

St. Thomas the Apostle

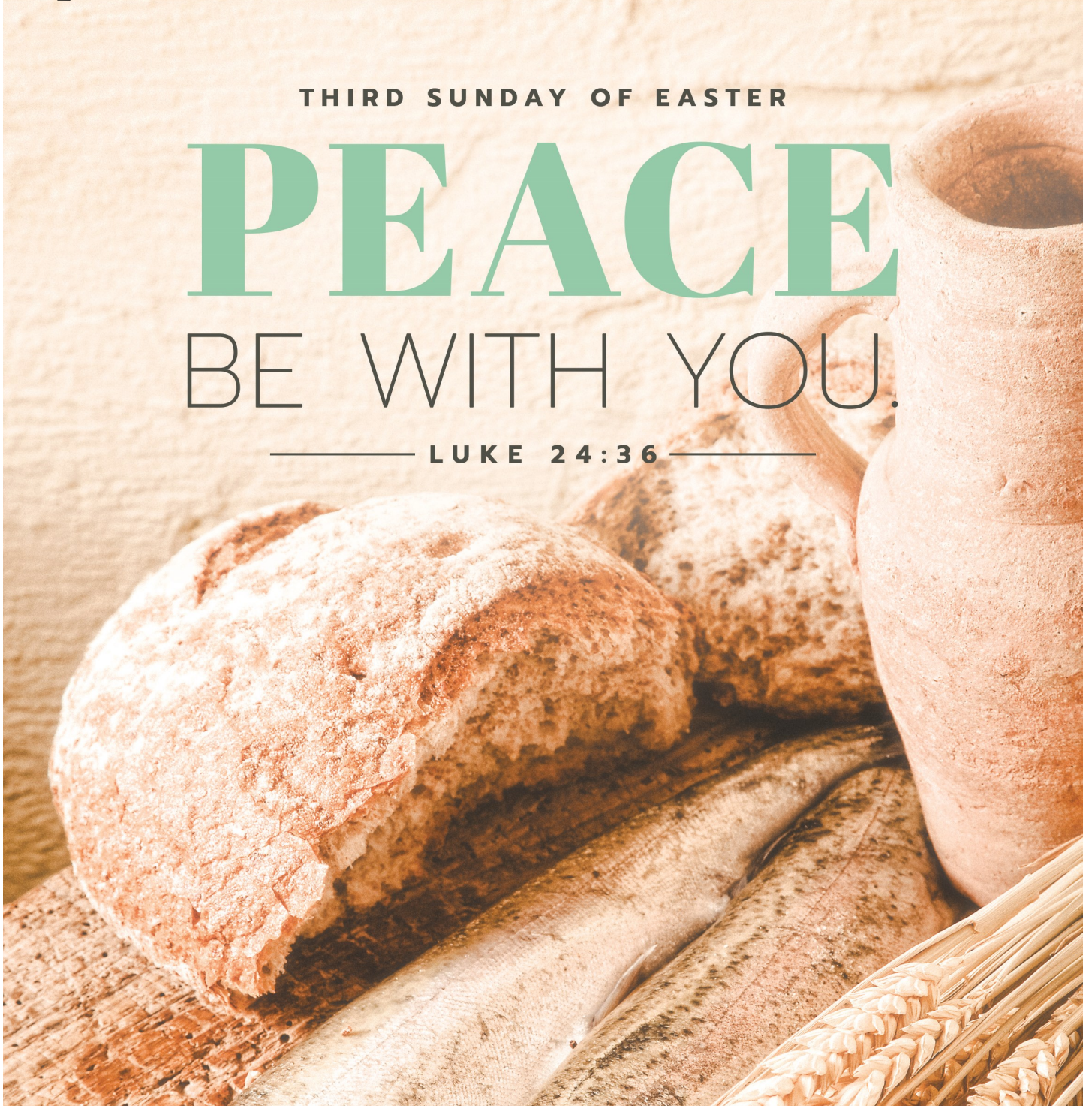
CATHOLIC CHURCH AND SCHOOL

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

PEACE

BE WITH YOU.

