

St. Thomas

NOVEMBER 7, 2021 — THIRTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

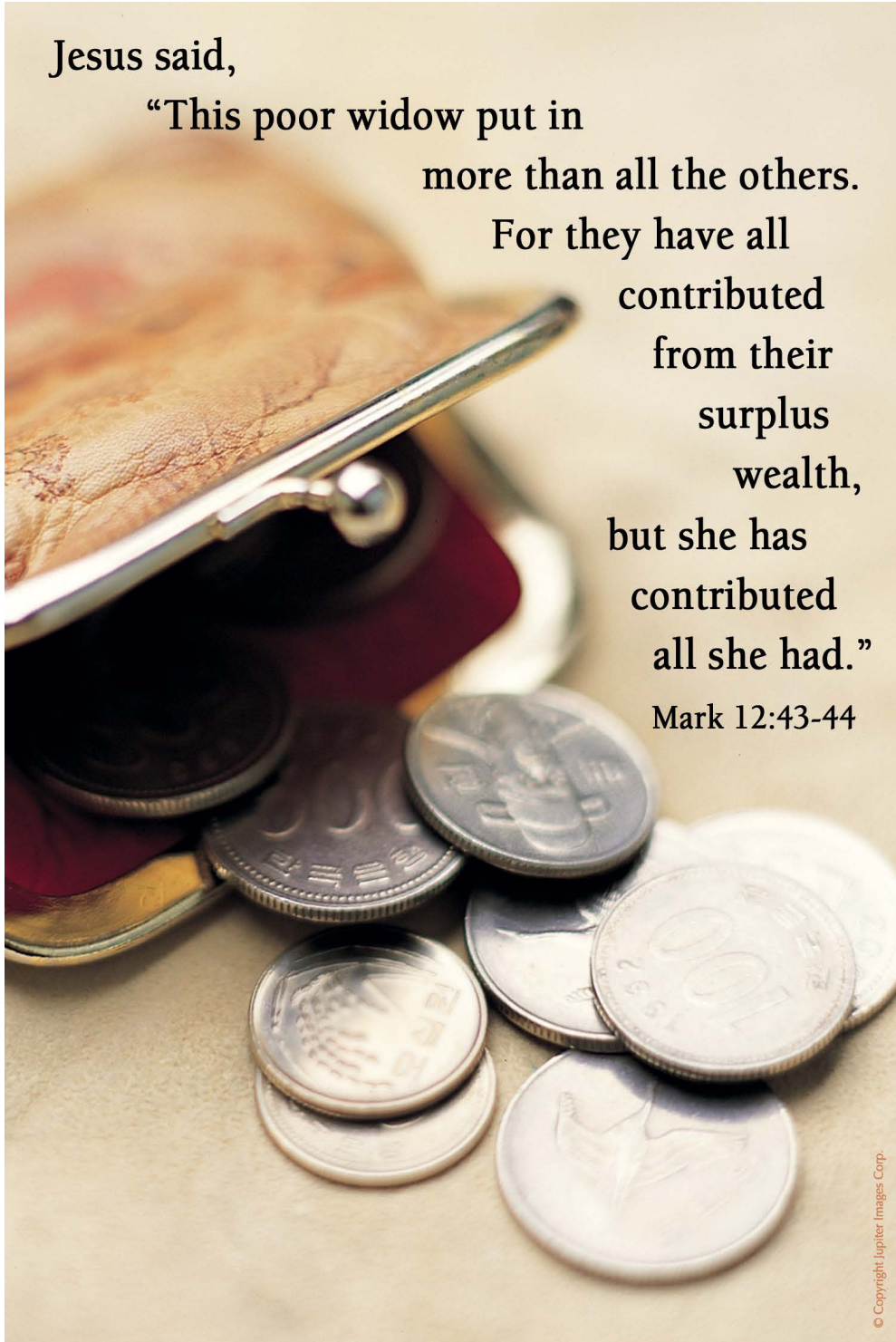
Jesus said,

“This poor widow put in
more than all the others.

For they have all
contributed
from their
surplus
wealth,

but she has
contributed
all she had.”

Mark 12:43-44



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

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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

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Jan Olah, *Director of Pastoral Care*, x124

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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,

Talk about good timing!! After Jesus had just finished describing how there are Jewish leaders who crave attention, who do things for show, He saw a woman whom He knew was a poor widow very quietly, with no fanfare, contribute a few cents for her offering to the Temple. Even though the amount was small, our Lord told His disciples how truly generous

she was because what she contributed was all she had to live on, her whole livelihood.

