

St. Thomas

OCTOBER 31, 2021 — THIRTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

**Which is
the first
of all the
commandments?**

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

Geralyn 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,

One of my treasured moments of my ordination to the priesthood was meeting Cardinal Bernardin who ordained my four classmates and me. After I introduced myself, he asked how I was doing, to which I responded, "I'm nervous." He put his hand on my shoulder and said something I'll never forget, "Don't worry, I'll take care of you."

This Tuesday, November 2, we will remember the passing of loved ones on All Souls Day. There are many who feel much more difficult emotions than nervousness. Our hearts are broken, we are sad at the passing of those who are near and dear to us. According to the Book of Wisdom, chapter 3, verse 1, God reassures us that He is taking care of our loved ones, "The souls of the just are in the hand of God and no torment shall touch them." Jesus also sets our minds at rest as He reminds us in John's gospel, chapter 6, verse 39, that He came to raise to eternal life all who come to Him.

Jesus hopes that we will remember that He is no stranger to death, that He too wept at the death of a loved one, His friend Lazarus. Our risen Lord also puts His hand on our shoulders and offers us His support.

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 November 6–7

Saturday, November 6

4:30 pm: Fr. Bob Colaresi

Sunday, November 7

8:00 am: Fr. Philip Danaher with Deacon Joe Cuzzone

9:30 am: Fr. Joseph Kappilumakkal with Deacon Jim Breen

11:15 am: Fr. Matt Lorenz

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

Mr. Pablo Curci and Ms. Maria Elizabeth Villarino and Family
Daniel and Rachael Richards 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.



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



Thirty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time October 31, 2021

You shall love the LORD, your God, with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength.
— Deuteronomy 6:5

Readings for Today

First Reading — The LORD, the God of your fathers, will give you a land flowing with milk and honey (Deuteronomy 6:2-6).

Psalm — I love you, Lord, my strength (Psalm 18).

Second Reading — Jesus is always able to save those who approach God through him (Hebrews 7:23-28).

Gospel — To love God with all your heart and to love your neighbor as yourself is worth more than all burnt offerings and sacrifices (Mark 12:28b-34).

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: Rv 7:2-4, 9-14; Ps 24:1-6; 1 Jn 3:1-3; Mt 5:1-12a

Tuesday: Wis 3:1-9; Ps 23:1-6; Rom 5:5-11 or 6:3-9; Jn 6:37-40, or any readings from no. 668 or from the Masses for the Dead, nos. 1011-1016

Wednesday: Rom 13:8-10; Ps 112:1b-2, 4-5, 9; Lk 14:25-33

Thursday: Rom 14:7-12; Ps 27:1bcde, 4, 13-14; Lk 15:1-10

Friday: Rom 15:14-21; Ps 98:1-4; Lk 16:1-8

Saturday: Rom 16:3-9, 16, 22-27; Ps 145:2-5, 10-11; Lk 16:9-15

Sunday: 1 Kgs 17:10-16; Ps 146:7-10; Heb 9:24-28;
Mk 12:38-44 [41-44]

Liturgy Schedule and Mass Intentions

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

Monday, November 1, 2021

All Saints

8:30 am †Estoesta and Marzan Families, by Buddy and Mely Mallorca

Tuesday, November 2, 2021

All Souls Day

8:30 am †Mallorca and Cariassa Family, by Buddy and Mely Mallorca
7:00 pm †Deceased Parishioners of St. Thomas Parish

Wednesday, November 3, 2021

St. Martin de Porres

8:30 am †Mary Joan Kieklak, by Family

Thursday, November 4, 2021

St. Charles Borromeo

8:30 am †William F. Dempsey, by Joseph Pierson Family and Carolyn Coughlan

Friday, November 5, 2021

8:30 am †John Egermann

Saturday, November 6, 2021

8:30 am †Deceased Members of Kiriti Reddy D Family, by Rajesh Allam
4:30 pm *Mass of Anticipation*
†Jim Wolff, by Mary Ann
†Johnathan Weiger, by Mom and Dad

Sunday, November 7, 2021

Thirty-Second Sunday Ordinary

8:00 am †Andy Mravca, by Joan Mravca
9:30 am †Florencio Puentes, by The Dunning Family
†Sgt. David Caruso, by Mom and Dad
†Andrew Louis Acuff, by Jay Poydence
11:15 am †Jim Cliff, by Phyllis Cliff

Thirty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time: Reflecting on God's Word

As Christians, our moral behavior is guided by the two-part commandment taught by Jesus in today's Gospel: love God and love your neighbor as yourself. Many of us learned to use this framework as an examination of conscience. By examining our lives through the lens of these commandments, we have learned that the challenge of these commandments is not in our desire to follow them but in our capacity to consistently honor these commandments in our daily lives.

