

December 17, 2017 3rd Sunday of Advent

"Rejoice always. Pray without ceasing."

— I Thessalonians 5:16-17

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Jer 23:5-8; Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19;

Mt 1:18-25

Tuesday: Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a; Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17;

Lk 1:5-25

Wednesday: Is 7:10-14; Ps 24:1-4ab, 5-6; Lk 1:26-38

Thursday: Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a;

Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21; Lk 1:39-45

Friday: | I Sm 1:24-28; | Sm 2:1, 4-8abcd;

Lk 1:46-56

Saturday: Mal 3:1-4, 23-24; Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-10, 14;

Lk 1:57-66

Sunday: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Ps 89:2-5, 27, 29;

Rom 16:25-27; Lk 1:26-38



 Thank you to both Fr. Greg Adolf and Msgr. Al Schifano for their wonderful Advent retreats. We are so blessed to have so many talented speakers to enhance our spiritual journeys.

• I get asked often "when is the special needs Mass for Christmas?". The short answer is that there is no special needs Mass for Christmas. The reason why there is the special needs Mass for Easter is because the morning Masses all fill up and may be harder to access for some of our parishioners who also can not attend the late vigil. Christmas is reversed: the evening Masses are full but the morning Masses allow for easy attendance.

• Please consider supporting Catholic education. Many of you have been supporters of the Catholic Tuition Support Organization (CTSO). This enables so many to participate in a Catholic Education. The amount of the tax credit this year is \$1089 (single)/\$2177(couple). Info can be found at the CTSO website (www.ctso-tucson.org). If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me (sta5150@aol.com or 577-8780, ext. 115).

Blessings, Fr. John



An easy way to manage your church giving is with Online Giving. You can manage your giving or give a one time gift right from your phone or from the St. Thomas website (statucson.org).

From your phone, search the App Stores for Online giving or go to OLGapp.com and register with our parish. If you have any questions, please contact the parish office.

DID YOU KNOW?

The parish office is no longer open the first Sundays of the month. **HOWEVER**, the Religious Education Office is open every Sunday and you can register for the parish or RE, drop things off, or get a Mass intention.

PLEASE NOTE:

Deadline for **January 7, 2018** bulletin is **December 28**

Deadlines for the bulletins through the end of the year have already passed.



Women of the Parish are invited to join the Endow Study Group 9 -10:30 am every Tues., starting January 9, 2018 in Room 6. We will be studying the encyclical God is Love, By Pope Emeritus

Benedict XVI. There is no homework for this study group as we read and discuss everything during our meetings. To sign up and obtain the study guide go to https://store.endowonline.org/michele-grantham-p4019.aspx



DECEMBER 17—DECEMBER 24

Saturday 5:00 p.m. - Ruth Tabacci †

- Vinnie Baiocchetti †

Sunday 7:30 a.m. - Matilda White †

- Mary Nelson †

9:00 a.m. - Louise Fennessy †

- Robert Schlenz †

10:30 a.m. - Bishop Gerald Kicanas

- Bishop Edward Weisenburger

12:00 p.m. - For the People of St. Thomas

5:00 p.m. - Rose Salyer †

- Vergil Carter †

Monday 8:00 a.m. - Families of Drs. Tom &

Sallie Tyrrell

Tuesday 8:00 a.m. - Anna & Ethan Mentzer †

- Leo Arellano †

Wednesday 8:00 a.m. - Ed & Gloria Turnquist

Thursday 8:00 a.m. - Pam Watson

- Tim Bischoffer

Friday 8:00 a.m. - Peggy Rafter Massman †

- Vinnie Baiocchetti †

Saturday 8:00 a.m. - Luther Rudolph †

- Kelly Bequette †

5:00 p.m. - Ann Fallon †

- Gene Walsh †

Sunday 12/24 7:30 a.m. - Jerry Murray †

- Nancy Stevens †

9:00 a.m. - Christina & Bill Huggins

- Fr. Tom Butler

10:30 a.m. - Gloria Kane †

12:00 p.m. - Louis Petti †

- Tamara Nijinsky †

3:30 p.m. - George & Adelaide Sheffer †

5:15 p.m. - Matteo Martinez †

7:00 p.m. - Helen Romberger †

- Bill Badger †

10:00 p.m. - Maryann Coady Weinand †

† = deceased

Adult Confirmation

Have you had religious education but never gotten confirmed? Are you a practicing Catholic but never had the opportunity to be confirmed? If you are interested in being

confirmed, adult confirmation classes will begin in January, taught by Fr. John. Contact Fr. to determine if this class would be a good fit for you.



