



St. Thomas the Apostle

CATHOLIC CHURCH AND SCHOOL



“Blessed are those who fear the Lord”

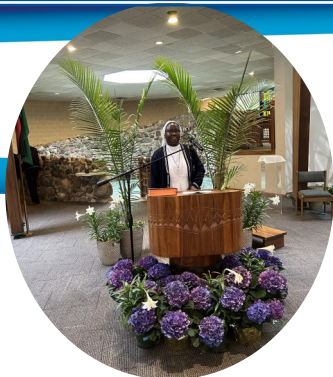
November 19, 2023

GOD’S PEOPLE IN EXTRAORDINARY VARIETY

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

Sister Leontine

CTU Intern

Dear Parishioners and Friends of St. Thomas the Apostle,

We are almost at the end of the liturgical year. Readings give us once again, the opportunity to turn towards the end of times. Last Sunday we were invited to stay awake for we do not know the day the Kingdom of God will come. Today, we are invited to work for the coming of the Kingdom of God. In the Gospel, Jesus tells his disciples the parable of the talents, which we also find in Luke 19:11-27. "A man gave his possessions or "talents" to three different servants and evaluated what they did with their talents. One way to interpret this parable is to see Jesus as the man going on a journey, us as the servants and the talents as our gifts. Jesus has given us the talents of his Word, his Eucharist, his mercy, his love. Jesus has given us brothers and sisters to love no matter their origin, color, social class or religion. God calls us to build his Kingdom, a world of love. Jesus asks us not to keep our talents buried in the ground but to use them for the benefit of our brothers and sisters. One day we will be asked to give an account of our gifts. Let us not be the lazy servant who hides his talents but the ones who use them wisely. We are all called to work for the kingdom of God, and it should appear in our daily lives. Each of us according to how we use our gifts, will be invited to enter the joy of Christ at the end of times. Jesus especially invites the marginalized into His joy, but this invitation is universal, for all people. It is in this same spirit that we should welcome the first reading from the book of Proverbs.

Proverbs uses the image of a perfect wife to personify God's wisdom. In patristic writings, the Old Testament concept of wisdom is connected to the person of Christ. If we read Proverbs 31 in the light of this understanding, we can imagine our Lord Jesus Christ who comes to us every day in different forms. Just like lady wisdom in Proverbs, Jesus "works with loving hands". We even see his love for the poor reflected in lady wisdom as she "reaches out her hands to the poor and extends her arms to the needy". Proverbs reminds us that Jesus enlightens our lives and the lives of all the people who seek Him. He enables us to welcome Him when He comes to us.

In the second reading 1Thes 5:1-6, saint Paul invites us to stay alert and sober and not to sleep. He asks us to be vigilant and not let ourselves be absorbed by material concerns: our job, our studies, our food, our clothing, our appearance and so on and so forth. The way we can be vigilant is to develop our talents. To develop our talents, we can spend more time in prayer, reach out to those in need, be peacemakers, or give the gift of our time and presence. These are some small ways to work for the coming of the Kingdom of God.

As we consider how to remain vigilant, develop our talents and work for the coming of the Kingdom of God, Let us ask our Mother Mary and all the saints to intercede for us that we remain vigilant, develop our talents and work for the coming of the Kingdom of God.

Blessing,

Sister Leontine



Worship

TODAY'S READINGS: THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Proverbs 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31 ♦ Psalm 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 (see 1a) ♦ 1 Thessalonians 5:1-6 ♦
Matthew 25:14-30 or 25:14-15, 19-21

Williams Family (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: OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE

Ezekiel 34:11-12, 15-17 ♦ Psalm 23:1-2, 2-3, 5-6 (1) ♦ 1 Corinthians 15:20-26, 28 ♦ Matthew 25:31-46

DAILY READINGS AND PRAYER INTENTIONS

Please remember those listed below in your prayers this week.