— LUKE 24:36 —



GOD'S PEOPLE IN EXTRAORDINARY VARIETY

April 14, 2024

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 THE

Pastor's Desk

Dear Parishioners and Friends of St. Thomas the Apostle,

It has come to my attention that some parishioners have been inquiring amongst themselves about the parish's response to the migrant crisis here in Chicago and more specifically in Hyde Park. As you recall back in November we held a coat drive for our neighbors in need with great success. Even now we continue to give out coats and other clothing that was donated by you.

Word has gotten around the neighborhood and the parish office gets visits from new arrivals almost weekly who need clothing and basics like socks and underwear as they transition to their new life in Chicago.

As I mentioned to you back in November, I understand this is a very real situation that requires a real response on our part but I'm also mindful of the political complexity around this issue. No matter one's stance on the issue it does not negate our responsibility to do the right thing based on our Catholic faith and the mandate of the Gospel.

I realize that after the coat drive in November things seemed quiet. I can appreciate and understand the grumblings of the community to continue to bring this real issue to the forefront so that we as a church can address it as we are called to do. Part of the reason for my silence after the coat drive was to put our energy and focus on helping a particular family find a place to live.

Over the past few months, with the help of dedicated parishioners and our partnership with Catholic Charities, we have been able to secure a grant of \$10,000 and we have partnered with the Hyde Park Kenwood Refugee Project to house a Venezuelan family here in our neighborhood for one year. This has been months in the making and I'm happy to share with you that they were able to move into their apartment this past Wednesday.

This past Monday the family came to the rectory and took some furniture out of my home for them to be able to furnish their new home. I found myself being very moved by the experience because, for them, this is a new beginning, a new chapter in their lives, and the beginning of their story here in the United States. I couldn't help but think about my own grandparents, Brigido and Eugenia Rodriguez, who moved to the United States from Puerto Rico in the 1940s not knowing anyone here but had a desire to start a new and better life for them and for their family to come.

Part of the reason for my silence in addition to putting our energy and focus into this important cause was also, and if I can be frank with you, I didn't want to get anyone's hopes up if something went south. As you all know real estate is at a premium here in Hyde Park and our parishioners who worked on this project looked at over a dozen apartments and more than a few fell through due to leasing issues, plumbing issues, or other barriers that kept coming up preventing us from being able to sign a lease for this family.

FROM THE

Pastor's Desk

There were hundreds of emails back and forth to coordinate this effort and so many times *we were almost there but something fell short. Every time that email came through when it didn't work out felt like a punch in the gut and it felt like two steps forward and three steps back in the process.*

But this story ends on a very positive note.

The family of three: Juan, Rosemary, and their teenage daughter who attends high school in the neighborhood now have a home of their own.

This is one small drop in the bucket of a very large political issue. I realize that there will be challenges ahead going forward and I know that while we didn't fix the entire system that is broken at least we made a difference in the life of a family.

Part of my writing to you this weekend is not to celebrate our successes or to make “an ask, just simply let you know that your fellow parishioners came together and made a difference in the life of a family. That is the blessing of Saint Thomas: we are a community that cares for one another and supports one another.

I am grateful for those who stepped up and who worked to make this possible. One person I wish to mention specifically has returned to God. Dr. Sarah Wright, who recently passed away, was instrumental in getting this off the ground and worked tirelessly until she went to the hospital to keep the momentum going forward. She, along with her fellow parishioners, did the intense but very quiet work of coordinating this effort and I am sure that she is very pleased with the results of our labors.

We continue to do the good work each and every day that God has called us all to do.

In all things may God bless our parish.

Sincerely in Christ,

Fr. Trail



Thank you to everyone who brought food for the Hyde Park-Kenwood Food Pantry on Holy Thursday.



A note from Margaret at the pantry: “We received 36 jars of spaghetti sauce, and 61 jars of peanut butter (in addition to some other items like pasta and canned goods). All of these items went on tables for distribution last Saturday, [March 30], and the sauce was gone by 11:30! It was very helpful to have these additional food sources from STA, which were especially timely, as we served a record number of 131 households that day.”



Worship

THIS SUNDAY'S READINGS: 3RD SUNDAY OF EASTER

Acts 3:13-15, 17-19 ♦ Psalm 4:2, 4, 7-8, 9 (7a) ♦ 1 John 2:1-5a ♦ Luke 24:35-48

✠ Sandra Damons , and ✠ Donald Dammons

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 OF EASTER

Acts 4:8-12 ♦ Psalm 118:1, 8-9, 21-23, 26, 28, 29 (22) ♦ 1 John 3:1-2 ♦ John 10:11-18

DAILY READINGS AND PRAYER INTENTIONS

Please remember those listed below in your prayers this week.

