

6TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

610

"It was not you who chose me, but I who chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit that will remain, so that whatever you ask the Father in my name he may give you. This I command you:

love one another." - Jn 15:16-17

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

Timothy Johnston

THEOLOGY OF THE PRECIOUS BLOOD

This week we continue breaking open the theology of the Precious Blood as we prepare to reintroduce the common cup at Masses on Pentecost.

In its Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy (CSL), the Second Vatican Council, restored the possibility of the common cup; it also limited it to certain occasions. These permissions were later expanded for most around the world.

Eucharisticum mysterium (EM), published to aid in



implementing the teachings of the CSL, provides further directives and teaching on communion under both species (i.e., consecrated bread and

Holy Communion, considered as a sign, has a more complete form when it is received under both kinds. For under this form . . . the sign of the Eucharistic banquet appears more perfectly. Moreover, it shows more clearly how the new and eternal Covenant is ratified in the Blood of the Lord, as it also expresses the relation of the Eucharistic banquet to the eschatological banquet in the Kingdom of the Father (cf. Mt. 26: 27-29).

This teaching is reiterated in nos. 85 and 281 of the current General Instruction of the Roman Missal. The theology in this short paragraph reminds us of the Church's teaching that we are redeemed by the blood of the Lamb.² The Eucharistic liturgy is both meal and sacrifice. And at this sacrificial meal, we feast upon the Bread of Life and the Cup of Salvation.

Blood is the source of life and the source of our covenant/life with God through Christ the Paschal Lamb. We have life because Christ's gave his life, shed his blood, for each of us.

Throughout both Testaments of Scripture, blood recalls covenant, sacrifice, and salvation. For example, in Exodus (ch. I 2) the blood of the lamb marks the doorposts of the Israelites so that their first-born children are not killed. Chapter 17 of Leviticus lays out rules on handling blood, discusses atonement and sacrifice, but ultimately the sacredness of blood.3 Paul's scolding of the Corinthians about not worshiping idols when he says, is not the cup of blessing "a sharing in the blood of Christ?" (I Cor. 10:16). Hebrews 9:22 reminds us that "According to the law almost everything is purified by blood, and without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness." And of course, Jesus' own command to eat and drink in the synoptic gospels as well as

him staying, "This cup that is poured out for you is the new covenant in my blood" (Lk 22:20). One final Scripture reference is Revelation 5:9-10 where we are reminded once again it is by the blood of the Lamb that we have been redeemed.

Even the texts of the Votive Mass for "The Most Precious Blood of Our Lord Jesus Christ," describes our salvation by the blood:

Refreshed . . . by this saving food and drink, we pray that we may always be bathed / in the Blood of our Savior / . . . may it become for us a spring of water welling up to eternal life.4

Ultimately, sharing in the common cup at Mass is a sign of the fullness of the Eucharistic mystery—a reminder that we feast at the divine banquet, that we are sharers in the divine life, and that we have been saved by the outpouring of Christ's blood. It reminds us of the joy of salvation and for that we gather to feast and offer praise to our saving God and partake in the saving Cup.

It's important to say thank you WHEN YOU RECEIVE A GIFT

This was a lesson I learned early on from my parents and it's something that I continue to work on every day. That message of gratitude should also extend from one institution to another.

Our parish has been the recipient of a large gift from another parish, and I want to say thank you to them. St. Paul the Apostle Parish in Gurnee, Illinois is a large wealthy suburban parish and they have given us a gift of \$10,000 to support our mission and ministry. This weekend I will be at St. Paul to celebrate two Masses and to say thank you on behalf our parish for their generous support of our mission and ministry at St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic Church and School.

Bishop Perry and Fr. Robin are covering the Masses for me this weekend so I can go up to Gurnee—51 miles north of us-to say thank you.



In your kindness, say a prayer for the parishioners and clergy of St. Paul the Apostle Parish.

Sincerely. Fr. Trail

Sacred Congregation of Rites, Instruction, Euchaństicum mysterium, May 25, 1967, no. 32. see Edwin Kaiser, CPPS, "The Theology of the Precious Blood," American Ecclesiastical Review (July 1941).

see Wayne A Turner, "Leviticus," in *The Collegeville Bible Commentary: Old Testament*, (Collegeville: Liturgical Press, 1992), 132.
 The Roman Missal, Prayer after Communion, "Votive Mass of the Most Precious Blood.





