

Save these Dates!



- **Annual Cookie/Bake Sale Needs Bakers!**

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 or the link in your weekly email.**



- **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.



Thank You!

Thanks to all who helped fill boxes of groceries for the Thanksgiving in Action Ministry.

Your support, along with 4 other churches and 2 scout troops filled 307 boxes providing meals for 186 families in Olathe for this Thanksgiving. We are so grateful for your generosity! Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!

Deacon Fran Wheeler

Sunday Morning Christian Education

Classes will not meet this week due to the All Parish Advent Wreath Making—they will resume on Dec 3. All are welcome!

Sunday, December 3:

- **Adult Forum** will resume at 9:45am, Parish Hall 2
- **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)

Altar Flowers

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



* *In memory of my mother, Margie Adcock, and my grandparents—from Cindy Adcock*

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



Worship on November 25 & 26

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

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 and www.facebook.com/stthomasop

- **This Sunday: "ADVENTure"**

All Parish Advent Wreath Making after services

Join us to craft your Advent Wreath as well as ornaments and gather other tools for prayers to help you make space during this season of preparation for the Mystery of Christmas. Advent Candles, crafting supplies and prayer resources/Advent Wreath Booklets will be available. Snacks will be served - feel free to bring Thanksgiving leftovers that you'd like to share. A freewill donation for supplies will be gratefully received. All are welcome!

- **Next Saturday: Cookie/Bake Sale**

We need MORE BAKERS! More info inside...

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

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



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.

• Food Pantry at Comanche

2nd Saturdays—Dec 9, 11:30am

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 **gently used or new items** for the School’s Holiday Shop. Students can shop and purchase gifts for family this Holiday Season by using their own daily earned “fun money” called “Buffalo Bucks.” We ask 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-hr shifts between 8am-3pm are needed to help students shop and wrap their gifts

The Holiday Shop

To volunteer for any of the positions above please sign up with the QR with the link in your weekly email.



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

Outreach continued next column

This Week’s Calendar

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

Sun, Nov 26: ADVENT-URE Wreathmaking after each service in Parish Hall; Coffee Hours after each service in Parish Hall 1; Holy Communion, 8:45 and 11:00am in Nave

Mon, Nov 27: Thom’s Helpers, 10:30am-1:30pm, PH 1 & Kitchen; Finance Committee mtg, 5:45-6:30pm, PH 1 or online; Vestry mtg, 6:45pm, PH 1 and/orZoom

Tues, Nov 28: Organ reserved, 10am-12, Nave; Book Club, 7pm, PH 1; Sword Guild, 7pm PH 2

Wed, Nov 29: Staff mtg, 10am, PH 1 or lobby, Thom’s Helpers 10:30am-1:30pm, PH 1, Kitchen, Sacristy; Wednesday Study Grp, 10:30am-12, Asbly Rm; Voice Lessons, 2-4pm, Asbly Rm; Chancel Choir, 7-8pm, Nave

Thurs, Nov 30: New Testament Study, 10:30am-12, Asbly Rm; Music Lesson, 4-5pm, Nave; Children’s Choir, 5-6pm, Nave; Praise Band, 6-8pm, Nave; Explorers Sm Grp, 7-9:30pm, PH 2

Fri, Dec 1: Organ reserved, 10-11am, Nave; Thom’s Helpers, 10:30am-1:30pm, PH 1 & Kitchen; Cookie Sale Prep, 12-7pm, PH 1 -2; SCA, 7pm, PH 1

Please contact Justin Smith to schedule your meeting or event — jsmith@stthomasop.org or 913-451-0512.

Outreach, continued

• Immigration Ministries Training Session

12:00 on Dec 10 at St. Thomas—light lunch provided

The training is for anyone who would like to be more involved in immigration ministry. It will go over the basics of who the refugees and immigrants are in our community and how we can best serve them.

From teaching English, to offering rides to helping with home repair, there are lots of ways to get involved. If you would like to help but aren’t sure where you fit, this training is for you!

Please RSVP using the QR or with the link in your weekly email.



Small Groups meeting next week

• Prayer Shawl Small Group

All Saturdays, 10am-12pm, PH 1; 1st Mondays, 7:30-9pm
The meeting on Dec 2 will take place in the Asbly Rm

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

• Explorers Small Group—Explores the Scripture and the World around us

Nov 30, 1st & 3rd Thursdays, 7pm, PH 2

Contact: John McNown johnmcnown44@gmail.com

• Women’s Group

Sat, Dec 2, 9-10am Assembly Rm

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

Contact: Emily Wilson ewilso28@gmail.com

• Year-End Donation Reminder!

* St Thomas will mail 11th-month statements to all households on Dec 1, 2023. Please look over your statements for any errors, etc.

* St Thomas is primarily supported through pledges and donations from our members; please help finish the year strong by fulfilling your pledge.

* If you want a donation to be counted in 2023 for tax purposes, the donation must be postmarked or received by December 31, 2023. Please be sure to make your final pledge payments by this date.

* St Thomas has the ability for people to donate with a credit card or direct bank withdrawal. You can do that with the QR or the link in your email.

* If you want to donate stock or other securities, please contact the office.



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.

