

GO FIRST AND BE

Reconciled.

MATTHEW 5:24

February 15, 2026

6TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



This Wednesday begins our penitential season of Lent. Many people will spend more time getting ready for Tuesday than for Lent. Tuesday, the day before Ash Wednesday is known by many names: "Carnival" from the Latin means "farewell to meat," Mardi Gras, and Paczki Day. Besides abstaining from meat, all animal products and dairy products were given up for Lent.

Today, our Lenten discipline is far from being this strict. It seems Lent has fallen away from any sense of sacrifice. Pope John Paul II said we have "lost the deep sense of that spiritual effort which makes it possible to find oneself again."

Our truest sense of self must come from our relationship with Jesus Christ. Our relationship with Him and our understanding of Him returns us to the being that God created us to be, that is, sinless and full of love. Jesus marked the way for us, a way that is sacrificial.

The meaning of sacrifice has become diluted. For a child, a sacrifice might be to go without a video game for a day or two. Adults may give up a favorite beverage or hobby. We might give our time, talent or treasure.

Pope Gregory I, in 604, called Lent "the spiritual tithing of the year". Gregory I did not say that we should give up something for Lent meaning to give up chocolate or a favorite television program. Rather, he called us to go beyond doing the minimum and making a real sacrifice in order that we might identify better with the sacrifice of Jesus Christ on the cross.

How will we get ready for Ash Wednesday? Will anything be significantly different in our lifestyle during the forty days of Lent? Will we offer a sacrifice of our love for Jesus or will we barely offer a token?

Lent calls for us to face the cross of Christ. We must look at it stripped of all our illusions and pious notions. We must see the pain and suffering. We must come to identify with the person of Christ who sacrificed himself for our sinfulness.

Enjoy Tuesday. Then make the most of the following forty days of Lent. Let us use them to get into good spiritual shape before God. Being in good shape feels good.

On the lighter side.....

On the first day of school, a student handed the teacher a note:

"Dear Teacher,
The opinions expressed by this child are not necessarily those of his exasperated parents. Thank you in advance for your patience."

REVISED

February 18th Ash Wednesday Schedule

Time	Church	Presider	Service
9:00a	St. Thomas	Fr. Larry	Scripture/Ashes
9:00a	St. Richard	Bsp Monforton	Mass
12:00p	St. Mary COOJ	Dcn Bob	Scripture/Ashes
12:00p	St. Thomas	Fr. Larry	Mass
12:30p	St. Mary	Dcn Ralph	Scripture/Ashes
7:00p	St. Mary COOJ	Fr. Larry	Mass
7:00p	St. Mary	Fr. Sean	Mass
7:00p	St. Richard	Dcn Ralph	Scripture/Ashes

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

I was disappointed, but not terribly surprised, to see that all of the groundhogs saw their respective shadows this past week. It looks like just about everyone is headed into another 40 days of winter. I don't think it has been particularly snowy, but it definitely has been colder and colder longer than I can remember. I've actually had to back off my normal walking routine. There is hope. My sister down in Georgia e-mailed me the other day that she went to the store in a sweater rather than a winter jacket.

Speaking of 40 days, this Wednesday is Ash Wednesday and the beginning of Lent. Lent is a time of introspection and a time of returning to the practices of our religion. There will be a number of church events during the season, and I invite us all to participate in them. Along with the church events, our Fish Fries kick off this Friday afternoon.

Be patient with the food pantry. The power source to the ministries building is underground and has broken; the building is without electricity and looks like it will be for awhile. Somewhere up the line there will be a solution to the problem. The buildings are much like us humans. Just like us, as they grow older, things stop working right.

