



St. Thomas the Apostle

CATHOLIC CHURCH AND SCHOOL



✦ Celebrating ✦
**CATHOLIC
SCHOOLS WEEK**



GOD'S PEOPLE IN EXTRAORDINARY VARIETY

January 28, 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.



FROM

Principal Koll



Hi, my name is Ken Koll and I serve as Principal of St. Thomas the Apostle School. I have worked in Catholic Schools for 30 years and attended Catholic Schools including college and graduate school. Today, we begin "Catholic Schools Week." I'd like to share some thoughts with you about Catholic education and our school in particular. People often ask me why they should choose Catholic School. After all, 1+1=2 no

matter what school helps you learn addition. As an answer to that question, I'd like to share a few of my personal experiences of Catholic Education.

I vividly remember my kindergarten teacher greeting each student at the classroom door every day with a big hug and smile as she blessed our foreheads. The uniform for boys was white dress shirts (whose idea was that?) and blue dress pants. We wore red ties until 7th grade and had the honor of wearing black ties in 8th grade. I remember hearing over the PA that President Kennedy was shot, and the entire school going to the Church to pray. The smell after a candle is extinguished, still brings me back to my days as an altar server extinguishing candles after evening Mass. As a teenager, I joined "The New Group." The name wasn't much but I was happy that our Parish created amazing opportunities to help us feel that we belonged.

I attended DePaul University whose motto translated from Latin means "I will show you the ways of wisdom," That motto and Vincentian values truly influenced every corner of my college education. I will never forget our wedding Mass, which lasted longer than expected. When we turned around, the Church was packed - mostly with students I taught and people who were there for the 4:30 Mass! The Church rocked with the vibrant applause. Seeing all three of our sons choose Catholic Universities and professions rooted in service is an enormous source of pride.



This is intended as more than a trip down memory lane. I share these memories to tell you that Catholic education and Catholic values have permeated every part of my life and helped shape the person I have become. It has helped me think and live differently. Being a part of a faith community gave me a home that has welcomed me, encouraged me and challenged me. It has helped me try to make sense of a world that at times hasn't made any sense at all. And it has definitely inspired me to be unafraid to ask hard questions and work diligently for what is right.

At St. Thomas the Apostle, I have again found a welcoming community of dedicated people committed to educating the children not only academically but spiritually as well. This year marks the 50th anniversary of Catholic School Week which is a national initiative to celebrate Catholic Schools. I think that's a big deal because it helps us realize that we are a part of something bigger. We are connected and united in our efforts to see education as a mission. We are cultivating leaders with knowledge, faith, and values that can transform our world.

I'd like to invite you to our Open House on January 28th starting right after 10:00 Mass and concluding at 1:00.

Blessing

Principal Koll



Worship

THIS 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

✠ Richard Sison, ✠ Richard West, ✠ Irene Koenen

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: 5TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Job 7:1-4, 6-7 ♦ Psalm 147:1-2, 3-4, 5-6 (see3a) ♦ 1 Corinthians 9:16-19, 22-23 ♦ Mark 1:29-39

DAILY READINGS AND PRAYER INTENTIONS

Please remember those listed below in your prayers this week.

MONDAY, January 29

Readings: 2 Sm 15:13-14, 30; 16:5-13 | Ps 3:2-3, 4-5, 6-7 | Mk 5:1-20

✠ Paula Smith

TUESDAY, January 30

Readings: 2 Sm 18:9-10, 14b 24-25a, 30-19:3 | Ps 86: 1-2, 3-4, 5-6 | Mk 5:21-43

✠ Lawrence E. Lewis Jr., ✠ Rudolph Comeaux Sr.

WEDNESDAY, January 31

Saint John Bosco, priest

Readings: 2 Sm 24:2, 9-17 | Ps 32:1-2, 5, 6, 7 | Mk 6:1-6

✠ Katherine & Joe Hypolite

THURSDAY, February 1

The Conversion of Saint Paul, apostle

Readings: 1 Kgs 2:1-4, 10-12 | 1 Chr 29:10, 11ab, 11d-12a, 12bcd | Mk 6:7-13

✠ Adalena Comeaux

FRIDAY, February 2

The Presentation of the Lord

Readings: Mal 3:1-4 | Heb 2:14-18 | Ps 24:7, 8, 9, 10 | Lk 2:22-40 or 2:22-32

✠ Wilma Louise McDaniel

SATURDAY, February 3

Saint Ansgar, bishop

Saint Blase, bishop and martyr

Readings: 1kgs 3:4-13 | Ps 119:9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14 | Mk 6:30-34

Diane Clarke, (Speedy recovery)

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 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.

And for those who have died:

There will be a **memorial service** for our friend and long time parishioner **Richard West** on **Saturday, February 2nd, @10am**





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.