MONDAY, November 20

Readings: 1 Mc 1:10-15, 41-43, 54-57, 62-63 | Ps 119:53, 61, 134,
150, 155, 158 | Lk 18:35-43

✠ Lee Appleton

TUESDAY, November 21

The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Readings: 2 Mc 6:18-31 | Ps 3:2-3, 4-5, 6-7 | Lk 19:1-10

✠ Costigan, McPhillips, Kosinski Zieba Families

WEDNESDAY, November 22

Saint Cecilia, virgin and martyr

Readings: 2 Mc 7:1, 20-31 | Ps 17:1bcd, 5-6, 8b and 15 | Lk 19:11-28

✠ Jenny & Jennifer Ancento

THURSDAY, November 23

Saint Clement I, pope and martyr & Saint Columban, abbot

Readings: 1 Mc 2:15-29 | Ps 50:1b-2, 5-6, 14-15 | Lk 19:41-44
Jn 2:13-22

Diane Clarke (Speedy Recovery)

FRIDAY, November 24

Saint Andrew Dung-Lac, priest, and companions, martyrs

Readings: 1 Mc 4:36-37, 52-59 | 1 Chr 29:10bcd, 11abc1 11d-12a,
12bcd | Lk 19:45-48

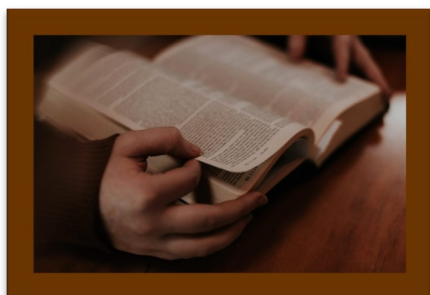
✠ Martha Vertreace-Doody

SATURDAY, November 25

Saint Catherine of Alexandria, virgin and martyr

Readings: 1 Mc 6:1-13 | Ps 9:2-3, 4 and 6, 16 and 19 | Lk 20:27-40

✠ Helena & John Szopinski

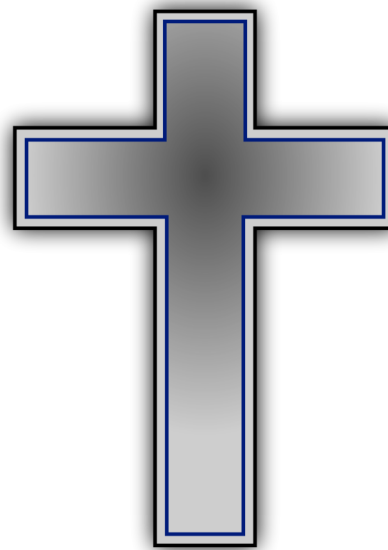


REMEMBER IN PRAYER

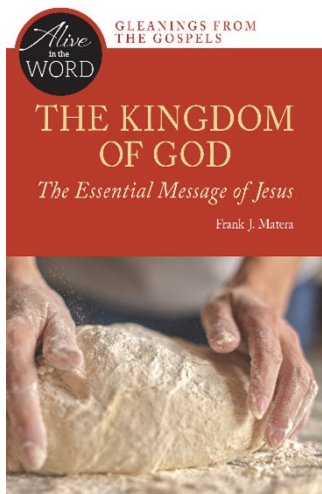
parishioners and friends who are ill:

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 Graniczky, Albert Hines, Kathleen Holden, Maria Jimenez, Olga Jimenez, Carolyn Jones, Connie Jose, Terri Kilbane, Charlie King, Carol Landrum, Mary Lerps, Linda Loggins, Manowski 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.

**For All Who Died in War in
Israel, Middle East & Ukraine**



JOIN US FOR BIBLE STUDY



ADVENT: THE KINGDOM OF GOD: THE ESSENTIAL MESSAGE OF JESUS

The kingdom of God is the central theme of Jesus' preaching. Through stories and images, Jesus teaches that God's presence among us-his powerful reign-is both mighty and quiet, both welcoming and demanding. As small as a seed and as grand as a great dinner party, the kingdom of God grows among us and transforms everyone who embraces it. In this volume of Alive in the Word, New Testament scholar Frank Matera explores three gospel passages that will orient you to this essential, transforming message of Jesus.

Tuesdays December 5, 12, and 19

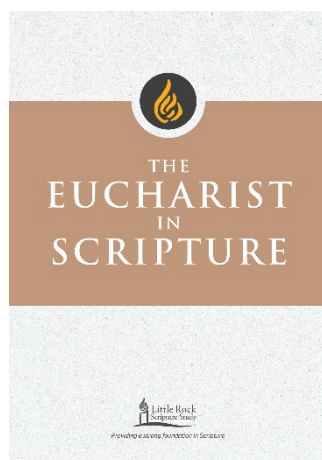
Group One: 11:00 a.m. | Parish Hall

Group Two: 7:00 p.m. | Parish Hall

Suggested Donation \$15.00

This donation helps cover the costs of materials.

