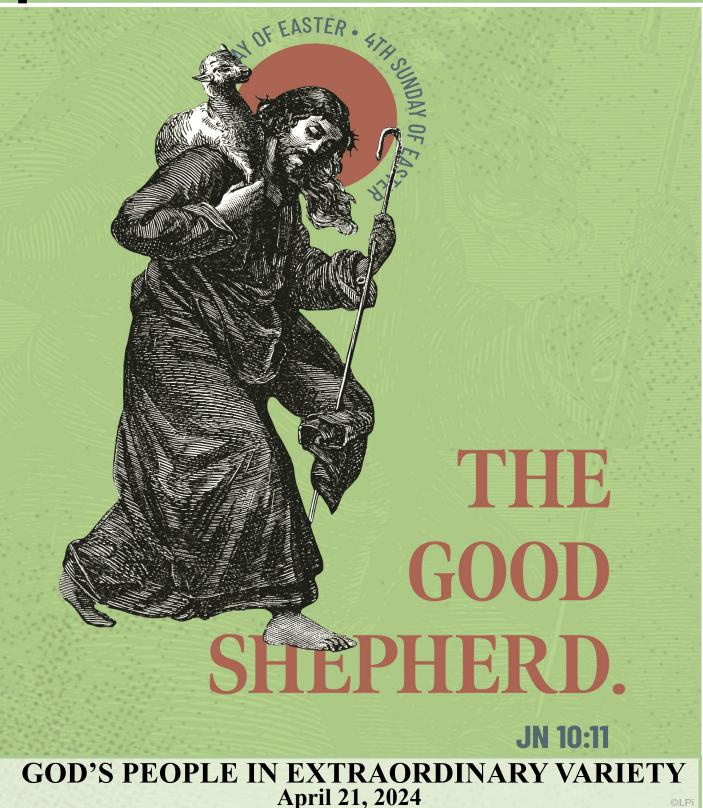
TSt. Thomas the Apostle

CATHOLIC CHURCH AND SCHOOL



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.



uring the Easter Season, our First Reading is always taken from the Acts of the Apostles, rather than the Old Testament. The Church offers us the wisdom of the life of the early Church as our guide for how we are to live our life in community and bear witness to the Good News.

Last week, on the Third Sunday of Easter, we heard Peter speaking to the crowds gathered in the Temple area after healing a crippled man who sat at the Beautiful Gate of the Temple. He testified to the resurrection and called for repentance and conversion. In

today's reading, we see that Peter has been arrested and brought before the Sanhedrin. Even in this moment. Peter asserts the Good News and proclaims that "it was in the name of Jesus Christ the Nazorean ... [that] this man stands before you healed, [and] ... there is no salvation through anyone else" (Acts 4:10,12). Peter gives a beautiful



"St. Peter in Prison," Rembrandt (1606–1669)

testimony and witness of faith.

We are called to be like Peter, sharing the message of Christ's resurrection to the world. In order to share the message, we must first know it and embrace it in our life. This means making our faith a priority in our life and living our baptismal call to be priest, prophet, and king. At St. Thomas the Apostle, we have many opportunities to deepen and rejoice in our faith. We have opportunities to serve and to witness the message of the Gospel.

For families with children, our Family and

Preschool Family Faith Formation processes offer a space to experience the love of God by engaging in activities to come to know the teachings, rituals, and prayers of the Church and to grow in community. Our immediate preparation processes for baptism, reconciliation, confirmation, and eucharist invite parents and children to hear the Good News and share a response in faith as they prepare to receive the sacraments of the Church for themselves or their children. In the Christian initiation process, those who are unbaptized or baptized in another Christian tradition are accompanied in faith by this community to the sacraments. For adults, we periodically offer Bible Study and retreats. In addition, our St. Thomas website offers links and resources to articles, books, videos, and other opportunities to grow in faith.

