

St. Thomas

ST. THOMAS · THE · APOSTLE · PARISH

25th Sunday in Ordinary Time — September 23, 2007



St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic Parish

1500 Brookdale Road, Naperville, IL 60563 e-mail: mainoffice@stapostle.org

630 355-8980 (Main Office)

Visit us on the internet at www.stapostle.org

630 305-6318 (Religious Education)

630 355-0521 (Facsimilie)

Pastoral Staff — Full Time

Rev. Joel Fortier – Pastor, jfortier@stapostle.org
Rev. Mark Cote – Associate Pastor, fr_mark_c@yahoo.com
Rev. Bob Colaresi, O. Carm. – Weekend Assistant
Rev. Mr. William Worden, D. Min. – Deacon, ext. 105
Rev. Mr. Chuck Lane – Deacon, ext. 220, chucklane2@juno.com
Rev. Mr. Jim Breen – Deacon, 630-357-4853, jimb4853@yahoo.com
Rev. Mr. Larry Kearney Deacon, ext. 225, lkearney@comcast.net
Rev. Mr. Michael Barrett, ext. 220
Jacob Chojnacki, Director of High School Ministry, ext. 123, jake@stapostle.org
Gerry Czerak – Business Manager, ext. 106, gczerak@stapostle.org
Corinne Seguin-Dart – Director of Junior High Youth Ministry, ext. 117, cseguin@stapostle.org
Patti Dougherty – Director of Religious Education, ext. 109, pdougherty@stapostle.org
Julie Frazier – Liturgy and Music, ext. 111, jfrazier@stapostle.org
Robert Frazier – Liturgy and Music, ext. 112, rfrazier@stapostle.org
Jan Olah – Director of Pastoral Care, ext. 124
Chari Rosales – Director of Adult Education & RCIA ext. 138, crosales@stapostle.org
Michael Ryder – Director of Outreach, ext. 121, mryder@stapostle.org

Pastoral Care Staff — Part Time

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Theresa Sheliga – Sacristan Coordinator, ext. 116
Lynne Vehlewald – Librarian, ext. 125, library@stapostle.org

Pastoral Leadership Community

Ivan Deatsch	Steven Grumbine
Pam Foster	Dan O'Grady
Guy Francesconi	Ray Vogt
Julee Gard	

Commission Facilitators

Worship	Matt Balda
Parish Life	
Faith Formation	Lorraine Katz
Administration	Dave Otto
Service	Phil Meno
Stewardship	

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday reconciliation is available after 8:30 a.m. Mass, 3:30 to 4:15 p.m., or after the 4:30 p.m. Mass in the Reconciliation Room of the Chapel. Fr. Joel and Fr. Mark are available during the week by appointment. Communal Penance services are held occasionally throughout the year.

Sick and Home Bound

Call the Church Office to receive prayer/Eucharist from a priest, deacon or Minister of Care.

Baptism

Baptisms are usually celebrated 2-3 Sundays each month at a 1:45 p.m. service. On selected dates, Baptisms are celebrated at weekend Masses. Parents are required to attend an awareness and renewal evening prior to the Baptism. Call the Church Office a few months in advance to make arrangements.

Matrimony

A couple planning on being married at St. Thomas should contact the church six months in advance. One year is preferred. Either the bride or groom, or their parents, must be a registered parishioner for at least three months prior to calling to set a date.

Religious Education

Call the 305-6318 to register.

RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults)

Any person wanting to learn more about the Catholic Faith, or to join our Catholic community should call the church at 355-8980.

Counseling Service

Call Samaritan Interfaith 357-2456 or Jan Olah, Pastoral Care 355-8980 x 124.

Sunday Nursery

Nursery care is available for your child age one (must be walking) to four at the 9 & 10:45 a.m. Mass. For more information call the church office.

Liturgy Schedule

Daily

(Monday — Friday)

Rosary — 8:10 a.m.

Mass — 6:30 & 8:30 a.m.

(Saturday)

Mass — 8:30 a.m.

Weekend

Saturday Vigil — 4:30 p.m.

Sunday — 7:30, 9:00, 10:45 a.m.,

& 12:15 p.m.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament every first Friday of the month 9 a.m. — Noon.

Dear Friends,

“First of all, I ask that supplications, prayers, petitions and thanksgiving be offered for everyone, kings and for all in authority, that we may lead quiet and tranquil lives...” Wow, isn’t that a heartfelt prayer we can make our own, for leaders who lead us to quiet and tranquil lives.

That is the first line of the second reading today. In the gospel Jesus tells us, “you cannot serve two masters... You cannot serve both God and mammon (“Riches regarded as an object of greedy pursuit” —Webster)” It’s not about money and it cannot be about money for us. It has to be about God and the core values of our faith.

“Right relationships with God... lead to true peace.”

We continue to hear debate about what were and are the real motives behind the war in Iraq, that it was and is really about oil, money, wealth, riches: mammon. If that is true, and if the war effort, at the incredible cost of human life and suffering both of our own people and the people of Iraq, and the now three billion dollars a month we are spending on this effort is for mammon, then I believe we stand accountable before God of our stewardship. The military-industrial complex, of which we have been warned, may have a keen interest in the perpetuation of an unending war, but the sons and daughters of God need to think about it.

