St. Thomas the Apostle CATHOLIC CHURCH AND SCHOOL



He said to him, "You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and the first commandment." - Mt 22:37-38

OCTOBER 29, 2023

GOD'S PEOPLE IN EXTRAORDINARY VARIETY

www.stapostleparish.org



65 E. Wacker Place Suite 1620 Chicago, IL 60601 Ph. 312-368-1066 Fx. 312-368-1090

108 E. Cook St. Springfield, IL 62704 Ph. 217-528-9200 Fx. 217-528-7214 www.ilcatholic.org
Diocese of Belleville
Archdiocese of Chicago
Diocese of Joliet
Diocese of Pooria
Diocese of Rockford
Diocese of Springfield-in-II.

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

We, the Catholic bishops of Illinois, write with a sense of urgency. Unless the General Assembly acts to renew the Invest in Kids scholarship program, more than 9,000 children currently relying on this program to attend a non-public school may have their educational path disrupted. Without an extension of the program in Illinois law now, no scholarships will be awarded for the school year that will begin in September 2024. Most of these children will have to leave the school their families determined was their best chance to receive a high-quality education in a safe and wholesome learning environment. This is an injustice that should and can be avoided, but only if the General Assembly acts when it reconvenes on October 24, 2023.

Invest in Kids has proven to be a beacon of hope for thousands of Illinois students and their families. Children receiving Invest in Kids scholarships come from lower-income families who could not otherwise afford tuition at the Catholic or another non-public school that is the best fit for their child. Childhood is a limited time in the life of a human being and primary and secondary education is not something that can be put off to some future date when it is convenient for adults. This is our one chance to offer these Illinois children a good start. Please help keep education options available and a brighter future possible by contacting your state senator and state representative and telling them to continue the Invest in Kids Program.

Since its inception six years ago, Invest in Kids has generated overwhelmingly positive results. Nearly 40,000 scholarships have been awarded to students attending non-public schools across Illinois. Demand for scholarships is very high - for every scholarship granted, three students are turned down due to lack of funds. Contrary to what you may have heard, this is not a voucher program, nor does it take state funds away from the public schools. These scholarships are funded through contributions from donors who receive a tax credit for their donation on their Illinois state income tax.

What can you do to help? Please contact your state senator and state representative to let them know of your support for extending the Invest in Kids tax credit scholarship program in Illinois. We also encourage you to urge your fellow parishioners to do the same. Our collective voice is vital to the continued help for Illinois families. Please visit the Catholic Conference of Illinois website at www.ilcatholic.org or call the Springfield office at (217) 528-9200 for further information on how to locate your elected officials, request sample wording for a message to your legislator, or for information about how to donate to this program.

His Eminence Cardinal Blase J. Cupich Archbishop of Chicago

+ Stare 9. Currie

† Thomso John Paprocki Most Reverend Thomas John Paprocki Bishop of Springfield in Illinois

+ Wand J. Mella Most Reverend David J. Malloy Bishop of Rockford Most Reverend Ronald Hicks Bishop of Joliet

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Most Reverend Michael McGovern Bishop of Belleville

Most Reverend Louis Tylka Bishop of Peoria





TODAY'S READINGS: THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Exodus 22:20-26 ♦ Psalm 18:2-3, 3-4, 47, 51 (2) ♦ 1 Thessalonians 1:5c-10 ♦ Matthew 22:34-40

Franklin Njoku (Special Intentions)

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: THIRTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Malachi 1:14b-2:2b, 8-10 ◆ Psalm 131:1, 2, 3 ◆ 1 Thessalonians 2:7b-9, 13 ◆ Matthew 23:1-12

DAILY READINGS AND PRAYER INTENTIONS

Please remember those listed below in your prayers this week.

MONDAY, October 30

Readings: Rom 8:12-17 | Ps 68:2 and 4, 6-7ab, 20-21 | Lk 13:10-17 Franklin Njoku (Special Intentions)

TUESDAY, October 31

Readings: Rom 8:18-25 | Ps 126:1b-2ab, 2cd-3, 4-5, 6 | Lk 13:18-21 Franklin Njoku (Special Intentions)

WEDNESDAY, November 1 **All Saints**

Readings: Rv 7:2-4, 9-14 | Ps 24:1bc-2, 3-4ab, 5-6 | 1 Jn 3:1-3 | Mt 5:1-12a Franklin Njoku (Special Intentions)

THURSDAY, November 2

The Commemoration of all the Faithful Departed (All Souls)

Readings: Wis 4:7-14 | Ps 25:6, and 7b, 17-18, 20-21 | Rom 5:17-21 | Mt 11:25-30

Franklin Njoku (Special Intentions)

FRIDAY, November 3 Saint Martin de Porres (religious)

