



# ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE CHURCH

## HOMOSASSA, FLORIDA

7040 S Suncoast Blvd.  
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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

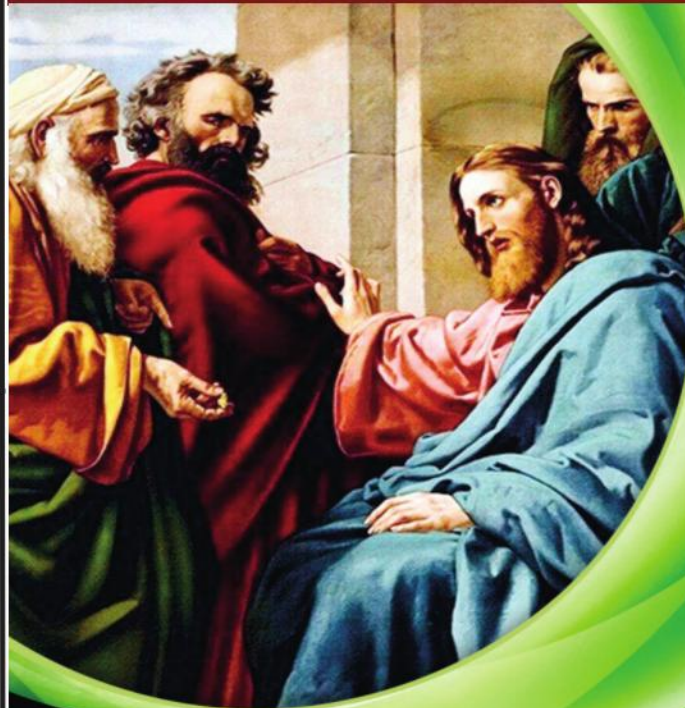
Alfred Papino: Bookkeeper; Cantor,  
& Lead Accompanist

Pauline Papino: Sacristan

Karen Robben: Office and  
Communications Manager

## SUNDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2023

### 26TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



## 26<sup>th</sup> Sunday

### in Ordinary Time

"Amen, I say to you, tax collectors and prostitutes are entering the kingdom of God before you."

*Matthew 21:31*

Christ and the Pharisees by Ernst Zimmerman  
© Diocesan

**TODAY IS RESPECT LIFE SUNDAY**  
**SEE PAGE 3**



# TENDING GOD'S FLOCK



1 October 2023 | 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

1. Today, September 6<sup>th</sup>, I informed our parishioners via a Flocknote message that Deacon Mark Manko has accepted my invitation to serve as **business manager** of our parish. As such, he will act as the steward of the physical and personnel resources of our parish. This is in addition to his present responsibilities in charge of the Evangelization and Outreach ministries. Please join me in thanking Deacon Mark for having such broad shoulders and for accepting these additional duties for the good of our parish.

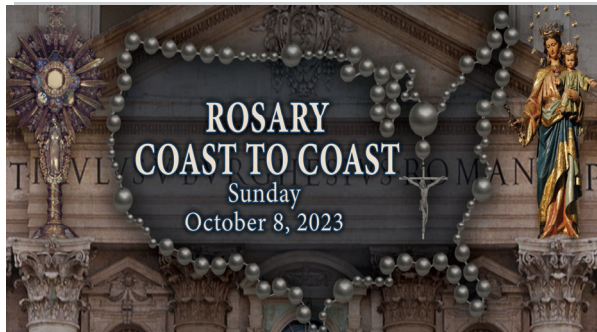
2. During his September 4 in-flight press conference returning from his visit to Mongolia, Pope Francis outlined his vision for the upcoming **Synod on Synodality** that will take place at the Vatican this coming October 4-28. The Holy Father emphasized that the synod should be a prayerful exercise in dialogue, touching on the problems that affect humanity today. There is a lot of confusion going on regarding this present synod. It has received a lot of negative criticism from those who claim that this synod will implement drastic changes in the Church, since it will discuss the possibility of married priests, women deacons, and the blessing of gay couples. But for Pope Francis, the priority issues of our Church today are communion, participation, and mission. Fostering communion between God and man is at the heart of what it means to be a synodal church. Our need for communion should lead to a greater participation in the life and mission of the Church. There will be a second session of this synod slated for October 2024.