Like the widow in the gospel, there are so many who, very quietly and with no fanfare, contribute their time, talent and treasure not only to St. Thomas the Apostle parish but also to the Church of Joliet. There are many who, like the widow, make huge sacrifices not for their honor and glory, but for the honor and glory of God.

Please know that whatever contribution you make to our local parish and to the larger Church of Joliet is greatly appreciated and does not go unnoticed. Please always remember that not only do I, as your pastor, always notice and always appreciate all the good which you do for God's holy people, but also, and more importantly, so does the Lord our God.

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 13–14

Saturday, November 13

4:30 pm: Fr. Matt Lorenz with Deacon Joe Cuzzone

Sunday, November 14

8:00 am: Fr. Joseph Kappilumakkal

9:30 am: Fr. Philip Danaher

11:15 am: Fr. Philip Danaher

Presider schedule is subject to change.

Welcome Guests and Visitors!

We're so glad you're here and invite you to walk the path of faith with us. St. Thomas strives to provide a spiritual home where all are welcome, where the healing, reconciling, liberating love of God is shared by all. Join us!

Would you like to become a parishioner?

Call Maureen Januszewski in the General Office at 630.355.8980, x100.

Calling All Men!

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

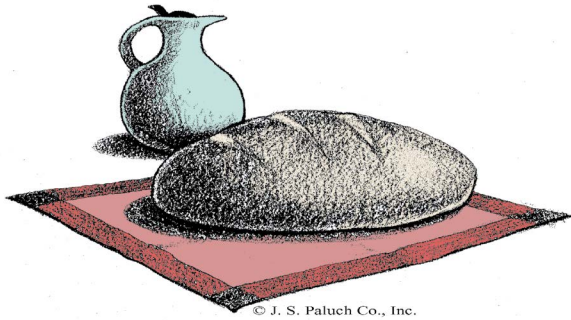


Church Office and Building Hours

St. Thomas offices are open 8:30 am–4:30 pm Monday through Friday. The reception desk in the Gathering Area is staffed 9:00 am–8:00 pm Monday–Thursday; 9:00 am–4:30 pm Friday; and 9:00 am–1:00 pm Saturday.

Schedule subject to change. You can call to check on times before coming. Please enter through Door A.

Worship Commission — Liturgy and Music



Thirty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time

November 7, 2021

The LORD keeps faith forever, secures justice for the oppressed, gives food to the hungry.

— Psalm 146:7

Readings for Today

First Reading — The widow of Zarephath had only a handful of flour and a little oil, but made a little cake for Elijah (1 Kings 17:10-16).

Psalm — Praise the Lord, my soul! (Psalm 146).

Second Reading — Christ will appear a second time to bring salvation to those who eagerly await him (Hebrews 9:24-28).

Gospel — Beware of those who like to go around in long robes and accept greetings in the marketplaces and places of honor at banquets (Mark 12:38-44 [41-44]).

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: Wis 1:1-7; Ps 139:1b-10; Lk 17:1-6

Tuesday: Ez 47:1-2, 8-9, 12; Ps 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9; 1 Cor 3:9c-11, 16-17; Jn 2:13-22

