



# ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE CHURCH

## HOMOSASSA, FLORIDA

7040 S Suncoast Blvd.  
Phone: (352) 628-7000  
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: Business Manager

Robert Adams: Maintenance

Steve Balcom: Maintenance

Karen Ballaban: Comms. Specialist

Robin Furciato: Coord. of Religious Ed.

David Martin: Custodian

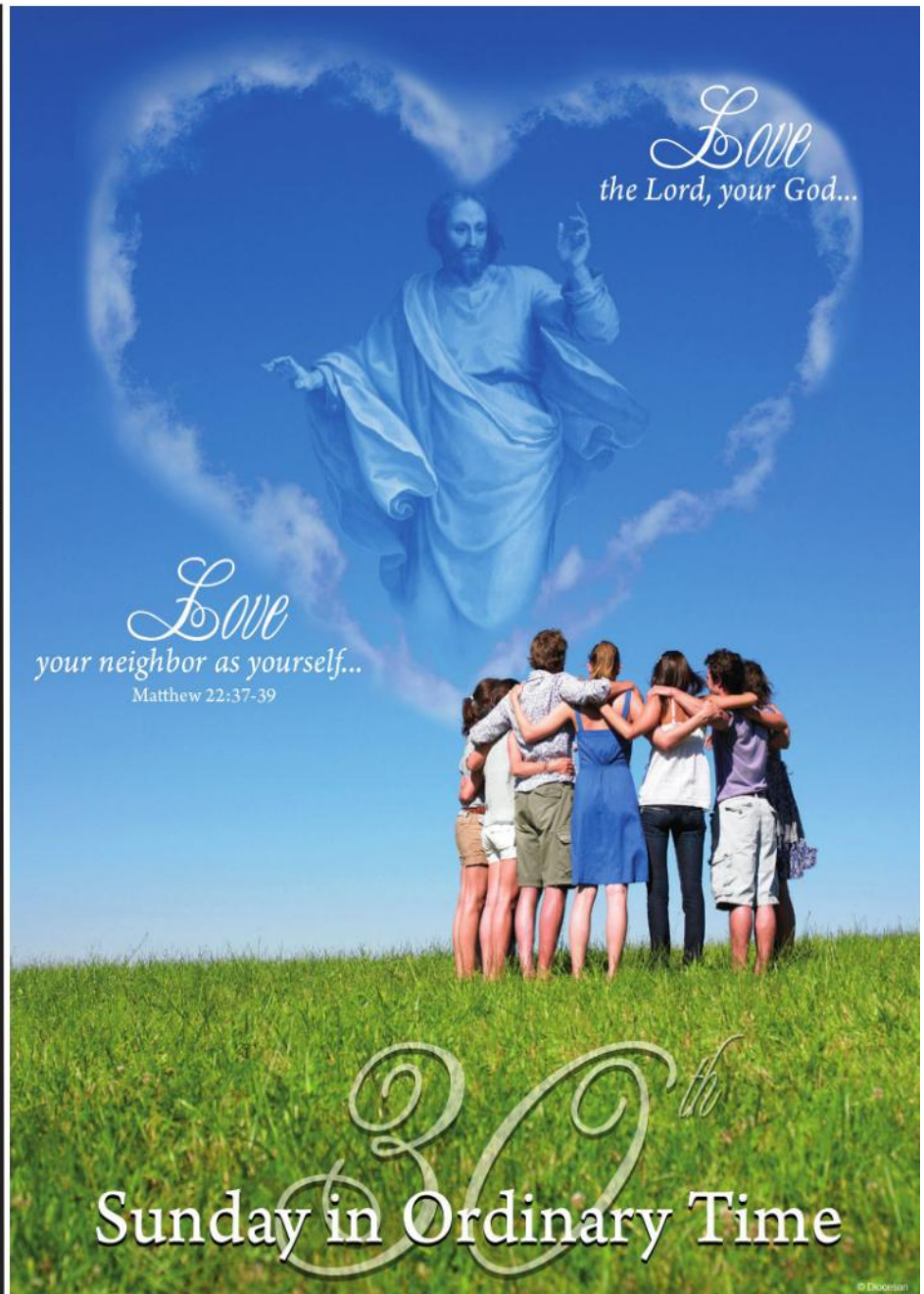
Joseph McEvoy: Pastoral Assistant

Michelle Kim-Painter: Music Director

Alfred Papino: Bookkeeper; Cantor,  
& Lead Accompanist

Pauline Papino: Sacristan

Karen Robben: Office and  
Communications Manager



**October 29, 2023**



# TENDING GOD'S FLOCK



29 October 2023 | 30th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A



1. On Saturday, September 16, eleven of us from St. Thomas attended the Diocese of St. Petersburg's **Eucharistic Encounter** that was held at the JW Marriot in Tampa. If I had to explain the event in one word, it would be "wow!" "The Vigil Project" provided the music for the event, and opened with a song that echoed Psalm 51: *"Open my lips, and my mouth shall proclaim your praise!"* It was a great way to start the day. We heard from five nationally renowned speakers, Fr. Tim Anastos, Dr. John Bergsma, Sr. Ana Chiara, Mr. Curtis Martin, and Mother Olga Yaqob, and ended the day with Bishop Gregory Parkes celebrating Mass and a Eucharistic Procession. The diocese livestreamed and recorded the event, so everyone can watch the videos or listen to the podcasts at [dosp.org/encounter/](https://dosp.org/encounter/)

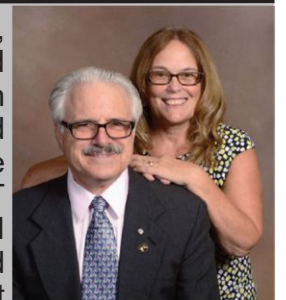
2. Each person who attended the event received a goodie bag that included a notepad and a pen. I don't typically journal, but I do take notes at events like these, so I can remember what inspired me. One of the many things I wrote down was Fr. Tim's **three things** to help us grow in conviction and deepening love of the Lord: a.) *Jesus wants to be close to us.* b.) *Jesus delights in us.* c.) *Jesus wants to be held by us.* Jesus longs for more than just a relationship with us; he longs for intimacy with us, to know us and love us at our truest, deepest self, so we can allow him to fully enter into our lives through the Eucharist.



