



ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE CHURCH

HOMOSASSA, FLORIDA

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Fax: (352) 628-4723
www.MyStThomas.org

A warm welcome to everyone, parishioners and guests, whether coming from near or far. I am so happy you could join us today, as we reflect on the Word of God and partake of the Eucharist. My hope is that you feel at home at St. Thomas. ~ **Fr. Glenn**

MASS SCHEDULE

Daily: 8:00 am (Monday Friday);
Saturday 8:00 am: Communion
Service Only
First Saturday Mass: 8:00 am

WEEKEND MASSES

Saturday: Vigil Mass: 4:30 pm
Sunday: 8:00 am & 10:30 am
(Parish Choir)

HOLY DAYS & HOLIDAYS

Consult our bulletin or parish website:
www.MyStThomas.org
First Friday Adoration: 8:30 am to Noon
Saturday: Reconciliation (Confession)
3:15 - 4:00 pm or by appt.

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

It is our pleasure to serve you!

Monday - Thursday: 8:30 am - 1:30 pm
Friday - Sunday: Closed

PASTORAL STAFF MEMBERS

Rev. J. Glenn Diaz, Pastor

Assisting Clergy:

Rev. Msgr. Joseph Sobiesiak
Deacon Mark Manko

Robert Adams: Maintenance

Karen Ballaban: Comms. Specialist

Robin Furciato: Coord. of Religious Ed.

David Martin: Custodian

Joseph McEvoy: Pastoral Assistant

Michelle Kim-Painter: Music Director

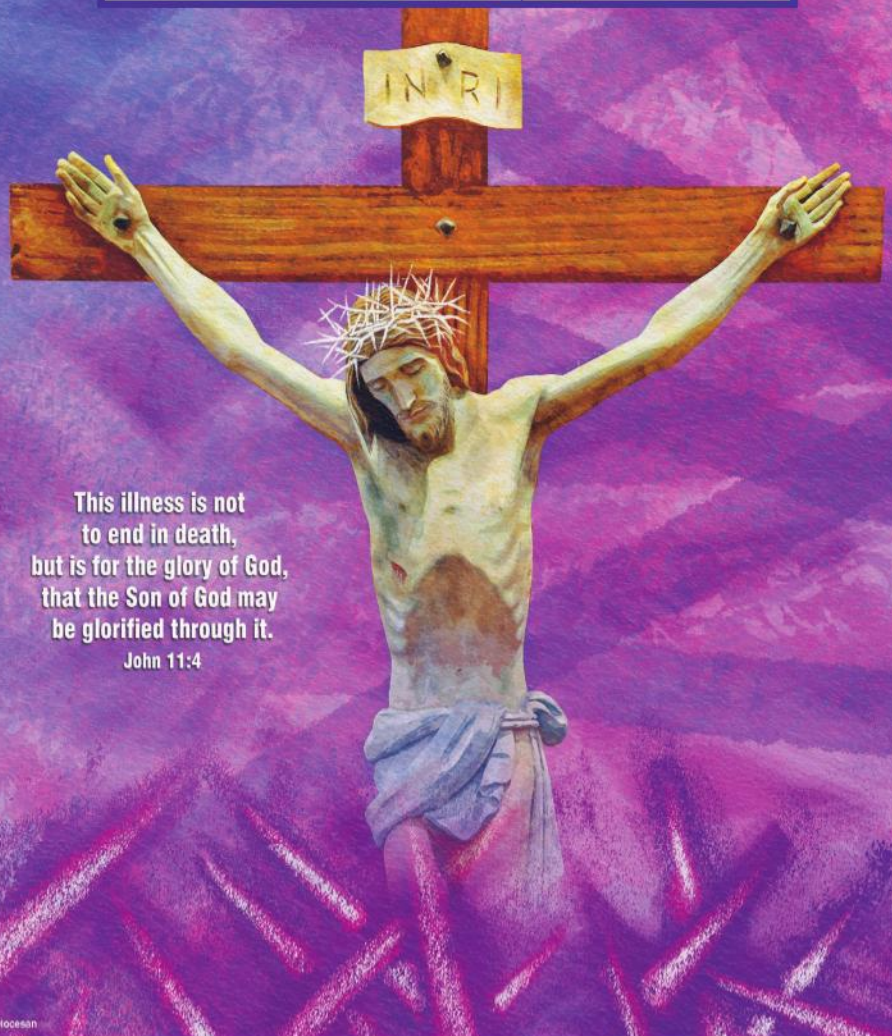
Alfred Papino: Bookkeeper; Cantor,
& Lead Accompanist

