



APRIL

2

2023

PALM SUNDAY OF THE
PASSION OF THE LORD

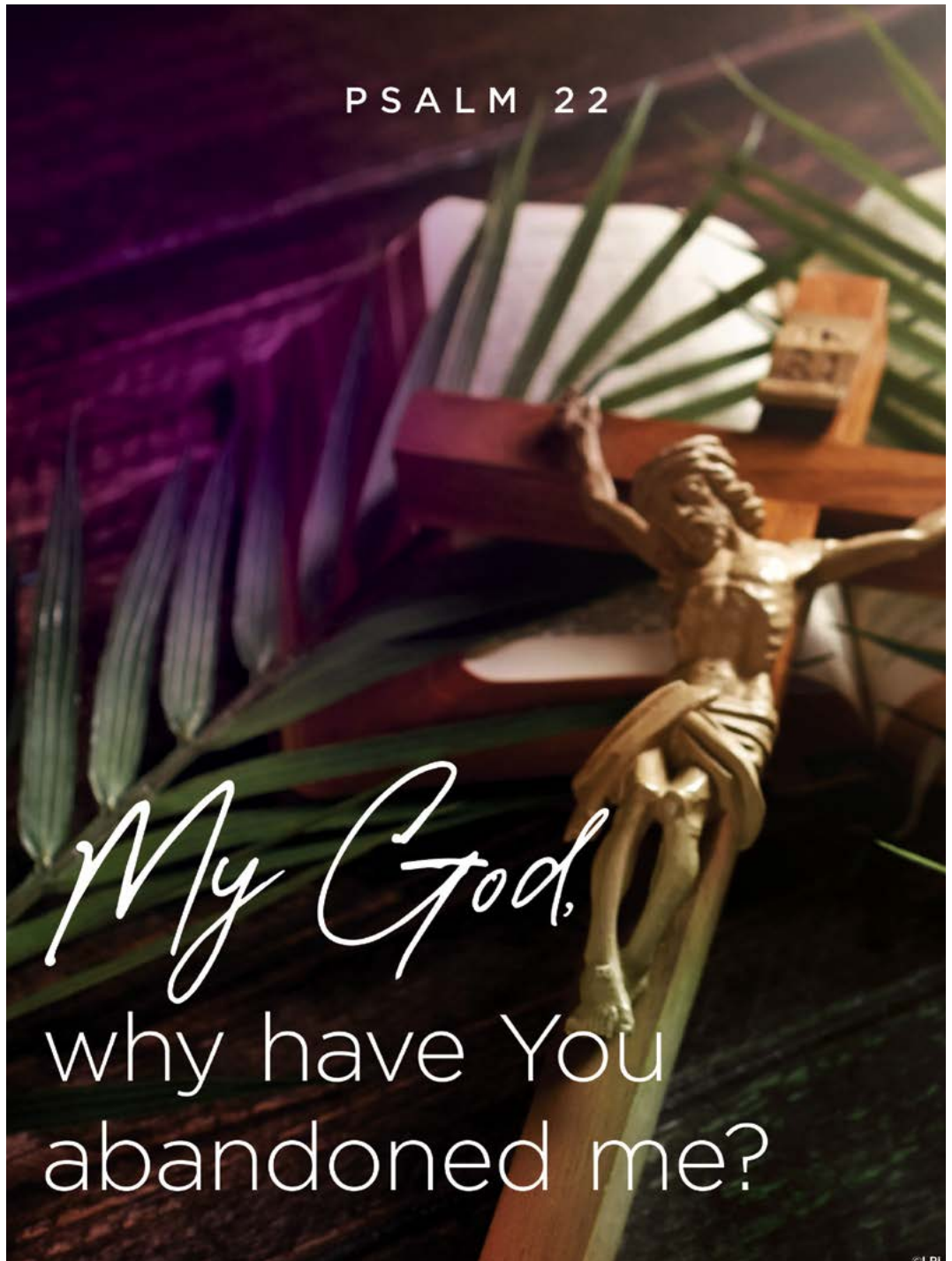
When he entered Jerusalem the whole city was shaken and asked, "Who is this?" And the crowds replied, "This is Jesus the prophet, from Nazareth in Galilee."

Matthew 21:10-11

**ST. THOMAS THE
APOSTLE CATHOLIC
CHURCH MISSION
STATEMENT**

Led by the Holy Spirit, rooted in the Eucharist, St. Thomas the Apostle strives to be an inclusive servant community – to be Christ in the World.

