



ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE CHURCH

HOMOSASSA, FLORIDA

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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

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY
in Ordinary Time

*This is why I speak to them in
parables, because 'they look but do
not see and hear but do not listen
or understand.'*

Matthew 13:13

SUNDAY, JULY 16, 2023



TENDING GOD'S FLOCK

16 July 2023 | 15th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A



1. **St. Joseph, secondary patron:** I've noticed that quite a good number of our parishioners has this deep devotion to St. Joseph, the husband of Mary and foster father of Jesus. For the past three years in a row, we have celebrated the feast of St. Joseph on March 19th as a solemnity, highlighted by parishioners partaking of a sumptuous spread from St. Joseph's Table right after mass. That is why a couple of weeks ago I petitioned Bishop Parkes to declare St. Joseph, the husband of Mary, as the **secondary patron saint** of our parish. During his recent visit to our parish last July 2nd, Bishop Parkes clarified that there is really no need for him to make such a formal declaration. He encouraged us to continue our devotion to St. Joseph, without neglecting our devotion to our Lord, our Blessed Mother, and to our principal patron, St. Thomas the Apostle.

2. **New mass schedule:** I received a request from some parishioners for us to have an evening mass on weekdays. This is in consideration of some parishioners who cannot attend the morning mass because they have to work. After considering the logistics of this request, I decided that starting August 17th, Thursday, there will be a **6:00 pm mass** in our parish. Of course, we will continue to have an 8:00 am mass on Thursdays as usual. We are doing this just on an experimental basis. After a couple of weeks, we will re-evaluate to determine if there's a need for some evening services.

3. The first thing we notice in the **parable of the sower** in today's gospel (Matthew:1-23) is the extravagance shown by the sower who scattered seeds with no consideration where the seeds may fall. Why would the sower waste his seeds on areas where they have no chance of growing? God's word is likened to a seed because it has its own dynamism: it grows. But it needs a rich and fertile soil, where the word of God could be sown, nurtured, and allowed to grow. We are that soil, God is the sower, and the seed is God's word. What kind of soil are we? How can we till the soil of our hearts and minds, so the seeds of God's word will find a fertile ground in us to produce a rich harvest?

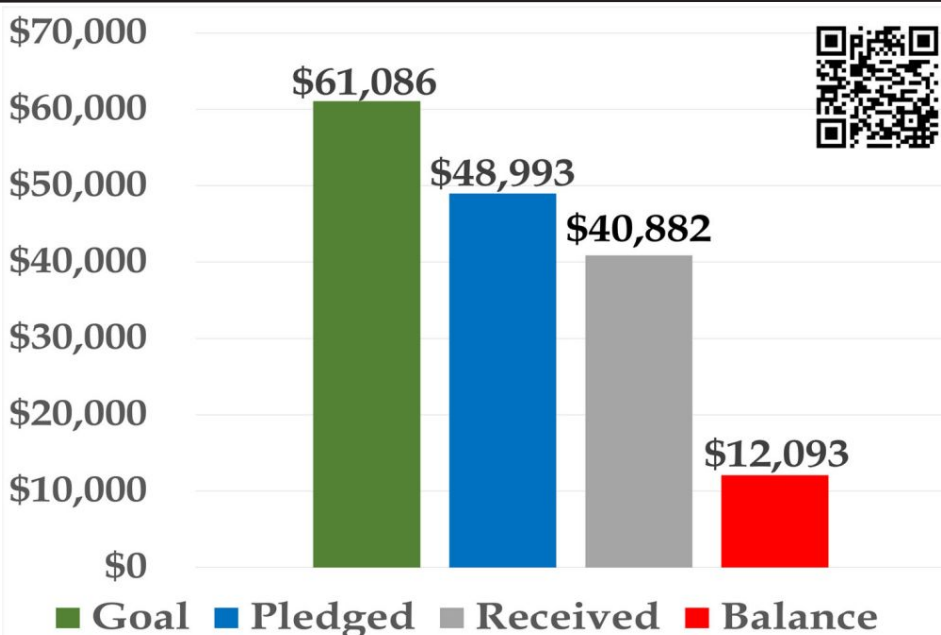
Fr Glenn | 4 July 2023

Catholic Ministry Appeal

As of July 10, 2023,
234 pledges were made
totaling \$48,993 that is over 80%
of our goal of \$61,086. Thank you
for helping us achieve this
milestone!

