

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

This Saturday, January 11

- 5:30 PM Holy Communion
6:30 PM Second Saturday Reception-PH 1

This Sunday, January 12

- 8:45 AM Holy Communion
9:45 AM Sunday School for Children & Youth-Educ Wing;
Choir Practice-Nave Loft
10:00 AM Adult Formation-PH 2
10:45 AM Holy Communion
6-8 PM Youth Group-PH 1, 2, 3, K

Monday, January 13

- 10:30-1:30 Thom's Helpers-PH 1, K
11:30-2:30 Staff Mtg-PH 2
6:30 PM Journeymen-Asbly
7:00 PM Outreach Team mtg-Rm 134

Tuesday, January 14

- 2:30-7PM Asbly Rm reserved—voice lessons
5-6 PM Girl Scout mtg-PH 1

Wednesday, January 15

- 9:30 AM Coffee Small Grp-Rm 137
10:30-1:30 Thom's Helpers-PH 1, K
10-12 Wednesday Study Group-Asbly
5:30 PM Pinehurst Estates Annual mtg-PH 1
6:45 PM Praise Band reh-Nave
7:00 PM EfM-Asbly
7:15 PM Adult Choir reh-Nave

Thursday, January 16

- 7:00 PM Classic Men's Small Grp-Asbly; Sword Guild practice-PH 2

Friday, January 17

- 10:30-1:30 Thom's Helpers-PH 1, K
7:00 PM Explorers Small Grp-PH 2; SCA-Asbly

Saturday, January 18

- 10-12 Prayer Shawl Small Grp-PH 1
2-3 PM Laughter Yoga Workshop-PH 1
5:30 PM Holy Communion

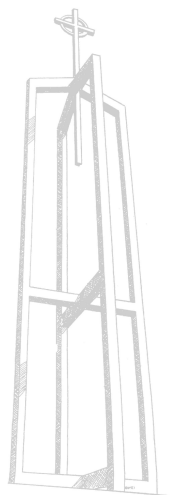
Asbly = Assembly Room in Education Wing; K = Kitchen;
Educ Wing = Education Wing | PH = Parish Hall

+ + +

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, 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 11 & 12, 2020

FIRST WEEKEND AFTER THE EPIPHANY:
THE BAPTISM OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST

Christian Education this Sunday

Children & Youth Sunday School—9:45—10:30am in the Education Wing of the church

"My Faith/My Life" Confirmation Class will resume, 9:45am

Adult Formation—10:00am in Parish Hall 2 (middle section). Grab a cup of coffee or tea and join in! Led by clergy at St. Thomas.



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 send it to you via email.

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

Notes on Notes - Beth Elswick, Director of Music

Today we celebrate the baptism of Christ. Many hymns reflect the Gospel Lesson. *Baptized in Water* is a hymn that is found in *The Hymnal 1982*. The lyrics were composed by Michael Saward. We are singing the text to the hymn tune *Bunnesan*, the same melody we use for the Hymn, *Morning Has Broken*. Another favorite is *Down to the River to Pray*, the song that was used in the movie, *Oh Brother, Where Art Thou*.

IHN HOST WEEK SIGNUPS ON BULLETIN BOARD

SignUp Sheets for Volunteers and Food/Supply Donations

Our St. Thomas Host week serving situationally homeless families and single women will be Feb. 16 - Feb. 23, 2020. IHN guests will stay evenings and overnight here at St. Thomas, sleeping in classrooms converted to sleeping rooms. With help from our Support Congregations we will also provide all meals that week.

IHN consists of 40 congregations of many different denominations. Twelve "Host" congregations provide evening/overnight shelter and meals for families and women. The other "Support" congregations help by sending volunteers and supplies needed. At the daytime Family Center guests receive intense, one-on-one counseling, opportunities to learn financial and budgeting skills with additional support to improve needed skills such as computer assistance, job searches and interview skills.

Volunteers interacting with guests must have completed one 2-hr training session presented by IHN trainers. IHN also asks that all trained volunteers attend training as a refresher at least every 3 years. Volunteers for setup or take down of classrooms or launder bedding after Host week ends do not need to be trained by IHN.

Questions? Contact one of our St. Thomas coordinators: Dola McNown 913 526 3573 - dolamcnown49@gmail.com or Margaret Walkenshaw 913 302 2018 - mwalkenshaw@kc.surewest.net or Connie Snider, laundry coordinator, 913 913 709 1431 - conniesnider@hotmail.com

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

Advocates for Immigrant Rights and Reconciliation will be having a monthly meeting on January 27 from 6:30-8pm at 20 W. 9th St. Kansas City, MO 64110. Members of St. Thomas will be attending this meeting to discern our further response to the ongoing refugee/immigrant crisis in Kansas City. If interested, please contact Mthr. Kelly.

CHILDREN & YOUTH NEWS

THANK YOU FOR YOUR LUKE 3:11 DRIVE DONATIONS!

Many thanks to everyone who offered donations of clothing, winter weather wear, and toiletries to the families of Comanche Elementary and True Light Family Resource Center through our first annual Luke 3:11 Drive. The children and youth participants of our Winter Break ROTC program were thrilled to deliver three carloads of goods to these two locations on January 3, and the items were received with much gratitude from our contacts at these two locations. Thank you for spreading the Light of Christ to those in need!

CELEBRATING CHILDREN & YOUTH

A big "YEAH!" goes to:

Hope Fritton who started a new job AND qualified for state debate!

Joshua McCall who got the lead in his school play!

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



- *In loving memory of Chris Wilson - from the Phillips Family*

Flowers on the altar beautify the sacred space of our church and are a gift to God and those who attend our worship services. The Flower Guild prepares the arrangements weekly, always using fresh flowers.

You can sign up on the Flower Calendar on the bulletin board in the hallway by the office, sign up on the link provided in your weekly email, send an email to the church—stthomas@stthomasop.org, or give us a call—913-451-0512. Let us know the weekend you prefer and what you'd like to include in the weekly Tower Talk and email update. More than one person or family may sign up on a given weekend. Information is needed at least a week before the date you sign up.

Suggested donation is \$50.

When you sign up in advance you may receive a letter or email about a month in advance asking for details about your commemoration.

Articles for Tower Talk and our email update are due by NOON every Monday. Articles will run for two weeks unless notified otherwise. Send info and articles to Meribeth Risebig—mrisebig@stthomasop.org or call 913-451-0512.