

# St. Thomas

ST. THOMAS · THE · APOSTLE · PARISH

21<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time 8-27-06

IT IS  
THE

SPRINT  
THAT  
GIVES  
LIFE.

THE FLESH  
IS  
USELESS  
JOHN 6:63



# St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic Parish

1500 Brookdale Road, Naperville, IL 60563 e-mail: [mainoffice@stapostle.org](mailto:mainoffice@stapostle.org)

630 355-8980 (Main Office)

630 305-6318 (Religious Education)

630 355-0521 (Facsimilie)

Visit us on the internet at [www.stapostle.org](http://www.stapostle.org)

## Pastoral Staff — Full Time

Rev. Joel Fortier – Pastor, [jfortier@stapostle.org](mailto:jfortier@stapostle.org)

Rev. Mark Cote – Associate Pastor, [fr\\_mark\\_c@yahoo.com](mailto:fr_mark_c@yahoo.com)

Rev. Bob Colaresi, O. Carm. – Weekend Assistant

Rev. Mr. William Worden, D. Min. – Deacon, ext. 105

Rev. Mr. Chuck Lane – Deacon, ext. 220, [chucklane2@juno.com](mailto:chucklane2@juno.com)

Rev. Mr. Jim Breen – Deacon, 630-357-4853, [jimb4853@yahoo.com](mailto:jimb4853@yahoo.com)

Rev. Mr. Larry Kearney Deacon, [lrkearney@comcast.net](mailto:lrkearney@comcast.net)

Gerry Czerak – Business Manager, ext. 106, [gczerak@stapostle.org](mailto:gczerak@stapostle.org)

Corinne Seguin-Dart – Director of Junior High Youth Ministry, ext. 117

Patti Dougherty – Director of Religious Education, ext. 109, [pdougherty@stapostle.org](mailto:pdougherty@stapostle.org)

Julie Frazier – Liturgy and Music, ext. 111, [jfrazier@stapostle.org](mailto:jfrazier@stapostle.org)

Robert Frazier – Liturgy and Music, ext. 112, [rfrazier@stapostle.org](mailto:rfrazier@stapostle.org)

Jim Melton – Director of High School Ministry,

ext. 123, [hopedawg1@stapostle.org](mailto:hopedawg1@stapostle.org)

Jan Olah – Director of Pastoral Care, ext. 124

Chari Rosales – Director of Adult Education & RCIA ext. 138, [crosales@stapostle.org](mailto:crosales@stapostle.org)

Michael Ryder – Director of Outreach, ext. 121

## Pastoral Care Staff — Part Time

Audrey Casey, BSN, Parish Nurse volunteer, ext 104, [acasey@stapostle.org](mailto:acasey@stapostle.org)

Felicia Lawlor, M.S., R.N., Parish Nurse volunteer, ext 104, [flawlor@stapostle.org](mailto:flawlor@stapostle.org)

## Support Staff — Full Time

Nancy Cirno – Religious Education Assistant, ext. 118, [ncirno@stapostle.org](mailto:ncirno@stapostle.org)

Lori Culberson – Liturgical Assistant, ext. 120, [lculberson@stapostle.org](mailto:lculberson@stapostle.org)

Kathy Ferguson - Receptionist, ext. 100, [mainoffice@stapostle.org](mailto:mainoffice@stapostle.org)

Diane McQueen – Parish Assistant, ext. 101, [dmcqueen@stapostle.org](mailto:dmcqueen@stapostle.org)

Anne Schultz – Outreach & Adult Faith Formation Assistant, ext. 113, [aschultz@stapostle.org](mailto:aschultz@stapostle.org)

Angela Tuttle – Liturgy Assistant & Communications Coordinator, ext. 110, [atuttle@stapostle.org](mailto:atuttle@stapostle.org)

## Support Staff — Part Time

Pat Berkhout – Evening/Saturday Receptionist, ext. 119, [nitecrew@stapostle.org](mailto:nitecrew@stapostle.org)

Marge Coronado – Evening Receptionist, ext. 119, [nitecrew@stapostle.org](mailto:nitecrew@stapostle.org)

Marilyn DeMeo – Database Coordinator (T/Th), ext. 107, [mdemeo@stapostle.org](mailto:mdemeo@stapostle.org)

Jorge Gonzalez – Custodian

Sue Sportiello – Accounts Payable (M/W), ext. 107, [ssportiello@stapostle.org](mailto:ssportiello@stapostle.org)

Ted McKeown - Facility Coordinator, ext. 133, [facility@stapostle.org](mailto:facility@stapostle.org)

Theresa Sheliga – Sacristan Coordinator, ext. 116

Lynne Vehlewald – Librarian, ext. 125, [library@stapostle.org](mailto:library@stapostle.org)

## Pastoral Leadership Community

Bob Bohanek

Ivan Deatsch

Pam Foster

Guy Francesconi

Julee Gard

Mary Johnson

Rosemary Krol

Carolyn Lowrie

Ray Vogt

Glenn Weir

## Commission Facilitators

Worship

Parish Life

Faith Formation

Administration

Service

Stewardship

Gwen Wells

Pam Foster

Susan Cornell-Ohl

Dave Otto

Phil Meno

Steve Obendorf

Doug & Maureen Johnson

## Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday reconciliation is available after 8:30 a.m.

Mass, 3:30 to 4:15 p.m., or after the 4:30 p.m. Mass

in the Reconciliation Room of the Chapel. Fr. Joel

and Fr. Mark are available during the week by ap-

pointment. Communal Penance services are held

occasionally throughout the year.