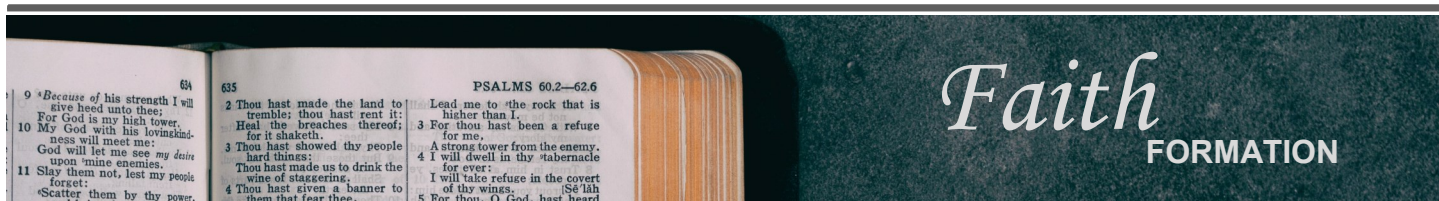
This year, we'd like to purchase a beautifully handcrafted candle from Martin Marklin, whose lifework has been the promotion of the liturgical renewal, especially in fostering beauty, but we need your help. Martin sustainably raises bees on his Vermont farm with his family and carefully harvests the 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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QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK

Sharing Good News

They were astounded at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes.

(Mark 1: 22)

Deuteronomy 18: 15-20

A Prophet like Moses

1 Corinthians 7: 32-35

The State of Virginity

Mark 1: 21-28

Cure of a Demoniac



ADULTS: What can you tell others about Jesus with the most assurance?

CHILDREN: What is the most important thing you would like others to know about Jesus? How will you show or tell them?

✠ Presentation of the Lord

THE PRESENTATION of the Lord pulls many favorite mementos from the Catholic cupboard: candles, blessings, Christmas, and church. The Mass of February 2 begins with a blessing of lighted candles held by the faithful, who glow with the memory of the birth of Jesus.

The origins of the feast lie in ancient Jewish custom. On the fortieth day after childbirth, parents brought the infant to the Temple to present him/her to the Lord and to purify the mother. St. Luke tells us that Joseph and Mary sacrificed two birds for the occasion after the birth of Jesus. Count up forty days after Christmas, and you'll come to February 2. Until the 1960s, we used to call this day "The Purification of Mary." The title changed for several reasons. We no longer believe that women who give birth need purification, and the true significance of the feast concerns Jesus coming to the Temple. He is the Promised One, whose light will shine, beaming rays of hope to the entire world. Also on the old calendar, this feast closed the Christmas season. Now we end

the Christmas season with the Baptism of the Lord. So, even though the date for the Presentation still depends on Christmas, it has become a feast of Ordinary Time. Since it is a feast of the Lord, it takes precedence even when it falls on Sunday.

The candles you hold for the blessing may come from your parish, or you may bring your own from home. If you like to use blessed candles for household prayer throughout the year, here is your chance to get them. On the day following this feast, our calendar permits the option of commemorating St. Blase, a bishop and martyr of the early Church. Legend has it that he once freed a child from choking, and while imprisoned under persecution he received light from friends who visited his cell with candles. Our Church still uses candles from the Presentation of the Lord in the blessing of the faithful's throats on St. Blase's Day. Blessed candles in our churches and homes signify the living presence of Christ in our community. With Christ as our light we warm a lost and wintry world.

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

BAPTISMAL PREPARATION SESSIONS

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

PRESCHOOL FAMILY FAITH FORMATION

Sunday, February 11, 2024 | 9:00 a.m.–9:45 a.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.



Stewardship

SHARING OUR GIFTS

OFFERTORY

January 13 & January 14

Offertory	\$9,706.06
Give Central	\$3,423.00
Building Fund	\$35.00
Candles	\$258.00
Hospitality	\$112.26
Bible Study Donations	\$205.00

Total \$13,739.32

Thank you!

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

OFFERTORY

January 20 & January 21

Offertory	\$3,618.52
Give Central	\$3,769.80
Building Fund	\$25.00
Candles	\$103.00
Mass Offerings	\$20.00
Rent	\$3,000.00
Grant	\$600.00
Hospitality	\$87.83

Total \$11,224.15

Thank you!

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

St. Vincent de Paul Upcoming Events!

We NEED new members who can commit to roughly 4 hours a month to attend biweekly meetings after the 10 am 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 rsprudzs@yahoo.com to reserve a seat coffee and light breakfast items will be served.

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

STA Now Accepts VENMO

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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.

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

4th Sunday in Ordinary Time

“Brothers and sisters: I should like you to be free of anxieties.”

