



St. Thomas the Apostle

CATHOLIC CHURCH AND SCHOOL



GOD'S PEOPLE IN EXTRAORDINARY VARIETY

January 21, 2024

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.

Sunday of the Word of God

In 2019, Pope Francis instituted the Sunday of the Word of God devoted to the celebration, study, and dissemination of the word of God and to be held on the Third Sunday in Ordinary Time. In his letter instituting Word of God Sunday, he wrote:

The Bible cannot be just the heritage of some, much less a collection of books for the benefit of a privileged few. It belongs above all to those called to hear its message and to recognize themselves in its words. At times, there can be a tendency to monopolize the sacred text by restricting it to certain circles or to select groups. It cannot be that way.

The Bible is the book of the Lord's people, who, in listening to it, move from dispersion and division towards unity. The word of God unites believers and makes them one people." (*Aperuit Illis*, September 30, 2019, par. 4).

Pope Francis recognizes the treasure of our Scriptures. A treasure that belongs to all of us. As Catholics, we are called to read and to study the Bible mindful of its original historical, literary, and cultural context. We don't read the bible literally. That doesn't mean we don't believe that the bible is "true." All of Scripture bears witness to God's salvific action and does so accurately.

With the Vatican II document, *Dei verbum* (Word of God) promulgated in 1965 and the subsequent publications by the Pontifical Biblical Commission (PBC), we Catholics have been encouraged to explore for ourselves the treasures of God's word. No longer is the reading and study of Scripture solely a priority for the ordained.

As Stephen J. Binz writes, "The more God's people engage in prayerful and faith-filled reading of the Bible and thereby deepen their relationship with Jesus Christ, the more they are able to participate in the church's mission of evangelization. The more we become biblical Catholics, the more we will become evangelizing Catholics."

In our Catholic faith, we hold that the word of God is revealed in both Scripture and Tradition. Pope Francis reminds us:

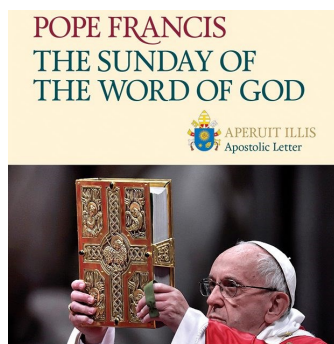
We frequently risk separating sacred Scripture and sacred Tradition, without understanding that together they are the one source of Revelation. The written character of the former takes nothing away from its being fully a living word. ... Before becoming a written text, the word of God was handed down orally and kept alive by the faith of a people who, in the midst of many others, acknowledged it as their own history and the source of their identity. Biblical faith, then, is based on the living word, not on a book. (*Aperuit Illis*, par. 11).

With the institution of "Sunday of the Word of God," Pope Francis encourages us to dust off our family bible, open its pages (or scroll through the app!), and ponder the treasure we hold in our hands. But as the Letter of James reminds us, we are to be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive ourselves (James 1:22). Reading our Holy Scriptures is not a spectator's sport.

We need to be reminded, as the Pontifical Biblical Commission wrote in 1993:

"The aim is that the Word of God may become more and more the spiritual nourishment of the members of the People of God, the source for them of a life of faith, of hope and of love—and indeed a light for all humanity (cf. *Dei Verbum*, 21)."

This spiritual nourishment is not a dietary supplement, but a full course meal. And we are meant to ingest it. In prayer, in bible studies, in liturgy, in quiet moments in our day, we are to "taste and see the goodness of the Lord" (Psalm 34:8), and then share that goodness with others.



—Sister Laurie Brink, O.P.,
Professor of New Testament Studies, Catholic Theological Union

To learn more about the Sunday of the Word of God visit: <https://stapostleparish.org/> under "Upcoming."





