

Children & Youth

SAVE THE DATE!!

Back to School Blessings 2022

Sunday, August 14, 2022

Blessings and a small token gift from the parish will be offered to all students (any age or level of school) and educators (teachers, trainers, administrators, support staff, etc.) with special food and fun activities to follow BOTH services. Hope to see you there!!

Youth Group begins again on Sunday, August 14, 6-8pm

Celebrating Children & Youth!

We think everyone should be celebrated for new levels of creative ways to spend your time, learning how to be alone, accomplishments in school, or maybe reaching new levels on video games!

Keep 'em coming, friends! Email any special news about your child to Barbara—bmccall@stthomasop.org or Kelly—kdemo@stthomasop.org so that we may add it to our feature in Tower Talk and each month's Children & Families Newsletter!

Altar Flowers are given to the Glory of God and...



In honor of Jim & Mary Birkhead's 60th wedding anniversary on July 28—John Birkhead, Sara Birkhead, Marc Lent, and Annie Caswell

In celebration of Dan Elman's birthday. We are truly blessed to have this wonderful man as a husband and a father. Love—Lynn and Bre Elman

In honor of our 50th anniversary and in thanksgiving for our children and grandchildren—Wally & Joyce Moriarty

Daily Reflections & Learning

ALMOST DAILY REFLECTIONS

... look for these to post at 7am Monday-Friday on the St Thomas Facebook and Youtube channels.

"DAY BY DAYS" AVAILABLE

Pick up your "Forward Day by Day" devotional book for August/September/October from a display shelf in the Narthex. The books are popular daily devotionals which provide daily meditations based on scripture readings appointed by the lectionary and Daily Office. Each month's devotional is written by lay and clergy persons. Suggested donation is \$1.00 for the small size and \$1.50 for the large print. A donation box is close by.

A "Day by Day" podcast is also available each day on all streaming platforms. Try it out—
<https://www.forwardmovement.org/Pages/Item/12306/Podcast.aspx>

EDUCATION for MINISTRY

Education for Ministry is a four-year program from the Episcopal Seminary of the University of the South in Sewanee, TN. The program provides people with an opportunity to discover how to respond to the call to Christian service and carry out their ministries.

Classes will begin in the fall. If you are interested and want to learn more, contact Ray Wheeler at ray.wheeler60@gmail.com or 913-269-0542.

Reaching Out...

Dear St Thomas friends,

Many of you will remember one of our "founding" members Priscilla Cox. She now lives in Tonganoxie to be closer to her son. She would LOVE to hear from her many friends here. You can drop her a card or call her at the following:

Priscilla Cox
Vintage Park, Rm 8
120 W 8th St
Tonganoxie KS 66086

Phone: 913-558-4588

TOWER TALK

August 6 & 7, 2022

Our Worship Services this Weekend

Saturday, 5:30pm
Sunday, 8:45 and 11:00am

Children's Chapel (for children ages 3-10) is offered during the "Liturgy of the Word" at both services.

Nursery Care is available for children ages 6 months through 4 years from 8:30am until after the 11:00 service.

All services are live-streamed and available to watch afterward:

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

Sunday Christian Education

Children/Youth Sunday School are on their Summer Break as we prepare for the start of the 2022-23 program year. Classes will resume on Sunday, September 11. Children's Chapel will continue to be offered during both Sunday services on a weekly basis.

Adult Forum is also on Summer Break and classes will resume on September 11.



Future Dates at St. Thomas:

Sunday School and Adult Formation will take a break in August through September 11.

August 14	Back to School Blessings after both services Youth Group/Taste of Youth begins
Sept 7	Music rehearsals begin
Sept 11	Back to Sunday School/Adult Formation
Sept 25	Newcomer Lunch, Noon
Oct 2	Blessing of Animals, 4pm
Oct. 29/30	Ministry Fair
Oct 30	Trunk or Treat and Chili Cook-Off, 5-7pm



Saturday, Aug 6: Holy Communion, 5:30pm Nave; Renewal of Marriage Vows, 6:30pm Nave

Sunday, Aug 7: Holy Communion 8:45 & 11:00am Nave; Coffee Hours after each

service in PH 1

Monday, Aug 8: Thom's Helpers, 10:30am-1:30pm PH 1, Outreach Team Mtg, 6:30pm PH 2; AA Fellowship, 6:30pm LL

Tuesday, Aug 9: PEO mtg, 10:00am PH 2; Sword Guild practice, 7-9pm PH 2

Wednesday, Aug 10: Thom's Helpers, 10:30am-1:30pm PH1 Kitchen; Staff mtg, 1:30pm Lobby or PH 1; AA Fellowship, 7:30 LL

Thursday, Aug 11: Classics Men's Sm Grp, 7pm PH 2; Young Adult Sm Grp, 7pm PH 1; Sword Guild, 7pm PH 3; AI-Anon Family Grp, 7pm LL