Pauline Papino: Sacristan

Karen Robben: Office and
Communications Manager

Fifth Sunday of LENT

MARCH 26, 2023



This illness is not
to end in death,
but is for the glory of God,
that the Son of God may
be glorified through it.
John 11:4

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TENDING GOD'S FLOCK

Joseph McEvoy | 15 March 2023

Fifth Sunday of Lent, Year A



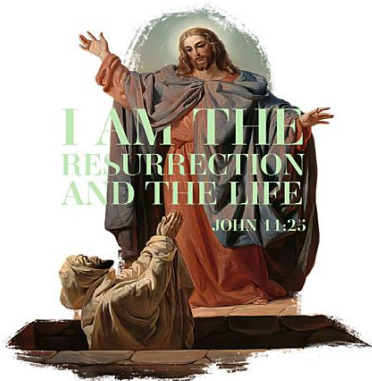
Today is the **Fifth Sunday of Lent**, and Palm Sunday and Holy Week are just around the corner. Lent is a time when we reflect on the Sacrament of Baptism. During Lent, we say the Apostle's Creed, because it is the basis for the baptismal promise made by the elect. When we enter the church, and bless ourselves with holy water, to remind ourselves of our baptism.

The gospel of the **First Sunday of Lent** we hear of the 40 days in the desert where Our Lord was tempted by Satan. Through prayer, fasting and fidelity to the word of our Lord, he resists temptation. We also face temptation, but baptism gives us strength to resist it.

In the reading from the **Second Sunday of Lent**, Peter, James, and John receive a glimpse of the glory of God when they witness the transfiguration. This is a preview of our Lord's resurrection. In baptism, we get a glimpse of our own glory, where we put on a white garment to remind us of our dignity as children of God.

In the reading from the **Third Sunday of Lent**, we hear the story of the Samaritan women who Jesus offers the "living water" that God wants to give her. She is converted and goes into the village to make disciples of others. We also have received the "living water." This is the baptismal grace that purifies and enlightens us.

The reading from the **Fourth Sunday of Lent**, is the story of the man born blind. God created man from the clay of the earth, and Jesus smears clay on the man's eyes signifying a new creation. The man's own action of washing in the Pool of Siloam (which means sent) echoes baptism. Jesus is the Light of the World and brings light to the man born blind. Jesus is the one who was sent, and by baptism we are washed in Christ and can truly see.



Today's reading is where Jesus raises Lazarus from the dead. It points to our rising in faith to a new and eternal life through Baptism. Jesus told Lazarus sister, Martha, "I am the resurrection and the life; whoever believes in me, even if he dies, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. In baptism, we also die to sin, and like Lazarus are called forth to a new life.

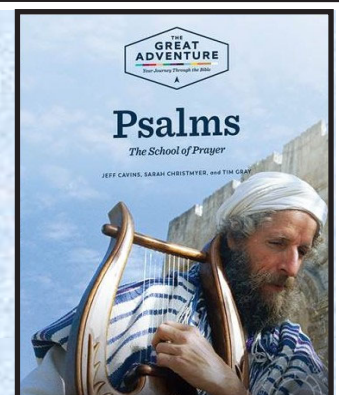
During Lent, we recall the waters of baptism in which we were also baptized into Christ's death, died to sin and evil, and began new life in Christ.

Bible Study with Deacon Mark

Beginning April 17, 2023, we are starting a new bible study: "**Psalms: The School of Prayer**". Led by **Deacon Mark Manko**, this study will show you how to establish a deeply personal dialogue with God through the Psalms.

Learn how to meditate fruitfully on the captivating words of the Psalms using lectio divina and study the many ways the Psalms foretell the life and mission of Jesus.

The bible study will be held on Mondays at 10:00 a.m. for 11 sessions, and the cost of the **workbook is \$29.95**. Please contact the office to register.

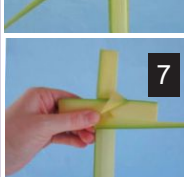
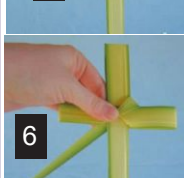
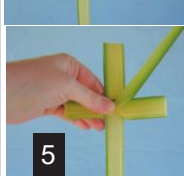
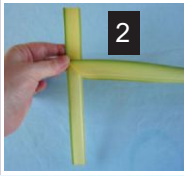


PALM CROSS INSTRUCTIONS

Next weekend is **Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord**. There will be Blessing of palms before each weekend Mass.

