

**Mark Your Calendars!
CELEBRATION SUNDAY & ANNUAL
CHILDREN'S EASTER EGG HUNT**

Sunday, April 24!

Join us on the Sunday after Easter for special treats after both services with an Easter Egg hunt for the kids at 10am!

**We are seeking donations for our eggs - nut free candies, small trinkets such as erasers, mini stampers, temporary tattoos are all great! Donations can be dropped off in the bin in the Narthex through Easter Sunday. (NO eggs needed, just the goodies to fill the many we have.)

**Youth looking for service hours can help with the filling by contacting Mother Kelly or Ms. Barbara. We'll give you all you need - you just provide the time and effort.

Celebrating Our Children & Youth

Congratulations to Jacob McCall who recently achieved the rank of First Class in Boy Scouts and was elected by his troop as an Ordeal member of the Order of the Arrow.

We know your kiddos are up to GREAT THINGS! We want to hear and celebrate with them! Email any special news about your child or youth to Barbara—bmccall@stthomasop.org or Kelly—kdemo@stthomasop.org so that we may add it to our newsletters.

Are you graduating this year? Congratulations!

We want to celebrate all of our St. Thomas friends who are graduating from *high school, college or grad school!* We will honor them on **May 1**. Please reach out to Mthr. Kelly Demo at kdemo@stthomasop.org to give the details!



WORSHIP SERVICES

Sat, 5:30pm; Sun, 8:45am, 11:00am (Masks optional)

All services will begin outside by the stone altar with the Liturgy of Palms, palm procession, and bagpipes.

Children's Church (for children ages 3-10) is offered during the "Liturgy of the Word" during each Sunday Service.

Nursery Update: *Nursery Care is available for children ages 6 months through 4 years from 8:30 through the conclusion of the 11am service.*

All services are live-streamed and available to watch afterward: www.youtube.com/c/stthomasop and www.facebook.com/stthomasop

■ ■ ■ ■

Holy Week & Easter Services

Maundy Thursday, April 14, 7pm

Good Friday, April 15, Noon and 7pm

Easter Vigil, April 16, 5:30pm

Easter Day, Sunrise (6:00ish), 8:45 & 11:00am

Nursery care for children ages 6 months through age 4 will be available on Easter Sunday from 8:30 through the conclusion of the 11am services.

All services will be streamed on FB and Youtube.

■ ■ ■ ■

SUMMER CAMPS

Summer Camp Registrations are OPEN to ALL and FILLING FAST!!

VISIT: <https://stthomasop.org/summer-st-thomas-2022/> for more information and links to register!

Episcopal Diocese of Kansas MEGA CAMP (Sleep Away at Camp Wood YMCA in Elmdale, KS) - June 5-11

Middle School "Reaching Out to the Community" (6th-9th Graders in Aug 2022) - June 13-17 from 9am to 3pm

High School "Reaching Out to the Community" (9th-College Freshmen in Aug. 2022) June 20-24 (includes overnights)

"Come to the Feast" Vacation Bible Camp (Ages 3-11): Sunday June 26 - Thursday, June 30 (5:30-8:30pm - DINNER INCLUDED for participants, participating parents & volunteers)

Elementary "Reaching Out to the Community" (3rd-6th Graders in Aug 2022) - July 11-15 from 9am to 3pm

Arts Camp: "Christmas in JULY!" (1st-6th Graders in Aug 2022) - July 25-29 from 9am to 3pm

TOWER TALK

APRIL 9 & 10, 2022

Sunday Christian Education

Adult Forum - will meet at 10am in Parish Hall 2

The course is being led by Dr. George Phillips, Senior Warden at St. Thomas. Over his career in academic medicine, George has worked with numerous emerging and established leaders to assist them in discerning paths toward goals in their professional and personal lives. George also uses that experience with our high school youth in The Giving Project, helping them design a personal mission statement that informs their area of service in God's Kingdom.

Children's Sunday School for Pre-School thru Elementary—

"Journey Through Jerusalem" Storywalk Event. All preschool-Elementary aged children are invited to gather at 9:45am in the Narthex (welcome space outside "big church") to begin our special journey through the stories of Holy Week. Parents can meet us for pickup at 10:45 at our final "stop" at the "Empty Tomb" in Parish Hall 3.

Youth Christian Education: Middle School/Confirmation: Rm 137; High School/"Giving Project": Basement Assembly Room

Nursery Update: *Nursery Care is available for children ages 6 months through 4 years from 8:30 through the conclusion of the 11am service.*



We welcome Logan and Christian Tilson to the Sacrament of Holy Baptism this Saturday during the 5:30pm service. Their parents are Scott and Mary Beth Tilson.



Good Friday Passion Signups

Here's your chance to participate in a service by reading a part in the passion gospel in parts during the Good Friday (7 pm) service. **There are many parts to choose from!** Sign up on the display board in the lobby or by clicking on a link below or online in your weekly email update. There you will also find a link to the scripts so you can decide which one to read. Parts are also available on the display board in the lobby.

