

# St. Thomas

APRIL 10, 2022 — PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD

“AMEN, I SAY TO YOU,  
TODAY YOU WILL BE WITH ME IN PARADISE.”

LUKE 23:43

The image features three dark wooden crosses of varying heights silhouetted against a vibrant, red and orange sunset sky. The crosses are positioned on a dark, rounded hill. The central cross is the tallest, flanked by two shorter crosses. The overall mood is solemn and dramatic.

**PALM SUNDAY  
OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD**

APRIL 10, 2022

# St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic Church

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

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

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

## Parish Staff

### Priests in Residence

Rev. Philip Danaher, *Pastor*, x102, pdanaher@stapostle.org  
Rev. Joseph Kappilumakkal, CMI, *Parochial Vicar*, x103, jkapp@stapostle.org

### Priests Assisting on Weekends

Rev. Bob Colaresi, O. Carm., *Weekend Associate*, robco@robco.org  
Rev. Matt Lorenz, *Senior Vicar*, Archdiocese of Chicago

### Permanent Deacons

Jim (Mary Jo) Breen — 630.486.3133, jimb4853@gmail.com  
Joe (Carolyn) Cuzzzone — 630.355.8980, x224, DeaconJoeCuzzzone@gmail.com  
Larry (Susan) Kearney — 630.355.8980, x225, lrkearney@comcast.net  
Patrick (Mary Jo) Lennon — 630.901.3223, presence.now@gmail.com

### Liturgy and Music

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

### Faith Formation

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

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

### Outreach and Social Justice

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

### Pastoral Care

Kathy Ford, *Director of Pastoral Care*, x124, kford@stapostle.org  
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.*, x107, 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,

Though all four gospels describe our Lord's suffering and death, they each have slight differences.

It's only in Matthew that we read about Judas Iscariot taking his own life after regretting that he betrayed Jesus. Also, only in Matthew do we read about Pontius Pilate's wife sending him a message about a disturbing dream she

had about Jesus and pleading with her husband not to "interfere in the case of that holy man." Only Mark describes the appearance of a young man who happened on the scene when Jesus was arrested on Holy Thursday night. Only Luke writes about the appearance of an angel to strengthen Jesus during His agony in the garden. Luke also is the only one who describes the dialogue between Jesus and the "Good Thief," traditionally named Dismas, of how Jesus said to him, "This day you will be with me in paradise." The Passion according to John, proclaimed every Good Friday, does not describe Jesus' agony in the garden at all.

While all four evangelists have some differences in their narratives, their message is the same; the depth of the Son of God's love for us. As we begin the most solemn of all weeks of our Church year, let's take some time this week to read the different versions of what will be our Lord's triumph over death.

In the Word,

*Fr. Danaher*

## Bishop Lifts Dispensation from the Obligation to Attend Sunday Mass

We announced in last week's bulletin in a letter from Bishop Hicks that he is lifting the dispensation from the obligation to attend Sunday Mass starting Palm Sunday. Please visit the St. Thomas website at [stapostle.org](http://stapostle.org) to read the Bishop's letter.

## 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 April 16–17

*Note Mass time changes for Easter*

### Saturday, April 16

7:30 pm: The Easter Vigil in the Holy Night

Fr. Philip Danaher and Fr. Joseph Kappilumakkal with Deacon Jim Breen and Deacon Joe Cuzzone

### Sunday, April 17

7:30 am: Fr. Joseph Kappilumakkal

9:00 am: Fr. Philip Danaher with Deacon Jim Breen

10:30 am: Fr. Bob Colaresi with Deacon Joe Cuzzone

12:00 pm: Fr. Matt Lorenz

*Presider schedule is subject to change.*

*The Easter Vigil and the 9:00 am Easter Mass will be livestreamed and Holy Communion will be distributed in the parking lot.*

## 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

*Please note St. Thomas offices will be closed on Good Friday and Easter Monday.* Regular hours are 8:30 am–4:30 pm Monday through Friday. The reception desk in the Gathering Area is staffed 9:00 am–8:00 pm Monday–Thursday; 9:00 am–4:30 pm Friday; and 9:00 am–1:00 pm Saturday.

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

# Worship Commission — Liturgy and Music



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## Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

April 10, 2022

*The Lord GOD is my help, therefore I am not disgraced.*

— *Isaiah 50:7a*

### Readings for Today

**Gospel at the Procession with Palms** — Jesus' entry into Jerusalem (Luke 19:28-40).

**First Reading** — In spite of my sufferings I am not disgraced. I am not put to shame (Isaiah 50:4-7).

**Psalm** — My God, my God, why have you abandoned me? (Psalm 22).

**Second Reading** — Christ emptied himself, and God filled this emptiness with exaltation (Philippians 2:6-11).

**Gospel** — The account of Christ's passion according to Luke (Luke 22:14 — 23:56 [23:1-49]).

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:** Is 42:1-7; Ps 27:1-3, 13-14; Jn 12:1-11