How can we expect God’s blessing on such a thing. We have to make choices in our lives, choices that reflect and arise from our core values. We are stewards of God’s creation and life. An account of that stewardship is demanded and described in the gospel today. Do we expect that we and our leaders are exempt from such accountability of our stewardship.

President Dwight D. Eisenhower, Supreme Commander of Allied forces in Europe during World War II, the first Supreme Commander of NATO, and the 34th President of the United States, who in fact warned us of the “military-industrial complex”, added the words “under God” to the pledge of Allegiance, and established the words: “In God We Trust” as the motto of the US and had it printed on our paper currency. He had things in perspective; God not mammon.

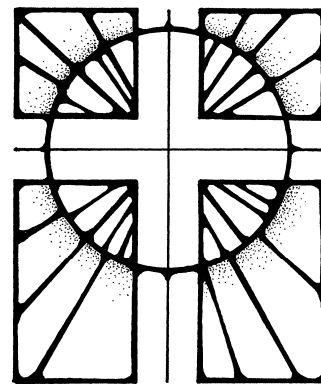
He said, **“Every gun that is made, every warship launched, every rocket fired signifies, in the final sense, a theft from those who hunger and are not fed, those who are cold and not clothed.”**

Life is relational; it is our core value, revealed by God that right relationships with God and each other in the covenant love of the Eucharist establishes divine justice which leads to true peace: “quiet and tranquil lives”. It is in that spirit that we honor the commitment of thousands of people here at St. Thomas, and commission them as good stewards in their service through the various ministries of our parish. It is not about money it is about God!

In that same spirit of the gospel and reflecting the wisdom of President Eisenhower, that we begin this week to meet the million meal challenge of “Feed My Starving Children”, as well as our “Sponsor A Child” program for the children of Haiti. **We Believe, We Belong, We Make a Difference!**

May God Bless us all and make us faithful stewards,

In Christ’s love,



Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

September 23, 2007

God...wills everyone to be saved
and to come to knowledge
of the truth.

— 1 Timothy 2:4

Worship Commission

Children's Liturgy of the Word

Liturgy of the Word for children ages four through grade three begins next weekend. The children are dismissed at the 9:00 and 10:45 a.m. masses each Sunday for their special sessions and are brought back to the Assembly after the homily. Several times during the year the sessions are offered through grades four and five.

Missionary Speaker

Carole Zemont, a parishioner who recently returned from missionary work in Africa, will share some of her stories with us next weekend. She will speak briefly about her experiences and the work of Catholic Relief Services in Africa at all masses. At the 9:00 a.m. liturgy she will share at greater length.

Sunday Evening Encounter Mass

The Sunday evening mass resumes this weekend, September 23 at a new time, 6:30 p.m. This mass will be celebrated in Church each Sunday through May of next year with the exception of a few holidays. It is open to the entire parish but is planned especially for young adults. It also has a new name this year. We are calling it the Encounter Mass.

Presider and Musician Schedule

The scheduled presiders and musicians for weekend masses are now listed online. Go to the Events button at www.stapostle.org and look up the specific date. Click on the link for the individual mass time and the presider, homilist and musician information will appear. The presider schedule in particular is subject to change.

Voices of Faith

Our largest choir, formally known as the St. Thomas the Apostle Adult Choir, has a new name. They are now called Voices of Faith. Voices of Faith sings mainly at the 9:00 a.m. Sunday liturgies. On the first Sunday of the month they often sing at the 10:45 a.m. Mass and occasionally they sing at a Saturday, 4:30 p.m. Eucharist.

Liturgical Ministers Still Needed

We are still in need of more people to be sacristans (to help set up from mass) and to join the Hospitality / Greeter Ministry. We also need more eucharistic ministers at the 12:15 p.m. masses. Contact Lori Culberson at ext. 120 if you can help in these areas.

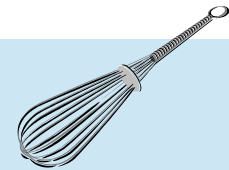
St. Thomas Prays / Praise Audio Downloads

Audio downloads (iPod compatible) are available on the St. Thomas website of all the previous Wednesday evening St. Thomas Prays / Praise Events with John Angotti including the most recent one from this past August 22. Check it out to hear what you missed or to revisit these inspiring evenings.

Welcome Cards

Welcome cards are available on the welcome racks in the Gathering Area and Narthex. One half of the card contains useful parish information, and is designed for you to keep. The other half is to record your comment, suggestion, or need. We ask that you leave this in the box near the Main Office or in the weekend collection.

Calling All Cooks, Shoppers, Set-Uppers and Servers!



O.K. "Set-Uppers" is not in the dictionary yet, **BUT** the St. Thomas Funeral Luncheon Ministry needs **ALL OF YOU!** By our calculations this plea should cover most of the parish. We need people to help cook, purchase items, pick up things, set-up and serve lunch for funerals on an occasional basis. **NO** experience is necessary and if you need a recipe, we can provide one (or you can always run to the grocery store). This is a wonderful way to serve fellow parishioners in their time of need.

