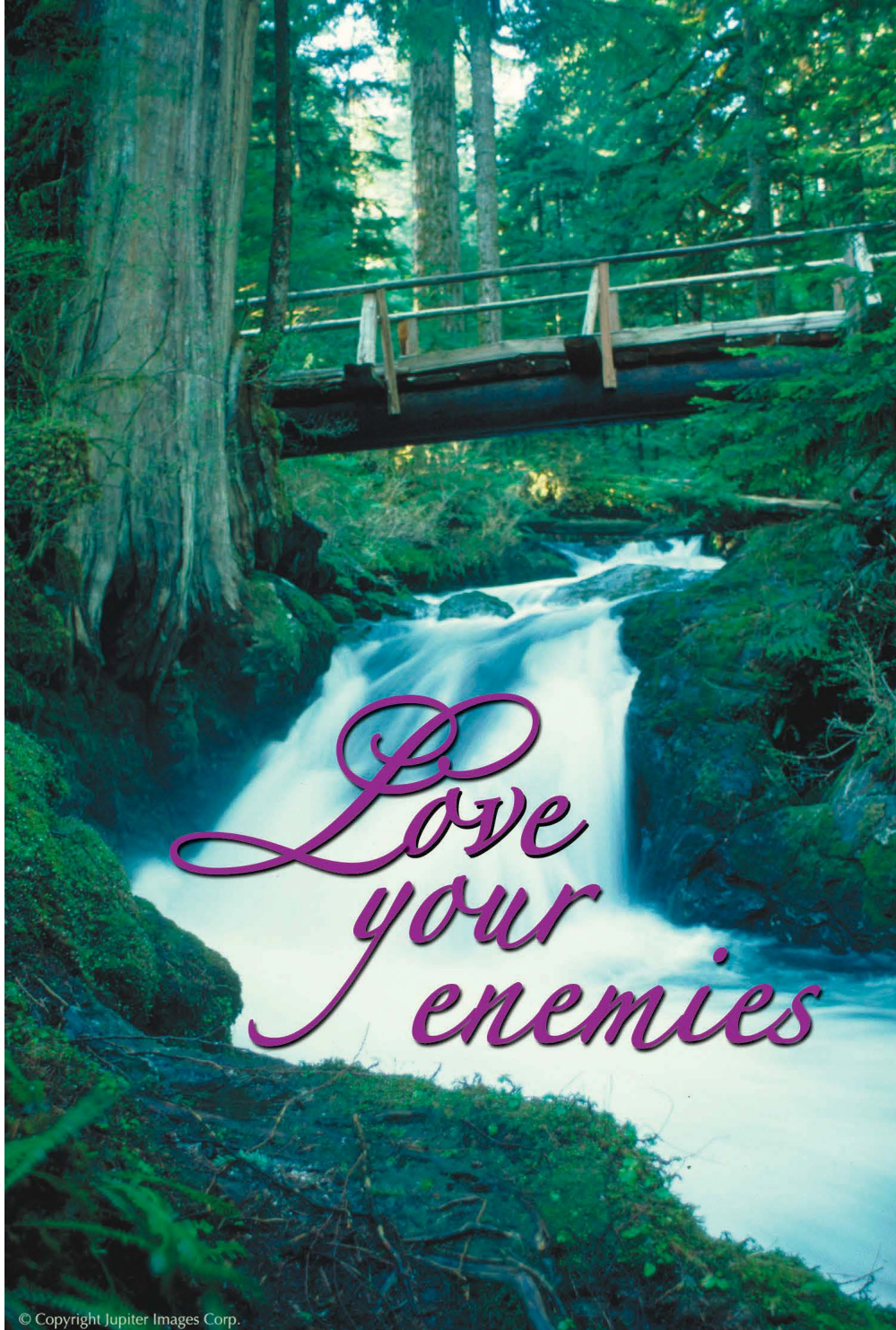


# St. Thomas

FEBRUARY 20, 2022 — SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



# St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic Church

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

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

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

## Parish Staff

### Priests in Residence

Rev. Philip Danaher, *Pastor*, x102, pdanaher@stapostle.org

Rev. Joseph Kappilumakkal, CMI, *Parochial Vicar*, x103, jkapp@stapostle.org

### Priests Assisting on Weekends

Rev. Bob Colaresi, O. Carm., *Weekend Associate*, robco@robco.org

Rev. Matt Lorenz, *Senior Vicar*, Archdiocese of Chicago

### Permanent Deacons

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

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

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

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

### Liturgy and Music

Kay Agustin, *Liturgy Administrative Assistant*, x112, litadmin@stapostle.org

Jim Clauer, *Director of Liturgy and Music*, x111, jclauer@stapostle.org

Samantha Delke, *Associate Director of Liturgy and Music*, x120, sdelke@stapostle.org

### Faith Formation

Peggy Goralski, *Director of Middle School Faith Formation*, x123, pgoralski@stapostle.org

Dorothy Grantham, *Director of Youth/Young Adult Ministry*, x117, dgrantham@stapostle.org

Lorraine Katz, *Director of Religious Education*, x109, lkatz@stapostle.org

Jenni Kennedy, *Faith Formation Administrative Assistant*, x118, REAdmin@stapostle.org

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

### 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

Frank Szymanek, *Service*

Susan Wood O'Leary, *Finance*

Cheryl Kaspar, *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.