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MUSIC MAKERS

St. Thomas the Apostle



Lessons and Carols

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.

I Can Feel the Suffering of Millions

*I can feel the suffering of millions
and yet, if I look up into the heavens,
I think it will all come right,
and that this cruelty too will end,
and that peace and tranquility will return again.
In the meantime,
I must uphold my ideals,
for perhaps the time will come
when I shall be able to carry them out.*

From The Diary of Anne Frank

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.

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/3fOolnP>.

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.

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

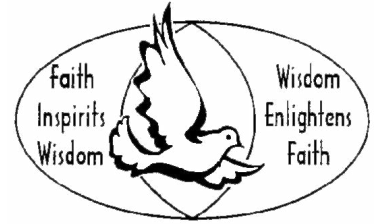
Advent by Candlelight

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

Jesus assembled the new People of God as a community of faith, hope and charity, which points to the ongoing Kingdom of God. Jesus called together his disciples and commanded them to continue to gather and break bread in remembrance of him. He also commanded them to go out to all the nations and to baptize people and bring them into the fold of his Body, the Church, where he is the Good Shepherd and we are his flock. As Church, we realize we really are part of something much bigger than ourselves.



We look to the Church as a diverse community and a visible representation of Christ's body, still here and present. In the same way, Church is the Kingdom of Heaven on earth, because she draws her life from Christ who is Head of the Body. According to the Catechism (CCC # 780), the Church is "the sign and the instrument of the communion of God and men." In spite of all the corruption, greed, and intrigue, both within the Church and in societies throughout the ages, our Church is still standing as a community of faith and an entrusted place of divine revelation.

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 22nd 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
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 to all parishioners who have completed and submitted your Commitment Card to the church. For those parishioners who have not yet had the opportunity to submit their card, a letter will be mailed to you with a personalized Commitment Card. Each and every one of you is a vital member of our parish community and we want to hear from you! This is an opportunity to reflect upon and renew your sacrificial commitment to support the mission of St. Thomas the Apostle Church. For those who are able — there is an opportunity to make a one-time gift to the parish. If you have any questions, please contact the business office.

For those of you who would prefer to fill out your Commitment Card online, please visit the parish website at www.stapostle.org.



News from All Saints Catholic Academy

Invest in Kids at All Saints Catholic Academy

Kids only get one chance at a quality education. The State of Illinois enacted the Invest In Kids Scholarship Tax Credit Program in 2017 to assist working class and low income students toward this end.

This program is a WIN for students who realize school choice and a WIN for individuals and businesses who receive a 75 percent income tax credit when contributing to qualified Scholarship Granting Organizations (SGOs), who provide scholarships for students whose families meet the income requirements to attend qualified, non-public schools in Illinois.

The Invest in Kids Scholarship Tax Credit Program is probably one of the best kept secrets in Illinois that YOU need to know about!

Do you anticipate owing taxes to the State of Illinois? If your answer to this question is yes, wouldn't you rather your money go to a deserving student at All Saints, than to the State of Illinois? If your answer to the second question is also yes, please consider making a donation to the Invest in Kids Scholarship Tax Credit Program via Empower Illinois.

How Does this Work?

Take a closer look at the following examples:

Scenario #1: Mr. Generous Donor owes taxes to the State of Illinois totaling \$750. He also makes a \$250 donation to All Saints. Mr. Donor is out of pocket \$1,000, giving the State of Illinois \$750 for taxes, and All Saints \$250.

Scenario #2: Mr. Generous Donor owes taxes to the State of Illinois totaling \$750, but makes a contribution of \$1,000 to the Invest in Kids Scholarship Tax Credit Program via Empower Illinois designating All Saints Catholic Academy as his 'school of choice'.