Scripture Readings for the Week of February 15, 2026

Sunday, February 15, 2026

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sir 15:15-20; Ps 119:1-2, 4-5, 17-18, 33-34;
1 Cor 2:6-10; Mt 5:17-37 or
Mt 5:20-22a, 27-28, 33-34a, 37

Monday, February 16, 2026

Jas 1:1-11; Ps 119:67, 68, 71, 72, 75, 76; Mk 8:11-13

Tuesday, February 17, 2026

Jas 1:12-18; Ps 94:12-13a, 14-15, 18-19; Mk 8:14-21

Wednesday, February 18, 2026

Ash Wednesday

Joel 2:12-18; Ps 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 12-13, 14 and 17;
2 Cor 5:20-6:2; Mt 6:1-6, 16-18

Thursday, February 19, 2026

Dt 30:15-20; Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6; Lk 9:22-25

Friday, February 20, 2026

Is 58:1-9a; Ps 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 18-19; Mt 9:14-15

Saturday, February 21, 2026

Is 58:9b-14; Ps 86:1-2, 3-4, 5-6; Lk 5:27-32

Sunday, February 22, 2026

First Sunday of Lent

Gn 2:7-9; 3:1-7; Ps 51:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 17;
Rm 5:12-19 or 5:12, 17-19; Mt 4:1-11



**We will NOT be accepting food donations
until further notice.**

Easter Basket Raffle

THE THIRD ANNUAL EASTER BASKET RAFFLE IS ALMOST HERE!

Tickets are available at the Fish Fry every Friday during Lent.

We have baskets for babies, men and women, boys and girls and even cats and dogs! Something for everyone.

The drawing will be held the weekend of Palm Sunday.

Hope to see you there!



Hope Rises in Christ.

As we journey through Lent, we are reminded that even in seasons that feel bleak or lifeless, God is at work bringing new life. Through the passion, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ, we are given hope that sin and death never have the final word.

On July 22, 2026 Catholics from across the region are invited to gather at Huntington Place for the Rising from the Ashes Revival. Thousands will come together for powerful preaching, inspiring music, and a Eucharistic Procession that boldly proclaims our faith in Jesus Christ.

In a world weary and burdened, God is calling His Church to revival, to rise with hope and confidently witness to the truth that a new day is dawning.

Tickets are available at Risingrevival.org. Don't miss this incredible opportunity—reserve your tickets today!

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

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

Confessions (also by appointment)

Tuesday		St. Richard, Westland (after 9 am Mass)
Saturday	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

FIRE UP YOUR MARRIAGE AND YOUR FAITH ON A WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER EXPERIENCE!

Upcoming experiences:
March 6-8 Center for Ministry, Saginaw
April 10-12 St. Francis Retreat Center, DeWitt
June 15-17 Center for Ministry, Saginaw
July 24-26 Augustine Center, Petoskey
Apply today at wwme.org



Attention Bakers!!!

Our "World-Famous Fish Fry" will begin this Friday and we need some sweets to complete our awesome dinner! Would you be so kind to make time to bake something or buy something to donate to our Bake Sale at the Fish Fry? Brownies, cookies, pies, and cakes are always welcomed. Don't worry about cutting them, we will do that for you!

Last year's treats were great so keep them coming!

See you at the Fish Fry!

Jill Kolpacke



2025 Tax Statements

Tax statements are available for your 2025 contributions to St. Thomas the Apostle Parish. Please fill out the coupon below completely then either drop it in the collection basket, bring it to the Parish Center or mail it to us. Thank you.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

TELEPHONE _____

ENVELOPE

_____ **#** _____

EMAIL _____

I would like to receive my 2025 tax statement by:

EMAIL **US MAIL**
(please circle one)

Worship Schedule		February 21 & 22, 2026	
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	JERRY KOWALCZYK	JOHN GALDES	MICHELLE KORIE JOSEPH KORIE
EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST	KATHY ANDRUS CANDY HENRY GERI MORRISSEY FRANK TOFIL	GLORY MCGAHAN CECILIA NESBITT CHRISTOPHER PELTZ ANN M. ZIMMERMAN	SUZETTE ARSENAULT LAURIE EICHSTEDT DENISE MAIER MAGDALENE MARTINDALE
LECTORS	CORDELIA CHUKWUDI	TOM WILHELM	MIKE WELDON
SACRISTAN	BOB PROKOP	GLORY MCGAHAN	LAURIE EICHSTEDT
MASS INTENTIONS	+ MURIEL & DEBORAH FERRELL + LLOYD WOROSZ + SISTER RITA MARY PYZICK ROBERT ROMAN	+ CHARLES (CHUCK) BATHERSON	PARISHIONERS OF ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE

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.