Monday, December 18	8:00 a.m.	Fr. Ken
Tuesday, December 19	8:00 a.m.	Fr. Ken
Wednesday, December 20	8:00 a.m.	Fr. John
Thursday, December 21	8:00 a.m.	Fr. Jay
Friday, December 22	8:00 a.m.	Fr. Jay
Saturday, December 23	8:00 a.m.	Msgr. Al
	5:00 p.m.	Fr. John
Sunday, December 24	7:30 a.m.	Msgr. Al
	9:00 a.m.	Fr. John
	10:30 a.m.	Fr. Ken
	12:00 p.m.	Fr. Ken
	3:30 p.m.	Fr. John
	5:15 p.m.	Msgr. Al
	7:00 p.m.	Fr. John
	10:00 p.m.	Fr. Jay

Subject to change

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: Third Sunday of Advent

Thursday: St. Peter Canisius; Winter begins

Saturday: St. John of Kanty





GET CARDED!

Monday, December 18,

1:00 p.m. O'Leary Hall

If you play Bridge (male or female), you are most welcome to join our bridge group for Contract Bridge sessions! We meet from 1:00-4:00 p.m. normally on the **THIRD MONDAY** of each month. You can play monthly or occasionally, as your schedule permits. We play 4 rounds of 5 hands and, at the end of each round, we rotate. We play as individuals, and prizes will be awarded. It is necessary to sign up each time you wish to play in order to insure that all tables are filled. A \$1 donation will be collected each month to defray the cost of prizes and snacks. To sign up, contact Eileen Thompson (877-2550). **Join in the fun with fellow bridge players!**



Coffee & Donuts Today



Coffee & Donuts hosted by the Knights will be after the 7:30, 9:00 & 10:30 Masses

THIS WEEK AT ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE

SUNDAY, DI	ECEMBER 17 COFFEE & DONUTS (KNIGHTS) & CHRISTMAS TREE GII	TS DUE
11:30 a.m.	-Costume fittings—Children's Mass	.Room 10
12:00 p.m.	-RCIA class	
12:00 p.m.	-Christmas Giving Tree gifts due	. Church
l:15 p.m.	-Children's Mass Rehearsal	
3:30 p.m.	-LifeTeen Choir Rehearsal	. Church
5:00 p.m.	-LifeTeen Mass	.Church
6:00 p.m.	-Life Teen Night	.O'Leary Hall
MONDAY, D	ECEMBER 18	
6:00 p.m.	-Scouts	. Campus
TUESDAY, I	DECEMBER 19 PRIVATE CONFESSIONS	
9:15 a.m.	-Endow	.Room 6
I I:00 a.m.	-Confessions	. Church
7:00 p.m.	-Confessions	. Church
WEDNESDA	Y, DECEMBER 20 PRIVATE CONFESSIONS	
8:30 a.m.	-Adoration	. Chapel
11:00 a.m.	-Confessions	. Church
1:30 p.m.	-Mahjong	.O'Leary Hall
6:00 p.m.	-LifeTeen Confirmation	.O'Leary Hall
7:00 p.m.	-Confessions	. Church
7:00 p.m.	-Acclamation Choir	. Chapel
8:00 p.m.	-LifeTeen Core Meeting	.O'Leary Hall
THURSDAY,	DECEMBER 21	
5:00 p.m.	-More than Words	.O'Leary Hall
6:00 p.m.	-Children's Choir Rehearsal	. Chapel
7:00 p.m.	-Parish Choir Rehearsal	. Chapel
STINDAY DI	ECEMBED 24	

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24

See following page for schedule



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Did you know? You can support St. Thomas Preschool in the following ways:

*Bring in your Box Tops from select items found in grocery stores to the Box Top Jar at the table in the Narthex (back of church).