Mr. Donor is out of pocket the same \$1,000 as in Scenario #1; however in scenario #2, he received a \$750 tax credit for his contribution that offset his tax liability dollar for dollar, AND All Saints received a total of \$1,000 toward student scholarship for 'donating' in this way. Mr. Donor quadrupled his impact at All Saints.

If you are interested in finding out more about how you can impact a student's life at All Saints by participating in this program, please call the school at 630.961.6125, go to <https://empowerillinois.org/donate/> or consult your tax advisor.



Faith and Formation Commission — Youth



St. Thomas the Apostle

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

First Eucharist Parent Enrichment Session

The make-up Parent Enrichment Session for First Eucharist is 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 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.

First Reconciliation Information Packets

First Reconciliation information packets have been mailed to all parents of 4th and 5th grade Religious Education students. If you didn't receive the registration form and information on the upcoming parent session, 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 is something you can do to live the Great Commandment of loving God and neighbor?

World Youth Day

On October 30–31, we celebrate World Youth weekend; a weekend set aside to affirm and celebrate the youth of our Church. Even in these times of COVID precautions, the youth of St. Thomas are busy with outreach and service. Here are some of the ways that the young people of St. Thomas let their light shine:

- St. Thomas Teens with Character
- Lectors
- Host-Greeters/Ushers/Hospitality ministry
- Sacristans
- Care Pantry food collections
- Witness speakers
- Scripture Safari (Vacation Bible School)
- Care Pantry Garden
- Harvest Sunday
- Religious Education Aides and Catechists
- Life Retreats and planning
- Eagle Scout Projects
- High School Peer Ministries
- Cards to nursing homes
- RE office help
- Notes to healthcare workers
- Week of Hope mission trip participants
- Bulletin board decorations
- Reopening Committee volunteers
- Videography help

“Thank you” to all our St. Thomas youth, for the many ways they serve; not only our parish but also our local community, and those in need across the country and abroad. Youth of St. Thomas — Thank you for all you do!

Blessing for Your Youth

_____ (name of youth)
May the Lord fill your life,
with love and joy.
May the Lord protect you
and keep you safe from all dangers.
May the Lord be with you wherever
you go,
now and for ever.
Amen.

Harvest Sunday Flyer Delivery: This Week Harvest Sunday Food Collection: November 7

The food collected during Harvest Sunday helps the St. Thomas Care Pantry and two area food pantries provide food for families in need. If you receive an orange Harvest Sunday tag on your front door this week, please remember to leave a bag of food by your front curb on Sunday, November 7. If you are not in an area where Harvest Sunday volunteers distribute flyers and collect food, you can still help by bringing food donations to the drive-through food drop-off on November 6 (4:00–6:00 pm) and November 7 (9:00 am–5:00 pm). An additional way to donate is through Amazon.com. Thank you for your generosity.



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 30 and November 6, 13

Saturday middle school RE classes meet.

November 1, 8, 15

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

This weekend, the faith community of St. Thomas calls 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 gathering, 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 and Entrance Exam

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 on Sunday, November 7. Tours are by appointment only and are geared toward 6th, 7th and 8th grade families. Go to www.sfhscollegeprep.org to register.

The entrance exam for St. Francis High School will be held on December 4 at 8:00 am. Scholarship eligibility and priority admission consideration is given to those who test at St. Francis. Register by November 30 at www.sfhscollegeprep.org/apply.

St. Francis High School is located at 2130 W. Roosevelt Road in Wheaton.

Thank You!

- Thank you to all who participated in the 5th annual Rosary Prayer Rally, October 16 outside at 11 different stations. The Rosary Prayer Rally will be held next year on October 15, 2022. See you next year.
- Thank you for your support and help with our Cub Scout Pack 125 popcorn show and sales this year. We had wonderful support from parishioners and staff. We look forward to next year.

~ Cub Scout Pack 125



"For I was hungry and you gave me food ..." Matthew 25:35

Harvest Sunday

Sunday, November 7

How to Donate Food

Harvest Sunday is our parish's response to the call of Christ to "feed the hungry".

