



# ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE CHURCH

## HOMOSASSA, FLORIDA

7040 S Suncoast Blvd.  
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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 8, 2023

### 27TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME





# TENDING GOD'S FLOCK

8 October 2023 | 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

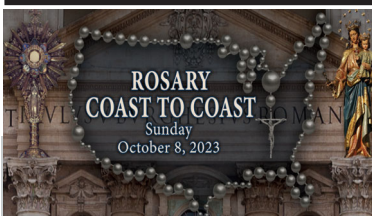


1. I will be away for most of the month of October. I am leading a group of parishioners on a pilgrimage to the Holy Land on October 10-20. Then I will attend the 3<sup>rd</sup> National Assembly of Filipino Priests (NAFP) this coming October 23-27. In my absence, **Father Dennis Kaelin** will be covering for me. Father Dennis was born in Jersey City, NJ, and ordained a priest of the Archdiocese of Newark, NJ, in 1976. After a few years in parish work, he was assigned to a high school where he worked for about 30 years on every level from pre-K to graduate school. Fr. Dennis also directed retreats in seminaries and conducted parish missions. He is now retired and presently helping in various parishes in Hernando County. For anointing of the sick, please make an appointment by calling the office, or by seeing the priest in the vestry immediately after mass.

2. There's a **Synod on Synodality** now taking place in the Vatican. It is a gathering of bishops and representatives of the Church to discuss and discern matters of faith and pastoral care. It involves the discernment of all the faithful, and is guided by the authority of those who exercise the pastoral ministry of unity and governance. We have already undergone the diocesan, national, and continental stages of the synodal process. This will culminate in two global assemblies at the Vatican. The first assembly is now taking place October 4-29, and the second will be in October 2024. The theme for this synod is: "For a Synodal Church: Communion, Participation, Mission."

3. October is **Respect Life Month** in the United States. Today we are reminded that we are all recipients of God's greatest gift, the gift of life. If life is a gift, then we do not really own our lives. We are merely stewards of that gift. We have heard it said before: "Life is God's gift to you. What you do with your life is your gift to God." Indeed, we are stewards of God. We are like the tenants of the vineyard mentioned in today's gospel (Matthew 21:33-43). We are accountable before God for the way we live our lives. As the owner of the vineyard is expecting his share of the harvest, God is also expecting us to live fruitful lives. How? By using our gifts and talents for our good and for the good of others.

Fr. Glenn | 17 September 2023



**THIS SUNDAY**  
**@4:00pm:**  
**ROSARY COAST TO COAST**

St. Thomas is once again participating in the **ROSARY COAST TO COAST** this **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!



**St. Thomas has an opening for a part-time maintenance position. Please contact Deacon Mark in the parish office to apply.**



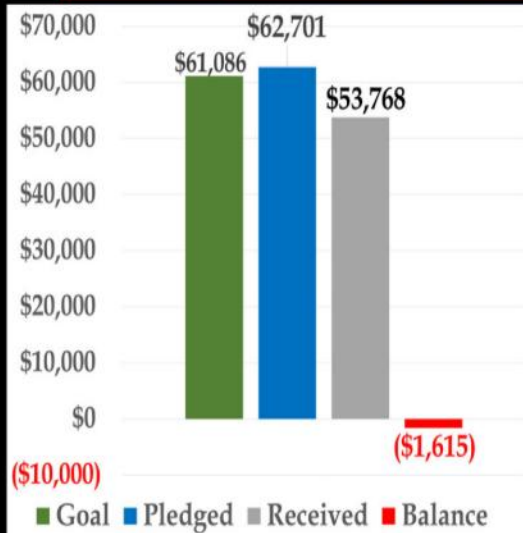
## ST. THOMAS CORNER OF GRATITUDE & PFLC'S HEROES WALK

### START EACH DAY WITH A GRATEFUL HEART

St. Thomas Corner of Gratitude!



**Thank You!** to everyone who pledged or made a donation to our 2023 Catholic Ministry Appeal.



As of September 25,  
**we are over goal!**

Goal \$61,086

Pledged \$62,701

232 Pledges

52% Participation



DIocese OF ST. PETERSBURG  
CATHOLIC  
MINISTRY  
*Appeal*

I'm very happy to announce that we have **exceeded our Catholic Ministry Appeal goal of \$61,086!**

The total pledged through September is \$62,701, which is \$1615 over goal! I'm very grateful and proud of all of you for helping us achieve this milestone. Because we have already exceeded our goal, I am canceling the Catholic Ministry Appeal second collections for the remainder of the year, October through December.

