



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:

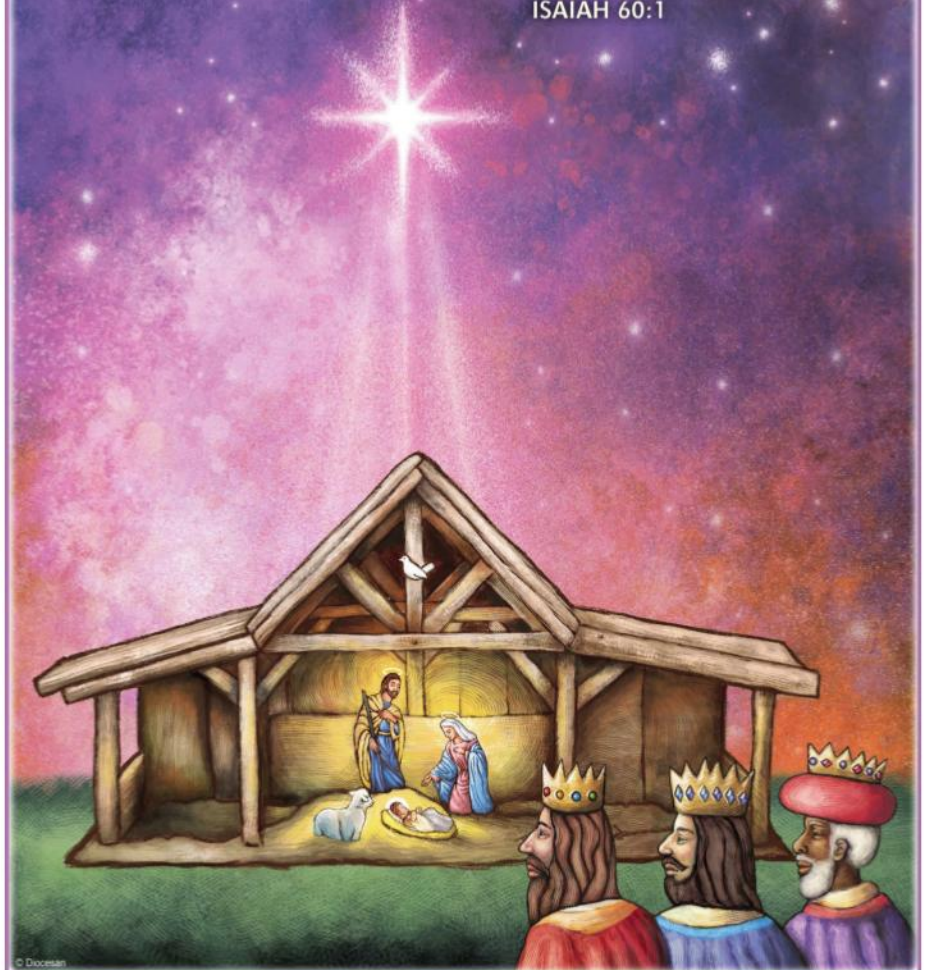
Rev. Msgr. Joseph Sobiesiak
Deacon Mark Manko: Business Manager

Robert Adams: Maintenance
Steve Balcom: Maintenance
Karen Ballaban: Comms. Specialist
Juanita Fuge: Bulletin Editor
Robin Furciato: Coord. of Religious Ed.
David Martin: Custodian
Joseph McEvoy: Pastoral Assistant
Michelle Kim-Painter: Music Director
Alfred Papino: Bookkeeper; Cantor and
Lead Accompanist
Pauline Papino: Sacristan
Karen Robben: Office & Comms. Mgr.

Epiphany of the Lord

Rise up in splendor, Jerusalem!
Your light has come, the glory of
the Lord shines upon you.

