



ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE CHURCH

HOMOSASSA, FLORIDA

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Homosassa, FL 34446
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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

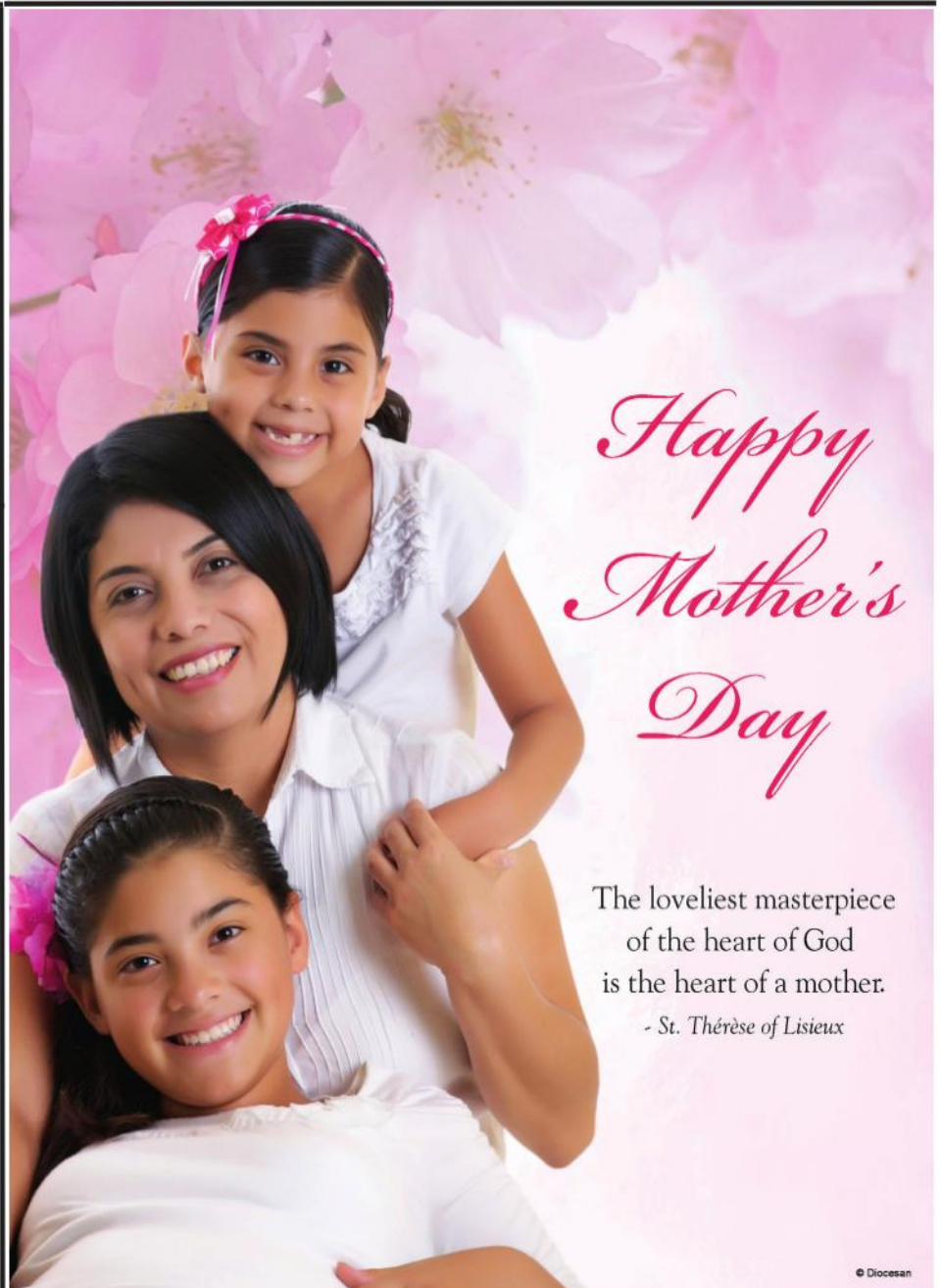
Joseph McEvoy: Pastoral Assistant

Michelle Kim-Painter: Music Director

Alfred Papino: Bookkeeper; Cantor,
& Lead Accompanist

Pauline Papino: Sacristan

Karen Robben: Office and
Communications Manager



The loveliest masterpiece
of the heart of God
is the heart of a mother.

