



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

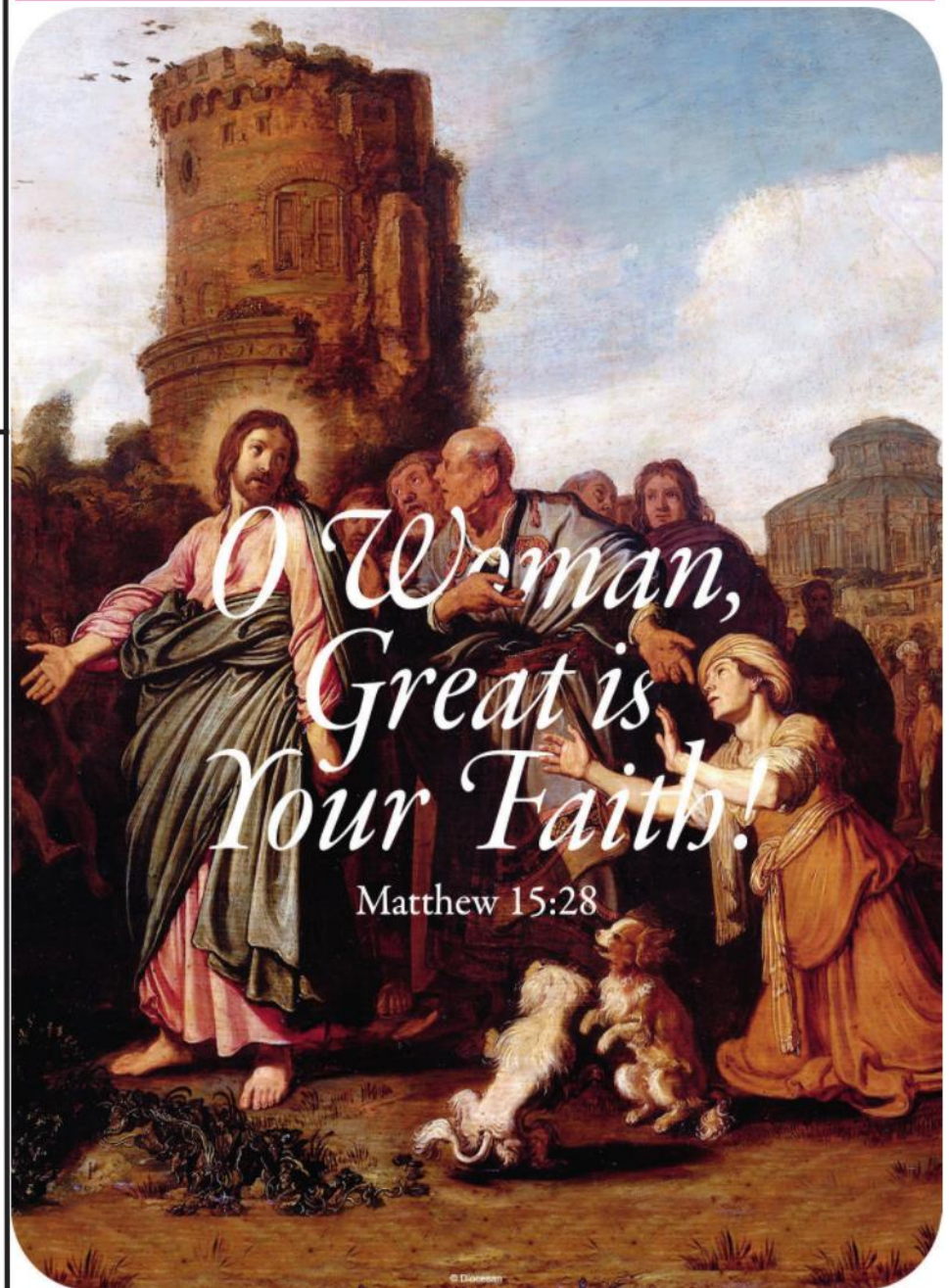
Michelle Kim-Painter: Music Director

Alfred Papino: Bookkeeper; Cantor,
& Lead Accompanist

Pauline Papino: Sacristan

Karen Robben: Office and
Communications Manager

SUNDAY, AUGUST 20, 2023





TENDING GOD'S FLOCK

20 August 2023 | 20th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A



1. The month of August is traditionally dedicated to the **Immaculate Heart of Mary**. There are three Marian feasts celebrated in August, namely: Dedication of the Basilica of St. Mary Major (Aug 5), Assumption of Mary (Aug 15), and Queenship of Mary (Aug 22). In her apparitions at Fatima, Mary said to Lucia: *"Jesus wishes you to establish devotion in the world to my Immaculate Heart. I will be with you always, and my Immaculate Heart will be your comfort and the way which will lead you to God."*

2. August 22 (octave of the Assumption of Mary) is the feast of the **Queenship of Mary**. After her earthly life was over, Mary was assumed body and soul into heaven where she was crowned as queen of heaven and earth. Mary now sits at the right side of her son's throne. As our mother and our queen, Mary listens to our prayers, and she intercedes for us before her son Jesus, who can never refuse her.



3. We heard in today's **gospel** (Matthew 15:21-28) about the strange encounter between Jesus and this Canaanite woman. Actually, this pagan woman stands for anyone who is disliked, hated, or despised. This story was actually preached in the early Church to correct an attitude of exclusiveness among the early Christians who thought that only Jews could be Christians. They believed that to be a follower of Jesus, a non-Jew had to be circumcised and follow the Law of Moses. The main point, therefore, behind this unusual gospel story is that even non-Jews would have a share in the blessings brought about by Jesus. God loves all men, and he wants all men to love him in return. If others are good enough for Jesus, then they should also be good enough for us.

Fr. Glenn | 31 July 2023

St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic Church
is proud to be a

GULF COAST
CATHOLIC
Magazine
Founding Partner

The first issue of *Gulf Coast Catholic's* new magazine will be mailed into your home this September.