We bear the Good News of God's unconditional love to all generations through worship, faith formation, witness and service.



PSALM 22

My God,
why have You
abandoned me?

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE
CATHOLIC CHURCH

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 is livestreamed
with an outdoor communion option.

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Fr. Peter shares insights from a variety of voices on the Sunday readings.

The Art of Dying

When I was much younger and idealistic, I might have been ready to die for some worthy cause. Friends about my age had the same experience.

There was something romantic about giving our lives then. Something glorious — or so we thought. There was the brotherhood and sisterhood of us all, peace and non-violence, nuclear arms opposition, equal opportunities for education and housing. Many of us now over fifty thought we would lay down our lives for any one of those dreams.

For some of us, things have changed. We've grown older and, perhaps, wiser, and it seems we're not so eager to die anymore. The glamor has been tarnished, and, for some, the romance has turned from infatuation to disillusion. Death seems like a tragedy, continually rearing its strength to destroy in full or in part the fruit of our lives.

Yet death continues to remain the only doorway into real life. Without death there is no life — in this life or in any life. For that reason, then, one of the tasks of life is to learn how to die well, something we also need to teach our children. It takes a lifetime to learn how to die for one another, and that is why our young people need a community of adults who seek to master the art of dying. It is also why, for one long week, we tell the story of Jesus and of how, for the sake of us all, he did not back away from death.

~Fr. Joseph Juknialis

Presider Schedule April 8-9

Saturday, April 8

7:30 pm: Fr. Peter Infanger, Fr. Joseph Kappilumakkal, Deacon Joe Cuzzone, Deacon Larry Kearney

Sunday, April 9

7:00 am: Fr. Joseph Kappilumakkal
8:45 am: Fr. Peter Infanger with Deacon Joe Cuzzone
10:30 am: Fr. Bob Colaresi with Deacon Jim Breen
12:15 pm: Fr. Joseph Kappilumakkal

Note the change in Mass times. Presider schedule is subject to change.

Readings for Today

First Reading — I gave my back to those who beat me, my cheeks to those who plucked my beard; my face I did not shield from buffets and spitting. (Is 50:6)

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

Second Reading — He humbled himself, becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. Because of this, God greatly exalted him. (Phil 2:8-9)

Gospel — The centurion and the men with him who were keeping watch over Jesus feared greatly when they saw the earthquake and all that was happening, and they said, "Truly, this was the Son of God!" (Mt 26:54)

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD. The English translation of 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, 2, 3, 13-14/Jn 12:1-11

Tuesday: Is 49:1-6/Ps 71:1-2, 3-4a, 5ab-6ab, 15 and 17/Jn 13:21-33, 36-38

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

Thursday: *Chrism Mass:* Is 61:1-3a, 6a, 8b-9/Ps 89:21-22, 25 and 27/Rv 1:5-8/Lk 4:16-21

Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper: Ex 12:1-8, 11-14/Ps 116:12-13, 16-16bc, 17-18 (see 1 Cor 10:16)/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 (Luke 23:46)/Heb 4:14-16; 5:7-9/Jn 18:1-19:42

Saturday: *Easter Vigil:* Gn 1:1-2:2 or 1:1, 26-31a/Ps 104:1-2, 5-6, 10, 12, 13-14, 24, 35 (30) or Ps 33:4-5, 6-7, 12-13, 20-22 (5b)/Gn 22:1-18 or 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18/Ps 16:5, 8, 9-10, 11 (1)/Ex 14:15-15:1/ Ex 15:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 17-18 (1b)/Is 54:5-14/Ps 30:2, 4, 5-6, 11-12, 13 (2a)/Is 55:1-11/Is 12:2-3, 4, 5-6 (3)/Bar 3:9-15, 32-4:4/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11 (Jn 6:68c)/Ez 36:16-17a, 18-28/Ps 42:3, 5; 43:3, 4 (42:2)/Rom 6:3-11/Ps 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23/Mt 28:1-10

Sunday: Acts 10:34a, 37-43/Ps 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23 (24)/Col 3:1-4 or 1 Cor 5:6b-8/Jn 20:1-9 or Mt 28:1-10

Reflection on the Readings

When our lives imitate the pattern of Christ's life — when we offer ourselves in humility and in sacrifice for the sake of others — we are truly proclaiming that Christ is Lord.



