

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE

1580 St. Thomas Way
Lenoir City, TN 37772



December 29, 2024



THE HOLY FAMILY

He went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them; and his mother kept all these things in her heart. And Jesus advanced in wisdom and age and favor before God and man. - Lk 2:51-52

Entonces volvió con ellos a Nazaret y siguió sujeto a su autoridad. Su madre conservaba en su corazón todas aquellas cosas. Jesús iba creciendo en saber, en estatura y en el favor de Dios y de los hombres. - Lc 2, 51-52

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD
Leccionario II © 1987 Comisión Episcopal de Pastoral Litúrgica de la Conferencia del Episcopado Mexicano

MASSES

Saturday	5:00PM	7:00PM (Spanish)
Sunday	7:00AM	9:00AM
	11:30AM	1:30PM (Spanish)
Daily	8:30AM	Monday – Friday
	9:00AM	Saturdays

SACRAMENTS

Anointing: Please notify the parish office if you know anyone is seriously ill or in the hospital. (We will not be notified by the hospital due to patient confidentiality).

Baptism: Arranged by appointment.

Confirmation: Requires 1 year study and one retreat.

Marriage: Requires a minimum 6 month notice.

Confession: Tuesdays at 6:00-7:30PM, Saturdays from 9:45-10:30AM or by request.

PARISH OFFICE

Emergency Sacramental Line: 270-745-0462

Telephone Numbers:

Office: 865-986-9885

Fax: 865-988-8230

Hours: Monday - Thursday, 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM
(closed 12:00 – 12:30 PM for lunch)
Friday 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM

PRIESTS

Pastor: Fr. Julián Cardona, ext. 113
frjulian@sthomaslc.com

Associate Pastor: Fr. Adam Royal, ext. 118
fradam@sthomaslc.com

PARISH WEBSITE: www.sthomaslc.com

OUR PARISH STAFF

Parish Office 865-986-9885

Assistant to the Pastor:Lupe Cortes, ext. 121
lupe@sthomaslc.com**Bookkeeper:**Deb Reinhart, ext. 111
deb@sthomaslc.com**Business Manager:**Joe Piscitello, ext. 112
joe@sthomaslc.com**Communications & CMG Coordinator:**Penny Fleming
penny@sthomaslc.com**Deacons:** Norman Alexander 901-497-1132
Jack Conrad 901-606-6602
Roberto Cortes 865-271-7047
David Egan 865-332-2991
Mike Humphreys 865-919-4511
Sean Smith (w) 865-584-3307**Retired:**Jim Bodine 256-658-3277
Tom Bomkamp 865-850-4358**Director of Religious Education:**Celeste DeVore, Ext. 115
celeste@sthomaslc.com**Facility Maintenance Coordinator:**Randy Tarpley, Ext. 122
randy@sthomaslc.com**Music Coordinator:**Marla Emerson, Ext. 117
marla@sthomaslc.com**Receptionist:**Adele Juarez ext. 110
receptionist@sthomaslc.com**Youth & Family Ministry:**Joel Studer, ext. 114
jstuder@sthomaslc.com**MINISTRIES****Altar Servers:** Maria Rios 865-621-2608**Columbarium Inquiries:**
Deb Reinhart 865-986-9885**Council of Catholic Women:**
Teri Cleary 570-606-7015**EMHC:** Maria Rios 865-621-2608**Friendship Kitchen:** Keith Mutschler 443-340-0892**Funeral Planning/Bereavement**
Pat Meyer 630-842-2225**Homebound:** Tim Geoghegan 321-482-1413**Knights of Columbus:**
Kenan Guarino 603-443-7840**Lectors:** Maria Rios 865-621-2608**RCIA:** Edie Shanahan 865-308-3406**Respect Life:** Karen Vacaliuc 865-386-5784**Rosaries:** Pam Geoghegan 321-482-9668**Sacristans:** Maria Rios 865-621-2608**Safety & Security:** John Merrill 941-628-2887**Stephen Ministers:** Tom Ringenbach 865-458-0915
Sue Courtney 865-250-8284**St. Vincent de Paul:** Help Line 865-274-8697
Information - Andy Flad 630-240-6111**Ushers:** Jim Gold 484-885-0097**IMPORTANT INFORMATION****Flowers:** If you would like to donate altar flowers for a special occasion please call the parish office.**Ministry to those homebound or in care facilities:** *Are you homebound and can't make it to church?* If you or a loved one are ill or recovering from an illness at home or in a local assisted living facility, we've made it easier for you to receive Holy Communion. Contact Tim Geoghegan (321.482.1413 or timmyg620@gmail.com) to arrange a homebound visit. If the *sacraments of reconciliation or the anointing of the sick are needed*, a priest visit can be arranged by contacting the parish office at 865.986.9885. Or if you have a **sacramental emergency** (a critical health situation) that requires the sacraments of reconciliation and/or the anointing of the sick, call 270.745.0462 for a priest immediately.**Online prayer requests:** Marlene Eeg marleneeg@gmail.com**Parish registration:** registration forms are available in the parish office or you may register online.**Pregnancy help center hotline:** If you are facing a difficult or unplanned pregnancy, or need healing after an abortion, please call Catholic Charities Pregnancy Help Center "hotline" at toll free 877-990-4673.

