



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

17th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
JULY 30, 2023

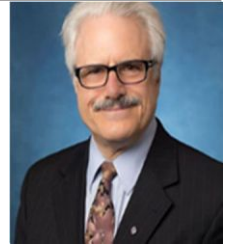
What is your
pearl?





TENDING GOD'S FLOCK

30 July 2023 | 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A



1. First of all, I would like to thank everyone for their congratulations and well wishes on my commissioning after finishing the **Lay Pastoral Ministry Institute** (LPMI) program last June 20th at the cathedral. Those four years of LPMI formation have been challenging, but at the same time also very rewarding for me. I would highly recommend LPMI for anyone interested in learning more about the Catholic faith and in serving the local church as a lay minister. If this is something you think you would be interested in, please call the office to make an appointment with Fr. Glenn. The program begins with the Year of Discernment, and classes for this year start in September.

2. Beginning in September, our parish will distribute communion under **both species of bread and wine**. The Eucharist is the source and summit of our Christian faith and it is a treasure we value. In the eucharist, we have our Lord truly, really, and substantially present – body and blood, soul and divinity. To be able to do this properly, we need more volunteers to serve as Eucharistic Ministers at every weekend mass. There are seven positions for Eucharistic Ministers at the weekend masses, including the priest and deacon: four for the host, and three for the cup. We can't do this without you! Please prayerfully consider volunteering, and we will train you. It is a very rewarding experience to be able to share our Lord with others. Kindly contact the parish office to volunteer.

3. In today's **gospel** (Matthew 13:1-23), we hear three parables about the kingdom of heaven. It is like a valuable buried treasure that is worth more than all we have. It is like a pearl of great price that is highly sought after. And finally, it is like the net thrown into the sea which gathers all kinds of fish in. At the end of the age, the angels will separate the good from the bad. Perhaps the kingdom of heaven is not so much like a fortified city with beautiful buildings, but rather more like a place in our hearts where we receive the treasure of the Word of God and the Eucharist. May we treasure these gifts and use them well toward the realization of God's kingdom here on earth.

July 14, 2023 | Joseph McEvoy

REMINDER: MASS SCHEDULE ADDITION - THURSDAYS AT 6:00 PM

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.



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.



NATIONAL
**Eucharistic
Revival**

GULF COAST MAGAZINE // NAME TAG SUNDAY // FIRST FRIDAY & SATURDAY

In last weekend's bulletin, the letter from Bishop Parkes explained that in September, the Diocese of St. Petersburg will launch a new diocesan magazine called Gulf Coast Catholic.

You may be wondering...

Why is the Diocese launching a new magazine?

A magazine is a communications tool that can help us inspire, educate, and unite the Catholic community in the Diocese of St. Petersburg. Gulf Coast Catholic will be the official magazine of the Diocese of St. Petersburg, a trusted and credible source of information.

Each issue will contain advice for Catholic living, inspirational articles, messages about the Catholic faith, and ideas for enhancing your prayer life. These articles will help you, even if you are struggling with faith, to stay anchored in Jesus Christ on Sundays and throughout the week.

The magazine is free and will be sent four (4) times a year to every registered household in the Diocese.



Hello!

Next weekend is Name Tag Sunday, and we would appreciate your participation in filling out a name tag upon entering the church. By doing so, we can address each other by name and foster a friendly and inviting atmosphere.

We appreciate your cooperation.



FIRST FRIDAY ADORATION

*And behold, **I am with you**
always, to the end of the
age. ~ Matthew 28:20*

...to visit Jesus; to give him thanks for our redemption; to praise Jesus' love; to thank God for granting us grace, joy, & hope; and to be united with Jesus in the sacrament.

Join us on the First Friday of the month, August 4, and spend an hour with Jesus in the Most Blessed Sacrament, following the 8 a.m. Mass until noon.

The Knights of Columbus will hold a Holy Hour at 11:00 am on August 4th.



FIRST SATURDAY MASS followed by Confession and FIRST SATURDAY ROSARY



Please Join Us on August 5th for our First Saturday Mass at 8:00 am
followed by Confession

&

First Saturday Rosary led by members of our *Respect Life Ministry*
at 9:00 am in The Meditation Garden.

