



St. Thomas
THE *Apostle*

CHURCH

Lord,
how often
must I
Forgive?

GOD'S PEOPLE IN EXTRAORDINARY VARIETY

September 17, 2023

www.stapostleparish.org

Welcome!

We're so glad you're here and invite you to journey in faith with us. We believe the church is the sacrament of God's saving presence in the world. Our goal is to provide a spiritual home where all are welcome, where the healing, reconciling, liberating love of God flows through us to all people. If you have any questions about our parish, please call or email our parish office.



FROM THE *Pastor's Desk*

Dear Parishioners and Friends of St. Thomas the Apostle,

My heart is still full since our gathering last weekend when we were all able to be in church again. I snapped a photo of you, and I share it with you so you can all see your smiling faces.

I have some good updates to share with you:

As in years previous, we welcome a CTU intern to gain some practical ministry experience. **Sr. Leontine Faye** will be with us through Christmas. You can find her biography on the following page.

Also, I am happy to introduce our new parish counselor **Liv Turner**! Liv is working on her masters in

counseling and through our partnership with the **Claret Center**, Liv can provide counseling services for our parish and neighborhood. Many of you remember Michael Olan, our previous counselor on staff, and I

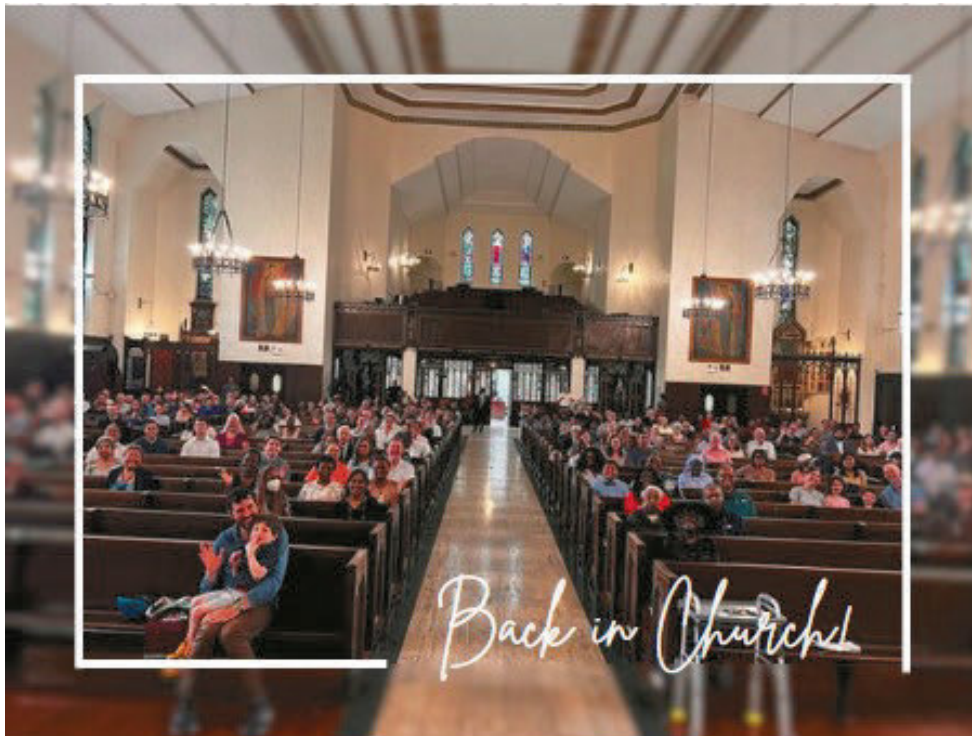
know he provided a benefit to many of you. I am thankful that Liv can join our parish staff to provide needed mental health support to our entire parish community. You'll find Liv's bio also in this weekend's bulletin.

There are other great things happening in our parish –

keep an eye out for all our happenings.

In all things, may God bless our parish.