~ Fr. Glenn

## PREGNANCY & FAMILY LIFE CENTER'S HEROES WALK

### ST. THOMAS RESPECT LIFE MINISTRY

Join the St. Thomas Respect Life Ministry's team for the "Heroes Walk for Life" 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.

Your support is greatly appreciated.

**HEROES!! WALK**

**FOR LIFE**

SCAN TO REGISTER

THE PREGNANCY & FAMILY LIFE CENTER

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2023**

FLORAL PARK IN FLORAL CITY

REGISTRATION 8:30 AM • WALK 9:00 AM

Everyday heroes doing amazing things for Life!

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

### MASS INTENTIONS

#### Sunday, October 8

8:00 am: Phylis McGuire †  
Requested by: Marguerite Corrao

10:30 am: Parish Family

#### Monday, October 9

8:00 am: Joseph Mezzolo †  
Requested by: Dina & Felicia Mezzolo

#### Tuesday, October 10

8:00 am: Paul St. Pierre †  
Requested by: Ruthann Pullen

#### Wednesday, October 11

8:00 am: Frances Frankenberger †  
Requested by: Margaret Oliver

#### Thursday, October 12

8:00 am: Pauline A. Pafchek & Family †  
Requested by: Loving Daughter, Norma Pafchek



Bread & Wine donated in memory of  
Pauline A. Pafchek & Family †  
By Loving Daughter, Norma Pafchek

#### Friday, October 13

8:00 am: Albert Plante †  
Requested by: Mary Lou Robben

#### Saturday, October 14

4:30 pm: Parish Family

#### Sunday, October 15

8:00 am: Lillian Horan †  
Requested by: Ruthann Pullen  
10:30 am: John (Jack) Kaelin †  
Requested by: Jane & Joe Prefer

#### 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

#### Monday

#### Saint Denis, Bishop, and Companions, Martyrs, and Saint John Leonardi, Priest

Jon 1:1-2:1-2, 11; Jonah 2:3, 4, 5, 8; Lk 10:25-37

#### Tuesday

Jon 3:1-10; Ps 130:1b-2, 3-4ab, 7-8; Lk 10:28-42

#### Wednesday

Jon 4:1-11; Ps 86:3-4, 5-6, 9-10; Lk 11:1-4

#### Thursday

Mal 3:13-20b; Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 & 6; Lk 11:5-13

#### Friday

Jl 1:13-15. 2:1-2; Ps 9:2-3, 6 & 16; 8-9; Lk 11:15-26

#### Saturday

#### Memorial of Saint Callistus I, Pope and Martyr

Jl 4:12-21; Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12; Lk 11:27-28

#### Sunday

#### Twenty-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Is 25:6-10a; Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5-6;  
Phil 4:12-14, 19-20; Mt 22:1-14 or  
Mt 22:1-10

Fr. Glenn and the entire St. Thomas Pastoral Staff wish much happiness, joy and congratulations to all our parishioners enjoying a Birthday, Wedding Anniversary or Birth of a Baby/ Grandchild celebration during the month of October.



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

### 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, Glenn Hultgren, Carl Campise, and our Website Prayer Requests.

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

## REMINDERS: COR & NATIONAL EUCHARISTIC REVIVAL



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)



### NATIONAL Eucharistic Revival

#### How does the Old Testament prefigure the doctrine of the Real Presence?

There are many signs, symbols, and events in the Old Testament that prefigure the doctrine of the Real Presence. The imperfect sacrifices of the Old point to the necessity of the New through the merits of the perfect sacrifice of Christ.

In Genesis 14:18, Melchizedek, the priest of God Most High, brings forth an offering of bread and wine and blesses Abram. The Church sees his bread and wine offering as a prefiguring of her own offering (CCC 1333) and of the priesthood of Christ, the unique “high priest after the order of Melchizedek” ... by the unique sacrifice of the cross. (CCC 1544)

Exodus chapter 12 describes the Pascal Lamb, the victim offered up to save the lives of the first-born of Israel, and also consumed as food for the Israelites as they began the journey to the Promised Land. This prefigures the Eucharist where the victim Jesus was offered up for our salvation and redemption, and also consumed to provide spiritual nourishment for the journey to the Promised Land of Heaven.

Beginning in Exodus chapter 16, the Lord God rained down manna from heaven to nourish and sustain the Israelites throughout their journey, but ceased when they finally entered the promised land (Exodus 16:35). Similarly, the Eucharist nourishes us spiritually in this life, but ceases when we enter the Promised Land of heaven.