**Tuesday:** Is 49:1-6; Ps 71:1-6, 15, 17; Jn 13:21-33, 36-38

**Wednesday:** Is 50:4-9a; Ps 69:8-10, 21-22, 31, 33-34; Mt 26:14-25

**Thursday:** Chrism Mass: Is 61:1-3ab, 6a, 8b-9; Ps 89:21-22, 25, 27; Rv 1:5-8; Lk 4:16-21  
Lord's Supper: Ex 12:1-8, 11-14; Ps 116:12-13, 15-16bc, 17-18; 1 Cor 11:23-26; Jn 13:1-15

**Friday:** Is 52:13 — 53:12; Ps 31:2, 6, 12-13, 15-16, 17, 25; Heb 4:14-16; 5:7-9; Jn 18:1 — 19:42

**Saturday:** a) Gn 1:1 — 2:2 [1:1, 26-31a]; Ps 104:1-2, 5-6, 10, 12, 13-14, 24, 35; or Ps 33:4-7, 12-13, 20-22;  
b) Gn 22:1-18 [1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18]; Ps 16: 5, 8-11;  
c) Ex 14:15 — 15:1; Ex 15:1-6, 17-18;  
d) Is 54:5-14; Ps 30:2, 4-6, 11-13;  
e) Is 55:1-11; Is 12:2-6;  
f) Bar 3:9-15, 32 — 4:4; Ps 19:8-11;  
g) Ez 36:16-17a, 18-28; Ps 42:3, 5; 43:3-4 or Is 12:2-3, 4bcd, 5-6 or Ps 51:12-15, 18-19;  
h) Rom 6:3-11; i) Ps 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23; Lk 24:1-12

**Sunday:** Acts 10:34a, 37-43; Ps 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23; Col 3:1-4 or 1 Cor 5:6b-8; Jn 20:1-9 or Lk 24:1-12 or (at an afternoon or evening Mass) Lk 24:13-35

## Liturgy Schedule and Mass Intentions

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

**Monday, April 11, 2022**

*Monday of Holy Week*

8:30 am Those who are Homeless

**Tuesday, April 12, 2022**

*Tuesday of Holy Week*

8:30 am Those who are Hungry

**Wednesday, April 13, 2022**

*Wednesday of Holy Week*

8:30 am Gene Kilcawley, by Mary Davidowski

**Thursday, April 14, 2022**

*Thursday of Holy Week*

7:00 pm Those who are Imprisoned

**Friday, April 15, 2022**

*Friday of the Passion of the Lord*

3:00 pm The People of Ukraine

**Saturday, April 16, 2022**

*Holy Saturday*

7:30 pm Easter Vigil  
The Catechumens

**Sunday, April 17, 2022**

*Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord*

7:30 am The People of St. Thomas the Apostle

9:00 am Dolores Segobia, by Fernando Gayol

10:30 am Ruth Gayol, by Fernando Gayol

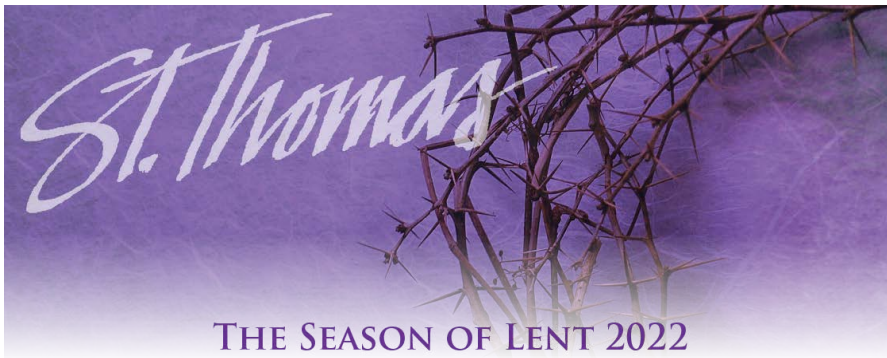
12:00 pm Rosa Gayol, by Fernando Gayol

### Reflecting on the Readings ...

"Hosanna in the highest! Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord."

We know well the story of Jesus' triumphant entrance into Jerusalem. While we proclaim these words with heartfelt sincerity, today, we must consider how we use our words and actions to crucify church and political leaders, others who are not like us and even ourselves.

Today, let us ask for the grace to enter into Holy Week with the desire to more intimately understand Jesus' humanity and his journey to the cross.



## Holy Week Services

### Monday, April 11–Wednesday, April 13

- 8:30 am Mass

### Monday, April 11

- 7:00 pm Holy Week Taizé prayer\*

### Tuesday, April 12

- 12:00 pm Mid-Day Meditation

### Thursday of Holy Week (Holy Thursday) – April 14

- NO 8:30 am Mass
- 7:00 pm Mass of the Lord's Supper\*\*  
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will follow the conclusion of the Mass, ending with Night Prayer at 10:00 pm.

### Friday of the Passion of the Lord (Good Friday) – April 15

- NO 8:30 am Mass
- 12:00 pm Living Stations of the Cross  
Dramatized by the youth of St. Thomas the Apostle
- 3:00 pm Celebration of the Passion of the Lord\*\*  
Liturgy includes communal adoration of the Holy Cross and distribution of the Eucharist.