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Holy Week Liturgies

Monday, April 3 – Wednesday, April 5

8:30 am Mass

Monday, April 3

7:00 pm Holy Week Taize prayer*

Holy Thursday, April 6

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

Good Friday, April 7

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 8

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, April 9

7:00, 8:45**, 10:30 am and 12:15 pm Masses

** liturgy will be livestreamed; ** liturgy will be livestreamed and Holy Communion will be distributed in the parking lot*

Homily Series

Mark your calendars for the spring Homily Series (2 weeks):
April 15–16 and April 22–23.



Belonging to One Another – The Blessings and Challenges of Community

- **Week One:** Moving Past Anonymity – Letting Ourselves Be Known
- **Week Two:** Moving Into Relationship – Connecting With One Another

Scan the QR code or visit stapostle.org/st-thomas-the-apostle-homily-series/ for a video from Fr. Peter about the spring Homily Series.



Homily Series is a great way to foster growth in discipleship, as a parish, by focusing on one topic together. Pairing the weekend readings with the needs of the time, we aim to make each series engaging and inviting. Please take the opportunity to welcome someone you know who hasn't been to St. Thomas in a while, or ever, to join us.

Liturgy Schedule and Mass Intentions

Intentions for this weekend

Sunday, April 2, 2023

Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

4:30 pm Mass of Anticipation

†Joanna Vesper by Mark Vesper

†Richard Kuna by Linda Schoelle and Family

7:30 am †Richard Kuna by Jim and Mary Jo Breen

9:30 am †Jill Bates by Jim and Mary Jo Breen

11:30 am †Ramon Petilla by the Valencia family

Monday, April 3, 2023

Monday of Holy Week

8:30 am

Tuesday, April 4, 2023

Tuesday of Holy Week

8:30 am

Wednesday, April 5, 2023

Wednesday of Holy Week

8:30 am

Thursday, April 6, 2023

Holy Thursday

7:00 pm

Friday, April 7, 2023

Friday of the Passion of the Lord

3:00 pm

Saturday, April 8, 2023

Holy Saturday

7:30 pm †Patricia Kent by Peggy and Dennis Nowicki

Sunday, April 9, 2023

Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord

7:00 am

8:45 am †Dennis DeMeo by the Choir

†Ricardo Mallorca by Buddy and Mely Mallorca

10:30 am †Jerry E Brasseaux by Monique Barras

12:15 pm †Eileen Lane by Jim and Mary Jo Breen

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!

New Parishioners

Araceli Cuanuizo

Rory and Diana McClaurin

John and Charlene Sikorski

Would you like to become a parishioner?

Call the Main Office at 630.355.8980.



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Register for Women's Retreat

All women are invited to the St. Thomas Women's Retreat Saturday, April 29 from 8:30 am–5:00 pm at the Carmelite Spiritual Center, 8419 Bailey Rd., Darien, Ill.

Walk with Me – Women Reconnecting, presented by mother-daughter team Marianne Firlit and Katie Hayes, will inspire both the young and 'young at heart,' newcomers as well as seasoned retreatants through insights, activities and small group discussions. Register at carmelitespiritualcenter.org (spiritual programs) or call 630.969.4141. The \$65 per person cost includes both breakfast and lunch.

Gift yourself with a day of renewal and reconnecting!

C.A.R.E CORNER

The woman who would come to be known as Josephine Bakhita was born in Darfur, Sudan, around 1869. She was captured by slave traders at the age of 7. They dubbed her "Bakhita" meaning the lucky one who could not even remember her name. Over the course of the next 12 years she was bought and sold many times and was primarily treated with severe cruelty. The last of her masters was an Italian man who treated her well. He eventually returned to Italy, taking Josephine with him. At one point her owner left her in the custody of some nuns and they introduced her to their Christian God. She came to understand that this God was one who had also endured cruel torture, just as she had.

Bakhita received the three sacraments of initiation in 1890 from the Cardinal of Venice, who later became Pope Pius X. She changed her name to Josephine and became a sister with the Canossian Order in 1896. Josephine spent most of her life in manual labor, cooking and cleaning. But she was deeply grateful for her journey and her coming to know Christ. She began to travel around Italy to witness to the work of God's mercy in her life. After enduring considerable suffering, she died in 1947. Canonized by Pope John Paul II in 2000, Saint Josephine Bakhita reminds us of the power of gratitude, even for the difficult things we suffer and endure, as both the good and the bad are part of every human journey.