- St. Thérèse of Lisieux

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SUNDAY, May 14, 2023

TENDING GOD'S FLOCK for

Sixth Sunday of Easter, Year A

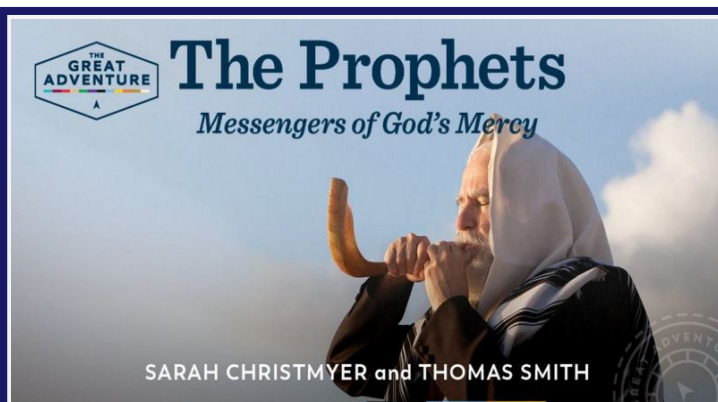
By Fr. Glenn / written on 11 April 2023



1. Today is **Mother's Day**, the day when we pay tribute to the women who have greatly influenced us in our lives, namely: our very own mothers. We honor Mary during the month of May not only because she is the mother of Jesus, but also because she is our mother, too. What many fail to realize is that the Church is also our mother. St. Cyprian once said, "No one can have God as Father who does not have the Church as mother." The Church may not be exactly a perfect mother, but certainly one worth celebrating. **HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY!**

2. Let me bring you up to speed on our plan to build a **modular classroom** for Faith Formation. More and more younger families with young children are joining our parish. We need to prepare for a future with more kids enrolled. That's why it was decided during our Town Hall meeting that we should build a (modular) classroom to accommodate a growing number of Faith Formation kids. As of this writing (April 11), we are getting a site survey to establish the boundaries and plot the location of the buildings on our property. This will help us determine the best location of the classroom. We plan to get proposals from at least three providers and discuss these proposals during a Finance Council meeting. Then we will get permission from the bishop for us to embark on this project. Finally, we will determine ways to raise money to finance this project. Stay tuned. We can do this!

3. In today's **gospel** (John 14:15-21), we find Jesus saying goodbye to his disciples: "If you love me, you will keep my commandments." There is only one test of love: obedience (which means, keeping God's commandments). In giving us the commandment of love, Jesus also promises us to send us the Holy Spirit – the advocate, our consoler, our guide, our teacher, and our defender. It is the Holy Spirit that makes it possible for us to love God and to love one another.



Bible Study on THE PROPHETS

*We invite you to join a new bible study –
The Prophets: Messengers of God's Mercy.*

The prophets are individuals chosen by God to speak on his behalf. They urge us to repentance, warn us of the dangers of sin, and announce the blessings of faithfulness.


Facilitated by Fr. Glenn, this bible study consists of ten sessions which last about 1.5 hours per session. Each session will begin at 10:00 am. Each

participant will need a workbook (\$27.95) which contains engaging study questions, talk notes, and the Bible Timeline Chart. This bible study will begin on September 11, so register early.

For more information, please contact our parish office.



God Bless Our Mothers. Today and always, we are thankful to all mothers in our parish family.
Happy Mother's Day!



God took the fragrance
of a flower...
The majesty of a tree...
The gentleness of
morning dew...
The calm of a quiet sea...
The beauty
of the twilight hour...
The soul
of a starry night...
The laughter of a
rippling brook...
The grace of a bird
in flight...
Then God fashioned
from these things
A creation like no other,
And when his
masterpiece was through
He called it simply -
Mother.

~Herbert Farnham

In Honor of Our Mothers

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ST. THOMAS MINISTRIES UPDATES/REMINDERS and ANNA



In the Gospel today, Jesus says to us: *"If you love me, you will keep my commandments...Whoever loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love him and reveal myself to him."*

When we give to the poor, God indeed pours his love, peace and joy into our hearts, into our lives and through us, into the hearts of those who are poor.

In April, 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 105 cases and distributed 3193 lbs. of food staples, paper products, cleaning supplies, and personal hygiene supplies to **help 293 needy people** within our parish boundary. We had 18 volunteers (6 stocking items and 12 distributing food) who worked 62.5 hours. Volunteers distributed other donated items: one lamp, one T-shirt, one pair of boots, ten pair of socks, and bread & pastries.