Sincerely in Christ,
Fr. Trail



Meet Our *NEW* CTU Intern & Counselor

Dear Father Michael, dear parishioners of Saint Thomas the Apostle church,

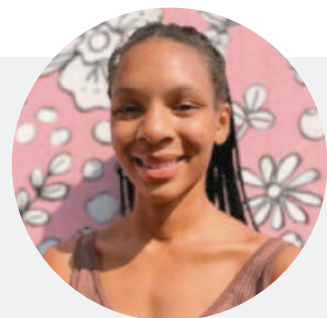
I would like first, to thank you for welcoming me in your parish for my Ministry practicum.

My name is Sr Leontine Gabrielle Faye. I am from Senegal, a West African country. I belong to a local religious congregation named Immaculate Heart of Mary, founded in 1858 by a French bishop. Our charisma is initially with the context of that time, to work for the evangelization of black people, putting emphasis on women and children, because education is mostly done by women and the children are the future of the Church. We exert our charisma through the care of sick people with our dispensaries, teaching with Christian values, welcoming orphans and abandoned babies, working with women to empower them and help them have better living conditions to take care of their families, teaching catechism, accompanying young people and different groups. In a nutshell, we are present where a need is. We are mostly present in Africa: Senegal, Gambia, Cape Verde, Guinea Conakry and Bissau, Mauritania, Central African Republic, Chad, Niger and Burkina Faso. We are also present in France and Belgium.

Coming back to me, I am starting my second and last year at CTU, I am doing an MA in Ministry.

I look forward to learning a lot from you but also to bring you what I have received as gift from God. I remain connected to you through the Immaculate Heart of Mary.

Sr Leontine Gabrielle Faye



Liv Turner, BA, is currently pursuing her Master's in Counseling Psychology with an emphasis in Marriage and Family Counseling at The Chicago School of Professional Psychology. Through her career and volunteer experiences, she's had the opportunity to work with children, adults, and couples across a variety of settings with various clinical needs. Her goal is to provide services to diverse populations across socioeconomic backgrounds. Many of her experiences prepared her to better integrate cultural contexts into practice, and she hopes to be able to address your own unique experiences in therapy. She also aims to provide a safe space for you to feel understood and empowered in your story! Her skills in counseling address scenarios

such as Human sexuality, LGBTQ+ and BIPOC advocacy, and Trauma. Liv provides therapy to couples and families as well as those seeking individual therapy.

Liv uses a person centered, mindfulness-based cognitive therapy approach. Together you can work with Liv to build a therapeutic relationship based on empathy and positive regard in a judgment-free space. We will use evidenced based strategies that will guide you through life's challenges and help you cultivate a positive relationship with yourself and people in your life! After sessions, Liv hopes you feel equipped to tackle the challenges in your life by tapping into your own potential. She looks forward to working with you at The Claret Center and St. Thomas the Apostle Parish.



Worship

TODAY'S READINGS: TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Sirach 27:30—28:7 ♦ Psalm 103:1-2, 3-4, 9-10, 11-12 ♦ Romans 14:7-9 ♦ Matthew 18:21-35

Caroline & Johnny Georgapoulos (SPECIAL INTENTION), †Irene Koenen, Angelica Salazar (SPEEDY RECOVERY)

*We encourage you to prepare yourself for next weekend's liturgy
by reading and praying the scriptures (visit www.usccb.org).*

NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS: TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Isaiah 5:6-9 ♦ Psalm 145:2-3, 8-9, 17-18 ♦ Philippians 1:20c-24, 27a ♦ Matthew 20:1-16a

DAILY READINGS AND PRAYER INTENTIONS

Weekday Masses are at 8am on Monday, Wednesday, Thursday & Friday. On Tuesdays, Mass is at 8:30am.
Please remember those listed below in your prayers this week.

MONDAY, September 18

1 Tm 2:1-8 | Ps 28:2, 7, 8-9 | Lk 7:1-10

Rita Allen (SPECIAL INTENTION)

†Jean Herring

TUESDAY, September 19

1 Tm 3:1-13 | Ps 101:1b-2ab, 2cd-3ab, 5, 6 | Lk 7:11-17

Paula René Jones-Bradford (BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS!)