ISAIAH 60:1



January 7, 2024



TENDING GOD'S FLOCK

7 January, 2024, *Epiphany of our Lord,*



7 January 2024 | The Epiphany of the Lord, Year B

1. We had our Volunteers Appreciation Day last December 13, 2023. On that occasion, we presented for the first time the **St. Thomas Medal Award** to two parishioners for their exceptional dedication and outstanding service to our parish through the years. First, we have **Charlie Mattingly**, a founding member of our parish (registered since 1987). He built, with his own hands, many wooden items in our church including two altars, lecterns, and pedestals. He also donated the one-inch granite slab now placed on top of the church altar. Charlie donated our church organ in loving memory of his wife, Margie. He is a member of various parish organizations including the Knights of Columbus, the bereavement group, and several prayer groups.

2. The other recipient was **Beth Klaben**, a registered parishioner since 2010. She has been a member of our parish prayer warriors and led for many years the now defunct Marian Movement of Priests. Beth was a member of the Women's Guild and the altar linen ministry. She was also the spiritual director of the St. Vincent de Paul Society. At the outbreak of COVID-19, I asked Beth to run the parish call list, making phone calls to our sick, homebound, and grieving parishioners. In late December, Beth and her husband decided to join a Senior Living Community up north to be closer to family. Thank you, Charlie and Beth.

3. Today the Church celebrates the feast of the **Epiphany of the Lord**, which marks the peak of the Christmas season. Epiphany means manifestation, when our Lord was revealed as savior not only for the Jews, but also for the whole world. At the end of the Christmas season, our attention is drawn once again to the Star of Bethlehem, the star that led the magi to Jesus. As Christians, we are also invited to lead others to Jesus. May all our words and actions guide others to Jesus, who is the real Star leading us back to the loving arms of our heavenly Father.

Fr. Glenn | 9 December, 2023



MASS INTENTIONS // DAILY READINGS // FLOWERS // PRAYER LIST

Sunday, January 7

8:00 am: Christopher Manko†
Requested by: Julie Szucsik & Ruth Ann Pullen

10:30 am: Our Parish Family

Monday, January 8

8:00 am: Rev Kieran Fergus†
Requested by: Mary Lou Robben

Tuesday, January 9

8:00 am: Victoria Morrell†
Requested by: Charles Sheridan

Wednesday, January 10

8:00 am: Rick Miller
Requested by: Kevin Dunn

Thursday, January 11

8:00 am: Christopher Manko†
Requested by: Mary Lou & Karen Robben

Friday, January 12

8:00 am: Patricia C. Sheridan†
Requested by: Charles J. Sheridan & Family

Saturday, January 13

8:00 am: John Nagri†
Requested by: Bob & Greg Nagri

Sunday, January 14

4:30 pm: Rory J Michaels†
Requested by: Laurene & Rick Grimaldi

8:00 am: Leona Curtis†
Requested by: Dolores Fiore

10:30 am: Gordon Gould†
Requested by: Kevin Gould

Scripture Readings For the Week of January 7, 2024

Sunday	The Epiphany of the Lord Is 60:1-6; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13; Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6; Mt 2:1-12
Monday	Baptism of the Lord Is 42:1-4, 6-7 or Is 55:1-11 or Acts 10:34-38 or 1 Jn 5:1-9; Ps 29:1-2, 3-4, 3, 9-10 or Is 12:2-3, 4bcd, 5-6 Mk 1:7-11
Tuesday	1 Sm 1:9-20; 1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd; Mk 1:21-28
Wednesday	1 Sm 3:1-10, 19-20; PS 40:2 and 5, 7-8a, 8b-9, 10; Mk 1:29-39
Thursday	1 Sm 4:1-11; Ps 44:10-11, 14-15, 24-25; Mk 1:40-45
Friday	1 Sm 8:4-7, 10-22a; Ps 89:16-17, 18-19; Mk 2:1-12
Saturday	Memorial of Saint Hilary, Bishop and Doctor of the Church 1 Sm 9:1-4, 17-19; 10:1; Ps 21:2-3, 4-5, 6-7; Mk 2:13-17
Sunday	Second Sunday in Ordinary Time 1 Sm 3:3b-10, 19; Ps 40:2, 4, 7-8, 8-9, 10; 1 Cor 6:13c-15a, 17-20; Jn 1:35-42

LORD, GRACIOUSLY HEAR OUR PRAYERS

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



Neill Aiken, Peg Laurie, Sheyna Clements, Sandra Boros, Edward & Rusty Ryal, 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, Carl Campise, Imre Beke Sr., Dayl Kohorst, Victor & Phyllis Clossi, Terry Brausch, Karen Ballaban, Gene Koczur, Wayne Stringer, Mark Fuge

People's names will remain on our prayer list for three months.
To add or remove a name, please contact the parish office.