MONDAY, April 15

Readings: Acts 6:8-15 | Ps 119:23-24, 26-27, 29-30 | Jn 6:22-29

✠ Alfred & Elmonzo Bijou

TUESDAY, April 16

Readings: Acts 7:51-8:1a | Ps 31:3cd-4, 6 and 7b and 8a, 17 and 21ab | Jn 6:30-35

✠ Leonard Carter

WEDNESDAY, April 17

Readings: Acts 8:1b-8 | Ps 66:1-3a, 4-5, 6-7a | Jn 6:35-40

✠ Adiata DeVore-Bell

THURSDAY, April 18

Readings: Acts 8:26-40 | Ps 66:8-9, 16-17, 20 | Jn 6:44-51

✠ Karen Clark
✠ Debra Hudson

FRIDAY, April 19

Readings: Acts 9:1-20 | Ps 117:1bc, 2 | Jn 6:52-59

✠ Edith Polk
✠ Joshua Lee

SATURDAY, April 20

Readings: Acts 9:31-42 | Ps 116:12-13, 14-15, 16-17 | Jn 6:60-69

✠ Vera Ellen Williams

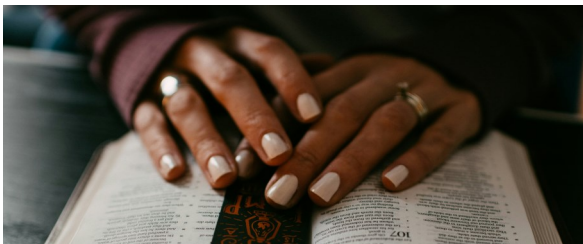


Photo by Kelly Sikkema on Unplash

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

PARISHIONERS AND FRIENDS WHO ARE ILL



Photo by Kelly Sikkema on

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, 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, 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, Ronald Spencer, Ed Vaughn, Charles Walker, Sr., Jo Washington, Julia Washington, Terrance Watson, Mavis Willis, Marie Bijou Wong, Maria Wooder, Joan Yedinak.

PARISHIONERS AND FRIENDS WHO HAVE DIED

BLESSED ARE THOSE WHO HAVE DIED IN THE LORD;
LET THEM REST FROM THEIR LABORS
FOR THEIR GOOD DEEDS GO WITH THEM.

Order of Christian Funerals, no. 118



THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER



A Reconciling Love

Loving Father,
you sent your Son,
our Lord Jesus Christ,
to reconcile the world to you.
Grant that our hearts may be open
to your revelation

in the Eucharist and in the Word.
May your Spirit enliven us
that we may spread our faith
to all we encounter.
Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Sunday, April 14, 2024
Without Fear



Today's readings: Acts 3:13–15, 17–19; Psalm 4:2, 4, 7–8, 9 (7a); 1 John 2:1–5a; Luke 24:35–48. “Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures,” we hear in today’s Gospel. Our lives are sometimes filled with so much noise that our Lord’s voice gets lost amid the cacophony. If time in silence with God is carved into our day, we can discern what God is saying to us in Scripture. But being still in a quiet place can be daunting. Begin the practice by sitting in the quiet one minute a day until that minute passes quickly. On subsequent days, increase the time to two, three, and four minutes until you are able to sit for twenty minutes with God.