### Holy Saturday – April 16

- NO 8:30 am Mass
- 12:00 pm Blessing of Easter Food baskets  
Outdoor blessing – in front of Gathering Area doors
- No 3:30 pm Reconciliation or 4:30 pm Mass
- 7:30 pm The Easter Vigil in the Holy Night\*\*

### Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord – April 17

- 7:30 am Mass
- 9:00 am Mass\*\*
- 10:30 am Mass
- 12:00 pm Mass

All liturgies take place in the Church space. The Gym and Chapel are not being used at this time.

(\*) denotes that liturgy will be livestreamed

(\*\*) denotes that liturgy will be livestreamed and Holy Communion will be distributed in the parking lot.

Weekday Mass schedule resumes Monday, April 18

## Prayer

*Gracious God, you have heard the cries  
of your suffering people.*

*You have sent Jesus to us to be our  
Redeemer and brother.*

*Open our eyes to see the immensity of  
your love for us*

*and the wonder of what you have done  
for us.*

*Give us the courage to be your hands  
and heart for those who are in pain.*

*Give us the wisdom to speak out for  
justice and righteousness.*

*May your will be done in us today and  
always.*

*Amen.*

### **Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord**

*Almighty ever-living God,*

*who as an example of humility*

*for the human race to follow*

*caused our Savior to take flesh and  
submit to the Cross,*

*graciously grant that we may heed*

*his lesson of patient suffering*

*and so merit a share in his Resurrection.*

*Who lives and reigns with you*

*in the unity of the Holy Spirit,*

*God, for ever and ever.*

# 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 by clicking [here](#).

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 [croales@stapostle.org](mailto:croales@stapostle.org).

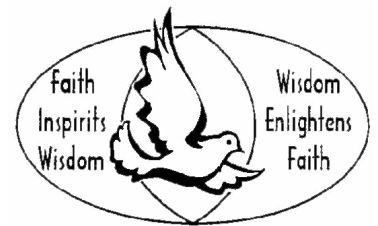
Our parish needs YOU. Our diocese needs YOU. Pope Francis needs YOU. Please answer the call.



## C.A.R.E. CORNER

St. Benedict of Nursia is considered to be the father of Western monasticism. Benedict was born around the year 480 and lived during the Dark Ages after the Roman Empire began to crumble. He left Rome to study in the hills of Subiaco in Italy. Benedict retreated to a cave and for a long time, he lived the life of a hermit. But in 529 he founded a communal monastery at Monte Cassino near Naples, Italy. There he began the first Benedictine abbey. He established what we now call the “Rule” of St. Benedict, which would become the norm for monks and nuns, not only in his time but in modern times as well. His rule revolved around order, obedience, study, silence, prayer and service, especially manual labor.

Benedict's personal prayers of preference were the Psalms. He also spent a good deal of time in the practice of Lectio Divina, which is a way to read and approach the holy Scriptures. Lectio Divina is still a favorite prayer practice of many Scripture lovers today. As you likely know, Benedict was the founder of the Benedictine religious order. His twin sister, St. Scholastica also lived the religious life. She established communities of women who lived according to her brother's Rule. St. Benedict died around the year 550 and was canonized in 1220.



## Sophia's Circle Presents...

Join Dr. Joan Gorski, Director of the Biblical Institute of the Diocese of Joliet from 7:00–9:00 pm on Friday, April 29 in the Lighthouse for “Foods of the Bible.”

What foods were available to people of biblical times? How were they gathered, preserved, cooked and served? “Taste and see” with a biblical scholar who's also a great cook! Come to enjoy each other's company, get a peek into our foremothers' lives and enjoy refreshments including some ancient treats.

To participate, RSVP by April 26 to [REAdmin@stapostle.org](mailto:REAdmin@stapostle.org). A \$10 suggested donation will be accepted at the door.

*Sophia's Circle presents micro-retreats for all women of the parish 3 times per year to grow our spirituality and our friendships.*



## Parish Directory Publication Notice

We are in the process of updating our Guide Book and Directory for the church. This book will contain general St. Thomas information plus a directory of all registered parishioners. Guide Book Publishing is producing the directory and direct mailing it to each household listed in the directory at no cost to our church. It is being subsidized by local businesses that advertise.

The directory will contain name, address and primary phone number for registered parishioners (heads of household only). We will extract this information from our parish database.

- If you **DO NOT** wish to be included in the Guide Book and Directory, contact Sue Sportiello in the Business Office at 630.355.8980, x107 or [ssportiello@stapostle.org](mailto:ssportiello@stapostle.org). You will be included in the Guide Book and Directory **UNLESS** we hear from you that you wish to opt out by May 15, 2022.
- Please notify us if your name, address and phone information has recently changed by May 15, 2022.

You may contact Sue Sportiello in the Business Office by phone at 630.355.8980, x107 or email [ssportiello@stapostle.org](mailto:ssportiello@stapostle.org).

Thank you for your help!



