

# Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

September 7, 2025



Welcome to the St. Thomas the Apostle Parish Festival 2025!

Welcome one and all. I am so excited! This is my sixth festival and seventh year here at the parish.

September 12, 13, and 14 are the days to come together and enjoy live Bands, delicious Food, a Car Show, Vegas, Bingo, Carnival rides and much, much more. I hope you can join us.

A festival, especially one of our magnitude, does not just happen. It takes a lot of time, planning, hard work and helping hands. A special thanks to our new chairpersons: Ron Balicki, Nick Hedrick and Matt Malenfant. Thanks to the countless volunteers who make it happen. Thanks to all who come to support and enjoy the Festival. Thanks to the sponsors and donors. Please support their businesses. We at St. Thomas are very grateful and God will reward you.

\$7000.00 will be given away in the Grand Raffle. Please buy one of the lucky tickets!

Join me as I lead the way to make our Festival 2025 not only successful but the best ever! St Thomas is an awesome parish because we work together and enjoy doing it. We get the job done.

Welcome to our Festival. You are always welcome to join us here anytime throughout the year.

Have a wonderful time and God Bless you and all of your loved ones.

Whoever does  
not carry his  
own cross and  
come after me  
cannot be my  
disciple.

Luke 14:27

## Festival Bake Sale

Our parish festival is quickly approaching and the bake sale is in need of baked goods. Cookies, cupcakes, breads, brownies, cakes, and pies are big sellers. Packaging cookies in a baggie (2 large or 3 small per bag) would be helpful, but not necessary. Feel free to drop off donations beginning at 3pm on Friday, September 12th in the Activity Center. Thank you in advance for your generous contributions!



**St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic Church**

31530 Beechwood Garden City MI 48135  
(734) 427-1533 Thomastheapostle.org

SCAN  
TO DONATE





## This N That by Deacon Skip

It is hard to believe that there has been another school shooting incident. Whenever I hear the news of a school shooting, I hold my breath until I hear the name of the district. This grandfather has grand kids in elementary school and high school, and this father has a son who teaches elementary school. When I was growing up, an event like this would have been unfathomable. Schools were safe havens and sacred ground. I can only wonder what has happened to us as a society.

It is never too late to volunteer to help at the festival. Ask at any booth or activity. I can guarantee that if anyone asks to help in the dining room, we can put you to work.

The surface of the Wayne Road bridge has been paved. Don't line up to be the first to drive over. The cement has to cure. There are no approaches to the bridge, nor a guard rail, and there will have to be some significant repair to Wayne Road before anyone drives over the bridge. But, we're getting there.

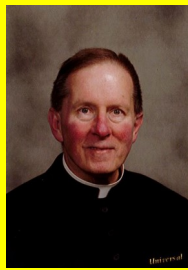
Don't forget SVDP' don't forget the food pantry.

### Ministries Center/SVDP (734) 425-9771



The pantry needs help with our ongoing service to the community. We are most in need of cans of soup, pinto/black or other beans, diced tomatoes, spaghetti sauce, bags/box mix potatoes, grape or strawberry jelly, pancake mix, syrup, and paper towels.

If you would like to receive items from the pantry, please call (734) 425-9771.



### Happy 40th Anniversary, Father Larry!

Join us for a special Anniversary Mass and Reception at 11:00 am on Sunday, October 5th.

### Mercy In Action—2025

St. Richard 50+ Club:

Once again, beginning in September and continuing until the end of October we are collecting socks for the Homeless. Each week we will update the Family how the count is doing. Please use Bins found in the entrances to your church. God Bless and Thank You for your donations.