## Sick and Home Bound

Call the Church Office to receive prayer/Eucharist

from a priest, deacon or Minister of Care.

## Baptism

Baptisms are usually celebrated two Sundays each

month at a 1:45 p.m. service. On selected dates, Bap-

tisms are celebrated at weekend Masses. Parents are

required to attend a two-part awareness and renewal

program prior to the Baptism. Call the Church Office

a few months in advance to make arrangements.

## Matrimony

A couple planning on being married at St. Thomas

should contact the church six months in advance.

One year is preferred. Either the bride or groom, or

their parents, must be a registered parishioner for at

least three months prior to calling to set a date.

## Religious Education

Call the 305-6318 to register.

## RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults)

Any person wanting to learn more about the Catholic

Faith, or to join our Catholic community should call

the church at 355-8980.

## Counseling Service

Call Samaritan Interfaith 357-2456 or Jan Olah,

Pastoral Care 355-8980 x 124.

## Sunday Nursery

Nursery care is available for your child age one

(must be walking) to four at the 9 & 10:45 a.m. Mass.

For more information call the church office.

## Liturgy Schedule

### Daily

*(Monday — Friday)*

Rosary — 8:10 a.m.

Mass — 6:30 & 8:30 a.m.

*(Saturday)*

Mass — 8:30 a.m.

### Weekend

Saturday Vigil — 4:30 p.m.

Sunday — 7:30, 9:00, 10:45 a.m.,

& 12:15 p.m.

*Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament every  
first Friday of the month 9 a.m. — Noon.*

Dear Friends,

We have been looking at the Bread of Life discourse in John's gospel these past few weeks. It culminates today with people accepting or rejecting this teaching. We accept it, that's why we're here. We believe that the love of God is incarnate in the risen Body and Blood of Jesus. We share in the resurrection and risen life of Jesus as we share the most holy Sacrament of the Body and Blood of Christ.

---

*"We believe that the love of God is incarnate in the risen Body and Blood of Jesus."*

---

It is hard to believe that God is incarnate in our flesh and blood. That's what was so hard for the people of Jesus' time, that God could be so close and real in the midst of all our human weakness, broken-ness, and world of woe. Yet that is our hope, that God is incarnate in our lives, that we have already begun to live in the Kingdom of God, though it seems so far away.

It is as near as our human hearts affection and connection to each other. That's what the Body and Blood of Christ is all about, to heal, unite, and restore the whole human race into one body, the Glorious Risen Body of Christ. That is the impulse of the Spirit that leads us here together, to reconcile with God and one another and to find our way into the Kingdom of God through the Spirit and Body of Jesus.

It is the Spirit that gives life, Jesus tells us. The flesh of itself cannot do that, "For this reason I have told you that no one can come to me unless it is granted them by my Father." We thank God for that gratuitous initiative and grace that has brought us here as we experience that great bond of unity in the Body and Blood of Christ. It is the Spirit that gives life to the Body.

It enables us get out of ourselves, to be part of something that is bigger than us, bigger than all of us. To stand outside of ourselves, in Latin: *ex-stasis*, which is for us, ecstasy!

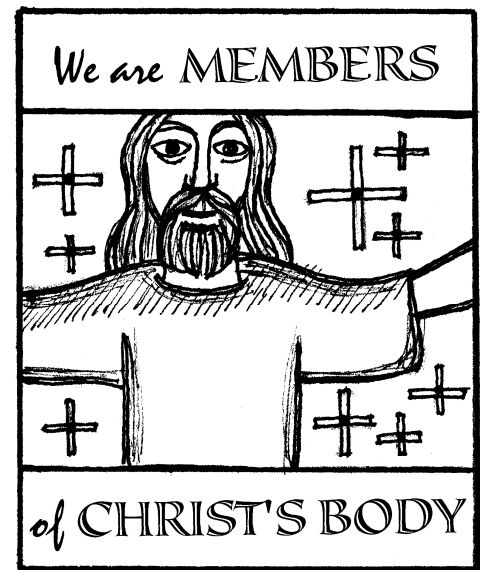
Jesus says, "The words I have spoken to you are Spirit and life." It is God's Word made flesh that calls us together and continues this process of incarnation in us and sends us out to the world.

We rejoice in saying with Peter, when the Lord asks him, "Do you also want to leave?" Master, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. We have come to believe that you and the Holy One of God." We have found ecstasy in Christ.

I rejoice in being drawn together with you in the Body and Blood of Christ, this great sacrament signifies that. It is bread broken to eat and cup given to share. It gives life, holds us and reminds us of all of that.

In the love of Christ,

*Fr. Joel*



Twenty-first Sunday  
in Ordinary Time

August 27, 2006

As for me and my household,  
we will serve the Lord.

— Joshua 24:15b

# Worship Commission

## Eucharist Handouts

Several excellent handouts about the Eucharist have been available in the Narthex these last four weekends to coordinate with the series of gospel readings that we have heard from John, Chapter 6 (the “Bread of Life” discourse). The handouts will continue to be available in our Parish Library. These short papers can help you, or someone you know, to understand and to appreciate the great sacrament of the Eucharist even more. The titles we have include: *Our Greatest and Best Prayer, Communion With the Lord & the Church, Presence of the Risen Lord, and Source and Summit of Catholic Life*. More information about this series and other resources are available online at: [www.AmericanCatholic.org](http://www.AmericanCatholic.org)

## Music Audition for Sunday Evening Teen Mass

Auditions for singers and instrumentalists are being held for the Sunday evening masses with John Angotti which begin this fall. There is an open audition **today, Sunday, August 27 from 2:00 – 4:00 P.M.** at Church for singers, electric guitar and bass players, drummers, flute, and sax players. We are especially interested in high school age and young adult musicians to render this spirited music and to be the music ministers for the Sunday 8:00 P.M. TREC Mass. Those auditioning should sing a song or perform a piece of their choice on their instrument. Contact Julie Frazier at ext. 111 or Jim Melton at ext. 123 for more information.