The food collected is shared with three food pantries:

- St. Patrick's Pantry in Joliet (Fr. Dof's parish)
- The Sisters of Notre Dame Pantry in Austin neighborhood of Chicago
- St. Thomas Care Pantry

The St. Thomas Harvest Sunday Challenge For every St. Thomas family ...

If you are able, donate food this Harvest Sunday.
No donation is too small. Thank You!

Three Ways To Donate Food For Harvest Sunday

1.

CURB DONATION: If you **DO** receive a flyer 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 flyer on your door, make a drive-thru donation at St. Thomas during the following times:

- Saturday, November 6, from 4:00–6:00 pm.
- Harvest Sunday, November 7, from 9:00 am–5:00 pm.



3.

ONLINE 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>

Option: Access from St. Thomas Home Page "Be a Part of Harvest Sunday"



Service Commission — Outreach and Social Justice

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, flyers 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.

PATH November 9 Zoom Meeting Your Network Is Your Net Worth

We all know the importance and value of networking in the job search, but how do you get started ... and more importantly how can you ensure your efforts will yield optimal results. Join the PATH Group on November 9 (7:00–9:00 pm) when we dissect and discuss the most important aspect of your job search ... networking!

Two networking experts will share the strategies and techniques that have enabled them to be successful in their own professional and personal lives while answering your specific Networking questions.

- Bryan McDonald is a partner at onPurpose Growth, a sales enrichment consultancy that focuses on purpose, process, and people while offering companies and organizations a structured approach to sales success.
- Conor Cunneen is an award-winning keynote speaker, facilitator, consultant, award winning business humorist, author and master of ceremonies to associations and corporations on a global scale.

Register in advance for this webinar by emailing Fred Johnson at fred.c.johnson50@gmail.com. Once you have registered for the event, you will receive the Zoom meeting information in a confirmation email.



Hesed House PADS November Food Donation Sign-Up

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

Our volunteers are once again able to serve at Hesed House. Therefore, we are once again asking parishioners to donate the food items needed each month. Thanks to all those who helped with October donations. We are now asking for donations for the first Thursday in November.

How to donate food for Hesed House

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

Pax Christi Illinois 2021 Gathering A Time of Reckoning

This year's annual Pax Christi Illinois gathering will be held at St. Thomas on Saturday, November 6 from 1:00–3:00 pm. It will be a hybrid meeting so you have the option to participate in person or via Zoom. The Zoom link is: <https://cutt.ly/PCIL2021>

Bishop John Stowe, OFM Conv. (Pax Christi USA Bishop President) is the keynote speaker. His Keynote is titled “A Time of Reckoning.” After recent years of chaos and social fraying, most Americans long for healing and unity. But what does that mean and how do we ensure that we end up in a better place? Some believe that healing means moving on and putting the past behind us. Others believe that healing and unity are not possible without a reckoning with our past. Bishop Stowe will explore these questions and other issues facing people of faith as we move forward in our struggle for social justice and peace.



Bishop John Stowe

WHITE FRAGILITY

Chapter 12: Where Do We Go from Here?

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

DiAngelo begins her final chapter with the story of a work incident in which she made an offhand joke that offended Angela, a black woman and fellow team member. A colleague let her know that the remark was racially charged. Realizing that her comment was inappropriate, DiAngelo describes the process she followed to repair the relationship, using the principles developed throughout the book.

DiAngelo first avoided acting defensively by not feeling unfairly accused, not maintaining that Angela was too sensitive and not explaining away the comment as a joke. She took time to process her own embarrassment. She saw the incident as an opportunity to build her capacity to interrupt socialized racism in her own behavior.

She accepted responsibility for her behavior and apologized with no "if you were offended" or "I didn't mean to offend" statements. Then she requested any other feedback Angela cared to give and accepted it with appreciation.

The incident serves to show in real life situations how the understanding of white fragility can allow racially charged interactions to move toward greater understanding and deeper relationships. It also demonstrates her contention that even the most studied, highly aware, and well-intentioned white people remain affected by the socialization that forms all white people in our society.

A formula for moving forward may be distilled in these steps:

1. Work to internalize new assumptions about the nature of racism.
2. When your own behavior results in offense, be willing to learn from it.
3. Take time to build your understanding of the historic and personal experience of black people and be willing to correct your misinformation. Care enough to make the effort.
4. Move beyond feelings of guilt into action.
5. Overcome your reluctance to speak out against racism to other white people. Being "nice" is not enough to exonerate us from perpetuating racism. As long as it exists, we will be beneficiaries and consequently partners in its continuation.

