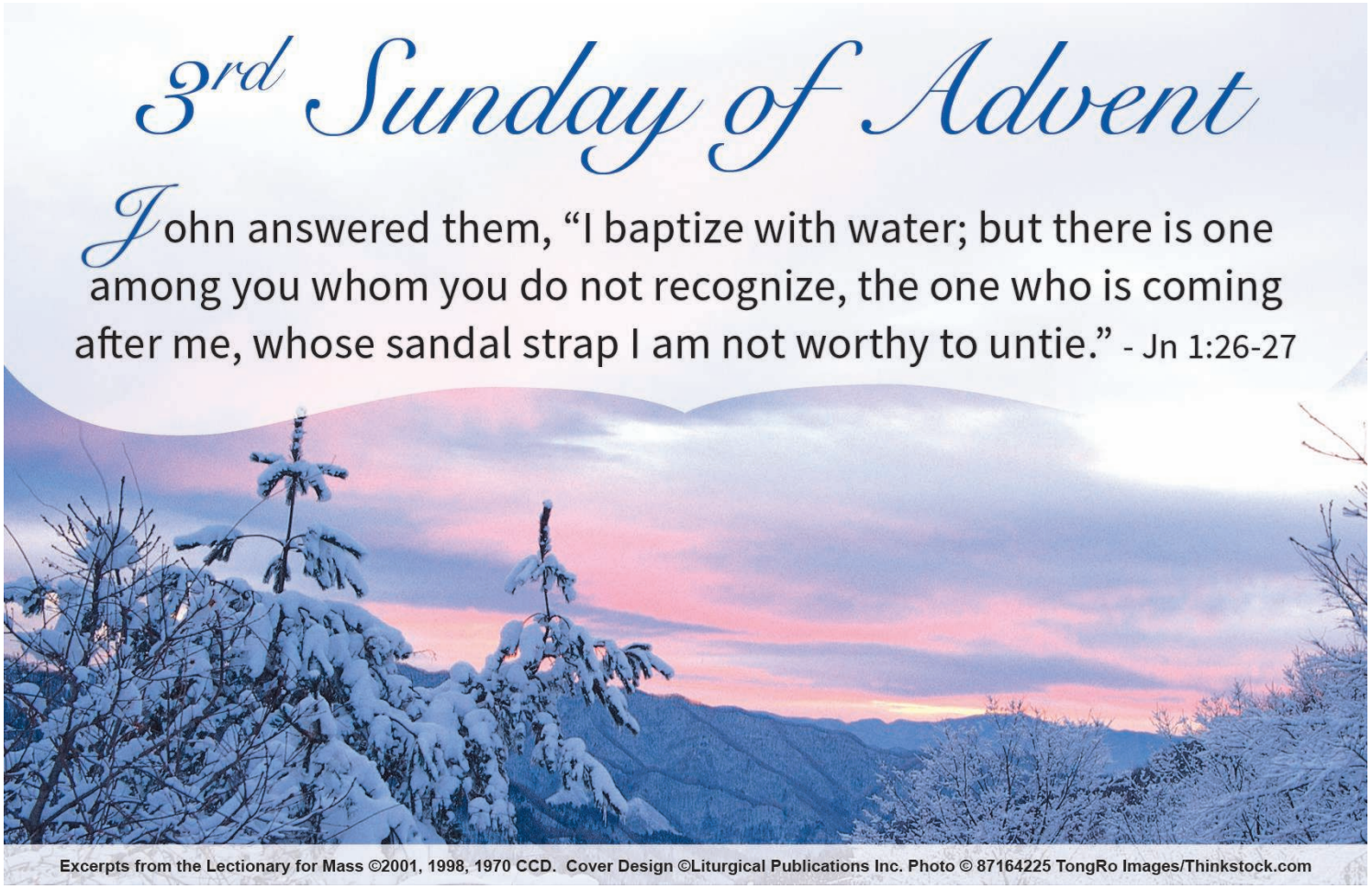
DECEMBER 17, 2017 | **3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

St. Thomas More Parish



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215 THOMAS MORE DR. | ELGIN, IL 60123-5054 | (847) 888-1682

MISSION STATEMENT

As Gospel stewards, grateful for what God has given, St. Thomas More Catholic Church community commits itself to the renewal of parish life through evangelization, worship, outreach to the poor, and community living.