You may be interested in making a cross from your palm. If so, below are written instructions of how to make this type of cross from a palm. If you prefer to watch a "How to make a Cross from Palms" video, we will have one posted on Palm Sunday at Noon on our church Facebook page located at

www.facebook.com/MyStThomas.org/



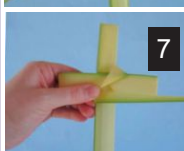
1. Fold the palm down. The length of the short side will be the length of your completed cross.
2. Turn it over so the long side of the palm is facing you. Fold the long side back at a 45 degree angle. This will make one arm of your cross.
3. Fold the long side of the palm back at the length you want the arm of your cross to be.
4. Fold the long side of the palm forward at the length you want the other arm of your cross to be. Now you have your basic cross shape, and you just need to secure it with the amount of palm that's left. You're basically going to make an "X" around your cross to hold it together now.
5. Fold the pointy end of the palm up at a 45 degree angle.
6. Fold the palm down around the back.
7. Now, fold the end up parallel to the arms of the cross.
8. Fold it across the back again at another 45 degree angle.
9. Now, bring the tail of the palm down and thread it under the little piece in the back.
10. Wind the tail around and around that same piece until there is not enough left to wind it anymore.
11. Turn it around and look at your awesome palm cross from the front!

Tip to Make Your Palm Cross Lay Flat

If you want your cross to stay looking nice (rather than curling up as it dries) you can put it under something heavy, such as a large book. This is similar in concept to pressing a flower. Otherwise, you will end up with a mess like this



These instructions and tip were found on www.catholiccicing.com



ONLINE GIVING
FAST | SIMPLE | SECURE

As a friendly reminder, online giving is an easy, safe and secure way to support our parish! To set-up a recurring weekly or monthly gift or to make a one-time donation directly from your bank account or credit card, please visit give.mystthomas.org/give

We are grateful for your support!

HELLO

my name is

**NEXT WEEKEND IS "NAME TAG SUNDAY".....
PLEASE COMPLETE A NAME TAG BEFORE ENTERING THE CHURCH.**

IN OUR PRAYERS

MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday, March 26

8:00 am: Theresa Gallant †
Requested by: Debra Desroche

10:30 am: Maria Casey

Requested by: Family

Monday, March 27

8:00 am: Mary † & Michael † Lelko and Family †

Requested by: Niece, Norma Pafchek

Tuesday, March 28

8:00 am: Mary O'Hara †

Requested by: Pat & Tony Chirumbolo

Wednesday, March 29

8:00 am: William R. Morrow Sr. †

Requested by: Loving Family

Thursday, March 30

8:00 am: Margaret Riddle †

Requested by: Carol Anderson

Friday, March 31

8:00 am: Mark Nehrbas

Requested by: List Family

Saturday, April 01

8:00 am: Souls in Purgatory

Requested by: Divine Will Prayer Group

4:30 pm: Chuck Richie †

Requested by: Rich & Jeannie Kopicki

Sunday, April 02

8:00 am: Parish Family

10:30 am: Nicole Polisano

Requested by: The Casey Family

DAILY READINGS, SAINTS, & OBSERVANCES



Sunday *Fifth Sunday of Lent*

Ez 37:12-14; Ps 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8; Rom 8:8-11; Jn 11:1-45

Monday Dn 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62 or 13:41c-62; Ps 23: 1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6; Jn 8:1-11

Tuesday Nm 21:4-9; Ps 102:2-3, 16-18, 19-21; Jn 8:21-30

Wednesday Dn 3:14-20, 91-92, 95; Dn 3:52, 53, 54, 55, 56; Jn 8:31-42

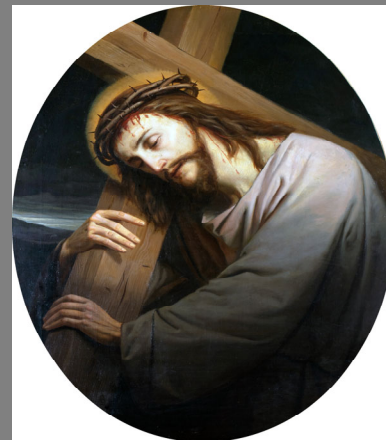
Thursday Gn 17:3-9; Ps 105:4-5, 6-7, 8-9; Jn 8:51-59

