

St. Thomas the Apostle

CATHOLIC CHURCH AND SCHOOL



“Lord, make us turn to you; let us see your face and we shall be saved”

December 3, 2023

GOD’S PEOPLE IN EXTRAORDINARY VARIETY

www.stapostleparish.org

Bulletin Image: www.unsplash.com

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

Principal Ken Koll

Dear Parishioners and Friends of St. Thomas the Apostle,

An elderly gentleman was driving down the freeway when his cell phone rang. Answering, he heard his wife's voice urgently warning him, "Herman, I just heard on the news that there's a car going the wrong way on I-90/94. Please be careful!" "It's not just one car," Herman said, "It's hundreds of them!"

Leading our Parish School is a daunting responsibility. Fr. Trail and I constantly ask ourselves what it means to be a Catholic School in the 21st Century – in Hyde Park. At times, it seems as though education reform efforts are going full speed ahead in the wrong direction – with conviction. Some attempts at school reform cause me to throw my hands up in frustration. Nevertheless, I find hope in the constant flow of research aimed at building a deeper understanding of the learning process.

Five years ago, I read that 800 million jobs would be replaced by technology by 2030. Nearly 1 year ago, ChatGPT exploded on the scene and changed written communication in ways that we are still trying to grasp. Three weeks ago, I saw a report that by 2050, 3D printers will be in place on the moon to use moon dust to construct landing/launch pads and structures to expand space travel. The report also indicated that NASA is currently exploring ways to substantially reduce the amount of time it takes to travel to Mars.

No doubt, our current elementary school students will enter adult life in a world that will be radically different than what we now experience. Since the advent of ChatGPT, I've heard many educators ask if that means we don't need to teach writing conventions any longer. I believe that is the wrong type of question to explore. I believe that we should ask how we can compel students to express their voices, to communicate, create, imagine, and problem solve in ways that move well past the writing process that we currently use. As a Catholic School, we must also question how we can cultivate people of faith, future leaders with a moral compass.

This calls for bold exploration on the part of our school. At St. Thomas, we have embarked on a journey to expand our learning environment to touch a world that we can only just imagine. We must be as adaptive as we are secure, as full of questions as we are full of certainty. We need one foot grounded in our current reality and the other foot jumping to the middle of the Century guided by a mind that is full of knowledge and wonder.

And...most especially...we must see our ever changing world through the eyes of faith. That probably means that we will often find ourselves like our friend Herman, going in the opposite direction of society. Please pray for our school and our students, we pray for you all the time.

Ken Koll
Principal, St. Thomas the Apostle School



Worship

TODAY'S READINGS: FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Isaiah 63:16b-17, 19b; 64:2-7 ♦ Psalm 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19 (4)/1 ♦ 1 Corinthians 1:3-9 ♦ Mark 13:33-37

Don Charron (Special Intentions) & ✠ **Marie Regina Dousa**

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: SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11 ♦ Psalm 85:9-10, 11-12, 13-14 (8)/2 ♦ 2 Peter 3:8-14 ♦ Mark 1:1-8

DAILY READINGS AND PRAYER INTENTIONS

Please remember those listed below in your prayers this week.

MONDAY, December 4

Saint John Damascene, priest and doctor of the Church

Readings: Is 2:1-5 | Ps 122:1-2, 3-4b, 4cd-5, 6-7, 8-9 | Mt 8:5-11

✠ **Fr. John Kastenholz, O.Praem**

Diane Clarke (Speedy Recovery)

TUESDAY, December 5

Readings: Is 11:1-10 | Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17 | Lk 10:21-24

✠ **Iris Carter**

✠ **Jamesetta Price**

WEDNESDAY, December 6

Saint Nicholas, bishop

Readings: Is 25:6-10a | Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6 | Mt 15:29-37

✠ **Lawrence & Louis Mulac**

✠ **Pearl Elizabeth William**

THURSDAY, December 7

The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary (vigil 7:00pm)

Saint Ambrose, bishop and doctor of the Church

Readings: Is 26:1-6 | Ps 118:1 and 8-9, 19-21, 25-27a

Mt 7:21, 24-27

✠ **Marlyn Peeples**

FRIDAY, December 8 (Mass at 8:30am)

The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Readings: Gn 3:9-15, 20 | P 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4 | Eph 1:3-6, 11-12 | Lk 1:26-38

Tom Hayden (Special Intention)

✠ **Lawrence & Gwen Lewis**

✠ **Lyndell Pelt Jr**

✠ **Agnes Pelt**

SATURDAY, December 9

Saint Juan Diego Cuauhtlatatzin

Readings: Is 30:19-21, 23-26 | Ps 147:1-2, 3-4, 5-6 | Mt 9:35—10:1, 5a, 6-8



Joanne Glass (Birthday Blessing)

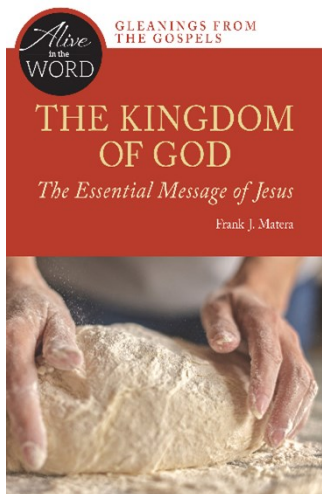
REMEMBER IN PRAYER

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 Graniczny, 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.