CONNECT WITH US

St Thomas More Catholic Church

OUR WEBSITE

www.stthomasmorechurch.org

ROSARY

prayed before the 8:30 am Mass

MASS TIMES

Saturday: 5:00 pm
Sunday: 8:00, 10:00 am & 12:00 pm
Weekday: Monday-Friday 8:30 am

CONFESSIONS

Wednesday 9:00-10:00 am,
Saturday 3:30-4:30 pm or by appointment

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

Wednesday, 9:00 am
until Benediction, 4:00 pm

PARISH OFFICE STAFF

Pastor
Reverend Richard Rosinski
rrosinski@stthomasmorechurch.org

Deacons
Jack Roder
Gregory Stevens

Parish Office **847.888.1682**
Hours: Monday-Friday ..... 8:30 am-4:00 pm
FAX: **847.888.3198**

Marilyn Bauman, Secretary ..... **x 10**
mbauman@stthomasmorechurch.org

Susie Johnson, Secretary ..... **x 11**
sjohnson@stthomasmorechurch.org

Business Office **847.888.1682**
Olga Pomella, Manager ..... **x 13**
opomella@stthomasmorechurch.org

Evangelization **847.888.1682**
Sharon Hall, Director ..... **x 16**
shall@stthomasmorechurch.org

Music and Liturgy **847.888.1682**
Jeanne Anne Aukofer, Director ..... **x 12**
jaukofer@stthomasmorechurch.org

Bulletin Editor **847.888.1682**
Angie Young ..... **x 18**
ayoung@stthomasmorechurch.org

RCIA **847.888.1682**
Linda McEwan, Coordinator
lmcewan@stthomasmorechurch.org

Religious Education **847.888.4887**
Michelle Tack, Director
mtack@stthomasmorechurch.org

Saint Edward Central Catholic H. S. **847.741.7535**
www.stedhs.org

Saint Thomas More School
Sonja Keane, Principal **847.742.3959**
skeane@stmcentral.org or www.stmcentral.org

Youth Ministry **847.888.1682**
Mrs. Lisa Gaston, Director ..... **x 19**
lgaston@stthomasmorechurch.org

Interested in becoming a member, registration forms are on the website at **www.stthomasmorechurch.org** or call the parish office at **847.888.1682.**

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL - Are you in need?

In the name of Jesus, we strive to comfort, feed, clothe, and assist those in need. We serve in person, keeping all things confidential and preserving dignity. Please call our answering machine at **847-628-5170**.

Do you feel called to serve? We meet the second and fourth Tuesday of each month at 7pm alternating between St. Laurence and St. Thomas respectively. For more information, please contact conference president **Katrina at StThomasMoreElginSVdP@gmail.com**.

SACRAMENTS

For a more in-depth look at the sacraments, please visit our parish website www.stthomasmorechurch.org.

Reconciliation: Confessions are heard every Wednesday 9:00-10:00am and Saturdays 3:30-4:30pm. Appointments can also be made for confessions to be heard when needed.

Baptism: Children of all ages and adults are welcome to the sacrament of Baptism. Baptism for children is celebrated on the first and third Sundays of each month at 1:00pm. Parents need to be registered members and should be faithful in attending Mass. Participation in a baptismal preparation class is required. Please call Sharon Hall at the parish office to make arrangements. Adults seeking Baptism should contact Linda McEwan at lmcewan@stthomasmorechurch.org.

Matrimony: Baptized Catholics are called to be married in the Catholic Church. Arrangements should be made at least six months in advance.

If you were married outside of the Catholic Church and would like to have your marriage blessed, we would be happy to guide you in that process.

Call the parish office to make an appointment with a priest to begin all marriage preparation.