Wednesday: Wis 6:1-11; Ps 82:3-4, 6-7; Lk 17:11-19

Thursday: Wis 7:22b — 8:1; Ps 119:89-91, 130, 135, 175; Lk 17:20-25

Friday: Wis 13:1-9; Ps 19:2-5ab; Lk 17:26-37

Saturday: Wis 18:14-16; 19:6-9; Ps 105:2-3, 36-37, 42-43; Lk 18:1-8

Sunday: Dn 12:1-3; Ps 16:5, 8-11; Heb 10:11-14, 18; Mk 13:24-32

Liturgy Schedule and Mass Intentions

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

Monday, November 8, 2021

8:30 am †John (Jack) Martin, by Linda Scholle

Tuesday, November 9, 2021

The Dedication of the Lateran Basilica

8:30 am †Fe Simeon, by Buddy and Mely Mallorca

Wednesday, November 10, 2021

St. Leo the Great, Pope and Doctor of the Church

8:30 am †Jim Rioux, by Ann Rioux

Thursday, November 11, 2021

St. Martin of Tours, Bishop

8:30 am †William Raef, by Battisto Family

Friday, November 12, 2021

St. Josephat, Bishop and Martyr

8:30 am †Jim Baird, by Family

Saturday, November 13, 2021

St. Francis Xavier Cabrini, Virgin

8:30 am †Varghese Baliyath, by Anthony Baliyath

4:30 pm *Mass of Anticipation*

†Lee Nobeles, by his Fellow FedEx Coworkers

†Graciano Militante, Your daughter, Anne

Sunday, November 14, 2021

Thirty-Third Sunday Ordinary

8:00 am †Jean Jones, by Jim and Mary Schmitt

9:30 am †Elaine M. Smith, by The Helmic Family

†Darrell Johnson, by Mom and Dad

11:15 am †Kathy Morris, by Dana Waite

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

The context for today's Gospel continues to be mounting tension between Jesus and the Jewish authorities. Mark reports some of Jesus' teaching in the Temple area in today's reading and in the preceding verses not included in our Lectionary sequence. In the first part of today's Gospel, we hear Jesus warn the crowds not to follow the example of the scribes in seeking honor and attention from others. It is important to recall that Mark indicates that Jesus taught these things while in the vicinity of the Temple in Jerusalem. Mark is setting the stage for Jesus' passion.

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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.

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.

Catholic Conference of Illinois Denounces Parental Notice of Abortion Repeal

On behalf of Illinois' bishops and our entire Catholic community, the Catholic Conference of Illinois denounces the Illinois General Assembly's vote to repeal the Parental Notice of Abortion Act. Since 2013, this law has served to keep distressed young girls connected to those who love them the most. The law has also helped to ensure that those who would abuse minor girls cannot then erase the evidence of their crimes in the nearest abortion clinic.



According to a poll conducted this year, 72 percent of Illinois voters' supported Parental Notice. Thirty-seven states, and every other state in the Midwest, have at least parental notice of abortion laws. Yet Illinois is no longer among them. What an ignominious outcome for those who supported and voted for the bill.

Repealing this law defies public support and is contrary to the legal and moral right of parents to care for their children. Today's vote is and will be a tragedy for many families, young girls and so many unborn children. We pray for the day when every human life may be cherished from conception to natural death.

Prayer

I must let go.

For so long I have held to the habit of holding on.

Even my muscles

Are tense; deeply fearful are they

Of relaxing lest they fall away from their place.

I cling clutchingly to my friends

Lest I lose them.

I live under the shadow of being supplanted by another.

I cling to my money, not so much

By a wise economy and a thoughtful spending

But by a sense of possession that makes me depend upon it for strength.

I must let go —

I must let go of everything but God.

But God — may it not be

That God is in all the things to which I cling?

That may be the hidden reason for my clinging.

It is all very puzzling indeed. When I say

"I must let go of everything but God"

What is my meaning?

I must relax my hold on everything that dulls my sense of Him,

That comes between me and the inner awareness of His Presence

Pervading my life and glorifying

All the common ways with wonderful wonder.

"Teach me, O God, how to free myself of dearest possessions,

So that in my trust I shall find restored to me

All I need to walk in Thy path and to fulfill Thy will.

Let me know Thee for myself that I may not be satisfied

With aught that is less."

~ excerpt by Howard Thurman

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

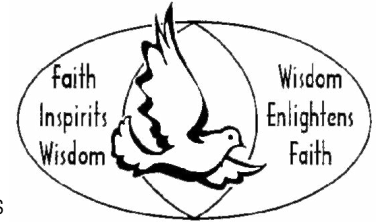
Advent by Candlelight will be held in person this year at St. Thomas the Apostle. Mark your calendar for Tuesday, December 7.

Stay tuned for more details.

C.A.R.E. CORNER

Our “Church” received the Word of God, preserved that Word, continues to proclaim that Word, gathers us at the table where Jesus Christ feeds us, sends us out to serve and confers upon us the gifts of the Holy Spirit. That Church is an ecclesial institution, established

by Jesus Christ, intended to continue through the ages via apostolic succession and priestly leadership. That institution was also intended to act as a holy nation, set apart from the wider culture in order to offer the sacramental life to its members who gather regularly for the corporate act of worship we call the Mass.