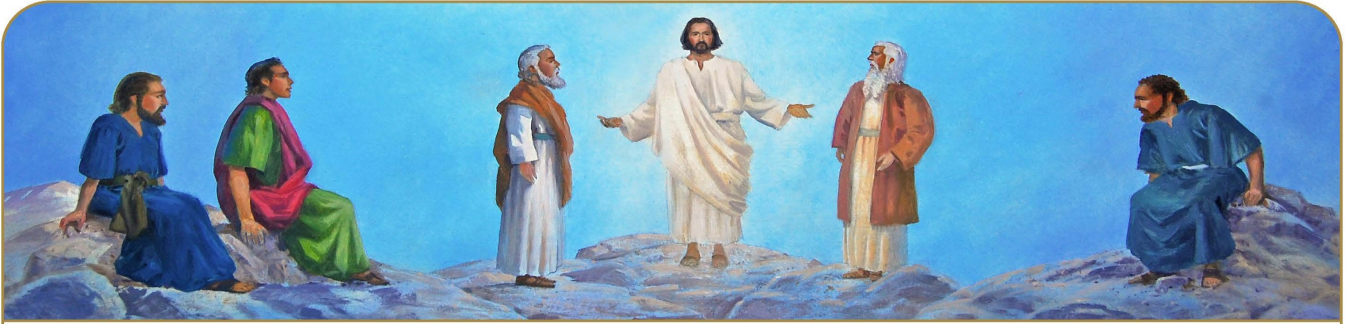
In that silence, open yourself to be vulnerable to God. Doing so might seem daunting so begin by reading a verse

from Scripture, saying a short prayer, or speaking to God just as you would speak to a friend. Tell God what makes you doubt in his promise. There is no need to fear such a conversation with God, for he wants a deeper relationship with you. Just as he met the startled and terrified disciples where they were in their faith, so he will meet you.

“Peace be with you,” Jesus says to the disciples in today’s Gospel. He wants peace for you also. In the silence, Christ awaits your invitation to open your mind to the Scriptures. He, too, awaits your response as a witness to the mercy and forgiveness he offers all who believe. In accepting the peace that Christ offers, consider who in your life needs you to offer them mercy.



Worship



THIS WEEK AT HOME

Monday, April 15 Bread of Life

Jesus says to his disciples, “You are looking for me not because you saw signs but because you ate the loaves and were filled.” Jesus is the Bread of Life; he gave himself to us in the Last Supper and continues to do so at each Eucharist. Some people continue to go spiritually hungry because they do not avail themselves of the nourishment Christ offers. As you begin your week, ask God to work through you to continue building the kingdom. *Today’s readings: Acts 6:8–15; Psalm 119:23–24, 26–27, 29–30; John 6:22–29.*

Tuesday, April 16 Never Hunger

People are always looking for signs. Despite all the times Jesus performed miracles, healed people, and cast out demons, some in today’s Gospel continue to doubt the power of God. People either believe because they have seen or because they have been healed. When asked to be given the bread of life, Jesus responded, “I am the bread of life; whoever comes to me will never hunger.” As you receive the Eucharist every week, meditate on what It means for Christ to be the Bread of Life. How is he sustenance for you? *Today’s readings: Acts 7:51–8:1a; Psalm 31:3cd–4, 6, 7b, 8a, 17, 21ab; John 6:30–35.*

Wednesday, April 17 Visible Signs

“I came down from heaven not to do my own will but the will of the one who sent me.” With those words in today’s Gospel, Jesus reveals that he has submitted his life to God. The first reading, from Acts, shows how such submission cost St. Stephen his life. But as Philip proclaimed the Messiah to Samaria, “there was great joy in that city.” Do you understand that you have a responsibility to bring the joy of the Gospel to those you meet? *Today’s readings: Acts 8:1b–8; Psalm 66:1–3a, 4–5, 6–7a; John 6:35–40.*

Thursday, April 18 We Believe

Today’s Gospel encourages us to ponder the mystery of the Trinity. The reading tells us that no one has seen the Father “but the one who is from God.” Each Sunday at Mass, the faithful profess in the creed that Jesus is consubstantial with the Father. Pray with either the Apostles’ Creed or the Nicene Creed, taking time to realize what the words and our beliefs about the Trinity mean. *Today’s readings: Acts 8:26–40; Psalm 66:8–9, 16–17, 20; John 6:44–51.*

Friday, April 19 New Lives

Saul’s plans—to bring back in chains anyone who followed the Way—were upended when Jesus asked, “Why are you persecuting me?” Soon, Saul was seeking baptism and proclaiming the Good News. Sudden changes often bring people to reconsider their priorities. A dramatic example of that occurred during the lockdowns of the COVID-19 pandemic. Do you need to reexamine your values and determine whether they are aligned with how God is calling you? *Today’s readings: Acts 9:1–20; Psalm 117:1bc, 2; John 6:52–59.*

Saturday, April 20 Be Salt!