SCAN ME



WINTER ORDINARY TIME: THE EUCHARIST IN SCRIPTURE

The Eucharist in Scripture explores the biblical theme of meals shared in faithful fellowship and in covenant relationship with God. Old Testament meals and promises provide a foundation for gospel meals with Jesus, culminating in the Last Supper as it is understood throughout the New Testament. Jesus' bread of life discourse and the early church's practice of "breaking bread" are also explored.

Tuesdays January 9, 16, 23 and 30 and February 6

Group One: 11:00 a.m. | Parish Hall

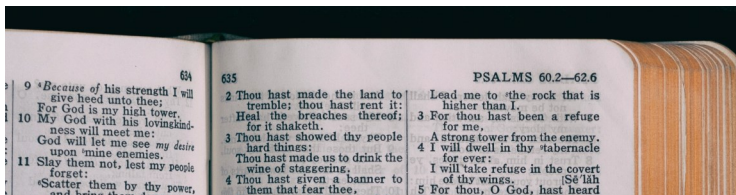
Group Two: 7:00 p.m. | Parish Hall

Suggested Donation \$25.00

This donation helps cover the costs of materials.

SCAN ME





Faith FORMATION

QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK

Using Your Gifts

[The servant said,] "Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents." His master said to him, "Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master." (Matthew 25: 20b-21)

Proverbs 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31

The ideal wife

1 Thessalonians 5:1-6

The need for preparation

Matthew 25:14-30

Parable of the silver pieces



ADULTS: What gift have you not developed as you had hoped? What could you still do?

CHILDREN: What gift has God given you? What do you want to do with it?

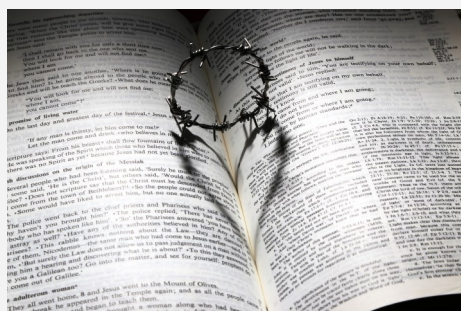
FAMILY FAITH FORMATION MONTHLY THEME MAKING MORAL DECISIONS

While there are many aspects one may consider when entering into the discernment process regarding moral decision making, here are five principles that one is invited to keep in mind.

- ▶ We are made in God's image.
- ▶ We exercise the principle of responsible freedom.
- ▶ We understand what makes a moral act.
- ▶ We understand the reality of sin.
- ▶ We continually form our conscience.

You are invited to take time this week to review these five principles and reflect on how they may have influenced your recent decisions and actions.

God wants us to be happy, to choose the good, and to be the person he has created us to be. The decisions we make draw us closer or further away from those realities.



NATIONAL BIBLE WEEK

National Bible Week is celebrated annual during Thanksgiving week, falling this year from November 19 — 25. It marks the anniversary of the promulgation of the *Dogmatic Constitution on Divine Revelation* from the Second Vatican Council. In this document, the Church encourages the faithful to develop a "growing reverence for the word of God, which 'lasts forever'" (26).

A few ideas for celebrating the word of God this week include:

- ✦ Pray with the daily Mass readings. You can find them listed in this bulletin or at <https://bible.usccb.org/>.
- ✦ Read and discuss your favorite Scripture passages. Invite children to share the Bible stories that they know. Explore what it is in the passage that speaks to you and/or your family.
- ✦ Practice *Lectio divina*, a prayer form in which you read, meditate, pray with, and contemplate a single Scripture passage. Read the same passage four times, entering into the passage and conversation with God more deeply with each reading.

UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES

FAMILY FAITH FORMATION

Sunday, December 3, 2023 | 11:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m.

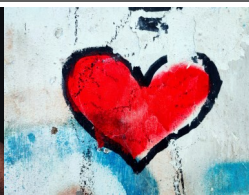
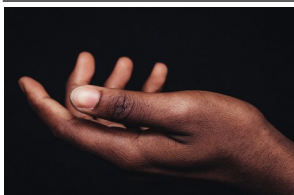
BAPTISMAL PREPARATION SESSIONS

Sundays, December 3 and 17, 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

November 4 & November 5

Thank you for your donations for the month of November. Due to the holiday deadlines for the bulletin we will provide the offertory report as soon as possible. Thank you for your generosity and support of our mission.

Thank you!

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

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 Christian stewards.

STA Now Accepts VENMO

Catholic Bishop of Chicago Corp. Sol

@StThomasHydePark



venmo

Scan this code to donate.



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.

Don't forget to do this by December 1st

If you have an individual retirement account and you are age 73 or older, you probably know that you must take your required minimum distribution (RMD) before the year ends.