Christ is the Head of the Church. The Church is the Body of Christ. And Christ loves, sanctifies, nourishes and cherishes that Body — the Church — of which we have the privilege of being members. The Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC) #737 tells us the mission of Christ and the Holy Spirit is brought to completion in the Church. The Catechism (#772) also reminds us that it is in the Church then, that Christ fulfills the purpose of God’s plan: “to unite all things to him.”

Art Fair Next Weekend

Mark your 'to-do' list now!

Plan on attending the 22nd Annual Arts & Crafts Fair which will be held in the St. Thomas Gym from 10:00 am–6:00 pm Saturday, November 13 and from 9:00 am–1:30 pm Sunday, November 14.

More than 30 artists and artisans will present original works including painting, pottery, photography, jewelry, mixed media, woodcrafts, Christmas ornaments and much more.

Remember John Keats’ “A thing of beauty is a joy forever.” Come, enjoy and take home a treasure or two.

A raffle will benefit the School of Faith religious program of St. Nicholas, our twinning parish in Aurora. New this year is a virtual silent auction (bids are now being accepted on the St. Thomas website). See this week’s Outreach and Social Justice page for a list of the auction items that could be yours.



News from All Saints Catholic Academy

Third Grade is All In at All Saints

At All Saints, a big part of our school culture emphasizes that All Are Welcome

In a recently completed assignment, third graders chose one country of origin to research, then created a poster to present to the class.

The students explored their family's past, learning more about the history of their ancestors coming to America, and the motivation behind their journey. They then shared personal family traditions with each other. At the end of the project, the children concluded that, although we are different, we have a lot in common too.

Hope Labbe, a student in Ms. Cash's 3B homeroom, had her artwork chosen for the 2021–2022 Naperville Police Department Crime Prevention Calendar. She was recognized in a special ceremony by both the Mayor and Police Chief along with all of the other students whose work was featured.

We have just completed the month of October that is dedicated to the Most Holy Rosary. Students made their own rosaries in class. They also learned how to say the Rosary, taking turns leading the prayer as they recited it together.

All Saints completed the first quarter of the 2021–2022 school year at the end of October. While we will not start enrolling for next school year until the end of January 2022, there are still limited openings available for this current year in grades 2, 4 and 6.

Please contact the school at 630.961.6125 for more information.



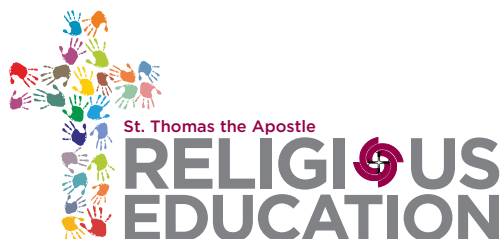
Faith and Formation Commission — Youth

What is happening in Elementary Religious Ed. Classes?

All grades, pre-kindergarten–fifth grade learned about our wonderful super heroes — the saints. All classes read and discussed the book *I'm a Saint in the Making* by Lisa M. Hendey. Do you have a favorite saint?

Fifth Graders in Religious Ed classes prayed the rosary while making them.

May they pray the rosary often honoring our Blessed Mother, Mary, while meditating on the life of Jesus. We thank Lourdes Chew and Kate Kerestes for sharing their talent of rosary making and guiding the children through the meditative prayers



First Eucharist Make-up Parent Enrichment Session

Did you forget? A make-up parent enrichment session for First Eucharist Parent Enrichment Session is scheduled for Monday, November 8 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. This is required for those who have never attended one at St. Thomas for First Eucharist.

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 Make-up Session for First Reconciliation is 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.

Save the Date — Fourth Grade Mass

Fourth grade students and their families are invited to the fourth grade Mass on Saturday, November 13 at 4:30 pm. The children have been learning about the Mass. They have also been busy preparing for the Mass. They will be contributing by being readers, gift bearers, host greeters, and even writing prayers of the faithful.

Question of the week

What contribution of time, talent or treasure can you make to our church?

Important Dates for Middle School RE

November 6, 13

Saturday middle school RE classes meet.

November 8, 15

Monday middle school RE classes meet.

NOTE: The November 6 middle school RE class will meet at St. Thomas.

A BIG shout out goes to our St. Thomas young people who took part in the parish celebration of World Youth Day weekend . . . those who proclaimed the readings, led us in prayer, and offered reflections. You are amazing, You are a tremendous gift to the St. Thomas community.