## Scripture Readings for the Week of September 7, 2025

**Sunday, September 7, 2025**

**Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Wis 9:13-18b; Ps 90:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 14 and 17;

Phlm 9-10, 12-17; Lk 14:25-33

**Monday, September 8, 2025**

**Feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary**

Mi 5:1-4a or Rom 8:28-30; Ps 13:6ab, 6c;

Mt 1:1-16

**Tuesday, September 9, 2025**

**Memorial of Saint Peter Claver, Priest**

Col 2:6-15; Ps 145:1b-2, 8-9, 10-11; Lk 6:12-19

**Wednesday, September 10, 2025**

Col 3:1-11; Ps 145:2-3, 10-11, 12-13ab; Lk 6:20-26

**Thursday, September 11, 2025**

Col 3:12-17; Ps 150:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6; Lk 6:27-38

**Friday, September 12, 2025**

1 Tm 1:1-2, 12-14; Ps 16:1b-2a and 5, 7-8, 11;

Lk 6:39-42

**Saturday, September 13, 2025**

**Memorial of Saint John Chrysostom, Bishop and Doctor of the Church**

1 Tm 1:15-17; Ps 113:1b-2, 3-4, 5 and 6-7;

Lk 6:43-49

**Sunday, September 14, 2025**

**Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross**

Nm 21:4b-9; Ps 78:1bc-2, 34-35, 36-37, 38;

Phil 2:6-11; Jn 3:13-17

**Downriver Focus Life Dinner**

Thursday  
September 18

Rebuilding a Culture of Life  
within the Family

**right to life**  
DOWNRIVER AFFILIATES  
LIFE. THE OTHER CHOICE.

Individual \$50; Table of 10 is \$450 Reservations online at: [FocusonLifeDownriver.com](http://FocusonLifeDownriver.com), call 734-282-6100 or send check to: Upper Downriver RTL, 2010 Eureka, Wyandotte, MI 48192



**Call to Holiness Conference**  
**Saturday, October 25, 2025**  
10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. at  
Laurel Manor 39000 Schoolcraft Road, Livonia



Speakers: Cardinal Gerhard Mueller and Fr. Chad Ripberger

Conference includes Lunch, Vendors and the Eucharistic Miracles Exhibit of Bl. Carlo Acutis.

Save with Early Bird Registration before September 8:

[CalltoHoliness2025.eventbrite.com](http://CalltoHoliness2025.eventbrite.com) or mail registration with check to Call to Holiness, P.O. Box 212, Eastpointe, MI 48021-0212; [Calltoholinessdetroit@gmail.com](mailto:Calltoholinessdetroit@gmail.com); 313-451-4659, [www.CalltoHoliness.com](http://www.CalltoHoliness.com)





## Nankin Family of Parishes



### Mass Schedule

**St. Mary, Cause of Our Joy (734) 425-4421**  
8200 N. Wayne Road, Westland

**St. Mary, Wayne (734) 721-8745**  
34530 Michigan Avenue, Wayne

**St. Richard (734) 729-2240**  
35851 Cherry Hill Road, Westland

**St. Thomas the Apostle (734) 427-1533**  
31530 Beechwood Street, Garden City

<b>Monday</b>	9:00 am	St. Mary, Wayne
	12:00 pm	St. Mary, Cause of Our Joy, Westland (followed by Eucharistic Adoration)
<b>Tuesday</b>	9:00 am	St. Thomas the Apostle, Garden City
	9:00 am	St. Richard, Westland
<b>Wednesday</b>	12:00 pm	St. Thomas the Apostle, Garden City
<b>Thursday</b>	9:00 am	St. Mary, Cause of Our Joy, Westland
<b>Friday</b>	9:00 am	St. Thomas the Apostle, Garden City
	9:00 am	St. Mary, Wayne
<b>Saturday</b>	4:00 pm	St. Thomas the Apostle, Garden City
	4:00 pm	St. Mary, Wayne
	5:30 pm	St. Mary Cause of Our Joy, Westland
<b>Sunday</b>	8:30 am	St. Mary, Wayne
	9:00 am	St. Thomas the Apostle, Garden City
		St. Mary Cause of Our Joy, Westland
	10:00 am	St. Richard, Westland
	11:00 am	St. Thomas the Apostle, Garden City
	11:30 am	St. Mary Cause of Our Joy, Westland
	2:00 pm	St. Mary, Wayne (SPANISH)