Readings: Rom 9:1-5 | Ps 147:12-13, 14-15, 19-20 | Lk 14:1-6 Franklin Njoku (Special Intentions)

SATURDAY, November 4 Saint Charles Borromeo (bishop)

Readings: Rom 11:1-2a, 11-12, 25-29 | Ps 94:12-13a, 14-15, 17-18 | Lk 14:1, 7-11

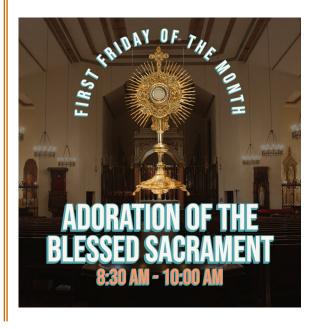
Franklin Njoku (Special Intentions) **†** Lawrence Taylor



REMEMBER IN PRAYER

parishioners and friends who are ill:

Dorla Allen, Lucas Allen, Rita Allen, Alexandria Banks, , Romulo Barreno, , 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, 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, Ronald Spencer, Ed Vaughn, Charles Walker, Sr., Jo Washington, Julia Washington, Terrance Watson, Richard West, Mavis Willis, Marie Bijou Wong, Joan Yedinak.





SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 7-8 P.M.

St. Edward Parish 4350 W. Sunnyside Ave. Chicago, IL 60630

Intentions: For Cardinal, Bishops, priests and retired priests



MONDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 6:30-7:30 P.M.

St. Thomas the Apostle Parish 5472 S. Kimbark Ave. Chicago, IL 60615

Intentions: Permanent and transitional deacons

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 6-7 P.M.

Mother of the Americas Parish 2226 S. Whipple St. Chicago, IL 60623

Intentions: Chicago seminarians in 3rd Configuration

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 5-6 P.M.

Calvert House at University of Chicago 5735 S. University Ave. Chicago, IL 60637

Intentions: Chicago seminarians in 2nd Configuration

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 9 (two locations)

UIC Newman Center, **8–9 A.M.** 700 S. Morgan St. Chicago, IL 60607

St. Mary of the Angels, 10 A.M. – NOON 1850 N. Hermitage Ave. Chicago, IL 60622

Intentions: Chicago seminarians in 1st Configuration and Discipleship

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 7-8 P.M.

St. Pius X and St. Leonard Parish 3318 Clarence Ave. Berwyn, IL 60402

Intentions: Chicago seminarians in Spirituality Year and College Seminary

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 10-11 A.M.

Holy Name Cathedral 730 N. Wabash Ave. Chicago, IL 60611

Intentions: Discerners in InSearch, Quigley Discerners Program, Samuel Group and those discerning their vocation to the priesthood, diaconate, consecrated life, or holy matrimony

Holy Day of Obligation All Saints Day

Wednesday, November 1 8:30 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.

"The eucharistic liturgy for the feast is a celebration of the sanctity and holiness in the church . . . The solemnity of All Saints is both a look back at those who have gone before, as well as commitment to what we must become: a holy people united together by a common life in God. It is a hope of our future glory in the new and eternal Jerusalem."

-Fr. Michael Witczak







OUR ENTIRE society sees something special about Sunday. Business hours change. Breakfast menus expand. Work hours shrink. Sporting events surface. The newspaper inflates. Movie schedules increase. We expect leisure on Sunday. Part of the weekend, it begins the week and ends the week. It is a sacred day, a time outside normal time when life takes a break. Sunday symbolizes paradise, a place, and pace of leisure and pleasure.

How did all this happen? We Christians owned Sunday first. It is our most important day. On a Sunday, Jesus rose from the dead (Matthew 28:1). On Sundays, his followers met to break bread (Acts 20:7). The Resurrection is our most central belief. We choose Sunday for our primary gathering because the day itself proclaims our faith. Mass on Wednesday or Monday just would not be the same. Sunday is Easter. You can change the day you shop for groceries or go to the bank without much loss. But church is different. It demands a particular day, like a holiday or an anniversary.

If we did not gather for Eucharist on Sunday, we have not proclaimed the Resurrection.

Our definition of "Sunday" includes Saturday night. This does not compromise to convenience. Jesus rose from the dead during the night. So our Eucharist still honors the Resurrection when it takes place at the beginning of that night—namely, on Saturday evening.

If a serious reason keeps you from attending church on Sunday, your pastor may dispense you. Your conversation with him honors your commitment to your community. On a Sunday when you cannot participate in the Eucharist, you may wish to pray the Scriptures of that day and share a prayer at meal with other believers.

Unity, leisure, and prayer characterize a Sunday. Our attendance at church unites us with the believers of our own community and with all Christians throughout the world. Our abstinence from work frees our mind for prayer. Football, food, and freedom are all supplementary to Sunday's main purpose, celebrating Eucharist.