## Parish Directory Publication — Advertising Opportunity

We are in the process of updating our Guide Book and Directory for the church. This book will contain general St. Thomas information plus a directory of all registered members. This book is being provided and direct mailed to each household listed in the directory at no cost to our church, and it is being subsidized by local businesses that advertise. If you own or manage a business and would like to find out about advertising in our book, please contact Curt Eichelmann at Guide Book Publishing at 800.597.3037.

Recent survey results by Guide Book Publishing show that 92.1 percent of families would rather patronize a Guide Book and Directory advertiser over a non-advertiser. It “will pay” to advertise in our new Guide Book and Directory.

## STEAM Lab at All Saints

New at ASCA this current school year: All Saints created a STEAM Lab and implemented a STEAM program. Students in grades 3-8 visit the lab 1-2 times per week. The STEAM program will be expanded to the primary grades (K-2) in Fall 2022.

What is STEAM? STEAM offers an interdisciplinary approach to teaching science, technology, engineering, art and math. STEAM curricula center on 21<sup>st</sup> century learning skills such as exploration, problem-solving, communication and collaboration. ASCA's STEAM lab facilities include hardware, software, scientific and media equipment, hands-on student kits and flexible furniture systems.

This curriculum presents students with tasks and challenges in a variety of STEAM disciplines that include mechanics, computer graphics, publishing, robotics and more. Instruction focuses on the process rather than the final product, teaching our students that failure can often be a valuable learning experience.

Several years ago, former US Secretary of Education Richard Riley said, “We are currently preparing students for jobs that don't yet exist, using technologies that haven't been invented, in order to solve problems we don't even know are problems yet.” This is true now more than ever. STEAM professions continue to grow, as does the need for individuals who can collaborate, create and adapt. This program is equipping our students with the skills they need to prosper in the modern world, preparing them for a bright future.

Thanks to the generosity of school families at ASCA's biggest fundraiser (the Dinner Dance Auction), All Saints plans on expanding upon the success of the STEAM program in the 22-23 school year.

In addition to the new K-2 curriculum, we are taking a fresh look at both the lab and our school library, with a goal of combining the two into an interactive media center for all of our Saints to enjoy and benefit from. This would include a building and equipping a broadcast studio where regular, high quality, student-led news broadcasts could be produced; updating and modernizing these two spaces to include both the digital and print materials needed for today's learners; incorporating personalized learning and assessment software; and training teachers on using these resources in conjunction with their daily lessons.

All Saints is pleased to be able to offer these learning opportunities to our students as we create future leaders.



# Faith and Formation Commission — Youth



## Scripture Safari, Our Vacation Bible School

Mark your calendars now for Scripture Safari, our Vacation Bible School. It is June 13–17, 2022. Our theme this year is “Concrete and Cranes Under God’s Construction.” Registration opened April 1, 2022, and is available in the Gathering Area and the Faith Formation Office.

It promises to be an exciting week. Come join the fun!

## Wanted

### Adult Leaders for Scripture Safari

Scripture Safari will be here June 13–17. Do you have a few hours to share with children in our faith community of St. Thomas? Adults are especially needed for this wonderful ministry. One of the beautiful things during the week is witnessing Jesus’ work in every volunteer and participant.

Want to feel energized with your faith? Come be part of the Scripture Safari team. No experience needed. Find out more by contacting Lorraine Katz at [lkatz@stapostle.org](mailto:lkatz@stapostle.org) or 630.355.8980, x109.

## Question of the week ...



Have you felt alone with no friends? How can you remember that Jesus loves you during these times?



St. Thomas the Apostle

# RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

## Letters from our First Communicants

*Please read below for some thoughts from those who will be making their First Communion at St. Thomas.*

Dear St. Thomas Family:

I am eager to receive Jesus’ body and blood. Thank you for giving me the opportunity. This means I will be spiritually changed forever by Jesus.

I have a white dress and white shoes for my first Communion. I talked to my Mom about it this morning. I hope my communion will go good.

I am going to celebrate my First Communion in excitement please bless me with all your heart.

I will celebrate my first Communion. I feel excited. I hope you will pray for me.

Thank you for the awesome invitation. I can’t wait to receive first communion. I’m excited.

I am nervous to make my 1st Communion because I will be in front of the whole church. Please pray for me.

I will be celebrating First Communion. I have picked out my communion dress with my mom. Think of me pray for me please me and all the 2nd graders too.

I feel excited to make my first Communion and receive Jesus. I have waited a long time. Now I can receive Christ like my family.

Please pray for me? I am happy for this day. It will bring me closer to God.

I am super excited for this day. I think everyone should believe in Jesus. Will you please say a prayer for me?

I am excited for this day. I’m excited because it will make me closer to God. Also, because it will be fun!

I feel a little excited and nervous about my first communion so could you please pray that nothing will go wrong thank you.

I am happy for this day because my Grandma and Grandpa are coming. I get to wear my jumpsuit and eat the bread and I can’t wait.

I am nervous and excited for this day. Will you please say a prayer for me? I am super happy for my family to come!