*Personalized Labels for the Stuff Kids Lose! To order from Mabel's Labels to *campaigns.mabelslabels.com* and search for St. Thomas Preschool!

Thank you!



CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE



PRIVATE CONFESSION	in the church
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I	Tuesday, December 19, 11:00 a.m	Fr. Ker
	Tuesday, December 19, 7:00 p.m	.Fr. Johr
	Wednesday, December 20, 11:00 a.m.	Fr. Johr
	Tuesday, December 19, 11:00 a.m	Fr. Jay

CHRISTMAS MASSES

	CIINISIMAS MASSES	
Saturday, December 23	4th Sunday of Advent Vigil	5:00 p.m.
Sunday, December 24	No Music	7:30 a.m.
Sunday Obligation	No Music	9:00 a.m.
, .	Parish Choir Singing	10:30 a.m.
	Song Leader/Congregational Singing	noon
Sunday, December 24	Life Teen Choir	
Christmas Eve	Children's Choir	5:15 p.m.
\/	Acclamation Choir Singing	7:00 p.m.
\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\	Cantata	9:00 p.m.
	"Midnight" Mass—Parish Choir	10:00 p.m.
Monday, Decem-	ber 25	•••••
Christmas Day	Song Leader/Congregational Singing	8:00 a.m.
•	Acclamation Choir	10:00 a.m.



NOTES

Song Leader/Congregational Singing 12:00 p.m.

- I urge those who regularly come to one of the first two Christmas Eve Masses to consider attending the 7:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Mass or Christmas Day. You will be glad you did!
- We expect the Children's Mass at 5:15 p.m. on December 24 to be **crowded**. Unless you have a child or grandchild attending or participating in the Liturgy, you would be well advised to attend a different Mass.
- The Cantata begins at 9:00 p.m. before the 10:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Mass. Please plan to be in church early if you want to sit in your usual pew.
- Those who wish to attend Mass on Christmas Day free from parking or seating issues would be well advised to attend the 8:00 or 10:00 a.m. Masses.
- Please carpool as much as possible. Be fair to others. Please DO NOT save seats.



From all of us at St. Thomas the Apostle Parish,
Merry Christmas!



LAST CHANCE—BOOK GIVE-AWAY!!!

Because the library is going under construction, we will be having a book sale at least through this weekend. New books have been added to the tables. Books are available in the parish hall after every Mass. A donation jar for your contribution is on the table. Please give our tomes, DVDs, tapes, a good home.

Penance opportunities:

Did you miss the Communal Penance last week? Our Vicariate still has 3 opportunities to attend a communal penance service:

December 19 - St. Christopher 6:30 p.m.

December 20 - Santa Catalina 6:30 p.m.

December 21 - St. Elizabeth Ann Seton 7:00 p.m.

And then of course, private confessions before Christmas are the next two Saturdays at 4:15 and the 19th and 20th here in the church.

THANKS

We received so many volunteers to drive to Hayden, we had to make a waiting list! Thank you for your outpouring of generosity!

Nominations for the election of Corporate Board Director ended on Monday, December 11, 2017. There were no other nominees for this position. Therefore, Hurd Baruch is re-elected as our Corporate Board Secretary for a three-year term.



TODAY, 11:30 a.m., Room 10 COSTUME FITTING FOR ALL CHILDREN

TODAY, 1:15 p.m., Church REHEARSAL

All children need to be present at this rehearsal.

Readers, Angels, Stars, Shepherds & Animals will be dismissed at approximately 2:45 p.m. Special Stars, Mary, Joseph & the Wise Men will be dismissed at approximately 3:15 p.m.

Sunday, December 24, 4:30 p.m., Children's Mass

All children will put on their costumes and prepare for the 5:15 p.m. Mass.

Parent volunteers are needed as follows on Sunday, December 17:

- * 11:30 a.m.—I or 2 volunteers to assist with the costume fitting.
- * 1:15 p.m.—4 or 5 volunteers to assist with rehearsal. We would ask that these same volunteers assist during the Mass on Christmas Eve. Volunteers will sit at the back of the Church during Mass to assist the children.