Please contact: MaryAnn Manderscheid 369-3583; Carol Bax 355-4157 agcbax@aol.com; Karen Hudak -Bates 355-6629 kahbates@wowway.com; Terry Viehl 983-1221 btviehl@wideopenwest.com.

Pray For Our Parish

25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

*Not by what we say, God of justice,
but by how we treat one another
do you decide if our worship is acceptable,
our service pleasing in our sight.*

*Let the sincerity of our worship be matched
by the depth of our commitment to justice.
In a world where money rules supreme,
may you alone be our master,
and may we find our delight in serving each other.*

*We ask this through Jesus Christ,
who lives and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, forever and ever.
Amen.*

From: *Opening Prayers: Collects in Contemporary Language*,
Canterbury Press, 1999

Mass Intentions

Monday, September 24, 2007

8:30 †Mark Raff, by Fr. Joel Fortier

Tuesday, September 25, 2007

8:30 †Pat Huff, by Pat & Melanie Special

Wednesday, September 26, 2007

8:30 †Pat Huff, by Kathryn Meegan

Thursday, September 27, 2007

8:30 †Baby John Sherlock, by Pete & John Gorman

Friday, September 28, 2007

8:30 †Toni Hurley, by Al & Nanette Wild

Saturday, September 29, 2007

8:30 Special Intentions for Richard & Margie
Frances Sherlock, by Pete John Gorman

4:30 †For the People of St. Thomas

Sunday, September 30, 2007

7:30 †Pat Huff, by 50+ Holding
†Alice Dionne, by Jim & Pat Pignatiello

9:00 †Paul Belgio, by Lee & Anne Gibson
†Lucille Wilkins, by Pat Wilkins

10:45 †Jane Wild, by Al & Nanette Wild
†Irene Sochacki, by Corinne Seguinn

12:15 60th Wedding Anniversary
for Jack & Pat Sheehan,
by Larry & Susan Kearney
†Richard McCarthy, by Family

For the sick...

Mary Gosselin, mother of Carol Ball
Bob Kemp, friend of the Martino Family
Sophie Glachettl, aunt of Diane Barbret
Debra Green, mother of Jen Kolb
Donna Videtich, sister of Dee Welsh
Dorothy Karpa, mother of Jean Gerken
Linda Gerard
Deanne Seymour, friend of Juli Ann Tomse
Rita Dougherty
Walter Marek
Bruce Buoy

For the deceased...

Edwardo Bolonaro, brother of Francisco
Maureen La Londe, mother of Steve
Richard Romano, husband of Barbara, and
father of Valerie, Debbie, Ricki and Nicole

For those recently married...

Patty Piekarczyk and Tim Wielgos

Today's Readings

First Reading — You who trample upon the needy
and destroy the poor of the land, the Lord will never
forget what you have done! (Amos 8:4-7).

Psalm — Praise the Lord who lifts up the poor
(Psalm 113).

Second Reading — God our savior wills everyone
to be saved (1 Timothy 2:1-8).

Gospel — The person who is trustworthy in very
small matters is also trustworthy in great ones (Luke
16:1-13 [10-13]).

Readings for the Week

Monday: Ezr 1:1-6; Lk 8:16-18
Tuesday: Ezr 6:7-8, 12b, 14-20; Lk 8:19-21
Wednesday: Ezr 9:5-9; Lk 9:1-6
Thursday: Hg 1:1-8; Lk 9:7-9
Friday: Hg 2:1-9; Lk 9:18-22
Saturday: Dn 7:9-10, 13-14 or Rv 12:7-12a;
Jn 1:47-51
Sunday: Am 6:1a, 4-7; Ps 146; 1 Tm 6:11-16;
Lk 16:19-31

Faith and Spiritual Formation Commission



10th Annual Fine Art Exhibit at St. Thomas

The Celebration of the Arts Ministry of St. Thomas the Apostle invites artists to participate in the Tenth Annual Fine Arts Exhibit including two- and three-dimensional work, fine art crafts, and photography.

The exhibit will take place on Saturday and Sunday, November 3 and 4, in the Ministry Center. Entry forms can be obtained from the Church office. The deadline for registration is October 1. To assure a spot in the exhibit, we advise that those interested sign up as soon as possible. Call Don Castro (717-9354), Tania Blanco (355-6148) or Chari Rosales (355-8980 x138) for more information.

C.A.R.E. CORNER

As the early community of believers grew, they created a division of labor in order to attend to the needs of all. Some were selected to address the many needs of the community. This freed up the Twelve apostles to devote themselves to “prayer and to the ministry of the word.” Acts 4 tells us there “was no needy person among them.” It seems the community of believers were indeed living as a community. Those who owned homes and property sold them and the money was used to take care of the daily needs of all the disciples and followers. Apparently true disciples were willing to give up their possessions for the well-being of the larger community.