I am nervous for this day. My Grandpa and Grandma are coming so I want to do good in front of them



## Living Stations

You are invited . . . to the moving and prayerful experience of Living Stations. Middle school students will reenact the Stations of the Cross on Good Friday, April 15 at 12:00 pm. Join the St. Thomas faith community for this special time of prayer, reflection and song.

## Holy Week Playlist

Holy Week allows us an opportunity to experience the most solemn week of our Church year. If you are searching for a way to be present to that experience, check out some of the resources in the Holy Week playlist, 'Sacred Journey, Sacred Days.' The playlist contains links to videos, articles and activities to make Holy Week more meaningful for you and your family. Check it out [here](#).



## Week of Hope Mission Trip

This year, St. Thomas middle school students will be part of a Week of Hope, from June 19-24, in Kenosha, Wisc. Week of Hope 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. These young people will be missionary disciples in the name of St. Thomas. Please keep them and this trip in your prayers. . . pray that their experience will be marked by joy and hope, that their service to those in need will be fruitful and that they will grow in knowledge and faith through the experience.

## Drive-Thru Dinner Fundraiser

Save the date. . . Saturday, May 7! Support this summer's middle school mission trip (Week of Hope) to Kenosha, Wisc., and get a delicious meal to go! Watch for more information in the coming weeks.

## Krispy Kreme Doughnut Orders Due April 19

Teens of St. Thomas are selling packages of Krispy Kreme Doughnuts to be picked up at St. Thomas Sunday, April 24 after the morning Masses. Doughnuts packaged by the dozen may be ordered in Original Glaze for \$12 or Chocolate Glaze for \$14 by April 19. Payments may be made via check to St. Thomas the Apostle Church, or Venmo to @sarahgibson195 or via PayPal at sarahgibson195. On your payment please note your last name and doughnuts.

To order, go to <https://bit.ly/saintthomasdonutorder>.

## April 24 Coffee + Cocoa Bar Fundraiser

St. Thomas' first and second year confirmation candidates will host a Starbucks Coffee + Cocoa Bar fundraiser after the 9:30 am and 11:15 am services Sunday, April 24 in the Narthex at St. Thomas.

For a donation, St. Thomas confirmation candidates are serving up Starbucks coffee and cocoa creations using an assortment of flavorings and toppings.

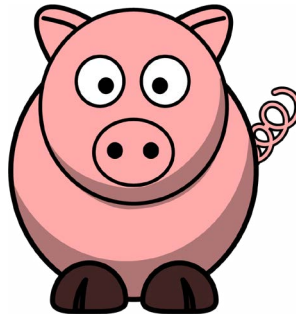
Proceeds will be used toward the transportation costs for our St. Thomas participants attending the 2022 Alive in You Mission and Conference ([www.aliveinyou.com](http://www.aliveinyou.com)).

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

The Alive in You Mission Trip to Knoxville, Tenn., is June 28-July 3, 2022. Registration forms can be found online [here](#).

Contact Dorothy Grantham for more information at 630.852.3303, x117 or [ym@stapostle.org](mailto:ym@stapostle.org).

# Service Commission — Outreach and Social Justice



## Easter Ham Collection

The Easter ham collection is **THIS** weekend, April 9–10. The goal is 325 hams for the Naperville, Aurora and Joliet areas. The truck will be in front of the church. Volunteers will accept donated hams and monetary donations from 4:00–6:00 pm Saturday, April 9 and 7:30 am–1:00 pm Sunday, April 10.



## This Weekend Fraternite Notre Dame – Baked Goods

The Fraternalite Notre Dame (Sisters of Notre Dame) are again visiting St. Thomas this weekend (April 9-10). They will bring their delicious baked goods for your Easter celebrations to the Gathering Area after all Masses.

The Sisters of Notre Dame minister to the poor in Chicago in the Austin neighborhood. Their pantry serves 250 families every week. They are the recipient of 40 percent of the food we collect on Harvest Sunday. Their Soup Kitchen serves the homeless in the neighborhood each day, Monday-Friday. Their After School Program serves more than 60 children from the neighborhood, ages 5-12.

Tell your legislators

## Statewide Source of Income Protection

*From 2014-2016, the St. Thomas Housing Alliance Ministry advocated for an amendment to the Naperville Fair Housing Ordinance that would specifically identify Housing Choice Vouchers*

*as a “legal source of income,” thus requiring landlords to accept applications from voucher families. Landlords had been discriminating against voucher families by refusing to accept vouchers as a source of income. St. Thomas parishioners signed over 500 letters to the Naperville City Council in favor of the amendment, which then passed on a 5-4 vote.*



Naperville was one of the first Illinois communities to pass a “voucher as a legal source of income” ordinance. Now Hope Fair Housing is advocating for a similar law at the state level.

### Advocacy Opportunity!

If HB 2775 is signed into law, it will allow people with disabilities, veterans, seniors and Housing Choice Voucher-holders to no longer be turned away from housing because of how they pay their rent. HB 2775 will open the doors to stable housing for many Illinois residents who would otherwise not have options.