WEDNESDAY, September 20

MEMORIAL OF ST. ANDREW KIM TAEGŎN & ST. PAUL

CHÔNG HASANG, & COMPANIONS, MARTYRS

1 Tm 3:14-16 | Ps 111:1-2, 3-4, 5-6 | Lk 7:31-35

Marguerita Langford (BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS)

THURSDAY, September 21

FEAST OF ST. MATTHEW, APOSTLE AND EVANGELIST

Eph 4:1-7, 11-13 | Ps 19:2-3, 4-5 | Mt 9:9-11

Tom Hayden (SPECIAL INTENTION), †James Heard

†Atilano (Tilo) Comara

FRIDAY, September 22

1 Tm 6:2c-12 | Ps 49:6-7, 8-10, 17-18, 19-20 | Lk 8:1-3

†Dr. Herman Neal

SATURDAY, September 23

MEMORIAL OF ST. PIUS OF PIETRELICINA, PRIEST

1 Tm 6:13-16 | Ps 1b-2, 3, 4, 5 | Lk 8:4-15

Ronald Spencer (SPEEDY RECOVERY)

Angelica Salazar (SPEEDY RECOVERY)

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

parishioners and friends who are ill:

Dorla Allen, Lucas Allen, Rita Allen, Alexandria Banks, Janet Banks, Romulo Barreno, Betty Black, Dorothy Bonds, Bradford family, Diane Clarke, Emil F. Coccaro, Thomas & Carol Cole, Patricia Comeaux, Romy Crena, Esther Dionisio, Sr., Jean Douglas-Washington, Sheldon Dugan, Barbara Dunn, Pat & Dick English, Marilyn Epps, Joan Gallagher, Lina Garcia, David Giles, Pamela Graniczy, Albert Hines, Kathleen Holden, Maria Jimenez, Olga Jimenez, Carolyn Jones, Connie Jose, Terri Kilbane, Charlie King, Carol Landrum, Mary Lerps, Linda Loggins, Mankowski Family, Anastacia I. Mebane, Clara Morgan, Caridad Neal, Fr. Leonidas Nishemezewe, Carmen Orendain, Edmond Peirre, Agnes Pelt, David Nathaniel Robinson, Dick Russel, Nelson R. Sample, Justina Sentino, Zahari Simmons, Bobby Sims, Olustee Smith, Ernest Talbott, Sheree Tilford, Ed Vaughn, Charles Walker, Sr., Jo Washington, Julia Washington, Terrance Watson, Richard West, Mavis Willis, Marie Bijou Wong, Joan Yedinak

For those who have died.

May God grant them eternal joy & peace.





Worship

Unity of Posture in the Body of Christ

by Timothy A. Johnston
Pastoral Associate

PART III

Q. *Why aren't we kneeling during the Eucharistic Prayer while we are celebrating Mass in the gym?*

Last week I intended to provide a starting context/catechesis, which I hope has set the stage for this week's article. Since the liturgy is the Church's public prayer, the words, postures, and gestures we use are generally prescribed by the *General Instruction of the Roman Missal (GIRM)* and are designed to help us pray united as Christ's Body.

Gestures and Bodily Posture

The GIRM says:

The gestures and bodily postures . . . of the people, must be conducive to making the entire celebration resplendent with beauty and noble simplicity, to making clear the true and full meaning of its different parts, and to fostering the participation of all

A common bodily posture, to be observed by all those taking part, is a sign of the unity of the members of the Christian community gathered together for the Sacred Liturgy (no. 42).

This idea of "unity of the members" is an underlying principle within the GIRM and I feel it often gets overlooked or overshadowed by our personal preferences, piety, or misunderstanding. The way we communally pray concretely expresses what we believe and teach (i.e., *lex orandi, lex credendi, lex vivandi*). Basically, the way we pray together forms us in faith/belief; that's why neither mine nor your personal preferences can outweigh the vision of the Church's liturgy—the liturgy is not devotional or private prayer.

Standing at Prayer

Both standing and kneeling are two common postures that we employ during the liturgy and maybe even our private

prayer outside of liturgy. As I noted in Part I of this series, the norm in the US Catholic Church is to kneel from the end of the *Sanctus* until the end of the *Amen* of the *Eucharistic Prayer*. This has not always been the case in the Church's history.