St. Thomas the Apostle Parish Mission

Thanks to all who attended the St. Thomas the Apostle Parish Mission "God Loves Us, God Feeds Us, God Forgives Us" held March 20–22. Special thanks to our facilitators, lay married couple, Graziano and Nancy Marcheschi (pictured).



Young Adult

"He is Risen" Potluck

Sunday, April 16 at 5:00 pm at St. Thomas the Apostle

Volunteering Opportunity

Saturday, May 6 (RSVP by Saturday, April 29) from 2:00–3:45 pm at Feed My Starving Children. For more information and to sign up for the above events, please visit stapostle.org/upcoming-young-adult-events-at-st-thomas/

Youth Ministry

High School Mission Trip – Sign up by April 12

Registrations are now open for the Alive in You Mission Trip to Appleton, Wisc., July 11–16. Mission trips are a great way to put faith in action. This year's 8th–12th graders are eligible. Typical work may include painting, simple building projects, landscaping, working at a food pantry, social service organizations or at kid's day camps. Chaperones needed. Cost is \$420. Registration forms can be found online. For more information, contact Dorothy Grantham at 630.355.8980, x117 or ym@stapostle.org.

Refuge – Steubenville Catholic Youth Conference – July 28-30, 2023

"Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened, and I will give you rest". Mt. 11:28

The Diocese is forming a delegation to attend this life-changing Steubenville Catholic Youth Conference at the University to St. Thomas in St. Paul, Minn. Great speakers, music and prayer to lift you up! Cost is \$349. Registrations due by April 20.

Registration is Open for NCYC – National Catholic Youth Conference – November 16–18

Celebrate "Fully Alive" @NCYC with thousands of other Catholic teens from across the Nation for a conference on steroids! You can find more information at ncyc.info or by contacting the Youth Ministry Office ym@stapostle.org. (Outgoing 8th–11th graders are eligible.) Cost is \$480. Sign up by April 30.



Thank You Middle School Catechists and Volunteers

This past week, we concluded another year of middle school religious education. Middle school religious education at St. Thomas happens because of a dedicated group of catechists and volunteers. These volunteers include our catechists: Mary Wright, Julie Krupa, Darlene Dionne, Mary Szczap, Susan Brotherly, Joe Pecoraro, Adisah Mahama, Ann Cotner, Emily Morton, Ami Joseph, Loula Fernandez, Lisa Shields, Anne Sidio and Brian Laughlin. On those rare occasions when this dedicated group is unable to be there for class, Chris Baker, John Kennedy, Gina Howley and Amy Duran have stepped up to help. There are also volunteers who are willing to work behind the scenes to ensure our programs run smoothly. These volunteers include Bernard Salzig and Carolyn Vondran. Thanks to all of these 'ministers' for sharing the gifts of their time and talent with St. Thomas middle school students. Their dedication is a gift to the whole St. Thomas community.

Teens with Character

A BIG shout out to the Teens with Character Core Team for planning and leading great Teens with Character meetings this year: Sarah Cotner, Abby Galer, Matt Galer, Peter Galer and Reece Voller. Thanks for being generous with your time and sharing your gifts with the St. Thomas faith community.

Living Stations Prayer Service

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 7, at 12:00 pm. Join the St. Thomas faith community for this special time of prayer, reflection and song.



Family Stations of the Cross

Looking for something to do with your family? Families are invited to walk the Stations of the Cross inside the church or outside. Prayer guides are available leading your family through each station. It is geared for families. Please see the Religious Education/Faith Formation office or welcome desk in the Gathering Area to borrow a family guide for the stations.

Pray for a First Communicant

Parishioners are invited to pray for children receiving their First Eucharist this spring. You may pray for a specific child by taking a handprint at the church's exit doors. The handprints are made from colorful construction paper and will have the child's first name on it. On the back side is a label inviting you to write a card to this child. Drop off a card with the handprint to the box outside the Faith Formation Office by April 17. Please pray for this child as they receive Jesus for the first time and more fully become a part of our faith community.

Religious Education Dates

Elementary

- **April 11 (last class):** Tuesday
Elementary RE sessions at Brookdale Elementary School.