3. Our **gospel** today (Matthew 21:28-32) tells us about the parable of two sons. A father told his older son to work in the vineyard. He said yes, but never went. The father also told his younger son to work in the vineyard. He said no, but later changed his mind and went. I think one of the lessons we can learn here is that the Lord allows us to make U-turns in our lives. He calls each one of us to work in his vineyard. Some of us will say Yes, while others will say No. The Lord wants us to respond Yes, and actually do our best to make sure that our words are consistent with our actions.

Fr. Glenn | 6 September 2023

## ROSARY COAST TO COAST - OCTOBER 8 @ 4:00 PM



St. Thomas is once again participating in the ROSARY COAST TO COAST next Sunday, October 8, 2023. We will gather at 4:00 pm and join other churches across the country to simultaneously pray the Glorious Mysteries of the Rosary. We pray for the respect for life at all stages of development, the sanctity of marriage, upholding religious freedom, and the return of our nation to God.

We look forward to seeing you there!



## RESPECT LIFE SUNDAY: RESPECT ALL LIFE & PFLC's HEROES WALK

CELEBRATE APPRECIATE RESPECT ALL LIFE VALUE HONOR  
CHERISH RESPECT TREASURE RESPECT  
CELEBRATE APPRECIATE LOVE ADORE VALUE HONOR  
CHERISH  
LOVE AD



# HEROES!! WALK

FOR LIFE



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### ST. THOMAS RESPECT LIFE MINISTRY

Join the St. Thomas Respect Life Ministry's walking team by contacting Anita Marshall. Email her at [agmarsh46@gmail.com](mailto:agmarsh46@gmail.com). If you wish to make a donation and haven't done so yet, please drop it off at the office by Monday, October 9th. 

# MASS INTENTIONS // DAILY READINGS // IN OUR PRAYERS

## MASS INTENTIONS

### Sunday, October 1

8:00 am: Parish Family

10:30 am: Mark Nehrbas †

Requested by: List Family

### Monday, October 2

8:00 am: JoAnna Daly †

Requested by: Pat Daly

### Tuesday, October 3

8:00 am: Elizabeth & Andrew Koch †

Requested by: Niece, Norma Pafchek

### Wednesday, October 4

8:00 am: Paul & Florine Freeman †

Requested by: Loving Family

### Thursday, October 5

8:00 am: Departed members of the  
Suson-Cortes Families †

Requested by: Beth & Joe Tarnowski

### Friday, October 6

8:00 am: Patricia Ellis †

Requested by: Gael Palumbo

### Saturday, October 7

8:00 am: Andrew John Valko †

Requested by: Karen Ballaban

4:30 pm: George Szucsik †

Requested by: Ruthann Pullen

### Sunday, October 8

8:00 am: Phylis McGuire †

Requested by: Marguerite Corrao

10:30 am: Parish Family

### Sunday

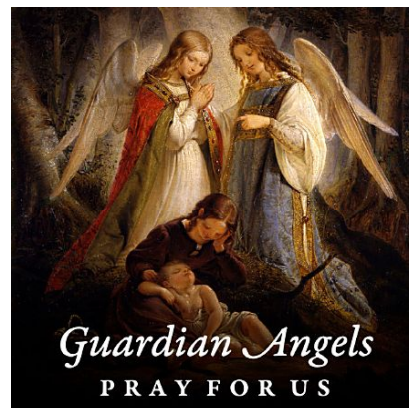
#### Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Ez 18:25-28; Ps 25:4-5, 6-7, 8-9; Phil 2:1-11  
or Phil 2:1-5; Mt 21:28-32

### Monday

#### Memorial of the Guardian Angels

Zec 8:1-8; Ps 102:16-18, 19-21, 29 & 22-23;  
Mt 18:1-5, 10



### Tuesday

Zec 8:20-23; Ps 87:1b-3, 4-5, 6-7; Lk 9:51-56

### Wednesday

#### Memorial of Saint Francis of Assisi

Neh 2:1-8; Ps 137:1-2, 3, 4-5, 6; Lk 9:57-62

### Thursday

#### Saint Faustina Kowalska, Virgin

Neh 8:1-4a, 5-6, 7b-12; Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11;  
Lk 10:1-12