Finally, we need to commit to the long-range nature of this change: **"We must never consider ourselves finished with our learning...It is a messy, lifelong process...It is also deeply compelling and transformative."**

ESL Classes-In Person and Virtual

People's Resource Center is offering both In Person and Virtual ESL Classes in Warrenville, Villa Park and Wheaton. New student registration is rolling.

Classes offered through the Warrenville Public Library

- **English as a Second Language In Person Conversation Circle:**
Every Monday 10:30-11:30 am
- **English as a Second Language Virtual Conversation Circle:**
Every Thursday 6:00-7:30 pm

Warrenville Public Library is located at 28W751 Stafford Place, Warrenville. For more information, call Neli at 630.682.5402, x331.



Visit from Fr. Edmund from St. Agnes

Fr. Edmund attended a retreat at the Jesuit Retreat House in Osh Kosh, Wisc. As he was relatively close, he came to St. Thomas for a visit. He concelebrated the 9:30 am Mass October 17 (with the quilt pictured above hanging in the sanctuary) and spoke for a couple minutes. He thanked the St. Thomas community for our support and prayers. He also gave an update on the cause for canonization of Nicholas Black Elk.

Joining us were two nuns from Joliet who were two of Fr. Edmund's classmates last summer at Creighton University. The timing was fortuitous as the women are moving to Texas this week. He will see them again next summer at Creighton.

After Mass, 15 people gathered for lunch outside. In attendance were people who have visited the reservation and those who worked with Fr. Edmund when he joined a St. Thomas Habitat team in Tutwiler, Miss. There was lively conversation!

Fr. Edmund wanted to see a park so we walked with him at McDowell Forest Preserve and the Arboretum. During the walks, he shared stories of his childhood in India. Harry Davis hosted Fr. Edmund in his home Sunday evening and took him to the airport the next morning.

Fr. Edmund arrived home safely Monday evening. He thanked us for our amazing hospitality and great care. He said it was wonderful being with us.

Fr. Edmund and the St. Thomas Lakota Ministry eagerly anticipate sending a team to the reservation as soon as conditions allow. We pray that can happen in 2022.

Service Commission — Pastoral Care

From the Office of the Parish Nurse In search of better sleep?

You toss, you turn, you just can't get to sleep. And sometimes one restless night turns into another ... and another.

It's a common problem. But there are daytime and nighttime habits that may help you sleep better.

Ready to spot some secrets to a good night's sleep? Look for clue words in all caps in the tips that follow. Then see if you can find them in the word search to the right.

Nighttime Habits:

Make time for a full night Set a BEDTIME that will allow you to get at least 7 hours of sleep.

Start to wind down Begin to RELAX about 30 minutes before going to sleep. Try reading a book, taking a warm bath or listening to some calm music.

Say goodnight to screens Turn off all DEVICES like phones, TVs and computers at least 30 minutes before bed.

Get cozy Make sure your bedroom is cool, DARK and quiet. Then drift off!

Daytime Habits:

Wake up on time Sticking to a SCHEDULE, even on weekends, may help your body know when it's time to sleep.

Get some sun Enjoying a little SUNLIGHT or a light therapy box each day may help your body regulate melatonin, a hormone that helps you sleep. Don't forget to apply sunscreen before heading outside.

Be active Regular EXERCISE during the day may help you sleep better at night. Try to fit in your workout at least 3 hours before bedtime.

Watch what goes into your body Avoid eating a large meal close to bedtime. And steer clear of alcohol, nicotine and CAFFEINE in the evenings.

Resource: AARP Medicare Supplement newsletter



FAITH COMMUNITY NURSE
St. Thomas the Apostle

Sleep central. Find out how to make your bedroom more sleep-friendly at [Strive.myAARPMedicare.com](https://www.strive.myAARPMedicare.com). Sign in and then look for "Is your bedroom sleep-friendly?"

Daytime habits



1. Wake up on time. Sticking to a SCHEDULE, even on weekends, may help your body know when it's time to sleep.



2. Get some sun. Enjoying a little SUNLIGHT or a light therapy box each day may help your body regulate melatonin, a hormone that helps you sleep. Don't forget to apply sunscreen before heading outside.