THIS SUNDAY'S READINGS: 6TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48 ◆ Psalm 98:1, 2-3, 3-4 (see 2b) ◆ 1 John 4:7-10 ◆ John 15:9-17

♦ McPhillips & Costigan Families, and Pamila Villarin, (Birthday Blessings)

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: THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD

Acts 1:1-11♦ Psalm 47:2-3, 6-7, 8-9 (6) ♦ Ephesians 1:17-23 or Ephesians 4:1-13 or 4:1-7, 11-13 ♦ Mark 16:15-20

DAILY READINGS AND PRAYER INTENTIONS

Please remember those listed below in your prayers this week.

MONDAY, May 6

Readings: Acts 16:11-15 | Ps 149:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6a and 9b | Jn 15:26-16:4a

> Ronald Spencer, (Speedy Recovery) Dr. Gloria McDaniels, (Birthday Blessings)

TUESDAY, May 7

Readings: Acts 16:22-34 | Ps 138:1-2ab, 2cde-3, 7c-8 | Jn 16:5-11

† Nadine Bogan

Kendall Baker, (Special Intention)

WEDNESDAY, May 8

Saint Joseph the Worker

Readings: Acts 17:15, 22-18:1 | Ps 148:1-2, 11-12, 13, 14 | Jn 16:12-15 **†** Louis French

Lissa Romell, (Birthday Blessings)

THURSDAY, May 9

Ascension of the Lord

Readings: Acts 18:1-8 | Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4 | Jn 16:16-20

Terry Jones, (Birthday Blessings) Helen Irvin, (Birthday Blessings) Lenora Austin, (Birthday Blessings) **Organ Donors and their Families**

FRIDAY, May 10

Saint John of Avila, priest and doctor of the Church Readings: Acts 18:9-18 | Ps 47:2-3, 4-5, 6-7 | Jn 16:20-23

† Mark E. Lewis

† Kevin A. Comeaux

SATURDAY, May 11

Readings: Acts 18:23-28 | Ps 47:2-3, 8-9, 10 | Jn 16:23b-28

Maude Brooks

Mary Pat White, (Birthday Blessings)

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.



SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER



Remaining in Your Love

Almighty Father, through your Son, you have given us new life. May we seek to remain in you by yielding to your command to love one another. Grant that our hearts may be open to meet the needs of others in our midst so that we might truly call ourselves your friends.

Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Sunday, May 5, 2024 Joy and Love



Today's readings: Acts 10:25–26, 34–35, 44–48; Psalm 98:1, 2–3, 3–4; 1 John 4:7–10; John 15:9–17. The Gospel provides a sense of the immensity of God's love in the first sentences today. "As the Father loves me, so I also love you," Jesus tells the disciples. Imagine what that means. Jesus is saying that he loves his followers with the same love that the Father loves him. From these few words, we can begin to understand the communion of love to which we are invited through our baptism.

In the first reading, it becomes apparent that God reaches out to all to share his bountiful love. "In truth, I see that God shows no partiality," Peter explains, citing his rea-

son for meeting with the Gentile Cornelius. Peter well knew that it was unlawful for a Jew to visit a Gentile; however, Jesus had shown him another way. No one was to be considered profane or unclean. As he ministered to the Gentiles, Peter became a living testimony of God's love.

The reading from the First Letter of John explains that we are to love one another because "love is of God." As followers of Christ, we are to spread what is God's. The author of the letter notes that, by loving, we come to know God. Consider who you refrain from loving. Read over today's Scriptures several times this week to deepen your understanding that "God shows no partiality."



Worship



THIS WEEK AT HOME

Monday, May 6 Take Your Place

Jesus predicts a dark future for his followers when he says, "They will expel you from the synagogues; in fact, the hour is coming when everyone who kills you will think he is offering worship to God." Preceding that reading is a psalm of thanksgiving, directing that we remember that we belong to God. "We are his people, the flock he shepherds," the psalm proclaims. Dispositions of trust and gratitude may have allowed Lydia, the dealer of cloth in Acts, to open her heart to preaching, seek baptism, and invite the disciples into her home. Today's readings: Acts 16:11–15; Psalm 149:1b–2, 3-4, 5-6a, 9b; John 15:26—16:4a.