Thank you so much!



Teens with Character

Middle school students . . . Teens with Character will meet on Sunday, November 14, from 4:30–6:00 pm, at St. Thomas.

Bring your facemask and join us. Games, faith sharing, checking in with each other and pizza are all part of the Teens with Character experience.

We would love to see you!

Harvest Sunday Food Collection: November 7

Harvest Sunday food collection is **THIS** Sunday, November 7. If you received an orange Harvest Sunday flyer, remember to leave a bag of food on the curb in front of your home and Harvest Sunday volunteers will be by to collect it.

If you didn't receive a flyer, you can still participate by bringing a bag of food to the St. Thomas drive-through donation drop-off from 4:00–6:00 pm on Saturday, November 6, and 9:00 am–5:00 pm on Sunday, November 7.



You're invited to a
Portillo's®
FUNDRAISER



Bring this flyer to the restaurant or show it to the cashier on your phone and 20% of the proceeds will benefit:

St Thomas the Apostle Youth Ministry

November 8, 2021

5:00 PM - 8:00 PM

at the Portillo's located at:

1992 W. Jefferson

Naperville, IL

Learn more about Portillo's Fundraisers at portillos.com/good.

Not valid with online orders. Gift cards purchased during fundraisers will not count toward donation. Promoting on Portillo's premises is strictly prohibited. Not valid with online, app or phone orders.


See you there!

Portillo's
FOR GOOD

Service Commission — Outreach and Social Justice

Art Fair — Virtual Silent Auction

The St. Thomas Arts and Crafts Fair is back this year. New this year is a virtual silent auction beginning this weekend on the St. Thomas website (www.stapostle.org). St. Nicholas Catholic Church is our “twinning” parish in Aurora. All proceeds from the silent auction will benefit the St. Nicholas’ School of Faith religious education program for the youth of the parish.

Silent auction bids are now being accepted on the St. Thomas website. Bidding ends at 1:30 pm Sunday, November 14 (at the end of the Art Fair).

Silent Auction Items include:

- **Cress Creek Country Club Foursome Round of Golf** *Includes green fees and cart fees.*
- **Custom Tank Drum** *Includes drum, mallets, and sheet music Donated by Tom Liebling of Custom Tank and Drum. The tank drum is one of the world’s oldest known instruments. They have been a part of African, Asian and South American cultures for thousands of years.*
- **Basket of Wine** *For the wine lover. Stock your wine fridge this holiday season! You’ll love this assortment of wine to share with friends! Enjoy these nine bottles of red and white varietals. Natural wooden wine rack included. See website for details.*
- **Vera Bradley Stationary Basket** *Includes self-collapsible lunch bag, hot/cold thermos, cold travel tumbler, clipboard folio, 8 file folders, meal planner with magnet, note cube, pencil pouch, various notebooks and updated planner.*
- **Family Board Game Basket** *Five fun board games for family game night. The Climbers (ages 8 and up), Relative Insanity (ages 14 and up), Tall Tales (ages 4 and up), Card Sharks (ages 14 and up) and Upside Drawn (ages 12 and up).*

Bids are now being accepted on the St. Thomas website.

Visit the Art Fair in the St. Thomas gym:

- Saturday, November 13 (10:00 am–6:00 pm)
- Sunday, November 14 (9:00 am–1:30 pm)

The Art Fair features local artists’ original arts and crafts, including: paintings, photography, jewelry, drawings, ceramics, mixed media, woodcrafts, fiber art.



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.



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WHITE FRAGILITY

End Note: White Fragility Summary

When the Solidarity Coalition completed the 10 Ways to Fight Hate project in 2020, we planned to offer in-person opportunities for discussion about racial and other forms of marginalization. Then COVID-19 intervened and we turned to online strategies. We chose to summarize the book *White Fragility* by Robin DiAngelo because it had been discussed widely in mainstream media, it was readable and it was supported with referenced material.

We knew that her message was controversial. Many readers found it raised their awareness of this issue and provided new perspectives. However, the book was not presented as absolute Truth, and we did not consider it inarguable in every line.

A major concern expressed by parishioners was the perception that DiAngelo charged all White people with being racist to some extent, often without their realizing it, no matter how good their intentions. This concern involves the author's premise that racism should be seen as both a matter of individual choice and a product of cultural socialization. The author provided numerous examples of systemic racism. Each reader must determine if the examples and reasoning are persuasive to them.

