

children & youth news

NEW PLAN FOR WALK THROUGH HOLY WEEK

Walk Through Holy Week has been a long standing tradition at St. Thomas. The youth of the parish put on a play of the passion week for their younger friends during Sunday School. This year we are going to get a little creative and do something different! Opportunities for the youth to get involved are in the plan. They will record their voices for the Palm Sunday lesson and make a short video with a reading for a new service called "Tenebrae" which will be broadcast on Wednesday of Holy Week.

YOUTH & COLLEGE STUDENTS

TO OFFER SERVICES TO SHUT-INS

During this difficult period the Youth at St. Thomas and some college students who are home are going to offer their services to Shut-Ins who are staying at home to avoid the possibility of illness. They can run errands, pick up groceries, go to the post office, etc. If you are interested in getting some help you can reach out to Mtr. Kelly Demo—913-451-0512, X 224, or email kdemo@stthomasop.org.



New!!

ST. THOMAS FAMILY FORUM ON FACEBOOK

<https://www.facebook.com/StThomasOPFamilies>

Stay connected with other St. Thomas families with children & youth via our new page! This page will be where you can find Sunday School each week, along with activities/resources daily to keep the kids entertained during these long days at home. This is a challenging time, and we hope that this can be a source of connection and community until we can be together again. Also, please know that the church is here to support our families! If you have any needs during the extended school break, please reach out to Barbara McCall, Director of Children and Families, at bmc-call@stthomasop.org or via call/text to (913) 909-7318 to let the church know how we can support you.

Lent at St. Thomas

LENTEN LECTURE SERIES: "FINAL WORD"

Last Wednesday: April 1

Noon—1pm

Online via Facebook and YouTube

The theme, "Final Word" is modeled after Carnegie Mellon University's *The Last Lecture Series*. Leaders from the community will share thoughts on what really matters to them. What would you say to the world if this was your last chance to talk about your life and lessons?

The lecture will be online via Facebook and YouTube.

April 1: The Right Reverend Cathleen Chittenden Bascom—
Tenth Bishop, the Episcopal Diocese of Kansas



EASTER FLOWERS AND MUSIC:

Your generous gifts, in memory of or in thanksgiving for a loved one, help provide altar flowers *and* special music for our Easter services. You may sign up for Easter memorials with the link provided in your Weekly Email Updates, calling the church office 913-451-0512 or email mrisebig@stthomasop.org. You may make your donation later.

PASSION READERS—THANK YOU FOR SIGNING UP!

FR. GAR WILL BE IN TOUCH WITH YOU SOON.

TOWER TALK

March 28 & 29, 2020

With the lockdown in the Kansas City area, basic essential operation hours for the church office will be limited. However, we ask that you contact us by phone or e-mail. We check messages often during the day.

● WORSHIP SERVICES ONLINE ●

*5:30 on Saturdays and
8:45 and 10:45 on Sundays.*

Bulletins may be found on our website home page—
www.stthomasop.org

Compline is offered Monday-Friday at 8pm

www.facebook.com/stthomasop or
www.youtube.com/c/stthomasop

● SUNDAY CHRISTIAN EDUCATION ●

Children & Youth Sunday School

10:00am ONLINE. We will be offering Sunday School for our children in Preschool through 7th grade via video format that should be posted around 10:00am on Sunday. Confirmation class and the Giving Project will take place on Zoom.

Links for access to:

St. Thomas OP Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/stthomasop>

St. Thomas Family Forum FB Page:
<https://www.facebook.com/StThomasOPFamilies>

St. Thomas You Tube: <https://www.youtube.com/c/stthomasop>

Adult Forum will meet on ZOOM beginning at 9:45am.

You will receive an invitation email from Fr. Gar to join the class. You can use ZOOM on a smart phone, tablet, computer, or call in. When you click the link you may be asked to download some software or an app.

We will continue with Lenten themes and the concept of shame and sin utilizing Brene' Brown's work and TED talks, and other conversation.

JoCo IHN UPDATE

With the spread of the corona virus and announced Lockdown, Jo Co Interfaith Hospitality Network activated their plan to keep all guests, volunteers and staff safe. Effective Monday, March 23, the IHN Family Center closed. Vicki Dercher, IHN Exec Director, advised all current IHN guests on Sunday, telling them to pack all the personal items they will need for the next 30 days.