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.

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.



Weekday Masses
 February 16-20, 2026

Tuesday, February 17
 9:00 am
 + DENNIS PATTOCK

Wednesday, February 18
Ash Wednesday
 12:00 PM
 + ROSEANN SERGUS

Friday, February 20
 9:00 am
 + TERRY PIANCZK
 + SAM/VITO VITALE



Please Pray For...

Alaska, Shirley	Cielma, Genevieve	Feiler, Alex Horne	Murawski, Veronica	Tsaprazis, Pete
Batherson, Barbara	Cislo, Dan	Fichtner, Leanne	O'Connell, Evan	Turcotte, Joshua
Baumgardner, Patty	Cole, Jean	Filak, Julianna	Oliverio, Jr., Robert	Walker, Ian
Berger, Ron	Cole, Regina	Fornasiero, Joseph	Pastula, Shirley	Whitfield, James
Beuer, Donna	D'Angelo, Rebecca	Gentilia, Judy	Prosser, Cindy	Wielechowski, Kenneth
Block, Karen	Dacus, Shirley	Gozowsky, David	Rintala, Genevieve	Wildauer, Mark
Boyak, Carolyn	Daugherty, Kenny	Hagen, Jenifer	Romanek, Virginia (Pat)	Zarzycki, Stanley
Bringold, Bonnie	Decaminada, Mona	Harte, John	Ruby, Nancy	
Burgess, Evie	DeGrande, Colleen	Hubbard, Carl	Sanak, Francene	
Burke, Larry	Dempsey, Sgt Joseph	Kapanke, Dolores	Sanregret, John	
Burris, Nikita and Family	Dempsey, Michele	Kathan, Thomas	Smith, Mary	
Calley, Julie	Dewey, Thomas	LeVair, Lorraine	Smitt, Deb	
Canini, Ricky	Dial, Philip	LeVair, Sherry	Smith, Patricia	
Carpenter, Mike	Durkin Jr., Gerald Lee	Lobb, Cindy	Soine, Dianna	
Chichila, Pam	Duval, Chuck	Lowe, Jannette	Stites, Keith	
Chop, Nancy Grabel	Dzandzel, Mary Ann	Lowe, Jonathan	Sutherland, Eleanor	
	Eichstedt, Laurie	Malish, Rosemary	Swiercz, Bobbie	
	Eves, Debbie	Mathison, Bonnie	Tennent, Joan	

Prayer list requests can be made only with the knowledge and permission of the person being added. To add, keep a person on the prayer list, or to remove a name, please call the parish office.

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

Deceased Members of Ajlouny & Blaty Families	Living & Deceased Members of Kwilos & Stecker Families
Living & Deceased Members of Barnes & Digregio Families	Deceased Members of LaMar and Dryja Families
Deceased & live members of the Batherson Family	The Malish and Porembiak Families
In Memory of Bruce Birmingham	In Loving Memory of Margaret Mirabitur
Loving Memory of Aunt Loretta Brandt	In Loving Memory of Reynold Mirabitur Sr.
Deceased and Live Members of Butka & Wojtkowiak families	In Loving Memory of Audrey Mocadlo
In Loving Memory of Walter & Mary Burdis	Loving Memory of Jerry Moynahan
Loving Memory of Sgt. Bryan K. Burgess	Living & Deceased Members of Mroz & Rutkowski Families
Loving Memory of Coach Dave Cain	Angel Dr. Dominic J. Noonan
Deceased Members of Cielma and Niwa Families	In Loving Memory of Ben and Phyllis Ornatowski
In Loving Memory of Tommy Cockrum	Deceased members of Paddock & Stuecken families
Deceased Members of the Darnell Family	Angel Danny P. Pepera
Living & Deceased Members of Dooley & Firestone Families	My loving wife of 66 years, Mary J. Pepera
Living & Deceased Members of Duncan & Williams Families	For the Prouty Family
Living & Deceased Members of Gizowski & Sovel Families	Living & Deceased Members of Rand & Vasquez Families
Loving Memory of Gorny and Kushnir Families	In loving memory of Frances J. Read
In Memory of Donald Grant	In Memory of Richard and Eleanore Reed
Loving Memory of Jessie & Chester Gugala	Memory of Kathy Rodgers
In Loving Memory of Bob and Ann Hoelscher	In Loving Memory of Edward and Helen Romanowski
In Loving Memory of Robert S. Hoffman	In Loving Memory of Mark Roy
In Loving Memory of Eugene Josphe Hynek	In Loving Memory of Thomas and Barbara Stempniak
My Wife Joanne Who I Love and Miss Very Much	Deceased Members of the Sturm & Preba Families
Kapanke-Omilian Family	Deceased Members of the Szuba & Balawajder Families
Deceased Members of the Kattula Family	Martin A. Tofil
Living & Deceased Members of Keiller & Marciniac Families	In Loving Memory of Edwin L. Wendrick