**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 Resources:** Contact Felicia Lawlor, Faith Community Nurse, 630.355.8980, x104.

**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,

“God created man in His image; in the divine image He created him; male and female He created them.”

Those words from Genesis say a lot about how important we are to God, and how important we are to each other. Having been created in God’s image and likeness, we should treat

others, and expect to be treated by others, with the same respectful way we would treat God.

We see an example of respect for God through respect for others in the first reading when the future king David refuses to harm King Saul. Saul, jealous of David’s popularity, had been in pursuit of David in order to kill him. Finding Saul asleep, along with his soldiers, David refuses to take advantage of the situation and allows Saul to live, much to the distress of one of David’s aides who wanted to kill Saul. In David’s mind, for him to harm Saul would be the same as harming God, who had appointed Saul as king of Israel.

As many of you know, our Joliet diocese has begun our annual Catholic Ministries Annual Appeal (CMAA). It is through our generous donations that others are able to see our love and respect for God through our love and respect for students in our Religious Formation classes and Catholic schools, our seminarians and their formation directors, and all who are part of Family and Life ministries. These and other diocesan ministries depend on our charitable giving through the CMAA.

We heard Jesus encourage His disciples to “Give, and gifts will be given to you.” For those of us who are able, let us give to God through our charitable giving to the Catholic Ministries Annual Appeal.

In the Word,

*Fr. Danaher*

## Liturgy Schedule

### Daily

Mass: 8:30 am, Monday–Saturday

### Wednesdays

Communion Service: 6:30 am

### 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 February 26–27

### Saturday, February 26

4:30 pm: Fr. Philip Danaher

### Sunday, February 27

8:00 am: Fr. Joseph Kappilumakkal

9:30 am: Fr. Matt Lorenz

11:15 am: Fr. Joseph Kappilumakkal

*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](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



## Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

February 20, 2022

*Merciful and gracious is the LORD, slow to anger and abounding in kindness.*

— Psalm 103:8

## Readings for Today

**First Reading** — David found Saul in a deep sleep, but would not harm him (1 Samuel 26:2, 7-9, 12-13, 22-23).

**Psalm** — The Lord is kind and merciful (Psalm 103).

**Second Reading** — We shall bear the image of the heavenly Adam (1 Corinthians 15:45-49).

**Gospel** — Give to everyone who asks of you. Lend expecting nothing back (Luke 6:27-38).

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:** Jas 3:13-18; Ps 19:8-10, 15; Mk 9:14-29

**Tuesday:** 1 Pt 5:1-4; Ps 23:1-3a, 4-6; Mt 16:13-19

**Wednesday:** Jas 4:13-17; Ps 49:2-3, 6-11; Mk 9:38-40

**Thursday:** Jas 5:1-6; Ps 49:14-20; Mk 9:41-50

**Friday:** Jas 5:9-12; Ps 103:1-4, 8-9, 11-12; Mk 10:1-12

**Saturday:** Jas 5:13-20; Ps 141:1-3, 8; Mk 10:13-16

**Sunday:** Sir 27:4-7; Ps 92:2-3, 13-16; 1 Cor 15:54-58;  
Lk 6:39-45

## Liturgy Schedule and Mass Intentions

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

### Monday, February 21, 2021

*St. Peter Damian, Bishop and Doctor of the Church*

8:30 am †William Raef, by Battisto Family

### Tuesday, February 22, 2021

*The Chair of St. Peter the Apostle*

8:30 am †James Maul, by Maul Family

### Wednesday, February 23, 2021

*St. Polycarp, Bishop and Martyr*

8:30 am †Mercedes Rivera, by Anne

### Thursday, February 24, 2021

*Weekday*

8:30 am †Vito Battisto, by Battisto Family

### Friday, February 25, 2021

*Weekday*

8:30 am †Norma Adducci, by Al Adducci

### Saturday, February 26, 2022

*Weekday*

8:30 am Healing for Steven Hill, by Al Adducci

4:30 pm *Mass of Anticipation*

†Bill Feder, by Family

†Frederic Militante, by Anne Valencia

### Sunday, February 27, 2022

*Eighth Sunday of Ordinary Time*

8:00 am Peter and Mary Glatz

9:30 am †Ed Olah, by Ellia Baird

†Peggy Clark, by Kathy Ferguson

11:15 am †Antonia Casey, by Kevin and Bonnie Dunne

## Reflecting on the Readings ...

Today's readings seem especially pertinent to us living in a climate of sarcasm and insults, offensiveness and bullying, violence and hatred. Sparing — let alone forgiving and loving — one's perceived enemies, or refusing to judge others is hardly "natural" to most of us. But God sees it differently, and we are faced with the choice of whether we will too. Considering what this requires of us is a good way to enter the immanent season of Lent.

## Come Join Music Ministry!

Music is a ministry that serves the community of St. Thomas the Apostle when we gather in prayer. If you feel called to participate in this ministry, we will help you discern where you might serve best within our Parish Music Program. God has given you certain talents, and if you have been gifted with a musical ability, the next questions would be: "What do I get involved in, and what is the time commitment?"



### Voices of Faith Choir

*College – Adults*

This ensemble rehearses on Tuesday evenings and is open to all singers ages high school through adult. The Voices of Faith Choir sings a wide variety of musical styles and helps to lead the musical prayer of the parish at weekend Masses and feast days. A music background is not necessary, but a willingness to learn vocal skills is. We are especially in need of more male voices.