Due to the significant increase of the less fortunate seeking help, our Food Pantry shelves are running low. The list below was prepared to give you suggestions on items that are in short supply on our Pantry shelves. We will continue to accept and appreciate all food items you kindly wish to donate.

Pasta Sauce, Pasta Noodles, Rice, Mac and Cheese, Instant Potatoes, Instant Coffee, Tea, Crackers, Snacks and Drinks, Powdered Milk and Evaporated Milk, Canned Fruit, Canned Meats, Ketchup, Mayo, Mustard, Laundry Soap, Dish Soap, Body Wash, Shampoo, Bar Soap, Toothpaste, Toothbrushes, Toilet Paper, Paper Towels, Kleenex, and Napkins

The next Food Collection will be on the weekend of May 20 & 21.

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.



Women's Guild Elections

At the April 19th meeting of the Women's Guild, Brenda Jeffres was elected President. Jane Chapin will continue as Treasurer, and Vivian Rothe as Recording Secretary.

We thank Olivia Bruce Kosling for all her accomplishments as Past-President of the Guild.



An Invitation

It's Teatime! The Women's Guild of St. Thomas the Apostle cordially invites you to our annual Tea Party this Wednesday, May 17, 2023, at 1:00 P.M. in St. Martin's Hall.

***Come join us for food, fun, and fellowship!
Looking forward to seeing you there!***

Please RSVP Brenda Jeffres at 352-422-7755.



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**

IN OUR PRAYERS

MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday, May 14

8:00 am: All Mothers

10:30 am: All Mothers

Monday, May 15

8:00 am: Manuel Gomez †

Requested by: Rhody & Family

Tuesday, May 16

8:00 am: Paul St. Pierre †

Requested by: Julie Szucsik

Wednesday, May 17

8:00 am: Intentions of Jeanne & Rich
Kopicki

Requested by: Anonymous

Thursday, May 18

8:00 am: Patricia Miakinin†

Requested by: Cindy Kessler

Friday, May 19

8:00 am: Bill Robben †

Requested by: Mary Lou Robben

Saturday, May 20

4:30 pm: Parish Family

Sunday, May 21

8:00 am: Adeline Morrow †

Requested by: Loving Son George & Family

10:30 am: Patti Baynon †

Requested by: Joseph & Beverly McEvoy

DAILY READINGS, SAINTS, & OBSERVANCES

Sunday *Sixth Sunday of Easter*

Acts 8:5-8, 14-17; Ps 66:1-3, 4-5, 6-7, 16, 20; 1Pt 3:15-18;
Jn 14:15-21

Monday *Memorial of St. Isidore the Farmer*

Acts 16:11-15; Ps 149:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6a and 9b; Jn 15:26—16:4

Tuesday Acts 16:22-34; Ps 138:1-2ab, 2cde-3, 7c-8;

Jn 16:5-11

Wednesday Acts 17:15, 22—18:1; Ps 148:1-2, 11-12, 13, 14; Jn 16:12-15

Thursday *Saint John I, Pope and Martyr*

Acts 18:1-8; Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4; Jn 16:16-20

Friday Acts 18:9-18; Ps 47:2-3, 4-5, 6-7; Jn 16:20-23

Saturday *Saint Bernardine of Siena, Priest, Religious*

Acts 18:23-28; Ps 47:2-3, 8-9, 10; Jn 16:23b-28

Sunday *Ascension of the Lord*

Acts 1:1-11; Ps 47:2-3, 6-7, 8-9; Eph 1:17-23; Mt 28:16-20



The **Bread and Wine** at this
Sunday 10:30 am Mass are donated
in celebration of

**Sandy & Rick Mueller's
40th Wedding Anniversary**

By: Sister & Sister-in-Law, Karen Ballaban



LORD, GRACIOUSLY HEAR OUR PRAYERS

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

Karl Wolf, Ethan Grayshan, Rita & Art Frisbie, Virginia Kanis, Scott Klaben, Mike Jablonsky, Kerrie Schmidt, Charles Terreault, Gordon Gould, Christine Gicola, Skip Guss, Elizabeth Dostal, Msgr. Joseph Sobiesiak, Norma Galvin, Wendell Miller, Joseph Hertrich, Michelle LaGrecia, 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, Peggy Paul, Sheila Greifenkamp, Pat Allard, Philip Porter III, and our Website Prayer Requests.