However, did you know that you can fulfill all or part of your RMD and reduce your taxable income by transferring funds directly from your IRA to your parish or the Archdiocese of Chicago?

Be sure to request the transfer before December 1st to give your IRA custodian enough time to complete your charitable distribution before the year ends. The timing is important. Don't wait until it's too late to benefit from reduced taxes. Learn more at archchicago.org/qcd.

If you would like more information on how to make a QCD gift,

CONTACT

Krystina M. Campbell, Planned Giving Officer,
Archdiocese of Chicago at 312.534.5404 or kcampbell@archchicago.org.

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.



Events

COMMUNITY FELLOWSHIP

To register Scan QR Code
or call the parish office
773-324-2626

Watch for the Light

AN ADVENT RETREAT

WITH BRO. SILAS HENDERSON, SDS



DECEMBER 9, 2023
9:00 A.M. TO NOON
PARISH HALL
ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE

This morning of reflection offers participants an opportunity to enter into the sights and sounds of Advent and Christmas. Using art, music, and the prayers and liturgies of the Season of Advent, Bro. Silas will help participants to focus our attention as we await the Coming of the One who is the Light of the World.

SCAN ME



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. = \$ _____

NOVEMBER IS *National Black Catholic History Month*

The National Black Catholic Clergy Caucus of the United States voted on Tuesday, July 24, 1990 to designate November as Black Catholic History Month. November marks a time when the Church prays for all saints and souls in loving remembrance, as well as a time to recall the saints.

Venerable Henriette Delille

1812–November 17, 1862

Henriette Delille was born in 1812 in New Orleans, Louisiana, as a free woman of color. When she was 24, she experienced a religious conversion and proclaimed: "I believe in God. I hope in God. I love. I want to live and die for God."

Henriette eventually founded the Society of the Holy Family, responding to the need of treatment for the enslaved, elderly and sick, and care and education for the poor.

Henriette received tribute for her life's work in these words from her obituary: "[Henriette] devoted herself untiringly for many years, without reserve, to the religious instruction of the people of New Orleans, principally of slaves..." The last line of her obituary reads: "...for the love of Jesus Christ she had become the humble and devout servant of the slaves."

Archbishop Philip M. Hannan began the canonization process for Henriette DeLille in 1988. A special commission in Rome gave approval in 1988 after a review process. As of this time, an alleged miracle attributed to Henriette is being tried in a Catholic Tribunal, and the decree of judicial validity was issued in the investigation of her life, virtues, and reputation of sanctity. Henriette was declared Venerable by Pope Benedict XVI in 2010.

© The National Black Catholic Congress

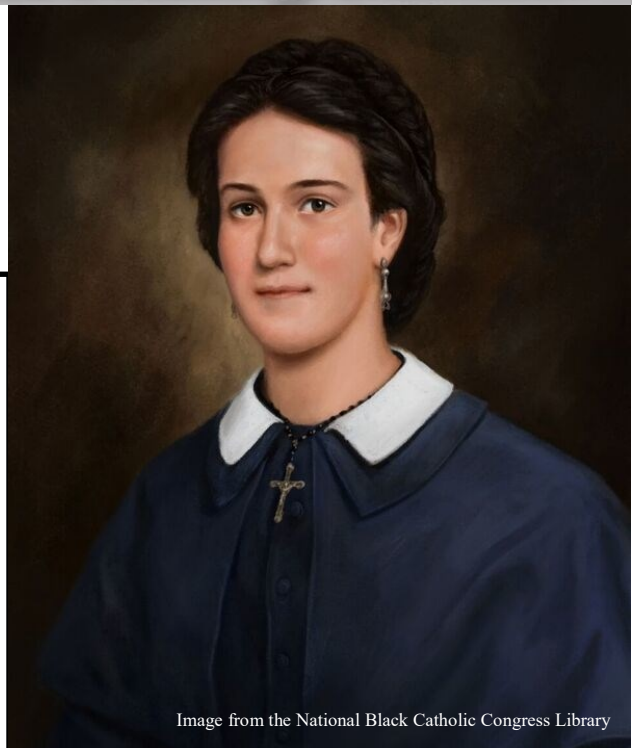


Image from the National Black Catholic Congress Library

The Path to SAINTHOOD

1 SERVANT OF GOD

The local bishop opens a cause for the person's

sainthood that examines the life and writings of the candidate. If found to have lived a holy life a report is submitted to the Vatican.

The report is reviewed and if it is determined the candidate did lead a life of virtue, the candidate is given the title "Venerable".