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

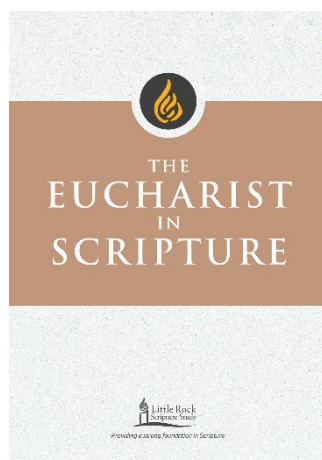
Group One: 11:00 a.m. | Parish Hall

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

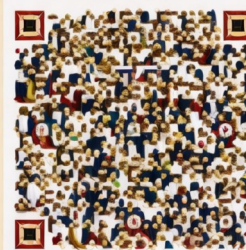
Group One: 11:00 a.m. | Parish Hall

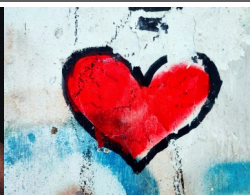
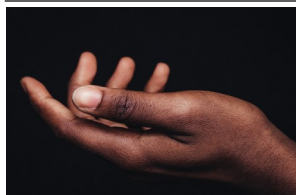
Group Two: 7:00 p.m. | Parish Hall

Suggested Donation \$25.00

This donation helps cover the costs of materials.

SCAN ME





Stewardship

SHARING OUR GIFTS

OFFERTORY

November 18 & November 19

Offertory	\$3,883.05
Give Central	\$3,370.00
School Support	\$200.00
Building Fund	\$20,300.00
Coat/Food Drive	\$750.00
Candles	\$133.00
St. Vincent	\$200.00
Flowers	\$60.00
Mass Offerings	\$48.00
Rent	\$3,000.00
Hospitality	\$51.90

Total \$28,112.90

Thank you!

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

OFFERTORY

November 25 & November 26

Offertory	\$3,248.87
Give Central	\$3,997.00
Special Contributions	\$1,500.00
Building Fund	\$50.00
Thanksgiving	\$1,200.00
Candles	\$169.00
Flowers	\$150.00
Mass Offerings	\$100.00

Total \$10,414.87

Thank you!

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

First Sunday of Advent

"Be watchful! Be alert! You do not know when the time will come."

Mark 13:33

We all take things for granted. In particular, we take time for granted. We make our lives too busy. We plan our days, weeks, months, even years in advance. Remember, our time on earth is a gift. None of us knows how long we will be here. Start today and begin thanking God for each and every day. Take time in silence, every day, and listen to how God is calling you right now to help build His kingdom on earth.

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.

Please Consider a Gift to the Church that Pays you Back.

The spirit of giving is most evident during the Advent season. A Charitable Gift Annuity is a great way to make a gift to the Church and receive fixed payments for life—benefitting you today and our parish in the future.

How It Works:

1. Make a gift of \$10,000 or more to the Archdiocese of Chicago. Fund your gift annuity with cash or securities.
2. Receive fixed payments for life – for yourself or a loved one age 60 or older. Payment rates are based upon the age of the annuitant at the time you establish the gift annuity.
3. Enjoy immediate and future tax benefits, including a federal income tax deduction for a portion of your gift, if you itemize. You can schedule payments according to your financial needs, and a portion of each annuity payment will be tax-free (through life expectancy). You may also reduce capital gains tax liability for gifts of appreciated securities.
4. The funds remaining after your lifetime will support our parish or school – as designated by you.

For more information, please contact **St. Thomas the Apostle**.

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

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.

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

SCAN ME



Christmas Market Raffle Winners

Colleen Doherty - Queen Size Quilt

Sarah Martini - Date Night Package

K. O'Sullivan - Kitchen Gourmet Gift Basket

Mildred Soriano - Christmas Quilted Throw Blanket

Kim Morris Lee - \$200 Cash Prize

ADVENT EVENING PRAYER AND PARISH OPEN HOUSE



with Distinguished Preacher
Rev. Msgr. John Canary



Wednesday, December 13 | 6:30 p.m.

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.