This lifestyle had great rewards. The apostles had been emboldened by the Holy Spirit and were out in public, teaching and preaching. They performed many signs and wonders, healing in Jesus’ name, which led many people to believe. The apostles would then baptize the people and bring them into the community of believers, the Church. And this community of believers stood in awe of the Lord, delighted in shared meals, praised God, and were held in esteem by others. Worship was an integral part of daily life, not a separate, occasional activity. They believed Jesus’ return was imminent and they lived like it.



Gatherings

Small Christian Communities

Since last week, many new people have come into the Gatherings circle of Small Christian Communities. Since this is an ongoing process, it is still possible to join or form a community. If you picked up a brochure last week, fill it out and drop it off!

If you’re still discerning and have questions, please call Anne Schultz at 355-8980 x113. If you’re unsure of what happens at a Gathering, visit a community and see for yourself. Is God calling you into deeper relationship through community?

SAVE THESE DATES!

Saturday, October 20

The St. Thomas Marriage Enrichment Ministry is hosting a Candlelight Bowl at 7:30 p.m. on October 20. Watch for details next week!

February, 22 — 24, 2008

Join us for a Women’s Weekend!

WHO? All the women of St. Thomas and their friends, sisters, cousins and neighbors.

WHAT? A wonderful, joyful, spirit-filled weekend!

WHEN? Feb 22-24, 2008, 6 p.m. Fri – Noon Sun

WHY? “To reconnect with God and myself and with other women” (quote from a 2007 participant)

WHERE? Carmelite Spiritual Center in Darien

It’s all planned BY women FOR women for healing, growth, quiet-time, communion and peace. GREAT meals, small groups, optional yoga, massages, art therapy, calming atmosphere and Fr. Bob’s wisdom.



VOCATION NEWS...

Sts. Cyril and Methodius Seminary in Orchard Lake, MI

Of the 32 seminarians in the Joliet Diocese, there are two men who are studying at the seminary in Orchard Lake, MI – Greg Podwysocki and Piotr Ziarko. This seminary was founded particularly to bring men from Poland to serve dioceses in the United States. Both Greg and Piotr learned English in Poland and they study theology in English at Orchard Lake Seminary. Greg will be ordained a transitional deacon on November 3, for the Diocese of Joliet. Piotr will be ordained a deacon in 2008. Both Greg and Piotr are committing their entire lives to serving the people of the Diocese of Joliet.

Please pray for these young men as they continue on their journey toward priesthood. If you would like to write to them, their address is below. They would love to hear from the people that they will be serving in the near future.

Mailing address:
 Sts. Cyril & Methodius Seminary
 3535 Indian Trail
 Orchard Lake, MI 48324

Greg Podwysocki – 4th Theology
 Piotr Ziarko – 3rd Theology

EXPLORER SUNDAY

Catholic Explorer Weekend will be held September 22/23. The diocesan paper has good news coverage at home and around the world, sharp photos packaged in a stunning design, food for thought in a full page of editorial commentary, attention to the good news that flows from parishes and diocesan ministries, incisive book and film reviews from a faith-filled point of view, a spotlight on significant parish milestones and the lay women and men, clergy and religious who are the heart and soul of our church. And that's not all

- The *Explorer* Web site is a jewel among Catholic Internet communications vehicles. Plenty of news is plucked from the pages of the *Explorer* as well as the national Catholic wire service. Check it out: www.catholicexplorer.com.
- The *Catholic Explorer* is an award-winning newspaper—recipient of the 2006 Northern Illinois Newspaper Association's first place awards for design and public service (the annual Advent program—Gift of Christmas). It is brimming with international, national and diocesan news with an inside section that includes faith-based features, film reviews from a Catholic perspective, book reviews and a calendar of activities from around the diocese.
- Bishop J. Peter Sartain writes a column for every issue of the *Explorer*.
- Profiles on people making a difference across the 4,000 square miles of the diocese are regularly spotlighted. For example, Kim Lovejoy-Voss covered St. Joseph Sr. Mary Southard as she shared her passion for protecting the planet in the July 27 edition.
- The *Explorer* focuses on Catholic schools, vocations, religious jubilarians and more with special sections throughout the year.
- Each summer the *Explorer* staff tackles an issue of concern to Catholics in a two-part series—this season the subject was *Inside the Internet* in the issues of July 13 and July 27.
- Nationally syndicated columnists, such as Joliet diocesan Fr. Eugene Hemrick writing from Washington, D.C., explore issues and address common concerns. The editor writes a weekly commentary on everyday events from the eye of a Catholic in the pew.
- Significant events across the diocese—such as pro-life activities, social justice actions, groundbreakings and blessings of new facilities, anniversaries of diocesan priests, ordination of deacons and priests, and more—are regularly tackled by *Explorer* reporters. For example, Paul Storer spoke to law enforcement and church officials about vandalism and gangs in the July 27 issue.
- Emphasis on youth is an important part of the *Explorer's* mission; news from diocesan elementary and secondary schools and Catholic high school columnists are featured weekly during the academic year. Kathrynne Skonicki, writing in the August 10 issue, covered vignettes of teens who gave of their time over the summer to make things better for others.
- The diocesan paper guarantees delivery to the home or parish at an annual subscription rate of \$20, less than any other Catholic newspaper in the state of Illinois. It's a bargain at just about 5 cents a day!