Anointing of the Sick: The anointing of the sick is administered to bring spiritual and physical strength during an illness, for those having surgery, and for those near death. Call the parish office to make arrangements to receive this sacrament.

BEREAVEMENT MINISTRY

Trained volunteers are available to provide spiritual support and comfort to all parishioners mourning a death loss. Please call the parish office at **847-888-1682.**

LIFE MATTERS - Any woman who is pregnant and in need can turn for help to the pro-life movement. Never feel alone, call Project Rachel at **800.593.2273** The Life Center at **847.622.1235** or Fox Valley Pregnancy at **847.697.0200**.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 17, 2017

Sunday:	Is 61:1-2a, 10-11/Lk 1:46-48, 49-50, 53-54 [Is 61:10b]/1 Thes 5:16-24/Jn 1:6-8, 19-28
Monday:	Jer 23:5-8/Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19 [cf. 7] /Mt 1:18-25
Tuesday:	Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a/Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17 [cf. 8]/Lk 1:5-25
Wednesday:	Is 7:10-14/Ps 24:1-2, 3-4ab, 5-6 [cf. 7c and 10b]/Lk 1:26-38
Thursday:	Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a/Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21 [1a; 3a]/Lk 1:39-45
Friday:	1 Sm 1:24-28/1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd [cf. 1a]/Lk 1:46-56
Saturday:	Mal 3:1-4, 23-24/Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-9, 10 and 14 [cf. Lk 21:28]/Lk 1:57-66
Next Sunday:	2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27, 29 [2a]/Rom 16:25-27/Lk 1:26-38

WE SHARE ONLINE GIVING

As you know, ParishPay was purchased by LPI. Your ParishPay account migrated to **WeShare** online giving the middle of October.
It is important that parishioners, who have used ParishPay for online giving, validate their **WeShare** account before the end of the year.

Validation is necessary to:

- Make any adjustment to your account including adding donations, changing scheduled donations, or changing credit card numbers (new payment source, expires and reissues).
- Refresh your passwords.
- Provide valid email addresses to support password resets as required.
- Receive email confirmation of successful transactions or any declined transactions.
- Conform to recognized security best practices.

Validating your account online is a simple process.
Click https://www.parishpay.com/Migrator/ and follow the instructions.
If you need additional assistance, call 1-800-950-9952 and select option 1.

Thank you for generously supporting St. Thomas More Parish!

STM SCHOOL CHRISTMAS CONCERT

St. Thomas More School will be performing their annual Christmas Concert on **Tuesday, December 19th, at 6:30 PM** in the church. Preschool through 8th grade will be performing. We hope you can come join us!

HOLY BAPTISMS

MADISON RAE SIAZON

Next weekend, December 23rd & 24th is the 4th Sunday of Advent. Our Mass Times are revised to prepare for Christmas Eve. We will have our regular Saturday Vigil Mass at 5:00pm and only one Mass on Sunday morning at 8:00am.

Christmas eve Mass times are next Sunday at 4:00pm & 6:00pm. Christmas Day Masses are Midnight, 8:00am, 10:00am & Noon. Youth Choir will sing at the 4:00pm Mass, High School Ensemble at the 6:00pm Mass, and our Adult Choir and Handbell Choir will give a concert prior to midnight Mass, beginning at 11:30pm. Come celebrate the birth of our Savior!

Prayer REQUESTS

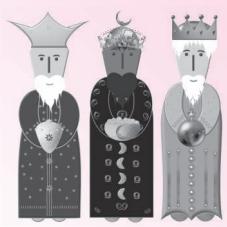
- †Alice Abbs
- †Judy Baggio
- †Fr. Bob Balog
- †Marge Banker
- †Shirley Bednarke
- †Gracie Canning
- †Louise Coletta
- †Judy Fowler
- †Natalie Jorgenson
- †Bill Joynt
- †Michael Keafer
- †Ken Kline
- †Kevin Knott
- †Steve Lange
- †Kim Mianulli
- †Amelda Mikottis
- †Stephanie Mulligan
- †Gloria Neitzel
- †Bruce Ostdick
- †Marian Peterson
- †Chuck Pruter
- †Lutie Regan
- †Clarke Renard
- †Patrice Romano
- †Diane Schumacher
- †Pat Schuman
- †Darla Singh
- †Deacon Greg Stevens
- †Linda Stevens
- †Pat Tomlinson
- †Judy Van Hanxleden
- †Mary Ann Vandervalk
- †Donna Young

To add or remove a name on our prayer list, please call the parish office 847-888-1682. To keep our prayer list current, names will remain on the list for 3 months. After that time, if you would like a name to stay on the list, please contact the parish office to renew your loved ones name.