### Cantors

*High School – Adults*

Experienced vocalists who possess musical training and help lead Worship at Masses when the choir is not present. Cantors are chosen by audition only.

### Instrumentalists

*Adults*

Experienced instrumentalists — guitars, drums, strings, reeds, brass. These help minister at all the Masses. We will work around your schedule.

### Journey Praise Choir

*Grade 6–12*

Lead all elements of music ministry for the parish at various Mass times through the year. Singers AND Instrumentalists are welcome — piano, drums, guitar, bass, brass, woodwinds, etc. are all welcome!

### Youth Choir

*Grades K-5*

Learn the basics of music ministry through fun, varying selections of songs and hymns appropriate for young voices. Group helps lead worship about once per month, including special liturgies.

### Handbells

*High School – Adults*

A ministry that is not affected by masks! Play handbells at designated Masses throughout the year. Ability to read music and bell playing experience helpful.

*For more information on any of the above opportunities contact: Jim Clauer, Director of Liturgy and Music, at [jclauer@stapostle.org](mailto:jclauer@stapostle.org).*

## Black History Month

*Throughout the month of February, St. Thomas the Apostle celebrates Black History Month. Each week of February, the parish bulletin contains an insert that highlights the life of a Black individual who has lived the life of Christ, paired with an African-American Spiritual that reflects the worship tradition of the Black church.*

### **I Dream a World by Langston Hughes**

*I dream a world where man*

*No other man will scorn,*

*Where love will bless the earth*

*And peace its paths adorn.*

*I dream a world where all*

*Will know sweet freedom's way,*

*Where greed no longer saps the soul*

*Nor avarice blights our day.*

*A world I dream where black or white,*

*Whatever race you be,*

*Will share the bounties of the earth*

*And every man is free,*

*Where wretchedness will hang its head*

*And joy, like a pearl,*

*Attends the needs of all mankind--*

*Of such I dream, my world!*

## Ash Wednesday is March 2

To commence our Lenten journey, we Christians are reminded of from where we come through the distribution of ashes. Listed below are several opportunities to worship as community and receive ashes.

**6:30 am** Communion Service

**8:30 am** Mass

**12:00 pm** Liturgy of the Word

**4:30 pm** Liturgy of the Word (with a family oriented focus)

**7:00 pm** Mass

St. Thomas will also offer a "drive-thru" option for the distribution of ashes from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm. Simply drive up to the Gathering Area Doors and a minister will distribute ashes to you without having you exit your vehicle.



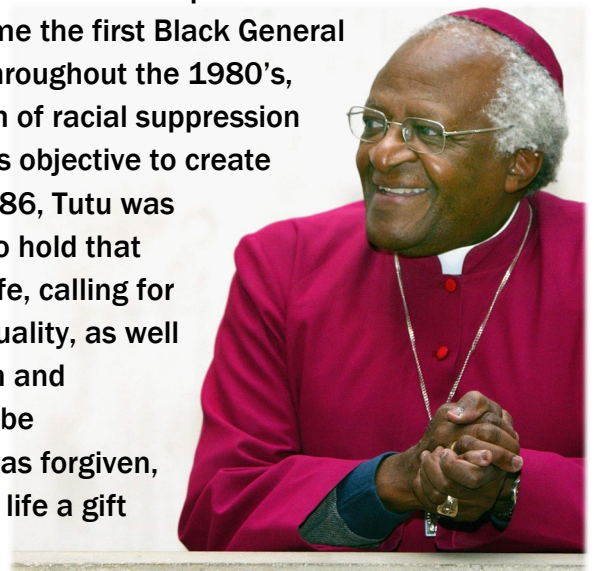
St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic Church has a tradition of celebrating Black History Month throughout the month of February. Our parish mission states that:

**“We believe each life is sacred, each person gifted by God. We value diversity in our midst.”**

We welcome all people into the Body of Christ. We celebrate all Children of God.

Below find a biography of a Black individual who has made a contribution to our world, overcome obstacles, and provide an example of living out the Gospel mission.

**Archbishop Desmond Tutu** — Born in 1931, Desmond Mpilo Tutu was educated in South African mission schools at which his father taught. Tutu went to university for education and served as a high school teacher for three years. Following a vocational call, Tutu attended seminary and was ordained a priest of the Anglican Church in 1961. He traveled to England for further theological study, later returning to South Africa to teach theology. In 1975, Tutu became the first Black person to be Dean of St. Mary’s Cathedral in Johannesburg. He later became the first Black General Secretary of the South African Council of Churches in 1978. Throughout the 1980’s, Tutu was an outspoken opponent of the apartheid (the system of racial suppression in South Africa). He won the Nobel Peace prize in 1984 for his objective to create a “democratic and just society without racial divisions.” In 1986, Tutu was named the archbishop of Cape Town - the first Black person to hold that position. Tutu championed for human rights throughout his life, calling for South Africa to be a “rainbow” nation. He fought for racial equality, as well as LGBTQ+ rights — all requiring acknowledgement of past sin and forgiveness to move forward. When asked how he wanted to be remembered, Tutu said “He loved, he laughed, he cried. He was forgiven, he forgave.” Desmond Tutu died on December 26, 2021 - his life a gift of total praise to God.



