



ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE CHURCH

HOMOSASSA, FLORIDA

7040 S Suncoast Blvd.
Phone: (352) 628-7000
E-mail: Info@MyStThomas.org

Homosassa, FL 34446
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

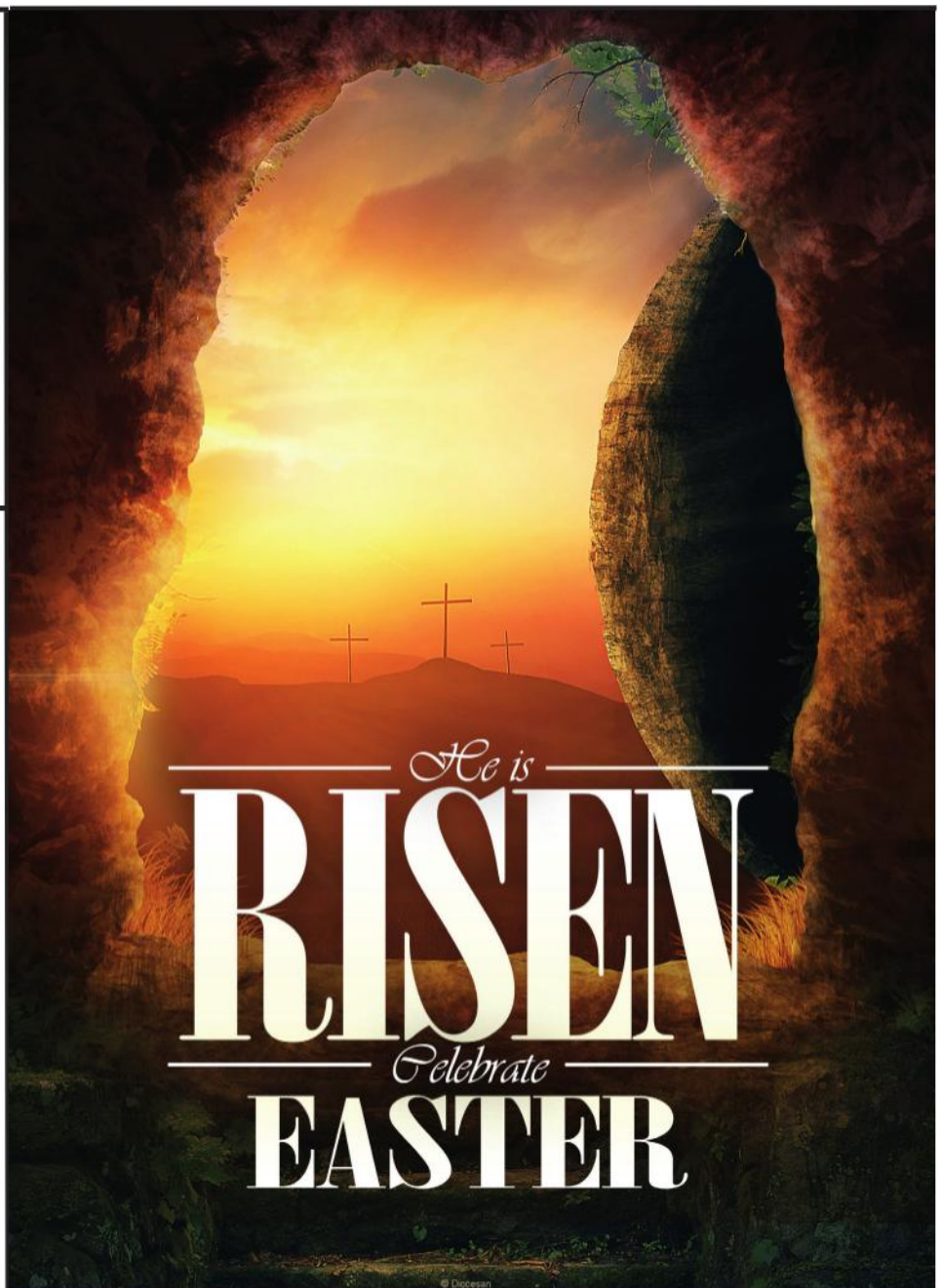
Joseph McEvoy: Pastoral Assistant

Michelle Kim-Painter: Music Director

Alfred Papino: Bookkeeper; Cantor,
& Lead Accompanist

Pauline Papino: Sacristan

Karen Robben: Office and
Communications Manager



EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 9, 2023



TENDING GOD'S FLOCK

Fr. Glenn | 19 March 2023

Easter Sunday of our Lord's
Resurrection, Year A



1. **HAPPY EASTER!** Today we begin a new season in our liturgical calendar – the Easter season. The whole season of Easter celebrates the resurrection of Jesus from the dead. It begins a time of reflecting on how the followers of Jesus came to understand his rising from the dead.

2. One figure central to all the gospel accounts of Jesus' resurrection is **Mary Magdalene**. The early Christians called her "the apostle to the apostles." She was the first to break the news of the empty tomb to the disciples and the first to witness the risen Lord.

3. In the Philippines, we begin our Easter celebration with a ritual procession called **Salubong** (encounter), which recalls the extra-biblical encounter between the Virgin Mary and the risen Jesus. Two statues are prepared for the procession that takes place outside the church: the statue of the Virgin Mary covered with a black veil (carried by the women) and the statue of the Risen Lord (carried by the men). These two statues would meet halfway where there is a stage prepared. A young girl is usually chosen to sing Regina Caeli after which she takes off the black veil from Mary. Then the two statues are carried together in procession back to the church where the mass was celebrated. Guess what happens after mass -- a lot of eating!

4. The joy of the resurrection of our Lord flows over to the next fifty days of the Easter season until Pentecost Sunday. The chanting of the Alleluia and the lighted Paschal Candle keep alive the solemn and memorable celebration of the Easter vigil. The biblical readings and prefaces used during mass remind us that the risen Christ is always present among us and that we can recognize him in the proclaimed Word of God and in the breaking of the bread (the Eucharist).