Scripture Safari

Come and see the Holy Spirit in action during our Scripture Safari week "Let's Be on God's Team"



June 12-16 from 9:00 am-12:00 pm daily including a Mass June 17 at 4:30 pm. Be part of this fun-filled retreat.

Scripture Safari is for children entering kindergarten through grade 4. Registration forms to participate, youth volunteer forms (grade 5 and older) and adult volunteer registration forms available April 1. Adult volunteers with children age 4 and younger can be accommodated into the program. If you have questions or want to participate, contact Lorraine Katz at lkatz@stapostle.org or the Religious Education office at REAdmin@stapostle.org.

Question of the week

If you were in the crowd waving a palm at Jesus entering Jerusalem, how would you feel?



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2023 Lenten Project – Building HOPE

Fr. Frantzdy is the Pastor of Ste. Marie Madeleine, our Twinning parish in Duchity, Haiti. He spoke the following words in his homily during his visit with us.



Ste. Marie-Madeleine church under construction.

“It is our hope to put the roof on the church by this coming July for the 25th anniversary of Ste. Marie Madeleine parish. While there will be more work to do, with the roof we will be able to celebrate Mass on the feast day of Ste. Marie Madeleine. That will bring hope to our parishioners and the entire community of Duchity.”

We can make that hope a reality!

How to Help Put a Roof on the Church!

- Pick up a little brown box at the church exits and save your change during Lent.
- Checks to “St. Thomas OSJ” with “Church” in the memo. Drop in the weekend collection baskets or mail to “St. Thomas OSJ.”
- Donate on the St. Thomas website home page (4% service fee). <https://bit.ly/buildingchurch>



Fritz Gerald Polyte Visitor from Duchity, Haiti

Thank You, St. Thomas

Anne Cucinello and Fritz Gerald Polyte spoke briefly at the March 19, 11:15 am Mass.

Anne Cucinello

... I have traveled to Duchity with four different medical teams, experiences I will never forget! During my visits, I became friends with Fritz. He was a medical translator ... and also taught us Haitian culture and customs ... He graduated from St Thomas school and received a diploma in public administration in Port au Prince. He is here on a two-year humanitarian visa and is living in Boston with his sister and her family.

Fritz Gerald Polyte

Hi. My name is Fritz. I am from Duchity and am very happy to be here today. I am very grateful for what the community of St Thomas has done for me and continues to do for the community of Duchity such as, providing healthcare, schools and building the new church. Before St Thomas twinned in Duchity, the highest level of education was 6th grade. After 6th grade your next step was to marry and work on the farm.

St Thomas provided us our first secondary education, like US high school. So now people from Duchity can dream bigger like becoming a doctor, nurse, or lawyer. Your actions have had a big impact on people's lives you don't even know. I am an example!

To finish, my connection with St Thomas community taught me two things:

1. Being good with everyone without any reason.
2. The only nation is one humanity.

May God keep blessing you all. Peace and love. Thanks.



Fritz Gerald on “The Ledge” at Willis Tower



April 4 Election

Catholic Social Teaching calls us to participate in society, seeking together the common good and well-being of all.

The League of Women Voters (LWV) provides election information on its website vote411.org. Simply enter your address and be directed to information for the candidates in your area. All candidates for a particular office were asked the same questions and the LWV website provides responses. You may research candidates individually or ask to see a comparison of candidate responses. No candidates are endorsed.

Key races in Naperville include Mayor, City Council, Park District Commissioner and various School Board members.

Become informed and vote April 4!

Walking the Good Red Road Nicholas Black Elk's Journey to Sainthood

Join us Thursday, April 13 (via Zoom) to watch the documentary Walking the Good Red Road concerning Nicholas Black Elk's journey to sainthood. Following the film, a panel discussion will explain the canonization process and the honors Nicholas Black Elk has previously received.

Black Elk is a revered Holy Man among the Lakota. He bridged the gap between traditional native spirituality and Catholicism. He showed his people that you did not have to choose between the two, you could be both. He did not abandon his native ways when he became a Christian. To him it was together — praying to the one God.

A Mass in June 2019 at our twinning parish, St. Agnes Catholic Church in Manderson, SD, celebrated the completion of the diocesan phase of the Cause for Canonization of Servant of God Nicholas Black Elk. At the Mass, Bishop Robert Gruss stated, "Our hope and prayer is that one day Nicholas Black Elk will become one in the Communion of Saints as recognized and named by the Church for his life of heroic virtue and holiness and intercession."