Once we have heard the Gospel, we are compelled to put our faith into action and live it. We do this both on the St. Thomas campus and in our daily activities. While on-campus, you are living your faith by greeting or exchanging smiles with those in the pew near you, engaging in conversation during after-Mass hospitality on Sundays or on the lawn as you exit the building. There are even opportunities to serve—in a liturgical ministry, as a member of the St. Vincent de Paul Society, through the Knights of Columbus, and our St. Thomas the Apostle school community. Our upcoming Centennial Building Ball is an time for us to rejoice in the many works of our parish community over the years and the beautiful space in which we are able to worship. We also witness our faith off-campus, when we live our values and bear Christ to the world.

As we continue to journey through the Easter season, take this time to reflect on your involvement with our St. Thomas community. Are you called to grow your faith, prepare to receive a sacrament, serve in a liturgical ministry, attend our Centennial Building Ball? In what way will you witness your faith and the love of God to the world around you?

May the peace of the Risen Christ be with you, Rosina B. F. Hendrickson *Coordinator of Family Faith Formation*



THIS 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

P Edward J. Wong Jr. P Zoila Henrique and Carol Johnston, (Special Intention)

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 OF EASTER

Acts 9:26-31 Psalm 22:26-27, 28, 30, 31-32 (26a) 1 John 3:18-24 John 15:1-8

DAILY READINGS AND PRAYER INTENTIONS

Please remember those listed below in your prayers this week.

MONDAY, April 22 Readings: Acts 11:1-18 | Ps 42:2-3; 43:3, 4 | Jn 10:1-10 Teodoro S. Villarin, (Birthday Blessings)

TUESDAY, April 23 Saint Adalbert, bishop and martyr Readings: Acts 11:19-26 | Ps 87:1b-3, 4-5, 6-7 | Jn 10:22-30 & Joshua Lee

WEDNESDAY, April 24 Saint Fidelis of Sigmaringen, priest and martyr Readings: Acts 12:24-13:5a | Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6 and 8 | Jn 12:44-50 Paymond Fenner Carol Johnston, (Special Intention)

THURSDAY, April 25 Saint Mark, evangelist Readings: 1 Pt 5:5b-14 | Ps 89:2-3, 6-7, 16-17 | Mk 16:15-20 Thaddeus Villarin, (Birthday Blessings)

FRIDAY, April 26 Readings: Acts 13:26-33 | Ps 2:6-7, 8-9, 10-11ab | Jn 14:1-6 ♀ George & Dolores Harvilla



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, Jean Douglas-Washington, Sheldon Dugan, Barbara Dunn, Pat & Dick English, Marilyn Epps, Joan Gallagher, Lina Garcia, David Giles, Pamela Graniczy, 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 LOFD; LET THEM REST FROM THEIR LABORS FOR THEIR BOOD DEEDS BO WITH THEM. Order of Christian Funerals, no. 118



Please see the sacristan or an usher before Mass begins.

Q What's next? Is it over now? Does Christian initiation ever end?

A tits heart, Christian initiation is about conversion—people turning toward God for the first time. But that movement of turning toward God continues after initiation. Disciples continue to turn more and more deeply toward God throughout their lives. That is why the privilege of accompanying seekers as they come to know Jesus Christ is so compelling and revitalizing for the baptized. We are always engaged in that movement of turning, of ongoing conversion.

The ninety-some days from Ash Wednesday to Pentecost, from death to new life, are at the heart of Christian life and are an especially fertile time for ongoing conversion. The assembly makes this journey together each year with those who are coming to faith. Beginning in Lent, the paths of the elect and the assembly gradually grow

closer until at Easter neophytes and assembly are at last one in Baptism and share Eucharist together at the Lord's Table. At the Easter Vigil, the baptized attend closely as the elect are called by name, rise from the font, and are told they are "a new creation." We watch as they are given a lighted candle, told



they have been enlightened by Christ, and reminded to walk as children of the light. These words take on a new meaning as the assembly hears them spoken to these adults. We see ourselves in the newly baptized. We recommit to bringing our baptismal garment unstained to Christ, to walking as children of light. We voice this recommitment by renewing our baptismal promises and are sprinkled with baptismal water. These days renew us in our baptismal identity, calling us to share the light of Christ in all the dark corners of our world.