Next month, we'll examine the scriptural support for the doctrine of the Real Presence in the New Testament.

**Greg Windmiller | August 24, 2023**

Note: In addition to the references cited, see especially Father Frank Chacon and Jim Burnham, *Beginning Apologetics 3: How to Explain and Defend the Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist*, San Juan Catholic Seminars, 1999-2022, pp 8-9.



# YOU PICK THE PRIZE RAFFLE & TRUNK OR TREAT

## 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: \_\_\_\_\_

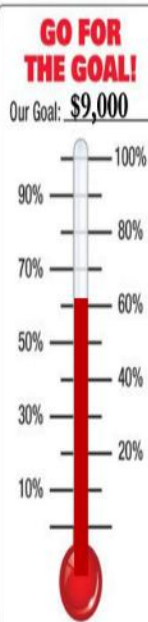
(Maximum of \$30 per ticket)

## YOU PICK the PRIZE RAFFLE

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

★ \$5,713.00 ★ Entries 292

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 is hosting our third annual TRUNK OR TREAT!

Kids of all ages are welcome to attend our Trunk or Treat on **Saturday, October 28, 2023, from Noon to 2:00 pm.** Dress up in your favorite costumes and enjoy the tricks and treats!

We will also have Halloween craft projects. We will have a very scary fun time!

We are looking for volunteers to give away treats from the trunks of their cars. Please contact the office if you're interested.

**Volunteers will need to arrive in the church's west parking lot by 11:30 am.**  
(Pictures are from previous events)



**WE ARE REQUESTING SMALL PUMPKIN DONATIONS. WE NEED 30 SMALL PUMPKINS FOR THE CHILDREN TO CARVE. PLEASE CONTACT THE OFFICE IF YOU CAN HELP!**



## EVENTS & COLLECTIONS & SAVE THE DATE & SVdP

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.

### THE DIVINE MERCY CHAPLET

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

*Together We Pray!*



<b>Sunday, October 8:</b> Name Tag Sunday <b>Collection: 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 Youth Faith Formation Class Mass (Children's Mass) Love More Ministry, Team A, <b>Team Captain: Martin Faulmino</b> Rosary Coast to Coast
<b>Monday, October 9:</b>	8:00 am 2:00 pm	Mass Bible Study "The Prophets"
<b>Tuesday, October 10:</b>	8:00 am 8:45 am	Mass Holy Face Devotion
<b>Wednesday, October 11:</b>	8:00 am 6:00 pm	Mass Knights of Columbus Meeting
<b>Thursday, October 12:</b>	8:00 am 8:45 am <b>REMINDER</b> → 1:00 pm	Mass Flame of Love Prayer Group <b>No Holy Hour</b> Bereavement Meeting
<b>Saturday, October 14:</b>	8:00 am 3:15 - 4:00 pm or by appt. 4:30 pm	Communion Only Service Reconciliation Vigil Mass
<b>Sunday, October 15:</b> <b>Collections: Catholic School &amp; Camp SVdP Food Collection</b>	8:00 am 9:00 am—10:15 am 10:30 am	Mass Youth Faith Formation Class Mass

### SAVE THE DATE

#### **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  
@ West Citrus ELKS Lodge

**Note:** We will be selling tickets  
before all masses the weekend of  
October 21 & 22

**\$50.00 per person**

More details on both events above  
will be posted in next  
weekend's bulletin

### SVdP



God tends to us, allowing good fruit to grow with our faithfulness. The Society of St. Vincent de Paul extends Jesus's love to the overlooked.

In September, your support provided 3571 pounds of food, assisting 292 people in need. Our volunteers dedicated 68 hours to distributing essentials and donated items to the needy.

#### Here's a list of needed items for our Food Pantry:

**Pasta Sauce, Diced Tomatoes, Ketchup, Mustard, Mayo, Rice, Instant Potatoes, Coffee, Tea, Powdered Milk, Evaporated Milk, Chef Boyardee, Canned Meats, Canned Chicken, Canned Tuna, Pancake Mix, Syrup, Canned Vegetables, Canned Soups, Peanut Butter, Jelly, Cake Mix, Canned Fruit, Instant Oatmeal, Cereal, Crackers, Snacks, and Drinks, Laundry Soap, Dish Soap, Body Wash, Bar Soap, Shampoo, Toilet Paper & Toothbrushes, Paper Towels, Kleenex, and Napkins.**

Your generosity makes St. Thomas the Apostle Food Pantry a Beacon of Hope. Thank you for your heartfelt giving. May God bless you abundantly!



# 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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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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