MASS INTENTIONS

Mon	Dec 30 @ 8:30AM	Eugene Paul Semmens (dec)
Tue	Dec 31 @ 8:30AM	Robert & Carol Finchio (dec)
Tue	Dec 31 @ 7:00PM	All the faithful
Wed	Jan 1 @ 10:00AM	All the faithful
Wed	Jan 1 @ 6:00PM	All the faithful
Thu	Jan 2 @ 8:30AM	Souls in Purgatory
Fri	Jan 3 @ 8:30AM	Helen Ralph (dec)
Sat	Jan 4 @ 9:00AM	Frank Cicarell (dec)
Sat	Jan 4 @ 5:00PM	Jodi Anne Barteet (dec) Jo Davis & Pete Kilmartin Family (int)
Sat	Jan 4 @ 7:00PM	St. Thomas Parishioners
Sun	Jan 5 @ 7:00AM	Edward Shirk (dec)
Sun	Jan 5 @ 9:00AM	Mary Carlson (dec)
Sun	Jan 5 @ 11:30AM	William Jamieson (dec)
Sun	Jan 5 @ 1:30PM	Jose Cortes (dec)

SICK LIST

Anne Bernardi	Melissa Blom	Frank Ferrara
Joseph Ferrara	Theresa Ferrara	Peter Ferrara
Sandra Ferrara	Jane Kramp	Maryann Lerro
Ramon Torres	Ilka Richter	Jim Seidel
Deborah Campbell		Steve Popovich
Charlene Pagliarulo	Deacon Tom Bomkamp	
Lora Benedetti		

RESPECT LIFE

Jesus, Mary and Joseph, in you we contemplate the splendor of true love; to you we turn with trust. Holy Family of Nazareth, grant that our families too may be places of communion and prayer, authentic schools of the Gospel and small domestic churches. Holy Family of Nazareth, may families never again experience violence, rejection and division; may all who have been hurt or scandalized find ready comfort and healing. Holy Family of Nazareth, make us once more mindful of the sacredness and inviolability of the family, and its beauty in God's plan. Jesus, Mary and Joseph, Graciously hear our prayer. Amen.

REQUEST FOR UPDATED ST. THOMAS MILITARY SERVICE MEMBERS

If you know of a current man or woman serving our country, please email Bob Bowen at bob@bowentn.com and include their name, rank, branch of service, and a photo of your loved one(s). You may also drop off the information at the Parish Office. Their names and photos will be placed in the display case located in the Deacon Jose Room. Please respond no later than January 15, 2025.

WELCOME TO ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE!

Whether you're new to the area or exploring where to call your spiritual home, we are delighted that you're considering joining our parish family. Our doors and hearts are open to you, and we hope you'll experience the warmth and faith of our community. If you have any questions or would like to learn more about us, please stop by the office, or reach out to Pam Geoghegan at (321) 482-9668 or neatlib@gmail.com.

CATHOLIC INQUIRY SESSIONS

Do you have a family member or friend who is interested in becoming Catholic? The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) is a ministry for those who are not baptized or who have been baptized in another faith tradition and wish to learn more about and possibly enter the Catholic Church. Our Inquiry sessions are held every Tuesday evening at 6:30pm in Room 118, downstairs in the Parish Family Life Center. (Please enter through the downstairs back door.) Contact Edie Shanahan, (865)308-3406 or ELS947@comcast.net for more information and/or to register for these sessions.

LECTIO DIVINA

Seek Divine Wisdom by attending the weekly practice of Lectio Divina. The practice of LECTIO DIVINA is the secret to making Scripture come alive to YOU personally, through group sharing & in-depth study bible insight! The group meets on Friday mornings at 9:15am in Room 118. For additional information, please contact Penny Manczko at mustang62261@comcast.net.