3. Be active. Regular EXERCISE during the day may help you sleep better at night. Try to fit in your workout at least 3 hours before bedtime.



4. Watch what goes into your body. Avoid eating a large meal close to bedtime. And steer clear of alcohol, nicotine and CAFFEINE in the evenings.

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Should I tell my doctor I'm depressed?

Depression is common in older adults, but it's not a normal part of aging. Life can bring changes that cause sadness, grief and upset. Usually those feelings pass, but if they don't leave on their own, you should definitely tell your doctor. There are treatments that may help you feel like yourself again.

How do you know if you're depressed?

Symptoms can vary from mild to severe and may include: persistent sadness, difficulty sleeping or sleeping too much, changes in appetite, feelings of worthlessness, loss of pleasure in activities once enjoyed, persistent fatigue, trouble concentrating. Talk with your doctor if you have any of these signs or symptoms for two weeks or longer. The earlier treatment starts, the more likely it is to be effective.

How is depression treated?

Your doctor may refer you to a therapist for counseling. They might also prescribe medication. Antidepressants are very effective, but they can take several weeks to start working. Be patient. You may need to try more than one to find out what works best for you.

If you are thinking about suicide, seek help right away. If you're in immediate danger, call 911 – or go to the closest emergency room. To talk with a trained counselor, you can call the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline any time at 1.800.273.TALK (1.800.273.8255).

Resource: AARP Medicare Supplement newsletter

grateful • thankful • blessed



St. Thomas Blood Drive

Our Next St. Thomas Blood Drive will be at St. Thomas on Saturday, November 20, 2021 from 9:00 am–2:00 pm in the gym. Save a time slot by signing up on the St. Thomas website (www.stapostle.org) or the Versiti site (https://donate.illinois.versiti.org/donor/schedules/drive_schedule/5595966).

Here are a few more facts about donating blood.

Why should I give blood?

Your blood donation can help trauma victims, surgery patients, premature babies, people with anemia, some cancer patients.

How long until a patient uses my blood?

All donated blood products undergo a series of tests to ensure they are safe for patients to receive and are typically available for use 24-28 hours following donation.

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 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

From the Behavioral Health Ministry National Gratitude Month

National Gratitude Month in November encourages us to embrace the power of gratitude.

Gratitude is more than simply saying “thank you.” Gratitude’s amazing powers have the ability to shift us from focusing on the negative to appreciating what is positive in our lives. Practicing daily gratitude gives us a deeper connection to ourselves, the world around us and to our Creator.

Everything in our lives has the ability to improve when we are grateful. Research has shown that gratitude can enhance our moods, decrease stress and drastically improve our overall level of health and wellbeing. On average, grateful people tend to have fewer stress-related illnesses and experience less depression and lowered blood pressure, they are more physically fit, they are happier, have a higher income, more satisfying personal and professional relationships and will be better liked. Grateful kids are even more likely to get A’s in school.

If everyone practiced daily gratitude, we could change ourselves and the planet for the better. Everyone would be much happier. Love would grow and hate would decrease. And the world would know true peace.

What are you waiting for? Give gratitude a try! You will be happier you did.

Celebrating the month can be done in several ways:

- Start a gratitude journal. Write about someone or something you’re thankful for every day.
- Share your gratitude with others. Letting someone know you’re grateful for their care, service, or friendship often lifts their spirits or lifts a burden.
- Show your appreciation by giving back to your community, neighborhood or favorite organization.

Source: *National Day Calendar* – nationaldaycalendar.com

Stewardship and Administration

The Week Ahead

Monday, November 1

4:30–5:15 pm Youth Choir, Cana
 7:00–8:15 pm Confirmation Class, Ministry Center
 7:15–8:30 pm Middle School RE at All Saints Academy

Tuesday, November 2

4:30–5:45 pm RE at St. Thomas, Ministry Center
 7:00–8:00 pm All Souls Mass, Church
 7:00–9:00 pm Baptism Prep Team, Senior Center
 7:00–9:00 pm Buildings and Grounds, Judea