Religious Education

Liturgy of the Word with Children

There is a need for several adults to help walk the children out for their Liturgy of the Word and then back in during the 10:45 mass. A few more youth helpers are also needed at this mass. Two teams will be formed so that when conflicts arise, one can switch with opposite team. Please consider helping. Call Patti Dougherty at church, 355-8980 ext. 109.

St. Thomas Teens with Character Lead the Way!

On Thursday, Oct. 4, St Thomas Teens with Character will meet in the Youth Center from 7:30-8:30. All youth are welcome to attend. This meeting will kick off with our first youth leadership team leading the discussion and activities that will speak to trustworthiness, one pillar of good character.

Curious, energetic adults are welcome to the next organizational meeting for Character Counts on Thurs. Oct 11, and/or Oct.25 in the Youth Center from 7:30-8:30p.m.

Sessions Scheduled for Protecting God's Children

The "Protecting God's Children" Program is a very pro-active, positive, professional approach to preventing child sexual abuse. This Program is now part of diocesan policy to establish a "safe environment" for members of our parish. While "Protecting God's Children" sessions are primarily for all staff and volunteers who work with children, they are also open to any parent or person from the parish who wishes to attend. Please note the date and time scheduled at St. Thomas and call Patti in the Religious Education Office (355-8980 ext. 109) to register if your ministry involves children in any way. Volunteers must complete this workshop by FALL 2007.

Upcoming Training Dates:

Sat, Oct 6 8:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

*Check in and refreshments will begin 15 minutes before the start of each session. Each training session will last the full three hours, so please arrive promptly.

Trec Youth Ministry News High School Youth Ministry

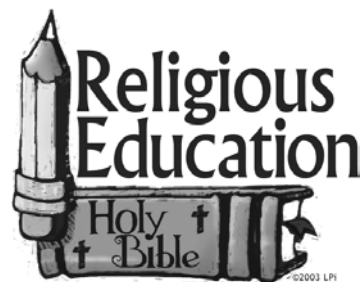
Quest Program: We are looking forward to meeting all the parents and students on September 23 at 7:30 p.m., (that's this Sunday night). This meeting is for all those families who have registered their son or daughter into the Quest program to prepare for Confirmation which takes place during Junior year of high school. We look forward to meeting all the new freshman and existing students who will be participating in Quest this year. Remember, that preceding this meeting is our ENCOUNTER mass starting at 6:30 p.m.!

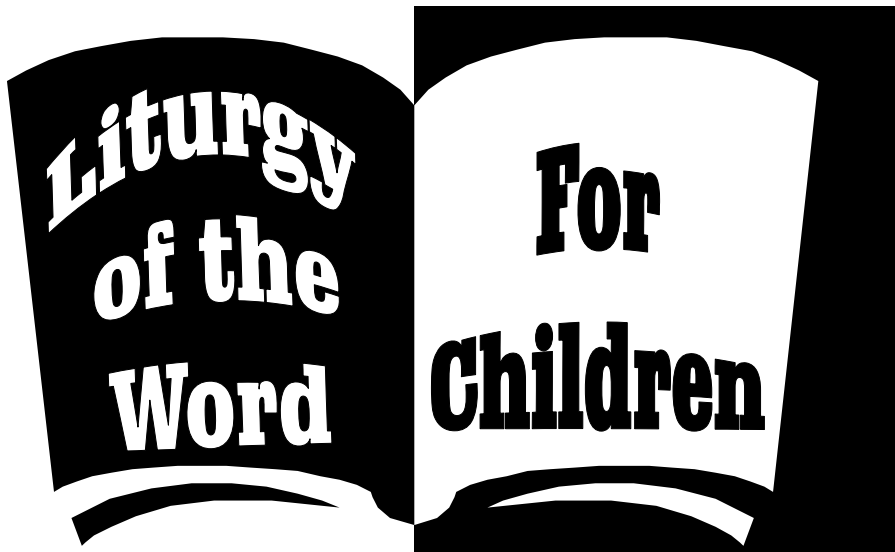
Encounter Mass: Don't forget that this Sunday September 23 is our Encounter mass kickoff at 6:30 p.m. We will be honored to have John Angotti leading our time of worship and celebration along with our teens in the Trec teen band and choir! Come out and enter into a year of believing in Christ, belonging, and making a difference!

Apex: Apex will start up September 26 on Wednesday nights. Come and grow in your faith and have some fun hanging out with friends and other high school Catholics. Recently, we have been blessed to receive an air hockey table by a member of the church and it's waiting to be played! Come on out and have some fun Wednesday nights. Remember, APEX is open to all high school students, so bring a friend and stop by.

Youth Worship Ministry: We are looking for some students to sing and play at our youth events each month. If you play an instrument or sing and want to be a part of a cutting edge, modern worship group, then contact Jake at jake@stapostle.org.