To register and receive the Zoom link, contact Anne Schultz at aschultz@stapostle.org or 630.355.8980, x113.

Mark your calendars for a follow-up session Thursday, April 27 (via Zoom). Members from St. Agnes will share their insights on Nichols Black Elk and what it would mean for the St. Agnes and Lakota communities if he were canonized a saint.



Nicholas Black Elk with daughter Lucy

LEAP of Faith

"We are most human when we see the humanity in others." ~author unknown

The Inclusive Justice Initiative is periodically highlighting different groups and traditions. We invite you to take a LEAP of faith with us ... discovering the commonalities we all share.

April: A month of Holy Days for Christianity, Judaism and Islam

Learn: This month, important Holy Days for all three Abrahamic faiths will be celebrated — Easter, Passover, and Ramadan. It was at a Passover meal with his disciples that Jesus inaugurated the Eucharist.

Today's Eucharist is a combination of the Jewish synagogue service and Passover meal as adapted by early Jewish Christians. Fr. Tom Reese explains the Jewish roots of our Eucharist. [Click here.](#)

Explore: Each Spring, our Jewish brothers and sisters gather around their tables with family and friends to observe the Passover Seder, reenacting the exodus from Egypt as prescribed by the sages. The Haggadah is the guidebook for the Passover evening meal (Seder). [Explore an online version.](#)

Act: Be open to encounters with people of other faiths and to share in their traditional celebrations.

Pray: Pope Francis' prayer for the children of Abraham

Almighty God, our Creator, you love our human family and every work of your hands: As children of Abraham, Jews, Christians and Muslims, we thank you for having given us Abraham to be our common father in faith. Open our hearts to mutual forgiveness and in this way make us instruments of reconciliation, builders of a more just and fraternal society.



The Race Card Project

A hope of The Race Card Project at St. Thomas is to encourage dialogue about race. If you find yourself dwelling on a particular Race Card, and you'd like to share your thoughts with us, email RaceCardProject@stapostle.org. If you would be open to and interested in some in-person discussion on thoughts expressed in Race Cards, please email RaceCardProject@stapostle.org and let us know.

Here is a recent post and 'back story' from stapostle.org/race-card-project.

"He's one of the good ones."

I grew up in a 'sundown town' in Ohio - an all white community where African Americans were implicitly required to leave before sundown each day. This was never verbalized or codified, but everyone somehow knew it. Our neighbor was overtly racist; he actually had a full size Swastika flag hanging in his basement. He openly talked of the need to 'get rid of' n----- frequently. One day 12-year-old me saw a black family — mom, dad & kids — over at his house for a cookout in the back yard! I went to investigate — they were friends from their old neighborhood in Cleveland. When I later asked how he squared this with his views on black people, he shrugged and said, "Oh, he's one of the good ones." I then thought about my own family, where we all praised MLK and racial equality, but at the same time we never once had a non-white friend or visitor in our house. To this day I wonder — which family was really more racist?

If you haven't submitted a Race Card, please join the conversation. If you've submitted a Race Card, join the conversation often.





SERVICE COMMISSION – PASTORAL CARE

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Susan Kearney,
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PASTORAL CARE
St. Thomas the Apostle

From the Desk of the Director of Pastoral Care

As we approach the holiest week of our liturgical year, I hope that your experience with the WAGES program has helped you to focus on the journey that Jesus took in his public ministry and on his final journey along the way of sorrows.

Many have said that they experienced an encounter with the living Christ in ways they hadn't before. By walking his path in the scripture and meditating on his journey, their own experience of walking somehow made Jesus' journey real for them.

Theologian Thomas Merton said, "True encounter with Christ liberates something in us, a power we did not know we had, a hope, a capacity for life, a resilience, an ability to bounce back when we thought that we were completely defeated, a capacity to grow and change, a power of creative transformation."

May we know the freedom of the risen Christ as we continue our journey to Easter.

Register Today Mental Health First Aid Training

Chances are you know a loved one, a friend or a youth who is struggling with an emotional or mental health issue. Chances are you would like to be able to help them. Chances are you might not know how to help them.

There is a guaranteed way to learn how to recognize when someone is hurting: Mental Health First Aid Training. This training will be offered Saturday, April 22 from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm at St. Thomas (blended – 2.5 hours independent and 6 hours in-person).