## Wedding Workshop

The next music and liturgy workshop to help couples choose music and prepare their wedding mass or ceremony will be held Sat., Sept. 9, 2006 from 10:00 a.m. - Noon in the Church. All couples who will be wed at St. Thomas must attend one of these workshops which are held several times throughout the year. This workshop should not be confused with the Engaged Couples Retreat Day, which couples must also attend. After Sept. 9 the next workshops are scheduled for Jan. 6, Feb 17 & Mar. 24, 2007. Contact Diane in the Main Office at 630 355-8980, ext. 101 or [dmcqueen@stapostle.org](mailto:dmcqueen@stapostle.org) to register

## Mission Appeal for the Church in India

We are happy that Father Thampi “Tony” Kavala, CSC could be with us this weekend to preach, to share his experiences and to tell us about the good work of the Holy Cross communities among the people and the church of India. More information about their work is available online at: <http://cscfrs-si.org/>

August 27, 2006 — Page 4

## Healing Masses

Prayers for healing will be offered during all masses next weekend, Sept. 2 & 3. These healing prayers will continue the our powerful St. Thomas tradition of praying for those in need of healing whether physical, spiritual, emotional or relational. After the homily, people in need of prayers will be asked to stand at their places. Other members of our community will move to them and pray with them.

The next communal celebration of the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick will be in December at Sunday liturgy. Sacramental anointing for those who are ill, advanced in age, or anticipating surgery is always available on request.

## Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time

### AS FOR ME AND MY HOUSEHOLD

Today’s Gospel picks up the thread of the “Bread of Life” discourses in the Gospel of John. Jesus, after performing the miracle of the multiplication of loaves and crossing back over the lake to Capernaum (by walking on the water!), is teaching the people in the synagogue there. Using the example of the manna in the desert, he opens for them the mystery of the gift of his body and blood. Startled, as one can imagine, by the starkness of this teaching, many, even among his disciples, begin to drift away, finding the teaching “hard.” It is a moment of decision for everyone.

Like Joshua in the desert of Sinai, Jesus asks his people to choose whom they will serve, the One God or something else. Like Joshua, Peter speaks on behalf of his “household” and sides with the Lord. Peter’s declaration of faith, “you are the Holy One of God,” is preceded by a simple rhetorical question: “Master, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life” (John 6:68, 69).

### WE WILL SERVE THE LORD

To make the choice of whom to serve, whom to believe in and trust, it is necessary sometimes to come to a moment of crisis. The concept of the Eucharist was so difficult that many who followed Jesus could not accept it. But those who had an intimate relationship with Jesus, not one based on signs and miracles but based on love, knew that their lives had been forever changed. There was no going back; there were no other “gods” to serve. There was the One, and everything depended on that fact. It is love that makes the choices clearer.

We don’t completely understand this mystery, or many mysteries of life. But in the intimate relationship of faith, we believe and trust in the One who is faithful. We have been given a great gift, and we cannot possibly understand it fully. But we know we have been loved, that we love in return, and “we have come to believe.” It makes all the difference.

Copyright © 2005, World Library Publications. All rights reserved.

# Pray for Our Parish

## 21<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

*In Jesus, your Holy One,  
you have given us the words of eternal life, O God,  
but you leave your household free to choose  
whom we will serve:  
the gods of the lands in which we live,  
or you, the living God.*

*Far be it from us to forsake you!  
To whom else can we go!  
Nourish us with Christ's flesh and blood.  
May we have life ourselves,  
and bring life-giving love to others.*

*We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ,  
the living bread, who has come down from heaven  
for the life of the world,  
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God for ever and ever.  
Amen.*

From: [Prayers for Sundays and Seasons](#), Liturgy Training Publications. [www.ltp.org](http://www.ltp.org)

## Prayer for Peace

*Lord God, we turn to you in these trying hours when conflict is a daily reality for our sisters and brothers in Lebanon, Israel, Iraq, and Afghanistan. We promise you to work to our utmost for reconciliation and for lasting peace in the Middle East. But we know we cannot do it alone. We very much need the strength of your presence in our midst if we are to overcome the obstacles before us. So our prayer at this moment is that you add your support to our efforts, that you show yourself as a tower of strength in those moments when the barriers seem impassable. Together we can become beacons of hope for just and peaceful societies in the land so very dear to the peoples of your covenant. Amen*

Adapted from Reverend John T. Pawlikowski, OSM  
*Catholic Theological Union, Chicago, IL*

From: National Council of Churches USA, [www.nccusa.org](http://www.nccusa.org)

## Today's Readings

**First Reading** — It was the LORD, our God, who protected us along our entire journey (Joshua 24:1-2a, 15-17, 18b).

**Psalm** — Taste and see the goodness of the Lord (Psalm 34).

**Second Reading** — Christ nourishes and cherishes the church because we are members of his body (Ephesians 5:21-32 [5:2a, 25-32]).