To date, the 2023 Catholic
Ministry Appeal has exceeded
\$7.5 million in commitments from
more than 18,000 households.

You can make one or more
donations by submitting
a CMA monthly church
collection envelope,
[visiting givetoministry.dosp.org](https://www.givetoministry.dosp.org) or
by scanning the QR code in the
upper right corner of the graph.



NATIONAL EUCHARISTIC REVIVAL // BIBLE STUDY w/ FR. GLENN



NATIONAL Eucharistic Revival



The Catechism of the Catholic Church has a section devoted to the Eucharist, specifically Part 2: Section 2: Chapter 1: Article 3: Paragraphs 1322 to 1419. In it, the Catechism tells us that the Eucharist is: “the source and summit of the Christian life” (1324); “the whole Christ is truly, really, and substantially contained” (1374); and that “The Eucharistic presence of Christ

begins at the moment of the consecration and endures as long as the Eucharistic species subsist” (1377). But, how long is that?

I heard an interesting story about St. Philip Neri (1515-1595). One day when presiding at Mass, St. Philip Neri saw a man leave the church immediately after communion. So he sent two altar boys with lighted candles to follow him. When the man noticed the acolytes following him, he returned to the church to ask why they were sent after him. St. Philip Neri replied, “We have to pay proper respect to Our Lord, Whom you are carrying away with you. Since you neglect to adore Him, I sent two acolytes to take your place.”

Based on science, the Eucharistic species of bread is assumed to remain in us for about 15 minutes after reception. Saints have recommended offering this time of prayer after receiving the Eucharist as a thanksgiving to God, because it is a special time when we can commune with Jesus, feel Him within us, and savor His presence. Unless it is an exception or an emergency, one should refrain from leaving immediately after communion.

Here are a few quotes from the saints:

St. John Paul II:

“The faithful are to be recommended not to omit to make a proper thanksgiving after Communion. They may do this during the celebration with a period of silence, with a hymn, psalm or other song of praise, or also after the celebration, if possible by staying behind to pray for a suitable time.”

St. Louis de Montfort:

“I would not give up this hour of Thanksgiving even for an hour of Paradise.”

St. Alphonsus Liguori:

“There is no prayer more agreeable to God, or more profitable to the soul than that which is made during the thanksgiving after Communion.”

St. Josemaria Escriva:

“Surely you have nothing so important on that you cannot give Our Lord 10 minutes to say thanks. Love is repaid with love.”

By Karen M. Robben



The Prophets *Messengers of God's Mercy*

SARAH CHRISTMYER and THOMAS SMITH

Bible Study on THE PROPHETS: Moved to Wednesdays now starting September 13 through December 13th.

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 begins at 10:00 a.m. and last about 1.5 hours per session. 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 13, so register early. For more information, please contact our parish office.

IN OUR PRAYERS

MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday, July 16

8:00 am: Kathi Warrington † ,

Richard & Bonnie Ludwig †

Requested by: Their Family, the Windmillers

10:30 am: Dante' Abbene †

Requested by: Frances Gaudes

Monday, July 17

8:00 am: Bill Robben †

Requested by: Mary Lou Robben

Tuesday, July 18

8:00 am: John Shirilla †

Requested by: Carol Housteau

Wednesday, July 19

8:00 am: Uncle Eddie Pafchik †

Requested by: Niece, Norma Pafchek

Thursday, July 20

8:00 am: Wedding

Anniversary of

Helen & Gene

Koczur



Friday, July 21

8:00 am: Watson Family

Requested by: Bertha Watson

Saturday, July 22

4:30 pm: Fr. Gus Ignasimuta

Requested by: Olivia Bruce Kosling

Sunday, July 23

8:00 am: Carrina La Porte †

Requested by: Laurie Jo & Susan Brignola

10:30 am: Parish Family

DAILY READINGS, SAINTS, & OBSERVANCES

Sunday

Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Is 55:10-11; Ps 65:10, 11, 12-13, 14;

Rom 8:18-23; Mt 13:1-23 or Mt 13:1-9

Monday

Ex 1:8-14, 22; Ps 124:1b-3, 4-6, 7-8;

Mt 10:34 – 11:1

Tuesday

Memorial of Saint Camillus de Lellis, Priest

Ex 2:1-15a; Ps 69:3, 14, 30-31, 33-34;

Mt 11:20-24

Wednesday

Ex 3:1-6, 9-12; Ps 103:1b-2, 3-4, 6-7;