Friday (**Abstinence**) Jer 20:10-13; Ps 18:2-3a, 3bc-4, 5-6, 7; Jn 10:31-42

Saturday Ez 37:21-28; Jer 31:10; 11-12abcd, 13; Jn 11:45-56

Sunday *Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion Procession:*
Mt 21:1-11 At Mass: Is 50:4-7; Ps 22:8-9, 17-18, 19-20, 23-24; Phil 2:6-11; Mt 26:14-27:66

**Please Join Us
this Friday,
March 31st.
at 4:00 pm
to pray the
Stations
of the
Cross.**



LORD, GRACIOUSLY HEAR OUR PRAYERS

Please remember in your prayers all those in our parish family who are ill, especially:

Fran Frankenberger, Karl Wolf, Ethan Grayshan, Rita & Art Frisbie, Virginia Kanis, Scott Klaben, Vincent King Sparaco, Kerrie Schmidt, Mike Jablonsky, Stephanie St. Clair, Mary Ann DeSimone, Bertha Watson, Charles Terreault, Gordon Gould, Christine Gicola, Rita Tanner, Skip Guss, Elizabeth Dostal, Fran Loeffler, Anthony Cimorelli, Ron Rothe, Marguerite Corrao, Rusty Ryal, Msgr. Joseph Sobiesiak, Marjorie Ziegler, Norma Galvin, Wendell Miller, Joseph Hertrich, Michelle LaGreca, Sutton Hotard, Charles Harvey, Betty Parker, David Cheevers, Joseph & Gail Carey, Deacon Vince Small, Kobe Calzaretta, Raymond Huffman, Tony Caposieno, Wade Wolfe, Samantha Wasley, Don Harnett, Nick Russo, Frank Watson, Peggy Lingrosso, Anne Lunk, and our Website Prayer Requests.

To add or remove someone from our parish prayer list, please contact the parish office.

CHURCH EVENTS & COLLECTIONS

Please refer to the **Daily / Weekend Mass and Reconciliation Schedule** located on the front cover.

Sunday, March 26: <i>Fifth Sunday of Lent</i> Collection: School & Camp Support		No Youth Faith Formation Today
Monday, March 27:	10:00 am 1:30 pm	Bible Study (Forgiven) Love More Ministry Meeting w/ Deacon Mark
Tuesday, March 28:	8:45 am	Holy Face Devotion
Thursday, March 30:	8:30 am—9:30 am 9:45 am 1:00 pm	Holy Hour of Adoration Flame of Love Prayer Group Bereavement Group
Friday, March 31: (Abstinence)	4:00 pm	Stations of the Cross
Saturday, April 01:	8:00 am 8:30 am 9:00 am 3:15 pm or by appt.	First Saturday Mass First Saturday Confessions First Saturday Rosary Reconciliation
Sunday, April 02: <i>Palm Sunday & "Name Tag Sunday"</i> Collections: Parish Building Fund and Pregnancy & Family Life	9:00 am—10:15 am	Youth Faith Formation

Parish Office will be closed on Tuesday, April 04.

Fr. Glenn and members of the Pastoral Staff will be attending the
Chrism Mass @ St. Jude Cathedral on this day.

In today's Gospel, Jesus raises Lazarus from the dead. In doing so, he forecasts two events: his return from the dead and ours. Death, and the events that follow, are challenging and often hide at the edge of our consciousness.

It drives us to avoid aggressive drivers, work harder, or hold close the ones we love at goodbyes.

As difficult as death is, the Resurrection is our hope and Lent is our time to pray, give and spread the word! "I am the Resurrection and the Life," says Jesus (John 11:25).

Everyone who
**LIVES &
BELIEVES**
in me will
NEVER DIE.

- John 11:26



5th Sunday
of Lent

When you
support our
Catholic
Ministry
Appeal,
you enable us
to deliver this
same hope and
mercy to those
in need.



Jesus, I Trust in You!

THE DIVINE MERCY CHAPLET

**is prayed every weekday
following
the 8:00 am Mass.
*Together We Pray!***

ON FIRST SATURDAY, APRIL 1st., we will celebrate MASS at 8:00 am in our church followed by the recitation of the Holy Rosary at 9:00 am in our Meditation Garden. The St. Thomas *Respect Life Ministry* will lead us in praying the Rosary. Please join us!



ST. THOMAS MINISTRIES REMINDERS

"Love More" Ministries here at St Thomas

St. James tells us "Faith without works is dead." (James 2: 14-17). Here is a chance for us to put our faith to work. A little while ago, **"Love More"**

Ministries reached out to all the churches in this area to help feed the homeless. Father Glenn responded, and we went to visit them and witness the works they are doing here in Homosassa. We decided to join them and help feed God's children. I am now asking you to join the team and put our faith into action. We will start by helping every other month, and Sunday, April 30, will be our first feeding. You are invited to join us.