#### Confessions (also by appointment)

<b>Tuesday</b>		St. Richard, Westland (after 9 am Mass)
<b>Saturday</b>	3:00 pm	St. Thomas the Apostle, Garden City
	3:00 pm	St. Mary, Wayne
	6:30 pm	St. Mary, Cause of Our Joy, Westland

### Perpetual Help Devotion

Every Tuesday after 9:00 AM Mass

### Eucharistic Adoration (one hour)

First Friday of Each Month after 9:00 AM Mass

## St. Thomas the Apostle Men's Retreat

YOU CAN'T AFFORD TO MISS IT! It is one of the best bargains - our PARISH RETREAT FOR MEN from Friday October 10, 5 PM to Sunday October 12, 1PM. You'll come away renewed and with a better perspective on job, family and life. The suggested donation is less than a weekend at a good hotel and the benefits are priceless! A private room with a shower adds to the comfort for you. I have attended for over 35 years and have found this retreat not only spiritually beneficial, but it also helped relieve the stress of life and work. If you have never been on this retreat, we have three gift certificates to hand out for new retreatants. While the retreat is a free will donation, it costs the retreat center \$225 per person. Jesus said come follow me, don't pass up on His call. For more information call John Krause 734 -427-5173 or Jeff Gorman 760-390-6573 or go to [www.stpaulretreat.org](http://www.stpaulretreat.org) to make a reservation (retreat number 4); or call the retreat center at 313-286-2802.



### Music notes

There are many opportunities to lend your talents and gifts in worship and song here at St. Thomas the Apostle Church. Try on a group, you never know, it just might fit! Those who sing pray twice.

### Rehearsals! Rehearsals! Rehearsals!

#### Thursday, September 25

Adult Choir-The adult choir is open to 9th grade students- adults with a desire to sing and help lead the assembly in sung prayer. Rehearsals are **Thursdays**, 6:30-8:30pm, once a month on **Saturdays** at 3:00pm, and a half hour before liturgies scheduled. The adult choir rotates and sings at one mass per weekend, and special liturgies throughout the year through Pentecost.

Please let us know if you want to join.

#### Thursday, October 2

Children's Choir- is open to all 2nd-8th grade students. Rehearsals are after school **Thursdays**, 4:30-5:30pm in the Father Prus Hall and sing on Christmas Eve, Easter Sunday and as scheduled. During the year, choristers learn singing techniques, music theory, singing techniques, hand chimes, as well as information about the church year. Children's choir is scheduled to sing October through Easter. As part of most rehearsals, students have 20 minutes each of hand chimes, singing, and group piano lesson in the keyboard lab connected to the Activities Center as part of the experience.

Choir with keyboard lab **4:30pm-5:30pm**. Please email to sign up, there is a minimum number of students needed to have this group.

Paul Shafer, Music Minister

[PShafer@ThomastheApostle.org](mailto:PShafer@ThomastheApostle.org)

Worship Schedule		September 13 & 14, 2025	
MINISTERS	SAT 4:00 PM	SUN 9:00 AM	SUN 11:00 AM
CELEBRANT	FATHER LAWRENCE ZURAWSKI	FATHER LAWRENCE ZURAWSKI	FATHER LAWRENCE ZURAWSKI
ALTAR SERVERS	ISABELLA POWELL	JULIE GALDES	DAVID GERSTENBRAND ANDREW GERSTENBRAND
EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST	CORDELIA CHUKWUDI CANDY HENRY FRANK TOFIL	TEDDY LUTHER GLORY MCGAHAN JOAN PALMER	DENISE BIELSKI JOHN SANREGRET JOE SMITH
LECTORS	JEANNE PYONK	DAN LOBB	MIKE WELDON
SACRISTAN	BOB PROKOP	ANN MYLES	SALLIE QUINN
MASS INTENTIONS	+ EUGENE FRANCKOWIAK	+ DENNIS PATTOCK	+ JUNE CARBAJAL-CHRISTOPHER + THOMAS STEMPNIAK + BARBARA STEMPNIAK +THOMAS JOSEPH STEMPNIAK

### ARE YOU REGISTERED AT ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE?

If you have been looking for a new parish we would appreciate you considering St. Thomas the Apostle as your parish. Stop by the Parish Center and fill out a registration form or download one from our website [www.thomastheapostle.org](http://www.thomastheapostle.org).