If you have any questions or to volunteer for this special event, please call Margaret, 577-8782, \times 124

Both our parish seminarian, Paul Grandi, and our summer seminarian, Deacon Tom Quirk would appreciate any words of encouragement and may be reached at:

> University of St. Mary of the Lake, Mundelein Seminary, 1000 E. Maple Ave. Mundelein, Illinois 60060.

For Christmas well-wishes:

Msgr. Al, Msgr. Todd, Fr. John, Fr. Jay and Fr. Ken may all be reached at:

5150 N. Valley View Rd Tucson, AZ 85718

Fr. Tom Butler and Fr. Brian Henden may be reached at:

1540 E. Glenn St. Tucson, AZ 85719



SAVE THE DATE! FEBRUARY 17

The MARIAN CLUB annual luncheon fundraiser at the SAVOY OPERA HOUSE in Trail Dust Town.

Raffle Baskets, Great Food, & entertainment by

THE PRESIDIO BOYS with Juan Aguirre. RSVP: marianclubaz@gmail.com Subject line: LUNCHEON or call Gio: 742-2449



We would like to thank everyone that participated in making the stockings for the giving tree's families. To everyone that gave items, sewed, decorated and sorted, we could not do it without all of you.

Merry Christmas.



Flowers:

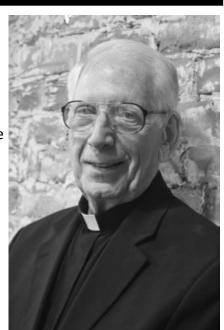
Shortly the Poinsettia plants and flowers for Christmas will be in the Narthex and on the Altar. Our Altar Guild is responsible for the task of watering all the plants based on our florist's advice. Since we have individuals responsible for

maintaining the plants we ask everyone to refrain from giving this assistance. Thank you.

Mass and Dinner with the Bishop—January 14, 2018

This year the Knights will honor retired priest **Msgr. Al Schifano** who is also continuing to serve as the Seminary Formator for the Diocese of Tucson. The Knights of Columbus Assembly 2392 has raised more than \$633,250.00 over the past 13 years, going to the Retired Priest Fund and Seminarian Education. There are currently 20 retired or disabled diocesan priests ages 66 to 85. Many, despite failing health, continue to minister in our parishes. Though they receive support from the Diocese, they are responsible for rent, food, utilities and car expenses.

Let's make sure Msgr. Al knows how much we appreciate him and his efforts on behalf of the diocese! Please see the next page for a registration form.



Mass and Dinner with the Bishop

The Msgr. Don H. Hughes Assembly 4th Degree Knights of Columbus invites you to attend the 2018 Mass & Dinner with the Bishop. The event will be in support of our retired Priests and education of our Seminarians in the Diocese of Tucson.

Time	ime Sunday, January 14, 2018 Mass at 4:00 p.m. at Skyline Country Club No host social hour at 5:00 p.m Dinner to follow.				
Location:	tion: Skyline Country Club, 5200 E. St. Andrews Dr. (North of Skyline Dr., East of N. Swan Rd.)				
Menu:	Plus: Salad, fresh vegetable Red and white wine v	angel hair pasta sautéed s, beverage service, asso rith dinner included.	rted French roll	-	
Cost:	st: \$150.00 per person (\$95.00 is a charitable donation) Tables of 8 - \$1200.00 (Up to two priests can be seated for free making table of 10)				
	14th Annual Mass and Dinner with the Bishop Registration Form or register online at http://kofcknights.org/Assembly.asp?A=2392				
Name of pur	chaser:		F	hone:	
		City		State: Zip:	
Email:		Parish:			
Number of t	ickets desired: ().	Amount @\$150 ea:	(\$	_)	
Special Mea	1 Requests: () Am	ount @ + \$15 ea:	(\$		
I would like	to contribute additions	I amount to the fund*:	(\$	(type of meal)	
I will not be	able to attend, but will	contribute*:	(\$)	
*(total donation ta			, [VISA AMERICAN DISCOVER	
Charge	to my Credit Card	VISAM/C	AME	XDISCOVER	
Card#			CSC#	Exp. Date	
Cianatura		Cr. Cor		ecurity code)	
Signature: _		CI. Can	d Zip Code	Date:	
Names for P	urchased Tickets:			Please try to seat me with:	
Ivallies for 1	urchased rickets.			Trease try to seat me with.	
1		5			
2		6			
3		6			
4		8			
Requested P	riest at Table	9		10	