For more information and, if you are in agreement, to send a message to your legislators, go to: <https://housingactionil.salsalabs.org/alert-soi2022/index.html>

## May Peace Prevail on Earth New Peace Pole Signs

### Pray for Peace

In light of recent events in Ukraine, two temporary signs have been placed next to the Peace Pole, one on either side. “May Peace Prevail on Earth” is written in the Russian language on one sign and in the Ukrainian language on the other. As you leave church on Palm Sunday, or any time, consider stopping by the Peace Pole to say a prayer for peace in Ukraine, throughout the world and in our hearts.

The Peace Pole on the St. Thomas grounds is located outside the doors to the Gathering Area. The pole was dedicated on Sunday, September 17, 2017. Peace Poles are one of the most recognized international peace symbols and monuments around the world. Over 250,000 poles have been “planted” in almost every country. The Peace Pole Project was introduced to the United States in 1986. Peace Poles symbolize the oneness of humanity and the common wish for a world at peace. They remind us to think, speak and act in the spirit of peace and harmony and to stand as a silent visual for peace to prevail on earth.

The St. Thomas Peace Pole, initiated by the Pax Christi ministry, is a six-sided stainless steel pole, about eight feet tall once the pole is in the ground. The words “May Peace Prevail on Earth” is cut into the pole in six languages: Arabic, English, Hebrew, Haitian Creole for St. Thomas’ twinning parish in Duchity, Haiti, Lakota for St. Thomas’ twinning parish on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation in South Dakota, and Spanish for St. Thomas’ twinning parish in Aurora, Illinois.

## St. Vincent De Paul

# Thrift Store

**JOLIET** 1820 W. Jefferson St. • 815-729-4585

**MORRIS** 1427 N. Division St. • 815-942-9288

**BRADLEY** 110 Village Square • 815-932-2203  
(Corner of North St. & Kinzie, 1 mi. south of I-57)

**ADDISON** 90 W. Lake St. • 630-628-9008

**WEST CHICAGO** 213 Main St. • 630-562-4801

### TAX TIME SPECIAL Mattress Sets

Twin .....	\$225
Full .....	\$250
Queen.....	\$275
King.....	\$475



### New & Gently Used Items

- Clothes - men's, women's & children's
- Furniture - New mattresses, dressers, desks & chairs
- Housewares - vases, china, glassware, pictures, much more
- Books, DVDs • Jewelry
- Tools
- Shoes & purses • Linens • Toys



## New furniture in at the Morris store!

For complete list of accepted donations go to [svdpjoliet.org](http://svdpjoliet.org)

SM-CL1964160



### PATH April 12 Zoom Meeting Through the Lens of a Recruiter

Are recruiters a part of your job search marketing plans? Have you ever wanted to learn more about recruiters and how they can enable your job search?

On 12 April at 7:00 pm, the PATH Group will be hosting a panel of recruiters from one of the nation's largest staffing organizations. They will be sharing their insights into the current marketplace while answering your questions as to how to best work with recruiters in your job search.

Register in advance for this webinar by emailing [pathgroupjobsearch@gmail.com](mailto:pathgroupjobsearch@gmail.com).

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar.

## 2022 Lenten Project

*"... whatever you did for one of these least brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me."*  
Matthew 25:40

### Food with Love

To provide the basic need of food (with love) for one year for the 25 children of Ertha's Orphanage near Duchity, Haiti. The goal is \$13,200.

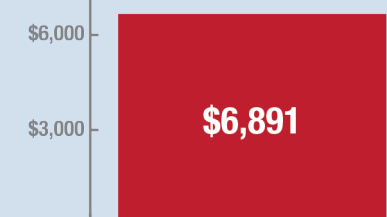
### How to Help

- Please pick up a little brown box at the church exits and save your change during Lent to be returned by Easter Sunday.
- Checks can be written to "St. Thomas OSJ" with "Lenten Project" in the memo. They can be dropped in the weekend collection baskets or mailed to "St. Thomas OSJ."
- Donations can also be made on the St. Thomas website by clicking [here](#).

### St. Thomas Lenten Project Ertha's Orphanage

To provide food for one year for the 25 children of Ertha's Orphanage in Duchity, Haiti

Collected  
as of March 31  
52.2%



# Service Commission — Pastoral Care



**BEHAVIORAL HEALTH**  
St. Thomas the Apostle

## From the Behavioral Health Ministry Blended Mental Health First Aid Training

**When:** Saturday, April 30, 2022  
9:00 am–4:00 pm  
**Where:** St. Thomas the Apostle  
**Cost:** \$23.95  
**Instructors:** Tina Lueckhoff and  
Diane McQueen

### What is Mental Health First Aid (MHFA)?

You are more likely to encounter someone – friend, family member or neighbor – in an emotional crisis than someone having a heart attack. Just as CPR teaches you how to respond to someone in a medical crisis, MHFA prepares participants to assist someone experiencing a mental health crisis. You will learn situational skills to intervene and help someone experiencing a mental health problem.