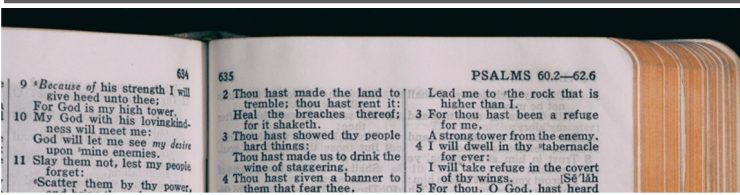
In today’s Gospel from John, we hear that many disciples “returned to their former way of life.” That image of people going back to their old ways is contrasted with Peter’s declaration of allegiance and the growth of the Church recorded in Acts. When we give in to temptation and return to former ways, we may experience momentary happiness but miss out on the peace that Christ offers. The reading from Acts tells of the peace in the Church as it was being built up. Where do you notice peace today? *Today’s readings: Acts 9:31–42; Psalm 116:12–13, 14–15, 16–17; John 6:60–69.*



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KEEPING THE SEASONS
LENT AND EASTER 2024



Faith FORMATION

QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK

The Living Christ

Jesus said to them, "Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself."

(Luke 24: 38–37)

Acts 3: 13–15, 17–19

Peter's Discourse on Jesus' Resurrection

1 John 2: 1–5a

Keeping the Commandments

Luke 24: 35–48

Jesus Appears to the Eleven



ADULTS: What questions about Jesus still arise in the midst of your faith?

CHILDREN: What question would you like to ask someone about Jesus' appearance to the Apostles?

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR CONFIRMANDI



Sally Barth, Marianne Rougeau, Horus Billups, Edward (Ned) Flynn, and Bishop Joseph N. Perry (left to right)

Last Saturday evening, Bishop Joseph N. Perry confirmed four members of our St. Thomas the Apostle family. Through this sacrament they "are more perfectly bound to the Church and are enriched with a special strength of the Holy Spirit. Hence they are, as true witnesses of Christ, more strictly obliged to spread and defend the faith by word and deed" (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 1285).

FAITH FORMATION REGISTRATION FOR 2024-2025 IS NOW AVAILABLE!

Email Rosina Hendrickson at rhendrickson@stapostleparish.org or visit www.stapostleparish.org for more information and registration materials.

FAMILY FAITH FORMATION MONTHLY THEME THE FOUR MARKS OF THE CHURCH

This month Family Faith Formation explores the Four Marks of the Church. The second mark, that of "holy," reminds us that the source of our holiness is the Trinity and the soul of holiness is love. The Church is holy, even though she is not perfect; rather, we are all on a journey towards holiness. It is through our participation in the activities of the Church that we grow in holiness. Mary and the saints are witnesses to holiness in this life.

This week, take some time to reflect on the following Scripture passages: 1 Peter 1: 15-16 and 2 Corinthians 7: 1. How will you strive for holiness this week?

EASTER RETREAT FOR LITURGICAL MINISTERS
LIVING AS PRIEST, PROPHET, AND KING

Presented by Stephen S. Wilbricht, CSC

Sunday, April 28, 2024 - For Music Ministers
Monday, April 29, 2024 - For Lectors and Readers
Tuesday, April 30, 2024 - For Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

6:30pm - 8pm CT
\$15 per individual

Scan the QR code to register for these Virtual Retreats

UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES

PRESCHOOL FAMILY FAITH FORMATION

Sunday, April 21, 2024 | 9:00 a.m.–9:45 a.m.

FAMILY FAITH FORMATION

Sunday, May 5, 2024 | 11:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m.

BAPTISMAL PREPARATION SESSIONS

Sundays, May 5 and 19, 2024 | 11:30 a.m.–1:00 p.m.

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

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE CHURCH
THE CENTENNIAL BUILDING BALL

You're Cordially Invited!

Join us in a dazzling celebration of heritage and community as we commemorate a monumental milestone.

The Centennial Building Ball!

Mark your calendars for this historic event on **Saturday, October 12th, starting at 4:00 PM**, and be part of an unforgettable evening that promises to blend elegance with excitement. Although it seems a long way off, it's only **six months until** our Centennial Building Ball which commemorates the 100th Anniversary of our parish church building along with our related fundraising efforts.