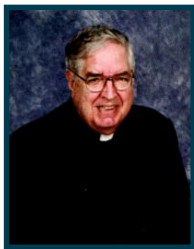
Making Your Funeral Arrangements Presentation will be held after the 10:30 am Mass on Sunday, April 23, 2023. Do you want to plan your funeral arrangements, but aren't sure where to start? **Join Deacon Mark Manko and Jeff Macrini from Wilder Funeral Home on Sunday, April 23rd following the 10:30 am Mass.** Deacon Mark and Jeff will guide you through the ins and outs of funeral planning, and will answer some of the most common questions including:

- ♦ Why is it smart to pre-arrange, and what are the average prices of burial & cremation?
- ♦ What happens to the money?
- ♦ What if the funeral home goes out of business, then what happens to my money?
- ♦ What are the Church's teachings on cremation & scattering of cremains?

These and many other topics will be covered.

No reservations required; all are welcome!





Easter 2023

Easter is the most important celebration of all of the disciples of Jesus because, as Paul says, without the resurrection our faith is in vain. Perhaps we need to think a bit more about this tenant of our faith. Our faith, although it may include pronouncements and “truths” from various Church authorities, is not about those many laws, rules, traditions, etc. that are attached to our individual denominations. Our faith is about the person of Jesus ... that he is the Son of God ... and our only obligation to being his disciples is to try to live as he calls us to do. Kindness, compassion, and forgiveness are hallmarks of disciples of Jesus. At the Last Supper, Jesus washes the feet of his disciples as the enduring mark of his disciples. We are to be servants of others. We are to do service to others “in remembrance” of him. All else is window dressing. His resurrection is not only the stamp of approval on his life but also the surety that we need ... he indeed is the Son of God and everything he taught us not only has validity but also fulfills the promise, that we who try to follow what he taught, will live a resurrected life too. That is why we cry out with joy: **Christ is Risen! He is truly Risen! Rejoice and be glad! Alleluia!**

~Rev. Msgr. Joseph Sobiesiak



WELCOME NEW PARISHIONERS

THANK YOU FOR JOINING OUR PARISH. WE ARE SO GLAD YOU ARE HERE!