3. In today's **gospel** (Matthew 22:34-40), we find another example of recapitulation, as Jesus restates for us the *Great Shema*. The *Shema* gets its name from the first Hebrew word of the prayer, "hear" or "listen," and is found in Deuteronomy 6: 4-9. It was a daily prayer for ancient Israelites and is still recited by Jewish people today every morning and every evening. In Matthew's gospel, Jesus is tested again by the Pharisees, and he confirms for his contemporaries, as well as for us, that the first and greatest commandment is to "...love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind." We must also remember that Jesus gave us a second commandment at the same time: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." Knowing that the whole law is based on these two commandments, our actions should come from a foundation of love, for it is from love that we were created.

Karen Robben | 28 September 2023

**St. Jude Medal Award:** Bishop Gregory Parkes will present today, October 29, at 3:00 pm, at the Cathedral of St. Jude the St. Jude Medal Award to individuals and couples from each parish for their outstanding service to their respective parish communities. The recipients for this year's award from our parish are Beverly and Joseph McEvoy, who joined our parish in January 2019 from Farmington, MI. Joe provides an invaluable volunteer service to our parish as our Pastoral Assistant, IT consultant, and Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (OCIA) director. You can find him at almost every weekend mass, and he is presently on his second term as Grand Knight of our parish's Knights of Columbus Council 15154. Moreover, Joe is the first parishioner to graduate with flying colors from the Lay Pastoral Ministry Institute (Class 2023). Beverly also wears many hats as a volunteer in our parish: Money Counters, assistant mass captain at the Sunday 10:30 a.m. mass, OHP, EMHC, Usher, RCIA Ministry, Arimathean Ministry, Love More Ministry, etc. Congratulations, Beverly and Joe! Thank you both for your dedicated service to our parish.