**Gospel** — We have come to believe and are convinced that you are the Holy One of God (John 6:60-69).

## For the sick...

**Lisa Ziede, daughter of Bill & Carmella**

## For the deceased...

**Tshidiso Sydney Swartland,  
brother of Tricia Makau;  
Joe Harrigan, uncle of Van Culberson  
Donette Rohr**

## For those recently married ...

**Jeanne Nolan & Toni Gozali**

## Mass Intentions

### Monday, August 28

**8:30** †Rose Lopez, by Martha Lopez

### Tuesday, August 29

**8:30** †Raymond & Marcella Dolan, by The Muhlenfeld Family  
†Rosario Quattrochi, by Joseph Battisto

### Friday, September 1

**8:30** 44th Wedding Anniversary of Frank & Marianne

### Saturday, September 2

**4:30** †Mary Pratt, by Jerry & Elmer Dagenais

### Sunday, September 3

**9:00** †Tony O'Brien, by Dave O'Moore

**10:45** †Rose Cuga & Stanley Wozniak, by Helen & Tim Swanson

†Charles Szatkowski, by Betty Zito

**12:15** Special Intention for Richard & Adela Aukalnis' 50th Anniversary

## Readings for the Week

Monday: 2 Thes 1:1-5, 11-12; Mt 23:13-22

Tuesday: 2 Thes 2:1-3a, 14-17; Mk 6:17-29

Wednesday: 2 Thes 3:6-10, 16-18; Mt 23:27-32

Thursday: 1 Cor 1:1-9; Mt 24:42-51

Friday: 1 Cor 1:17-25; Mt 25:1-13

Saturday: 1 Cor 1:26-31; Mt 25:14-30

Sunday: Dt 4:1-2, 6-8; Ps 15; Jas 1:17-18, 21b-22, 27; Mk 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

# Faith and Spiritual Formation Commission

## God's Little Instruction Books *The Wisdom Books of the Bible*

"Glory in God's counsel, the wisdom of eternity"  
— Ps. 16

Why am I here and what am I supposed to do about it? How do I live my life "God's way?" Is there any meaning in life?

Explore these and other questions during an examination of the books of Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, Job, Sirach, Wisdom, and the Song of Songs. In these "how-to" books of the Bible, learn how "to discern what is of value" (Phil. 1:9) and seek "an understanding heart." (1Kings 3:9)

Sessions meet Thursdays September through May, beginning September 7, and include prayer, discussion and fellowship. This study is a partnership of St. Thomas the Apostle and SS. Peter & Paul. Regular attendance is encouraged but not required – come as often as you can. Facilitated by Chari Rosales, Adult Faith Formation Director at St. Thomas, the sessions take place in the SS. Peter & Paul Pastoral Hall, 5 N. Brainard. To register, call Chari at 355-8980 or Christine at 355-1081.

## Soul Searchers

For the coming year, September 2006 through May 2007, St. Thomas Soul Searchers will meet once a month to read, explore, experience, and discover "the fathers" and a few "mothers" of the Christian Church from the second to the seventh centuries A.D. as compiled in *The Roots of Christian Mysticism* by Olivier Clement. In his introduction, Clement states, "I have tried to allow the chief witnesses of the undivided Church to speak for themselves... Many lived in times of persecution, when society veered between skepticism on one hand and various forms of 'gnosis' on the other."

The recent book and movie, *The Da Vinci Code*, exposes a great void of contemporary knowledge of the mystical and spiritual roots of our Church and our faith. These readings will mine the heart and soul of those who held, and were held by something so amazing and extraordinary that it changed the world.

This month's reading (pp. 7-34) includes the preface, intro and the first two chapters of *The Roots of Christian Mysticism*. The text is available at Borders and Barnes and Noble. Handouts are available in the pick-up drawer under "S".

The first meeting will be Saturday, September 9 from 9:15 to 10:30 a.m. in the Rectory Basement. All are welcome to attend.

## Alpha —An Opportunity to Explore the Meaning of Life

Alpha registrations will be accepted through September 1. Slots are filling up fast, so please don't delay. Registration forms are available in the Gathering Area and on the website.

## C.A.R.E. CORNER

If you were looking for a faith tradition today, as an adult, to help nurture your spirit, would you be attracted to the Christian faith? If you were to take a fresh look, what might draw you to the Christian way of relating to God? Christianity is a revealed faith. God began revealing Himself through the creation of the universe and all subsequent living things. God has also revealed Himself through His Words in scripture, through His expectations written in the form of the Ten Commandments, and through His fulfilled promises to our ancestors.

Scripture gives us countless stories of God's interaction with ancient peoples, such as Moses, David, and the prophets. We come to know God through His relationships with people and through His actions in their lives. And isn't this what God really wants? To be known to us so that we understand His love for us.



## Ninth Annual Fine Arts Exhibit at St. Thomas

The Celebration of the Arts Ministry of St. Thomas the Apostle invites artists to participate in the Ninth Annual Fine Arts Exhibit including three dimensional work, fine arts crafts, and photography. The exhibit will take place on Saturday and Sunday, November 4 and 5 in the Ministry center. Entry forms are in the Church office. The deadline for registration is October 6, 2006.

Call Don Castro at 717-9354 or Chari Rosales at 355-8980 Ext. 138 for more information.

**St. Thomas the Apostle Ecumenical Outreach Ministry  
Invites You To Attend  
An Interfaith Spiritual Retreat With "Baba"**



Sri Shuddaanandaa "Baba" is a world-renowned motivational and spiritual teacher and author of numerous books. He has touched many hearts in his inspirational presentations at St. Thomas.

This retreat for men and women will be unlike anything you have experienced so far in your spiritual search and journey. Unlike "spiritual retreats" of the past, this retreat will be totally experiential, where you will come in contact with and learn from a gentle teacher, Baba. You will learn how to reach deeply into your inner self to find the joy and peace that are the infallible signs of the presence of God. Baba's humble way of leading and sharing his wisdom will prompt you to open yourself to the Divine Wisdom always present within. You will experience sonorous silence and thundering thoughts of inner peace. Come and be Blessed!