Some felt that DiAngelo held out no hope for White people to be able to change. A closer reading of the twelve chapters shows that she wrote the book precisely because she has the hope for change.

Some cited a charge made by certain Black commentators and repeated by other reviews that the book was offensive and condescending to Black people. Not all Black people agree on that interpretation. However, it is certainly appropriate to listen to the experience of Black people. In that regard, DiAngelo provides examples of her own listening.

There are legitimate points for discussion with the arguments presented in *White Fragility*. We welcome conversations that lead us all to greater awareness of the diversity of people's circumstances and experiences. We hope that there will be such opportunities in the coming year at St. Thomas.

Submitted by the St. Thomas Solidarity Coalition

Turkey Drive

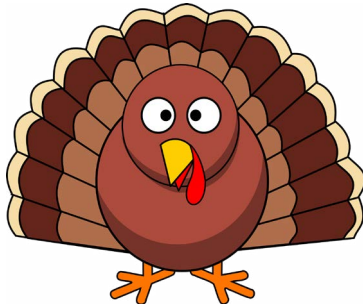
There will be a turkey drive this year (November 20–21) but the number of turkeys needed is much smaller than most years. We will need approximately 225 turkeys.

The Marie Wilkinson Pantry, who we usually provide many turkeys to, has ordered turkeys from Northern Illinois Food Bank.

St. Thomas will provide turkeys to our Care Pantry families, St. Nicholas Food Pantry, St. Patrick Parish in Joliet-where Fr. Dof is the pastor, and St. Patrick's Residence-next door to St. Thomas.

The Marie Wilkinson Pantry has asked us to provide hams for their Christmas food distribution. If you are able to help at only the turkey or the ham drive, please consider donating a ham in December, when the need will be much greater.

Thank you to all who have donated turkeys in past years and who will donate a turkey this year.



Racial Justice Focus Survey Results

On November 15, 2020, St. Thomas announced a special parish-wide focus on racial justice. The intention of the racial justice focus was:

- To raise awareness.
- To provide opportunities to educate ourselves and learn from each other.
- To support actions that create a change of heart and bring about systemic change.

Doing all the above centered in prayer.

Since the focus was announced, St. Thomas has offered a variety of initiatives, which included the book study of *Just Mercy*, guest reflections at Mass and a series of bulletin articles, among others. In order to determine the effectiveness of this considerable body of work, the Racial Justice Focus Committee asked the parish to fill out the Racial Justice Focus Survey and provide feedback.

The survey was offered between June 27 and July 18, 2021. The results of the survey will be presented at all the Masses next weekend (November 13–14). The written results and analysis will be published on the St. Thomas website.

Service Commission — Pastoral Care

From the Office of the Parish Nurse What You Should Know

About anti-inflammatory foods...

The following list includes some of the common foods thought to help fight inflammation:

- Food containing omega-3 fatty acids, including fatty fish (such as salmon, mackerel, tuna and sardines), organic flaxseed oil and tree nuts (such as almonds and walnuts)
- Whole grains
- Seeds and legumes (such as soybeans)
- Dark leafy greens
- Cruciferous vegetables (such as cabbage, broccoli, cauliflower and bok choy)
- Root vegetables (such as beets, turnips and carrots)
- Peppers (such as green peppers, various chilies, black pepper, hot sauce)
- Tomatoes
- Berries (such as blueberries and tart cherries)
- Garlic
- Mushrooms
- Certain herbs and spices (such as basil, curry powder, ginger and turmeric)
- Low-fat dairy products
- Cocoa and dark chocolate
- Polyunsaturated cooking oils (such as olive, safflower or canola oil)

Reducing chronic inflammation that helps speed the neurodegenerative process is key to lowering your risk. One highly effective inflammation-fighting strategy is to follow an anti-inflammatory diet plan.

Resource: *Mind, Mood and Memory*



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Encounter, Listening and Reflection

Address of his Holiness Pope Francis for the Opening of the Synod

New Synod Hall, Saturday, 9 October 2021

Thank you for being here for the opening of the Synod. You have come by many different roads and from different Churches, each bearing your own questions and hopes. I am certain the Spirit will guide us and give us the grace to move forward together, to listen to one another and to embark on a discernment of the times in which we are living, in solidarity with the struggles and aspirations of all humanity. I want to say again that the Synod is not a parliament or an opinion poll; the Synod is an ecclesial event and its protagonist is the Holy Spirit. If the Spirit is not present, there will be no Synod.