Mystagogy during the fifty days of Easter is a school for Christian living—a school for neophytes and for all the

assembly. And it was a school through which Jesus' first disciples also learned. For forty days after he rose from the dead, the Risen Lord stayed with his disciples, opening the Scriptures for them, sharing meals with them, and assuring them of his everlasting presence. He commissioned them as Apostles and ascended, ten days later sending the Holy Spirit among them. The seven Sunday Masses of Easter Time echo that savoring, teaching, understanding, and commissioning.

Worship

After Pentecost, our daily living goes on, nourished by this journey. Whether neophyte or long-baptized, we will experience joys and sorrows in our lives ahead. We will stumble and rise, we will fall short of the baptismal life to which we are called. Yet the Risen Christ accompanies us, and we accompany one another, turning together toward the world still in need of Christ's light.

At every moment in the world, God is loving and leading people. Grace is flowing, hearts are stirring, and people are seeking. That is how initiation begins—with God's action—and disciples are needed to respond by being and sharing the good news of Jesus Christ. We do this simply by living our lives as faithful disciples, and we do not hesitate to give a reason for our hope when people want to talk—to share our joys and struggles as followers of Jesus Christ. We may never know the impact of our efforts to be a sign of encouragement, or we may have the joy of knowing that we helped to move someone along in their journey. Soon we will begin this initiation process again, with new experiences and with new seekers who will become new Christians. The Church's work of initiation never ends.

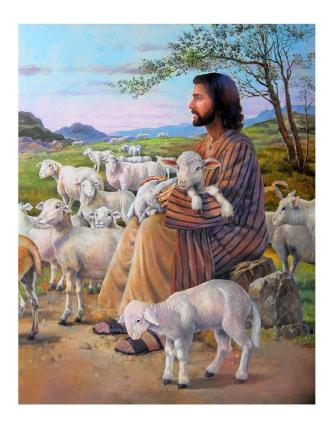
Kyle Lechtenberg. © 2017 Archdiocese of Chicago: Liturgy Training Publications. All rights reserved. Art by Martin Erspamer, озв.



FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Our Shepherd

God the Father, you are our shepherd, who offer us green pastures, and life-giving water. Through love and kindness, you lead your flock to a restful place. With your tender touch, you cast away our fears. There is nothing we want but to remain by your side. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.



Sunday, April 21, 2024 The Good Shepherd

Today's readings: Acts 4:8–12; *Psalm* 118:1, 8–9, 21–23, 26, 28, 29; 1 John 3:1–2; John 10:11–18. When you see the Good Shepherd depicted in art, do you see yourself as the lamb? Do you see yourself as one to be protected, guided, and comforted? Or do you think the lamb reflects only a child? Imagining yourself as the lamb will provide insight into who God is for you. "I am the Good Shepherd, and I know mine, and mine know me," Jesus says. This portrayal reveals the intimacy of our relationship with God. God knows us and has given us the capacity to know him.

The shepherd is willing to lay down his life for his sheep. The Good Shepherd has already done this for us, dying on the cross so that we may have eternal life. A hired hand, however, does not have this connection to the sheep; he would not sacrifice his life for the flock. This man "sees a wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away."

Our Shepherd is with us—in our loneliness and sorrow as well as in our joy. Spend a few minutes in quiet, imagining yourself with the Good Shepherd in a green pasture. Let him hear not only your voice but your deepest desires. Seek to expand your quiet prayer time this week so that you might hear the Good Shepherd's voice. Remember your relationship with the Good Shepherd grows as you make space for him in your life.