Arizona's Catholic Tuition Support Organization of the Diocese of Tucson (CTSO) is a qualified tuition support organization that is proud to provide tuition assistance for students in 28 Catholic Schools throughout the Diocese of Tucson. If you link to one or all of the schools, it will become apparent that these fine schools help students become faith-filled individuals, provide them with strong academics, and emphasize the importance of service to one another and to their communities.

The State of Arizona has provided taxpayers an education tax credit since 1998. This means that for the 2017tax year when you send a contribution of up to \$2,177 if filing jointly or up to \$1,089 if filing singly, the State will provide you a dollar-for-dollar-tax credit. This is a wonderful way for individuals to provide tuition assistance for students in Catholic schools at no additional cost. If you choose not to participate in the CTSO, the State will control those same tax dollars instead of you directing the dollars to a Catholic education.

Academically, students in Catholic schools have responded with scores that rank above the national average on achievement tests and greater than 95 percent of students graduate and go on to higher education. More importantly, students obtain an education centered on moral, academic and faith-filled values.

St. Francis Cabrini movie



Monday
December 18
Parish Hall
6:30 pm

INNOCENT VOICES



"A DEEPLY MOVING AND POWERFUL FILM"

CLAUDIA PLUG, USA TODAY

Based on the true story of screenwriter Oscar Torres's embattled childhood in 1980's El Salvador, "Innocent Voices" is the poignant tale of Chava, an eleven-year-old boy who suddenly becomes the "man of the house" in a time when the government's army is forcibly recruiting twelve year olds to battle against the peasant rebels of the FMLN

As the movie begins, Chava has just one year of innocence left before he will be conscripted to fight the government's battle against the peasant rebels of the FMLN. His life becomes a game of survival, not only from the bullets of the escalating war, but also from the dispiriting effects of daily violence. As he hustles to find work to help his single mother pay the bills and experiences the pangs of first love for a beautiful classmate, Chava's tiny home village becomes both playground and battlefield.

This is a story of life, love, the hope of peace and the ennobling power of the human spirit.

Theological Reflection | Good conversation | Delicious Wines | Great Popcorn | If you'd like, bring a snack or a bottle of wine to share. "The spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me, because the LORD has anointed me; ..."

Let your spirits be augmented by attending a Worldwide Marriage Encounter (WWME) weekend with your spouse. The next weekend is on January 26-28 at Mount Claret Retreat Center in Phoenix. To apply online, and for weekend dates visit www.wwmearizona.com

Retrouvaille is an international Christian-based ministry that offers a three-stage program to help couples improve their marriages. Register for Retrouvaille Weekend Program beginning Friday evening, January 19 - Sunday, January 21. For confidential information Call 520-686-1598, Email: rtvdavis@hotmail.com or Visit: www.retrouvaille.org



DO TWICE THE GOOD!THE AZ CHARITABLE TAX CREDIT DOUBLED

Married couples filing jointly claim a credit up to \$800/ Individual filers claim a credit up to \$400

Donate to Catholic Community Services, claim the credit when you file your Arizona state income tax, and reduce your state taxes dollar for dollar. Instead of giving your dollars to the state, help children, families, seniors and people with disabilities - right here in our community. **Completely separate from the CTSO credit!** Donate online at www.ccs-soaz.org, or call 670-0854