Wednesday, November 3

9:15–11:15 am Wednesday Bible Study, Senior Center
 4:30–5:15 pm Joyful Jammers, Cana
 6:30–8:30 pm Pax Christi, Cana
 7:00–8:30 pm St. Vincent de Paul, Lighthouse

Thursday, November 4

9:15–11:15 am Thursday AM Bible Study, Senior Center
 6:30–8:30 pm Life Retreat Planning, Gym and Youth Center
 7:30–9:30 pm Thursday PM Bible Study, Senior Center

Friday, November 5

9:00 am–12:00 pm Adoration/Benediction, Church

Saturday, November 6

8:30–9:45 am Middle School RE at All Saints Academy
 8:30–11:45 am Elementary School RE at All Saints Academy
 9:00–10:30 am Saturday Men's Group, Cana
 1:00–2:30 pm First Reconciliation Parent Mtg., Church
 1:00–3:00 pm Pax Christi, Lighthouse
 3:30–4:15 pm Reconciliation, Reconciliation Room
 4:30–5:30 pm 5th Grade Mass, Church

Sunday, November 7

9:00 am–6:00 pm Harvest Sunday, Gym
 1:00–2:00 pm Baptism, Church

Last weekend's stewardship of financial gifts

Weekly Sunday Offertory

October 17, 2021	
Sunday Collection Offering*	\$16,513
Credit Card Online Giving for September	reported monthly
Automatic Direct Debit (5 th and 20 th each month)	none this week
Mailed in and stock donations	\$4,399
Total for the week	\$20,912
<small>*Based on Collection Counters Reports prior to bank confirmation</small>	
Fiscal Year (7/1 to 6/30)	\$531,867
Weekly Average 7/1/2021 to date	\$33,242
Offertory Goal Year to date	\$537,112
Over/(short) of goal to date	(\$5,245)
Goal for Fiscal Year 7/1 to 6/30	\$1,745,600
Percent of Annual Sunday Offertory Goal	30%
Remaining for this fiscal year goal	\$1,213,733

This week, the Sunday collection is \$5,245 behind goal so far this year. Capital needs restricted gifts were \$223 this past week. We are grateful to those who recognize the need and responded.

Diocesan Appeal 2021

Parish Appeal Goal	\$174,100
Pledges Received	\$152,785
Percent of Goal pledged to date	87.76%
Unpaid pledges	\$3,856
Paid to Date	\$148,929
Percent of goal paid to date	84.54%

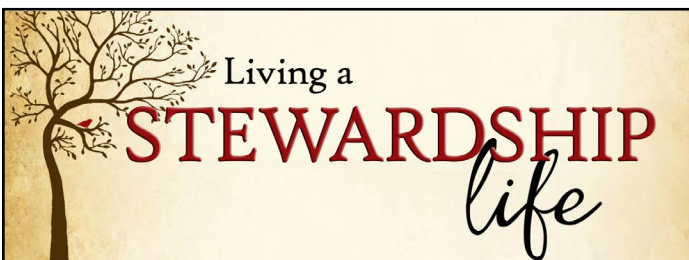
Smart Moves in Giving to St. Thomas

Some parishioners receive tax benefits from gifts to St. Thomas by donating stock or directing their IRA distributions to St. Thomas. Consult your tax adviser or broker/agent to see if these smart moves are right for you. We appreciate your support!

thank you

Please take the time to read the ads which make this bulletin possible. Help support these businesses, especially during this time, as they support St. Thomas the Apostle. Mention the bulletin when you patronize their establishments.

Let them know they are appreciated!



"Jesus looked around and saw rich men dropping their gifts in the Temple treasury, and he also saw a very poor widow dropping two little copper coins. He said, 'I tell you that this poor widow put in more than all the others. For the others offered their gifts from what they had to spare of their riches; but she, poor as she is, gave all she had to live on.'"
 Luke 21:1-4

Is God asking me to give my entire fortune to the Church in this passage? Not really. But He is asking that we use our gifts to the fullest. That is to say that when we give (whether our time, talent or treasure) that we do so to the best of our ability.

Think about that as you fill in your "Commitment Card." Thank you for your consideration.

Checked These Listings Lately? Thank You to Our Advertisers!

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			<p>320 N. Mill St. Naperville, IL 60540 (630) 420-2886</p>	

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