***Friday, September 29, 5:30 pm – Sunday, October 1, 2006 12:00 noon***  
**Carmelite Spiritual Center**  
**8433 Bailey Road Darien, Il 60561**

**Cost: \$165.00 per person for double room**  
**(Meals begin with dinner Friday night)**

**Minimum deposit of \$75 is required**  
**Full payment due by September 15**

**For More Information:**

**Joanne Wade (parishioner) or Chari Rosales (630) 355-8980**

**REGISTRATION: Send check to St. Thomas the Apostle,  
 1500 Brookdale Road, Naperville, IL 60563, Attn. Chari Rosales  
 Please make check payable to St. Thomas the Apostle**

\*\*\*\*\*

Name/s \_\_\_\_\_ Amount enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Double Room \_\_\_\_\_ Roommate preference \_\_\_\_\_

# Religious Education

## Orientation for New Families

Orientation for New Families to St. Thomas Religious Education Program (Pre-K – 5)

Come to one of the following brief orientations in the Gathering Area of the Ministry Center on:

Wed, Aug 30 10:00 – 10:30 a.m.  
or 4:30 – 5:00  
or 7:30 – 8:00 p.m.

Learn:

- How to get the most out of our R.E. program
- Directions to school, parking procedures and doors to use
- How to use our calendar
- About special events

RSVP helpful: Patti Dougherty at 355-8980 ext.109 or [pdougherty@stapostle.org](mailto:pdougherty@stapostle.org) Children are welcome. Cookies will be served.

## Elementary Religious Education Kick-Off

All Pre-K through 5<sup>th</sup> grade families are invited to our Kick-Off on Sunday, August 27. We will meet in St. Thomas' gym from 1:15 – 2:15 p.m. and have ice cream, some fun, including a puppet show, a blessing from our Pastor, Fr. Joel, and the chance to meet some of our wonderful R.E. volunteers. Please RSVP by Monday, August 21, by calling Patti Dougherty 355-8980 ext. 109 or email Patti at [pdougherty@stapostle.org](mailto:pdougherty@stapostle.org) with the number attending so that we have enough ice cream ordered. Also, if you would like to help during that hour, please let Patti know.

## Liturgy of the Word with Children *Help Needed!*

In order to resume our Liturgy of the Word with Children from age 4 through Grade 3, we will need additional volunteers, both adult facilitators and youth assistants, for the 10:45 liturgy and some youth assistants at the 9:00 liturgy. Liturgy of the Word will resume September 24 and volunteers will be scheduled approximately every other week until May.

If you are willing to consider this ministry, please see or call Patti Dougherty (355-8980 ext. 109).

## Religious Education for Children with Special Needs

“Reach” is a Religious Education Program for children with needs that have not already been addressed through our regular R.E. program. “Reach” is offered at St. Raphael’s parish and is a program designed to help these children receive their sacraments. Please call Patti Dougherty at our Religious Education Office (305-6318) for more information.

## Catechists and Aides Needed

Our Religious Education Program is in need of a few catechists and adult aides during our Saturday classes.

The 8:30 – 9:45 session needs an aide in Grade 5.

The 10:30 – 11:45 session needs a catechist for Pre- K and Grade 5 and aides in Grades 1, 2 and 5. A youth helper for the Pre-K class would also be beneficial.

Aides need only attend the one time workshop, “Protecting God’s Children” and then come to the classes to assist. Catechists will be provided with training, materials and lesson plans. This is a wonderful opportunity to continue your own faith journey and to share your gifts with God’s children. Please call Patti Dougherty (355-8980 ext. 109) for more information.

## Protecting God’s Children

### *Required workshop for those volunteering with children.*

The “Protecting God’s Children” Program is a very pro-active, positive, professional approach to preventing child sexual abuse. This Program is now part of diocesan policy to establish a “safe environment” for members of our parish. While “Protecting God’s Children” sessions are primarily for all staff and volunteers who work with children, they are also open to any parent or person from the parish who wishes to attend.

St. Thomas is hosting this workshop on:

Saturday September 23 8:30 – 11:30 am.

Call St. Thomas’ Main Office to register for the above dates, 355-8980. For other locations and dates visit: <http://www.dioceseofjoliet.org>





### ***Next SHPP General Meeting***

School Home Parent Partnership will hold an informational meeting for all new families and returning families who would like to learn more about the organization on ***Wednesday, September 6, 2006 at 7:00 p.m.*** in the school gymnasium. Our first general meeting of the new school year will be held on ***Thursday, September 21, 2006 at 7:00 p.m.*** in the ASCA cafeteria. All parents and guardians of ASCA students are welcome and we look forward to seeing you!

To let everyone know, the remainder of our 2005-2006 budget was allocated to our future playground and the school's new snow cone machine which is sure to be a big hit with the children!

### **Book Study at All Saints Academy *Last Child in the Woods***

Parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, teachers and all who care about the future of our children are invited to reflect on the book, *Last Child in the Woods, Saving our Children from Nature Deficit Disorder* by Richard Louv. ISBN-10-56512-522-3.



The growing disassociation of children and nature and the possible link between an absence of free play in nature and childhood obesity, attention deficit disorder and depression will be considered. Ways to create safe natural environments for children to experience the awe and wonder of God's creation will be explored. The sessions will meet from 7 to 9 p.m. on October 11 and 25 and November 8 and 15 at All Saints Catholic Academy in Naperville. Cost including the book is \$25. To receive registration information call: 630-357-6527.