Lively music ministry is a way that St. Thomas the Apostle parish engages in worship. One of the diverse styles heard during the liturgy throughout Black History Month is the Spiritual.

*A spiritual is a type of religious folksong that is most closely associated with the enslavement of African people in the American South. Spirituals began as an oral tradition passed from one slave generation to the next. Often rooted in biblical stories, which were memorized then translated into song, spirituals described the extreme hardships endured by African Americans who were enslaved. Music, religion, and everyday life are inseparable in the spirituals, and through them, religious ideals were infused into the activities of everyday life. Spirituals also encompass the work songs and plantation songs that evolved into the blues and gospel songs in church.*

Richard Smallwood, composer of *Total Praise*, graduated cum laude from Howard University with degrees in both vocal performance and piano, in addition to graduate work in the field of ethnomusicology. *Total Praise* is one of his most popular songs, composed in 1996 while he was experiencing sorrow in his life.

## TOTAL PRAISE

*Richard Smallwood*

Lord, I will lift my eyes to the hills  
Knowing my help is coming from You  
Your peace You give me in time of the storm

You are the source of my strength  
You are the strength of my life  
I lift my hands in total praise to You

You are the source of my strength  
You are the strength of my life  
I lift my hands in total praise to You

Amen, Amen, Amen, Amen  
Amen, Amen, Amen, Amen

You are the source of my strength  
You are the strength of my life  
I lift my hands in total praise to You

Amen, Amen, Amen, Amen  
Amen, Amen, Amen, Amen  
Amen, Amen, Amen, Amen



# Faith and Formation Commission — Adult

## Participate in the Synod

It's here! The questionnaire for submitting input on the topics raised for the upcoming Synod of Bishops is now available on the parish website at [stapostle.org](http://stapostle.org). Click **here** to take the survey.

The survey is completely anonymous and all answers are welcome. Pope Francis has urged us to gather input from all people — Catholic, Christian, interfaith partners, non-practicing Catholics, agnostics and atheists.

How can the Church meet people wherever they are, whether that is on the path of faith, seeking a path for their lives or even skipping the path altogether? After you've filled out the questionnaire yourself, talk with — listen carefully to — everyone you know about one or more of these topics and note their responses. Then forward them to Chari Rosales at [crosales@stapostle.org](mailto:crosales@stapostle.org).

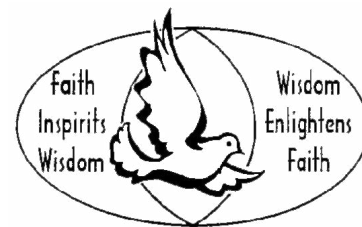
Our parish needs YOU. Our diocese needs YOU. Pope Francis needs YOU. Please answer the call.



## C.A.R.E. CORNER

This column is taking a brief pause from our series highlighting a specific saint in order to explain some terminology that is important to our topic at hand. In some of our accounts of saints, we have mentioned that they are a “Doctor” of the Church. What exactly does that mean? In the Middle Ages, the Church

began assigning the title “Doctor of the Church” to those of eminent holiness and learning. Their lives and writings had a profound influence on the Church, significantly advancing the cause of Christ in his Church. The doctors include four women, but we will address them at a later date.



All 37 Doctors of the Church are also canonized saints. But obviously not all saints also hold the title of Doctor. It is a Pope who declares a saint to also be a Doctor. Last week, this column covered the contributions of St. Irenaeus from the second century. Just last month Pope Francis officially named Irenaeus a Doctor of the Church, giving him the title of Doctor of Unity. Many of the saints and Doctors have left us memorable motivational quotes. Perhaps you've heard this one, credited to St. Irenaeus: “The glory of God is the human person, fully alive!” That one is worth pondering for a while.

## Parish Mission Coming Soon!

Ready for a spiritual pick-me-up? Make plans now to attend the upcoming Parish Mission based on the beloved Prayer of St. Francis, presented by Franciscan Father Ed Shea OFM:

**Lord, Make Me a Channel of Your Peace**  
**March 27–29, 2022**

**Sunday, March 27 | 7:00 pm** “Where there is Doubt ... Faith”  
**Monday, March 28 | 7:00 pm** “Where there is Injury ... Pardon”  
**Tuesday, March 29 | 7:00 pm** “Where there is Despair ... Hope”

Watch for more details to follow!



## Daily Religion Classes Deepen Faith

Students at All Saints enjoy religion class every day as part of their curriculum, and daily exposure to the Catholic faith is important to developing a strong religious foundation.

Religious education in Catholic schools takes place within the context of the wider Catholic faith community, in partnership with home and parish. It is designed to assist children and young people to be increasingly able to make an informed and mature response to God in faith, and to nurture that faith.

Students in Mrs. Detwiler's sixth grade religion class were tasked with listing two gifts that the world needs from the Holy Spirit today in order to make communication better between groups, and to explain why we need those gifts.

One of her students offered these thoughtful and 'wise beyond their years' answers:

1. One gift we need in the world today is more patience. I believe that patience would benefit everyone, if we were able to listen to everyone's ideas. I think we could all be more patient with one another and hear each other's points of view, even if we don't agree with them.
2. Another gift we need in the world today is humility. It seems to me that a lot of people are focused on themselves and their own success instead of others' successes and interests. If we were all a bit more humble, we would hear each other more clearly.