Worship

ORDINARY TIME: WINTER A Sense of the Season

What do the words Ordinary Time mean? Dorothy Day said, “The words ‘Ordinary Time’ in our prayer books put me in a state of confusion and irritation. To me, no time is ordinary.” She was right. The Ordinary in Ordinary Time refers to ordinal—counted—time, not to a lack of something to celebrate. The Roman document, General Norms for the Liturgical Year and Calendar, says: “Apart from those seasons having their own distinctive character [Advent, Christmastime, Lent, Triduum and Eastertime], 33 or 34 weeks remain in the yearly cycle that do not celebrate a specific aspect of the mystery of Christ. Rather, especially on the Sundays, they are devoted to the mystery of Christ in all its aspects.” (#43)

How do we celebrate “the mystery of Christ in all its aspects”? We gather every Sunday. Sunday is our original feast day. Christians have gathered every Sunday—the day of Christ’s resurrection, the first day of the week—ever since there were Christians.

Each year there are two blocks of Ordinary Time, one in the winter between Christmastime and Lent, and the other in summer and fall, from Pentecost through Christ the King. When we gather on Sundays in Ordinary



Time, as always, we hear the scriptures proclaimed. We systematically read through the gospels. The first readings from the first testament of the Bible were chosen for their relationship to the gospel passages. The second readings come from the various letters of the second testament of the Bible. The mystery of Christ “in all its aspects” unfolds.

What is the heart of our Sunday celebration? We do our eucharist; that is, we do our thanksgiving. We praise and thank God for all creation; we pray for the whole world, as we remember Christ’s life, death and resurrection. We share the bread and wine, the body and blood. We are sent forth to be the body and blood of Christ in our homes, our workplaces, our neighborhoods, our towns, our cities, our country, our world.

“What happens in our churches every Sunday is the fruit of our week. What happens as the fruit of the week past is the beginning of the week to come.

Sunday is simultaneously a point of arrival and

departure for Christians on their way to the fullness of the kingdom. This is not ordinary at all. This is the fabric of Christian living.” (Saint Andrew Bible Missal [Brooklyn: William J. Hirten Co., 1982.])



Worship



FEAST OF THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD

and World Day for Consecrated Life

EVENING PRAYER

Friday, February 2, 2024

6:00 p.m.

The whole parish family is invited to celebrate this great feast as we honor the many women and men religious who live and minister in our neighborhood.



Celebration of the Sacrament of the ANOINTING OF THE SICK

Sunday, February 11, 2024

during the 8:00 a.m. Mass

The Church states that "Great care . . . should be taken to see that those . . . whose health is seriously impaired by sickness or old age receive the sacrament (*Pastoral Care of the Sick*, no. 8).

Any baptized Catholic, over the age of seven, may receive the sacrament if he or she has reasonably judged the seriousness of the illness and remains free of serious sin.

Please call the parish office at 773.324.2626 if you desire to celebrate the Sacrament of Anointing.

Pre-registration is required.

PREPARING FOR EASTER

Each year, every church throughout the world purchases a new paschal candle, which is blessed and lit at the Easter Vigil. This candle, a symbol of the light of the risen Christ, is used throughout the Easter Season as a reminder of the great joy of the resurrection and the light of Christ we are to radiate. It is also used at baptisms to illuminate the light of Christ we receive in the waters of rebirth. Finally, it is lit at funerals and placed at the head of the casket or near the urn as a reminder of the light of Christ the deceased shared with the world.

This year, we'd like to purchase a beautifully handcrafted candle from Martin Marklin, whose lifework has been the promotion of the liturgical renewal, especially in fostering beauty, but we need your help. Martin sustainably raises bees on his Vermont farm with his family and carefully harvests the beeswax and honey to create these original handmade candles and nourish his customers.

If you'd like to contribute to the fund to help purchase the parish's paschal candle and the candles we will present to the newly baptized at the Easter Vigil, please call or stop by the parish office.



Marklin

Gemmette™ Paschal Candle
Artist: Martin Marklin of Marklin Candle Co.
Photos from company website. All rights reserved.
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Worship

THIS SUNDAY'S READINGS: 3RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

John 3:1-5, 10 ♦ Psalm 25:4-5, 6-7, 8-9 (4a) ♦ 1 Corinthians 7:29-31 ♦ Mark 1:14-20

✠ Erica Maria Kast, ✠ Paula Smith

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: 4TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Deuteronomy 18:15-20 ♦ Psalm 95:1-2, 6-7, 7-9 (8) ♦ 1 Corinthians 7:32-35 ♦ Mark 1:21-28

DAILY READINGS AND PRAYER INTENTIONS

Please remember those listed below in your prayers this week.

