

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

SECOND WEEKEND AFTER CHRISTMAS

This Saturday, January 4

5:30 PM Holy Communion

This Sunday, January 5

8:45 AM Holy Communion

9:45 AM Sunday School for Children & Youth-Asbly Rm in Educ Wing; Choir Practice-Nave Loft

10:45 AM Holy Communion

6-8 PM Youth Group-PH 1, 2, 3, K

Monday, January 6

10:30-1:30 Thom's Helpers-PH 1, K

11:30-2:30 Staff Mtg-PH 2

7:30 PM Prayer Shawl Small Grp-PH 1

Tuesday, January 7

2:30-7PM Asbly Rm reserved—voice lessons

7:00 PM Contemplative Prayer Small Grp-Nave

Wednesday, January 8

10:30-1:30 Thom's Helpers-PH 1, K

10-12 Wednesday Study Group-Asbly

5:30 PM Pinehurst Estates Annual mtg-PH 2, 3; Girl Scout mtg-Asbly

6:45 PM Praise Band reh-Nave

7:00 PM EfM-Asbly; Girl Scout Leader mtg-PH 1; Science Small Group-Rm 137

7:15 PM Adult Choir reh-Nave

Thursday, January 9

7:00 PM Sword Guild practice-PH 2

Friday, January 10

10:30-1:30 Thom's Helpers-PH 1, K

Saturday, January 11

5:30 PM Holy Communion

6:30 PM Second Saturday Reception-PH 1

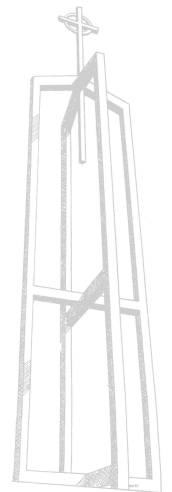
Asbly = Assembly Room in Education Wing; K = Kitchen;
Educ Wing = Education Wing | PH = Parish Hall

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Church office hours: Mon.— Thurs. 9am to 5pm; Fri. 9am to Noon

To view the church calendar go to our website, www.stthomasop.org, and click on *Calendar* on the upper right side. To hold a meeting or event at St. Thomas you must first clear the date/time/space with Meribeth in the church office. mrisebig@stthomasop.org or 913-451-0512.

“Coffee Hours”
after each
service in PH 1



TOWER TALK

JANUARY 4 & 5, 2020

Christian Education this Sunday

Special Children's Sunday School—"3 Kings Celebration"

9:45—10:30am

** All Preschool and Elementary classes will meet in the Assembly Room.**

"My Faith/My Life" Confirmation Class will resume with all regular Sunday School classes on **JANUARY 12.*

Adult Formation—Please join us NEXT Sunday, January 12, 10:00am in Parish Hall 2 (middle section). Grab a cup of coffee or tea and join in—led by clergy at St. Thomas.

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Thank You from the Staff

Words cannot express our gratitude for your generous gift given to us this Christmas! Your generosity is one of the many thoughtful ways in which you care for us and we are very grateful to be working with a congregation that is so supportive of the staff. We wish to express our thanks for your ongoing support throughout the year too!
God Bless—From all of the staff at St. Thomas

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The following have also shared the joy of Christmas with flowers on the altar and providing for special music.

Orisa Igwe
Ben & Brenda Ross
Greg Stoskopf—in memory of Parke Woodard.

Notes on Notes - Beth Elswick, Director of Music

The music this weekend pairs texts of many hymns. Two hymns compare the heavenly kingdom with Christ's humble beginning, saying, "when Jesus left his Father's throne, he chose a humble birth" and "Thou didst leave Thy throne and Thy kingly crown. . . but in Bethlehem's home there was found no room." Likewise, Christina Rossetti's text, "If I were a wiseman, I would do my part; yet what I can I give him--give my heart" corresponds to "O come to my heart, Lord Jesus, there is room in my heart for thee." Following the Christmas rush, these calm melodies are welcome.

ANNUAL MEETING—January 29

Potluck starts at 6pm

Main course will be provided. Please bring a side dish or dessert to share!

Annual Meeting at 7pm

Attention: Leaders, Coordinators, Directors, and Chairs of all St. Thomas Ministries: The deadline for getting your annual report in to me is Monday, January 20. You are encouraged to write an account of activities and interesting information about your ministry or ministries in 2019. If you'd like to see what was in last year's report, please contact Meribeth and she will be glad to send that for you.

Meribeth Risebig, mrisebig@stthomasop.org or 913-451-0512, X221

UPPITY WOMEN OF THE BIBLE

Wednesday Study Group

January 8, 10:30 to noon in the Assembly Room

A DVD series taught by Dr. Lisa M. Wolfe, Professor of Hebrew Bible at Oklahoma City University/. Dr. Wolfe combines careful scholarship with humor and fresh insights into Ruth, Song of Songs, Esther, and Judith.

Please join us for a time to learn with lively discussions following. The course should run from 6 to 8 weeks. For questions: Martha Sharp 913-381-6270.

Thank You from JoCo IHN: *Volunteering is at the very core of being a human. No one has made it through life without someone else's help and our IHN guests are no exception. We are so grateful to you and the dedicated members of St. Thomas. Please accept our heartfelt thanks for hosting our families the week of November 24. We know that providing this help requires a big commitment from your congregation. Please convey our gratitude to all involved and let them know their efforts make a difference to people who need a helping hand.* Vicki & Cheryl

CHILDREN & YOUTH NEWS

CELEBRATING CHILDREN & YOUTH

CONGRATULATIONS to Colette Schields who received the Kindness Award from Oak Park-Carpenter Elementary where she is in the First Grade. Way to go, Colette!

FOLLOW THE WANDERING WISEMEN!

Through Monday, January 6 on the St. Thomas Facebook Page and on our Children's Ministry Instagram @STA_KidMin

Following the birth of the Christ Child, a star rose, and three Magi followed it through the wilderness seeking the new king. Keep the miracle of Christmas in your hearts and minds as we follow our "Wandering Wisemen" through the "wilderness" of St. Thomas Church each day by looking for a picture post on the Facebook Page and Instagram to see where our Wisemen land on their great journey. Will you recognize the great and sacred sights they see as they follow the great star?

MS. BARBARA'S "12 DAYS OF CHRISTMAS" STORYTIME ONLINE

Through Monday, January 6, on the St. Thomas Facebook Page videos will post by 5pm each evening

Will you be traveling, or just plain missing your Sunday School teachers and friends during the Christmas Season? Join Ms. Barbara online for some favorite Christmas stories each evening between Thursday, December 26, and Monday, January 6. Maybe you'll hear one you've never heard of before, or maybe you'll recognize some old favorites. Got a favorite one you'd like to hear? Let Ms. Barbara know by having your mom or dad email her at bmccall@stthomasop.org with the title and author, and she'll do her best to get it on the list!

FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR ARE GIVEN TO THE GLORY OF GOD AND...

- *in memory of our son Jeff Lake. From Joe Bob & Nyakio Lake.*
- *In celebration of Kevin Lang's 27th birthday. We love you and miss you! Mom, Dad, Matt, and Ricky*
- *Happy birthday Efrain! Wishing you all the very best always. Love, mom (NJ Umeh)*

