

## Children & Youth

- **Winter One-Day "Reaching Out to the Community for 3rd-5th and 6th-12 grade"**  
Wednesday, January 3, 9am-3pm

Join us for our annual one-day version of one of our most impactful summer camps! In the morning our older elementary kids will go to Scraps KC, while Middle & High Schoolers go to The Sewing Labs to volunteer their time before gathering for some afternoon fun with pizza, bowling, lazer tag and games at Main Event! Cost is \$35 and covers all activities, food and transportation. Register now with the QR code on right!



## Ordination

- **Invitation to Ordination for Martha Lamoy**  
Sat, Jan 13, 10:30am, Grace Cathedral, Topeka

After several years of formal discernment and study, I have been certified and recommended for ordination to the priesthood. I would be honored to have you celebrate with me! The service will be streamed as well (QR is link).



I will also be celebrating and preaching at St. Thomas the following day, Sun, Jan 14, at both the 8:45 and 11:00 services, so this will be another opportunity for me to express my gratitude to my St. Thomas family.  
- In Christ, Martha Lamoy

## 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.



## Sunday Morning Christian Education

- **Adult Forum**  
9:45am, Parish Hall 2  
*Class will not meet on Dec 24 or 31*
- **Christian Educ for Children & Youth—9:45am**  
*Classes will not meet on Dec 24 or 31*
  - \* 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—9:45am**  
*No classes on Dec 24 or 31*
  - \* 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)

- **Final Advent Candlelight Luncheon**  
December 20 from 12-1pm

Join Mother Kelly next Wednesday at noon for a light lunch and a 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.



## Altar Flowers (Greens during Advent)

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



*In loving memory of Barbara Staley  
- from Phil Staley*

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



## Worship Services

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

**This Sunday's 11:00am service will include  
Advent Lessons and Carols.**

The service will be made up of readings, music and prayer.

Children's Chapel: (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). *Nursery hours TBD on Dec 24 during the 10am service.*

All services are live-streamed and available to watch afterward on [www.youtube.com/c/stthomasop](http://www.youtube.com/c/stthomasop) and [www.facebook.com/stthomasop](http://www.facebook.com/stthomasop)

## CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES December 24th

10:00 AM—Holy Communion  
4:00 PM—Nativity Musical with Communion  
8:00 PM—Holy Communion

- **Children's Nativity Musical**  
Friday, December 22, 7pm  
Sunday, Dec 24, 4pm at Christmas Eve service  
We need parent volunteers and kids of all ages! If you or your child would like to participate, please email Julieanne! [jstapleton@stthomasop.org](mailto:jstapleton@stthomasop.org)

## Year-End Donations

### reminder

\* St Thomas recently mailed the 11<sup>th</sup>-month statements to all households. 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.



## This Week's Calendar

**Sun, Dec 17:** Holy Communion, Nave 8:45am; 9:45am—Adult Forum, PH 1, and Sun Sch, Educ. Wing; Coffee Hr, PH 1-2, 10-11am; Lessons & Carols, Nave, 11am; Service Project (Pullin) PH 1, 12-2pm; Nativity Reh, 4-6pm; Youth Grp, Fleischaker's home, 6:30pm

**Mon, Dec 18:** Thom's Helpers, PH 1, 10:30am – 1:30pm; Westmont Mtg, Asbly Rm, 6:30pm; Outreach Com. Mtg PH2, 6:30pm

**Tues, Dec 19:** Organ Practice, Nave, 10am-12pm; Nativity Reh, 4-6pm; Sword Guild PH1, 7 – 9pm; Contemp Prayer, Nave, 7pm

**Wed, Dec 20:** Thom's Helpers, PH 1, 10:30am-1:30pm; Advent Lunch PH 2, 11am-1:30pm; Voice Lessons, Asbly Rm, 2-4pm; Nativity Reh, 4-6pm; Chancel Choir, Nave, 6:30pm

**Thurs, Dec 21:** Music Lesson, Asbly Rm, 4 – 5pm; Nativity Rehears, 4-6pm; PEO, Asbly Rm (McCall), 6:30pm; Praise Band, Nave, 6:30pm; Sword Guild, PH 3, 7pm

**Fri, Dec 22:** Thom's Helpers, 10:30am-1:30pm; Organ, Nave, 10:30am-12pm; Funeral Service, Nave, 11am-12pm; Kids Photo Op w/Donkey - 6:30pm (West Entrance); Children's Nativity Musical & Christ Child's Birthday Party - 7pm: Nave

**Sat, Dec 23:** Holy Communion/Advent 4, Nave, 5:30pm

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

**The church office will be closed Monday and Tuesday after Christmas and New Years.**

**Dec. 25 & 26     Jan. 1 & 2**

## Outreach Opportunities

### • Food Pantry at Comanche

2nd Saturdays—Jan 13, 11:30am

Comanche Elementary, 8200 Grant Ave, OPKS

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



## Small Grps & Study Grps Next Week

### • Prayer Shawl Small Group

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

Together we knit, crochet, or weave prayer shawls, hats, and 8" squares. Free knitting and crochet lessons available every Saturday. Please call Sue Strom for details on lessons, and on giving a prayer shawl. (913) 244-6402 or [susanstrom15@gmail.com](mailto:susanstrom15@gmail.com)

### • Contemplative Prayer Small Group

Prayer and meditation

Tues, Dec 19, 7pm, Sanctuary (1st & 3rd Tuesdays)

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

## January: New Wednesday Study Group

### • Wednesday from 10am-Noon in the Assembly Rm

We will start the new year on **January 10** with a new class of five sessions, "The Jesus Fatwah" (Love your Muslim neighbors as yourself). Contact Jan Summers

## Christmas Memorials

Envelopes for Christmas Offerings will be in the bulletins during Advent. Your gifts will help provide festive music and beautiful flowers at the altar during Christmas. *If you wish to have your*

*name included in the Christmas bulletins, please return the envelope no later than this Monday, December 18.* List names

of those you wish honored, in memory of, or celebrating, along with your donation inside (any amount). You can also fill out this form via the QR or with the link found in your weekly email.

*Christmas*  
OFFERING



## It's Time for Vestry Nominations!

The Vestry along with the Rector of the parish, share in the work of vision and oversight of the congregation. Made up of 12 members who serve for 3 yrs, a person must be 18 yrs of age, a communicant in good standing, regular in attendance, and a contributor of record for the last 12 months. For more details about their duties, please refer to your weekly "Connecting with You" email.



Jen Newell, Joe Bob Lake, Georgina Green, and Diana Diaz will conclude their terms in January and we will have 4 open positions. If you would like to have your name put forward for nomination or nominate someone please be in contact with any of these people who comprise the nominating committee.

Jen Newell: [jennifer.e.newell@gmail.com](mailto:jennifer.e.newell@gmail.com)

Joe Bob Lake: [jlake10@kc.rr.com](mailto:jlake10@kc.rr.com)

Georgina Green: [ecosse123@gmail.com](mailto:ecosse123@gmail.com)

Diana Diaz: [ddiaz62@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ddiaz62@sbcglobal.net)

Or either of the wardens, or Fr. Gar:

Kari Wold, Senior Warden: [kariannawold@gmail.com](mailto:kariannawold@gmail.com)

Mike Pickett, Junior Warden: [mcpickettks2@gmail.com](mailto:mcpickettks2@gmail.com)

Fr. Gar Demo: [gdemo@stthomasop.org](mailto:gdemo@stthomasop.org)