

Children & Youth

- **Join a Music Group!**

- * **St. Thomas Kids Choir, 5:15-6pm**
- * **Youth Musicians/Singers** are invited to play and sing in church services! Contact Julieanne Stapleton—jstapleton@gmail.com

- **SUMMER @ St. Thomas 2024: Register Today!**

Our St. Thomas Summer Camp Registration has begun!

Our camp dates are:

- * **EDOK Mega Camp:** June 2-8
- * **Middle School "Reaching Out to the Community":** June 10-14
- * **High School "Reaching Out to the Community":** June 17-21
- * **Vacation Bible Camp:** June 23-27 (EVENINGS with Dinner)
- * **Mission Trip:** July 7-13
- * **3rd-6th grades "Reaching Out to the Community":** July 22-26
- * **Arts Camp:** July 29-August 2



- **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 newsletters!

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.



Outreach Opportunities

- **Immigration Ministry News and Needs**

Help us welcome our new immigrant neighbors!

The Immigration Ministry at St. Thomas is now sponsoring a new family of four from Iraq, and continues to help two Afghan families. How can you help? If you can provide any items below, call or text Linda Bemis 913-220-8246, or Jan Summers 913-522-7938.

** Queen or king beds, 2 double beds, 4 single (twin) beds
3 dressers, 1 night stand, Dining table and chairs for 8, Washer, Dryer

- **Food Pantry at Comanche—Volunteers Needed**

Next 2nd Saturday—Feb 10, 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.



A Special *Thank You* to our congregation

The St. Thomas the Apostle staff would like to express our gratitude for your generous Christmas gifts this holiday season. Your kind support filled our hearts with the joy of the season and reminded us all how blessed we are to share our faith with you. We look forward to walking through the doors of St. Thomas each day and absolutely love what we do. God gives us all gifts and talents which are meant to be utilized and shared as a church family. We look forward to visiting with you and letting you know how truly thankful we are.

With sincere thanks—The St. Thomas the Apostle Staff



Worship Services

Saturday, 5:30pm

Sunday, 8:45 and 11:00am

Join us for Coffee Hour in Parish Hall 1 after both services.

Children's Chapel: (geared toward ages 3-10) is available during both services on December 31.

Nursery: 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



- **Wednesday, Jan 31, 7pm, in the Parish Hall Potluck Dinner at 6pm**

Hear about the life of the church during 2023, what our leaders have to say, and the future of St. Thomas!

Leaders, Coordinators, Directors, and Chairs of all St. Thomas Ministries: We now have nearly everyone's annual summary for the annual report. If you haven't sent yours in, please do so as soon as possible. Justin Smith - jsmith@stthomasop.org or 913-451-0512.

There will be a potluck dinner before the meeting. Meat will be provided. Please bring a side dish or dessert!

Save these Dates!

- **Annual Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper**
Tuesday, February 13, 5-7pm

This is a fun parish wide event hosted by the Youth Community. \$6 a person or \$25 for a family of 5 or more!
- Invite Welcome Connect (IWC) is for ALL!
Newcomer Lunch is Sunday, March 3, at 12pm
Invitation—We all know people or family members who are looking for a new church home. Ways to Invite:
"I love our church home. Have I told you about St. Thomas? Maybe you'd like to join me next Saturday or Sunday for worship service"

We all like to be invited to something special. St. Thomas is that special place where we can all "Come, Grow, Serve: Make a Difference."

IWC Team
- **Noonday Lenten programs will begin starting in February**
Wednesdays, Feb. 21 and 28; March 6,13, and 20

Be on the lookout for more information!

Altar Flowers

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



Altar flowers are a lovely way to remember a special occasion, anniversary, birthday, or memorial. You may sign up via the QR code or by entering your name on the flower chart outside the church office.



Sunday Christian Education—9:45am

- **Adult Forum**
Parish Hall 2

All are welcome to join us after you have a chance to grab a bite and drink from Coffee Hour.
- **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" in the "Mark Ash" Youth room (Basement - east end of Ed. Hall)

This Week's Calendar

Sun, Jan 21: Nursery 8:15-12:15; Holy Communion at 8:45 and 11:00am, Nave; 9:45am: Adult Forum, PH 1; Sun School, Educ Wing; Coffee Hour; Youth Grp, 6-8pm, Nave/PH/Narthex

Mon, Jan. 22: Thom's Helpers, 10:30am-1:30pm, PH 1/Kitchen/Sacristy; Finance Committee, 5:45pm, PH 1 and/or Online; Vestry mtg, 6:45pm, PH 1 and/or Online

Tues, Jan 23: PEO mtg, 9:30am, PH 2 (Henricks); Organ practice, 10am-12; Sword Guild, 7pm, PH 1

Wed, Jan 24: Staff Mtg, 9:30am, Narthex; 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, 6:30-8:30pm, Nave loft

Thurs, Jan 25: Bible Study: "Grace in the Rearview Mirror", 10:30-12, Asbly Rm; PEO mtg, 12:30-3pm, PH 2 (Searce); Music lesson, 4:00-4:45pm, Asbly Rm; Children's Choir, 5-6pm, Nave; Praise Band, 6:30-7:30pm, Nave; Young Adult Sm Grp, 7pm, PH 1; Classics Men's Sm Grp, 7pm, PH 3; Sword Guild, 7-9pm, PH 2

Fri, Jan 26: Thom's Helpers, 10:30am-1:30pm, PH 1/Kitchen/Sacristy; Organ Practice, 10:3am-12pm, Nave

Sat, Jan 27: Prayer Shawl Sm Grp, 10am-12pm, Asbly or Narthex; Holy Communion, 5:30pm, Nave

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

Connecting Weekends!

For the next two weekends we will be highlighting ways you can get connected to the larger St. Thomas community.

- ⇒ Weekend of **Jan. 20/21** Neighborhood Groups - Find out what they are about and which one you belong to!
- ⇒ Weekend of **Jan. 27/28** Small Groups - Find out what groups we have and where you might want to plug in!

Next Week: Small Grps & Study Grps

- **Study Group: "The Jesus Fatwah"**
Wednesdays, 10:30am—12, in Asbly Rm

"The Jesus Fatwah" (Love your Muslim neighbors as yourself).
Contact: Jan Summers janws1244@gmail.com
- **Study Group: "Grace in the Rearview Mirror"**
Thursdays, 10:30am-12 in Asbly Rm (meets weekly)

Four Women Priests on Brokenness, Belonging, and the Beauty of God. Written by Rev. Kelly Demo and three other Episcopal clergywomen. Click on the QR code for more information. Contacts: Sheryl Roller sljroller@gmail.com or Susan Strom susanstrom15@gmail.com
- **Young Adult Small Grp**
Thurs, Jan 25, 7pm, in PH 1 (2nd & 4th Thurs, 7pm, PH 1)

Young adults meet for support and friendship to see where God is leading them in life. Contact: Tim Pullin pullin.tim.a@gmail.com
- **Classics Men's Small Grp**
Thurs, Jan 25 (2nd & 4th Thurs, 7pm, PH 3)

For retired and semi-retired men. Contact: Tom Meyers tmeyers922@gmail.com
- **Prayer Shawl Small Group**
Sat, Jan 27, Asbly Rm or Narthex
(Saturdays, 10am-12; 1st Mondays, 7:30-9pm)

Together we knit, crochet, or weave prayer shawls, hats, and 8" squares. Free knitting & crochet lessons every Saturday. Contact Sue Strom for lesson details, and on giving a prayer shawl. (913) 244-6402 or susanstrom15@gmail.com

