

Children & Youth

- **Regular Youth Group starts Sept 10, 6-8pm**
in Sanctuary, Parish Hall, and Narthex
Dinner included and all 6-12th graders welcome!
- **ACOLYTE TRAINING**
Sunday, Sept 17, 12-3pm
Lunch provided

Current acolytes and any youth in 3-12th grade who would like to be an acolyte is *strongly* encouraged to join us for a training on Sept 17. If you cannot attend but would like to be an acolyte (or are one already) please contact Mthr. Kelly at kdemo@stthomasop.org.
- **Join a Music Team!**
Chancel (Adult) Choir meets on Wed, 6:30-8pm

Praise Band meets on Thurs, 6:30-7:30.
Youth musical coming soon!!

St. Thomas Children's Choir begins Thurs, Sept 21, 5:15-6pm. We hope to sing once a month in the services and prepare for our new Christmas Nativity Musical!!!

Youth Band members wanted!
We will play every Sunday night for youth group!

from Julieanne Stapleton, Director of Music—
jstapleton@stthomasop.org
- **Celebrating Our Children & Youth!**
We know your kiddos are up to GREAT THINGS! We want to hear and celebrate with them! Please brag away! 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 news!

Grief Support Program

- **Walking the Mourner's Path**
Sessions to begin late September

Walking the Mourner's Path is a faith-based grief support program. Over eight sessions, individuals can share stories of their loved one(s) and their grief in a confidential and supportive environment. Trained facilitators and clergy listen, pray, and guide discussions on given topics. Sessions are planned to start at St. Thomas in late September.

If you are interested in participating, please email Fr. Gar at gdemo@stthomasop.org or sign up in the narthex.

Bishop Visit and Confirmation Class starts Sept 10

Bishop Cathleen Bascom will visit St. Thomas on October 7 & 8. This is an opportunity for anyone who might want to be confirmed or received into the Episcopal church.

For adults, Confirmation is the sacrament through which persons reaffirm their baptismal vows and, by sacrament, deepen their commitment to the Episcopal Church. **An Inquirer's Class will start Sept 10** for new members, long-time members, and anyone curious. This class, which reviews the faith and practice of our church, serves as preparation for Confirmation.

Persons confirmed in other churches adhering to the Apostolic Succession are not confirmed again but *received* into our Communion by the Bishop. Churches following the Apostolic Succession include the Roman Catholic, Eastern Orthodox, Moravian, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, and the Lutheran churches of Scandinavia.

Inquirer's Class

September 10, 4pm, in the Assembly Room

If you want to join Fr. Gar and others for this class, please let him know at gdemo@stthomasop.org



This Weekend

- **Saturday, September 9**
Holy Communion, 5:30pm
2nd Saturday reception, 6:30pm, Parish Hall 1
- **Sunday, September 10**
8:45 & 11:00am: Holy Communion
Coffee Hour after the 8:45 service, PH 1, 2
9:45am: Adult Forum (Parish Hall 2), Children/Youth Sun School (Educ Wing/Ash Room)
4:00pm: Inquirer's Class (Confirmation), Asbly Rm
6-8pm: Youth Group in Nave, Parish Hall, Narthex

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

Nursery care is available on Sunday for children ages 6 months thru 4 yrs from 8:15am-12:15 (or conclusion of the 11am 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 and www.facebook.com/stthomasop

Children/Youth Educ Kickoff!

- This Sunday, Sept 10, 9:45-10:45am

All Children (ages 3 thru 5th grade) gather in the Assembly Rm for a "Kickoff Day in Godly Play" with special feast, stories (for kids and PARENTS!) and "work" while Mother Kelly gathers all Middle & High School Youth in the Ash Room (basement) for a kickoff of "Path to Confirmation" and "Giving Project" groups with a focus on planning for our anticipated fall "All-Parish R.O.T.C." experience.

Outreach

- **Refugees Need Our Support!**

Collection now through Sept 17

We will be collecting donations of personal hygiene items through Sept 17. To sign up and for more info, go to the signup sheet in the Narthex or click on the QR code.



On 9/17 after the 11:00 service come to the Parish Hall to assemble the donated items into kits for KC for Refugees and discuss opportunities to serve.

- **Food Pantry Volunteers will be needed**

October 14, 11:30am—2pm

Comanche Elementary, 8200 Grant Ave, OPKS

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



- **Comanche Elementary Community Carnival & Cookout—Volunteers Needed**

Thursday, September 14, 5:00—7:00pm
8200 Grant Ave, Overland Park, KS

Celebrate the start of the new school year with families, teachers, and staff at Comanche. Volunteers needed with setup, grilling, serving, games/activities, cleanup. Shifts are between 3:30-8:30pm. To sign up and get more info, click on the QR codes below.