IN OUR PRAYERS

MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday, July 30

8:00 am: Parish Family

10:30 am: Claire Ballaban †

Requested by: Loving Daughters, Karen Ballaban & Sandy (Rick) Mueller

Monday, July 31

8:00 am: James Palumbo †

Requested by: Gael Palumbo

Tuesday, August 1

8:00 am: Amanda Sullivan †

Requested by: Mary & David Wilcox

Wednesday, August 2

8:00 am: James Tello †

Requested by: Marguerite Corrao

Thursday, August 3

8:00 am: Bernice Knowdell †

Requested by: Anne Schuknecht

Friday, August 4

8:00 am: Sandra Araneo †

Requested by: Norma Pafchek

Saturday, August 5

8:00 am: Dolores Mottle †

Requested by: Karen Ballaban

4:30 pm: Bernice Knowdell †

Requested by: Paul Zukowski

Sunday, August 6

8:00 am: Dolores Mottle †

Requested by: Jane Chapin

10:30 am: Antonio Del Nero †

Requested by: Rita & Lew Goody

DAILY READINGS, SAINTS, & OBSERVANCES

Sunday	<i>Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time</i> 1 Kgs 3:5, 7-12; Ps 119:57, 72, 76-77, 127-128, 129-130; Rom 8:28-30; Mt 13:44-52 or Mt 13:44-46
Monday	<i>Memorial of Saint Ignatius of Loyola, Priest</i> Ex 32:15-24, 30-34; Ps 106:19-20, 21-22, 23; Mt 13:31-35
Tuesday	<i>Memorial of Saint Alphonsus Liguori, Bishop and Doctor of the Church</i> Ex 33:7-11; 34:5b-9, 28; Ps 103:6-7, 8-9, 10-11, 12-13; Mt 13:36-43
Wednesday	<i>Memorials of Saint Eusebius of Vercelli, Bishop, and Saint Peter Julian Eymard, Priest</i> Ex 34:29-35; Ps 99:5, 6, 7, 9; Mt 13:44-46
Thursday	Ex 40:16-21, 34-38; Ps 84:3, 4, 5-6a & 8a, 11; Mt 13:47-53
Friday	<i>Memorial of Saint John Vianney, Priest</i> Lv 23:1, 4-11, 15-16, 27, 34b-37; Ps 81:3-4, 5-6, 10-11ab; Mt 13:54-58
Saturday	<i>Dedication of the Basilica of Saint Mary Major in Rome</i> Lv 25:1, 8-17; Ps 67:2-3, 5, 7-8; Mt 14:1-12
Sunday	<i>Feast of the Transfiguration of the Lord</i> Dn 7:9-10, 13-14; Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 9; 2 Pt 1:16-19; Mt 17:1-9

Congratulations: Rusty and Ed Ryal



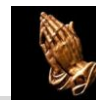
They are celebrating their 52nd Wedding Anniversary on July 30 (1971—2023).

Rusty & Ed are from Detroit, MI., and have 4 children & 5 grandchildren.

They have been St. Thomas parishioners since September 2021.

LORD, GRACIOUSLY HEAR OUR PRAYERS

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



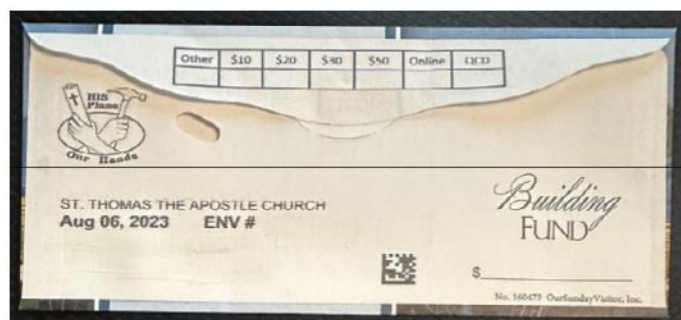
Karl Wolf, Ethan Grayshan, Rita Frisbie, Virginia Kanis, Scott Klaben, Kerrie Schmidt, Mike Jablonsky, Stephanie St. Clair, Mary Ann DeSimone, Charles Terreault, Christine Gicola, Skip Guss, Elizabeth Dostal, Anthony Cimorelli, Ron Rothe, Marguerite Corrao, Norma Galvin, Wendell Miller, Joseph Hertrich, 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, Sandra Boros, Edward & Rusty Ryal, Maria Casey, and our Website Prayer Requests.

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

BLOOD DRIVE // PARISH BUILDING FUND // MELKITE MISSION

PARISH BUILDING FUND

Next weekend, August 5 & 6, our second collection is for the Building Fund that supports the upkeep and maintenance of our facilities. To help us cover the costs of a new air conditioning unit for our church, we ask that you please give an extra donation to this fund. Thank you for your generosity and support of our parish!



It's not
about the
needle.
It's about
the need.

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, August 6

8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

All donors will receive a \$20 egift card and LifeSouth Hat.



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

REMINDER: ST. BARBARA CATHOLIC MELKITE MISSION

Our parish is pleased to welcome St. Barbara Catholic Melkite Mission members this weekend (July 29/30). They will showcase a stunning collection of religious items, handcrafted by our brothers and sisters in the Holy Land. The items are priced at \$20, \$40, \$80, and \$100 and available for purchase with cash, check, or credit cards. It is important to note that the Catholic families in the Holy Land are facing significant challenges, both financially and in terms of their freedom of worship, movement, and speech.