May we experience this Synod in the spirit of Jesus' fervent prayer to the Father on behalf of his disciples: "that they may all be one" (Jn 17:21). This is what we are called to: unity, communion, the fraternity born of the realization that all of us are embraced by the one love of God. All of us, without distinction, and in particular those of us who are bishops. As Saint Cyprian wrote: "We must maintain and firmly uphold this unity, above all ourselves, the bishops who preside in the Church, in order to demonstrate that the episcopate is itself one and undivided" (De Ecclesiae Catholicae Unitate, 5). In the one People of God, therefore, let us journey together, in order to experience a Church that receives and lives this gift of unity, and is open to the voice of the Spirit. And so, brothers and sisters, let us experience this moment of encounter, listening and reflection as a season of grace ...

To read more visit vatican.va

Blood Pressure Screening

Blood Pressure Screening is available after the 9:30 am and 11:15 am Sunday Masses next weekend, Sunday, November 14. The screening sites are the first office on the right (Deacon's office) and the second office on the right (Parish Nurse office) as you enter the WEST WING of the Church.

No appointment or doctor's order needed.

Primetime November Presentation Commemorates Veterans Day

Join us November 10, 2021, at 10:00 am in the Lighthouse.

Dennis Kukavsky, Service Officer for VFW Post 3873 and Legion Post 43 will be the presenter.

Topics he will cover include an overview of the Veterans Administration, benefits for Veterans, their spouses and dependents, VA medical care and VA claims process. He will take questions at the end of his presentation.



grateful • thankful • blessed



St. Thomas Blood Drive

Facts you should know:

- A single car accident victim can require as many as 100 units of blood.
- If just 1 percent more of Americans donated blood, shortages would disappear.
- A patient needing an organ transplant could be forced to pass up lifesaving surgery if compatible blood is not available to support the transplant.
- On average, 1 in every 7 people entering a hospital will need blood.

Please consider donating at the next St. Thomas Blood Drive 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).

Make a difference, save a life!

From the Behavioral Health Ministry November is National Family Caregivers Month

Mental Health America (MHA) is proud to recognize November as National Family Caregivers Month — a time to celebrate the contributions of caregivers, provide them with tools that they need and continue to advocate for individuals with mental illness.

There are more than 53 million Americans who are unpaid caregivers to family, friends and neighbors. Twenty-seven percent or nearly a third of adult caregivers are helping someone with a mental illness. Caregiving can often have a significant impact on the life of the caregiver in more ways than one. It can make maintaining your physical and mental health more difficult and may put a strain on work and social life.

As the COVID-19 pandemic continues, feelings of stress, worry and isolation may have become familiar to all of us. Despite the current situation, caregiving-as-usual happens. Loved ones may have doctor appointments or there may be prescriptions to refill. Being a family caregiver is difficult in the best of circumstances. The stress and challenges of the role can have a huge impact on a family caregiver's mental health, leading to more family caregivers experiencing depression, post-traumatic stress disorder, alcohol and drug addiction and anxiety.

It's important for caregivers to take care of their own mental health. Supporting caregivers with information and resources can help them maintain their mental health and better serve loved ones with mental illness.

If you are a caregiver struggling with your own mental health, visit mhascreening.org to take a free, anonymous and confidential screen.

In recognition of National Family Caregivers Month, MHA released a new report, *The Strain of Caregiving: How Caregiver Involvement Reduces Distress and Conflict*, which explores whether family caregivers feel involved in the care of their loved ones, if involvement has an effect on their levels of distress and conflict in providing care, and the hope they have for their loved one's recovery.

Source: Mental Health America — mhanational.com



Attention Caregivers!

All caregivers, relatives and friends of those who struggle with anxiety, depression, bipolar, eating disorder or self-injury, please join us for an evening of prayer, discussion and reflection.

The upcoming meeting is November 11, 2021.

Meetings are held at St. Elizabeth Seton Catholic Church, 2220 Lesson Rd. Naperville.

Please email welisten2017@gmail.com or call Joe at 630.596.1635 with any questions.

