

## Children & Youth

- **New time for Summer Sunday Stories 11:00am** in the Parish Hall

Children ages preschool and up are invited to join as we celebrate God's word after our 10am Sunday services. Each Sunday, we'll share a new story or psalm along with games, crafts and songs as we explore God's great love and gifts to all people! Summer Sunday Stories will take place from late May through late July.

- **Summer Camp Registrations Are Open!**

There is still time to register for...

Vacation Bible Camp

Elementary "Reaching Out to the Community"

Arts Camp

\*\* Links to register can be found on the St. Thomas Website—

[www.stthomasop.org](http://www.stthomasop.org)

\*\* in your weekly "Connecting with You" email

\*\* via the QR code on the display board in the lobby!

- Vacation Bible Camp

**VBC 2023: Be who YOU are called to BE!**

Starts Sunday, June 25 thru Thursday, June 29

5-8pm

It is NOT too late to join in the fun, and we will welcome you/your child on ANY nights you are available! THURSDAY night is our FAMILY NIGHT PICNIC and playtime with games, sprinkler fun (bring a towel and swimsuit) and...a visit from the ICE CREAM (and popsicle!) TRUCK! Talk to Barbara McCall at 913-909-7318 to join the fun!

- **Summer Mission Trip in KY Taking Donations**

We are raising money to help pay for this year's mission trip to Irvine, Kentucky. Our youth will learn the realities of poverty in rural America. They will be doing construction and rebuilding after the many floods and tornadoes that have hit that area.

Please share the following link and send it to family and friends who might be interested in donating. Your contribution will help us get there!



- **Brunch Help Welcome on Sundays!**

Brunch is offered each Sunday after the 10am services.

Can you help us continue the hospitality offered at St. Thomas? We invite you to help with setting up, serving, and cleaning up. You can sign up by scanning the QR code on the right or in your weekly Connecting with You email.



- **Note of Thanks**

*Dear People of St. Thomas,  
Thank you for all the prayers, cards, and hugs. Tim's service was beautiful and I received many compliments on how personal it was.*

*Thank you for all you did to provide a lovely reception after. It was really nice to have a place to gather and connect with friends & family from Tim's past. I feel blessed to be a part of this parish.*

*Joyce O'Hara*

- **Flowers on the altar are given to the Glory of God**

Would you like to commemorate a loved one, special event, or celebration with altar flowers? You can sign up by scanning this QR code or by entering your name on the flower chart outside the church office.



## This Weekend

- **Saturday, June 24**

Holy Communion, 5:30pm

- **Sunday, June 25**

9:00am: Coffee Hour, Kids' Summer Sunday Stories in Asbly Rm

10:00am: Holy Communion

11:00am: Parish Brunch / Kids' Summer Sunday Stories—Parish Hall 1, 2

Children's Chapel (program geared toward ages 3-10) is available during the Sunday service.

Nursery care is available on Sunday for children ages 6 mon. thru 4 yrs from 9am-11am (conclusion of the 10am service).

If you are unable to attend any of the services in person, you are invited to join us online. All services are live-streamed and available to watch afterward on [www.youtube.com/c/stthomasop](https://www.youtube.com/c/stthomasop) and [www.facebook.com/stthomasop](https://www.facebook.com/stthomasop)

## Sunday Christian Education

- **Change starting June 25 for Kids' Summer Sunday Stories: 11:00am in Parish Hall**

In keeping with our families' desire to enjoy a few extra moments of sleep on Sunday mornings, we will be moving our children's formation activities to 11am concurrent with the social hour in the Parish Hall. Children may grab their goodies, then join Ms. Barbara and Ms. Addy at designated tables in PH 2 for a fun activity or a step outside to play, while parents either join us (you are more than welcome) or enjoy fellowship with other adults in the parish for a few minutes while we entertain the kiddos. :)

- **Adult Forum will resume in September**

Please be on the lookout for announcements about opportunities throughout the summer for guest speakers.

## Outreach

- **Comanche Elementary School Supply Drive**

School Supplies collected July 2 – July 30

Backpacks and collection boxes in church lobby

**3 Easy Steps:**

- \* Take and fill a Backpack with a supply list attached
- \* Return the filled Backpack + attached supply list to St. Thomas
- \* Place it in the designated Grade's Box (in lobby)



Thank you for supporting Comanche Elementary's students and for making a big difference in the lives of others!