Good Friday St John Passion signup:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0A4CA9AC2FA1FA7-good4>

Palm Sunday Weekend

Saturday, April 9: Palm & Bagpipe Procession, Holy Communion & Baptism, 5:30pm Nave; 2nd Saturday Reception, 6:30pm PH 1

Sunday, April 10: Palm & Bagpipe Procession, Holy Communion, 8:45 & 11am Nave / Children's Church during each service; Coffee Hours between and after services in PH 1; *Christian Education schedule on opposite page;* Youth Grp Prayer, 6pm Nave; Youth Grp, 6:30-8pm PH, K

Monday, April 11: Thom's Helpers, 11:30-1:30 PH/ Kitchen; AA Fellowship, 6:30pm LL

Tuesday, April 12: Sword Guild practice, 7-9pm PH 2

Wednesday, April 13:

Thom's Helpers, 11:30am-1:30pm PH1/Kitchen
Wednesday Study Grp, 10:30am Asbly Rm
Staff mtg, 1:30pm Lobby or PH 1 or Lobby
Praise Band, 6:30pm Nave
Choir practice, 7:30pm Nave
AA Fellowship, 7:30 LL

Thursday, April 14: Old Testament Bible Study, 9:45am Zoom; Maundy Thursday service, 7pm Nave; Sword Guild, 7pm PH 3; Al-Anon Family Grp, 7pm LL

Friday, Apr 15: Thom's Helpers, 11:30am-1:30pm PH/K; Good Friday Stations of the Cross, Noon Nave; Good Friday Liturgy, 7pm Nave; SCA, 7-8pm PH 1; AA Fellowship, 8pm LL

Saturday, Apr 16: Easter Vigil: Holy Communion, 5:30pm Nave

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

To view the church calendar go to our website, <https://stthomasop.org/calendar/>. All mtgs and events must be cleared with Meribeth in the church office. mrisebig@stthomasop.org or 913-451-0512.

Holy Week & Easter Services

Maundy Thursday, Apr. 14, 7pm

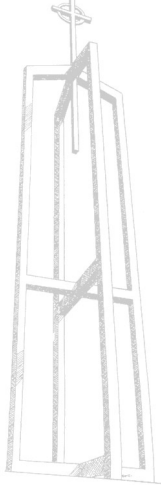
Good Friday, Apr. 15, Noon and 7pm

Easter Vigil, Apr. 16, 5:30pm

Easter Day, Sunrise (6:00ish), 8:45 & 11:00am

Nursery care for children ages 6 months through age 4 will be available during the 8:45 and 11:00 Easter Sunday services.

All services will be streamed on FB and Youtube.



OUTREACH

Afghan Resettlement Update

St. Thomas continues to move forward with helping our Afghan families feel comfortable in their new homes. We are getting to know them, building a relationship and moving forward. Through your generosity many needed items have been donated and delivered. Thank you.

MONETARY DONATIONS ARE NEEDED! The children will need clothing and they'll be able to purchase the right size.

Some other things that are still needed are:

- 6-10 Liter pressure cooker for each family, the older kind with the weight
- Blender for each family
- Chairs, kitchen chair or nice folding chairs

Needed immediately: A truck and strong people to deliver large items.

If you can help in any way, please contact donation coordinators: Linda Bemis, lsbemis@comcast.net or Jan Summers, janws1244@gmail.com

Kansas 2 Kenya Update

We plan to hold a K2K Fundraiser at St. Thomas on **Saturday, May 21**, to raise funds to support the aforementioned projects in Kenya. Those that have attended this Fundraiser in the past will attest to a fun event for a great cause. St. Thomas has been a major supporter in the past and we hope that will continue this year! Details will follow so please "Save the Date".

More info about Joe Bob's recent experiences in Kenya can be found in this week's "Connecting with You" email update!

Joe Bob and Nyakio Lake

Mobile Food Pantry

Next Volunteer Opportunity: May 14

Comanche Elementary 8200 Grant Ave, Overland Park, KS

Time: 11:30am—2:00pm

Additional information and volunteer signups for March 12 through May 14, 2022 may be found here:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0A4CA9AC2FA1FA7-mobile2>

Easter Offerings

Special envelopes for Easter offerings will be placed in the bulletins during Lent. Your gifts will help provide special music and beautiful flowers at the altar during Easter. No need to designate—your donation will be used where needed. ***If you wish to have your name included in the Easter bulletins, we ask that you return the envelope in the offering or to the church office by Monday, April 11.*** On the envelope write the names of those you wish honored or the blessing(s) you wish to name, along with your donation inside (any amount).



All "LAST WORD" lectures can be watched on Youtube: www.youtube.com/c/stthomasop

IHN HOST WEEK SIGNUPS -

See the Display Board in Narthex

Our next St. Thomas Host week serving situationally homeless families and single women will be May 8-15, 2022. The 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. We are blessed by the opportunity to serve others.

Volunteers are needed

- * Trained volunteers—those who have attended the JoCo IHN training, will be present while guests are here evenings and overnight.
- * Untrained volunteers are also needed:
 - ** Set up May 8, 9:30am-10:30am and also immediately following 11am service.
 - ** Take down- Sunday, May 15 at 7:30am to clear rooms and set up for Sunday School.
 - ** Laundry – to wash bedding after Host week
 - ** Food & Supplies- see the separate list of items to donate.

If you are interested in learning more about JoCo IHN or have questions, contact one of our St. Thomas coordinators: Dola McNown 913 526 3573 or dolamcnown49@gmail.com or Margaret Walkenshaw 913 302 2018 or mwalkenshaw@kc.surewest.net or Connie Snider, laundry coordinator, at 913 913 709 1431, conniesnider@hotmail.com