Mt 11:25-27

Thursday

Ex 3:13-20; Ps 105:1 & 5, 8-9, 24-25, 26-27;

Mt 11:28-30

Friday

Memorial of Saint Lawrence of Brindisi, Priest and Doctor of the Church

Ex 11:10 – 12:14; Ps 116:12-13, 15 & 16bc,

17-18; Mt 12:1-8

Saturday

Feast of Saint Mary Magdalene

Sgs 3:1-4b or 2 Cor 5:14-17; Ps 63:2, 3-4, 5-6,

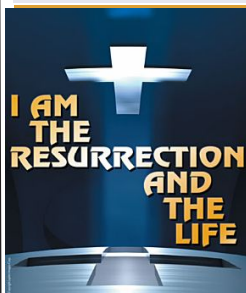
8-9; Jn 20:1-2, 11-18

Sunday

Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Wis 12:13, 16-19; Ps 86:5-6, 9-10, 15-16;

Rom 8:26-27; Mt 13:24-43 or Mt 13:24-30



**LET US PRAY FOR THE ETERNAL
REPOSE OF THE SOULS OF
OUR PARISHIONERS:**

Gordon Gould † July 3, 2023

Arthur Frisbie † June 22, 2023

"We have loved them during life; let us not abandon them in death, until we have conducted them by our prayers into the house of the Lord." — St. Ambrose



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 Frisbie, Virginia Kanis, Scott Klaben, Kerrie Schmidt, Mike Jablonsky, Stephanie St. Clair, Mary Ann DeSimone, Charles Terreault, Christine Gicola, Skip Guss, Elizabeth Dostal, Anthony Cimorelli, Ron Rothe, Marguerite Corrao, Rusty Ryal, Norma Galvin, Wendell Miller, Joseph Hertrich, Michelle LaGreca, Sutton Hotard, Charles Harvey, Betty Parker, David Cheevers, Joseph & Gail Carey, Deacon Vince Small, Raymond Huffman, Tony Caposieno, Wade Wolfe, Samantha Wasley, Don Harnett, Nick Russo, Frank Watson, Peggy Lingrosso, Pat Cleary, Mary Ann Zack, Arria Wheeler, Kathy Farrell, Jim Crouse, Andy Lunk, Sarah Phillips, Peggy Paul, Sheila Greifenkamp, Pat Allard, Philip Porter III, Phyllis Fylak, Sandy Mueller, Richard and Lorraine Kwiecienski, Sandy Marecki, Linda DeWitt, Neill Aiken, Peg Laurie, Sheyna Clements, Jim Duncan, and our Website Prayer Requests.

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

THURSDAY EVENING MASS // LOVE MORE MINISTRY

Mass Schedule Addition

To continue to foster eucharistic revival in our parish, Fr. Glenn mentioned that one of the new initiates we are starting at St. Thomas the Apostle is celebrating an evening Mass once a week.

Starting Thursday, August 17th, we will add an evening Mass every Thursday at 6:00 pm until September 28th. If this Mass gains traction, it will continue, and other evening activities will be added, such as bible study, adoration, etc.

Don't hesitate to contact the parish office if you are interested in requesting a Mass intention for these Thursday evening Masses: **August 17, 24, 31, September 7, 14, 21, and 28th.** ←

For those unable to make the daily 8:00 am Mass, we hope you will be pleased with this initiative and attend the Thursday evening Mass weekly beginning August 17th.



On Sunday, July 9th, our Love More Ministry Team D, Cindy Russo, Team Captain, served 25 meals and 18 - 20 take-out meals for those in need. Also, a young man came in barefoot and shirtless, and the team worked together to assist. They provided him with a shirt, and Cindy Gilmore ran to Walmart and bought him a pack of socks and flip-flops. He had a wonderful smile on his face when he left. What a blessing!

Fr. Glenn is proud of all our Love More Ministry volunteers. He said, ***"Thank you all for seeing the face of Christ in the hungry and homeless."***



Photo left to right: Carol Mosier, Nick & Cindy Russo, Willie Erana, Beverly McEvoy, Father Glenn, Evelyn Erana, Cindy Gilmore, Robin & Bill Converse and Joseph McEvoy.

Our Love More Ministry Team E, Captain Steve Eberhart, will be serving the homeless and hungry on Sunday, August 13.

ST. THOMAS MINISTRIES

FAITH FORMATION CLASSES 2023-2024

Registration is now open for the
2023 - 2024

Youth Faith Formation Season.
There will be a parent meeting on
Tuesday, August 22, at 7:00 pm.
in St. Martin Hall.