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS

We would like to express our heartfelt gratitude to you who generously donated towards the Christmas flowers. Your thoughtful contributions helped create a beautiful and festive atmosphere for our celebration of the birth of our Savior. The flowers are a symbol of the joy, hope, and love that this season brings, and your support has made it possible to share that beauty with all who enter our church. May God bless you abundantly for your kindness and generosity.

A CHRISTMAS THANK YOU FROM FR. JULIAN & FR. ADAM

We would like to thank you for all your Christmas cards, gifts, intentions, and prayers. It was a beautiful Christmas season and a real joy for us to be a part of all the celebrations and events we had here at St Thomas. We would like to especially thank our awesome parish staff and all the wonderful volunteers who helped make this such a joyful Christmas. May God continue to bless our parish as we look forward to all the exciting and fun activities that will be occurring this coming year!

PARISH OFFICE CLOSINGS

The parish office is closed thru January 1.

CIERRE DE OFICINA PARROQUIAL

La oficina parroquial estará cerrada hasta el 1 de enero.

K OF C PASTA DINNER – FRIDAY, JANUARY 31, 2025

The Knights of Columbus will be holding a Pasta Dinner on Friday January 31, 2025, in the St. Thomas the Apostle Parish Family Life Center. There will be continuous service from 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM. The menu will include dinner salad, pasta with Bolognese tomato sauce, meatballs, Italian garlic bread, iced tea, cake, and coffee. Ticket price is \$14.00 per person or \$35.00 per family of four. Beer, wine, bottled water, and soda will be available at a small extra cost. Tickets are available in the Narthex before and after the weekend Masses of January 11/12 and 25/26. You may also call/text Joe Filosi at 920-740-7744 for tickets. Proceeds from this event will be distributed to the various charities supported by our council.

ARE YOU NEW TO ST. THOMAS PARISH?

We have had many changes in our parish over the past couple years including COVID, a new pastor and assistant pastor. We are happy to tell you that we are restarting the practice of hosting new parishioners periodically at Knights of Columbus Pancake Breakfasts. If you joined the parish around that time, mark February 2, 2025 on your calendar. It's a great way to meet fellow parishioners and of course, we welcome all our parishioners! Stay tuned! More to follow!

END OF YEAR CONTRIBUTION LETTERS

We will not be mailing out end of year contribution letters this year. If you need a letter for tax purposes, please request one by calling our bookkeeper, Deb Reinhart at 865-986-9885 ext. 111 or email her at deb@sthomaslc.com. Requested letters will be mailed out January 24.

RENEWING ROOM RESERVATIONS

As we prepare for the upcoming year, we would like to remind group leaders to renew room reservations for their annual meetings. Every group or persons that meet in our facilities need to be on the parish calendar. Some groups are already scheduled, if yours is one of them, please ensure the dates and times are accurate. Please email Adele Juarez at adele@sthomaslc.com in the parish office to renew or to make changes.

TIEMPO DE RENOVAR LA RESERVACIÓN DE SALONES

A medida que nos preparamos para el próximo año, nos gustaría recordarles a los líderes de los grupos parroquiales que renueven la reservación del salón para sus reuniones anuales. Cada grupo o persona que se reúna en nuestras instalaciones debe reflejar en el calendario parroquial. Algunos grupos ya están programados, si el tuyo es uno de ellos, asegúrate de que las fechas y horas sean correctas. Envía un correo electrónico a Adele Juárez a adele@sthomaslc.com en la oficina parroquial para renovar o hacer cambios.



MASS SCHEDULE FOR THE SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD

HORARIO DE MISAS PARA LA SOLEMNIDAD DE MARIA, SANTA MADRE DE DIOS

Holy day of obligation

Día de precepto

Tuesday, December 31 at 7:00 PM in Spanish

Martes 31 de diciembre a las 7:00 PM en español

No Confessions

No habrá confesiones

Wednesday, January 1 at 10:00 AM and 6:00 PM in English

Miércoles 1 de enero a las 10:00 AM y 6:00 PM en Inglés

END OF YEAR GIVING REMINDERS

For a donation to be considered deductible in 2024, you must do the following: **Date the check in 2024 AND** Check must either be placed in the collection basket or office by December 31 **OR** if the check is mailed, **it must be postmarked on or before December 31, 2024.** **Therefore:**

Checks brought into the office in January (even if dated in December) will be NOT be deductible in 2024. Checks mailed with a postmark in January (even if dated in December) will be NOT be deductible in 2024.