Standing is a distinctive posture for humans. "Standing was the ordinary posture among most ancient peoples—standing with uplifted hands and with eyes fixed in the direction of the rising sun." When we look through Scripture, for example, we can find many references to standing for prayer. Here are a few examples of standing for prayer: Genesis 18:22 ("Abraham remained standing before the Lord."); 1 Samuel 1:26 (Hannah stands praying to the Lord); Mark 11:25 (When you stand to pray.); Matthew 6:5 (hypocrites who love to stand); Luke 18:11, 13 (standing by himself to pray and tax collector standing far off). In each of these instances, whether a prayer of praise, thanksgiving, or supplication, the person stands to address God. They approach God without embarrassment or shame; they stand face-to-face, if you will, in dialogue.

Looking back to the early Church, there is evidence that within early Christian communities, standing was the common posture for prayer and at the Eucharist (e.g., Clement of Alexandria, *Stromata* VII, 7, 40:1). Justin Martyr (d. cir. 165) in his *First Apology* says, "Then, when the reader has finished . . . we all stand up together and offer prayers" (no. 67). Tertullian (d. 220) describes the prayer posture for Christians in his *Apology* saying, "To [heaven we] Christians lift our eyes—with hands outstretched, because they are harmless; with head uncovered, because we are not ashamed" (chapter XXX). The posture of standing for Tertullian was a prayer posture in preparation for martyrdom as well as a sign of the resurrection into which Christians are baptized. He says, "We . . . according to the tradition we have received, abstain from kneeling on the day of the Lord's resurrection" (*De Oratone* liber c. 23). Kneeling on the Lord's Day then was unlawful because Sunday celebrated resurrection, new life, not sin and death, embodied by kneeling. Even the Council of Nicea (325) legislated against kneeling on the Lord's Day because it was a day of celebration and not penitence. Canon 20 says:

Since there are some persons who kneel on the Lord's Day and in the days of Pentecost; in order that all things may be observed in like manner in every church, the holy synod has

(Cont'd on next page.)



Worship

Unity of Posture

(Cont'd from previous page.)

decreed that all should at those times offer up their prayers to God standing (trans. C. J. Hefele and H. Leclercq, *Histoire des Conciles 11 vols; I:I*, 528-620).

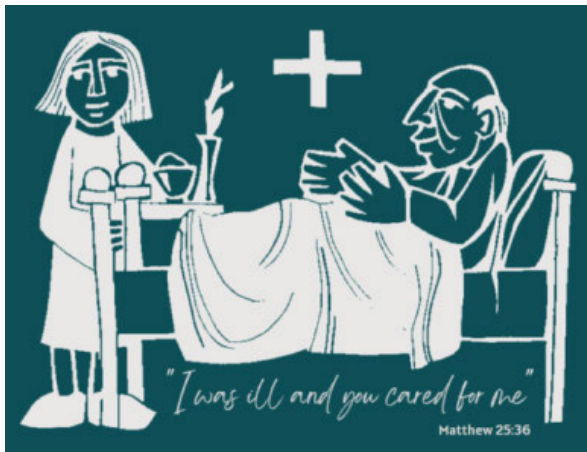
In *De Oratione* (31, 2), Origen says, "For there can be no doubt that among a thousand possible positions of the

body, outstretched hands and uplifted eyes are to be preferred above all others." He goes on to say that in special circumstances, such as sickness, a Christian may pray "even sitting or lying," but ultimately the assembly all join in the assigned communal posture setting aside individual pious expressions.

It is interesting to note that the "practice of kneeling for the Eucharistic Prayer did not develop until the thirteenth century." It is quite new in the life of the Church.

Part IV continues in next week's bulletin.

MINISTERS OF CARE FALL RECRUITMENT AND TRAINING



If you are compassionate, prayerful, attentive to others, and yearning to serve the parish and Church in a more profound way, come explore becoming a Minister of Care here at St. Thomas the Apostle. Ministers of Care, using the Church's rites for visiting the sick and homebound, bring Holy Communion to, pray with, and offer a compassionate presence to patients at UC Hospitals, residents at Montgomery Place, and our homebound parishioners. We greatly need new/additional ministers to assist with this wonderful and necessary ministry. Our parish has a rich tradition of having a strong presence to those who are sick and homebound.