Wouldn't our world be a better place if we took this student's advice in growing the gifts of patience and humility in our lives, and in those of others. Lastly, this student wrote a prayer asking for those gifts to be given to the world:

*Dear Lord,*

*Please bless us with the gifts of humility and patience. Teach us how to be kind and humble with one another and be better humans to those around us. Help us find our ears for listening and open our hearts for understanding. Grant us the ability to be patient when we are frustrated and when we are focused on ourselves. Help us see more clearly ourselves and others in this world that You have given us.*

*In Jesus' Name we pray, Amen.*

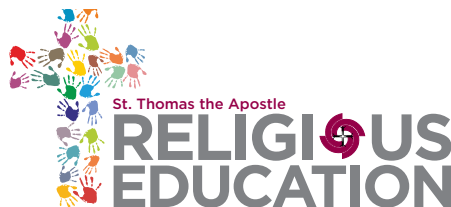
Can you see your sixth grade student at All Saints this fall? Registration for the 2022–2023 school year is now open to families new to All Saints. Visit our website — [ascacademy.org](http://ascacademy.org) — for more information, or to schedule a tour.



# Faith and Formation Commission — Youth

## Scouting Day of Recollection

The Joliet Diocese Catholic Committee on Scouting (JDCCS) invites you to their annual Day of Recollection "Trust." It is open to all registered American Heritage Girls, all levels of Girl Scouts, Camp Fire Youth, Cub Scouts, Scouts BSA and Venturers. It will be on Saturday, February 26, 2022, from 9:00 am–1:00 pm at Our Lady of Peace School, 701 Plainfield Rd., Darien. For further information, go to [www.dioceseofjoliet.org/scouting](http://www.dioceseofjoliet.org/scouting) or see Lorraine Katz. Registration closes February 21. Children in grades K-5 must have a parent/guardian with them.



## First Grade Mass

Attention First Grade Religious Education children: You are invited to a Mass just for you this Sunday, February 20 at 11:15 am! Please bring your families. Please bring cereal or canned vegetables for a Care Pantry donation.

A big thank you goes to first grade coordinator Rosemary Karl; first grade catechists Sue Cicero, Amy Fleishman and Lauren Smith; and classroom aides Kathleen Puvathingal, Lynn Silvia and Laura Starzec for their commitment to sharing and teaching our faith to the children.

## Girl Scout Mass

Are you a Girl Scout? The Girl Scout Mass is on Sunday, March 6, 2022, at 9:30 am. Please contact Lorraine Katz at [lkatz@stapostle.org](mailto:lkatz@stapostle.org) to get involved.



## Living Stations of the Cross

Middle school students are invited to be part of the Living Stations of the Cross prayer service on Good Friday, April 15, at 12:00 pm. The Stations are prayerfully 'acted out' with still poses. This is an opportunity to come to a deeper understanding of the gift of the Christ's ultimate sacrifice for us. Practices will be held weekly beginning in mid-March. The day and time of practices will be decided based on the availability of the Stations volunteers. If you are interested or would like more information, contact Peggy Goralski at [pgoralski@stapostle.org](mailto:pgoralski@stapostle.org) or 630.355.8980, x123.

## Important Dates

### Elementary RE

**March 1, 8**

Tuesday elementary RE classes meet

**February 26 and March 12**

Saturday elementary RE classes meet

### Middle School RE

**February 28, March 7, 14, 21**

Monday middle school RE classes meet.

**February 26, March 12, 19**

Saturday middle school RE classes meet.

*Please note that there are no middle school RE classes on February 19 or 21 because of the Presidents' Day holiday.*



## Teens with Character

Middle school students ... Teens with Character will meet Sunday, March 13, from 4:30–6:00 pm at St. Thomas.

Games, faith sharing and checking in with each other are all part of the Teens with Character experience. We would love to see you!

## Question of the week ...

Do you need to ask forgiveness of someone?





## Middle School Mission Trip

Are you ready for an adventure? Middle school youth are invited to be a part of a Week of Hope mission trip experience in Kenosha, Wis., from June 19–24, 2022. The Week of Hope experience is a community service mission trip where young people serve alongside seasoned local ministries and nonprofits to make a lasting difference through meaningful community service. After each day of service, the fun continues with themed days, movie nights, lip-sync battles, bedtime stories, group games and much more!

The cost for Week of Hope is \$286. Week of Hope registration forms are available on the St. Thomas website. Don't delay ... register as soon as possible by clicking [here](#).

The Week of Hope experience is provided by Group. The Group mission trip team dedicates extensive time and energy to create a Jesus-centered program experience through morning and evening programs, crew devotions and youth group devotions. For more information about Group, go to [www.groupmissiontrips.com](http://www.groupmissiontrips.com).

## Middle School Families Invited to Come Together for Mass

Middle school students and their families are invited to a special celebration of Mass on Sunday, March 6, at 3:30 pm. Fr. Matt Lorenz will be the presider and homilist. Help is needed with this special liturgy. Middle school students can volunteer for various ministry roles by clicking [here](#).

Come, pray and celebrate with us!



## Big Shout Out!

A BIG shout out goes to Mary Latham (@moregoodtoday) for sharing herself and her amazing journey in search of the 'More Good' in each of the 50 states.

Click [here](#) for a recording of Mary's presentation.

## Alive in You – High School Youth Ministry Mission Trip

Registrations are now open for the Alive in You Mission Trip to Knoxville, Tenn., June 28-July 3, 2022. Click [here](#) to register.

