

Children & Youth

- **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.

- **Sunday Night Youth Group**

6-8pm in Sanctuary, Parish Hall, and Narthex
Dinner included and all 6-12th graders welcome!

- **Celebrating Our Children & Youth!**

Jacob McCall recently earned the rank of Life Scout and was elected Senior Patrol Leader of Scouts B.S.A. Troop 412.

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!

Join a Music Team!

- Chancel (Adult) Choir meets on Wed, 6:30-8pm

- Praise Band meets on Thurs, 6:30-7:30pm

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!

Questions? Contact Julieanne Stapleton, Director of Music—jestapleton@stthomasop.org



Sunday Morning Christian Education

- **Adult Forum**

9:45am in Parish Hall 2

Grab a cookie and beverage from Coffee hour and join in on some interesting topics

- **Godly Play—Preschool thru Elementary:**

This week, we are returning to our circles during the Education Hour!

* Preschool-Kindergarten: Room 143/144 (across from Nursery)

* 1st/2nd/3rd Grades: Room 133/134 (where the office and education halls meet)

* 4th/5th Grades: Room 137 (around to the left from the "T" intersection)

- **Youth Christian Formation Groups:**

* Middle School - "Path to Confirmation" in Assembly Room (East end of the Educ. Hall). This week is also with parents of confirmands.

* High School - "The Giving Project": "Mark Ash" Youth room (Basement - east end of Ed. Hall)

HELP WANTED

- **Nursery Caregiver (18+)**

Seeking caregiver for our youngest members (ages 6 months through 4 years) on Sunday mornings from 8:30am -12:30pm, with occasional other hours. From \$15-20 per hour, and paid training is available. If you know someone who may be interested, please contact Barbara McCall, Director of Children and Families, at bmccall@stthomasop.org or 913-909-7318.

This position is currently being advertised on Care.com, Indeed.com, Nextdoor.com and through Jo Co Comm College. If you know of other outlets (i.e. neighborhood social media pages) or places to post (community boards), please reach out to Barbara.



This Weekend

- **Saturday, September 16**

Holy Communion, 5:30pm

- **Sunday, September 17**

8:45 & 11:00am: Holy Communion
Coffee Hour after the services, PH 1

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

Grief Support Program

- **Walking the Mourner's Path**

Sessions begin Tuesday, September 26, 6:30pm

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. If interested in participating, sign up on the bulletin board in the narthex or email Fr. Gar at gdemo@stthomasop.org.

Outreach

- **Immigration Ministries:**

- **Bring in Hygiene Supplies this Sunday, Sept 17 ***

- After the 11:00 Sunday service:

- * Fellowship and light snacks while hygiene kits are prepared for refugee neighbors

- * Details offered about St. Thomas Immigration Ministries and volunteer opportunities that may interest you and fit your schedule. Sign up to volunteer!

- * *Monetary donations also welcome—just drop a check in the donation basket at any service and mark "Immigration Ministry" on the memo line or donate online (info below).*

- **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.



- **Blood Drive Exceeds Expectations!**

- The Blood Drive on Tuesday at St. Thomas exceeded its goal which is great to help get our blood supply back on track! Currently there is a national shortage of blood and Red Cross has gone on a national appeal for more blood donors. The next drive at St. Thomas is November 21, 10am-3pm. You can also give blood at other locations—sign up at www.RedCrossBlood.org

Donating 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 16: Women's Group, 9-10am, Asbly Rm; Prayer Shawl Sm Grp, 10am, PH 1; Holy Communion, 5:30pm, Nave

Sunday, Sept 17: Holy Communion, 8:45 and 11:00 in Nave; Coffee Hours after each service, PH 1; Adult Forum, 9:45am, PH 2; Children/ Youth Sunday School 9:45am, Educ Wing; Immigration Ministry Presentation, 12-1pm, PH 2; Acolyte Training Session, 12-3pm, Nave/Sacristy/Vestry; Youth Group, 6-8pm, Nave, PH, Narthex

Monday, Sept 18: Thom's Helpers, 10:30am-1:30pm PH 1 & Kitchen; Westmont Board mtg, 6:30pm, Asbly Rm; Outreach Committee mtg, 6:30pm, PH 1; Stonehaven HOA mtg, 6:30pm, PH 2

Tuesday, Sept 19: Book Club, 7pm, PH 1; Contemplative Prayer Sm Grp, 7pm, Nave; Sword Guild practice, 7pm PH 2

Wednesday, Sept 20: Staff meeting, 9:30am, Lobby; Thom's Helpers, 10:30am-1:30pm, PH 1 + Kitchen; Wednesday Study Grp, 10:30-12, Asbly Rm; Voice Lessons, 2-3:30pm, Asbly Rm; Chancel Choir practice, 6:30-8pm, Nave

Thursday, Sept 21: Oboe Lesson, 4-4:30pm, Nave or PH; Children's Choir Practice, 5:15-6pm, Nave; Praise Band practice, 6:30pm, Nave; PEO mtg, 6:30pm, Asbly Rm; Explorers Sm Grp, 7pm, PH 2; Sword Guild practice, 7pm, PH 3

Friday, Sept 22: Thom's Helpers, 10:30am-1:30pm in PH 1 & Kitchen

Saturday, Sept 23: 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 and . . .**

In memory of Dennis and Barbara Staley—from Phillip Staley



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



Small Groups meeting next week

- **Contemplative Prayer Small Group**

- Tuesday, Sept 19, 7pm, in Sanctuary

- This group meets to delve deeper into different forms of prayer and meditation. We meet the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of the month in the sanctuary of St. Thomas at 7pm. Contact: Lynn Powell lynn@thechildrensclinic.net

- **Explorers Small Group**

- Thursday, Sept 21, 7pm, PH 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. Contact: John McNown johnmcnown44@gmail.com

- **Prayer Shawl Small Group**

- Saturday Sept 23, 10-11am, PH 1

- This group meets at the parish and knits prayer shawls together. These shawls are blessed during special services at St. Thomas, and they are given to those who are ill or have lost a loved one. Contact: Sue Strom susanstrom15@gmail.com

SAVE THE DATE!

- **Women's Retreat**

- October 28, 9am-4pm

- Tall Oaks Conference Center in Linwood, KS

- The retreat will be led by The Rev. Lisa Senuta, Canon for Spiritual Life and Clergy Care of the Episcopal Diocese of Kansas. More information will be forthcoming. If you have any questions, please contact Mthr. Kelly Demo—kdemo@stthomasop.org