EPIPHANY PROCESSION

We are seeking men and women volunteers to represent the Three Magi for the **Feast of the Epiphany** on **January 6th & 7th**.

The Magi will process to the sanctuary with the gifts. If interested in participation or for more information, please call the church office at 847-888-1682.



Merry Christmas

PARISH OFFICE HOLIDAY HOURS

The Parish office will be **closed** on:

- **Thursday, December 21 (after 12:00 noon)**
- **Monday, December 25**
- **Tuesday, December 26**

SICK & HOMEBOUND

If you are unable to come to church and would like to receive Holy Communion, please call the parish office: **847.888.1682**.

SIMBANG GABI SCHEDULE 2017

DATE/TIME	LOCATION	PRESIDER
Friday **December 15, 2017** 7:00 pm	**St. Thomas the Apostle Church** Oak St. Corner Rte. 176 Crystal Lake, IL 60014	Msgr. Dan Hermes
Saturday **December 16, 2017** 7:00 pm	**St. Mary's Church** 10307 Dundee Rd Huntley, IL 60142	Rev. Ervin Caliente
Sunday **December 17, 2017** 7:00 pm	**St. John Neumann** 2900 East Main St St. Charles, IL 60174	Rev. David Peck
Monday **December 18, 2017** 7:00 pm	**St. Patrick Catholic** 6N491 Crane Rd. St, Charles, IL 60175	Msgr. Steve Knox
Tuesday **December 19, 2017** 7:00 pm	**St. Margaret Mary** 111 S Hubbard St. Algonquin, IL 60102	Rev. Peter Sarnicki
Wednesday **December 20, 2017** 7:00 pm	**SS. Peter & Paul Catholic Church** 410 North First St. Cary, IL 60013	Rev. Moises Apostol
Thursday **December 21, 2017** 7:00 pm	**St. Thomas More** 215 Thomas More Dr. Elgin, IL 60123	Bishop David Malloy
Friday **December 22, 2017** 7:00 pm	**St. Mary's Catholic** 312 Lincoln Ave. Woodstock, IL 60098	Rev. Burt Absalon
Friday **December 22, 2017** 7:00 pm	**Christ the Teacher** 512 Normal Rd DeKalb, IL 60115	Rev. Matthew McMorrow
Saturday **December 23, 2017** 7:00 pm	**St. Catherine of Siena** 845 W Main St. Dundee, IL 60118	Rev. Matthew DeBlock

Bring the family to THE ANNUAL EPIPHANY PARTY!

On **January 7th from 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm** at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 10 N. Villa St. in Elgin.

There will be a telling of the story of the Three Kings plus a magic show for all ages to enjoy.

No cost to attend, juice, coffee and treats provided. Donations of diapers, wipes, baby food or clothes for the TLC Pregnancy Center will be accepted.

Please **reply by January 2nd to Mike Ochs at 847-401-7169 or threeochs@gmail.com**, with number attending and how many of those will be kids, so we have enough treats for everyone.

ST. THOMAS MORE SCHOOL

Santa Breakfast

Please join us on **Sunday**, **December 17th** from **9:00am –12:30pm** in the school gym. Cost is $7.50 per person or $25.00 per family.

DECORATE THE CHURCH FOR CHRISTMAS

We would love your help!

- **Friday, December 22nd 9:00am - 12:00pm**
- **Sunday, December 24th 10:00am - 12:00pm**

Come when you can and stay as long as you are able.