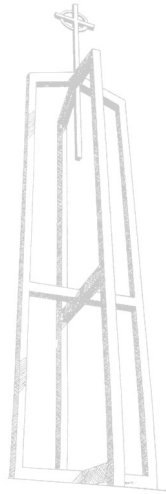
Friday, Aug 12: Thom's Helpers, 10:30am-1:30pm PH 1, K; AA Fellowship, 8pm LL

Saturday, Aug 13: Barbara Adam Memorial Service, 2:00pm; Funeral Reception 3:00pm PH 1, 2, 3. (Link to help with reception: <https://mailchi.mp/stthomasop/pastoral-announcement-from-st-thomas-11544750>)

Holy Communion, 5:30pm Nave; 2nd Saturday Reception, 6:30pm

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

All meetings and events must be cleared with Meribeth in the church office. mrisebig@stthomasop.org or 913-451-0512.



Contact Us

St. Thomas the Apostle Episcopal Church
12251 Antioch Rd, Overland Park, KS 66213
913-451-0512

email address: stthomas@stthomasop.org

Visit us on the web: www.stthomasop.org

Facebook page: www.facebook.com/stthomasop

YouTube page: www.youtube.com/c/stthomasop

Outreach

Lots Of Exciting News From JoCo IHN

JoCo IHN's 11th Annual Auction is scheduled for Thursday, September 29, 2022.

This is IHN's only fundraising event throughout the year. We would love to have you join us at this important event. The theme this year is "Coming Home" and the 2022 Dinner/Auction will be held in person. The good news is that we are using mobile bidding and silent auction platform as we have the last two years; this means that you will have an opportunity to view and bid on the silent and live auction items from your mobile phone prior to the event! This year's magical evening will take place in person at Fiorella's Event Center, 9000 West 137th St in Overland Park. Tickets will be \$100.00 per person and a link to register will be available on our website www.jocoihn.org on August 4, 2022.

Admission includes appetizers, a delicious buffet dinner with dessert, 2 drink tickets, games, and a silent as well as a live auction. Your attendance helps support the continuing work of JoCo IHN: serving homeless families and single women in Johnson County.

The Silent Auction for bidding online opens on Friday, September 23.

If you have questions please contact Auction Committee Member Margaret Walkenshaw 913-302-2018.

JoCo IHN Volunteer Training- scheduled for Thursday, August 25.

St. Andrews Christian Church will be our host site. St. Andrews is located at 13890 W 127th St in Olathe. The training will begin at 6:30 and end by 8:30. Timely and full attendance is required to be considered a trained volunteer. No RSVP's are necessary. Attendees do not need to be connected to any of our congregations to lift up those less fortunate. Please bring a friend and attend as a re-training.

If you have questions please contact Margaret Walkenshaw 913 302 2018 or Dola McNown 913 526 3573.

Celebrating Successes for IHN Guests - a message from Vicki Dercher, Exec Director

Good afternoon IHN Family—Please join us in celebrating the recent as well as upcoming graduations from our IHN Family!

*July 11th, Ashley (37), Damien (16), and Lazlo (6) moved into their home. We knew on admission that Ashley and her children would only be with us a short time before their housing became available.

*July 25th, Reba (63) graduated into her new apartment. She was thrilled to be regaining stability. Both Ashley and Reba asked us to pass on their thanks to our volunteers for ALL their support and unconditional love!

(Cont. next column)

*Finally, Lawanda and Osra were approved for an apartment this week and will be moving there the end of August. They are so pleased to be moving back into their own digs :-)



Mobile Food Pantry Volunteer Signup 11 people still needed on Sat, August 13

Comanche Elementary 8200 Grant Ave,
Overland Park

Time: 11:30am—2:00pm

Additional information and volunteer signups for August 13, 2022:

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



Update on Afghan Families Ministry

We are seeking more volunteers to do English Language Learning with the Afghan families. New volunteers would first need to complete the basic training (which may be in-house) and Catholic Charities background check and Virtus training.

We do the training in teams of 2 and we follow a weekly curriculum prepared by Heather and Susan. We set up the schedule at the beginning of each month based on each individual volunteer's availability. It is really fun and a great way to get to know the families. The families are motivated to learn English and are making great progress. One of the women is already starting to sound out words and read in English.

If you have any questions, please get in touch with Laura Bond, royaljay@aol.com or 913-208-5122; or Susan Carman smcarm@aol.com.

Summertime... and the grass is growing! Our Afghan families need a lawn mower. If you have one in good working order that you aren't using please email Jan Summers at janws1244@gmail.com. As always, St. Thomas, we appreciate your generosity and concern!

Blood Drive at St. Thomas—Tues, August 23, 10am-3pm

As a thank-you, all who come to give Aug. 1-31 will be automatically entered for a chance to win gas for a year, a \$6,000 value. There will be three lucky winners. Everyone who comes to give blood or platelets in August will also receive a \$10 e-gift card to a merchant of choice. Full details and terms: rcblood.org/fuel

1-800-733-2767 or visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter StThomasEpiscopal to schedule an appt.