Support Our Catholic Ministry Appeal!

More numerous than the stars in the sky are your blessings, O Good and Gracious God. You have called us to spread the Good News of your Son, Jesus Christ, through our words and actions.

Strengthen our faith and open our hearts to care for all our brothers and sisters, especially those who need us the most.

Help us to understand the difference we can make, the love we can share, and the lives we can bring to Christ through our *Catholic Ministry Appeal*.

We pray that your grace, O Lord, will lead us to be your loving heart and hands today.



Welcome New Communicants!

Gary, Kim, and Marilyn joined us in full communion on Dec 23 at the 4:30 Mass after OCIA (formerly RCIA) sessions of prayer and discussion.



Join us for a special Mass In Honor of the Holy Child **SANTO NIÑO de CEBU** on Sunday, January 14, 2024, at the 10:30 am Mass.

Two main reasons why the devotion to Santo Niño (Holy Child) is the most popular in the Philippines. First, it is our oldest devotion, with roots going back to the early beginnings of Christianity in the Philippines. Second, in the Santo Niño, we Filipinos see our God in the form of a child, and who doesn't love little children? As a child, God is so endearing that he invites our affection. Join our celebration and together let's dance the Sinulog. Pit Senyor!

~ Fr. Glenn

AED



Automated External Defibrillator
Equipped Facility

Our church and hall are each equipped with an automated external defibrillator (AED). If you're wondering what an AED is, you're not alone.

Join us in the church on Wednesday, January 17, at 11:00 a.m. for a training session with the Citrus County Fire Marshall. There will be instructions on when and how to use an AED as well as a question and answer session.

No registration for the training is required. Bring your friends and neighbors to this important session—what you learn could save someone's life!

HOW TO REPORT ABUSE OF A CHILD OR VULNERABLE ADULT

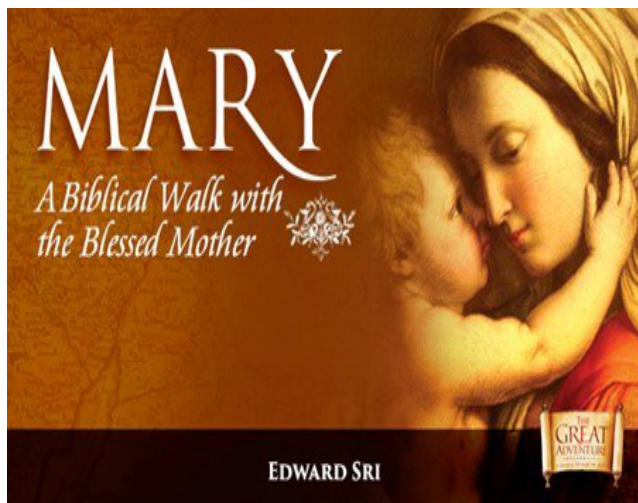
Reporting abuse can be a frightening consideration. The Diocese of St. Petersburg wants to make this process as safe as possible and will proceed appropriately, respecting your need for healing. Our Victim Assistance Coordinator will accompany you through any or all of the stages of the process. It is in a spirit of justice and compassion that we respond to your allegation. We offer a pastoral outreach to assist you in voicing your concerns. Most importantly, we want to help you find true healing and peace through Jesus Christ, the Good Shepherd.



If you are a victim of abuse, or you suspect that a child or a vulnerable adult is being abused by anyone, call law enforcement (911) or the Florida Abuse Hotline (Department of Children and Families) at 1-800-96-ABUSE (1-800-962-2873), or report abuse online at the Florida Department of Children and Families website.