“Many hands make light work”
and together we will accomplish our goals and further our parish building.

WAYS TO SUPPORT OUR CENTENNIAL CHURCH BUILDING:

- ◆ **Purchase Tickets** or get a group of fellow parishioners and friends to put a table together. The price of individual tickets is \$200, but you can **Take Advantage of the Early Bird** pricing of **\$175 per person**. available at Hospitality 1st and 3rd Sunday's in the Parish Hall.
- ◆ **Be a Sponsor** of the Centennial Building Ball at one of the levels listed below. For more information and assistance, contact Brittany McGhee, Centennial Building Ball Co-Chair, brittany@stapostleparish.org
- ◆ **Donate to the Silent Auction!** Information is in the back of the Church and at Hospitality Sundays, or contact directly Co-Chairs Carrie & Rolf Barth: rolfandcarrie@yahoo.com
- ◆ **Join** one of the **Sub-Committees:**
 - Promotion & Sponsorship
 - Reception & Entertainment
 - Decorating

SCAN THE QR CODE
TO
PURCHASE A TICKET



PREMIER SPONSORSHIPS

2024 CENTENNIAL BUILDING BALL

Centennial Sponsor - \$10,000

- Two premier tables of 10 guests per table
- Distinctive recognition on all marketing materials and event signage
- Special recognition from the podium at Centennial Building Ball
- Special recognition by Father Michael Trail at Mass
- Full page ad in parish bulletin

Cherubim Sponsor - \$5,000

- One premier table of 10 guests
- Distinctive recognition on all marketing materials and event signage
- Special recognition from the podium at Centennial Building Ball
- Half page ad in parish bulletin

Samaritan Sponsor - \$2,500

- One table of 8 guests
- Recognition on website and social media
- Acknowledgement during Centennial Building Ball

Hyde Park Sponsor - \$1,000

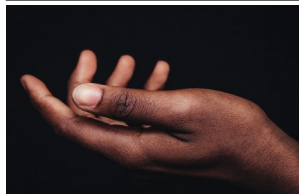
- 3 tickets to Centennial Building Ball
- Recognition on website and social media
- Business ad in parish bulletin

Friend of St. Thomas - \$500

- 2 tickets to Centennial Building Ball
- Recognition on website



St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic Church
5472 South Kimbark Avenue
Chicago IL, 60615-5297



Stewardship

SHARING OUR GIFTS

OFFERTORY

April 6 and April 7

Offertory	\$3,473.61
Rice Bowls	\$2,126.89
Building Fund	\$750.00
Flower Donations	\$140.00
Candle Donations	\$224.00
Faith Formation	\$110.00
St. Vincent	\$100.00
Mass Offerings	\$20.00
Total	\$6,943.89

Thank you!

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

EASTER OFFERTORY

Total **\$12,584.61**

Thank you!

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



Calling All Bakers!

The St. Thomas The Apostle
CHRISTMAS MARKET

is delighted to announce our

April 28th

SPRING BAKE SALE

We're featuring homemade goods -
and we are looking for bakers!

Sign Up Today



<https://bit.ly/staspringbakesale>

or email questions to us at

christmasmarket@stapostleparish.org

(We had a fall bake sale last year, but we're switching seasons!)

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.

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 mmm17@uchicago.edu.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Council 17129

- ◆ **ROSARY:** Fridays following the 8AM Mass. All are welcome!
- ◆ **JOIN Holy Hour:** on Friday, April 19, the feast of St. Catherine of Siena, 6:30-7:30 pm here in our church.
- ◆ **JOIN the KofC** if you are a male 18+ and a practicing Catholic. This organization was founded in 1882 by Fr. M. J. McGiveny.



Please contact Allen Hawkins at ahawkins@stapostleparish.org

STEWARDSHIP NOTE *for* 3rd Sunday of Easter

“Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, ‘Peace be with you.’ But they were startled and frightened...” - Luke 24:36-37

Throughout the day we have many opportunities to “see the face of Jesus” in others and to “be the face of Jesus” to others. Do we take that opportunity to provide “peace” to those we encounter or are we afraid of what others will think of us and do nothing? Pray for the strength and courage to live a

“God-centered” life and not a “self-centered” life.

Photo by Ben White on Unsplash

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 A. 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.