Tuesday, May 7 **Ready Your Hearts**

It is not surprising that the disciples grieve upon hearing that Jesus is leaving them. After all, they had spent years with Jesus, witnessing his preaching and healing. Since they had not yet experienced the Spirit, it might have been little comfort when Jesus explained, "For if I do not go, the Advocate will not come to you." The Gospel today refers to the Spirit as the Advocate, and in the Nicene Creed, the Spirit is called "the Lord, the giver of life." How does the Holy Spirit instill life in the Church? Today's readings: Acts 16:22-34; Psalm 138:1-2ab, 2cde-3, 7c-8; John 16:5-11.

Wednesday, May 8 Go into the World

St. Paul and the other disciples acted as a Church on mission, traveling to spread the Good News. In today's reading from Acts, St. Paul tells the Athenians that God "gives life and breath and everything." As St. Paul preaches, he yields to the Spirit, who Jesus says in the Gospel will "guide you to all truth." This Easter Time pray to the Holy Spirit for guidance. Today's readings: Acts 17:15, 22—18:1; Psalm 148:1-2, 11-12, 13, 14; John 16:12-15.

Thursday, May 9

Thursday of the Sixth Week of Easter

"You will grieve but your grief will turn to joy," Jesus tells the disciples before ascending to be with the Father. The disciples had no idea of what lay ahead so, of course, they were grieving the anticipated loss of their teacher. Can you imagine their joy when they discover that, as followers of Christ, they had a new life in Christ that demanded that they spread the Good News? Today's readings: Acts 18:1–8; Psalm 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4; John 16:16-20.

Ascension of the Lord

In today's Gospel, we hear of God's yearning for all to be saved. Each baptized person has the same mission as the first disciples to proclaim the Gospel. Have you considered that doing so is part of your baptismal responsibility? Acts 1:1–11; Psalm 47:2-3, 6-7, 8-9; Ephesians 1:17-23; Mark 16:15-20.

Friday, May 10 Focus on the Joy

Jesus likens the pain and suffering of the disciples to that of a woman in labor. Once the child is born, joy erases the pain. As the disciples anticipate Jesus' departure, they are in pain; however, when they meet the Lord again, their joy will be eternal. As we hear today, no one will take that joy from them. Today's readings: Acts 18:9-18; Psalm 47:2-3, 4-5, 6-7; John 16:20-23.

Saturday, May 11 For Your Joy to Be Complete

"Ask and you will receive, so that your joy may be complete," Jesus tells the disciples. Usually, people request things that they think will bring them happiness, and sometimes only fleeting happiness. But Jesus points out that what the Father gives will bring joy. How has God been present during the joys in your life? What does it mean for your joy to be complete? Today's reading: Acts 18:23-28; Psalm 47:2-3, 8-9, 10; John 16:23b-28.



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FORMATION

FAMILY FAITH FORMATION MONTHLY THEME

SACRAMENTS AT THE SERVICE OF COMMUNION

This month Family Faith Formation explores the sacraments at the service of communion: matrimony and holy orders. These two sacraments are "directed towards the salvation of others; ... they confer a particular mission in the Church and serve to build up the People of God" (Catechism of the Catholic Church, 1534).

All who have been baptized and confirmed have been consecrated for the common priesthood of all the faithful. They are to live their baptismal call to be priest, prophet, and king.

Through the sacraments at the service of communion one may receive particular consecrations. Those in Holy Orders are "to feed the Church by the word and grace of God". Through the sacrament of matrimony, spouses are "consecrated for the duties and dignity of their state" (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 1535).

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, 2024 receive an early-bird discount on the registration fee.

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

SUMMER AT ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE

Preschool and Family Faith Formation take a break during the months of June and July as many families are traveling and enjoying a respite from school and work.



Scan the QR Code to complete our Summer Family Faith Formation Activity Survey by Sunday, May 12 to express your interest in assisting with or participating in activities during those months.

Email Rosina Hendrickson, Coordinator of Family Faith Formation, at **rhendrickson@stapostleparish.org** to obtain additional information on this survey or the possibility of summer family faith formation activities.

QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK

Love of Your Neighbor

Jesus said, "This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you."

(John 15: 12)

Acts 10: 25–26, 34–35, 44–48

Peter in Caesarea

1 John 4: 7–10 God's Love and Ours

> John 15: 9–17 Disciple's Love



ADULTS: How is love of others connected to love for God?