MONDAY, January 22

Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children

Readings: 2 Sm 5:1-7, 10 | Ps 89:20, 21-22, 25-26 |
Mk 3:22-30

✠ Alberta & McKinley Williams

TUESDAY, January 23

Saint Vincent, deacon and martyr

Readings: 2 Sm 6:12b-15, 17-19 | Ps 24:7, 8, 9, 10 | Mk 3:31-35
✠ Patricia Stephen

WEDNESDAY, January 24

Saint Francis de Sales, bishop and doctor of the Church

Readings: 2 Sm 7:4-17 | Ps 89:4-5, 27-28, 29-30 | Mk 4:1-20
✠ Jason Jones

THURSDAY, January 25

The Conversion of Saint Paul, apostle

Readings: Acts 22:3-16 or Acts 9:1-22 | Ps 117:1bc, 2 |
Mk 16:15-18

✠ Rudy Comeaux Jr

✠ Andy Malden

FRIDAY, January 26

Saint Timothy and Saint Titus, bishops

Readings: 2 Tm 1:1-8 or Ti 1:1-5 | Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 7-8a 10 |
Mk 4:26-34

✠ Richard West

SATURDAY, January 27

Saint Angela Merici, virgin

Readings: 2 Sm 12:1-7a, 10-17 | Ps 51:12-13, 14-15, 16-17 |
Mk 4:35-41

The Perrin Family (special intention)

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. Cocco, 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 Granicz, 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, Terrence Watson, Mavis Willis, Marie Bijou Wong, Joan Yedinak.



ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE

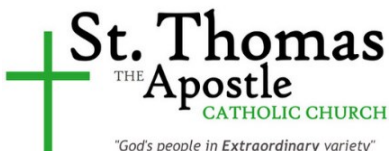
Celebrate Catholic Schools **WEEK**

JANUARY 28, 2024

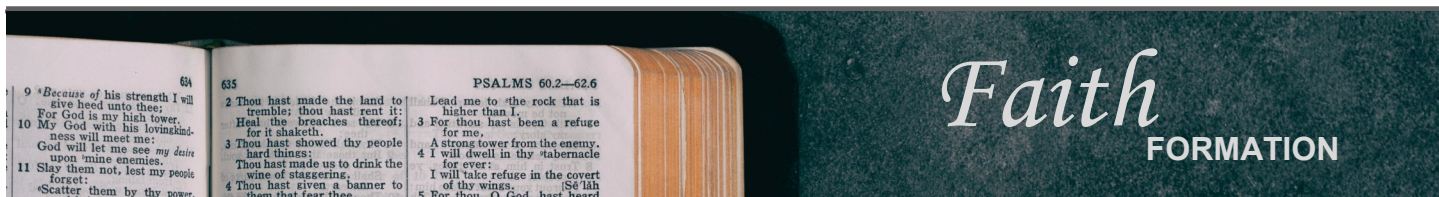
**ONE
MASS**

**ON SUNDAY
10:00 AM**

**COME
OUT &
SUPPORT**



8:00 AM Mass is cancelled for this shared celebration.



FAMILY FAITH FORMATION MONTHLY THEME

ART AND ARCHITECTURE OF ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE

As we prepare for the 100th anniversary of the dedication of our church this October, we pause this month reflect on the beauty of our space and the way it invites us to worship God.

"The term *church* ... has been used to describe 'the building in which the Christian community gathers to hear the word of God, to pray together, to receive the sacraments, and celebrate the eucharist.' That building is both the house of God on earth (*domus Dei*) and a house fit for the prayers of the saints (*domus ecclesiae*). Such a house of prayer must be expressive of the presence of God and suited for the celebration of the sacrifice of Christ, as well as reflective of the community that celebrates there" (*Built of Living Stones*, 16).