During this Lockdown, IHN guests will be sheltered at New Haven Seventh Day Adventist Church. New Haven has showers and generously offered their space for this difficult time. When not at work or other necessary activities, the guests will be at New Haven- day and night. Guests will launder bedding when doing personal laundry at laundry mats.

The IHN Host rotation will remain in effect. IHN asks that all Host and Support congregations scheduled provide food for guest meals. Supplies for breakfast, lunch & snack- lunchmeat, bread, cheese, chips, etc. will be delivered to New Haven. St. Thomas Volunteers will provide prepared/cooked dinners April 5-12 at 5pm. **Volunteers will not enter the New Haven church building or have any contact with guests. The food will be dropped off just inside the church entrance so guests can retrieve the food and heat in the microwave as needed.**

Our prayer is that everyone stay safe and healthy. We ask for your continued prayers for our IHN ministry and the IHN guests-currently, a couple with 2 ½ year old son, a mother with 2 children ages 2 & 3, and a single woman.

If you have questions, please contact one of the IHN Coordinators: Dola McNown 913-526-3573 - dolamcnown49@gmail.com; Or Margaret Walkenshaw 913-302-2018 - mwalkenshaw@kc.surewest.net; or Connie Snider, laundry coordinator, 913-709-1431 or conniesnider@hotmail.com

Outreach cont. in next column

NOTICE K2K FUNDRAISER EVENT CANCELLED

Due to the Covid-19 virus and the need to limit gatherings to less than 50 people, we are cancelling the Kansas 2 Kenya (K2K) Dinner and Fundraiser scheduled for **April 18**. The dinner is the only fundraiser that K2K puts on each year, so as you can imagine, this could affect our ability to continue our work in the Diocese of Nakuru, Kenya; but it will not be a problem with your help. Our work will continue, but we ask that you consider donating generously to K2K at this time. The amount of funds raised will determine to what degree we can in our ongoing projects this year. You can donate by clicking on the link, <https://donatenow.networkforgood.org/1400663> , or by sending a check for K2K to the Diocesan office.

PATHWAY TO HOPE SHOE DRIVE

Reclamation Clubhouse, a program of Pathway To Hope, is doing a shoe drive fundraiser. The new or gently used shoes you bring to the church will allow us to raise funds through Funds2Orgs. As an added bonus, the shoes will then be shipped to 3rd world countries where micro businesses will thrive. Businesses overseas need these shoes to use for repair or to sell. **The shoe drive will run through April 1.**

You can bring shoes by the church between 10am-Noon M-F, and leave them outside the front door. One of our staff members will be here to retrieve them and place them in the box inside.

Clean out your family's closets and help us surpass our goal of 120 pairs of shoes!

Josh Lyman, parishioner, is Director for Reclamation Clubhouse. It is a free service to persons living with mental illness. We are a safe place where staff and members are coequals in a supportive, confidence boosting environment. Members and staff prepare and share a meal and work towards personal goals.

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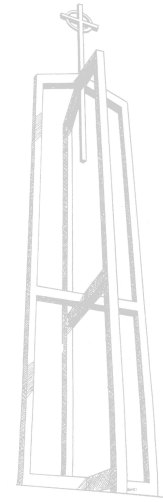
Notes on Notes

Dr. Beth Elswick, Director of Music

Oh God, our help in ages past is a paraphrase of Psalm 90 penned by Isaac Watts in 1708. The hymn tune was composed by William Croft and was later used by Handel and Bach in compositions, as did later composers Sir Arthur Sullivan, Carl Ruggles, and Vaughn Williams. The common time meter signature (4/4), melodic sequence of the melody, and the strong harmonic push of the circle of fifths harmony in the last 4 measures create a perfect vehicle for reharmonizations and improvisations for the composer/arranger.

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

Please check with your leaders to see if and how your meeting will take place this week.



Contact Us

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12251 Antioch Rd, Overland Park, KS 66213

913-451-0512

email address: stthomas@stthomasop.org

Visit us on the web: www.stthomasop.org

Facebook: St. Thomas Episcopal OP

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

Articles for Tower Talk and Weekly 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. Thank you!