29 September 2023 | Fr. Glenn



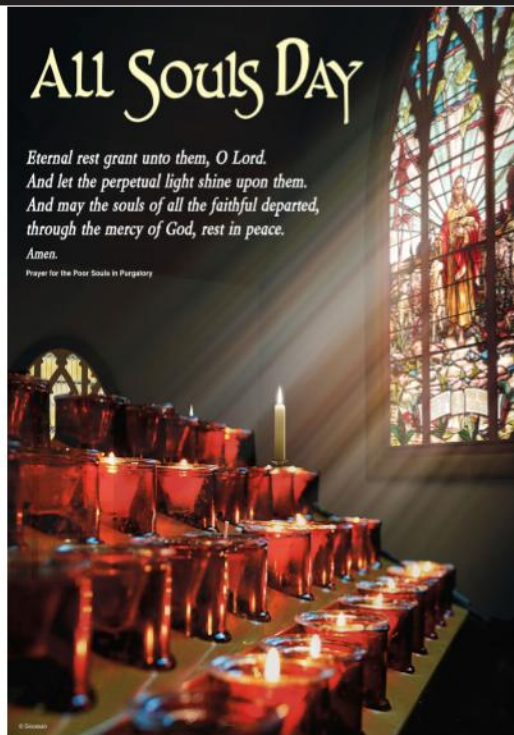
# ALL SAINTS // ALL SOULS // FIRST OF THE MONTH // BLOOD DRIVE

**All Saints Day**  
(Holy Day of Obligation)  
**October 31:** 4:30 p.m.  
(Vigil Mass)

**November 1:** 9:00 a.m. Mass



This is a Holy Day of Obligation when the Church celebrates all the saints. Join us for Vigil Mass on Tuesday, October 31st at 4:30 p.m. or on Wednesday, November 1st at 9:00 a.m.



**ALL SOULS DAY** is **Thursday, November 2.**  
Mass is at 8:00 a.m.

Let us not forget to remember and pray for our dearly departed loved ones.

## FIRST OF THE MONTH

**First Friday Adoration**  
**November 3**  
**8:30 a.m. - Noon**

Come spend quiet time with our Lord.



Attention Knights of Columbus, council 15154....

A Holy Hour in conjunction with the St. Thomas First Friday Adoration will start at 11:00 a.m.

All Knights and family are encourage to attend.  
(Council shirts required)



**First Saturday Rosary**  
**November 4**  
**9:00 a.m.**  
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 a.m. Our world needs our prayers.

Please join us in prayer!



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](http://lifesouth.org)

**Give local. Save local.**  
**St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic Church**  
**& Knights of Columbus Council 15154**  
**Blood Drive**

**Sunday, Nov. 5**

**8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.**

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



**\$20 E-GIFT CARD FOR ALL DONORS**  
ADDITIONAL \$20 E-GIFT CARD FOR PLATELET AND DOUBLE RED DONORS

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

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

## Sunday, October 29

8:00 am: Mary Seymour †

Requested by: Laurie Jo & Susan Brignola

10:30 am: Parish Family

## Monday, October 30

8:00 am: Don & Joan Grauwiler †

Requested by: Pat Daly

## Tuesday, October 31

8:00 am: Karol & Mary Klumas & Family †

Requested by: Granddaughter, Norma Pafchek



The Bread & Wine are donated in memory of  
**Karol & Mary Klumas & Family †**  
by Granddaughter, Norma Pafchek

4:30 pm: Vivian Adams †

Requested by: David & Tina Maffia

## Wednesday, November 1

9:00 am: David Corrao

Requested by: Marguerite Corrao

## Thursday, November 2

8:00 am: The Deceased Members of the  
Smith & Robben Families †

Requested by: Karen Robben

## Friday, November 3

8:00 am: Rita Tanner †

Requested by: Lolly & Shirley

## Saturday, November 4

8:00 am: Sheryl & Mabel Wojcik †

Requested by: Laurie & Susan Brignola

4:30 pm: In Thanksgiving for all Graces Received

Requested by: The Robben Family

## Sunday, November 5

8:00 am: Parish Family

10:30 am: Betty Van Zin †

Requested by: Anne and Andy Lunk

## Sunday

**Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Ex 22:20-26; Ps 18:2-3, 3-4, 47, 51;  
1 Thes 1:5c-10; Mt 22:34-40