You can stop by the office, or put it in the collection basket at Mass. Young adults over 18 should be registered on their own registration form.

#### Bulletin Editor

**Sandy.Mulcahy@thomastheapostle.org**

Bulletin article deadline is Monday before the issue date by 8:00 a.m. During holidays, articles must be submitted two Mondays before issue. All articles and submissions are subject to approval and editing.

*Offertory collection is reported quarterly.*

Thank you for your support and may God bless you!

Please remember St. Thomas the Apostle when writing your will.



#### Weekday Masses

September 8-12, 2025

#### Tuesday, September 9

9:00 am.....CHURCH

PARISHIONERS OF ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE

#### Wednesday, September 10

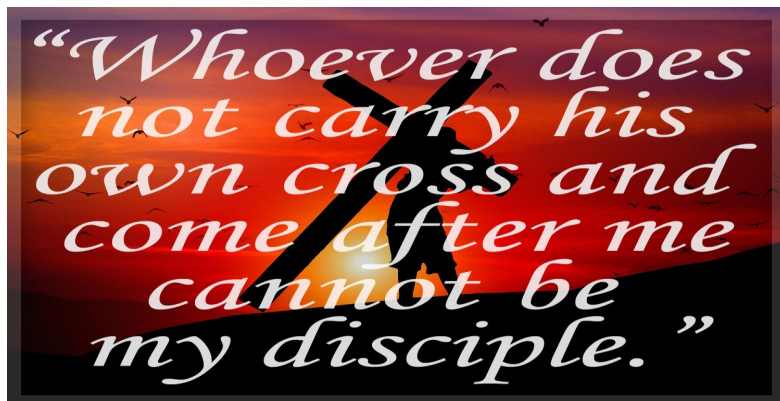
12:00 PM.....CHURCH

GREG VAQUERA  
IRENE D'ANNA

#### Friday, September 12

9:00 am.....CHURCH

+ EDWARD & DOLORES SULKOWSKI



## Please Pray For...

Alaska, Shirley  
Batherson, Barbara  
Baumgardner, Patty  
Berger, Ron  
Block, Karen  
Boyak, Carolyn  
Bringold, Bonnie  
Burgess, Evie  
Burke, Larry  
Burris, Nikita and Family  
Calley, Julie  
Carpenter, Mike  
Cepko Family  
Chop, Nancy Grabel  
Cislo, Dan  
D'Angelo, Rebecca

Dacus, Shirley  
Daugherty, Kenny  
Decaminada, Mona  
DeGrande, Colleen  
Dempsey, Sgt Joseph  
Dempsey, Michele  
Dewey, Thomas  
Dial, Philip  
Durkin Jr., Gerald Lee  
Duval, Chuck  
Eichstedt, Laurie  
Feiler, Alex Horne  
Fichtner, Leanne  
Filak, Julianna  
Fornasiero, Joseph  
Gentilia, Judy  
Gozowsky, David  
Hagen, Jenifer

Harte, John  
Hubbard, Carl  
Jachym, Patricia  
Kapanke, Dolores  
Kathan, Joann  
Kathan, Thomas  
Kotrys, Marlene  
LeVair, Lorraine  
LeVair, Sherry  
Lobb, Cindy  
Lobb, Jeri  
Lopez, Patricia  
Lowe, Jonathan  
Malish, Rosemary  
Murawski, Veronica  
O'Connell, Evan  
Oliverio, Jr., Robert  
Paczas, Karen

Pastula, Shirley  
Prosser, Cindy  
Roffi, Herman  
Sanak, Francene  
Sanregret, John  
Smith, Mary  
Smitt, Deb  
Smith, Patricia  
Soine, Dianna  
Stites, Keith

Sutherland, Eleanor  
Tennent, Joan  
Tsaprazis, Pete  
Turcotte, Joshua  
Walker, Ian  
Whitfield, James  
Wielechowski, Kenneth  
Wildauer, Mark  
Zarzycki, Stanley



Prayer list requests can be made only with the knowledge and permission of the person being added. Please do not add anybody without their permission. To add, keep a person on the prayer list, or to remove a name, please call the parish office at (734) 427-1533. Thank you!