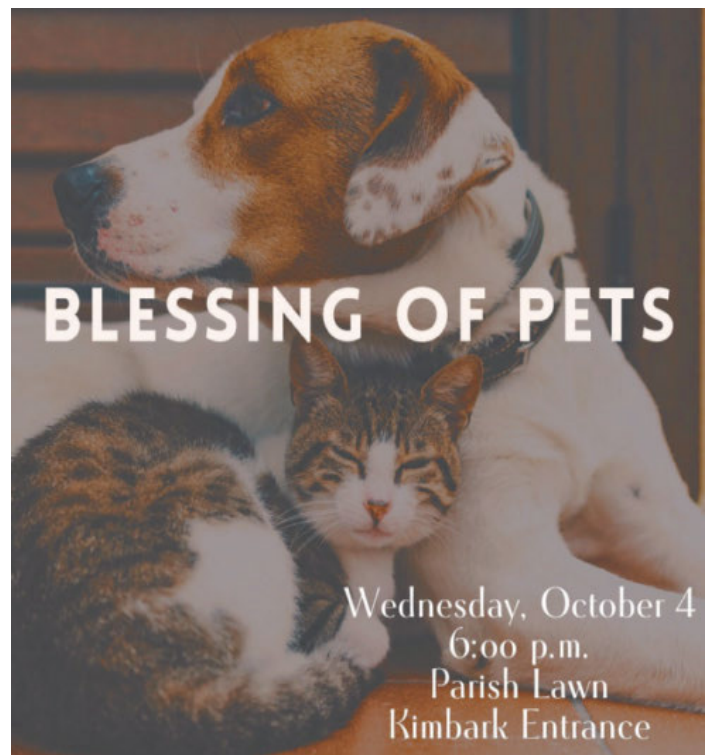
Training begins on **September 30** with a self-study portion (in-home), which is followed by an in-person session on **Saturday, October 7 from 9AM to 1:30PM** in the parish hall. For more information and to register, please contact the parish office at 773.324.2626 or email parishoffice@stapostleparish.org.

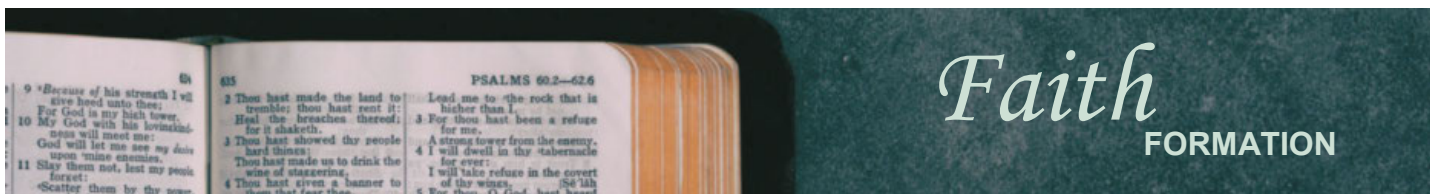


RECEIVE COMMUNION

At home, in a hospital, or nursing home

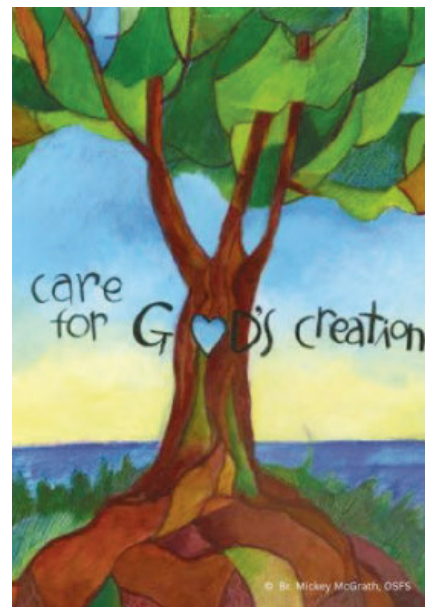
If you or a loved one are ill or homebound and unable to attend Mass, Ministers of Care are available to bring Holy Communion to your home, the hospital, or senior facility. The Ministers of Care are fully vaccinated, will wear a mask, and practice other safety measures. We ask that others present also wear a mask. To schedule a visit, call Lisa in the parish office at 773-324-2626.