### Friday

#### Saint Bruno, Priest and Blessed Marie-Rose Durocher, Virgin

Bar 1:15-22; Ps 79:1b-2, 3-5, 8, 9;  
Lk 10:13-16

### Saturday

#### Memorial of Our Lady of the Rosary

Bar 4:5-12, 27-29; Ps 69:33-35, 36-37;  
Lk 10:17-24

### Sunday

#### Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

Is 5:1-7; Ps 80:9, 12, 13-14, 15-16, 19-20;  
Phil 4:6-9; Mt 21:33-43

## 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, Anthony Cimorelli, 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, 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, Fred Di Battista, Tonya Leigh & Family, Evelyn Sweeny, Kevin Watson, Ron Zasada, Audrey Shetton, Fr. Robert Pesarchick, Mariann De Pue, John Chaplin, Maria Casey, Barnara Diaz, Robert Adams, and our Website Prayer Requests.

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



## COR & YOU PICK THE PRIZE RAFFLE

Brothers in Christ,

The men of Knights of Columbus Council #15154 are excited to share the implementation of **COR**, a new formation and fraternal opportunity for the men of St. Thomas the Apostle Parish. COR exists to form and strengthen Catholic men in faith and virtue as missionary disciples by drawing them into a deeper relationship with Jesus Christ through prayer, formation, and fraternity. COR will last 60-90 minutes, depending on the group and the content. While this is being offered and hosted by the Knights of Columbus, it is an opportunity **open to all men of the parish**. COR will be held on the Fourth Tuesday of the month at 5:00 pm in St. Martin's Hall, starting October 24th.

Please use the link below or the QR code to register.

Link to register: <https://forms.office.com/r/cf8QbxhZj7>



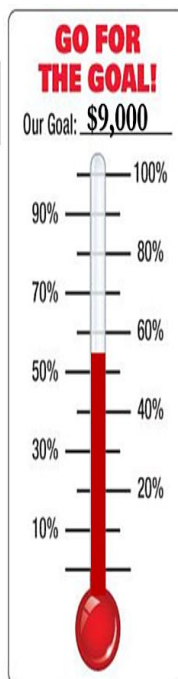
If you have additional questions, please reach out to Joseph A. McEvoy at [kofc15154@gmail.com](mailto:kofc15154@gmail.com)

### YOU PICK the PRIZE RAFFLE

This year's goal is \$9,000  
for parking lot improvements.

★ \$5,007.00 ★ Entries 258

One lucky winner will be drawn  
at random during the 10:30 AM  
Mass Sunday, December 17!



### Join our fourth annual "You Pick the Prize Raffle"!

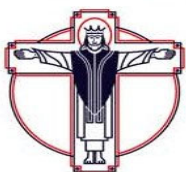
Here's how it works: Your donation amount directly correlates with your potential prize percentage – a \$30 donation gets you 30% of the total pot, \$25 gets you 25%, \$10 for 10%, and \$5 for 5%. Your family and friends are also welcome to participate.

Participation is easy – complete the ticket & return it with your donation. You can pay by cash, check (made out to St. Thomas the Apostle Church, with "raffle" in the memo), or credit card.

Drop your entry in the collection basket at Mass, or mail it to the parish office. Obtain more tickets in our parish office or from our weekly bulletin.

You can also participate online at [give.mystthomas.org/give](https://give.mystthomas.org/give) and select "You Pick the Prize Raffle" from the dropdown.

#### ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE CATHOLIC CHURCH



#### 2023 YOU PICK THE PRIZE RAFFLE

The winner will be drawn during the  
10:30 a.m. Mass on  
**Sunday, December 17, 2023.**

Need not be present to win.

#### YOU PICK THE PRIZE RAFFLE TICKET

Return this portion.

Donation Amount (circle): \$30 \$20 \$10 or \$\_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

(Maximum of \$30 per ticket)

## START EACH DAY WITH A GRATEFUL HEART

St. Thomas Corner of Gratitude!