Q. & A. OF THE WEEK

Q. How were the prophets able to predict the coming of Jesus, the Messiah?

A. The first reading for the Sundays of Advent is taken from Old Testament prophetic literature (with the exception of the reading from Samuel on the Fourth Sunday of Advent in Cycle B). These passages, along with most other prophetic literature, weren't intended as predictors of Jesus' birth, life, and mission.

It is unfortunate that prophecy is commonly understood as predicting the future. A more accurate way to understand prophetic literature is to see it as addressing social, political, and religious issues of the day. By taking on the mind and heart of God, prophets call people to more faithful covenant living. Modern-day prophets such as Gandhi, Martin Luther King, or Dorothy Day do the same.

So there are no predictions of Jesus in the Jewish Scriptures; rather, what we have is the reinterpretation of prophetic texts by followers of Jesus who understood these texts in a new light as a result of their Jesus experience and belief. The original texts, written at a specific time to address specific issues, were later reinterpreted and understood to contain other meanings.

The process continues to our own day as we strive to apply the Scriptures to our twenty-first-century faith reality. This is what makes the Bible a living text through which God continues to speak. Let us listen with open minds and hearts.

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RECONCILIATION
Wednesday, December 20
9:00 am - 11:00 am
& 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm
Saturday, December 23
3:00 pm - 4:30 pm

SIMBANG GABI
Thursday, December 21
7:00 pm

CHRISTMAS MASSES
Sunday, December 24
4:00 pm & 6:00 pm
Monday, December 25
12:00 am Midnight Mass
(Choir Concert begins at 11:30pm)
8:00 am, 10:00 am & 12:00 Noon

NEW YEAR'S MASS
Monday, January 1, 2018
10:00 am

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION SERIES

Attention all Eucharistic Ministers, experienced and novice, join us for 3 live workshops hosted by Liturgical Training Publications in the church. This series of workshops invites you to reflect on your ministry as you learn and review techniques for preparing both practically and spiritually for your role in liturgy. Attend all 3 or as many as you are able!

- **Understanding Christ's Presence in the Eucharistic Celebration**
  Wednesday, January 10, 2018
  6:30 pm
- **Preparing to Serve as an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion**
  Wednesday, January 24, 2018
  6:30 pm
- **Become What You Receive: Living as a Disciple of Christ**
  Wednesday, February 7, 2018
  6:30 pm

"THY WILL BE DONE" - WINTER RETREAT

DECEMBER 27th AND 28th

BISHOP LANE RETREAT CENTER

Join Bishop Malloy, Fr. Romke, and the Seminarians of the Diocese of Rockford for this opportunity to pray, reflect, and discern the Priesthood!

This overnight event is open to all high school and college aged young men who are open to and desiring to know if God is calling them to serve Him as a priest.

We will begin with the Celebration of Holy Mass with Bishop Malloy and will follow with talks, times of prayer, and opportunities to talk with the seminarians

When: 7:00 p.m Wednesday - 3:00 p.m. Thursday Cost: $50

For more information and to register please call or E-mail the Vocations Office at:

Vocations@RockfordDiocese.org or 815-399-4300

Space is Limited so Call Today!

THE APPALACHIAN CHRISTMAS QUARTET

St. Thomas More parish in Elgin IL hosted an evening of traditional Christmas hymns presented by The Appalachian Christmas Quartet. The group includes Jeanne Anne Aukofer, director of music and liturgy at St. Thomas More, Michael Aukofer, Rob Farmer and Eric Goodman. The group played more than 100 instruments during the performance including the hammered dulcimer, Irish whistle, mandolin, flute, accordion, bodhran, mountain dulcimer, fife, and a creative variety of homemade instruments. Their music is available at **acqmusic.com**.