Feed My Starving Children: For those who can make it, we are going to be in the gym all day on Sunday September 23 helping the Feed My Starving Children program. If you can make it, come on out and join others in helping to make meals for the poor.





This program will resume September 30, 2007 at 9:00 and 10:45 a.m.

Goal:

The children's Liturgy of the Word at Sunday Mass has the goal of helping children to participate more fully as members of the community gathered for worship. During the time of the regular Liturgy of the Word, the children are gathered separately to hear the Gospel story of the day proclaimed in language, activities, music and prayer appropriate to their age.

For Whom:

Liturgy of the Word for Children is for children in pre-kindergarten through grade 3 (children must be four years old and able to attend the group on their own). Pre-K, kindergarten, first and second grades meet in meeting rooms two through five off the Gathering Area, while second grade meets in the Cabin down the hall by the Resource Center. In addition, five times a year we have Liturgy of the Word for fourth and fifth graders, held in the rooms by the Cabin.

There is no registration for Liturgy of the Word for Children. Children of the above ages may attend either the 9:00 a.m. or the 10:45 a.m. Liturgies.

Procedure:

The children will be invited by the Presider to leave Church following the Opening Prayer when the assembly is seated for the Readings. Adult helpers will be present to direct them to the meeting rooms in the Ministry Center. We ask that parents not accompany the children beyond the Church doors. Given the number of children and space available, additional persons make movement more difficult. The time the children have is limited, so we attempt to gather them in their groups as quickly as possible. Before Mass, it would be helpful to walk the child through the pattern. If your child is still fearful, it would be better to wait until he/she is more comfortable after watching the process for a while. The children are brought back to church after the Prayers of the Faithful. At that time, please watch for your child, standing in your place if necessary to be seen. Adult helpers will always make certain each child finds his or her place.



We hope that you will take advantage of this opportunity to have your children hear the Word of God in a meaningful way. If you have any questions, please call Patti Dougherty 355-8980, ext. 109.

Service Commission

Outreach & Social Justice

ST. THOMAS — MILLION MEAL CHALLENGE

It is happening now!! From 9/22 – 9/27

Are we meeting the challenge? What sessions still need volunteers?

For the answers to these questions ...CHECK THE ST. THOMAS WEBSITE.

It will be updated at least once a day.

SPECIAL SESSIONS – IF NEEDED --- If we are close to our goal, but need additional sessions, we will schedule them for Wednesday evening from 9:30 – 11:00 and Thursday morning from 7:00 – 9:00 a.m.

Keep checking the website --- and if we need help for the special sessions, just come!

No reservation required.

www.StApostle.org ... click on the Feed My Starving Children Logo to get the latest information.



Healthcare Clinic in Duchity --- Status

A big thank you to the healthcare people that gave witness talks during the Haiti Weekend liturgies (Dr. Brian O'Donovan,

Lois Doyle, Dr. John Kraehler, and Dr. Tom DeLacey).

And a big thank you to those that were able to make a second collection donation. A bit over \$15,000 was collected. Those still wishing to donate can write a check to "St. Thomas OSJ" with "Clinic" in the Memo Area.

Healthcare Clinic Status:

Land has been acquired. Building plans in place.

\$70,000 needed for Phase one which includes, waiting area portico, reception/records room, exam room, hospital room, pharmacy/lab, operating/delivery room.

To date, nearly \$45,000 has been collected.



Baby Bottles for Life

As part of our participation in Respect Life Month this October, we are asking our parishioners to take part in a special fundraiser that will help women facing difficult or untimely pregnancies to choose life for themselves and their babies.

On the weekend of Saturday October 6 and Sunday 7, baby bottles will be distributed to parishioners to take home and fill with spare change. Bottles will then be returned to the parish on Saturday, October 20, and Sunday, October 21. The proceeds will help support the life-saving work of Woman's Choice Services, which has two pregnancy centers in DuPage County: one in Lombard and one on 75th Street in Downers Grove/Woodridge.

Woman's Choice Services was founded by Peter Breen, son of Deacon Jim and Mary Jo Breen. Peter will share the mission of "WCS" after Communion at all Masses October 6 and 7.

This fundraiser is a great way for each member of the family to help in building a Culture of Life. Thank you in advance for your response to the call of the Gospel to serve those in crisis pregnancies!

Steps Toward Eliminating Poverty Sunday October 21 1-4 p.m. All Saints Catholic Academy

The poor and those who suffer most are the particular objects of Jesus Passion. Through simple works of love, we can help those suffering to live their lives with dignity.

On October 21 six Naperville Catholic Parishes will unite in prayer and walk together for our vulnerable brothers and sisters across the globe suffering from the effects of extreme poverty.

See upcoming bulletins for more details.



A Program of Prayer, Education
Charity and Justice from the Diocese of
Joliet and Catholic Relief Services



Family Fun Walk

You are invited to the annual Families Helping Families 5K Walk, benefiting local homeless families, on Sunday, October 21, along the scenic Naperville Riverwalk. Registration & lunch begin at 12:00 p.m. at the Riverwalk Pavilion. The walk begins at 1:00pm.