### You will learn:

- Signs and symptoms of mental illness
- Risk and safety assessment
- Intervention strategies

### How Blended Mental Health First Aid Works:

After completing a two-hour self-paced online class, First Aiders will participate in a six hour in-person instructor led class.

### To sign up:

<https://043022bmfha.eventbrite.com>

*Registration closes April 20 at 11:30 pm  
Sponsored by Linden Oaks Behavioral Health and hosted by St. Thomas the Apostle Church.*

## From the Behavioral Health Ministry April 2022 — Stress Awareness Month

Stress Awareness Month has been recognized every April since 1992. Learning to cope with our stress and finding healthy ways to deal with these situations can go a long way in living a healthy and positive life. After all, stress can impact many aspects of your body.

### What does stress mean to you?

We all experience stress — yet we may experience it in very different ways. Because of this, there is no single definition for stress, but the American Institute of Stress states the most common explanation is a “physical, mental or emotional strain or tension.”

### Affecting more than just your mind

Long-term stress can prove to be more than just a mental issue. From headaches to stomach disorders to depression — even very serious issues like stroke and heart disease can come as a result of stress.

When you are placed in a stressful situation, specific stress hormones rush into your bloodstream leading to an increase in heart rate, blood pressure and glucose levels. This is helpful in emergency situations, but having this “rush” for extended periods of time can be dangerous and make you susceptible to the issues mentioned previously.

### Learn to overcome issues you cannot change

Sometimes the stress in our lives is not something we have any power to change — it is during these times that Federal Occupational Health recommends you change your approach to situations. Try to . . .

- Recognize when you don't have control, and let it go.
- Avoid getting anxious about situations that you cannot change.
- Take control of your reactions and focus your mind on something that makes you feel calm and in control.
- Develop a vision for healthy living, wellness, and personal growth and set realistic goals to help you realize your vision.

### Tips for coping with your stress

The CDC provides some basic ideas to help you cope with stress

- Take care of yourself — eat healthy, exercise regularly, get plenty of sleep, give yourself a break if you feel stressed.
- Discuss your problems with a parent, friend or another trusted source.
- Avoid drugs and alcohol.
- Recognize when you need more help — know when to talk to a psychologist, social worker or counselor if things continue.

*Source: CDC, CDC.org*



**BEHAVIORAL HEALTH**  
St. Thomas the Apostle

## PrimeTime April Event Spring Is in the Air!

Come join in on some games and crafts at PrimeTime's April event! Plan to bring a snack to share and join us for a relaxing social get together on Tuesday, April 19 at 10:00 am in the Lighthouse.

PrimeTime will be meeting earlier in the month with Kathy Ford, the new Director of Pastoral Care, and will share some of the 2022 events that are being planned.

Bring a friend and enjoy a lovely spring morning of fun and fellowship! Coffee, water, games and crafts will be provided.



**Wellspring Presents  
Alive Again ... Rising with Christ!**

Wellspring

Monday, May 2, 2022  
7:00–9:00 pm | Lighthouse

We are living in unprecedented times. Stress levels are at an all-time high as we still cope with the health risks of COVID, financial stress and continued fears at many levels. The paschal mystery teaches us that living, dying and rising are part of our experience as Christians. In this session we will explore how the best practices of psychology intertwined with this mystery will allow us to thrive and maintain wellbeing even in the midst of the most difficult times in this life.

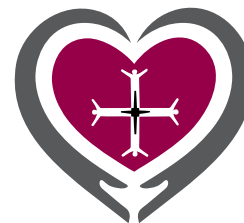


*Rev. Dr. Scott Mitchell, PsyD*

Rev. Dr. Scott Mitchell, PsyD, is the President and CEO of SamaraCare, providers of progressive, life changing counseling and consulting services, serving people in DuPage, Cook, Kane, Kendall, Lake and Will counties.

As a clinical psychologist and clergy, Dr. Mitchell has 30 years of experience with a special interest in the development of preventive factors that build resilience across the life span and the role of spirituality in resilience. He uses a holistic approach, integrating the best practices of psychology with a respect for mindfulness and spirituality.

RSVP to [readmin@stapostle.org](mailto:readmin@stapostle.org) by April 29, 2022. Reservations are strongly encouraged; walk-ins are also welcome.



**PASTORAL CARE**

St. Thomas the Apostle

**Save the Date  
Minister of Care Training**

*Ordinary People Ministering to  
Ordinary People in Extraordinary  
Circumstances*

**Date:** Saturday, May 14, 2022

**Time:** 9:00 am–1:00 pm

**Location:** The Senior Center

Light Breakfast will be served

Registration Required

**Deadline:** Monday, May 7, 2022

**Contact:** Kathy Ford, RN, Director of  
Pastoral Care, 630.355.8980, x124 or  
[kford@stapostle.org](mailto:kford@stapostle.org).

**From the Office of the Parish Nurse  
About Heart Disease**

**What is heart disease?**

The term “heart disease” refers to several types of heart conditions. The most common type of heart disease in the United States is coronary artery disease (CAD), which affects the blood flow to the heart. Decreased blood flow can cause a heart attack.