Stewardship and Administration

The Week Ahead

Monday, November 8

4:30–5:15 pm	Youth Choir, Cana
7:00–8:00 pm	First Eucharist Parent Make-Up 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, November 9

10:00–11:00 am	Care Pantry Food Distribution
7:00–9:00 pm	Baptism Meeting, Senior Center
7:00–9:00 pm	Elementary R. E. Catechists, Ministry Center

Wednesday, November 10

9:15–11:15 am	Wednesday Bible Study, Senior Center
10:00 am–12:30 pm	PrimeTime, Lighthouse
4:30–5:15 pm	Joyful Jammers, Cana
7:15–8:45 pm	Faith Formation Commission, Senior Center

Thursday, November 11

9:15–11:15 am	Thursday AM Bible Study, Senior Center
6:30–8:30 pm	Life Retreat Planning, Gym, Youth Center
7:00–8:30 pm	First Eucharist Parent Make-Up Mtg., Church
7:30–9:00 pm	Thursday PM Bible Study, Senior Center

Friday, November 12

Saturday, November 13

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
10:00 am–6:00 pm	Art Fair, Gym
1:00–2:00 pm	Anointing of the Sick, Church
3:30–4:15 pm	Reconciliation, Reconciliation Room
4:30–5:30 pm	4 th Grade Mass, Church

Sunday, November 14

9:00 am–1:00 pm	Art Fair, Gym
10:30–1:00 pm	Blood Pressure Screening, West Wing
1:00–2:00 pm	Baptism, Church
4:30–6:00 pm	Teens with Character, Gym checking on this
7:00–8:30 pm	Journey Night, Church

Last weekend's stewardship of financial gifts

Weekly Sunday Offertory

October 24, 2021	
Sunday Collection Offering*	\$10,050
Credit Card Online Giving	reported monthly
Automatic Direct Debit (5 th and 20 th each month)	\$25,785
Mailed in and stock donations	\$10,595
Total for the week	\$46,430
*Based on Collection Counters Reports prior to bank confirmation	
Fiscal Year (7/1 to 6/30)	\$578,297
Weekly Average 7/1/2021 to date	\$34,017
Offertory Goal Year to date	\$570,681
Over/(short) of goal to date	\$7,616
Goal for Fiscal Year 7/1 to 6/30	\$1,745,600
Percent of Annual Sunday Offertory Goal	33%
Remaining for this fiscal year goal	\$1,167,303

This week, the Sunday collection is \$7,616 ahead of goal so far this year. Capital needs restricted gifts were \$440 this past week. We are grateful to those who recognize the need and responded.

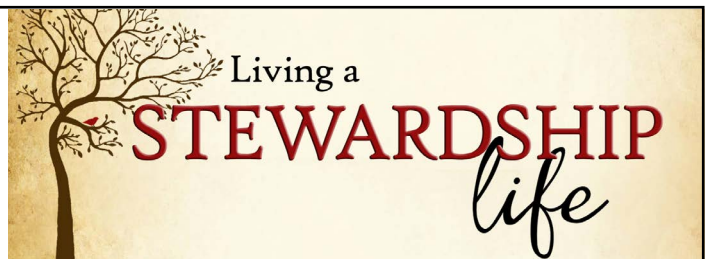
Diocesan Appeal 2021

Parish Appeal Goal	\$174,100
Pledges Received	\$153,180
Percent of Goal pledged to date	87.98%
Unpaid pledges	\$3,367
Paid to Date	\$149,813
Percent of goal paid to date	86.05%

(Our Earth) "cries out to us because of the harm we have inflicted on her by our irresponsible use and abuse of the goods with which God has endowed her. We have come to see ourselves as her lords and masters, entitled to plunder her at will. The violence present in our hearts, wounded by sin, is also reflected in the symptoms of sickness evident in the soil, in the water, in the air and in all forms of life. This is why the earth herself, burdened and laid waste, is among the most abandoned and maltreated of our poor; she "groans in travail" (Rom 8:22). We have forgotten that we ourselves are dust of the earth (cf. Gen 2:7); our very bodies are made up of her elements, we breathe her air and we receive life and refreshment from her waters. Nothing in this world is indifferent to us"

second paragraph of Laudato Si, May 24, 2015




Pray that the world leaders who met in Glasgow at the Climate Summit listened to the words of Pope Francis and pray that we all come to the beginning of a solution to our lack of being good stewards of our planet.



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