This week, pause to consider what you see when you enter our church and contemplate how it reflects our St. Thomas the

QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK

Repent and Believe

Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news."

(Mark 1: 14-15)

Jonah 3: 1-5, 10

Conversion of Nineveh

1 Corinthians 7: 29-31

Encouragement Within a Hostile World

Mark 1: 14-20

Call of the First Disciples



ADULTS: What part of your life is Jesus calling you to change right now?

CHILDREN: In what way do you think you can be a better follower of Jesus?

✠ Conversion of St. Paul

THE CONVERSION of St. Paul is one of the Bible's great stories. A man who persecuted Christians joins the group he was targeting. The story appears several times in the New Testament. Saul was traveling on the road to Damascus when he was struck by a blinding light and fell to the ground. Unable to see, he heard the voice of Jesus ask, "Why do you persecute me?" (Acts 9:4). Saul in turn asked, "Who are you, Lord?" (Acts 9:5). Housed by a disciple named Ananias, Saul learned about Jesus Christ, was baptized, and became known as "Paul." Through his travels, preaching, and writing, he became the most influential of all the followers of Christ. The conversation during his vision symbolizes the stance between God and the average human person: God asks why we do what we do, and we try to penetrate the mystery of God.

The Catholic Church celebrates a feast day in honor of Paul's conversion every year on January 25. There is no historical evidence linking this date to that event. The earliest appearance of January 25 on the Church calendar seems to have commemorated the anniversary of the day that the relics of this apostle were moved from the catacombs to the Basilica of St. Paul Outside the Walls of Rome. The date later became associated with his conversion, probably because of the universal appeal of Paul's story.

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.

UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES

PRESCHOOL FAMILY FAITH FORMATION

Sunday, January 28, 2024 | 9:00 a.m.–9:45 a.m.

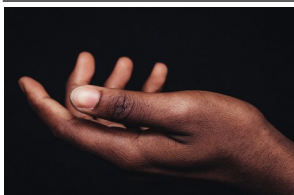
BAPTISMAL PREPARATION SESSIONS

Sundays, February 4 and 18, 2024 | 11:30 a.m.–1:00 p.m.

FAMILY FAITH FORMATION

Sunday, February 25, 2024 | 11:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m.

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



OFFERTORY

January 13 & January 14

Thank you for your donations. Due to the holiday deadline 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.

St. Vincent de Paul Upcoming Events!

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul is ranked at 75 on the Forbes top 100 list of charities! We are proud to be part of an organization that truly does turn over the donations we receive to our friends in need with little or no overhead.

We NEED new members who can commit to roughly 4 hours a month to attend biweekly meetings after the 10am Mass (2nd and 4th Sundays) and to go on a home visit or two a month to help discern the requested assistance from our friends in need. If you would like to see more of how the Society runs itself, please attend the District VI meeting we will be hosting at St. Thomas. Please send an email to rsprudz@yahoo.com to reserve a seat coffee and light breakfast items will be served.

If you can donate time to assist with our annual sit down dinner, please let us know. We'll need help setting up tables and chairs and decorating Saturday afternoon, volunteers to serve food to our guests, assist in the clean up and breaking down of tables and chairs on Sunday. Please send an email to rsprudz@yahoo.com if you are able and interested in helping.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2024
Our THANK YOU Hospitality for our parishioners after both Masses

SATURDAY, MARCH 9, 2024
District VI meeting, 9-1pm, Parish Hall

SATURDAY, APRIL 13, 2024
Set up for our founder's Frederic Ozanam's birthday dinner for our friends, 2-4pm

SUNDAY, APRIL 14, 2024
Birthday dinner for our friends, 11am to 4pm

STA Now Accepts VENMO

Catholic Bishop of Chicago Corp. Sol

@StThomasHydePark



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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.

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.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Council 17129

The Knights of Columbus invites all the join them for the praying of the rosary every Friday immediately following the 8a mass.