## Pray for the First Saturday Memorial Association from July 2025-June 30, 2026

Deceased Members of Ajlouny & Bly Families  
Living & Deceased Members of Barnes & Digregio Families  
Deceased & live members of the Batherson Family  
In Memory of Bruce Birmingham  
Loving Memory of Aunt Loretta Brandt  
Deceased and Live Members of Butka & Wojtkowiak families  
In Loving Memory of Walter & Mary Burdis  
Loving Memory of Sgt. Bryan K. Burgess  
Loving Memory of Coach Dave Cain  
Deceased Members of Cielma and Niwa Families  
In Loving Memory of Tommy Cockrum  
Deceased Members of the Darnell Family  
Living & Deceased Members of Dooley & Firestone Families  
Living & Deceased Members of Duncan & Williams Families  
Living & Deceased Members of Gizowski & Sovel Families  
Loving Memory of Gorny and Kushnir Families  
In Memory of Donald Grant  
Loving Memory of Jessie & Chester Gugala  
In Loving Memory of Bob and Ann Hoelscher  
In Loving Memory of Robert S. Hoffman  
In Loving Memory of Eugene Joseph Hynek  
My Wife Joanne Who I Love and Miss Very Much  
Kapanke-Omilian Family  
Deceased Members of the Kattula Family  
Living & Deceased Members of Keiller & Marciniak Families

Living & Deceased Members of Kwilos & Stecker Families  
Deceased Members of LaMar and Dryja Families  
The Malish and Porembiak Families  
In Loving Memory of Margaret Mirabitor  
In Loving Memory of Reynold Mirabitor Sr.  
In Loving Memory of Audrey Mocadlo  
Loving Memory of Jerry Moynahan  
Living & Deceased Members of Mroz & Rutkowski Families  
Angel Dr. Dominic J. Noonan  
In Loving Memory of Ben and Phyllis Ornatowski  
Deceased members of Pattock & Stuecken families  
Angel Danny P. Pepera  
My loving wife of 66 years, Mary J. Pepera  
For the Prouty Family  
Living & Deceased Members of Rand & Vasquez Families  
In loving memory of Frances J. Read  
In Memory of Richard and Eleanore Reed  
Memory of Kathy Rodgers  
In Loving Memory of Edward and Helen Romanowski  
In Loving Memory of Mark Roy  
In Loving Memory of Thomas and Barbara Stempniak  
Deceased Members of the Sturm & Preba Families  
Deceased Members of the Szuba & Balawajder Families  
Martin A. Tofil  
In Loving Memory of Edwin L. Wendrick

## Pray for those Serving in the Military

Ainsworth, Sgt. Raymond  
Angelovic, Adrian  
Angelovic, George  
Artinger, Stephanie  
Baumgardner, AJ  
Becker, Justin  
Bregand, David  
Brozek, Timothy  
Burris, Peter  
Campbell, Mary  
Canfield, Chaz  
Chokr, Jamel  
Cinka, Jonathan  
Coatsworth, Michael  
Comment, Scott

DiCicco, Bill  
Dwyer, Tyler  
Ellsworth, Justin  
Fisher, Bob  
Gentilia, Anthony  
Hunter, Cassidy  
Julien, Nick  
Kapelanski, Isaac  
Kashou, Christopher  
Laichalk, Robert  
Logan, Jonathon  
Logan, Sean Patrick  
Logan, Jeff  
Lowe, Jonathan  
Masiarak, Luke

McHale, Sgt. Shawn  
McCarville, William E.  
McGahan, Wade  
McGaw, Douglas  
Meadows, Erin  
Moody, Samantha  
Murray, Daniel  
Nguyen, Staff Sgt. Truong  
Ohannesian, Brandon  
Pastula, Michael Thomas  
Porcaro, Jeff  
Preba, Danny  
Rosa, Brian J.  
Rosa, Douglas J.  
Rousseau, Philip