The vision of Alive in You is to enable High School teen participants to open their hearts and allow Christ to become the center of their lives. The goal is to educate, motivate and provide young people with a life changing Catholic experience. Alive in You is grounded in the beliefs and teachings of the Catholic Church and we strive to provide the perfect balance of faith, service, education and fun. Incoming freshmen to outgoing seniors eligible to sign up. Young Adults are welcome but must take Protecting God's Children in order to go. Typical work may include: painting, simple building projects, landscaping, working at a food pantry or social service organization, working with children at a low income day care, etc. Chaperones needed.

Registration forms can be found online at [stapostle.org](http://stapostle.org). Contact Dorothy Grantham for more information at 630.852.3303, x117 or [ym@stapostle.org](mailto:ym@stapostle.org).



## HS Youth Ministry Calendar at a Glance

**Saturday, February 26**

*Confirmation Practice* | 2:00–3:00 pm

**Sunday, February 27**

*Confirmation* | 3:00 pm

**Thursday, March 3**

*LIFE Community Night* | 6:30 pm

# Service Commission — Outreach and Social Justice



## Stamp Out Loneliness Help Incarcerated Women Connect with Their Families

Each year Companions Journeying Together (CJT) sends Mother's Day cards to incarcerated women in jails and prisons throughout Illinois. CJT provides a forum to personally and positively affect the emotional, spiritual and social lives of these women and their families.

Companions Journeying Together, Inc. does not need cards for the 2022 Mother's Day project. What is needed are postage stamps. There will be a collection box in the Gathering Area. Return all stamp donations by Monday, March 7.

## Birthright Thank You

Birthright of Joliet was one of the beneficiaries of this year's Pro-Life Swaddling Project. We received the following thank you from Birthright.

*Dear Parishioners of St. Thomas,*

*Thank you for your support of Birthright of Joliet. Our mothers and babies are grateful for your assistance.*

*We are able to give them hope and support during and after their pregnancy because of your generosity. We want to extend our sincere gratitude for the gift cards and beautiful baby items. We promise to distribute your contribution wisely, as we continue to meet the needs of those that come to Birthright. T*

*hank you again for your continuing support of our center. The moms really appreciate the gift cards.*

*Karen Hatfield, President*



## Think Spring Think Indoor Golf Helping Those in Need

The St. Thomas Knights of Columbus are sponsoring the social event of the year (so far) at Top Golf in Naperville. Net proceeds will benefit St. Thomas Cares and the Care Pantry, providing support to our neighbors in need.



The event is Sunday, March 13 from 1:00–4:00 pm. What better way to help others and have fun at the same time!

Seating is limited, so go to the St. Thomas website ([stapostle.org](http://stapostle.org)) and purchase your tickets (or make a donation if you are unable to attend). All are welcome (children and adults). Tickets can also be purchased by cash or check at the Parish Office.

- Golf and dinner \$100
- Not a golfer? Dinner only \$75
- Unable to attend, but want to help? Make a donation to St. Thomas Cares by clicking [here](#).

**Ticket sales end Thursday, March 3. [Click here to purchase tickets.](#)**

### Highlights

- Heated golf bays ... Players hit balls to various targets in the field.
- Golfers are welcome to bring their own golf clubs or use the free clubs available at Top Golf.
- Buffet style Fajita Fiesta (See St. Thomas website for menu including soft drinks.)
- Cash bar for adult beverages

### Questions?

Please email [St.Thomasknights15822@gmail.com](mailto:St.Thomasknights15822@gmail.com) or call Al Cocconi at 630.661.7313.

**We (the Knights) can't wait to see you there!**

## Ste. Marie-Madeleine Update The Dancing Bishop

Fr. Emery is the Pastor of our Haiti Twinning Parish, Ste. Marie-Madeleine, in Duchity. Last week we had a phone call conversation with Fr. Emery. Below is some of the information shared.



### Earthquake Recovery

The community is still experiencing aftershocks from the devastating August 14 earthquake. Fr. Emery said the January 24 aftershock was like another earthquake with the earth rolling. There was not significant damage, but people were very afraid.

The damage to the compound buildings was mostly cracks in the walls, some internal and some external. Over time, they are seeing that the water is finding its way through the roofs. It was thought that the clinic was undamaged, but it is also having roof leakage problems. Fr. Bellange, the Holy Cross engineer that built the clinic, has not been able to travel to Duchity to assess the issues due to gang activity on the roads out of Port-au-Prince.

Earthquake recovery in the poorer chapels (especially Tozia, Gorghette, and Plain Matin) is very slow. We have been sending earthquake funds St. Thomas collected in small amounts as Fr. Emery requested them. Many families are still living in tents. Fr. Emery has spent funds received from St. Thomas on construction supplies for homes. But some of the materials have yet to be received. The materials were and continue to be in large demand, but the supply is scarce in the area. Everything goes through Port-au-Prince and the gangs control the roads. He has requested some of the remaining recovery funds at this time for the chapel families, as gangs are allowing some supplies to move again.

### Above Ground Church

When Fr. Emery visited St. Thomas in late September, he spoke about the beginning construction of the "above ground church." It is the highest priority in the community. To date, funds have been donated by Ste. Marie-Madeleine parishioners, as they are able. There is a special collection the first Sunday of every month for the construction. There is a contest between the men and the women to see who donates more. The women win every time! Other donations have come from Haitian expats from Duchity living in the U.S. and Canada.