In both of these cases, the donations will be deductible in 2025.

Support My Church and Save on My Taxes?! What's Better than That?

Want a way to boost your tax savings beyond the newly increased standard deduction? If you are 70 ½ or older, you can use your IRA to make a gift to your parish, school, diocese or ministry and save on taxes! Normally, a distribution from your IRA is taxed as ordinary income. However, federal tax law now allows you to make a distribution each year from your IRA to a qualifying charity and it is not subject to federal income tax.

Transfers must be made directly from your IRA administrator to a qualifying 501c3 charitable organization. For more information contact our parish office or your IRA administrator.

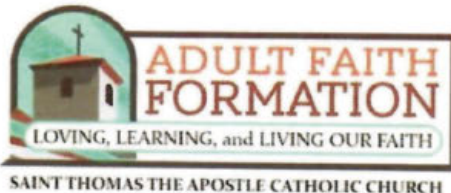
WeShare users

If you are changing your WeShare amount for 2025, you must go into WeShare to update the amount or call the office and ask for Deb to make that change in January. (Filling out a pledge form does not change WeShare amounts.)



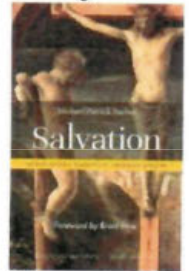
How to explain and defend your faith

Have you ever been asked questions about your faith by well-meaning, or sometimes not so well-meaning friends, family members, co-workers, or fellow students? If so, then join John Martignoni at Saint Thomas the Apostle Church in Lenoir City for an introductory seminar on evangelization and apologetics. John Martignoni will not only teach how to answer questions that are often asked of Catholics, but he will teach some strategies and techniques that will help learn how to answer any question about the faith. The seminar is open to everyone, but high school and college students as well as young adults are especially invited. Martignoni will hold two seminars on **January 17 and 18, 2025**. The first seminar will be held on January 17 from 4:30 PM to 6:00 PM and the January 18 seminar from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM. To register for the seminar, please see the home page of our parish website at www.sthomaslc.com.



New Deacon Luceon Sessions Beginning in January

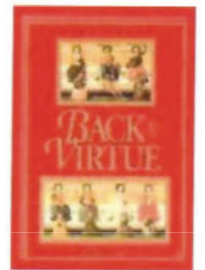
Deacon David Luceon will be offering a new 10-week DVD study by Michael Patrick Barber of the Augustine Institute titled: "Salvation: What Every Catholic Should Know" which unpacks what the New Testament teaches about salvation in Christ, detailing exactly what salvation



is and what it is not. Two classes will be offered, beginning on **Monday January 6 from 11:30 AM-12:45 PM and Wednesday January 8 from 9:15-10:45 AM**. All sessions will be in the **Deacon Jose Room**. Handouts will be provided at the first class. If you would like to sign up for either class, please send an email to Deacon David at dluceon@dioknox.org

2025 January Book Club

Join us for the first 2025 STA Book Club on Friday, **January 24, 2025, from 9:30 am – 11:00 am in Room 122** as we discuss Back to Virtue: Traditional Moral Wisdom for Modern Moral Confusion by Peter Kreeft. We have reduced all virtues to one: being nice. And, we measure Jesus by our standard instead of measuring our standard by Him. For the Christian, explains author Peter Kreeft, being virtuous is not a means to the end of pleasure, comfort and happiness. Virtue, he reminds us, is a word that means "manly strength." Kreeft not only summarizes scriptural and theological wisdom on leading a holy life, he contrasts Christian virtue with other ethical systems. Kreeft restores to us what was once common knowledge: the Seven Deadly Sins have an antidote in the Beatitudes. He provides a road map of virtue, a map for our earthly pilgrimage synthesized from the accumulated wisdom of centuries of Christians, from Paul and the early Church Fathers through C.S. Lewis. Use your favorite local or online bookseller to obtain your book. For additional information contact Marlene Eeg marleneeeg@earthlink.net



If you are new to the STA Book Club, you do not need to read the monthly book selected to come to your first meeting. Simply join the discussion and learn more about how we study our Catholic history, conversion stories, and other works of inspiration to strengthen our Catholic faith. All are welcome.

For Adult Faith Formation news, information, program offerings and other resources, please go to the Adult Faith Formation page on the St. Thomas website here: <https://www.sthomaslc.com/adult-faith-formation>



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