THIS WEEK AT HOME

Monday, April 22 In Silence

"The sheep follow him because they recognize his voice." The Gospel of John portrays the Lord as intimately connected to his followers. They know his voice, and he has come so that "they might have life and have it more abundantly." Only by pausing our busy lives can we hear God's voice. Consider where you might have even a few minutes in a day to listen to God. *Today's readings: Acts 11:1–18; Psalm 42:2–3; 43:3, 4; John 10:1–10.*

Tuesday, April 23 Listen

In today's Gospel, we hear that people continue to badger Jesus to prove he is indeed the Son of God. "How long are you going to keep us in suspense? If you are the Christ, tell us plainly," they say. These people are among those who do not recognize the shepherd's voice. Once the sheep are in the flock, Jesus says, "No one can take them [sheep] out of the Father's hands. The Father and I are one." In coming chapters of the Gospel of John, we will hear Jesus yearn for that same unity with humankind. *Today's readings: Acts 11:19–26; Psalm 87:1b–3, 4–5, 6–7; John 10:22–30.*

Wednesday, April 24 Obeying the Spirit

Today's account from Acts shows Barnabas and Saul sailing to Cyprus to spread the Good News. They wasted no time in responding to the Holy Spirit, who told the community, "Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them." How does your community help people discern their gifts and their mission in the Church? Is there anyone you can meet with in your parish to help you discern your calling to serve the Church and the world? *Today's readings: Acts 12:24—13:5a; Psalm 67:2–3, 5, 6, 8; John 12:44–50.*

Thursday, April 25 Feast of St. Mark

On the Feast of St. Mark, Evangelist, we hear in the Gospel, "Go into the whole world and proclaim the Gospel to every creature." St. Mark is believed to be the disciple referred to in Acts as "John who is called Mark" (12:25). He was the son of Mary of Jerusalem, who opened her home to the disciples. It is believed that he met Peter, Paul, and other disciples in his mother's home and then joined them in evangelizing. *Today's readings: 1 Peter 5:5b–14; Psalm 89:2–3, 6–7, 16–17; Mark 16:15–20.*

Friday, April 26 Always Loving

With Thomas voicing confusion, Jesus lovingly replies, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me." Thomas had followed Jesus for years and still questioned where the Lord was leading the disciples. Believers live with questions. Whether your faith is new or lifelong, you may at times be unsure of the spiritual path you are to follow. Jesus offers assurance that he is not only the way but the truth and the life. *Today's readings:* Acts 13:26–33; Psalm 2:6–7, 8–9, 10–11ab; John 14:1–6.

Saturday, April 27 In Silence

"Master, show us the Father, and that will be enough for us," Philip tells Jesus. There is a Philip in all of us, looking for reassurance of the presence of God in our lives. Sometimes we ask God for a sign to calm our fears. Jesus directs Philip and us to look not only to his words but his works. Where do you see the work of God in your community? Is there someone who needs reassurance that God is present during struggles? *Today's readings: Acts 13:44–52; Psalm 98:1, 2–3ab, 3cd–4; John 14:7–14.*

<u>LTP</u>

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PSALMS 60.2-62.6 Lead me to the rock that is hisher than I. For thou hast been a refuge for me. A will act to the the energy. A will act to the the the energy. A will act to the the energy. I will take refuge in the covert of the wins. (Se the



QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK

Called to Be Shepherds

Jesus said, "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep." (John 10: 11)

> Acts 4: 8–12 The Stone That Has Become the Cornerstone

> > **1 John 3: 1–2** Recognizing the Son

John 10: 11–18 The Good Shepherd

ADULTS: Whom are you shepherding in your life right now, and who shepherds you?

CHILDREN: Who has been like a shepherd to you by their example? For whom could you be a shepherd?

FAMILY FAITH FORMATION MONTHLY THEME THE FOUR MARKS OF THE CHURCH

This month Family Faith Formation explores the Four Marks of the Church. The third mark, that of "catholic," reminds us that the Church is universal.