Fr Glenn, and the entire St. Thomas Pastoral Staff wish to extend a warm welcome to our newest parishioners listed below. If we missed anyone who joined in the last three months, please let us know by calling our parish office at (352) 628-4723. We want you to please let us know how we may best serve your spiritual needs. It is our hope you will find an area in which to share a little of your time and talent with our parish family. More information on our church and ministries are located on our parish website @ www.MyStThomas.org. We also invite you to follow & “LIKE” us on [Facebook@MyStThomas.org](https://www.facebook.com/MyStThomas.org).

| | | | | | |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Mr. & Mrs. Michael Allison | Mrs. Susanne Baumgardner | Mr. & Mrs. Todd Boehm | Mr. & Mrs. Dalton Brannick | Mr. & Mrs. Chris Calli | Mr. & Mrs. John Chaplin |
| Mr. & Mrs. William Converse | Mr. & Mrs. Gene Dalton | Mr. & Mrs. Glen Feola | Mr. & Mrs. Eugene Finnegan | Mr. & Mrs. Stephen Forbes | Mr. & Mrs. Ed Fuchs |
| Mr. & Mrs. Steven Givens | Mr. & Mrs. James L. Goldade, Sr. | Ms. Doris Keyser | Mr. & Mrs. Richard Leitgeb | Mr. & Mrs. Edward Martin | Mr. & Mrs. John Pauley |
| Mr. Louis Rondinelli | Mrs. Joyce Schoonover | Ms. Maria Thibodeau | Robert Tomaselli | Denise Tromblee | Mr. & Mrs. Philip Turgati |
| Linda Unruh | Ms. Felicia Van Druff | Ms. Maureen Vazquez | Ms. Breanna Villa | Ann Wells | |

IN OUR PRAYERS

MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday, April 9

**8:00 am: In loving memory of
Pauline † & Joseph † Pafchek
and Family †**

Requested/Donated by: Daughter & Sister,
Norma Pafchek

10:30 am: Parish Family

Monday, April 10

8:00 am: Pat † & Duke † Templeton

Requested by: Mary Lou Robben

Tuesday, April 11

8:00 am: Dolores Mottle †

Requested by: Ruthann Pullen

Wednesday, April 12

8:00 am: Fr. Paul Lee

Requested by: Olivia Bruce Kosling

Thursday, April 13

8:00 am: John Maloney †

Requested by: Gael Palumbo

Friday, April 14

8:00 am: Sally McAulay †

Requested by: Kevin Dunn & Family

Saturday, April 15

4:30 pm: Parish Family

Sunday, April 16

8:00 am: Netti † & Ross † Frustaci

Requested by: Loving Family, The Pumas

10:30 am: David Solano †

Requested by: Margaret Velasquez



The Bread & Wine
for Sunday, April 9th
(8:00 am Mass)
are donated in loving memory of
Pauline † and Joseph † Pafchek
and Family †
by daughter & sister,
Norma Pafchek

DAILY READINGS, SAINTS, & OBSERVANCES



Sunday

(The Resurrection of the Lord)

Acts 10:34a, 37-43; Ps 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23;
Col 3:1-4 or 1 Cor 5:6b-8; Jn 20:1-9 or Mt 28:1-10
or Lk 24:13-35

Monday

Monday in the Octave of Easter

Acts 2:14, 22-33; Ps 16:1-2a and 5, 7-8, 9-10, 11;
Mt 28:8-15

Tuesday

Tuesday in the Octave of Easter

Acts 2:36-41; Ps 33:4-5, 18-19, 20 & 22;
Jn 20:11-18

Wednesday

Wednesday in the Octave of Easter

Acts 3:1-10; Ps 105:1-2, 3-4, 6-7, 8-9; Lk 24:13-35

Thursday

Thursday in the Octave of Easter

Acts 3:11-26; Ps 8:2ab and 5, 6-7, 8-9; Lk 24:35-48

Friday

Friday in the Octave of Easter

Acts 4:1-12; Ps 118:1-2 and 4, 22-24, 25-27a;
Jn 21:1-14

Saturday

Saturday in the Octave of Easter

Acts 4:13-21; Ps 118:1 & 14-15ab, 16-18, 19-21;
Mk 16:9-15

Sunday

Divine Mercy Sunday

Acts 2:42-47; Ps 118:2-4, 13-15, 22-24; 1 Pt 1:3-9;
Jn 20:19-31

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, 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, 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, Kerin Hedgcoxe, Pat Cleary, Mary Ann Zack, and our Website Prayer Requests.