### The Dancing Bishop

There was a large celebration at Ste. Marie-Madeleine December 17–18. The Bishop of Jeremie (Rev. Joseph Decoste) came to visit the parish. He was very happy that the construction of the church had started and was sure it would be the most beautiful church in the Grande Anse area. At the Mass celebrated by the Bishop, there was joyful music that had people dancing in the aisles and the Bishop dancing at the altar. (To view the three minute video, click [here](#).)



### Hesed House PADS March 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.*

We are asking parishioners to donate the food items needed each month. Thanks to all those that helped with February donations. We are now asking for donations for the first Thursday in March (March 3).

#### How to donate food for Hesed House

If you are willing and able to provide food for March, you can sign up on the St. Thomas website home page [here](#) 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, March 3, before 4:00 pm. Thanks to all who are able to help.

## Loaves and Fishes-2022 Tax Filing Assistance

Loaves and Fishes launched its free tax assistance program for low-income households (annual income of \$60,000 or less), February 7.

Eligible households can call for appointments available during set hours on Mondays, Wednesdays, Saturdays and Sundays for help on state and federal tax returns. Call for an appointment at 630.355.3663, x 0.



# Service Commission — Pastoral Care



## Online Grief Support Group Starts March 7 Register Now

Are you struggling after a loved one's death? With continuing COVID issues, St. Thomas the Apostle Parish is now offering an online "Grief to Growth" group for adults who have lost a parent, spouse, adult child, sibling or friend.

Share your story, honor your loved one's memory, learn healthy strategies to move through sadness and move forward in a safe, confidential and supportive group.

We will meet on Zoom for six consecutive weeks — every Monday from March 7 to April 11 from 3:30 pm–5:00 pm.

We build a wonderful sense of community and so request a commitment for all six sessions. Paula Kosin, parishioner and Licensed Clinical Professional Counselor, will facilitate this group. You'll need an email address; internet access/WiFi; a personal computer or iPad/tablet; and be familiar with the basics of joining a Zoom meeting.

**REGISTER NOW** for this free program. (Group is limited to 8 participants.) Call or email Susan Kearney, Coordinator of the St. Thomas Behavioral Health Ministry, at 630.355.8980, x108 or [sdkearney@comcast.net](mailto:sdkearney@comcast.net).

Spell out your first and last name, phone number and email address.

If you feel the group is not for you right now, if you need other assistance or have questions please give Susan a call.

## National Eating Disorders Awareness Week February 21, 2022

Eating disorders are serious but treatable mental and physical illnesses that can affect people of all genders, ages, races, religions, ethnicities, sexual orientations, body shapes and weights. National surveys estimate that 20 million women and 10 million men in America will have an eating disorder at some point in their lives.

While no one knows for sure what causes eating disorders, a growing consensus suggests that it is a range of biological, psychological and sociocultural factors.

While eating disorders can develop differently in different people, researchers have found broad similarities in understanding major risk factors. Being aware of the risk factors is a vital part of recognizing when you or a loved one could need help.

### Truths about Eating Disorders

- Truth #1** Many people with eating disorders look healthy, yet may be extremely ill.
- Truth #2** Families are not to blame and can be the patients' and providers best allies in treatment
- Truth #3** An eating disorder diagnosis is a health crisis that disrupts personal and family functioning.
- Truth #4** Eating disorders are not choices but serious biologically influenced illnesses.
- Truth #5** Eating disorders affect people of all genders, ages, races, ethnicities, body shapes and weights, sexual orientations and socioeconomic statuses
- Truth #6** Eating disorders carry an increased risk for both suicide and medical complications.
- Truth #7** Genes and environment play important roles in the development of eating disorders.
- Truth #8** Genes alone do not predict who will develop eating disorders.
- Truth #9** Full recovery from an eating disorder is possible. Early detection and intervention are important.

Source: NEDA, National Eating Disorders Association – Feeding hope NEDA.org



BEHAVIORAL HEALTH  
St. Thomas the Apostle

## Pastoral Care Resources

For Spiritual Support and Prayer, please contact the following individuals if you are in need of assistance:

### Health and Counseling Resources

*Parish Nurse*  
Felicia, 630.355.8980, x104

### St. Thomas Pastoral Care visit

Diane, General Office  
630.355.8980, x101

### Hospital/Pastoral Care Info

Edward Hospital has a pastoral care department with a Catholic Chaplain for an emergency anointing or a Eucharistic visit.

## From the Office of the Parish Nurse Facts About Atrial Fibrillation

The heart is a crucial organ in our bodies, and a strong, healthy heart beats in a steady rhythm.

If it doesn't, this is called an arrhythmia — when the heart beats too quickly, too slowly or in an irregular pattern.

The most common type of arrhythmia is atrial fibrillation or AFib.

Some people with AFib may not recognize they are experiencing symptoms, which can make it difficult to know they have it. And research shows that up to 30 percent of AFib episodes cause no symptoms at all.

"Everyone is different," Dr. Jeremiah Wasserlauf, a Cardiac Electrophysiologist at Rush University Medical Center, says. "Some people have obvious symptoms of AFib and other people may experience very little. There are some people who realize, after treatment to restore normal rhythm, that they actually feel better and had been limiting their activity because of symptoms of AFib without realizing it."