*Must be registered at a parish in the Diocese of St. Petersburg

"Every Child Deserves a Home."

Our Parish is participating in the Diocese of St. Petersburg's "Every Child Deserves a Home" program. We have been assigned Anna for spiritual adoption.

Each week we will pray for Anna to find her forever family.

For more info, please visit:
www.heartgallerytampa.org



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

HURRICANE PEAK SEASON // ONLINE GIVING

BE SMART. HAVE A PLAN.

THE PEAK OF THE HURRICANE SEASON IS MID—AUGUST THROUGH MID—OCTOBER.

Hurricane Season Safety Tips



Be Prepared

In the storms of life, we turn to God and pray that we will be spared from harm. We are also called to take the necessary precautions to protect the precious gift of life and to minimize damage to property.

Take Shelter

If you are elderly or have special needs, please contact your county's Emergency Management Office to pre-register prior to any storm if you will need to evacuate.

Use Good Judgment

Use good judgment when deciding if conditions are safe to travel to Mass. In the event that roadways are not clear and weather conditions are unsafe to travel, the faithful are reminded that the obligation to participate in the Sunday Mass does not apply when there is grave difficulty in fulfilling this obligation (Code of Canon Law, Canon 1248 §2).

Stay Informed

If a storm threatens our area, please check local news stations for weather updates. Also, check with your parish and school about about closures and cancellations. Also, check the diocesan website, www.dosp.org.

Local Resources

Florida Department of Emergency Management:
www.floridadilaaster.org

Citrus County Emergency Management:
www.sheriffoltrus.org/divisions/bureau_of_support_operations/emergency_operations.php

Hernando County Emergency Management:
www.hernandocounty.us/departments/departments-a-a/emergency-management

Hillsborough County Emergency Management:
www.hillsboroughcounty.org/residents/public-safety/emergency-management

Pasco County Emergency Management:
www.pascocountyfl.net/365/Emergency-Management

Pinellas County Emergency Management:
www.pinellascounty.org/emergency/

For More Information: Visit www.dosp.org/insurance/hurricane-season



Online giving is a 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 or scan this QR code →

We are grateful for your support!