PARISH CALENDAR

3rd Sunday in Advent

DATE	TIME	EVENT
Monday		
December 18	4:30 pm	Youth Choir –Lancaster Rm
	6:00 pm	Bell Choir -Cambridge Rm
Tuesday		
December 19	12:00 pm	Fellowship Club –Chelsea Rm
	6:30 pm	School Christmas Program –Church
Wednesday		
December 20	9:00 am	Eucharistic Adoration-Chapel
	4:00 pm	Benediction –Chapel
	6:00 pm	High School Choir – Lancaster Rm
	7:00 pm	RCIA –Chelsea Rm
	7:00 pm	Adult Choir –Lancaster Rm
Thursday		
December 21	9:00 am	Women's Intercessory Prayer Group –Tudor Rm
	7:00 pm	Simbang Gabi –Church
Friday		
December 22	9:15 am	Women's Rosary Group –Canterbury Rm
Saturday		
December 23		

MERRY CHRISTMAS - DECEMBER 25

Presiders
8:00 am Father Deitz
10:00 am Father Deitz
12:00 pm Father Rich

Altar Servers
8:00 am I Burnett, A Mangoba, M Puchek
10:00 am N Maloney, T Sheehy, T Talaga
12:00 pm W Dubanowski, B Lagtapon, P Zajicek

Lectors
8:00 am C Orfie
10:00 am J Walsh
12:00 pm C Gaige

Musicians
8:00 am P Sajdak, JA Aukofer
10:00 am T Pobojewski, S Ward, C Manheim , C Olson
12:00 pm Servant Choir

Eucharistic Ministers
8:00 am C Voris, T Eternick, D Eternick, C Puchek, D Velten, R Callahan, J Roder, J Radcliffe
10:00 am M Berens, K Wright, B Pruter, G Stuart, C Flores, Z Rodriguez, K Mudgett *3 Needed*
12:00 pm B Cruz, S Matson, P Lublow, T Kuroski, T Kovac, S Kovac, M Zarcone, L McEwan, *2 Needed*

MASS INTENTIONS OF THE WEEK

Monday, December 18
8:30 am Paul Sellers, Henry Dudek

Tuesday, December 19
8:30 am Anna Saverino, Bob Chapski

Wednesday, December 20
8:30 am Jack O'Connor, Jerry Kinsella, Sr.

Thursday, December 21
8:30 am Jim Lublow, Ann Genslicki

Friday, December 22
8:30 am Mel Janczak, Frank Gabl

Saturday, December 23
5:00 pm Fred Taeyaerts, John Wyzukovicz

Sunday, December 24
8:00 am People of STM, Don Baier
4:00 pm Bruce Heiser, Wilfred & Loretta Liebert
6:00 pm Harold & Sylvia Bauman
12:00 am Richard & Antoinette Rosinski

LITURGICAL ROLES –WEEKEND: DECEMBER 23/24

Presiders
5:00 pm Father Rich
8:00 am Msgr. Linster
4:00 pm Father Rich
6:00 pm Father Deitz
11:55 pm Father Rich

Altar Servers
5:00 pm A Meyer, J Roldan, J Roldan
8:00 am M Calero, A Calero, H Garcia
4:00 pm A Goto, E Menendez, M Witecha
6:00 pm A Agbisit, M Terranova, A Tiu
11:55 pm E Ave, J Ave, A Martinez

Lectors
5:00 pm B Freitag
8:00 am M Poyer, M DeDobbelaere
4:00 pm M Cannizzaro
6:00 pm K Stasukaitis
11:55 pm F Celarek, K Ribordy

Musicians
5:00 pm Adult Choir
8:00 am J Garza, H Relihan
4:00 pm Youth Choir
6:00 pm High School Ensemble
11:55 pm Adult Choir & Handbell Choir

Eucharistic Ministers
5:00 pm D Schramm, E Thompson, V Sloan, R Seisser, L Asmussen, K Stasukaitis, S McCallister
8:00 am L Boehm, R Callahan, J Whitchurch, P Lopatowski, M Beyer, J Roder, M Patterson
4:00 pm C Hopkins, R Wiel, M Gogoel, J Taeyaerts, *3 Needed*
6:00 pm J McCreight, G McGann, S Hall, L Gaston, A Gaston, J Sarto, K Sarto, B Cruz
11:55 pm L Boehm, D Varley, L Asmussen, M Hesch, S Beyer, *2 Needed*

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