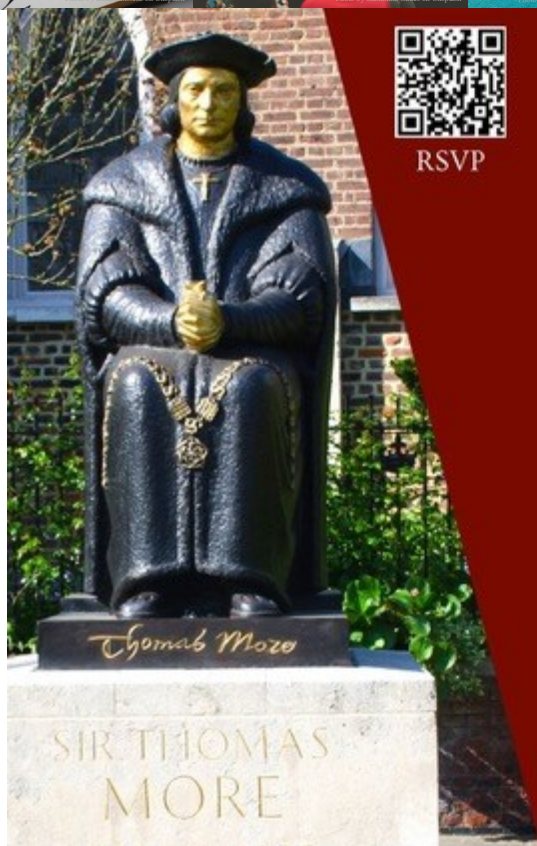
All are welcome!

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



Events

COMMUNITY FELLOWSHIP



RSVP

Join other legal professionals in Hyde Park
to offer God the fruits of our labor

Red Mass

Saturday, February 10

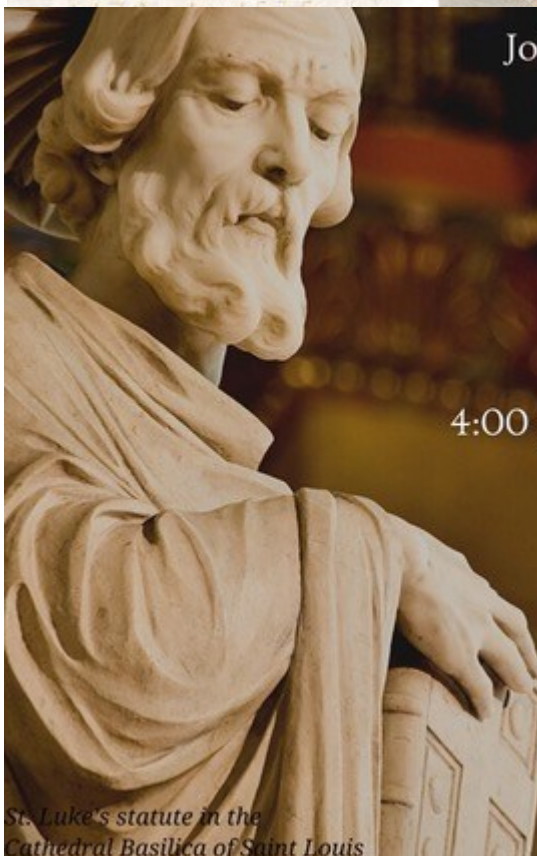
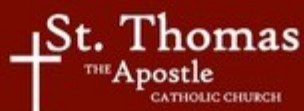
4:00 pm Eucharistic Celebration

Bp. Jeffrey Grob, JCD, Presider & Homilist

5:00 pm Reception & Lecture

Dr. Lu Ann Homza, "When Witches Litigate"

6:30 End



St. Luke's statue in the
Cathedral Basilica of Saint Louis

Join other medical professionals in Hyde Park
to offer God the fruits of our labor

White Mass

Saturday, February 17

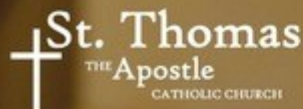
4:00 pm Eucharistic Celebration (Bond Chapel)

5:00 pm Reception & Lecture (Swift Hall)

6:30 End



RSVP



ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE *School*

Strong Foundation... Future Success!