Bulletin Inserts for the Liturgical Life of the Parish: The Liturgical Year © 2020 Archdiocese of Chicago: Liturgy Training Publications. All rights reserved. Written by Paul Turner.

OUESTIONS OF THE WEEK

Love of Neighbor

All who exalt themselves will be humbled, but all who humble themselves will be exalted. (Luke 18:14)

> Exodus 22:20-26 Social laws

1 Thessalonians 1:5-10 A Model for Believers

Matthew 22:34-40

The greatest commandment



ADULTS: In a practical sense, what is one thing that would change in your life if you loved your neighbor as yourself?

CHILDREN: Why is it hard sometimes to love your neighbor?

FAMILY FAITH FORMATION MONTHLY THEME BISHOP, CATHEDRAL, DIOCESE

Blase Cardinal Cupich, along with his four auxiliary bishops, leads the Archdiocese of Chicago. Cardinals and bishops are chosen by the Pope from the ranks of the priests to lead a particular community in the ways of the faith. Bishops have received the fullness of the sacrament of Holy Orders and are ordained as Successors to the Apostles. The bishop serves the Church in the ministries of teaching, sanctifying, and governing. These ministries are exercised in communion with the other bishops and the Pope.

The four outward signs of the office of the bishop are his ring, crosier, mitre, and the pectoral cross. The ring symbolizes his commitment to the Church, and the pectoral cross shows his appreciation to God. The crosier resembles a shepherd's staff and acknowledges the bishop's pastoral role. The mitre, worn on the head, represents his governing role.

UPCOMING FAITH FORMATION SESSIONS

FAMILY FAITH FORMATION Sunday, November 5, 2023 | 11:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

Baptismal Preparation Sessions

Sundays, November 5 and 19, 2023 | 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

PRESCHOOL FAMILY FAITH FORMATION

Sunday, November 19, 2023 | 9:00 a.m.-9:45 a.m.

For more information, please email Rosina Hendrickson at rhendrickson@stapostleparish.org.







Stewardship

SHARING OUR GIFTS

OFFERTORY

October 21 & October 22

Offertory \$5,487.80 Give Central \$3,691.00 \$3,000.00 Rent **Building Fund** \$250.00 Mass Offering \$95.00 Candles Offering \$158.00 \$500.00 Funeral All Souls \$150.00

Total

\$13,181.80



Your generosity is essential to the life of our parish family.

STA Now Accepts VENMO

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KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Council 17129

The Knights of Columbus at St.



Thomas the Apostle invite you to discern joining the fraternal organization founded by Servant of God Fr.

Michael J. McGivney in 1882.

Please contact Allen Hawkins, 630–945–4133 for more details.

Disciples as Stewards

Let us begin with being a disciple—a follower of our Lord Jesus Christ. As members of the Church, Jesus calls us to be disciples. This has astonishing implications:

- Mature disciples make a conscious decision to follow Jesus, no matter what the cost.
- Christian disciples experience conversion—life shaping changes of mind and heart—and commit their very selves to the Lord.
- Christian stewards respond in a particular way to the call to be a disciple. Stewardship has the power to shape and mold our understanding of our lives
- and the way in which we live.

Jesus' disciples and Christian stewards recognize God as the origin of life, giver of freedom, and source of all things. We are grateful for the gifts we have received and are eager to use them to show our love for God and for one another. We look to the life and teaching of Jesus for guidance in living as



THE 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.

Honoring Loved Ones through Endowment Gifts

Is it possible to honor a loved one by establishing an Endowment or Scholarship Fund or by giving to one that already exists? The answer is **yes**. Establishing an endowment or supporting an existing endowment is a wonderful way to provide a lasting and meaningful gift in remembrance of a special person and at the same time help others in need. Many people appreciate the opportunity to make a gift in honor of a special person, knowing that their donation honors the life of the deceased individual and also supports a purpose which the deceased held dear.

What should I do?

- Talk with Father Michael Trail as to which endowment at our parish would be the best for your circumstances.
- Contact the Office of Stewardship and the Annual Catholic Appeal at 314.792.7680 for information on existing endowments that may serve your needs the most.

If you would like to establish your own endowment or scholarship fund, please call the Office of Stewardship and the Annual Catholic Appeal at 314.792.7680 for more details.





Events

COMMUNITY FELLOWSHIP



Help us make the magic!

The STA Christmas Market Committee is organizing volunteers and donations and we'd be delighted to talk to you.

