

## Save these Dates!

- **“ADVENT-URE”**

Annual All Parish Advent Wreath Making

**Next Sunday, November 26**, following each service in the Parish Hall



- **Advent begins on Dec 2 & 3**

Advent is a time of joy-filled, anticipatory celebration of the arrival of Jesus Christ.

- **Annual Cookie Sale**

Saturday, December 2 in the Parish Hall

**FIRE UP THOSE OVENS NOW for the ANNUAL COOKIE SALE!** For MANY years St. Thomas has hosted a community bake sale for the holidays and it has become one of the youth group's major fundraisers. Sign up to bake with the QR!



- **Advent Candlelight Luncheons**

December 6, 13, and 20 from 12-1pm

Did you know each candle of an Advent wreath represents a different aspect of our faith journey? Join Mother Kelly every Wednesday of Advent at noon for a light lunch and a deep dive into the meaning of Advent. We will use a short video series and have time for good conversation. Sign up for the lunch with the QR code on right.



## Sunday Morning Christian Education

- **Adult Forum**

9:45am in Parish Hall 1

You won't want to miss Adult Forum this Sunday. We will have a chance to hear from Rabbi Mark Levin on what it means to be Jewish in America currently, the challenge of Anti-Semitism, and the realities of the current situation here and abroad for Jewish People within the context of the violence in the Middle East.

- **Christian Education for Children & Youth**

- \* Preschool-Kindergarten: Rm 143/144 (across from Nursery)
- \* 1st/2nd/3rd Grades: Rm 133/134 (where ofc & educ halls meet)
- \* 4th/5th Grades: Rm 137 (on left from the "T" intersection)

- **Youth Christian Formation Groups:**

- \* Middle School - "Path to Confirmation" in Assembly Room (East end of the Educ. Hall).
- \* High School - "The Giving Project": "Mark Ash" Youth room (Basement - east end of Ed. Hall)

*On November 26 please attend “ADVENT-URE” during the Sunday School Hour in the Parish Hall.*

## Altar Flowers

### Flowers on the altar are given to the Glory of God and...



\* *In loving memory of Mary Elman, a dedicated mother and grandmother who we miss dearly—Dan, Lynn, and Bre Elman*

\* *In loving memory of our son, Brian. We miss you every day—Susan & Gerald Carman*

Sign up via the QR code or by entering your name on the flower chart outside the church office.



## Worship on November 18 & 19

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

**We are honored to welcome Rabbi Mark Levin to St Thomas this weekend.** Rabbi Levin will be leading the Adult Forum (Sun, 9:45, Parish Hall 2) and preaching at the 11:00am service. The sermon will touch on all our spiritual lives.

After many years serving Congregation Beth Torah, he is now its founding Rabbi, serves on several local boards in KC, writes religion columns for the KC Star, answers questions for the “Ask the Rabbi” service, and is the author of two books.

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

Nursery Care: 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).

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)

## This Thursday, 12-3pm at St. Thomas



Come and enjoy food and fellowship! Traditional meal with all the trimmings. Come alone or with the whole family. Can you help serve or clean up?—just sign up with the QR code. No need to RSVP to eat—there will be plenty of food! Contact: Donna Fye 913-963-5815 [djfye@gmail.com](mailto:djfye@gmail.com)



## Outreach Opportunities

### • Coats for Refugees

The Catholic Charities Refugee Learning Center reached out to us because they are badly in need of winter coats, especially for adults, as it gets colder. They can use coats in all sizes for adults and children. If you have any gently used coats you would like to donate, you can drop them off in the box marked “Coats for Refugees” in the narthex any time this month.

### • Red Cross Blood Drive Next Week

Tuesday, November 21, at St. Thomas

Everyone who donates will get a pair of ELF socks! Sign up by using the QR code on the right!



### • Food Pantry at Comanche

2nd Saturdays—Dec 9, Dec. 2, 10:30am  
Comanche Elementary, 8200 Grant Ave, OPKS

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



### • Christmas Outreach Opportunities

Donations Collected: Nov 18 - Dec 10  
Volunteer Opportunities: Dec 13 & Dec 14 & 15

Help us support Comanche Elementary by donating various **gently used or new items** for the School’s Holiday Shop. Students will be able to shop and purchase gifts for family members this Holiday Season by using their own daily earned “fun money” called “Buffalo Bucks.” We are asking you to prayerfully consider donating an item or two from their “Wish List” - the QR code will take you to the list.



