



# ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE CHURCH

## HOMOSASSA, FLORIDA

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

Homosassa, FL 34446  
Fax: (352) 628-4723  
[www.MyStThomas.org](http://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](http://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

***SUNDAY, APRIL 23, 2023***





# TENDING GOD'S FLOCK

Karen Robben | 03 April 2023

*Third Sunday of Easter*



1. In Fr. Glenn's March 5 "Tending God's Flock", he mentioned that feedback received at our February Town Halls indicated that additional **Faith Formation classrooms** should be one of our highest priorities, potentially as mobile units. To help us discern our path forward, we invited Hung Pham, the Executive Director of Construction for the Diocese of St. Petersburg, to St. Thomas on March 20 to discuss the various approaches that we could take to meet our needs. We are following his recommendations and gaining additional data that will drive and inform our next steps. Stay tuned for further updates.

2. We set out to deepen our faith, as we journeyed through this past Lent. There was the "Best Lent Ever" and "Holy Moments", Stations of the Cross, and our Lenten Retreat with Benedictine monk and priest Rev. Lucius Amarillas, which was very well attended. The recurrent theme I found through all of this was **forgiveness**, and perhaps the most poignant was the forgiveness Jesus gave to those who were crucifying him. Jesus didn't forgive them with his last breath or when he rose from the dead. No, Jesus forgave his persecutors while they were persecuting him: "Father, forgive them, they know not what they do." (Luke 23:34). Jesus still offers his forgiveness today through his priests, for in the confessional, Jesus is there pouring out his mercy and love to all who ask.



3. In today's **gospel** (Lk 24:13-35), we encounter two of Jesus' disciples on the road to Emmaus. They headed out on the first day of the week, and during their walk, "Jesus himself drew near and walked with them". Jesus walked with them on the seven mile journey to Emmaus. He didn't watch them from a distance; he entered their lives and began a conversation with them. Jesus does the same for us. He is our companion on our journeys, and he will guide us and reveal himself to us if only we open our eyes.

## THIS SUNDAY.... FOLLOWING THE 10:30 am MASS:



**Making Your Funeral Arrangements Presentation** will be held after the 10:30 am Mass this 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 this 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!**



# ST. THOMAS MINISTRIES UPDATES & REMINDERS



## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR...

**Facility Maintenance/Garden Ministry:** We need volunteers to help clean & maintain our prayer garden. If interested in helping for 1 or 2 hours a month, please, contact our parish office.

**Liturgical Ministers (Altar Servers, Eucharistic Ministers, Lectors, Projectionists & Ushers).** We need volunteers to help in any capacity within our Liturgical Ministry during weekend Masses at St. Thomas. We also need Eucharistic Ministers to distribute communion to the sick, homebound, and those in the Assisted Living Facilities served by St. Thomas. If you can help, please call our parish office.

*The Respect Life Ministry (RLM)* would like to thank those who donated to the RLM's Rosary Raffle. Contributions totaled \$500! The proceeds will help sponsor presentations relative to respect life topics and organizations that assist those vulnerable to neglect and abuse.



The drawing will take place on May 6th at the First Saturday Rosary. Please join us at 9:00 am in the Meditation Garden to pray the rosary, the drawing will take place after the prayers.



The Women's Guild would like to thank the parishioners for their support of the Easter basket raffle. We were able to receive a total of **\$438.00** that will be used to pay for altar flowers not paid for by parishioners. The winners are as follows:



**Pasta Plus: Martin Faulmino**  
**Boys Only: Karen Driskelle**  
**Snack Attack: Tina Maffia**  
**Beach Prep: Emma Komenda**  
**Pretty in Pink: Julie Szucsik**  
**Take Me on a Trip: Betty Sanok**  
**Wine and Cheese: Carmen Faulmino**  
**Rest and Relax: Brenda Jeffres**  
**CONGRATULATIONS! & THANK YOU!**



# ALZ IN FAITH

St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic Church and the Alzheimer's Association invite you to attend a special programs to learn about Alzheimer's and other dementia.

### Understanding Alzheimer's and Dementia

Wednesday, May 3, 2023 | 3 p.m.

Alzheimer's disease is not a normal part of aging. Join us to learn about the impact of Alzheimer's, the difference between Alzheimer's and dementia, the stages and risk factors, current research and treatments available for some symptoms, and Alzheimer's Association resources.

### Effective Communication Strategies

Wednesday, May 17, 2023 | 3 p.m.

Join us to explore how communication changes when someone is living with Alzheimer's, learn how to interpret the verbal and behavioral communication, and identify strategies to help you connect and communicate at each stage of the disease.

Guest Speaker: LuAnn Cambino, Alzheimer's Community Educator

*The Church is located at 7040 S. Suncoast Blvd. Homosassa, FL 34446*

800.272.3900 | [alz.org](https://alz.org)





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



We are grateful to everyone who placed a donation in one of our church poor boxes between Ash Wednesday and Palm Sunday. This year's Lenten Poor Box collection totaled \$4000 and included a match donation of \$500 from the church. At last weekend's Vigil Mass, Fr. Glenn presented a check for \$2000 to Bill Scarfo, President of the St. Thomas St. Vincent DePaul Society. Fr. Glenn also announced last weekend and again with Deacon Mark at a recent Love More Ministry Volunteer Meeting that the other \$2000 collected would be distributed to help kick start this newly formed St. Thomas ministry. Both ministries will use the money to help care for and feed the poor living in our local community. In addition, Fr. Glenn announced the \$1000 collected during the Holy Thursday Mass will be given to a charity to be determined.