Chat with us (and get your raffle tickets!) on the Church steps after weekend Masses or email us at christmasmarket@stapostleparish.org

Donation Drop Off - Parish Hall

Sundays, Oct. 29 & Nov. 5th - 9am-12:30pm Wednesday-Thursday, Nov. 8-9th - 10am-2pm

Bakery* & new or like-new items, including vintage, décor, kitchen & dining, Christmas, children's books - see details at https://bit.ly/2023marketdonations *for Bakery drop off, please email us

Christmas Market: Nov. 11th & 12th

Can't wait? We're also online! Place online orders by Nov. 9th for pick up on Market weekend.



Proceeds go to the Building Fund & Parish ministries.



VOLUNTEER for the

St. Thomas The Apostle CHRISTMAS MARKET

Saturday, Nov. 11th - 11:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 12th - 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. 5467 S. Woodlawn, in the School Gym

* Holiday Decor * Handmade Delights * Books * Toys *
 * Vintage Treasures * Kid's Activity Corner * Raffle *

Come help us make the magic!

All proceeds benefit the historic parish buildings and parish ministries.



POINSETTIAS FOR CHRISTMAS

Parishioners are invited to purchase a poinsettia as a memorial for a loved one or as a way to celebrate a birthday, anniversary, or another special occasion. The poinsettias will be used to festively decorate our worship space for the Christmas Season. All memorials will be listed in the bulletin. Place your order by filling out the information below and submitting it to the parish office by Friday, December 1st with a check payable to "St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic Church."

Purchaser Name:		
In honor of:		
In Memory of:		
Number:	@ \$30.00 ea. = \$	



Events

COMMUNITY FELLOWSHIP

Save My Scholarsh

State lawmakers are considering ending the tax credit scholarship program referred to as "Invest in Kids." This program has provided nearly 40,000 scholarships to help families send their children to a school of their choice.

DO NOT LET THIS PROGRAM END!

Please act now and contact your state senator and state representative. Send them a strong message respectfully asking them to continue this valuable program. You can do so by using the QR code below, by calling us at the Catholic Conference of Illinois at 217.528.9200, or visit our website at www.ilcatholic.org



To remain engaged on policy issues that affect Catholics in Illinois, join our Illinois Catholic Advocacy Network go to www.ilcatholic.org/takeaction/join-i-can



ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

The STA conference of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul is actively seeking NEW MEMBERS!

If you are looking for an organization where you SEE the results of your efforts, please consider joining StVdP.

We meet the 2nd & 4th Sundays after the 10am Mass.

We are looking for members to help with home visits and/or interviews at the parish to see how best we can help those in need who reach out to us.

If you are interested, please send me an email: Rita SPRUDZS, rsprudzs@yahoo.com.

NOVEMBER 10-12, 2023



Adrian Dominican Sisters

Spend a weekend with the Adrian Dominican Sisters for a time to discern.

For women ages 19-45 Join the Adrian Dominican Sisters for Sunday Liturgy Have time for prayer, reflection, silence, sharing and fun. Learn about the life of a Sister and the Dominican Life.

LOCATION: Weber Retreat and Conference Center, 1257 E. Siena Heights Drive, Adrian, Michigan 49221 MORE INFORMATION: Sister Katherine Frazier, OP: kfrazier@adriandominicans.org | (260) 229-3045 (call or text)

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE CATHOLIC CHURCH AND SCHOOL **BOOK FAIR** Find Your Next Great Read November 11-12 **STA School Gym** 5467 S Woodlawn AVE www.stapostleparish.org 773.324.2626

St. Thomas the Apostle School Strong Foundation... Future Success!



Dates to Remember

Trunk or Treat Monday, October 30th

Parent-Teacher Conference/Half Day Thursday, November 9th

FIELD TRIPS

ARE ALWAYS A GREAT WAY TO EXPLORE

At St. Thomas the Apostle School we believe that field trips are an essential part of the learning experience as they provide students with hands-on opportunities to apply classroom knowledge in real-world settings. Recently, our students had the opportunity to visit the Chicago History Museum and County Line Orchard. The trip was not only enjoyable, but also educational. They also had the chance to participate in interactive sessions which made the experience even more memorable.

We believe that these field trips have been a great success and have provided our students with invaluable learning experiences. We look forward to planning more field trips in the future and continuing to provide our students with opportunities to learn outside of the classroom.



Facebook: @stapostleschool Instagram: @stthomasapostle



St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic Church & School

General Information

Church Address

5472 S. Kimbark Avenue Chicago, IL 60615-5297

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

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 | ext. 110

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 livturner.claret@gmail.com | (224) 908-0308

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

Kianda Boyd, director of marketing kboyd@stapostleparish.org | ext. 289

School Address 5467 S. Woodlawn Avenue

Chicago, IL 60615-5299

School Offices

Hours: 7:30am–3:45pm, Monday—Friday Phone: (773) 667–1142

www.stapostleschool.com admissions@stapostleschool.com

MASS SCHEDULE

8:00 AM and 10:00 AM Sunday:

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

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 marketing@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.