

children & youth news

TASTE OF YOUTH GROUP IS TONIGHT! JANUARY 26, 6-8PM
For 3rd, 4th & 5th graders
Parish Hall 1 & 2

"Taste and See" what our St. Thomas Youth Group is all about! (Dinner included!) For questions or more information, contact Mother Kelly or Ms. Barbara!

ATTENTION, ST. THOMAS CHILDREN AND YOUTH!
STA SUMMER CAMP PRIORITY REGISTRATION
HAS BEGUN!

Summer 2020 will be here before you know it! Our Summer Camp PRIORITY REGISTRATION for St. Thomas Members is now in progress! Last year we had MULTIPLE camps fill early - don't miss your child's/ youth's chance to participate (and your chance to pay a lower rate)! An email was sent to our members and previous participants along with a message on the St. Thomas Facebook Page on Monday, January 20. If you did not receive this email, you can contact Barbara McCall at bmccall@stthomasop.org for all the information and to make sure your information is correct on our mailing lists.

PARENTS' NIGHT OUT IS COMING!
Saturday, February 8
6-10pm in Parish Hall 2

Kids, join us for some valentine fun while mom and dad enjoy a night on the town! (Minus the Valentine's Day crowds!) The evening includes games, crafts, a special "culinary" creation, snack and a movie all under the great care of our wonderful St. Thomas Youth (and Mother Kelly and Ms. Barbara). Children are welcome to bring dinner, if needed, as well as a blanket, pillow, etc. to help them settle during our movie in the later portion of our evening. Wearing PJ's to the event is also perfectly acceptable!

This is a fundraiser for our youth working the event to help offset the costs of their many St. Thomas summer camps and Mission Trips, and your donations will be gratefully accepted. (Suggested Donation: \$20/ child)

DONATIONS FOR ST. THOMAS YOUTH GROUP MISSION TRIP
NEEDED! The youth will be headed to Los Angeles this year to learn and help with eco-justice work. If you have Southwest points that you can donate it will greatly reduce our cost. Also, the annual silent auction dinner will be on March 28 this year. If you have goods and/or services that you can donate to the auction please talk to Mother Kelly. Thank you!!!

Children & Youth cont. in next column

Children & Youth cont.

LENT MADNESS 2020 IS COMING!!
The Bracket is set, and it will soon be time again for this year's "Saintly Show-down!" The round of 32 begins each day of Lent,. Two saints will go head-to-head as we read and learn about their lives and witness and then VOTE for our favorites! Daily contests will be showcased on the St. Thomas Facebook page so that you can follow along and vote online. **A limited number of hard-copy Lent Madness booklets will be ordered on February 10 - if you wish to have this format to follow along with, please sign up in the Narthex to reserve your copy by FEBRUARY 10.**

CELEBRATING CHILDREN & YOUTH
A big congratulations goes out this week to
Colby McArthur who got All State 1st Chair in Orchestra!
and to
Calvin Campbell who was double promoted to Petty Officer, third class in JROTC!

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ST. THOMAS PRESENTS:
WOMEN'S NIGHT AT THE THEATER!
Thursday, March 12 - 7pm
at the New Theatre Restaurant
Join us to see the laugh out loud funny off-Broadway musical comedy, "Church Basement Ladies," starring Cindy Williams of the hit '80's sitcom, "Laverne and Shirley." Your ticket includes this hilarious show, a five star meal, and choice of coffee, hot or iced tea or soda, with dessert and other beverages available at an additional cost. Tickets are \$50 each and can be reserved by signing up in the Narthex. You will receive an invoice for online payment after signing up.
(Due to the popularity of this show, we have a limited number of tickets in our group, so don't delay - sign up today!)

Articles for Tower Talk and our email update are due by NOON every MONDAY. Articles will run for **two weeks** unless notified otherwise. Send to Meribeth in the office—
mrisebig@stthomasop.org

TOWER TALK

January 25 & 26, 2020

THIRD WEEKEND AFTER THE EPIPHANY



Christian Education this Sunday

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

"My Faith/My Life" Confirmation Class, 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.