Sheko, Destiny  
Smith, David  
Smith, Sgt. Leven  
Smitt, David  
Spiczka, Cathy  
Spiczka, Greg  
Sparrow, Justin  
Spohr, Raymond  
Squires, Zachary  
Szerszen, Michael  
Waldo, Michael  
Waldon, Nathan  
Webb, Brian  
Wiertella, Jonathan  
Witt, Christopher





Missy Taylor

Director of Faith Formation / Coordinator of Youth and Young Adult Ministry

## CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD



As we inch closer to the beginning of the Faith Formation year, we inch closer to the return of **Children's Liturgy of the Word**. CLOW will begin on Sunday, September 28 and Faith Formation will begin with a FAMILY MASS on

September 29. We are currently seeking leaders/teams and teen assistants for our CLOW program. This program takes place at our Sunday 11am Mass, and begins in late September and runs through Pentecost (late May/early June) Each week, children from ages 4-8 are encouraged to join us to hear the scripture in terms that they can understand. Children will be led to the Father Prus Hall after the opening blessing and introduced to the readings and gospel using projects and creativity while helping them learn about the Catholic faith. It's a great introduction to the message of the mass for our youngest disciples! Materials and guidance are provided. This is a commitment averaging one Sunday a month. **"Let the children come to me, for the kingdom of Heaven belongs to them." - Matthew 19:14**

## LAST CALL!!!! Festival Boutique Needs Hand-Crafted Items!

**WE NEED YOUR HELP!** If you knit, crochet, make jewelry, diamond dot art, wreaths, paintings, floral arrangements, dog sweaters, baskets or any other creative craft, we are asking if you'd be so kind to please donate one of your creations for our boutique. Crafts can be dropped off in the large basket in the Gathering Space of the church or at the parish office. Thank you in advance for your generosity!

**Do you have a friend or family member interested in becoming Catholic? Have you or a loved one not received the sacrament of Confirmation? Or do you simply want to learn more about your Catholic faith? Then OCIA might be perfect for you. Formerly called RCIA, this is the process of learning the basic tenets of our faith. We will begin another session at the end of September. Please call for more information or to sign up to join us!**

## Saint John Chrysostom

Saint John Chrysostom was known as "Golden Mouthed" because he was a great speaker. He talked to people about Jesus.

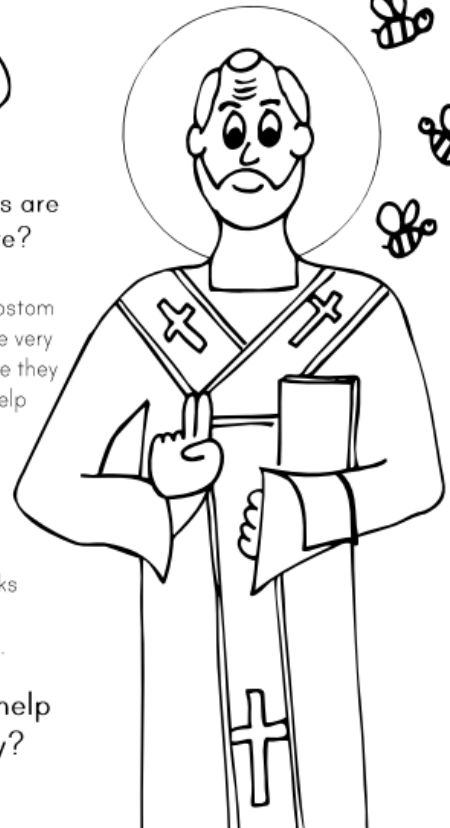


How many bees are in this picture?

Saint John Chrysostom said that bees are very important because they work hard to help others.

Bees live together in a family. Each bee works to help the whole family.

How do you help your family?



Year C: Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time

## CONTACT INFORMATION:

PHONE (734)425-5550

mtaylor@thomastheapostle.org