CHILDREN: Who needs Jesus' love this week? How can you show them his love?

UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES

PRESCHOOL FAMILY FAITH FORMATION Sunday, May 19, 2024 | 9:00 a.m.—9:45 a.m.

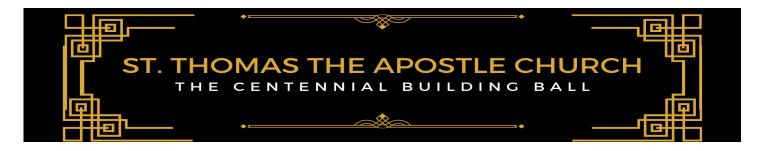
Baptismal Preparation Sessions

Sundays, July 7 and 21, 2024 | 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

FAMILY FAITH FORMATION

Sunday, August 25, 2024 | 11:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

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



Lights, Camera, Gala!



The Centennial **Building Ball!**

Join us for a Night of Elegance and Celebration.

We are thrilled to extend an invitation to you for an unforgettable evening at the Centennial Building Ball, a majestic event

commemorating the 100th Anniversary of our cherished parish church building.

This special occasion promises not only to honor a century of history and community but also to support our ongoing fundraising efforts aimed at preserving our beloved church for future generations.

We're rolling out the red carpet just for you. Join us for a night of elegance and celebration. Don't miss out on the event of the year mark your calendars and let's dazzle together!

WAYS TO SUPPORT OUR CENTENNIAL CHURCH BUILDING:

- Take Advantage of the Early Bird *EXTENTED UNTIL MAY 19TH* pricing of \$175 per person. Available at Hospitality 1st and 3rd Sunday's in the Parish Hall.
- **Donate Monthly** through the remainder of the year via your Building Fund envelope, Give Central or mark the Building Fund on the envelopes available on the tables in the rear of the Church. Thank you for your generosity!
- 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 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





OFFERTORY

April 27 and April 28

Offertory \$17,557.04 Give Central \$3,253.00 **Building Fund** \$100.00 Candle Donations \$110.00 \$100.00 **Faster** Mass Offerings \$40.00

Total \$21,160.04

Thank you!

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

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Catholic Bishop of Chicago Corp. Sol

@StThomasHydePark



Scan this code to donate.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS Council 17129

- ♦ **Rosary:** Fridays following the 8AM Mass. All are welcome!
- ♦ **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.



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 6th Sunday of Easter

"This is my commandment: love one another as I love you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends." - John 15:12-13

Do you love Jesus? Do you consider Him your friend? Jesus says that if we love Him we would be willing to offer whatever we have to Him, not because we want praise and glory, but simply because we love Him. Does your giving seem mechanical out of obligation or do you share freely out of love?

Photo by Ben White on Unsplash



Events

COMMUNITY FELLOWSHIP



10 A.M. - 3 P.M. **BUTLER RECEPTION ROOM**

Registration Fee: \$100 des boxed lunch and continental breakfast)



Timothy Johnston, MA, MACD

Through prayer, music, art, and the Church's liturgical texts, this gathering will inspire participants to deepen their participation in the Eucharist and explore how its celebration calls us to and sends us forth on mission.

To register, scan the QR code.





O God, who have taught the hearts of the faithful by the light of the Holy Spirit, grant that in the same Spirit we may be truly wise and ever rejoice in his consolation. Through Christ our Lord.

THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS AND OUTREACH MINISTRY BABY BOTTLE DRIVE AND BABY EMPORIUM



During the month of May, the Knights of Columbus and STA Outreach Ministry ask you to live out your Marian consecration by donating to one or two programs: The Baby Bottle drive and/or STA Baby Emporium in-kind donations for baby/toddler supplies during the month of May. The Baby Bottle drive collects monies that will be donated to the Aid to Women Pregnancy Care Center in the South Loop to support mothers-to-be in need. The STA Baby Emporium provides diapers and new and/or gently-used baby/toddler clothing to the parents or guardians of those in need. Diapers and clothing from the STA Baby Emporium will be distributed during the first Sunday in June. These programs will run from the weekend of May 4-5 through the week of May 18-19.

Please come to the narthex to learn more about both programs.

For further information please contact tmdousa2@hotmail.com or wdjackson@fastmail.fm.

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

8:00 AM and 10:00 AM Sunday:

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

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.