- 1 Corinthians 7:32

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.

How much anxiety do we bring upon ourselves by constantly worrying about not having enough or attaining more things? God won't necessarily give you everything you want, but He will provide everything you need. Try this use the word “pray” instead of the word “worry” in the future. Then spend your time praying instead of worrying.

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.



Events

COMMUNITY FELLOWSHIP

Collecting Last Year's Palms

No later than February 12, drop off your old, blessed palm branches from last year's Palm Sunday Mass to the parish office between 8AM and 4PM or leave them in the sacristy after weekend Masses. These will be burned and used on Ash Wednesday.

Burning Palms

Join us Tuesday, **February 13 around 9AM** (following the 8:30 Mass) in the church's parking lot for a short prayer for burning the palms to make ashes for Ash Wednesday.

FEBRUARY 14, '24 ASH WEDNESDAY SCHEDULE

WORD SERVICE

10:00 a.m.

12:00 p.m.

2:30 p.m.

MASS

7:00 a.m.

8:30 a.m.
(with school)

7:00 p.m.



Sunday Hospitality PANCAKE AND SAUSAGE BREAKFAST

Sunday, February 11, 2024
8:45 a.m. to Noon

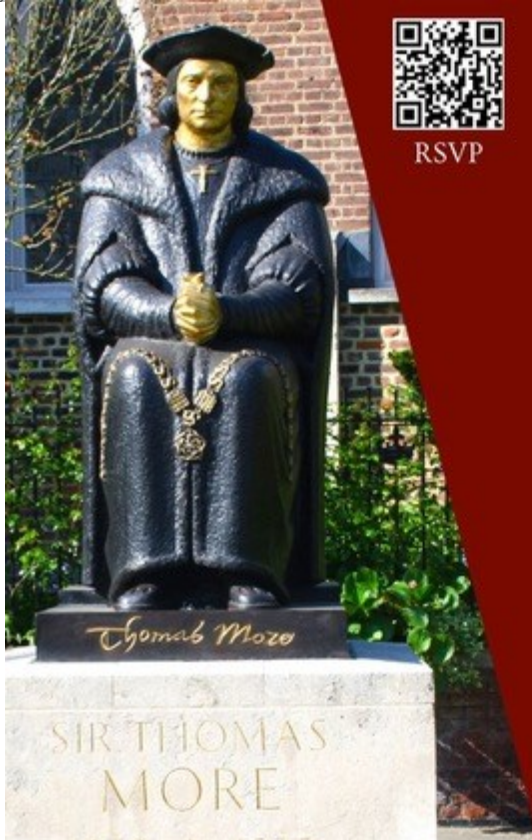
Sponsored by the STA





Events

COMMUNITY FELLOWSHIP



RSVP

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

Red Mass

Saturday, February 10

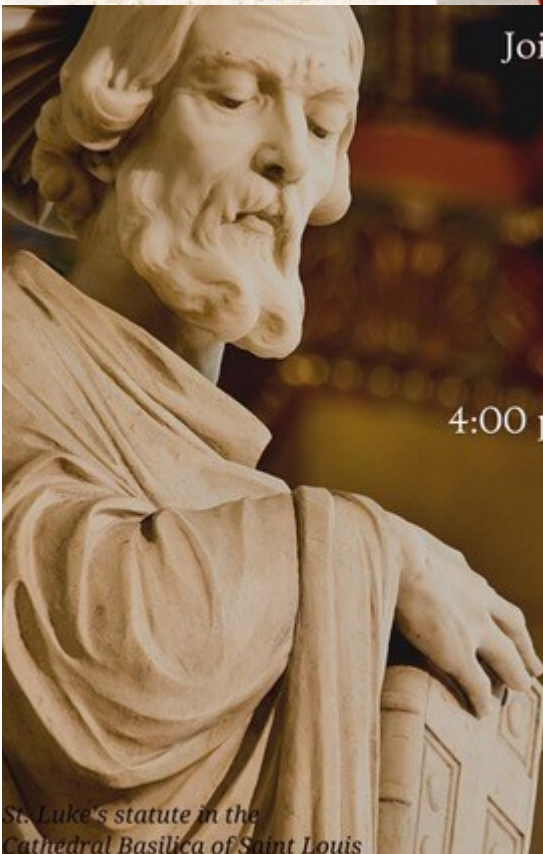
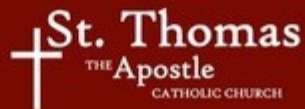
4:00 pm Eucharistic Celebration

Bp. Jeffrey Grob, JCD, Presider & Homilist

5:00 pm Reception & Lecture

Dr. Lu Ann Homza, "When Witches Litigate"

6:30 End



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

White Mass

Saturday, February 17

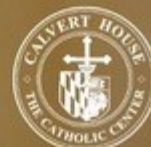
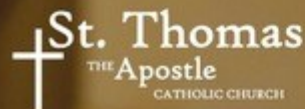
4:00 pm Eucharistic Celebration (Bond Chapel)

5:00 pm Reception & Lecture (Swift Hall)

6:30 End



RSVP



ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE

School

Strong Foundation... Future Success!



