  
Youth and Young Adult Ministry in collaboration with the Behavioral Health Ministry (*Third of three part series*)
- **Wellspring Event:** Tuesday, February 1, 2022 (*Second of three part series*)



FAITH COMMUNITY NURSE



BEHAVIORAL HEALTH



SPIRITUAL CARE

### Ongoing ministries include:

- **Ministers of Care:** Prayer and Communion visits to nursing facilities, homes and hospital
- **Prayer Network:** Confidential Prayer for the sick and those with special needs
- **Community Nurse Services:** Health promotion, health resources, blood pressure screening and education and blood drive (via Versiti Blood Services) and health counseling.
- **Wellspring:** In collaboration with Adult Faith Formation — advocating health in body, mind and spirit through educational events
- **Prayer Shawl Ministry:** Knit prayer shawls, prayer squares, chemo caps for those in medical, emotional or spiritual need; sacramental blankets, stoles and prayer squares
- **Prime Time:** Monthly activities/presentations/socials for active seniors
- **Rosary Ministry:** Create cord rosaries to share locally and internationally
- **Behavioral Health Ministry:** Educate, support, pray and advocate for those dealing with emotional/mental health issues and the family and friends who surround them

If Pastoral Care has touched your life, or if you can think of better ways in which Pastoral Care can better serve you and our community please let us know via USPS mail or email at P.C.M.atStTA@gmail.com. We would love to hear from you.

If you struggle with issues of body, mind or spirit please reach out to us by calling the Pastoral Care Office at St. Thomas at 630.355.8980, x124.

## 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

*grateful • thankful • blessed*



## **Blood Drive — Frequently Asked Questions**

*Here are some frequently asked questions about donating blood.*

### **Can I donate if I've received the COVID-19 vaccination?**

*Individuals must wait 2 days after the day of vaccination to donate blood or platelets.*

### **How often can I donate?**

*Whole blood every 56 days (8 weeks)*

*Red Cells every 112 days (16 weeks)*

*Platelets every 14 days (2 weeks)*

*Plasma every 28 days (4 weeks)*

### **How can donors prepare for their blood donation?**

*Get a good night's sleep, eat a healthy meal and stay hydrated before, during and after your appointment.*

Now that you have some valuable information please consider signing up to donate at our next blood drive Saturday, November 20, 2021, from 9:00 am–2:00 pm in the St. Thomas gym. What a way to give thanks for the blessings given to you. Your pint can save three lives!

Please take a few minutes to sign up either on the St. Thomas website (<https://www.stapostle.org/st-thomas-blood-drive-november-20/>) or on the Versiti site ([https://donate.illinois.versiti.org/donor/schedules/drive\\_schedule/5595966](https://donate.illinois.versiti.org/donor/schedules/drive_schedule/5595966))

Make a difference, save a life!

## **Handling Grief During the 2021 Holidays Program**

**Tuesday, November 9 at 7:00 pm — VIRTUAL PROGRAM**

This has been another tumultuous year with COVID-19, though effective vaccinations have provided some measure of relief. However, if you and your family have lost loved ones during these past years, the holidays may be a very difficult time for you. All around, our culture celebrates while your heart is heavy. Even the tiniest thing can trigger a wave of sadness. This program on Zoom will be presented by Paula Kosin, a Licensed Clinical Professional Counselor and facilitator of the Grief Support Group at St. Thomas. She will discuss these challenges and identify strategies to experience the holiday season with some quiet joy, including ways to honor your deceased loved ones and experience the healing presence of Jesus.

This will be a small group. You will be free to share to the extent that you are comfortable, or not at all. There is no cost, but you must register, have an email address, Wi-Fi, a personal computer, tablet, or smartphone, and be familiar with the basics of joining a Zoom meeting. For information or to register, contact Susan Kearney, Coordinator of the Behavioral Health Ministry at St. Thomas, at [sdkearney@comcast.net](mailto:sdkearney@comcast.net) or 630.355.8980, x108 by Thursday, November 4. She will confirm your email, and then you will receive an invitation via email to the Zoom meeting the day before the program, on Monday, November 8.

Please join us!