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

Divine Mercy Sunday & Child Abuse Prevention & Holy Hour



All are invited to join us for the Northern Deanery celebration of the Feast of Divine Mercy. This year the celebration will be held on April 16 at 3:00 p.m. at St. Benedict Catholic Church, located at 455 South Suncoast Blvd in Crystal River.

Jesus told St. Maria Faustina Kowalska that this Feast of Mercy would be a very special day when "all the divine floodgates through which graces flow are opened" (Diary 699). Our Lord made a great promise to all those souls who would go to confession and receive Him in Holy Communion on the Feast of Mercy, the Second Sunday of Easter, which is now called Divine Mercy Sunday throughout the Catholic Church.

The celebration will include the Chaplet of Divine Mercy, Benediction, reading, prayer reflection, and a blessing of the Divine Mercy picture. You may bring your own image of the Divine Mercy to be blessed.

Participants are encouraged to attend regularly scheduled confessions and Sunday Mass at St. Thomas to fulfill the obligations for Divine Mercy Sunday.

From the *Respect Life Ministry* to you:

Protecting Our Children
April is Child Abuse Prevention Month

Child abuse remains a national problem. Abuse, even if is not fatal, robs a life and damages a child's spirit. It changes who that person is on a fundamental level. Victims are neglected, physically abused, sexually abused, and sex trafficked. For several years, rates of child abuse and child maltreatment had been either slowly declining or remaining stagnant. When the COVID-19 pandemic hit in early 2020, those rates began to rise.

Florida law requires any individual who suspects that a child has been abused by any person to report that to the Florida Abuse Hotline. Any allegations a child was abused or neglected by a caregiver will be investigated by the Department of Children and Families, while allegations of child abuse by someone other than a caregiver will be accepted at the Hotline and immediately electronically transferred to the appropriate local law enforcement agency where the child lives.

The Florida Abuse Hotline accepts reports 24 hours a day and 7 days a week of known or suspected child abuse, neglect, or abandonment and reports of known or suspected abuse, neglect, or exploitation of a vulnerable adult. If you suspect or know of a child or adult that is in immediate danger, call 911.

Abuse Hotline 1-800-962-2873 (800 96-ABUSE)

Report Online **CHILDREN:** <https://reportabuse.dcf.state.fl.us/Child/ChildForm.aspx>
ADULTS: <https://reportabuse.dcf.state.fl.us/Adult/AdultForm.aspx>

A hallmark of the Catholic Church is the protection of life and dignity of the human person. Through scripture and Catholic teachings, we are called to protect the life and dignity of all human persons no matter how young or old. Working to prevent and report child abuse is the responsibility of every Catholic. The United States Council of Catholic Bishops guides us in to actively accept this responsibility.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b6cW4YUsTIA>



Please join us on Thursday, April 13 for a Holy Hour of Adoration following the 8:00 am Mass.



ST. THOMAS MINISTRIES UPDATES & REMINDERS



The St. Thomas Society of St. Vincent de Paul has made collection schedule changes since last weekend's bulletin. The SVdP Money Collection will be next weekend, April 15/16, and the Food Collection will be on the weekend of April 22/23. Your continued support of SVdP is appreciated. **Thank you!**

St. Thomas Food Pantry

In this Sunday's Gospel, as we hear the story of the disciples on the road to Emmaus, we learn that our daily reaching out to our neighbor is our daily walk with the risen Christ; we recognize him in others.

In March, through your gifts, the Society of St. Vincent de Paul brought the love and care of Jesus to the Poor by assisting families and providing food.

Our Food Pantry had 114 Cases and distributed 3605 lbs. of food staples, bread & pastries, paper products, and personal hygiene supplies to help 298 people within our parish boundary. We had 23 volunteers who worked 77.5 hours. The volunteers also distributed gift cards, a man's dress suit, and other clothing items that were kindly donated.

This list below was prepared to give suggestions for Pantry items in short supply. We will continue to accept and appreciate all food items you kindly wish to donate.