Please contact Robin Furciato at
RobinF@mystthomas.org
or (352) 628-7000
for more information.

The **KNITTING CIRCLE** of St. Thomas welcomes all parishioners who knit, crochet, or who would like to learn to join us! We make prayer shawls, lap robes, and baby items for donation to local charities. We meet once a month on the third Tuesday from 10 am - 12 pm in St. Martin's Hall. **Our next meeting is on July 18.** Contact the office or join one of our meetings if you have any questions.



ARIMATHEAN MINISTRY

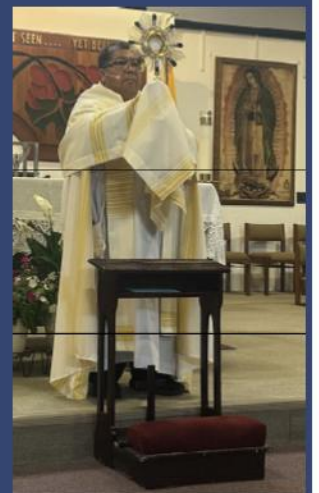
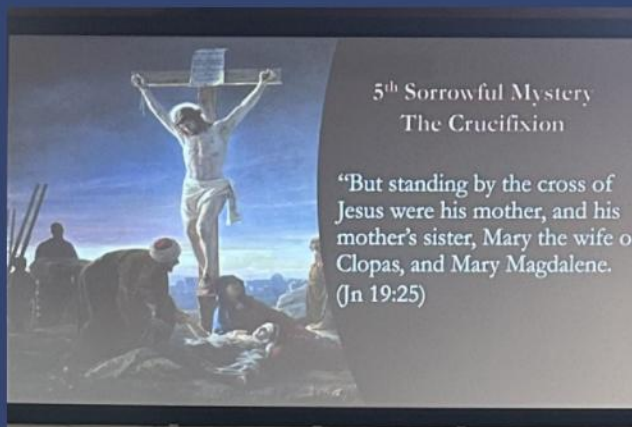
Arimatheans help those parishioners who are in the grieving process and who may have little or no family in the area. Those who sign up for this ministry are volunteering to attend the funeral Mass of parishioners as they are able. You'll be notified when there is a funeral in the church; if you are able, you would attend and represent the St. Thomas the Apostle parish family in supporting the family of the deceased with your presence. Please contact the office if you are interested.



The Knights of Columbus, St. Thomas Council 15154

The St. Thomas Knights of Columbus hold a Holy Hour on the First Friday of the month between 11:00 am - 12:00 pm.

During the Holy Hour on July 7th, they sat in quiet prayer for a while and together prayed the Five Sorrowful Mysteries of the Holy Rosary, recited the Litany of St. Joseph, Prayer for the Canonization of the Blessed Michael McGivney, founder of the Knights of Columbus, and many other prayers.



The Knights of Columbus, St. Thomas Council 15154, invites all Catholic men to join our Council and to learn more about us. The Council meets on the second Wednesday of each month from 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm.

EVENTS & COLLECTIONS // ALTAR FLOWERS // ONLINE GIVING

The church is open Monday through Thursday from 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. for personal prayer time. Access to the church is available through the rear door, directly across from the entrance to the office.

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, July 16: Collections: Catholic Ministry Appeal and SVdP Food Collection	8:00 am 10:30 am	Mass Mass
Monday, July 17:	8:00 am 9:00 am—3:00 pm	Mass YFF Vacation Bible School
Tuesday, July 18:	8:00 am 8:45 am 10:00 am—Noon	Mass Holy Face Devotion The Knitting Circle
Wednesday, July 19:	8:00 am 9:00 am—3:00 pm	Mass YFF Vacation Bible School
Thursday, July 20: 	8:30 am—9:30 am 9:45 am 1:00 pm	Holy Hour Flame of Love Prayer Group Bereavement Meeting
Friday, July 21:	8:00 am 9:00 am—3:00 pm	Mass YFF Vacation Bible School
Saturday, July 22: 	8:00 am 11:00 am 3:15 - 4:00 pm or by appt. 4:30 pm	Communion Only Service Baptism: Jameson Martin Reconciliation Vigil Mass
Sunday, July 23:	8:00 am 10:30 am	Mass Mass



**This week's Altar Flowers
are donated by
the Women's Guild.**
Thank you!



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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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