Serving Volunteers:

Activity Volunteers:



Questions: Contact Deacon Fran Wheeler, fwheeler@stthomasop.org

Giving Online to St. Thomas

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.



This Week's Calendar

Saturday, Sept 9: Prayer Shawl Sm Grp, 10am, PH 1; Mobile Food Pantry, Comanche Elem, 10:30-11:30am; Holy Communion, 5:30pm, Nave; 2nd Sat Reception, 6:30pm, PH 1

Sunday, Sept 10: Holy Communion, 8:45 and 11:00 in Nave; Adult Forum, 9:45am, PH 2; Children/Youth Sunday School 9:45am, Educ Wing; Coffee Hour, 10-11am, PH 1, 2; IHN mtg, 12:15-1:15pm, PH 2; Youth Group, 6-8pm, Nave, PH, Narthex,

Monday, Sept 11: Thom's Helpers, 10:30am-1:30pm PH 1 & Kitchen; IHN Coordination mtg, 6:30pm, PH 1; LGPTQIA+ mtg, 7pm, PH 2

Tuesday, Sept 12: PEO mtg, (Roller), 9-11:30am, PH 2; Red Cross Blood Drive, 10am-3pm, PH 1-3; Mom's Sm Grp, 5-6:30pm; Sword Guild practice, 7pm PH 2

Wednesday, Sept 13: Staff meeting, 9:30am, Lobby; Thom's Helpers, 10:30am-1:30pm, PH 1 + Kitchen; Wednesday Study Group 10:30am-12, Asbly Rm; Voice Lessons, 2-3:30pm, Asbly Rm; Chancel Choir practice, 6:30-8pm, Nave

Thursday, Sept 14: New Testament Group, 10:30am-12, Asbly Rm; PEO Chapter FN (Searce), 12:30-3pm, PH 2; Music Lesson, 4-5pm, Nave; Comanche Cookout/Carnival, 5-7pm; Praise Band practice, 6:30pm, Nave; Young Adult Sm Grp, 7pm, PH 1; Classics Men's Sm Grp, 7pm, PH 3; Sword Guild practice, 7pm, PH 2

Friday, Sept 15: Thom's Helpers, 10:30am-1:30pm in PH 1 & Kitchen; SCA, 7pm, PH 1

Saturday, Sept 16: Women's Group, 9-10am, Asbly Rm; 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 or 913-451-0512.

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

To schedule your commemoration, sign up by using the QR code or by entering your name on the flower chart outside the church office.



Join a Small Grp or Study Grp

- **Classics Men's Small Group**—For retired and semi-retired men. 2nd & 4th Thursdays, 7pm, in PH 3
Contact: Tom Meyers tmeyers922@gmail.com

- **Contemplative Prayer Small Group**—Prayer and meditation. 1st & 3rd Tuesdays, 7pm, in Sanctuary
Contact: Lynn Powell lynne@thechildrensclinic.net

- **Explorers Small Group**
Explore the Scripture and the World around us
1st & 3rd Thursdays, 7pm, PH 2
Contact: John McNown johnmcnown44@gmail.com

- **LGBTQIA+ Small Group**—For members of the LGBTQ+ community and allies. September 11, 7pm, in PH 2 (changed from Sept 4)
Contact: John Pfannes john.pfannes@att.net

- **Middlemen's Small Group**—for men balancing work, family & faith in the "middle" of life (~30s-50s)
Kickoff in September 2023!
Contact: John McCall jmccall07@gmail.com

- **Mom's Small Group**—For moms with kids of all ages; nursery provided. Next Meeting Sept. 12, 5-6:30pm
Contact: Katie Birchfield katie.birchfield87@gmail.com, Liz Knights elizabethknights523@gmail.com

- **Prayer Shawl Small Group**
Every Saturday, 10-11am, PH 1
1st Mondays, 7:30-9pm, in PH 1
Contact: Sue Strom susanstrom15@gmail.com

- **New Testament Group**
Every Thursday, 10:30-12, Asbly Rm
Contact: Sheryl Roller sljroller@gmail.com

- **Wednesday Study Group**
Every Wednesday, 10:30-12, Asbly Rm
Contact: Suzie Taylor-Meadows suzietm@yahoo.com

- **Women's Group**
3rd Saturdays, 9-10:30am, Assembly Rm
Contact: Emily Wilson ewilso28@gmail.com

- **Young Adult Small Group**
2nd & 4th Thursdays, 7pm, in PH 1
Contact: Tim Pullin pullin.tim.a@gmail.com