Register at <https://042223StThomas.eventbrite.com>. Deadline for registration is April 14, 2023. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Diane McQueen at dmcqueen@stapostle.org.

Potluck Thank You!

The PrimeTime Committee Members would like to extend a grand thank you to the almost 30 participants attending the March Canines for Christ Pet Therapy program presented by Kelly Sebold and her dog, Gretchen. Kelly's insight on therapy animals was indeed comforting, and the potluck comfort food was a deliciously wonderful success!



Save the Date

Mark Tuesday, April 18 at 10:00 am on your calendar and plan to attend our April meeting featuring Jane's Journey. PrimeTime is pleased to provide a comprehensive presentation by Senior Living Experts. This program is open for ALL AGES as well our 50+ audience. More details to follow.

Wellspring Presents: A Spiritual Spa

Need a spring refresh to lift your spirits? On Tuesday, April 25, from 7:00-8:30 pm in the Gym, A Spiritual Spa awaits you. Spend some time relaxing and revitalizing in a "spiritual spa" by sampling yoga, reflexology, guided meditation and a longevity lifestyle as you rotate through the various stations.



Presenters include: Patti Essig (*yoga*), Amrit Yoga Certified 2nd Level Teacher, Spiritual Director, Retreat Facilitator; Kathy Ford, R.N. (*reflexology*), Director of Pastoral Care/Service, St. Raphael Parish; Chari Rosales (*guided meditation*), Director of Adult Faith Formation, St. Thomas Parish; Dr. Steve Superczynski, D.C. (*longevity lifestyle*), Superczynski Family Chiropractic LTD.

To take part, register by April 23 with REAdmin@stapostle.org or 630.355.8980, x118. A freewill donation will be gratefully accepted.



Thank you for supporting St. Thomas the Apostle. To learn more about online giving, please visit our website and click on the Giving tab in the top menu bar.

Are you curious? Or do you just, need to know! What is a Prayer Shawl?

Prayer shawl. Peace shawl. Comfort shawl. Whatever name you give them, they serve the same purpose. These are a wearable hug, crafted with love and intent, from maker to recipient. Whether it be personal words, verse or exclusively prayer, it is these thoughts imbued in the shawl with each stitch that make them what they are.

Prayer shawls can be knitted or crocheted. They may be adorned with fringe or left plain and understated. They can be pink or muted tan and anything in between. In the instance of these shawls, the product is a physical representation of the process. That process is a spiritual journey, through thought and intent. Anyone can make and wear a shawl and the type of intention woven into it, is unique. Each crafter is free to choose the type of prayer that they are comfortable with. Taken literally, the term, "it's the thought that counts," is fitting in this instance. There is a common misconception that prayer shawls are not made for happy and positive events. However, they can be as much a celebration of life as they can of loss. Any instance where the crafter is thinking of someone. In the words of the Prayer Shawl Ministry:

"Shawls can be used for: undergoing medical procedures; as a comfort after a loss or in times of stress; during bereavement; prayer of meditation; or during an illness and recovery; ministering to others; graduation, birthday, or anniversary."

"Shawls ... They wrap, enfold, comfort, cover, give solace, mother, hug, shelter and beautify."

Janet Severi Bristow, 1998

If you have comments or questions, please contact Felicia Lawlor at flawlor@stapostle.org.

The St. Thomas Senior Connection Visitation and Phone Ministry is Back!

What is it? A ministry of care

For whom? All who cannot come to St. Thomas physically

Where? In homes, care centers, assisted living

How? Personal visits or phone calls

The goal of the Visitation and Phone Ministry is to ensure that no member of our faith community is forgotten and to encourage a sense of belonging and connection.

- Do you know someone who would benefit from this ministry?
- Would you like to learn how you can help?

Please call the pastoral care office 630.355.8980, x124 or email akubalanza@stapostle.org. Training will be provided.