FAMILY FAITH FORMATION MONTHLY THEME: CARE FOR GOD'S CREATION

Before we are able to care for God's creation, we must first immerse ourselves in and recognize the beauty of it. In reading the first creation story (Genesis 1: 1 - 2: 4), we hear how God created all things, first creating the space, then filling it. He saw all things and called them "good." Too often, though, it seems that we rush through life, running from one place to the next, without really stopping to admire and be impacted by God's creation, to see it as "good." This week, take some time to pause and notice God's beautiful creation around us. Whether it be a nature walk, pausing to admire the landscaping on our parish grounds, listening to the sounds of God's creation, spending time on the shores of Lake Michigan, or just sitting in your own backyard or patio, challenge yourself to encounter and experience God through the created world. Reflect on how this experience transforms your understanding of God



FROM THE BISHOP CHAIRMEN'S REFLECTION ON THE SEASON OF CREATION

The geography and history of the United States predispose us to recognize the image of divine blessings expressed as flowing waters. Countless rivers and watersheds grace the North American continent, such as the Mississippi, Missouri, Columbia, Rio Grande, Colorado, Great Lakes and St. Lawrence and numerous others, connecting the United States to its immediate neighbors, Canada and Mexico. Furthermore, our nation is bound by the Pacific, Atlantic and Arctic oceans, sources of life, economic wellbeing, biodiversity, recreation, inspiration, and beauty.

The abundant waterways of our country have brought productive farms and flourishing urbanizations. Yet along with economic prosperity and ingenuity, our waterways have been filled with pollution, contamination, and garbage bringing injustice to peoples, creatures, and ecosystems.

We must change! Pope Francis invites us to "transform our hearts, our lifestyles, and the public policies [to] contribute to the mighty river of justice and peace in this Season of Creation."

For the full text of the Bishop Chairmen's Reflection visit [https://www.usccb.org/resources/resources/Statement on the World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation, September 1, 2023.pdf](https://www.usccb.org/resources/resources/Statement%20on%20the%20World%20Day%20of%20Prayer%20for%20the%20Care%20of%20Creation,%20September%201,%202023.pdf)

QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK

Forgiveness & Mercy



"Then Peter came and said to him, 'Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?' Jesus said to him, 'Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.'" (Matthew 18: 21-22)

Sirach 27: 30 - 28: 7 - Call to forgiveness and mercy
Romans 14: 7-9 - To live and die for Christ
Matthew 18: 21-35 - The merciless official

ADULTS: When someone hurts you, how do you forgive them?

CHILDREN: When have you forgiven someone who treated you unfairly?



A Mighty River
Amos 5: 24

Let Justice and Peace Flow

Season of Creation 2023

SCRIPTURES

Sirach 27:30—28:7
Romans 14:7-9
Matthew 18:21-35



Connection to Today's Scripture: The Scriptures on this Third Sunday within the Season of Creation recall that while the seriousness of the ecological crisis demands urgent and passionate prophetic action, it must remain non-judgmental and forgiving. They invite reflection on how much we have been forgiven and still need forgiveness so that we may be patient and forgiving of others.

Praying at Home:

- ♦ Sing: *Litany of the Earth* by Barbara Bridge <https://youtu.be/jlWlthGJdok>
- ♦ Read: Psalm 8; in praise of God for the dignity bestowed upon us
- ♦ Ponder the Word: What words, phrases, or images stir your heart from this reading? Ask the Holy Spirit to reveal what you are to learn and enact from this prayer.

POP QUIZ

What is the single most significant action you can take to help our environment?