To report abuse within the Diocese of St. Petersburg involving church personnel (clergy, a church employee or volunteer) or a contractor/vendor, you may also call our Victim Assistance Coordinator, John Lambert, L.C.S.W., via the diocesan Victim Assistance Hotline at 1-866-407-4505 or via email to jl@dosp.org. Please include your first and last name, your contact information and how you would prefer to be contacted. Or you can write to:

Bishop Gregory L. Parkes,
P.O. Box 40200, St. Petersburg, FL 33743
(Mark: "CONFIDENTIAL– FOR THE BISHOP ONLY" on the envelope)



Join our next bible study to be led by Deacon Mark Manko: **Mary: A Biblical Walk with the Blessed Mother.** This bible study is an extraordinary pilgrimage that reveals Mary's unique role in God's kingdom and in our lives. This study will place you in the midst of the powerful drama of her earthly life, taking you through her joys and her sorrows. Mary will become a part of your daily life, and in your daily life, you will become more like Christ. **Classes will be held on Mondays at 2:00 pm beginning February 26, 2024.**

The cost of the workbook is \$26.95.
Contact the office to reserve your spot!

*Parishioner Registration Weekend is
January 20 & 21, 2024*

**Your Parish Needs You and
You Need Your Parish!**

By registering at a parish, you are declaring your desire to be part of a Catholic faith community. If you have recently moved to the area or if you are a long-time resident, please consider registering with St. Thomas!

Reasons to Register:

- A sense of belonging and identity in a parish community.
- It is a commitment to practice your faith.
- Registration enables the parish pastor and staff to get to know you better, to welcome you, and to minister to you.
- Registration helps you stay connected with your parish and helps your parish stay connected with you.

Members of the staff will be available at the front entrance to assist you with registering. Scan the QR code to register or go online at www.MyStThomas.org/join-us. Registration forms are available on our website as well as in the lobby of the Church and in the Parish Office during business hours 8:30am – 1:30 pm, Monday through Thursday.



In Memory of Bob Adams

A tribute from his fellow parishioners and 8:00 am Mass goes. Bob died on December 20th after a valiant battle with cancer.

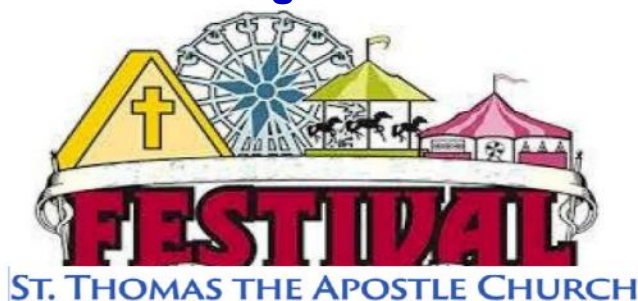


**We will begin collecting palms
next week for use on Ash
Wednesday 2024.
Please bring in last year's
palms beginning next Sunday,
January 14.**



Sunday February 4, 2023

The Fun Begins at 11:30 AM



**Can you cook, bake, act, sing, or craft?
Join us in making the Festival fun for all!**

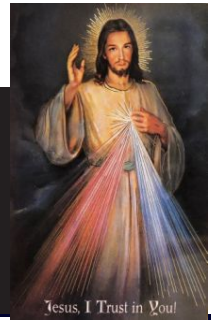
MARKETPLACE: We're looking for parishioners who can donate baked goods & prepared foods or who have arts, crafts, jewelry, or other items to sell. Contact Robin Furciato in the parish office at 352-628-7000.

TALENT SHOW: Share your God given talent on stage (3 minutes) or put your creativity on display. Non-competitive show: Vocal, dance, instrumental, crafts, painting, comedy, magic, etc. Contact Marcy Male at 352-650-5103 or marcym127@tampabay.rr.com.

**Bring a canned good to the festival for St. Vincent de Paul,
and receive a free raffle ticket to win a gift certificate to Hole in One Donuts.**



The church is open Monday - 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 office.