IN OUR PRAYERS // HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday, August 20

8:00 am: Mark Male †

Requested by: Marcy & Wayne Male

10:30 am: Dorothy Runyon †

Requested by: Jane & Joe Prefer

Monday, August 21

8:00 am: Doris Barbieri †

Requested by: Jane Chapin

Tuesday, August 22

8:00 am: Thomas Franz †

Requested by: Gael Palumbo

Wednesday, August 23

8:00 am: Timothy Watson

Requested by: Bertha Watson

Thursday, August 24

8:00 am: The Intention of Neva Portegys

Requested by: Juanita Fuge

6:00 pm: In Thanksgiving for Lorraine &
Richard Kwiecienski Blessed
67th Wedding Anniversary

Friday, August 25

8:00 am: Patrick & Jill Pograd †

Requested by: Ron & Viv Rothe

Saturday, August 26

4:30 pm: In Thanksgiving for Lorraine &
Richard Kwiecienski Blessed
67th Wedding Anniversary

Sunday, August 27

8:00 am: Parish Family

10:30 am: Antonio Del Nero †

Requested by: Helen Del Nero

DAILY READINGS, SAINTS, & OBSERVANCES

Sunday

Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Is 56:1, 6-7; Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8; Rom 11:13-15,
29-32; Mt 15:21-28

Monday

Memorial of Saint Pius X, Pope

Jgs 2:11-19; Ps 106:34-35, 36-37, 39-40; 43ab
& 44; Mt 19:16-22

Tuesday

*Memorial of the Queenship of the Blessed
Virgin Mary*

Jgs 6:11-24a; Ps 85:9, 11-12, 13-14; Mt 19:23-30

Wednesday

Memorial of Saint Rose of Lima, Virgin

Jgs 9:6-15; Ps 21:2-3, 4-5, 6-7; Mt 20:1-16

Thursday

Feast of Saint Bartholomew, Apostle

Rv 21:9b-14; Ps 145:10-11, 12-13, 17-18; Jn 1:45-51

Friday

*Memorial of Saint Louis of France and Saint
Joseph Calasan, Priest*

Ru 1:1, 3-6, 14b-16, 22; Ps 146:5-6ab, 6c-7, 8-
9a, 9bc-10; Mt 22:34-40

Saturday

Ru 2:1-3, 8-11; 4:13-17; Ps 128:1b-2, 3, 4, 5;
Mt 23:1-12

Sunday

Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time

Is 22:19-23; Ps 138:1-2, 2-3, 6, 8; Rom 11:33-36;
Mt 16:13-20



Please join us in wishing
Lorraine & Richard Kwiecienski
a Happy & Blessed
67th Wedding Anniversary



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, Skip Guss, Stephanie St. Clair, Mary Ann DeSimone, Charles Terreault, Christine Gicola, Elizabeth Dostal, Ron Rothe, Anthony Cimorelli, Marguerite Corrao, Norma Galvin, Wendell Miller, Joseph Hertrich, Nick Russo, 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, 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, George Cole, Fred Di Battista, Tonya Leigh & Family, Evelyn Sweeny, Kevin Watson, Ron Zasada, Audrey Shetton, and our Website Prayer Requests.

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



We are opening the 2024 Mass Book on Tuesday, September 5th.

Mass Intentions should be scheduled by appointment, especially if you request more than two dates. Kindly contact the office as soon as possible to make an appointment with Robin Furciato.

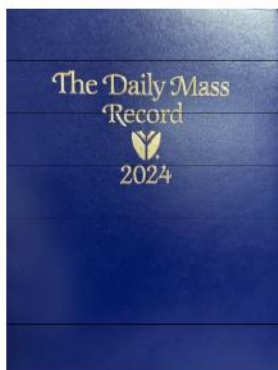
Please note that weekend masses will be limited to two (2) per parishioner; however, there is no limit for weekday masses.