**Thank you! We are so blessed to have so many generous and caring parishioners at St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic Church.**

*"Whoever cares for the poor lends to the Lord, who will pay back the sum in full." ~Proverbs 19:17 (nabre)*



love more  
Ministry



**Welcome & Congratulations!**

Last weekend St. Thomas the Apostle parish welcomed Fr. Courage Dogbey from Ghana. Fr. Courage came to our parish to baptize his nieces, Genaya & Adelina Tengey. Congratulations to Walter & Martin Tengey (parents), Juan & Frances Rodriguez (godparents), and the children on receiving the Sacrament of Baptism on Divine Mercy Sunday.

Fr. Courage is also pictured to the right with Fr. Glenn at last weekend's Vigil Mass and standing in front of the Altar after he celebrated the 10:30 am Sunday Mass. We thank Fr. Courage for celebrating Mass and preaching the Word of God with so much faith, inspiration, and love of God and all of God's children.



# IN OUR PRAYERS

## MASS INTENTIONS

### Sunday, April 23

8:00 am: Parish Family

10:30 am: Antonio Del Nero †

Requested by: Helen Del Nero

### Monday, April 24

8:00 am: Mario Pecchia

Requested by: Joseph & Beverly McEvoy

### Tuesday, April 25

8:00 am: Dolores Mottle †

Requested by: Norma Pafchek

### Wednesday, April 26

8:00 am: Doris Barbieri †

Requested by: Jane Chapin

### Thursday, April 27

8:00 am: Claire Ballaban †

Requested by: Karen Ballaban

### Friday, April 28

8:00 am: Michael Corrao

Requested by: Marguerite Corrao

### Saturday, April 29

8:00 am: John Schell †

Requested by: Julia Szucsik

### Sunday, April 30

8:00 am: Parish Family

10:30 am: Mary Marino †

Requested by: Husband (Robert) and Children

## DAILY READINGS, SAINTS, & OBSERVANCES

### Sunday *Third Sunday of Easter*

Acts 2:14, 22-33; Ps 16:1-2, 5, 7-8, 9-10, 11;  
1 Pt 1:17-21; Lk 24:13-35

### Monday *Memorial of St. Fidelis of Sigmaringen, Priest and Martyr*

Acts 6:8-15; Ps 119:23-24, 26-27, 29-30; Jn 6:22-29

### Tuesday *Feast of Saint Mark, Evangelist*

1 Pt 5:5b-14; Ps 89:2-3, 6-7, 16-17; Mk 16:15-20



### Wednesday Acts 8:1b-8; Ps 66:1-3a, 4-5, 6-7a; Jn 6:35-40

### Thursday Acts 8:26-40; Ps 66:8-9, 16-17, 20; Jn 6:44-51

### Friday *Memorial of St. Peter Chanel, Priest and Martyr & St. Louis Mary de Montfort, Priest*

Acts 9:1-20; Ps 117: 1bc, 2; Jn 6:52-59

### Saturday *Memorial of Saint Catherine of Siena, Virgin and Doctor of the Church*

Acts 9:31-42; Ps 116:12-13, 14-15, 16-17; Jn 6:60-69

### Sunday *Fourth Sunday of Easter*

Acts 2:14a, 36-41; Ps 23: 1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6;  
1 Pt 2:20b-25; Jn 10:1-10



## 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, Kerin Hedgcoxe, Pat Cleary, Mary Ann Zack, Arria Wheeler, Kathy Farrell, Jim Crouse, Andy Lunk, Sarah Phillips, and our Website Prayer Requests. **To add or remove someone from our parish prayer list, please contact the parish office.**



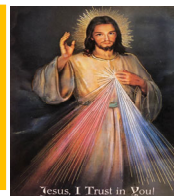


# CHURCH EVENTS & COLLECTIONS

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

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

*Together We Pray!*



<b>Sunday, April 23:</b> <b>Collection: SVdP Food Collection</b>	8:00 am 9:00 am—10:15 am 10:30 am 11:45 am	Mass Youth Faith Formation Mass Funeral Planning Presentation
<b>Monday, April 24:</b>	10:00 am	Bible Study "The Psalms"
<b>Tuesday, April 25:</b>	8:45 am	Holy Face Devotion
<b>Thursday, April 27:</b>	  8:30 am— 9:30 am 9:45 am 1:00 pm	Holy Hour of Adoration Flame of Love Prayer Group Bereavement Meeting
<b>Saturday, April 29:</b>	8:00 am 3:15 pm—4:00 pm or by appt. 4:30 pm	Communion Only Service Reconciliation Vigil Mass
<b>Sunday, April 30: Good Shepherd Sunday</b> <b>Collections: Catholic School &amp; Camp and</b> <b>Mother's Day</b>	8:00 am 9:00 am—10:15 am 10:30 am	Mass Youth Faith Formation Mass

## YOUTH FAITH FORMATION NOTIFICATION:

The Communion Retreat and Practice will be held on Saturday, May 6th from 10:00 am to Noon.

**The Mother's Day Mass Envelope Collection** is scheduled for next weekend (April 29/30). Please print the name of the person or persons you would like us to pray for during the Mother's Day Masses on **May 14**. Check one of the boxes "In Memory or Honor of " to the right of each line (see photo below). Please place the envelope with your donation in the basket during next weekend's second collection.

You can find these envelopes this weekend in the church narthex (lobby).



## ONLINE GIVING

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ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE CHURCH  
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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](http://give.mystthomas.org/give)

*We are grateful for your support!*



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



You are invited to help support our Parish!  
 For opportunities to advertise, please call 800-997-4986



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