Families Helping Families (FHF) provides apartments and volunteer mentors to homeless families in DuPage County who are working to reclaim their lives through education. A donation of only \$30 will pay one day's rent and utilities for a family. FHF has NO administrative expenses, so every dollar we raise is a dollar that helps the homeless.

To download a registration form, go to famhelpingfam.org, or call 630-305-9323.

Carol Zemont Returns to St. Thomas

Carol Zemont left St. Thomas in July, 2005 to minister in Dakar, Senegal. She returns to St. Thomas on Sunday September 30. She will speak at the 9:00 a.m. liturgy.



Pastoral Care

Parish Nurse Notes:

The National Health Observance monthly selection for September is National Cholesterol Education Month

A simple, fasting blood test, known as a lipid profile can help determine the risk of coronary heart disease. The test measures the following lipids and lipoproteins in the blood: total cholesterol, low-density lipoprotein (LDL) “bad” cholesterol, high-density lipoprotein (HDL) “good” cholesterol and triglycerides. The blood test is performed at a local laboratory or may be drawn at your doctor’s office and sent to a lab. Fasting 8-10 hours before the test will provide accurate results. Ideal levels advised by the National Cholesterol Education Program are:

Total Cholesterol Less than 200 mg/dl

LDL Cholesterol Less than 100 mg/dl for people with any risk factors

HDL Cholesterol Preferably 60 mg/dl or higher for both sexes

Triglycerides Less than 150 mg/dl

Keep in mind, however, that everyone’s situation is different and your doctor may suggest you aim for different levels. The following sites are available for further information: www.americanheart.org/presenter.jhtml?identifier=183#top, and www.americanheart.org/print_presenter.jhtml?identifier=3004817.

In the hospital?

Call the parish office 355-8980 and one of our parish nurses or ministers of care will visit, bring Eucharist or assist you with your needs!

Stewardship Commission

Stewardship... A Way of Life

Last Weekend's stewardship of financial gifts...

Weekly Sunday Offertory (week 12)	\$26,746
Envelopes	23,925
Loose	2,821
Automatic Direct Debit	\$0
Mailed in & stock donations	\$2,924
Total for week	\$29,670

*Based on Collection Counters Reports

Fiscal Year (7/1 to 6/30) to date:	\$413,055
Weekly Average 7/1/07 to date:	\$34,421
% of Annual Sunday Offertory Goal	22.06
Sunday Offertory Goal YTD	\$432,000
Goal for Fiscal Year 7/1 to 6/30	\$1,872,000
Remaining for Fiscal Year	\$1,458,945

Diocesan Appeal updated Results

Parish Appeal Goal	\$142,888
Pledges received at St. Thomas	\$116,252
% of Goal Pledge to date	81.4
Remaining amount to goal:	\$26,636

St. Thomas Online can now deliver the daily Gospel right to your inbox!

Sign up for this free service by visiting www.stapostle.org.

Look for the little envelope on the home page and sign up for an STA Online account, then click on E-mail Settings on the right panel to subscribe.



Journey of Faith: A Quarter Century Campaign Campaign Update

During the past six months, for six hours per week, St Thomas the Apostle Parish has been conducting a Capital Campaign known as Journey of Faith, leading up to our 25th Anniversary. We have made several thousand initial and follow-up telephone calls, attempting to reach over 3,000 registered parishioners one or more times. Each first attempted phone call was followed up with an appropriate letter and information packet.

Many of you have chosen to participate, and we thank you for your generosity. As of today's date, more than 460 families have pledged \$600,000, while some 200 have indicated they cannot participate. The remaining families have not yet informed us of their decisions.

During the next ninety days, we will be contacting many of our very active parishioners and historically generous donors, enlisting their support. This list includes approximately 400 parishioners.

Please prayerfully consider your gift very carefully. Your positive response will be greatly appreciated, and allow St. Thomas to move ahead with plans for the future.

St Thomas the Apostle looks forward to our 25th Anniversary in 2009, and with your help we can begin many of the renovations included in our facility Master Plan, and at the same time significantly reduce our remaining parish debt.

Details are included in the information packet sent following the telephone calls. Thank you for your continued support.

Parish Life Commission



S.A.M. Single Adult Ministry

Sept. 16 – Sun. at 6:30 Dinner at Montana’s in beautiful downtown Naperville. Details to follow.

CURRENT

Young Adult Ministry for People in their 20’s and 30’s



Sept 19, 7:00 PM—Wine Tasting—Recap of Past Year and New Officers Take Over

We need members who are willing to serve as officers for the upcoming year. Please contact Eleanor McNicholas or Marlene Sage if you can help.

M.O.M.S., Dads and Caregivers

On Monday, Sept.24th from 10:30a.m.-12:00p.m. the M.O.M.S. ministry will meet for laughter and conversation in the Nursery. Bring your Kleenex, infants and toddlers and join in building community.