This Wednesday, January 29

Potluck starts at 6pm

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

Annual Meeting at 7pm

Nursery care will be available from 7-8:30pm.

outreach * volunteer * donate

HOST WEEK UPDATE

Current IHN guests are 2 single females with no children and a mother with a 4year old son. The IHN front desk is staffed 365 days a year answering calls from those seeking assistance. IHN provides one on one social services at the daytime facility where guests have access to showers, laundry, kitchen, phones and computers. A network of churches “Host” the guests in their church for evenings and overnight.

Our Host week at St. Thomas is Feb. 16- 23. We still need a few supplies and food items. We also have openings for volunteers-**trained** volunteers to interact with guests while at St. Thomas and **untrained** volunteers (who do not require training) to help Set Up, Take Down and Laundry.

PLEASE SEE THE SIGNUP SHEETS ON THE NARTHEX DISPLAY BOARD OR EMAIL DOLA.

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

Caring for Kids – Comanche Elementary

St. Thomas will be hosting dinner for teachers and staff at Comanche Elementary during their February Parent/Teacher Conference night. A signup sheet is posted in the Narthex and will also be available via Signup genius at <https://signupgenius.com/go/30e0a4ca9ac2fa1fa7-caring> . Contributions of food items as well as a few volunteers to help with setup and cleanup will also be needed. All dessert contributions will need to be dropped off in the St. Thomas kitchen by 3pm Wednesday, February 5.

Contact: Deacon Fran Wheeler (fwheeler@stthomasop.org)

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.

Notes on Notes—

Beth Loeber Elswick, Director of Music Ministry

Did you ever get *hooked* on something? You know, *you just can’t stop eating the potato chips, can’t stop watching a favorite TV show, just have to see the next Star Wars, or can’t stop the recurring melodic sound bite that is spinning endlessly in your mind?* You are *hooked*. Popular music uses the term *hook* as a short musical idea that is used to make a song appealing and *catch the ear* of the listener. The fishing metaphor is really old. We used to play a card game, “Go Fish.” And you must watch out for *phishing scams* that can be malevolent schemes.

In the Gospel lesson, Christ employs the analogy saying, “Follow me and become *fishers of men.*” Our songs today retell the story of the disciples following Jesus and heeding his call to become fishermen. *To Become Fishers of Women and Men* reflects the sound of a sea chanty with a returning motive “Cast your nets to the water’s edge and lower them once again.” The text is set in a minor key reflecting the drudgery of the fishermen rowing the boat over and over again. *Lord, when you came to the seashore* is a tune of Spanish origin, also known as *Pescador de Hombres* or Fisher of Men.



FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR ARE GIVEN TO THE GLORY OF GOD

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.

THE WEEK AHEAD

THIRD WEEKEND AFTER THE EPIPHANY

This Saturday, January 25

10-2 Boy Scout Derby-Asbly
5:30 PM Holy Communion

This Sunday, January 26

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 Taste of Youth/Youth Group-PH 1, 2, 3, K

Monday, January 27

10:30-1:30 Thom’s Helpers-PH 1, K
11:30-2:30 Staff Mtg-PH 2

Tuesday, January 28

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

Wednesday, January 29

10:30-1:30 Thom’s Helpers-PH 1, K
10-12 Wednesday Study Group-Asbly
6-7 PM Annual Meeting Potluck-PH 1, 2, 3, K
7:00 PM Annual Meeting-PH 1, 2, 3; Nursery open; EfM-Asbly

Thursday, January 30

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

Friday, January 31

6-7:00 PM Westmont Property Value Mtg-Asbly
10:30-1:30 Thom’s Helpers-PH 1, K

Saturday, February 1

2-3:30 PM Girl Scout workshop-PH 2
5:30 PM Holy Communion

Asbly = Assembly Room in Education Wing; K = Kitchen; Narthex = Lobby
Educ Wing = Education Wing; PH = Parish Hall; Nave = Sanctuary

To view the church calendar go to our website, www.stthomasop.org, and click on Calendar on the upper right.

**** To hold a meeting or event at St. Thomas you must first clear the date/time/space with Meribeth in the church office. ****

“Coffee Hours”
after each
service in PH 1