**BEHAVIORAL HEALTH**  
St. Thomas the Apostle

# Stewardship and Administration

## The Week Ahead

### Monday, October 25

- 7:00–8:00 pm First Eucharist Parent Mtg., Church  
 7:00–8:15 pm Confirmation Classes, Lighthouse and Gym  
 7:00–8:15 pm Journey 1, Senior and Youth Centers  
 7:15–8:30 pm Middle School RE at All Saints Academy

### Tuesday, October 26

- 10:00–11:00 am Care Pantry Food Distribution  
 4:30–5:45 pm RE 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Church visit  
 4:30–5:45 pm RE at St. Thomas  
 7:00–9:00 pm INSIGHT, Senior Center

### Wednesday, October 27

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

### Thursday, October 28

- 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

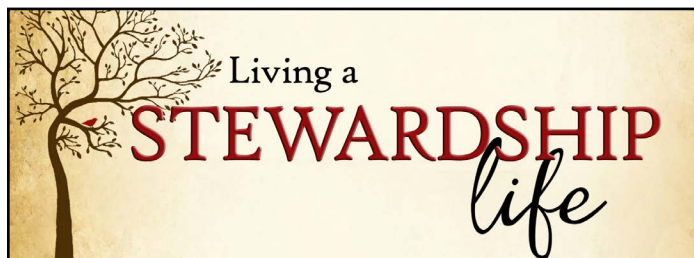
### Friday, October 29

- 6:30–8:30 pm Scout Carnival, Gym

### Saturday, October 30

- 8:30–9:45 am Middle School RE at All Saints Academy  
 8:30–11:45 am Elementary RE at All Saints Academy  
 9:00–10:30 am Saturday Men's Group, Cana  
 1:00–2:30 pm First Eucharist Parent Mtg, Church  
 3:30–4:15 pm Reconciliation, Reconciliation Room

### Sunday, October 31



Commitment Sunday. It happens every year. Your first thought is that you will be asked for an increase in your weekly contribution. For our parish to continue to operate, we do need that commitment. This past year has seen a rise in the costs of everything, from the paper that our worship aids are printed on to the electricity that lights the altar. We need that commitment to share your gift of "treasure."

But there are other commitments that you can make. You have other gifts, namely time and talent. How can you share your time? One way could be volunteering to participate in Harvest Sunday by helping with the food collection. There is a need to collect food at Casey's or to drive around our neighborhoods, picking up the food that has been placed outside on the doorsteps.

Or how can you share your talent? You may have a talent that you do not realized. Would you enjoy working with our RE program, either as a teacher or an assistant? Can you knit or crochet to create prayer shawls? Or, the next time a meal is needed for Hessed House, can you cook a dish or two (recipes are provided).

On this Commitment Sunday, commit to sharing the gifts that God has given you for the good of our St. Thomas family.

## Last weekend's stewardship of financial gifts

### Weekly Sunday Offertory

October 10, 2021	
Sunday Collection Offering*	\$7,980
Credit Card Online Giving for September	reported monthly
Automatic Direct Debit (5 <sup>th</sup> and 20 <sup>th</sup> each month)	\$21,122
Mailed in and stock donations	\$5,668
Total for the week	\$34,770
*Based on Collection Counters Reports prior to bank confirmation	
Fiscal Year (7/1 to 6/30)	\$510,955
Weekly Average 7/1/2021 to date	\$34,064
Offertory Goal Year to date	\$503,542
Over/(short) of goal to date	\$7,413
Goal for Fiscal Year 7/1 to 6/30	\$1,745,600
Percent of Annual Sunday Offertory Goal	29%
Remaining for this fiscal year goal	\$1,234,645

This week, the Sunday collection is \$7,413 ahead of goal so far this year. Capital needs restricted gifts were \$320 this past week. We are grateful to those who recognize the need and responded.

### Diocesan Appeal 2021

Parish Appeal Goal	\$174,100
Pledges Received	\$152,425
Percent of Goal pledged to date	87.55%
Unpaid pledges	\$4,761
Paid to Date	\$147,664
Percent of goal paid to date	84.82%

## 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!**

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