FREE RESUME REVIEW

Saturday, September 29, 9:00 — 11:00 a.m.

Curious about how your resume stacks up with the best of them?

You may want a *FREE* resume review from one of our six professionals that will be visiting at St. Thomas the Apostle Church, 1500 Brookdale Road, Naperville, IL 60563

Reservations are not necessary. Just stop in during the hours stated above and sit down, individually, with a Human Resources, Resume Writer, or Search Professional for a fifteen-minute free resume review.

There will be six professionals on hand and one will work with you individually, one-on-one to offer suggestions and ideas to improve your resume. Why not take advantage of this career enhancing opportunity. Learn about how to transform your resume into one that is:

Current preferred style
More recruiter friendly
Key-word friendly
Targeted
Looks Professional
Formatted Properly

Focused Accomplishments
Show your best
Sell your skills
Make a better impression
Clear and concise
Tells your story

Don’t pass up this FREE opportunity at St. Thomas the Apostle Church, Naperville, IL, Saturday, September 29

Bring your resume — Bring a friend!

Administration Commission

Jobs Ministry

Weekly Networking Meeting

Friday mornings at 9:30 a.m.

(after the 8:30 a.m. Liturgy) Lighthouse

The September 2007 St. Thomas Jobs Ministry Meeting will be held on Thursday evening September 27, 2007 at 7:00 p.m. in the Lighthouse. The speaker will be Joy McGuire Dooley. Joy is currently Director of Adult Services for Lisle Township. Joy has helped over 1,000 people secure meaningful employment over the last fifteen years. Joy has won numerous community organizations and employee awards in a variety of specialties. Joy created and co hosts a weekly radio show "Job Talk" which airs every Thursday and Monday morning. "Job Talk" can be heard on WJJG 1530 AM radio.

Joy's presentation is titled "When is it Time to Change". Joy will show you how to use our existing talents and experience to "land" that next job even though the new position may be outside the Job Seekers normal area of expertise. Joy will also explore other topics to help the Job Seekers "land" that next job.

Please plan to attend this very informative meeting on Thursday evening September 27, at 7:00 p.m. in the Lighthouse at St. Thomas the Apostle Church.

For additional information please contact Jim Breen at jimb4853@yahoo.com.

Curious about how your resume stacks up with the best of them?

FREE

RESUME REVIEW

Saturday, September 29

9:00 — 11:00 a.m.

at St. Thomas!

See page 13 for details.

THE WEEK AHEAD...

Monday, Sept. 24

Feed My Starving Children starts at 9:30 am
4:15—5:15 p.m. Youth Choir, Church
7:00—9:30 p.m. Just Faith, Resource Center
7:00—9:30 p.m. Healing the Soul, Rectory Basement
7:15—8:30 p.m. Jr. High R. E. at Hill Middle School
7:30—9:30 p.m. Finance Committee, Lighthouse
7:30—9:30 p.m. Haiti Twinning, Senior Center

Tuesday, Sept. 25

Feed My Starving Children starts at 9:30 am
10:00—11:00 a.m. Care Pantry, Lighthouse
4:30—5:45 p.m. R.E. Classes at Brookdale School
7:00—9:00 p.m. Class on the Creed, Senior Center
7:00—9:00 p.m. Simbang Gabi Meeting, Resource Center
7:30—9:30 p.m. Voices of Faith Rehearsal, Church

Wednesday, Sept. 26

Feed My Starving Children starts at 9:30 am
9:00—11:30 a.m. Bible Study, Senior Center
4:15—5:30 p.m. Jammers, Church
6:00—10:00 p.m. ALPHA, Lighthouse
7:00—9:00 p.m. Buildings, Grounds/Security, Resource Center
7:00—9:30 p.m. Minister of Care Training, Rectory Basement
7:30—9:00 p.m. APEX, Youth Center
7:30—9:30 p.m. Sojourner Rehearsal, Church

Thursday, Sept 27

Feed My Starving Children starts at 9:30 am
9:30—11:00 a.m. Catechist Formation, Resource Center
6:00—7:30 p.m. Trec Band, Church
7:00—8:30 p.m. Character Counts, The Bridge, Youth Center
7:00—9:30 p.m. Jobs Ministry Lecture, Lighthouse
7:30—8:30 p.m. CREW Information Meeting, Resource Center

Friday, Sept. 28

Saturday, Sept 29

8:30—11:45 a.m. R.E. Classes at All Saints Academy
9:00am-12:00 p.m. Jobs Ministry Resume Review, Lighthouse & Senior Center
9:00—10:30 a.m. Men's Christian Fellowship, Resource Center
10:00—11:00 a.m. Rainbows, Ministry Center
2:00—4:15 p.m. Library Hours, Resource Center

Sunday, Sept 30

7:30am-12:45 p.m. Donut Sunday, Gym
9:00am-12:00 p.m. Liturgy of the Word for Children thru 5 th grade, Ministry Center
10:45am-1:15 p.m. RCIA, Senior Center
6:30—7:30 p.m. Encounter Mass, Church
7:30—9:00 p.m. Quest, Ministry Center