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

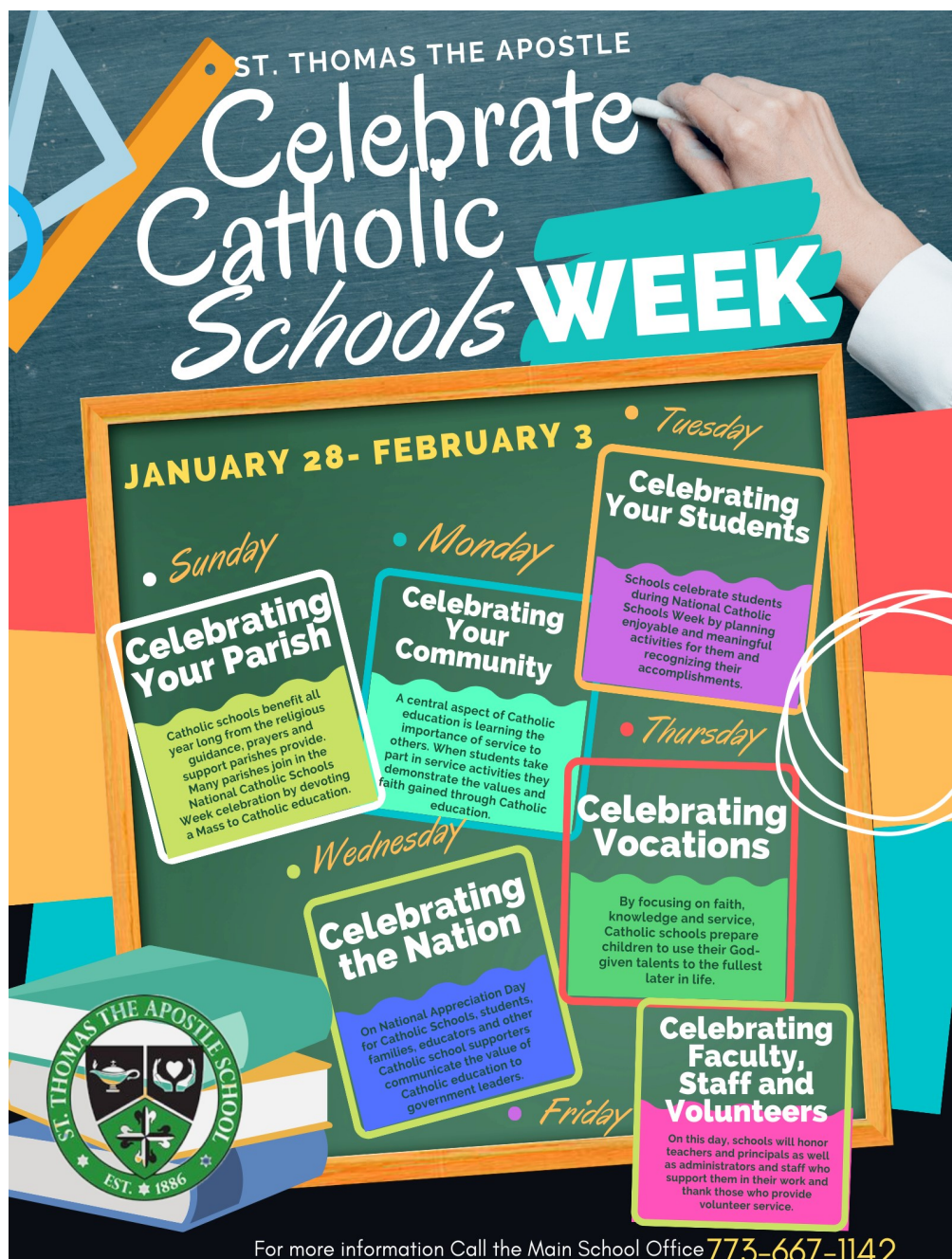
11/21-11/24- Thanksgiving
Break No School

11/26 Second Trimester Begins



Follow Us on our Social Media Platforms

Facebook: @stapostleschool
Instagram: @stthomasapostle



For more information Call the Main School Office **773-667-1142**

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.