Fr. Jonathan Loverita (pictured below) visited St. Thomas on the weekend of September 16/17 to make an appeal for his home diocese in the Philippines, the Diocese of Catarman. The total donated was \$6,110.86! We are very grateful to the anonymous parishioner who donated \$2,000! Thank you to all who donated, may the good Lord reward your generosity a hundredfold!



We want to express our heartfelt appreciation to everyone who contributed to our Thursday 6 pm Evening Masses, whether you served, read, opened/closed the church, or attended as a parishioner or guest. Your dedication and active participation have made these gatherings truly special.

Thank you to Fr. Glenn and Deacon Mark for their spiritual guidance and leadership. We understand the future of these evening Masses is uncertain, but we eagerly await Fr. Glenn's guidance and announcement.



## FIRST OF THE MONTH REMINDERS

### October 6th: First Friday Adoration



Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament is the adoration of Jesus Christ present in "The Holy Eucharist." On First Friday Adoration, the Eucharist is displayed in a holder called a monstrance, and people are invited to come to pray. You can spend the amount of time you desire between the hours of 8:30 am to Noon. All are invited to come and join Jesus in the Most Blessed Sacrament.



NATIONAL  
**Eucharistic  
Revival**



**The Knights of Columbus will hold a Holy Hour  
between 11:00 am to Noon.**



### October 7th: First Saturday Rosary in the Meditation Garden

The Respect Life Ministry invites you to join in prayer to recite the First Saturday Rosary in the Meditation Garden at 9:00 am. Our world needs our prayers. Please join us in prayer!



## EVENTS & COLLECTIONS & SAVE THE DATE & CONCERT INVITE

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!*



<b>Sunday, October 1:</b> <b>Collections: Building Fund and Pregnancy &amp; Family Life Center</b>	8:00 am 9:00 am—10:15 am 10:30 am	Mass Youth Faith Formation Class Mass
<b>Monday, October 2:</b>	<b>Reminder</b> →	<b>NO Bible Study Today</b>
<b>Tuesday, October 3:</b>	8:45 am 11:00 am	Holy Face Devotion Respect Life Ministry Meeting
<b>Wednesday, October 4:</b>	4:30 pm	SVdP Meeting
<b>Thursday, October 5:</b>  <b>NATIONAL Eucharistic Revival</b>	8:00 am 8:30 am—9:30 am 9:45 am 1:00 pm <b>Reminder</b> →	Mass Holy Hour Flame of Love Prayer Group Bereavement Meeting <b>NO 6:00 pm Mass (see pg. 6)</b>
<b>Friday, October 6:</b>	8:30 am—Noon 11:00 am—Noon	First Friday Adoration KofC Holy Hour
<b>Saturday, October 7:</b>	8:00 am 9:00 am 3:15 - 4:00 pm or by appt. 4:30 pm	First Saturday Mass, followed by Confessions First Saturday Rosary Reconciliation Vigil Mass
<b>Sunday, October 8:</b> <b>Collections: Catholic Ministry Appeal and SVdP Money Collection</b>	8:00 am 9:00 am—10:15 am 10:30 am 11:45am—2:30 pm 4:00 pm	Mass (Children's Mass) Youth Faith Formation Class Mass Love More Ministry, Team A, Team Captain: Martin Faulmino Rosary Coast to Coast

### SAVE THE DATE

#### **Saturday, October 28th**

Trunk or Treat in west parking lot.  
Noon – 2:00 pm

#### **Saturday, November 18**

Women's Guild Flea Market  
9:00 am—2:00 pm

#### **Saturday, November 18**

12th Annual St. Thomas Parish  
Dinner Dance: 5pm - 10pm

### NEWS AROUND THE DIOCESE

#### **Sharing the Joy!**

#### **A Concert of Contemporary Christian Music**

By the St. Elizabeth Ann Seton  
Parish Choir

Sunday, October 8, 2023  
3:00PM

(Reception to follow concert)  
1401 W Country Club Blvd  
Citrus Springs, Florida 34434



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

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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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