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



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.

Effective Communication Strategies
Wednesday, May 17, 2023 | 3 p.m.

This Week

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

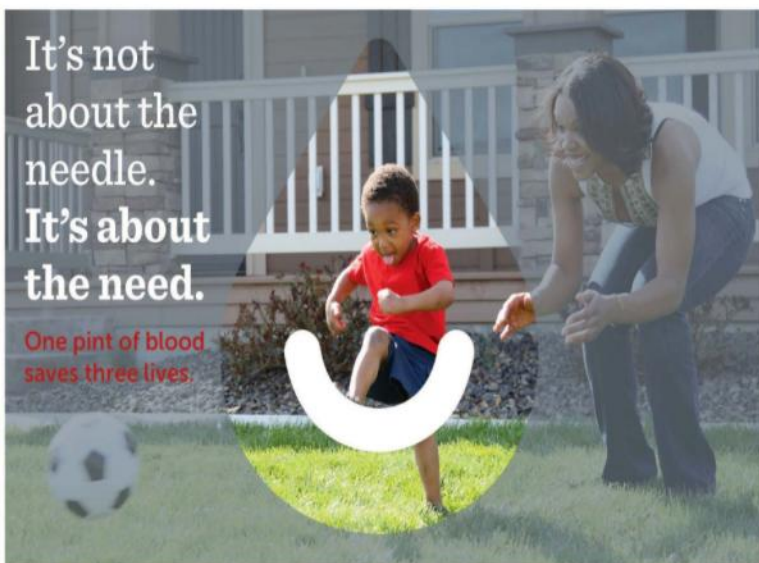
The Church is located at 7040 S. Suncoast Blvd. Homosassa, FL 34446

800.272.3900 | alz.org



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One pint of blood
saves three lives.



Visit the **Donor Portal** to find a drive or make an appointment at lifesouth.org

Give local. Save local.

St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic Church
& Knights of Columbus Council 15154
Blood Drive



Sunday, May 28

8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

→ All donors will receive a \$20 gift card. ←



All blood donors will get a
\$20 e-gift card!

All donors will receive a recognition item and a free cholesterol screening. Donors must be 16 or older, weigh at least 110 pounds, and show photo I.D. 16-year-olds require written parental permission.

LIFESOUTH
Community Blood Centers

THE RESPECT LIFE MINISTRY ROSARY RAFFLE WINNER



Fr. Glenn picked the winner randomly for the *Respect Life Ministry* Rosary Raffle Drawing on May 6th, following the First Saturday Rosary. Congratulations to the wife of Deacon Mark, Josephine Manko!

We appreciate all who supported this raffle.

Pictured on the left and from left to right are: Anita Marshall (RLM Leader), Deacon Mark, Josephine Manko (winner) and Jack Marshall.



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, May 14: Mother's Day Collections: SVdP Money Collection	9:00 am—10:15 am 10:30 am 11:45 am—2:30 pm	Youth Faith Formation Class Mass (Children's Mass) Love More Ministry (Rich Kopicki's Team B)
Monday, May 15:	10:00 am	Bible Study "The Psalms"
Tuesday, May 16:	8:45 am 10:00 am	Holy Face Devotion The Knitting Circle
Wednesday, May 17:	1:00 pm 3:00 pm 4:30 pm	Women's Guild Tea Party Effective Communication Strategies: Alzheimer's Presentation SVdP Meeting
Thursday, May 18:	8:45 am 1:00 pm	Flame of Love Prayer Group Bereavement Meeting
Saturday, May 20:	8:00 am 3:15 pm—4:00 pm or by appt.	Communion Only Service Reconciliation
Sunday, May 21: Ascension of the Lord Collections: Catholic Ministry Appeal and SVdP Food Collection	8:00 am 10:30 am	Mass Mass

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Saint Leo University is ranked one of the best universities in Florida. The University offers an unparalleled liberal arts education grounded in rich Catholic traditions. More than 1,800 Saint Leo students live and study at the beautiful lakeside campus in east Pasco County.

Bishop Parkes, a member of the Saint Leo University Board of Trustees, has asked that the attached ad with QR Code be included in all parish bulletins. If you would like to share details on the University with potential Saint Leo students, please refer them to this link for more

information: <https://www.saintleo.edu/future-students>

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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

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We are grateful for your support!



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Sunday Bulletin



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 CenterForBoneAndJoint.com

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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