VENERABLE 2

The investigation into their life and works continues.

3 BLESSED

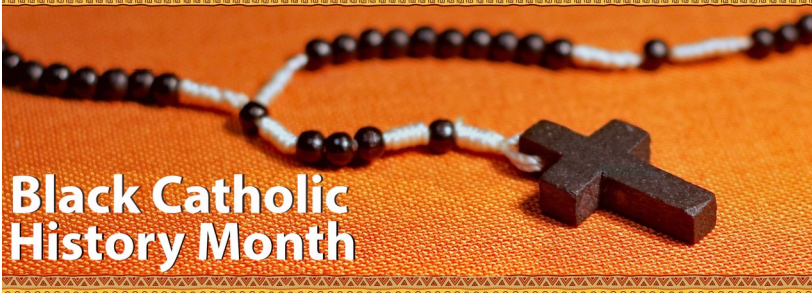
To be beatified, proof is necessary of a miracle

occurring due to the intercession of the candidate. A scientific commission must determine the miracle is not caused naturally.

Proof of a second miracle leads to this final stage and canonization, which merely recognizes what God

SAINT 4

is with God and worthy of has already done. A saint is one who veneration throughout the Church.



**Black Catholic
History Month**

NOVEMBER IS
National Black Catholic History Month

NOVEMBER IS
National Black Catholic History Month

The National Black Catholic Clergy Caucus of the United States voted on Tuesday, July 24, 1990 to designate November as Black Catholic History Month. November marks a time when the Church prays for all saints and souls in loving remembrance, as well as a time to recall the saints.

Venerable Pierre Toussaint

June 27, 1776--June 30, 1853

Pierre was born in 1766 modern-day Haiti as a slave, but died in New York City as a free man and a well-known Catholic. Pierre Bérard, Toussaint's master, allowed him to be taught how to read and write by his grandmother. In his early 20s, Toussaint, his younger sister, his aunt, and two other house slaves accompanied their master's son to New York City because of political unrest at home. Apprenticed to a local hairdresser, Pierre learned the trade quickly and eventually worked in the homes of rich women in New York City.

When his master died, Toussaint supported his master's widow and the other slaves, himself, and was freed shortly before the widow's death in 1807. Four years later, he married Marie Rose Juliette, whose freedom he had purchased. They later adopted Euphémie, his orphaned niece. Both preceded him in death.

Even during his lifetime, Toussaint enjoyed the reputation of an exceptionally devout and charitable person within the Catholic community. Every day he attended the 6:00 a.m. Mass in St. Peter's Church, where he was a pewholder for many years. He also raised funds to build the original St. Patrick's Cathedral and St. Vincent de Paul Church.

Toussaint donated to various charities, generously assisting blacks and whites in need. He and his wife opened their home to orphans and educated them. The couple also nursed abandoned people who were suffering from yellow fever.

The late Cardinal Terence Cooke introduced Pierre's cause for canonization at the Vatican in 1968. On December 17, 1997, he was declared Venerable by Pope John Paul II.

© The National Black Catholic Congress



Image from the National Black Catholic Congress Library

The Path to
SAINTHOOD

1 SERVANT OF GOD

The local bishop opens a cause for the person's

sainthood that examines the life and writings of the candidate. If found to have lived a holy life a report is submitted to the Vatican.

The report is reviewed and if it is determined the candidate did lead a life of virtue, the candidate is given the title "Venerable".

VENERABLE 2

The investigation into their life and works continues.

3 BLESSED

To be beatified, proof is necessary of a miracle

occurring due to the intercession of the candidate. A scientific commission must determine the miracle is not caused naturally.

Proof of a second miracle leads to this final stage and canonization, which merely recognizes what God

SAINT 4

is with God and worthy of has already done. A saint is one who veneration throughout the Church.

NOVEMBER IS
National Black Catholic History Month

Strong Foundation... Future Success!



Coming together as a school community to celebrate our faith and share in the spirit of togetherness. The power of prayer is amplified when we come together as a school family. Gathering to reflect, give thanks, and pray for one another.



Dates to Remember

11/6-20th: STA 2nd Annual Food Drive

11/9 Half Day @12pm for students-Parent Teacher Conferences (1pm-6pm)

11/20- No School- Religious Professional Development Day

11/21-11/24- Thanksgiving Break No School

11/26 Second Trimester Begins



Follow Us on our Social Media Platforms

Facebook: @stapostleschool
Instagram: @stthomasapostle

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 | 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

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 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.