## Monday

Rom 8:12-17; Ps 68:2 & 4,  
Lk 13:10-17

## Tuesday

Rom 8:18-25; Ps 126:1b-2ab, 2cd-3,  
4-5, 6; Lk 13:18-21

## Wednesday

**Solemnity of All Saints**

Rv 7:2-4, 9-14; Ps 24:1bc-2, 3-4ab,  
5-6; 1 Jn 3:1-3; Mt 5:1-12a

## Thursday

**The Commemoration of All the  
Faithful Departed (All Souls)**

Wis 3:1-9; Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5-6;  
Rom 6:3-9; Jn 6:37-40

## Friday

Rom 9:1-5; Ps 147:12-13, 14-15,  
19-20; Lk 14:1-6

## Saturday

**Memorial of Saint Charles Borromeo,  
Bishop**

Rom 11:1-2a, 11-12, 25-29; Ps 94:  
12-13a, 14-15, 17-18; Lk 14:1, 7-11

## Sunday

**Thirty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Mal 1:14b-2:2b, 8-10; Ps 131:1, 2, 3;  
1 Thes 2:7b-9, 13; Mt 23:1-12

**COMING SOON  
TO YOUR MAILBOX**



ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE CHURCH  
HOMOSASSA, FLORIDA

2023

**NEW PARISHIONER WELCOME**

**Sunday, December 3, 2023**

In St. Martin's Hall following the 10:30 a.m. Mass



**LORD, GRACIOUSLY HEAR OUR  
PRAYERS**



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

Karl Wolf, Ethan Grayshan, Virginia Kanis, Scott Klaben, Kerrie Schmidt, Mike Jablonsky, Skip Guss, Stephanie St. Clair, Mary Ann DeSimone, Charles Terreault, Christine Gicola, Elizabeth Dostal, Anthony Cimorelli, Rita Frisbee, 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, Wade Wolfe, Tony Caposieno, 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 & Lorraine Kwiecienski, Sandy Marecki, Linda DeWitt, Neill Aiken, Peg Laurie, Sheyna Clements, 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, Terry Brausch, Imre Beke Sr., Dayl Kohorst, Art Ferguson, and our Website Prayer Requests.

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

## EVENTS & COLLECTIONS // ONLINE GIVING

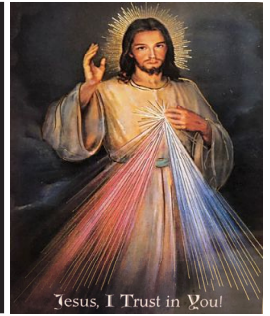
The church is open Monday through Thursday from 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. for personal prayer time. Access to the church is available through the rear door, directly across from the entrance to the parish office.

### THE DIVINE MERCY CHAPLET

is prayed every weekday following the 8:00 am Mass. *Together We Pray!*

***Opening Prayer*** (Diary of St. Faustina Kowalska, 1319) *You expired, Jesus, but the source of life gushed forth for souls, and the ocean of mercy opened up for the whole world. O Fount of Life, unfathomable Divine Mercy, envelop the whole world and empty yourself out upon us.*

***Repeat three times:*** (Diary, 84) *O Blood and Water, which gushed forth from the Heart of Jesus as a fountain of Mercy for us, I trust in you!*