**The Holiday Shop will be open for students to shop Dec 14 -15. We need your help filling these Volunteer positions:**

- \* December 13, 12-3pm: Sort and set up the shop
- \* December 14 & 15: 1-hour shifts between 8am-3pm are needed to help students shop and wrap their purchased gifts.

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## This Week’s Calendar

**Sat, Nov 18:** Women’s Group, 9-10am, Asbly Rm; Prayer Shawl Sm Grp, 10am, PH 1; Holy Communion, 5:30pm, Nave

**Sun, Nov 19:** Holy Communion, 8:45 in Nave; 9:45am: Adult Forum, PH 2; Children/Youth Sunday School; Coffee Hour, PH 1; Holy Communion, 11am, Nave; Youth Group with dinner, 6-8pm, Nave, PH, Kitchen

**Mon, Nov 20:** Thom’s Helpers, 10:30am-1:30pm, PH 1 & Kitchen; Stonehaven HOA mtg, 6:30-9pm, PH 2; Westmont Board mtg, 6:30-7:45pm, Asbly Rm; Outreach Committee mtg, 6:30pm, PH 2

**Tues, Nov 21:** Red Cross Blood Drive, 10am-3pm, PH 1, 2, 3; Organ reserved, 10am-12, Nave; Walking the Mourner’s Path, 6:30-8pm, Narthex; Contemplative Prayer Sm Grp, 7pm, Nave; Sword Guild, 7pm PH 2

**Wed, Nov 22: Church office closed.** Thom’s Helpers, 10:30am-1:30pm, PH 1 + Kitchen; Voice Lessons, 2-4pm, Asbly Rm; Chancel Choir, 7-8pm, Nave

**Thurs, Nov 23: Thanksgiving Day—church office closed.** Thanksgiving Dinner, 12-3pm

**Fri, Nov 24: Church office closed.** Organ reserved, 10-11am

**Sat, Nov 25:** Prayer Shawl Sm Grp, 10am, PH 1; Holy Communion, 5:30

**Sun, Nov 26: ADVENT-URE Wreathmaking** after each service. Holy Communion, 8:45 in Nave; 9:45am: Adult Forum; Children/Youth Sunday School; Coffee Hour, PH 1; Holy Communion, 11am, Nave

*Please contact Justin Smith to schedule your meeting or event — [jsmith@stthomasop.org](mailto:jsmith@stthomasop.org) or 913-451-0512.*

### Christmas Outreach, cont.

#### The Holiday Shop

If you are interested in volunteering for any of the above positions, please sign up using the QR code or with the link in your weekly Connecting email.



If you are able to help transport all donated items from St. Thomas to Comanche Elementary, please contact Deacon Fran Wheeler: [fwheeler@stthomasop.org](mailto:fwheeler@stthomasop.org).

## Small Groups meeting next week

### • Women’s Group

Sat, Nov 18, 9-10am, Assembly Rm  
(1st & 3rd Saturdays)

Contact: Emily Wilson [ewilso28@gmail.com](mailto:ewilso28@gmail.com)

### • Prayer Shawl Small Group

Saturdays, 10am-12pm, PH 1; 1st Mondays, 7:30-9pm

Knit prayer shawls together for those who are ill or have lost a loved one. Contact: Sue Strom [susanstrom15@gmail.com](mailto:susanstrom15@gmail.com)

### • Contemplative Prayer Small Group—Prayer and meditation. 1st & 3rd Tuesdays, 7pm, in Sanctuary

Contact: Lynn Powell [lynne@thechildrensclinic.net](mailto:lynne@thechildrensclinic.net)

## 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](mailto:bmccall@stthomasop.org) or Kelly—[kdemo@stthomasop.org](mailto:kdemo@stthomasop.org) so that we may add it to our news!

## Donating to St. Thomas

Give online securely via the QR code or visit the St. Thomas website—<https://stthomasop.org> and click on the “Donate” tab.