The Church is catholic because she is the fullness of Christ's body, and within her one finds the fullness of the means of salvation. In addition, we recognize that the mission of the Church is to go forth to the whole world. As the Body of Christ, and in a spirit of love, we share the message of the Gospel with all peoples. Christ is present when members of his body are gathered and we are united through the Bishop of Rome, the Pope.

This week, take some time to reflect on the following Scripture passages: 1 Peter 2: 9 and Acts 10: 34. How will you strive to be inclusive and embrace the universality of the Church this week?

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





ORMATION

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

Scan the QR code to register for these Virtual Retreats

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

CFP

FAITH FORMATION REGISTRATION FOR 2024-2025 IS NOW AVAILABLE!

Faith formation at St. Thomas the Apostle is family-based, and we have opportunities for 3-year olds through 8th Grade, with high school students and their families also participating.

Your family is invited to join us as we gather for food, fellowship, formation, and fun on a monthly basis, beginning in August 2024.

Preparation for the sacraments of reconciliation, eucharist, and confirmation require two consecutive years of participation in the Family Faith Formation process.

Registrations received before June 30, 2023 receive an early-bird discount on the registration fee.

Email Rosina Hendrickson at **rhendrickson@stapostleparish.org** or visit <u>www.stapostleparish.org</u> for more information and registration materials.

UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES

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. **PRESCHOOL FAMILY FAITH FORMATION**

Sunday, May 19, 2024 | 9:00 a.m.–9:45 a.m.

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



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, <u>brittany@stapostleparish.org</u>
- **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: <u>rolfandcarrie@yahoo.com</u>
- Join one of the Sub-Committees: Promotion & Sponsorship Reception & Entertainment Decorating

SCAN THE QR CODE TO PURCHASE A TICKET



7 | St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic Church and School

PREMIER SPONSORSHIPS

2024 CENTENNIAL BUILDING BALI

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

OFFERTORY April 13 and April 14

Offertory Rice Bowls Building Fund Flower Donations Candle Donations Faith Formation St. Vincent	\$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$
Mass Offerings	\$
Total	\$

Thank you!

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

STA Now Accepts VENMO

Catholic Bishop of Chicago Corp. Sol

@StThomasHydePark



venmo

Scan this code to donate.

Knights of Columbus Council 17129

- **Rosary:** Fridays following the 8AM Mass. All are welcome!
- ◆ Holy Hour: on Friday, April 29, 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, *Grand Knight*, at 630–945–4133 for more details.



Stewardship

SHARING OUR GIFTS

St. Thomas The Apostle

Come in for a tasty homemade treat April 28, 2024 - 9am to 1pm





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.edh.

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.

STEWARDSHIP NOTE for the 4th Sunday of Easter

"I am the good shepherd...and I lay down my life for the sheep...and they will heed my voice." John—10:14-16

When you pray, do you only ask Jesus for the things that you want? Do you ever ask Jesus what He wants from you? How do you listen for His response? Many times Jesus responds in "quiet whispers" that are not so obvious. So, take time every day, in silence, to actively listen for His voice.

Photo by Ben White on Unsplash

9 | St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic Church and School

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE CATHOLIC CHURCH & SCHOOL

General Information

Church Address 5472 S. Kimbark Avenue Chicago, IL 60615–5297

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

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 School Address 5467 S. Woodlawn Avenue Chicago, IL 60615–5299

School Offices Hours: 7:30am–3:45pm, Monday—Friday Phone: (773) 667–1142

www.stapostleschool.com admissions@stapostleschool.com

MASS SCHEDULE

Sunday: Monday: Tuesday: Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday: Saturday: Holy Days: Confession: 8:00 ам and 10:00 ам 8:00 ам 8:30 ам

8:00 AM 4:00 PM VIGIL 8:00 AM 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.