Kidney Beans, Black Beans, Canned Meats,
Canned Fruit, Cereal, Pancake Mix, Syrup,
Pasta, Noodles, Diced Tomatoes,
Mayo Mustard, Ketchup,
Instant Potatoes, Rice,
Coffee, Tea, Powdered Milk, Evaporated Milk,
Crackers, Snacks,
Toothpaste, Toothbrushes, Deodorant,
Shampoo, Laundry Soap, Dish Soap,
Paper Towels, Toilet Paper, Kleenex, Napkins.

Because of your generosity, St Thomas the Apostle's Food Pantry continues to be a **Beacon of Hope** for many in our local area. **We Thank You!!**

May God continue to bless you for giving from your heart and allowing us the opportunity to serve and help the less fortunate.

NEXT WEEKEND: SATURDAY, APRIL 15

YOUTH FAITH FORMATION

9:00 am
to 11:00 am

CAR WASH

Donations
Appreciated

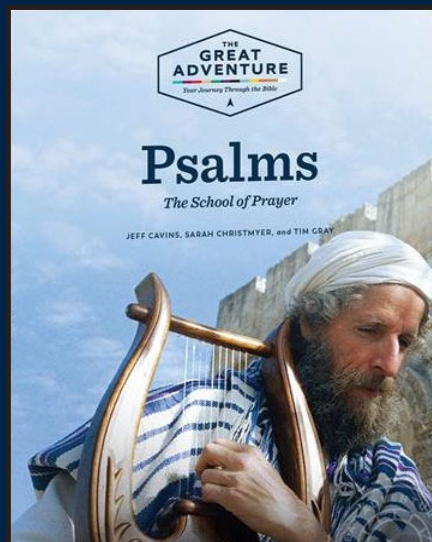


Bible Study with Deacon Mark

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.



CHURCH EVENTS & COLLECTIONS

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

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



| | | |
|--|--|---|
| Sunday, April 9: <i>The Resurrection of the Lord</i> <i>Happy Easter!</i> Collection: Easter Offering | 8:00 am 10:30 am | Easter Sunday Mass Easter Sunday Mass |
| Monday, April 10: | | Parish Office Closed : Easter Holiday |
| Tuesday, April 11: | 8:45 am | Holy Face Devotion |
| Wednesday, April 12: | 6:00 pm | Knights of Columbus Meeting |
| Thursday, April 13: | 8:30 am— 9:30 am 9:45 am 1:00 pm | Holy Hour of Adoration Flame of Love Prayer Group Bereavement Meeting |
| Saturday, April 15: | 8:00 am 9:00 am—11:00 am 3:15 pm—4:00 pm or by appt. 4:30 pm | Communion Only Service Youth Faith Formation Car Wash Reconciliation Vigil Mass |
| Sunday, April 16: <i>Divine Mercy Sunday</i> Collections: Catholic Ministry Appeal & SVdP Money Collection | 8:00 am 9:00 am—10:15 am 10:30 am 3:00 pm | Mass Youth Faith Formation Mass (Children's Mass) Divine Mercy Sunday at St. Benedict Catholic Church |



PRAYER FOR ANNA

ANNA

Lord, grant Anna the
forever home that she
deserves and strongly
desires.

Touch the hearts of her
future family and give them
courage and peace.



Be *Strong* and *Courageous*
Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged,
for the *Lord* your *God*
will be with you wherever you go.
—Joshua 1:9

More information can be found at:
www.heartgallerytampa.org

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



THANK YOU!

On behalf of Father Glenn, I must say how humbled I was at our first Love More Meeting on Monday, March 27. We had 23 sign-ups via email, and I expected a few more to show, and we ended up having 60 people attend, far above our expectations. We will have enough people for several teams.

We will have our first "Team Meeting" on Monday, April 17th, at 1:30 pm in St Martin's Hall. At that time, we will form our teams and assign a captain for each one. Rich Kopicki will chair this endeavor for St Thomas, and of course, I will also be a part of it. We are going to schedule a visit to the facility ahead of our first-time feeding God's children.

~ Deacon Mark

love more
Ministry



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



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- Craig Bennett, M.D. - General Ortho
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- 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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