- A** Recycle
- B** Reduce meat and dairy consumption
- C** Install solar panels



ANSWER

B Reducing meat and dairy consumption is the single most significant action you can take to help our environment. The amount of land required for livestock production accounts for roughly 30% of current global biodiversity loss. Eating less meat and dairy supports biodiversity and will reduce greenhouse gas emissions, deforestation, and soil erosion and contamination. #unbiodiversity

Consider “No Meat Fridays” during the Season of Creation.

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE *School*

Primary and Elementary Scientists in Action



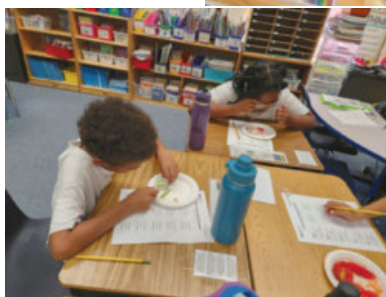
Our STA scientists have been hard at work already this year. Life Science has been a focus in both the first and third grade classes. In Mrs. Issa's first grade class, students worked in partnerships to identify the differences in different animals. They had to discuss their findings and record them on a chart to communicate their data! It is great to see our first grade scholars growing as collaborators and communicators as they explore new concepts.



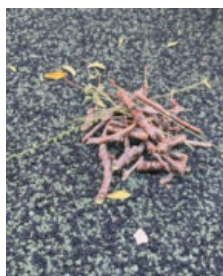
In Mrs. Malnar's third grade class, students began their unit on the Structures of Life and started by making a KWL chart about seeds. They recorded what they already know about seeds. They learned about what the scientific definition of what a fruit is and how sometimes that differs than what the grocery store categorizes a fruit to be. They then applied this definition to different



foods to determine if they were a scientific fruit or vegetable. They made predictions before cutting into the food item to see inside! Making predictions based on facts learned and recording their data are important parts of the scientific process. They discussed their findings at the tables. Then, the class went back to their KWL charts and added questions that they were wondering a about, especially after exploring seeds in their hands-on activity. Next week, we will share what is going on in intermediate and middle school science!



Nature is so interesting for our youngest STA learners. Mrs. Cline, one of our preschool teachers, shared that some students found a large bug at recess on the playground. When they realized it was dead, they gave it a proper "burial." So much curiosity and so much compassion!



Dates to Remember

Friday, 9/22
No School— Teacher
Inservice

STA Website

www.stapostleschool.com



Facebook: @stapostleschool
Instagram: @stthomasapostle

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STA for your
PK-8th grade
student?*

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children in
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PARISH CREATION CARE COMMITTEE

The Archdiocese of Chicago encourages each parish “to form integral Creation Care Committees that reflect the teachings of *Laudato Si’* and here at St. Thomas, we’d like to explore this possibility. We want to learn who within our community would be interested in such an initiative that would help the parish bring to life the Church’s principles of synodality, solidarity, and subsidiarity. Caring for all of God’s creation is a fruitful avenue for bringing new life across the generations as we find ways to renew our Church together. If you are passionate about the intersectionality of Care for Creation/Environmental Issues and the Church’s social doctrine and responsibilities, then please contact Timothy Johnston at tjohnston@stapostleparish.org.



Art by Dana Gray



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Calling all MEN of the Parish!

We invite you to join the STA Knights of Columbus.

The Knights of Columbus is a Catholic organization for men who are committed to the principles of Charity, Unity, Fraternity and Patriotism. Founded in 1887 by Father Michael J. McGivney to help provide financial aid to Catholic families, the Knights of Columbus is the largest Catholic fraternal and humanitarian organization ever created. Please contact Allen Hawkins, 630-945-4133, for more details.

CALLING ALL BAKERS!

Do you make a testy cookie? A tempting cupcake? Have a treasured family recipe for a delicious baked goodie? The St. Thomas the Apostle Christmas Market is looking for bakers for our Fall Bake Sale next **Saturday, September 24th**. Sign up today at <https://bit.ly/stafallbakesale> or email questions to us at christasmaket@stapostleparish.org.



HYDE PARK KENWOOD Food Pantry

is open to give out groceries from 10am until 1pm on Saturdays at the **Hyde Park Union Church** at 56th & Woodlawn. For more information, contact Margaret Mitchell at mmm17@uchicago.edu.

VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED for setting up on Fridays 3:00 pm–4:30 pm and food distribution on Saturdays 9:30 am–1:30 pm. For further information and to sign up, please contact Margaret Mitchell at mmm17@uchicago.edu.

OFFERTORY

September 9-10, 2023

Offertory	\$4,445.00
Give Central	\$2,940.00
Chandelier donations	\$1,750.00
And Building fund	
Mass offerings	\$210.00
Faith Formation	\$10.00
Total	\$9,445.00

Funds needed weekly to sustain our parish: \$10,500.

Thank you!

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ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE CATHOLIC CHURCH & SCHOOL

*General Information***Church Address**

5472 S. Kimbark Avenue
Chicago, IL 60615-5297

School Address

5467 S. Woodlawn Avenue
Chicago, IL 60615-5299

Parish Offices

Hours: 7am-3:30pm, Monday-Friday

Located in the school building.

Phone: (773) 324-2626

Fax: (773) 891-0602

www.stapostleparish.org
parishoffice@stapostleparish.org

School Offices

Hours: 7:30am-3:45pm, Monday-Friday

Phone: (773) 667-1142

www.stapostleschool.com
admissions@stapostleschool.com

CLERGY

Fr. Michael K. Trail, pastor

frmtrail@stapostleparish.org, ext. 107

Religious Orders Assisting at St. Thomas

The Franciscans

The Jesuits

The Passionists

Bishop Joseph N. Perry, in residence

PASTORAL STAFF

Timothy Johnston, pastoral associate

tjohnston@stapostleparish.org

Matthew Merz, coordinator of music ministry

mmerz@stapostleparish.org

Rosina Hendrickson

coordinator of family faith formation

rhendrickson@stapostleparish.org

Ken Koll, school principal

kkoll@stapostleschool.com

Liv Turner, parish counselor

224.908.0308 (cell) | livturner.claret@gmail.com

Sr Leontine Gabrielle Faye, CTU intern

PARISH STAFF

Lisa J. Couch, Parish Secretary

parishoffice@stapostleparish.org, ext. 100 during office hours or ext. 0 to leave a voicemail message

Paula Jones, Director of Parish Operations, ext. 109

Lissa Romell, Bulletin Editor

MASS SCHEDULE

Sunday:	8:00 AM and 10:00 AM
Monday:	8:00 AM
Tuesday:	8:30 AM
Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday:	8:00 AM
Saturday:	4:00 PM VIGIL
Holy Days:	8:00 AM
Confession:	Sundays, 9:00–9:45 AM Saturdays, 2:30–3:30 PM or by appointment

BAPTISM: Visit our website for additional information or contact Rosina Hendrickson at rhendrickson@stapostleparish.org.

MARRIAGE OR MARRIAGE PREPARATION: Contact Fr. Michael Trail at least six months before your wedding date.

TO SCHEDULE A FUNERAL: Email the parish secretary, Lisa Couch or call 773–324–2626

INTERESTED IN JOINING THE PARISH AS A MEMBER? Contact the parish secretary, Lisa Couch or visit our website for the registration form.

INTERESTED IN LEARNING MORE ABOUT THE CATHOLIC CHURCH OR BECOMING CATHOLIC?

Contact Rosina Hendrickson at rhendrickson@stapostleparish.org

ANY SCHOOL RELATED MATTERS OR INTERESTED IN HAVING YOUR CHILD ENROLLED ST THOMAS THE APOSTLE SCHOOL? Email admissions@stapostleschool.com

IN NEED OF MATERIAL ASSISTANCE?

St. Vincent de Paul Society is available to help. Call the parish office at 773–324–2626 and dial ext. 108. Please leave your name, phone number, and state your need and someone will return your call.



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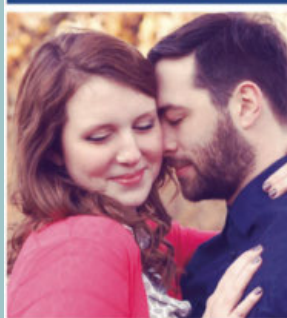
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