### Those who show signs of AFib may experience the following

- Irregular heartbeat
- Heart palpitations (rapid, fluttering or pounding)
- Lightheadedness
- Extreme fatigue
- Shortness of breath
- Chest Pain

Whether or not you are symptomatic, Wasserlauf stresses the importance of keeping up with annual visits to your primary care provider and to be cared for by a specialist if you've been diagnosed.

In AFib, a chaotic rhythm may cause blood to pool in the heart's upper chambers and form clots. If a blood clot forms, it could travel to the brain where it could block the flow of blood and lead to a stroke.

"We find that strokes caused by AFib tend to be more severe than strokes from other causes," Wasserlauf adds. "But fortunately, these strokes are preventable in most people. So it's important to work closely with your doctor to make sure you are on the right treatments to be protected."

Over the past decade, treatment options for AFib have evolved significantly, becoming safer and more effective. "The treatment options we have today allow people with AFib to live normal lives and not be limited or restricted by the condition," Wasserlauf says.

Catheter ablation is a minimally invasive outpatient procedure that uses hot or cold energy to treat areas of the heart responsible for atrial fibrillation and ultimately restore a normal heart rhythm. In the best candidates, this can reduce a person's time in AFib by more than 98 percent. Medications, such as blood thinners (to prevent strokes in AFib), have also become more effective and manageable, as they no longer require dietary restrictions or frequent monitoring and dose adjustments.

But some people living with AFib, particularly those who have a history of internal bleeding or frequent falls, may be unable to take blood thinners. A WATCHMAN device is an alternative option to prevent stroke using a minimally invasive, one-time procedure to close off the left atrial appendage — a small pouch connected to the upper left chamber of the heart where clots form.

"The treatment options for AFib continue to progress forward, and as a provider, it's rewarding to see how much better people can feel," Wasserlauf says.

*Source: excerpts from Rush E Newsletter*



FAITH COMMUNITY NURSE  
St. Thomas the Apostle



## Blood Drive

Please consider becoming a link in the chain of life by donating blood at our next blood drive Saturday, March 5 from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm in the St. Thomas gym.

By giving up one hour of your day, you will save three lives!

Reserve a time slot on the Versiti website [here](#).

With the severe blood shortage this is a great way to make a difference.

Donate on March 5.

Here are some foods to add to your meals between now and donation day! Beef, chicken, fish, ham, cooked turkey, breakfast cereal enriched with iron, 1 cup cooked beans, 1 cup of dried apricots, 1 medium baked potato, 1 medium stalk of broccoli, half cup of dried seedless raisins, roasted almonds, roasted cashews or sunflower seeds, 1 cup of spinach, 1 cup of pasta, 1 cup of rice, 1 slice of bread, pumpernickel bagel or bran muffin

If you have any questions, contact Diane McQueen at [dcmqueen@stapostle.org](mailto:dcmqueen@stapostle.org) or 630.355.8980, x101.

# Stewardship and Administration

## The Week Ahead

### Monday, February 21

Offices Closed for President's Day  
Building Closed after 8:30 am Mass

### Tuesday, February 22

7:00–8:30 pm Voices of Faith, Church  
7:00–9:00 pm Elementary Catechists Meeting, Ministry Center  
7:00–9:00 pm INSIGHT, Senior Center

### Wednesday, February 23

9:15–11:15 am Wednesday Bible Study, Senior Center  
7:00–8:30 pm Baptism Class, Cana

### Thursday, February 24

9:15–11:15 am Thursday AM Bible Study, Senior Center  
7:30–9:30 pm Genesis Rehearsal, Church  
7:30–9:00 pm Thursday PM Bible Study, Senior Center

### Friday, February 25

### Saturday, February 26

8:30–11:45 am RE at All Saints Academy  
8:30–9:30 am Middle School Speaker, Gym  
9:00–10:30 am Saturday Men's Group, Cana  
9:00–11:00 am Ensemble Rehearsal, Lighthouse  
2:00–3:00 pm Confirmation Rehearsal, Church  
3:30–4:15 pm Reconciliation, Chapel

### Sunday, February 27

3:00–4:30 pm Confirmation, Church

## Last weekend's stewardship of financial gifts

### Weekly Sunday Offertory

February 6, 2022	
Sunday Collection Offering*	\$11,302
Credit Card Online Giving (for January)	\$18,219
Automatic Direct Debit (5 <sup>th</sup> and 20 <sup>th</sup> each month)	\$20,961
Mailed in and stock donations	\$2,979
Total for the week	\$53,462
*Based on Collection Counters Reports prior to bank confirmation	
Fiscal Year (7/1 to 6/30)	\$1,142,638
Weekly Average 7/1/2021 to date	\$35,707
Offertory Goal Year to date	\$1,074,223
Over/(short) of goal to date	\$68,415
Goal for Fiscal Year 7/1 to 6/30	\$1,745,600
Percent of Annual Sunday Offertory Goal	65%
Remaining for this fiscal year goal	\$602,962

This week, the Sunday collection is \$68,415 ahead of goal so far this year. Capital needs restricted gifts were \$400 this past week. We are grateful to those who recognize the need and responded.

## Smart Moves in Giving to St. Thomas

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

thank you

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

**Let them know they are appreciated!**

**Checked These Listings Lately? Thank You to Our Advertisers!**

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