Cosponsored by All Saints Catholic Academy and St. Thomas the Apostle Care with God's Creation.



## **Is God Calling? St. Thomas Youth Need YOU!**

You are invited to join a profession that began as a ministry of Jesus Christ! The Junior High Religious Education Program is looking for additional volunteers to lead the Monday night Religious Education classes for grade six, seven and eight.

The positive exchange of time, talent and passion will make a significant difference in the lives of these young Catholics and in your life as well. Please call the R.E.

office at 305-6318 ext.117 or email Corinne Séguin at [cseguin@stapostle.org](mailto:cseguin@stapostle.org).

### **First Communion Preparation**

First Communion Preparation begins in the First Grade to receive the sacrament in Second Grade. Registration for Religious Education is now due, so please remember to register your First Grader. Call the Religious Education Office (305-6318) for more details.

# Service Commission

## Outreach

### IMMIGRANT WORKER JUSTICE WALK

The Joliet Diocese Peace & Justice Office along with Pax Christi Illinois and many other immigration rights, labor, and religious organizations are endorsing a Labor Day Weekend walk calling for fair and humane immigration reform. The walk will start with a rally on Friday, September 1st at 12:30 pm at Chinatown in Chicago (corner of Archer & Wentworth) and will end with a rally at the offices of Speaker Dennis Hastert's office in Batavia (27 N. River St.) at 2:00 pm on Monday, September 4th. For more information about the walk contact the Illinois Coalition for Immigrant and Refugee Rights at [www.icirr.org](http://www.icirr.org) or call 312-332-7360.

Pax Christi Illinois is taking responsibility for working with the parishioners of St. Mary's Parish in West Chicago to provide hospitality and a meal to the walkers on Sunday evening, September 3rd. If you can help with this effort please contact Tom Cordaro at 630.369.0777 or [tomcordaro@juno.com](mailto:tomcordaro@juno.com).

### September Care Pantry Food Collections

Next Weekend, September 2/3

*Here are the items we especially need...*

**Pasta Sauce**

**Cereal**

**Canned Fruit**

**Cake Frosting**

**Paper Towels**

**Jelly**

**Tuna**

**Toilet Paper**



**If you cannot bring food to Mass next weekend, bring it whenever it is convenient for you...just leave it outside the Outreach office or in the Gathering Area.**

*Caring is thinking  
with your heart*



### Do You Speak Car Language?

The Outreach Office receives requests for assistance with car repairs; the number of such requests has increased recently. Car repairs are often unexpected and are especially difficult to afford for someone living paycheck to paycheck. If a person is employed, a car is necessary to get to and from a job and to maintain employment. If a person is unemployed, a car is needed for the person to go to interviews to gain employment.

We would like to establish a relationship with a local car repair business that we could work with in these situations. We are not asking for the work to be done for free; we are asking for quality work and equitable pricing.

If you are aware of such a business in the area, please contact Mike Ryder or Anne Schultz in the Outreach Office, 355.8980. Thank you for helping to maintain the dignity of our sisters and brothers in need.

### *Society of St. Vincent dePaul*

America's Oldest Caring Organization  
Dedicated to Helping the Poor & Needy  
630-293-9755

# Pastoral Care

## Be a Donor! Be a Hero!

### *Did you know:*

- Every 13 minutes, a new person is added to the national waiting list for organ donation?
- An average of 18 people die each day while waiting?
- All major religious traditions support organ and tissue donation as an act of love, charity and caring for ones neighbor?
- One donor can save or enhance the lives of more than 25 people?

### *What can you do?*

Illinois has a new first-person consent law for organ and tissue donation. The Illinois Organ/Tissue Donor Registry through Secretary of State Jesse White's office has become a centralized registry of all individuals legally documenting their wishes to become donors. *If you want to be a donor, go to the Secretary of State website and register as a donor. You must do this even if you signed your driver's license or signed up on another list.* These lists are not legally binding and still require your family's consent.

Even though their consent is not required, your family will still be included in the process. Transplant coordinators will work with your family so that they understand everything that is happening, receive support, and receive information about the recipients. They will continue to provide ongoing programs and services for families of donors for as long as they wish.

If you are 18 or older, please join the registry by visiting [www.LifeGoesOn.com](http://www.LifeGoesOn.com), calling 800-210-2106 or visiting you local Secretary of State facility.

## **We are here for you...**

*Our Care Pantry,  
St. Vincent de Paul, and  
Bread of Life Ministries  
are here for you for assistance  
during these difficult times.  
Please contact our Outreach  
Office 355-8980, x121 so that  
we may be of help to you.*

*Our God is faithful and  
He works through all of us  
working together.*

## **CPR recertification Needed in August 2006?**

As many as one hundred (100) St. Thomas parishioners were certified in CPR and AED education in August 2004 right here at ST. Thomas.

The American Heart Association recommends a recertification every two years. Looking at the AHA certification card, August 2006 is recertification date for those 100. This does not mean you cannot perform CPR, if necessary, if not recertified. It is simply best to sharpen your skills and pick up new information or techniques. There have been some rate and rhythm changes this past year.

Heartsaving techniques are crucial in an emergency. Please use the skills you have learned in a crisis situation. If possible, attend a recertification class at the facilities listed below:

Edward Hospital and Health Services  
Naperville 630-527-3596

Delnor Community Hospital  
Geneva 630-208-4491

L.A. Enterprises USA  
Oswego 630-554-0298

Searcy Medical Solutions  
Romeoville 815-886-3279

First Response  
Elk Grove 847-258-5585

Willow Springs Fire & Rescue  
Willow Springs 708-839-5665

Thank you for your consideration.  
Audrey and Felicia

## **Wheels of Love**

All Medicare recipients should now be aware that they maybe eligible to receive a power wheelchair, paid for by Medicare, if they suffer from conditions such as arthritis, respiratory disorders, cardiovascular disease, pain, gait instability, and other conditions that impair a beneficiary's ability to participate in completing activities of daily living.