ST. THOMAS STAFF					
Parish Office	(577-8780 <u>FA</u>	X 577-0441)	Monday-Friday 8:30 a.m4:30 p.m.		
Father John Lyons	Pastor	Ext. 115	sta5150@aol.com		
Father Jay Jensen	Associate Pastor	Ext. 128	frjay5101@yahoo.com		
Father Ken Wolfe	Pastoral Assistar	nceExt. 136	kwolfe@diocesetucson.org		
			aschifano@diocesetucson.org		
			edwardsheffer1@gmail.com		
Dcn. Phil Garcia Hispani	ic Ministry & Outrea	<i>ch Director</i> .Ext	. 125denpgarcia@yahoo.com		
Dcn Bob Brotherton	Marriage Preparation	nExt. 0	•••••		
			cmcclelland@diocesetucson.org		
Erin LaComb	Admin Asst	Ext. 109	elacomb@diocesetucson.org		
Ellen Stoesser	Receptionist	Ext. 110	sttomapostle@yahoo.com		
			staccompliance@yahoo.com		
Jeff Kennedy	Facilities	Ext. 134			
			Monday-Friday 8:30 a.m4:30 p.m.		
Margaret Brokaw	Director	Ext. 124	stareligiousedu@gmail.com		
	Religious Educa	tion, O.C.I.A. and	O.C.I.C.		
			stareligiousedu@gmail.com		
Teri Pursch	Clerical Aide	Ext. 122	purschstthomas@gmail.com		
<u>Preschool & Kindergarten (577-0503FAX 577-0441)</u>					
Michelle Garmon	Director	Ext. 120	sthomaspreschool@gmail.com		

OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE & BECOME INVOLVED				
Adoration	Maria Sarnoff	577-8298		
Altar Guild	Pat Meurant	297-5457		
Altar Servers (4th	grade & up)			
	Catherine Langham	ı_437-7003		
Bible Study	Bob Shaff	577-0159		
Boy/Girl Scouts	Laurene Huelsmar	1_299-6630		
Bridge Marathon	Betty Woj	299-8296		
Children's Liturgy	y Theresa Levy	270-7737		
Conv. EngHeid	di Bran DeLeon <u>.</u> 60	2-367-1213		
Date Night	Deacon Ed Sheffer	577-8780		
Endow	Michele Grantham	321-9054		
Food Bank	Beth Dunshee	577-2930		
Funeral Ministry	Pat Meurant	297-5457		
Get Carded (Casual Bridge Group)				
	Eileen Thompson	877-2550		
Knights of Columbus				
O:1	D:11 Mass	207 1606		

Knights of Columbus				
Bill Neer	307-1606			
Patrick McMahor	n 751-1614			
ungry Laurie Stone	e 577-9691			
Cynthia Duran	331-2322			
en) Gio Chacon	742-2449			
_Martha Luebberin	g 591-3135			
t ry Carol Habra	297-4068			
Iariana Cabelleno	. 392-6639			
Ron Arlt	577-1227			
Parish Office	577-8780			
	Bill Neer Patrick McMahor ungry Laurie Stone Cynthia Duran en) Gio Chacon Martha Luebberin try Carol Habra fariana Cabelleno Ron Arlt			

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE WEBSITE

www.statucson.org

YOUTH MINISTRIES WEBSITE

www.stapyouth.com

MUSIC MINISTRY

(Mid-September to May)

Matthew Holter......Director

Parish Choir 10:30 a.m. Sunday,

music.sta.tucson@gmail.com

Gregg ReynoldsOrganist/Pianist/Harpist

If you are interested in joining one of the Choirs, please contact the Parish Office.

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL—Eileen Thompson (Chair), Winnie Amene, Hurd Baruch, Erwin DeSa, Mary Anne Fay, Elsie Fischer, Eric Gall, Randy Hannon, Herman Johannesmeyer, Chuck Jonaitis, Phil Lacovara, Hylda Martin, Tony Martin, Larry McDonough, Pat Meurant, Bernice Ochoa, Nancy Stephan, Joe Stoesser & Steve Villaescusa (Staff: Father John Lyons, Father Jay Jensen, Deacon Ed Sheffer, Deacon Phil Garcia & Erin LaComb)

PARISH FINANCE COUNCIL—Larry McDonough (Chair), Hurd Baruch, Mary Anne Fay, David Fraboni, Tom Shelby, Nancy Stephan, Joe Stoesser (Staff: Father John Lyons & Chris McClelland)