The Week Ahead

Monday, April 3, 2023

4:30–5:15 pm Youth Choir Rehearsal, Church
6:00–9:00 pm Knights of Columbus, Lighthouse Buildings and Grounds, Judea
7:00–9:00 pm Holy Week Taizé Prayer, Church (livestreamed)

Tuesday, April 4, 2023

10:00–11:00 am Care Pantry Distribution
4:30–5:30 pm Stations Practice, Church

Wednesday, April 5, 2023

9:15–11:15 am Wednesday Bible Study, Senior Center
11:00 am–12:30 pm Small Jobs Group, Galilee
6:30–8:30 pm Pax Christi, Cana
7:00–8:30 pm St. Vincent de Paul, Senior Center

Thursday, April 6, 2023

Holy Thursday — NO 8:30 am Mass
7:00 pm Mass of the Lord's Supper, Church (livestreamed)

Friday, April 7, 2023

Good Friday — Offices Closed — NO 8:30 am Mass
12:00 pm Living Stations of the Cross, Church
3:00 pm Celebration of the Passion of the Lord, Church (livestreamed)

Saturday, April 8, 2023

Holy Saturday — NO 8:30 am Mass
12:00 pm Blessing of Easter Baskets, Outside in front of Gathering Area
NO 3:30 pm Reconciliation or 4:30 pm Mass
7:30 pm The Easter Vigil in the Holy Night, Church (livestreamed)

Sunday, April 9, 2023

Happy Easter!
7:00 am Mass, Church
8:45 am Mass, Church (livestreamed)
10:30 am Mass, Church
12:15 pm Mass, Church



Around 300 people enjoyed the Knights of Columbus fish fry Friday, March 24. Thanks to all who joined us!



PARISH INFORMATION



Welcome

Thank you for joining us.

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

Church Office and Building 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.

Pastor

Rev. Peter Infanger
x102, pinfanger@stapostle.org

Parochial Vicar

Rev. Joseph Kappilumakkal, CMI
x103, jkapp@stapostle.org

Weekend Associates

Rev. Bob Colaresi, O. Carm.

Deacons

Jim (Mary Jo) Breen, 630.486.3133
jimb4853@gmail.com
Joe (Carolyn) Cuzzone, 630.355.8980
x224, DeaconJoeCuzzone@gmail.com
Larry (Susan) Kearney, 630.355.8980
x225, lrkearney@comcast.net

Administration

Communications Coordinator
Casey Braun, x110, cbraun@stapostle.org

Administration Assistant
Mary Derwinski, x143,
mderwinski@stapostle.org

Facility Manager
Bob Hartmann, x133, facility@stapostle.org

Main Office Administrative Assistant
Michelle Kuhn, x100,
mainoffice@stapostle.org

Main Office Administrative Assistant
Diane McQueen, x101,
dmcqueen@stapostle.org

Evening/Saturday Receptionists
Elizabeth Fisher
Mary Wright
nitecrew@stapostle.org

Finance/Business Officer
Janet Simmons, x106,
jsimmons@stapostle.org

Financial Assistant
Sue Sportiello, x107,
ssportiello@stapostle.org

*For a complete staff listing, please visit
stapostle.org.*

Parish Pastoral Council

Susan Wood O'Leary, *Chair*
Noble Charles
Dave Johanneson
Alison Ohl
Brittany Tres

Commission Representatives
Cheryl Kaspar, *Worship*
Rick Peterson, *Service*
Scott Mygind, *Finance*
Carrie Wujek, *Faith & Spiritual Formation*

Ex-Officio

Rev. Peter Infanger, *Pastor*
Rev. Joseph Kappilumakkal, *Parochial Vicar*
Janet Simmons, *Recording Secretary*

Sign-up for our Emails

Stay up to date with the latest happenings at St. Thomas by signing up for any of our emails at stapostle.org.

Baptism: Parents are required to attend a Baptismal awareness and renewal session prior to the Baptism. Call the Main Office a few months in advance to make arrangements.

Reconciliation: Reconciliation is available Saturday, 3:30–4:15 pm, in the Reconciliation Room of the Chapel. Our priests are available during the week by appointment.

Matrimony: A couple planning on being married at St. Thomas should contact the church six months to a year in advance. Either the bride or groom, or their parents, must be a registered parishioner at least three months before setting a date. Call Diane McQueen, x101, to schedule.

Anointing: Call 630.355.8980.

Communion for the Homebound: Call 630.355.8980 to receive prayer/Eucharist from a Minister of Care.

Funerals: Call Samantha Delke, x120, for pre-planning or immediate need.

Religious Education: Call 630.305.6318 to register.

OCIA (Order of Christian Initiation for Adults): Any person wanting to learn more about the Catholic Faith should call Chari Rosales, x138.

Counseling Resources: Call 630.355.8980.

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
ascacademy.org
630.961.6125
Margie Marshall, *Principal*

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