2024 donations are as follows:

\$20.00 - Mass Intention (per Mass)

\$50.00 - Bread & Wine (per Mass)

\$70.00 - Altar Flowers (per Week)



Safe Haven Sunday: Equipping the Family, Healing Marriages and Fatherhood

The family home should be a safe haven, but the inappropriate use of technology in the home deprives it of this role and is the greatest threat to the sanctity of marriages and families today. Pornography and other online threats are often one click away, and parents can feel overwhelmed with not knowing how to best protect their children in our fast-paced digital world.

Next weekend, August 26-27, 2023, we will observe Safe Haven Sunday. This awareness day will provide access to resources that caring adults can use to protect themselves and our young people from online risks. Please join us with your prayers and presence as we prepare for this unique event. To learn more, visit

www.dosp.org/freedom-from-porn.

WE NEED MORE CATECHISTS FOR OUR UPCOMING YOUTH FAITH FORMATION CLASSES

Please contact the parish office if you are interested in helping. Classes begin Sunday, September 10th.

WHAT IS THE LPMI?

The Lay Pastoral Ministry Institute (LPMI) of the Diocese of St. Petersburg is a four-year program for lay leadership formation consisting of an informal Year of Discernment, and three years of formational training. Upon the completion of these four years, the Institute offers a certificate in foundational pastoral ministry leadership and participants are formally commissioned to service by the Bishop of the Diocese of St. Petersburg during an evening prayer service. The LPMI is built upon the principles put forward by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops in the document "Co-Workers in the Vineyard of the Lord: A Resource for Guiding the Development of Lay Ecclesial Ministry."

Goals and Objectives

Goal 1

The LPMI will serve as a resource for preparing persons, in response to their baptismal call, for leadership and ministerial roles in the parish, the diocese, the local community, and the world.

Goal 2

The LPMI will provide opportunities for persons to acquire knowledge, develop skills, and strengthen commitment to a life of discipleship in order to be effective leaders in specific ministries.

Goal 3

The LPMI will encourage collaboration among LPMI participants and their pastors in order to meet the ministerial needs in their families, their parishes, the Church, the Diocese, and in the world.

THE LAY PASTORAL MINISTRY INSTITUTE

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.

ST. THOMAS MINISTRIES

→ The Silver Rose Prayer Service will be held on
Monday (not Sunday), August 28th at Noon



A silver rose on a nine-month pilgrimage will be the centerpiece of a special prayer service at St. Thomas the Apostle Church on Monday, August 28th at Noon. The program is sponsored by our Knights of Columbus, council 15154 to honor Our Lady of Guadalupe and express both international unity and dedication to the sanctity of human life.

The journey of the silver rose begins each year in March and ends on December 12, the feast day of Our Lady of Guadalupe.

Please join our Knights, along with fellow parishioners, and many others from within or outside our local community for this special and important prayer service.



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 a treasure we value. In the Eucharist, our Lord is truly and substantially present – body and blood, soul and divinity. We need more volunteers to serve as Eucharistic Ministers at every weekend mass to do this properly. 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 rewarding experience to share our Lord with others. Kindly contact the parish office to volunteer.