The coronavirus pandemic has also impacted their livelihoods, as few pilgrims have been able to visit the Holy Land in recent years. The sale of these religious items is crucial to their survival and hope. We encourage you to stop by and support this worthy cause.

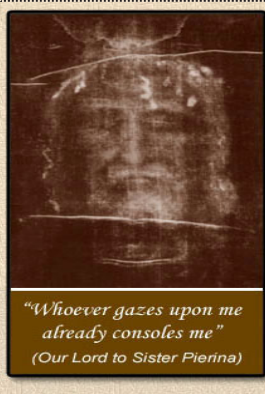
Thank you!



PREGNANCY & FAMILY LIFE // ST. THOMAS MINISTRIES // LPMI

Since 1983, the mission of **THE PREGNANCY & FAMILY LIFE CENTER** has been to provide valuable support to expectant mothers and families in need in Citrus County. Your first-of-every-month weekend donations make it possible for the PFLC to continue their irreplaceable work assisting women in making life-affirming options for their unborn children and helping families until their youngest child graduates from high school. All services are free & confidential for uninsured women over 18.

Please call
352-228-4999
to obtain help.



Please join us Tuesdays at 8:45 a.m. in the church to offer reparation to the **HOLY FACE OF JESUS** as He requested when He said, *"By offering My Face to My Eternal Father, nothing will be refused, and the conversion of many sinners will be obtained."*

We will offer prayers & silent Adoration before Jesus truly present in the Holy Tabernacle.

The St. Thomas the Apostle *Respect Life Ministry*

will have a table outside masses on August 26 and 27 requesting sponsors to support *Respect Life Ministry* walkers for the Pregnancy and Family Life Centers' Annual Walk/Bike for Life event that will be held on October 14 this year.

We appreciate your support!

We are seeking more parishioners to join our

Respect Life Ministry.

If you are interested, please join us in St. Martin's Hall for our next monthly meeting on Wednesday, August 9, at 11:00 am.

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 or more information.

THE LAY PASTORAL MINISTRY INSTITUTE

The Lay Pastoral Ministry Institute (LPMI) of the Diocese of St. Petersburg is a four-year program consisting of an informal year of discernment and three years of formation in parish leadership.

Lay Pastoral Ministry
Institute
Year of Discernment



2023-2024

The Lay Pastoral Ministry Institute aims to...

- prepare men and women for committed parish lay leadership;
- motivate baptized Catholics in the diocese to discern and use their gifts in service of others;
- offer contemporary education and faith formation in the Roman Catholic faith;
- network leaders with peers and professionals across the diocese;
- empower people to own and live their baptism in all arenas of life;
- foster a deeper sense of appreciation for the ministry of priests;
- teach teamwork, lifelong learning, collaboration, and team skills;
- affect family life by modeling to children a living faith.

If you are interested, please contact the office to make an appointment with Fr. Glenn. In order to assure availability of space and materials, registrations must be received by September 11, 2023 to be accepted.



EVENTS & COLLECTIONS // K of C // AUGUST CELEBRATION

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 30: Collection: Catholic School & Camp	8:00 am 10:30 am	Mass Mass
Monday, July 31:	8:00 am	Mass
Tuesday, August 1:	8:00 am 8:45 am	Mass Holy Face Devotion
Wednesday, August 2:	8:00 am	Mass
Thursday, August 3:	8:00 am 8:45 am 1:00 pm	Mass Flame of Love Prayer Group Bereavement Meeting
Friday, August 4: First Friday  NATIONAL Eucharistic Revival	8:00 am 8:30 am - 12:00 pm 11:00 -12:00 pm	Mass First Friday Adoration Knights of Columbus Holy Hour
Saturday, August 5: First Saturday	8:00 am 9:00 am 3:15 - 4:00 pm or by appt. 4:30 pm	First Saturday Mass followed by Confession First Saturday Rosary in the Meditation Garden Reconciliation Vigil Mass
Sunday, August 6: Collections: Parish Building Fund and Pregnancy & Family Life Center	8:00 am 10:30 am	Mass Mass

The Saint Thomas Knights of Columbus council 15154 will have a Corporate Communion on Sunday August 13 at the 10:30 am mass.

This is the feast day of the Knights founder, Blessed Michael McGivney.



The Installation of Officers will follow after the mass.

Friends and family are invited to attend.

AUGUST CELEBRATIONS



Fr. Glenn and the entire St. Thomas Pastoral Staff wish much happiness, joy, and congratulations to all our parishioners enjoying a Birthday, Anniversary, Graduation, and/or the Birth of a Baby/Grandbaby this month.

May God bless you with His infinite love, comforting peace, and heavenly joy throughout the coming year.



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



You are invited to help support our Parish!
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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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