Pray for those Serving in the Military

Ainsworth, Sgt. Raymond	DiCicco, Bill	McCarville, William E.	Smith, David
Angelovic, Adrian	Dwyer, Tyler	McGahan, Wade	Smith, Sgt. Leven
Angelovic, George	Ellsworth, Justin	McGaw, Douglas	Smitt, David
Ardinger, Stephanie	Fisher, Bob	Meadows, Erin	Spiczka, Cathy
Baumgardner, AJ	Gentilia, Anthony	Moody, Samantha	Spiczka, Greg
Becker, Justin	Hunter, Cassidy	Murray, Daniel	Sparrow, Justin
Bregand, David	Julien, Nick	Nguyen, Staff Sgt. Truong	Spohr, Raymond
Brozek, Timothy	Kapelanski, Isaac	Ohannesian, Brandon	Squires, Zachary
Burris, Peter	Kashou, Christopher	Pastula, Michael Thomas	Szerszen, Michael
Campbell, Mary	Laichalk, Robert	Porcaro, Jeff	Waldo, Michael
Canfield, Chaz	Logan, Jonathon	Preba, Danny	Waldon, Nathan
Chokr, Jamel	Logan, Sean Patrick	Rosa, Brian J.	Webb, Brian
Cinka, Jonathan	Logan, Jeff	Rosa, Douglas J.	Wiertella, Jonathan
Coatsworth, Michael	Lowe, Jonathan	Rousseau, Philip	Witt, Christopher
Comment, Scott	Masiarak, Luke	Sheko, Destiny	



Missy Taylor

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

FAITH FORMATION

Congratulations and a job well done by our 6th grade students at our Children's Mass last Sunday! Also, a congratulations to the families of these children who worked hard to make sure that these children were prepared to complete their part in the mass! We could never do this without the support from the parents and families. May God bless you for your commitment and dedication to raising your children in the faith. We love to see such great participation in Mass by our young people!



LENT RESOURCES

As we approach the beginning of Lent, please check out these resources. As you can see, there is something for everyone. Let's use these 40 days to grow into the best version of ourselves!

FOR THE KIDS!!

Sign up for FREE at www.LentenAdventure.com



This is a daily email containing activities, videos and fun facts each day during Lent. **ALSO...** Be sure to grab a copy of the "Little Purple Book."

This is similar to the Little Black Book for adults, but it is **FILLED** with activities to help children grow in faith. **DON'T FORGET** to visit the table in the Gathering Space to grab your Lenten calendar containing 100 Random Acts of Kindness.

FOR THE GROWN UPS !!

MIRACLES ABOUND!! Did you know...over 10,000 miracles of healing are attributed to one seemingly ordinary doorman? Did you know...four Jesuits survived the blast of Hiroshima even though they were right at ground zero? Did you know...there are over 100 saints whose bodies are incorruptible after death? It's time to open our eyes to the miracles God is working all around us.

Join us for BEST LENT EVER and together, we'll learn about how God intervenes miraculously in human history through the lens of 33 mind-blowing events. Even if you think you know these stories, we're going to reveal them in ways you've never considered before...

SIGN UP AT:

www.dynamiccatholic.com/lent.html

CONTACT INFORMATION:

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