You can email me at deaconmark@mystthomas.org.

We will host a meeting here at St. Thomas with the director of **"Love More"** Ministries to give you a more detailed explanation and outline our responsibilities this **Monday, March 27 at 1:30 pm in St. Martin's Hall.**

We will go to their shelter, which is located next to the Nature Coast Church just up the street on US19, every other month and bring food that we prepare, feeding those who come. Please email me or call the office and let me know that you are interested.

I hope you join me in this rewarding effort!
~ Deacon Mark

The Knights Corner

Knights of Columbus Fellowship

This Sunday, March 26th

The Knights of Columbus, Council 15154, would like to **invite all** for fellowship after the 8:00 am and 10:30 am Mass in St. Martin's Hall. Coffee and donuts from 'Hole in One Donuts' will be available.

Please stop in this Sunday after Mass! You will enjoy meeting & mingling with fellow parishioners.

All are welcome!



Season of Lent **ALMSGIVING**

LAST WEEKLY REMINDER!



This Lent, St. Thomas will match the first \$500 in "Poor Box" Donations received through **Palm Sunday**. The funds will be given to our SVdP conference and "Love More" Ministries.

Please consider giving a donation and drop it in one of the Poor Boxes located in the church on or before Palm Sunday.



The Women's Guild will have an **Easter Basket Raffle** fundraiser to help pay for church altar flowers.

They will be selling raffle tickets **next weekend April 1 & 2**. The cost of a single ticket will be \$2.00 or \$5.00 for 3 tickets. The drawings will be held on Easter Sunday at our 10:30 am Mass. You do not need to be present to win.

We appreciate your support!




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Almsgiving Praying Fasting

L E N T

DATE	TIME	EVENT
Friday, March 31 Abstinence	4:00 pm	Stations of the Cross
Every Saturday (except April 8)	3:15—4:00 pm or by appointment	Reconciliation (Confession)
Palm Sunday Saturday, April 1 Sunday, April 2	4:30 pm Vigil Mass 8:00 am Mass 10:30 am Mass	Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord Blessing of palms before each weekend Mass
Holy Thursday, April 6	<u>No 8:00 am Mass today</u> <u>No Morning Adoration</u> 4:30 pm	Mass of the Lord's Supper with Washing of the Feet. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will be available in front of the Altar of Repose until 7:00 pm
Good Friday, April 7 Day of Fast and Abstinence	<u>No 8:00 am Mass today</u> <u>No Adoration</u> 3:00 pm	The Lord's Passion (with communion)
Holy Saturday, April 8	<u>No 8:00 am Mass today</u> <u>No Confessions</u> Noon 8:00 pm	Easter Food Blessing Easter Vigil — Begins at 8:00 pm
Easter Sunday, April 9 Happy Easter!	8:00 am and 10:30 am	Easter Sunday Masses

**START EACH DAY WITH
A GRATEFUL HEART** 
St. Thomas Corner of Gratitude!

On March 11th we held the Third Annual Garden Spring Clean-Up Project. We want to thank Bob Adams from our Garden Ministry for organizing this event for the third year. We are grateful to the individuals who turned out to help rake, plant, and clean our Meditation Garden. Seventy (70) large bags of debris were removed. Donuts & beverages were provided and several nice prizes were given away, including, gas cards, gift certificates, coffee mugs & more. A sincere "Thank-You" to all who contributed in any way!



March 27, St. Scholastica, 5:00 pm

March 28, St. Benedict, 7:00 pm

March 29, Our Lady of Fatima, 7:00 pm



Diocesan is proud to now be printing
St. Thomas the Apostle's
Sunday Bulletin



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 Jared Salinsky, D.O. - General Ortho
 George Kardashian, M.D. - Hand/Elbow
 Juan Raposo, M.D. - Revisions/Spine
 Kirill Ilalov, M.D. - Spine
 Dragomir Mijic, D.O. - Shoulder
 Dolfi Herscovici, D.O. - Foot/Ankle
 Korey Yngstrom, D.O. - Hip/Trauma
 Kenton Panas, M.D. - Sports Fellowship Shoulder
 Christopher Reyher, M.D. - Physiatry/General
 Huy Nguyen, M.D. - Physiatry/General
 Alexander Pappas, D.P.M. - Podiatrist

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