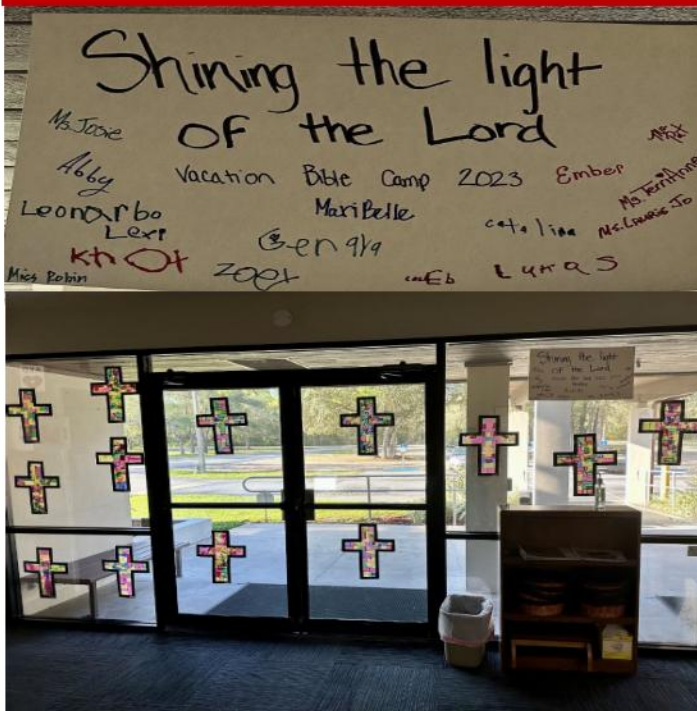
2023/2024 YOUTH FAITH FORMATION CLASSES BEGIN SEPTEMBER 10, 2023

Register for the 2023 - 2024
Youth Faith Formation Season.
There will be a parent meeting on
Tuesday, August 22, at 7:00 p.m. in St. Martin Hall.

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

SHINING THE LIGHT OF THE LORD

The beautiful crosses hanging in our church lobby were hand-made with great care & joy by the children who attended our recent Vacation Bible School. Please stop and take a look.



The St. Thomas the Apostle *Respect Life Ministry*

will have a table outside masses on August 26 & 27
requesting sponsors to support

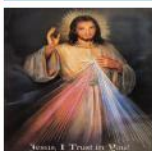
Respect Life Ministry walkers
for the Pregnancy and Family Life Centers'
Annual Walk/Bike for Life event
that will be held on October 14 this year.

We appreciate your support!

EVENTS & COLLECTIONS // ALTAR FLOWERS // INCOME/EXPENSE REPORT

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 parish office.


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

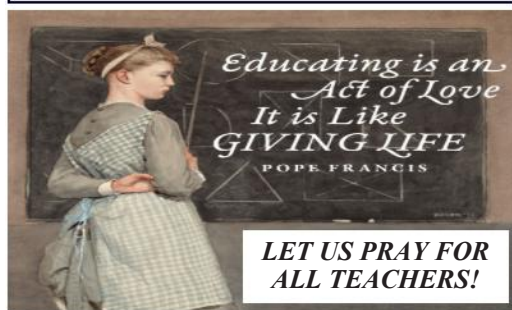


THE DIVINE MERCY CHAPLET

is prayed every weekday following the 8:00 am Mass.

Together We Pray!

Sunday, August 20 Collection: SVdP Food Collection	8:00 am 10:30 am	Mass Mass
Tuesday, August 22:	8:00 am 8:45 am 7:00 pm	Mass Holy Face Devotion Youth Faith Formation Parent's Meeting
Thursday, August 24:  NATIONAL Eucharistic Revival	8:00 am 8:30 am—9:30 am 9:45 am 1:00 pm 6:00 pm	Mass Holy Hour of Adoration Flame of Love Prayer Group Bereavement Meeting Evening Mass
Saturday, August 26:	8:00 am 3:15 - 4:00 pm or by appt. 4:30 pm	Communion Service Only Reconciliation Vigil Mass
Sunday, August 27: Collection: Catholic School & Camp Support	8:00 am 10:30 am	Mass Mass



**THIS WEEKEND'S
ALTAR FLOWERS
ARE DONATED
IN LOVING MEMORY OF
MARK MALE †
by
MARCY & WAYNE MALE**



Parish Income & Expense Report April 1, 2023, to June 30, 2023

Income	\$	149,969.78
Expenses	\$	155,430.89
Loss	\$	(5,461.11)



**MASS IS EVERY
THURSDAY
EVENING
AT 6:00 PM.**



**PLEASE JOIN US
THIS THURSDAY
AUGUST 24**

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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Brooksville, FL 34613
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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