For more information for Medicare eligibility call 1-866-631-3022.



## Welcome New Parishioners!

The Christiansen Family  
 Peter & Tammy Ferris  
 Nicole Trusk  
 Erik & Tracy Richards  
 The Newson Family  
 Dawn Franta  
 Marianne Papiernik  
 The Blasko Family  
 The Sindelar Family  
 Herb & Jill Steinmetz  
 Debbie Tolbert  
 Douglas & Nicole Meyers  
 The George Murphy Family  
 Joshua Vierling  
 The Kolettu Family  
 The Maranon Family  
 The Tony Gonzalez Family  
 Michael & Dina Carlson  
 George & Betty Lou Novotny  
 The Cavagnetto Family  
 The Bergschneider Family  
 Anne Peterson

The Timothy Ory Family  
 The Sudnik Family  
 The Hawkins Family  
 The Valanarasu Family  
 The Menezes Family  
 The Mendoza Family  
 The Fistek Family  
 The Reformado Family  
 The Laws Family  
 The Patrick Wilder Family  
 The Scott Boyer Family  
 The John Gleason Family  
 The Andrew Manion Family  
 Anthony & Judy LaPorte  
 The Reifsnnyder Family  
 Suzon Hawlsing  
 Catherine Petriskey  
 Christina Domaleczny  
 Paul Kostock  
 Linda Brinkman  
 Eugene Diemer  
 The William Brewster Family

The Ryan McCann Family  
 The Don Cafarella Family  
 Kevin & Laura McNicholas  
 Mark & Melissa Vandenburg  
 Patricia Hayman  
 The Torres/Barrios Family  
 The Neal Woods Family  
 Lucille Panas  
 Bill & Carol Virkus  
 The Marschitz Family  
 The William Brewster Family  
 Bob & Jane Bronson  
 The Joseph Bast Family  
 The Thad Haas Family  
 The Ron Griffin Family  
 Adam Letendre  
 Carol Gardaphe  
 The Dom Rodrigues Family  
 The Stephen Chen Family  
 Ben and Sarah Weyenberg  
 Evon Deckard  
 The Andrew Kekel Family

## Stewardship Commission



### 2006 Diocesan Annual Appeal Diocese of Joliet

#### Diocesan Appeal Results as of August 14, 2006

Parish Appeal Goal:	\$142,254
Pledges received at St. Thomas	\$97,633
% of Goal pledged to date:	68.6%
Remaining amount to goal:	\$44,621

*All of us share in the life of the Diocese of Joliet. We are many people, but one Church. If you have not made a gift to the Annual Appeal, please do so today. Your gift will touch many lives. Thank you.*

#### Stewardship... A Way of Life

##### Last Weekend's stewardship of financial gifts...

Weekly Sunday Offertory (week 8)		
Envelopes	21,362	\$24,285
Loose	2,923	
Automatic Direct Debit		
Mailed in & stock donations		\$12,709
Total for week		\$2,400
*Based on Collection Counters Reports		\$39,394
Fiscal Year (7/1 to 6/30) to date:		
Weekly Average 7/1/06 to date:		\$264,438
Sunday Offertory Goal YTD		\$33,055
Goal for Fiscal Year 7/1 to 6/30		\$272,000
Remaining for Fiscal Year		\$1,768,000
Collection on Assumption Feast:		\$1,503,562
		\$2,074

# Parish Life Commission

**50** *and Holding*  
Mature Adults  
Young at Heart

**If you are 50 or over, you are cordially invited to join our group.** We always welcome fresh ideas and new friends. Couples and singles are welcome.

## **Upcoming meetings and activities include:**

**Sept 6,** 9 a.m., Breakfast at Quincy's, 1112 E Ogden Ave, Call Bill Huff by Sept 3 if you plan to attend.

**Sept 20,** 7 p.m., Monthly Meeting in the Gathering Area, Wine Tasting and Making plans for the next 12 months. Speaker: Deacon Chuck Lane.

**Oct 4,** 1:30 p.m., Lunch at Olive Garden, 620 S Rt 59. Call Bill Huff by Oct 1 if you plan to attend.

**Oct 15,** 7:30 a.m., Mass for deceased members.

**Oct 18,** 7 p.m., Monthly meeting in Gathering Area. Octoberfest Brats and Beer & finalizing plans for next year. Speaker: Ray Kammer

**NOTE:** Shirley Mann has agreed to serve as "Sunshine Lady" for the club. Please give Shirley a call if you know of a member who is ill, in the hospital, or in need of some encouragement.

***There's no better time than NOW to join 50 and Holding. If interested, call Bill Huff (parishioner). Hope to see you!***

## **Ladies Bridge**

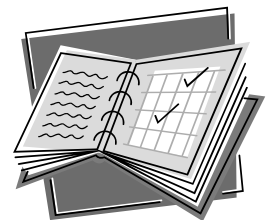
It won't be long and The St. Thomas Ladies Bridge Marathon will be resuming play. If interested in joining, substituting or wanting information, please call Sue Randolph (parishioner).