THE DIVINE MERCY CHAPLET

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

Together We Pray!

Sunday, January 7: Epiphany of our Lord Collections: Initial Offering Pregnancy, Family & Life	8:00 am 9:00 am 10:30 am	Mass No Youth Faith Formation Class (YFF) Mass
Monday, January 8:	8:00 am	Mass
Tuesday, January 9:	8:00 am 8:45 am	Mass Holy Face Devotion
Wednesday, January 10:	8:00 am 6:00 pm	Mass Knights of Columbus Meeting
Thursday, January 11:	8:00 am 8:30 am 9:30 am 1:00 pm	Mass Holy Hour Flame of Love of the Immaculate Heart of Mary Prayer Group Bereavement Group
Friday, January 12:	8:00 am	Mass
Saturday, January 13:	8:00 am 3:15 - 4:00 pm 4:30 pm	Communion Only Service Reconciliation Vigil Mass
Sunday, January 14: Second Sunday in Ordinary Time Collection: Building Fund	8:00 am 9:00 am - 10:15 am 10:30 am	Mass No YFF Class Mass



Marriage Troubles? If your marriage has become troubled and stressed, unloving or uncaring; if you have grown cold and distant; even if you are divorced or separated, or are thinking about it, *Retrouvaille* can help, as it has helped tens of thousands of others. Our next program begins **January 26-28, 2024**. For more information, visit **www.HelpOurMarriage.com**, or call (727) 343-6701. *Not counseling or group therapy.* **All contacts and names held in strictest confidence.**



Diocesan is proud to 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



Macrini-Wilder Funeral Home
Jeff Macrini, *Funeral Director*
628-3344 US Hwy. 19, Homosassa Springs



CAR ACCIDENT ♦ PERSONAL INJURY
FREE CONSULTATIONS - VIRTUAL OR IN OFFICE
5329 COMMERCIAL WAY
SPRING HILL, FL 34606

HERNANDO ♦ PASCO ♦ CITRUS
WWW.BRIJBAGLAW.COM
352.358.5880



**New Roofs
Reroofs
Repairs**
Free Estimates
Robert • Barry
352-628-7445
866-319-2952

HOOPER FUNERAL HOME
Homosassa Springs
352-628-3237
"Locally Owned & Operated"

**ADVERTISE
HERE**
Promote your Business
AND Support your Parish.
Give us a call! 800-997-4986



**THE CENTER FOR
BONE & JOINT DISEASE**
(352) 596-0900
10221 Yale Avenue
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/Total Joints
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 Injuries Shoulder/Knee
Patrick Dermarkarian, M.D. - Spine
Christopher Reyher, M.D. - Psychiatry/General
Huy Nguyen, M.D. - Psychiatry/General
Alexander Pappas, D.P.M. - Podiatrist



**Get this bulletin
emailed to you
every week.**

Simply go to
www.DM.CHURCH/4431

...or scan →



DISCOVERMASS

The Nature Coast's Premier

**ESTATE
PLANNING**

Law Firm

**HENGESBACH &
HENGESBACH**

ATTORNEYS AND COUNSELORS AT LAW

WILLS | TRUSTS | PROBATE | ELDER LAW



Spring Hill Office: (352) 683-1963
www.naturecoastlaw.com

**catholicmatch®
Florida**



CatholicMatch.com/goFL

**AAA
ROOFING**

**24 Times
Best of the Best**
Bonded &
Insured

Call The "Leakbusters"

Crystal River **563-0411**
Inverness **726-8917**
Ocala **352-840-0445**

email: aaaroofingfl@yahoo.com
web: aaaroofingflorida.com

State Lic. CCC057537

Free

Estimates
Fax 352-563-0001



NOVAK AIR CONDITIONING & HEATING, INC.
Hernando and Citrus:
352-754-1890

State Cert #C1821521



*American
Standard*
HEATING & AIR
CONDITIONING



- Family Owned and Operated
- As a practicing Catholic family and business, we treat you with integrity and professionalism.
- Servicing all major brands
- Commercial / Residential
- Ice Machines