Questions? Contact Deacon Fran Wheeler at

[fwheeler@stthomasop.org](mailto:fwheeler@stthomasop.org)

- **Mobile Food Pantry Volunteers Needed**

July 8, 11:30am—2pm

Comanche Elementary, 8200 Grant Ave, OPKS



Click the QR for more info and volunteer signups. A link is also found in your weekly email.

## Small-group Study & Practice

- **Education for Ministry (EfM)**

Unique 4-Year program in theological education

Classes start in September 2023

This international program has assisted thousands to discover and nurture their call to Christian service. Small, mentored groups provide the framework for understanding life and shaping actions as Christian faith is deepened.

For more information and if you are interested in joining the classes, contact Ray Wheeler at 913-269-0542 or [ray.wheeler60@gmail.com](mailto:ray.wheeler60@gmail.com)

## Next Week

**Sunday, June 25:** Coffee Hour, 9-10am in PH 1, 2; Holy Communion 10am in Nave; Parish Brunch/Kids' Summer Sunday Stories, 11am in Parish Hall; VBS, 5-8pm, multiple rooms

**Monday, June 26:** Thom's Helpers, 10:30am-1:30pm PH 1 & Kitchen; Finance Committee, 5:45-6:30pm, online; Vestry Mtg, 6:45pm, Asbly Rm or online; VBS, 5-8pm, PH and multiple rooms

**Tuesday, June 27:** Music lessons (Risebig), 4-5pm in Nave; Sword Guild practice, 7pm PH 2; VBS, 5-8pm, PH and multiple rooms

**Wednesday, June 28:** Thom's Helpers, 10:30am-1:30pm PH 1 & Kitchen; Wednesday Study Grp, 10:30am Asbly Rm; Staff mtg, 1:30pm in Lobby; VBS, 5-8pm, PH and multiple rooms

**Thursday, June 29:** Music lessons (Washington), 4-7pm in Nave; VBS, 5-8pm, PH and multiple rooms

**Friday, June 30:** Thom's Helpers, 10:30am-1:30pm in PH 1 & Kitchen

**Saturday, July 1:** Prayer Shawl Sm Grp, 10am PH 1; Holy Communion, 5:30pm Nave

*Meetings, activities, and events must be cleared with Justin Smith in the church office. [jsmith@stthomasop.org](mailto:jsmith@stthomasop.org) or 913-451-0512.*

You can give online securely and conveniently by scanning the QR code or visit the St. Thomas website—<https://stthomasop.org>—and click on the "Donate" tab.

## Giving Online to St. Thomas

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## Small Groups meeting

- **Explorers Small Group**

Thursday, July 6, in Parish Hall 2

This group meets on the 1st & 3rd Thursday at St. Thomas and also takes day trips. They are interested in exploring the Scripture and the World around them, and are involved with emergency relief bags.

- **Women's Small Group**

Next meeting Saturday, July 8, 9:00am

The main demographic of this group is women in their 30s, 40s and 50s. Expect to grow closer to each other as we explore our relationship with and connection to God.

Contact: Mthr. Kelly Demo—[kdemo@stthomasop.org](mailto:kdemo@stthomasop.org)

- **LGBTQ+ Alliance Small Group**

Next meeting July 10, 7pm at St. Thomas

Meetings are held monthly at 7pm at St. Thomas on the first Monday of the month. (July 3 rescheduled due to holiday weekend.)

Goals: 1) for St. Thomas to become more visible within the LGBTQ+ community; 2) for the LGBTQ+ Alliance to become more visible within the Parish. **All** are welcome, whether you are in the LGBTQ+ community, supporting a family member or friend, or just want to learn more and be a better ally.

Contact: John Pfannes [john.pfannes@att.net](mailto:john.pfannes@att.net)

- **Faith Club Small Group**

Wednesday, July 19, 11:00am, in Parish Hall 1 & 2

Register by July 12

Guest speaker, Dr. Carla Klassner will speak on the similarities/differences of Judaism, Islam, and Christianity. Bring your own box lunch. Tea and water provided. You will need to register by July 12 by contacting Judy Dutra at [jhdutra2002@att.net](mailto:jhdutra2002@att.net) or 913-851-8217.