Sunday, October 29:	8:00 am 9:00 am - 10:15 am 10:30 am	Mass Youth Faith Formation Class Mass
Monday, October 30:	8:00 am 2:00 pm	Mass Bible Study: Prophets
Tuesday, October 31:	8:00 am 8:45 am 4:30 pm	Mass Holy Face Devotion <b>Vigil All Saints Day</b>
Wednesday, November 1: <b>All Saints Day</b>	9:00 am 4:30 pm	<b>Mass: All Saints Day</b> SVdP Meeting
Thursday, November 2: <b>All Souls Day</b>	8:00 am 8:45 am 1:00 pm	<b>Mass: All Souls Day</b> Flame of Love Prayer Group Bereavement Meeting
Friday, November 3:  NATIONAL <b>Eucharistic Revival</b>	8:00 am 8:30 am - Noon 11:00 am - Noon	Mass First Friday Adoration Knights of Columbus Holy Hour
Saturday, November 4: <b>Name Tag Sunday</b> 	8:00 am 9:00 am 3:15 - 4:00 pm or by appt. 4:30 pm	First Saturday Mass (Confessions Follows) First Saturday Rosary Reconciliation <b>Vigil Mass (Annual Memorial Mass)</b>
Sunday, November 5: <b>Name Tag Sunday</b> <b>Collections: Parish Building Fund and Pregnancy &amp; Family Life Center</b>	8:00 am 8:30 am - 12:30 pm 9:00 am - 10:15 am 10:30 am	Mass <b>Knights of Columbus Blood Drive</b> Youth Faith Formation Class Mass

**ONLINE GIVING**  
FAST | SIMPLE | SECURE



ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE CHURCH  
HOMOSASSA, FLORIDA

As a friendly reminder, online giving is an easy, 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](http://give.mystthomas.org/give)

***We are grateful for your support!***



## REMINDER: PARISH DINNER DANCE

TICKETS CAN BE PURCHASED AT THE CHURCH ENTRANCE BEFORE ALL MASSES THIS WEEKEND



# 12<sup>th</sup> Annual St. Thomas the Apostle Parish Dinner Dance



All are invited to attend!

Where: West Citrus Elks Lodge #2693  
7890 Grover Cleveland  
Homosassa, FL 34446

When: Saturday, November 18, 2023, Doors open at 5:00 pm  
Cocktails & appetizers 5:00 – 6:15 pm  
Dinner 6:30 pm  
Dancing 7:00 pm – 10:00 pm  
*Entertainment by DJ Fred Campbell*

Choice of Entrée: Sliced Roast Beef with Gravy  
Chicken Cordon Blu with Mornay Sauce.  
Baked Haddock with herbed butter.

All entrees include Rolls & butter, house salad, potato, vegetable, and dessert,  
Coffee, Tea, or soft drink

*Cocktails, Beer, and Wine available at additional cost*

Cost: \$ 50.00 per person

Make checks payable to K of C Council 15154



**Toys for Tots Kick off!**

Bring a toy and receive a raffle ticket for the gift baskets!

For tickets or additional information contact:

Joseph McEvoy, GK (248) 388-0142 or [kofc15154@gmail.com](mailto:kofc15154@gmail.com)

All seats are reserved. Tables will have 8 people. List the name of the person attending and the Host's name at whose table you wish to be seated with, or you will be assigned a random seat.

SPONSORED BY THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS Council 15154



## REMINDER: YOU PICK THE PRIZE RAFFLE

### 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)

Have You Bought Your Ticket Yet?

### YOU PICK the PRIZE RAFFLE

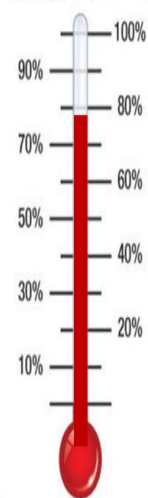
This year's goal is \$9,000  
for parking lot improvements.

★ \$7,001.00 ★ Entries 354

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

### GO FOR THE GOAL!

Our Goal: \$9,000



### 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.

## REMINDER: WOMEN'S GUILD FLEA MARKET



### Women's Guild's 6th Annual Flea Market Saturday, Nov. 18th from 9 AM to 2 PM

We look forward to seeing you whether you buy or sell.  
Please come and support our Women's Guild.

If you are selling, please bring your own table to display your  
unwanted treasures.

A \$15 donation is requested for each space occupied.  
Payment can be made on or before November 18th.

**Contact Info:** Brenda Jeffres [thejeffres@gmail.com](mailto:thejeffres@gmail.com) 352-422-7755

We look forward to seeing you there!

If you would like to join this important ministry,  
please call our parish office or email Brenda Jeffres.  
Meetings are held monthly on the 3rd. Wednesday at 11:00 am.





# 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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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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