**What are the symptoms of heart disease?**

Sometimes heart disease may be “silent” and not diagnosed until a person experiences signs or symptoms of a heart attack, heart failure or an arrhythmia. When these events happen, symptoms may include:

- **Heart Attack:** Chest pain or discomfort, upper back or neck pain, indigestion, heartburn, nausea or vomiting, extreme fatigue, upper body discomfort, dizziness and shortness of breath.
- **Arrhythmia:** Fluttering feelings in the chest (palpitations).
- **Heart failure:** Shortness of breath, fatigue or swelling of the feet, ankles, legs, abdomen or neck veins.

**What are the risk factors?**

High blood pressure, high blood cholesterol and smoking are key risk factors for heart disease. About half of Americans (47 percent) have at least one of these three risk factors. Several other medical conditions and lifestyle choices can also put people at a higher risk for heart disease, including: diabetes, obesity, unhealthy diet, physical inactivity and excessive alcohol use.

**What is cardiac rehabilitation?**

Cardiac rehabilitation(rehab) is an important program for anyone recovering from a heart attack, heart failure or some types of heart surgery. Cardiac rehab is a supervised program that includes: physical activity, education about healthy living, counseling to find ways to relieve stress and improve mental health. About 655,000 Americans die from heart disease each year – that’s 1 in every 4 deaths.

*Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention*



**FAITH COMMUNITY NURSE**

St. Thomas the Apostle

# Stewardship and Administration

## The Week Ahead

### Monday, April 11

4:30–5:15 pm Jammers and Youth Choir, Cana  
 6:15–8:30 pm Knights of Columbus, Lighthouse  
 7:00–9:00 pm Finance Meeting, Cana  
 7:00–8:00 pm Holy Week Taize Prayer, Church

### Tuesday, April 12

10:00–11:00 am Care Pantry Food Distribution, Outside  
 12:00–12:30 pm Lent Meditation, Chapel  
 4:30–5:15 pm Living Stations Practice, Church

### Wednesday, April 13

9:15–12:15 am Wednesday Bible Study, Senior Center  
 4:30–5:30 pm Living Stations Practice, Church  
 7:00–9:00 pm Choir Rehearsal, Church  
 7:00–9:00 pm Sojourners Rehearsal, Lighthouse  
 7:15–8:45 pm Faith Formation Commission, Senior Center

### Thursday, April 14

*Holy Thursday*  
 7:00 pm Mass of the Lord's Supper

### Friday, April 15

*Good Friday*  
*Offices Closed*  
 12:00 pm Living Stations of the Cross, Church  
 3:00 pm Celebration of the Passion of the Lord, Church

### Saturday, April 16

*Holy Saturday*  
 12:00 pm Blessing of Easter Food Baskets – Outdoors  
 7:30 pm Easter Vigil, Church

### Sunday, April 17

*Happy Easter!*  
 7:30 am, 9:00 am, 10:30 am and 12:00 pm Masses in Church

## Last weekend's stewardship of financial gifts

### Weekly Sunday Offertory

March 27, 2022	
Sunday Collection Offering*	\$7,719
Credit Card Online Giving (reported monthly)	none this week
Automatic Direct Debit (5 <sup>th</sup> and 20 <sup>th</sup> each month)	none this week
Mailed in and stock donations	\$6,036
Total for the week	\$13,755
<small>*Based on Collection Counters Reports prior to bank confirmation</small>	
Fiscal Year (7/1 to 6/30)	\$1,355,917
Weekly Average 7/1/2021 to date	\$34,767
Offertory Goal Year to date	\$1,309,210
Over/(short) of goal to date	\$46,707
Goal for Fiscal Year 7/1 to 6/30	\$1,745,600
Percent of Annual Sunday Offertory Goal	78%
Remaining for this fiscal year goal	\$389,683

This week, the Sunday collection is \$46,707 ahead of goal so far this year. Capital needs restricted gifts were \$10 this past week. We are grateful to those who recognize the need and responded.

*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!**

## Ukraine Relief

### Monetary Donations

If you would like to support Ukraine and Ukrainian refugees, the current recommendation is to donate to Catholic Relief Services (CRS). Catholic Relief Services — CRS — is the official relief and development organization of the Catholic Church in the US. CRS and their partners are preparing and need immediate support to meet both ongoing needs, as well as those related to families forced to flee their homes. CRS and Caritas partners are on the ground across Ukraine and in bordering countries, working to provide safe shelter, hot meals, hygiene supplies, fuel to keep warm, transport to safe areas, counseling support and more.

When you donate, you provide immediate assistance for your Ukrainian sisters and brothers affected by this crisis.

- To donate online, go to <https://bit.ly/3hbagDJ>
- Check can be written to "CRS" with "Ukraine" in the memo and sent to: Catholic Relief Services, PO Box 17090, Baltimore, MD 21297-0303





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

Make it a habit to check these advertisers when you need a product or a service.  
And when you purchase, be sure to mention you saw their ad in the St. Thomas bulletin!

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**GREAT LOYALTY - 41%** of households do business with a company specifically because they are advertising in the church bulletin.

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