## **PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDAR - DIVERSITY DINNER**

The Racial Justice Ministry is planning the Fifth St. Thomas Diversity Dinner on Saturday, October 7, 2006. The dinner will follow the 4:30 p.m. liturgy. Guest musicians and dancers will help celebrate the theme of diversity throughout the evening. Past Diversity Dinners have provided a great opportunity to enjoy and celebrate the unique gifts of various cultures through food, music, dance, art, and children's activities. Participants will bring a dish to share representing their heritage. This is a family event. Further details will be publicized in future bulletins.

The Racial Justice Ministry is in need of volunteers to help, especially the day of the event. No special skills required. This is a great opportunity to meet fellow parishioners in an activity designed to help create a parish community that is open and welcoming to all. Your ideas would also be appreciated. Please contact Eleanor Wegman, (parishioner).



**SAM**  
SINGLE ADULT MINISTRY

S.A.M. - Single Adult Ministry is a community for all Christian single adults 45 and over. The ministry promotes balance in single life through spiritual, service and social functions. It offers singles an opportunity to celebrate life.

**Sat, Sept 9,** Hear Irish Spirit Celtic Music at Catigny, Call Lynn (parishioner).

**Mon, Sept 11:** SAM Planning meeting St. Thomas 7:30 p.m.

**Fri, Sept 22,** Come for dinner at Bohemian Crystal in Westmont at 6 p.m. Call Jack .

## **S.A.M. Ministry Hosts Humanitarian Service Project**

The Single Adult Ministry is participating in a project to on us to help the children prepare for school. Whatever you want to donate will be greatly appreciated. i.e. pencils, paper, glue sticks, white glue, notebooks, scissors, folders, highlighters, crayons and anything that says school.

No time to shop? Where do I take supplies? Call Ann Gerding (parishioner) for details. Deadline to submit materials is August 25.

# Administration Commission



## Jobs Ministry Weekly Networking Meeting

Friday mornings at 9:30 a.m.  
(after the 8:30 a.m. Liturgy) Lighthouse

The August St. Thomas the Apostle Jobs Ministry Meeting will be held on Thursday evening August 31, 2006 at 7:00 pm in the Lighthouse. The speaker will be Scott Kane, founder and partner of Gray Hair Management, a career coaching and networking company, helping job seekers enhance their careers and find new opportunities. Scott has held senior positions in the tele-production industry for over 25 years and is an experienced innovator, negotiator, marketer and manager.

Scott's presentation is titled "The Gray Hair Laws of Networking". With a better than 80% chance that your next opportunity will come from someone you know, the Gray Hair Laws of Networking presentation will help you better understand how to use networking to: establish yourself and your own brand, use your elevator speech to attract attention, and get yourself in front of the right person.

Plan to attend this very informative meeting on Thursday evening August 31, at 7:00 pm.

Contact Jim Breen at [jimb4853@yahoo.com](mailto:jimb4853@yahoo.com) for more information.

### Unemployed/Underemployed?

Looking for job resources?

Looking for networking contacts?

Want to help the unemployed?

Contact the Jobs Ministry at St. Thomas voice mail 630-355-8980x222 or sign-up on the Web, at [www.stapostle.org](http://www.stapostle.org)

### THE WEEK AHEAD...

#### Monday, Aug. 28

8:30am-11:30 a.m. Gathering Place Café, Gathering Area  
6:00—9:30 p.m. New Wine Class, Senior Center  
7:30—9:30 p.m. Haiti Twinning, Resource Center

#### Tuesday, Aug. 29

10:00—11:00 a.m. Care Pantry, Lighthouse  
7:00—9:00 p.m. Catechist Meeting, Ministry Center  
7:00—9:00 p.m. Adult Basketball, Gym  
7:30—9:00 p.m. Charismatic Prayer, Lounge

#### Wednesday, Aug. 30

8:30am-11:30 a.m. Gathering Place Café, Gathering Area  
10:00—10:30 a.m. New Families to R. E. , Gathering Area  
4:30—5:00 p.m. New Families to R.E., Gathering Area  
7:00—9:00 p.m. Coed Volleyball, Gym  
7:30—9:00 p.m. Eucharistic Minister Training, Church  
7:30—8:00 p.m. New Families to R.E. , Gathering Area

#### Thursday, Aug. 31

8:30 am-11:30 a.m. Gathering Place Café, Gathering Area  
7:00—9:00 p.m. DuPage United Housing, Meeting Room 4  
7:00—10:00 p.m. Jobs Ministry Lecture, Lighthouse  
7:30—9:30 p.m. Lector Training, Church

#### Friday, Sept. 1

8:30am—11:30 a.m. Gathering Place Café, Gathering Area

#### Saturday, Sept. 2

8:30—10:30 a.m. Ensemble Rehearsal, Lighthouse  
9:00—10:30 a.m. Men's Christian Fellowship, Resource Center  
2:00—5:00 p.m. Asian Ministry, Gym  
2:00—4:15 p.m. Library Hours, Library

#### Sunday, Sept. 3

7:30—10:00 a.m. RCIA, Senior Center  
1:45—2:45 p.m. Group Baptisms, Church



## Have you recently Moved?

If so, fill out form below and return to the main office.

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE PARISHIONER CHANGES	
Effective date: _____	
Circle One or More:    Change Address    Telephone # Change    Changed Parishes	
Children no longer living at home _____	
New Addition: _____ Relationship to head of household _____	
Birth date: _____	
Envelope # (if known) _____	
Parishioner's Name(s) _____	
<b>Old Address:</b>	<b>New Address:</b>
City:                      State:                      Zip:	City:                      State:                      Zip:
Old Telephone #	New Telephone #
Do you wish to remain a parishioner at St. Thomas?    Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	