Dates to Remember

1/28-2/3 Catholic Schools Week

2/16 No School-Teacher Professional Development Day

2/19 No School-Presidents Day

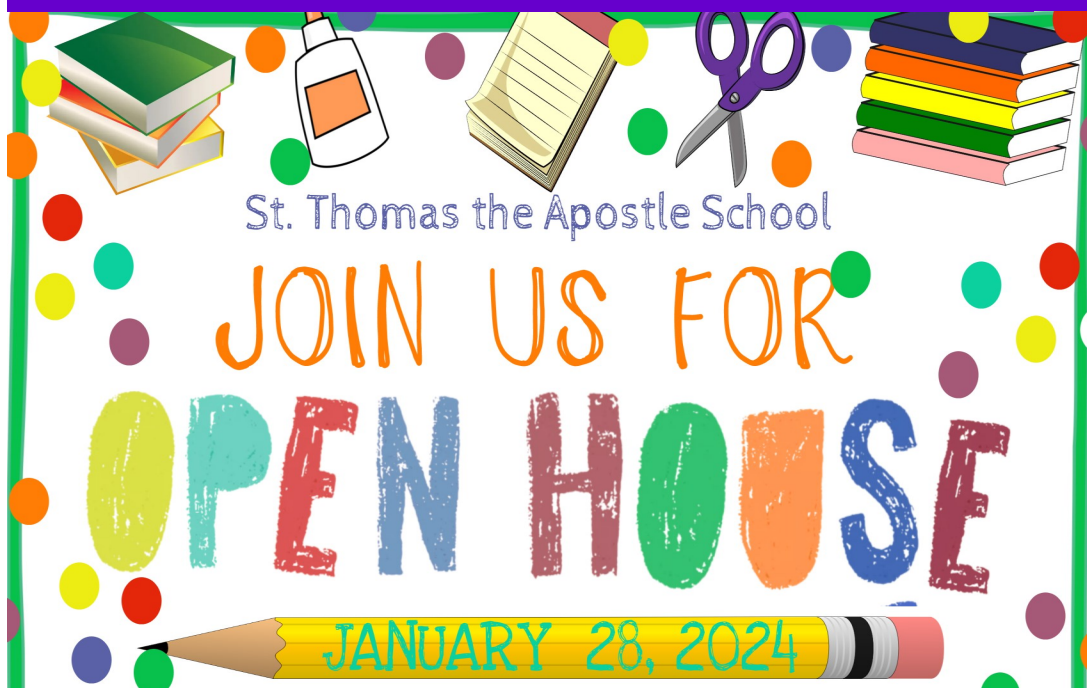
2/26- Third Trimester Starts

2/29-Half Day-Parent Teacher Conferences



Follow Us on our Social Media Platforms

Facebook:
@stapostleschool
Instagram:
@stthomasapostle



COME MEET OUR TEACHERS & SEE OUR CLASSROOM

Mass Time
10AM - 11AM
Open House
11AM - 1PM

St. Thomas the Apostle
5467 S Woodlawn Ave
Chicago, IL 60615

STA families will earn a NUT card for attending Open House in their School uniform. Enter a raffle for when you invite any prospective families you know!



ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE

Celebrate Catholic Schools WEEK

JANUARY 28 - FEBRUARY 3

• *Sunday*

Celebrating Your Parish

Catholic schools benefit all year long from the religious guidance, prayers and support parishes provide. Many parishes join in the National Catholic Schools Week celebration by devoting a Mass to Catholic education.

• *Monday*

Celebrating Your Community

A central aspect of Catholic education is learning the importance of service to others. When students take part in service activities they demonstrate the values and faith gained through Catholic education.

• *Wednesday*

Celebrating the Nation

On National Appreciation Day for Catholic Schools, students, families, educators and other Catholic school supporters communicate the value of Catholic education to government leaders.

• *Tuesday*

Celebrating Your Students

Schools celebrate students during National Catholic Schools Week by planning enjoyable and meaningful activities for them and recognizing their accomplishments.

• *Thursday*

Celebrating Vocations

By focusing on faith, knowledge and service, Catholic schools prepare children to use their God-given talents to the fullest later in life.

• *Friday*

Celebrating Faculty, Staff and Volunteers

On this day, schools will honor teachers and principals as well as administrators and staff who support them in their work and thank those who provide volunteer service.



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.