

St. Thomas

St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic Church . Naperville IL . 630.355.8980 . Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary .



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St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic Church

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Sacrament of Reconciliation

Reconciliation is available Saturday, 3:30 to 4:15 p.m., or after the 4:30 p.m. Mass in the Reconciliation Room of the Chapel. Fr. Joel is available during the week by appointment. Communal Penance services are held occasionally throughout the year.

Sick and Home Bound

Call the Church Office to receive prayer/Eucharist from a priest, deacon or Minister of Care.

Baptism

Baptisms are usually celebrated 2-3 Sundays each month at a 12:30 p.m. service. On selected dates, Baptisms are celebrated at weekend Masses. Parents are required to attend an awareness and renewal evening prior to the Baptism. Call the Church Office a few months in advance to make arrangements.

Matrimony

A couple planning on being married at St. Thomas should contact the church six months in advance. One year is preferred. Either the bride or groom, or their parents, must be a registered parishioner for at least three months prior to calling to set a date.

Religious Education

Call the 305-6318 to register.

RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults)

Any person wanting to learn more about the Catholic Faith, or to join our Catholic community should call the church at 355-8980.

Counseling Service

Call Samaritan Interfaith 357-2456 or Jan Olah, Pastoral Care 355-8980 x 124.

Sunday Nursery

Nursery care is available for your child age one (walking) to four at the 9 & 10:45 a.m. Mass. For more information call the church office.

Liturgy Schedule

Daily

(Monday — Friday)

Communion Service — 6:30 a.m.

Rosary — 8:10 a.m.

Mass — 8:30 a.m.

(Saturday)

Communion Service — 8:30 a.m.

Weekend

Saturday Vigil — 4:30 p.m.

Sunday — 7:30, 9:00, 10:45 a.m.,
and 6:30 p.m.

***Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
every first Friday, 9:00 — 9:30 a.m.***

Father Pat Brennan on Social Justice — Socialist?

A reflection on the readings for August 8, 2010

I was called something last Sunday that I had not been called before. I have been called a lot of things in my lifetime, but this title was striking. I had been speaking last week about the Shirley Sherrod situation in which she lost her job because of a quote taken out of context from a larger talk she gave on overcoming racism. I mentioned that I first heard about this whole situation on FOX News. One of the FOX reporters was prevailing, saying that, indeed, Shirley Sherrod should be fired. Something that I was not aware of, which people brought to my attention since my presentation last week, is that Bill O'Reilly was one of the people who negatively reported on Shirley Sherrod; and when he learned the whole story, saw or heard her whole talk, he apologized. When I was speaking of this situation, I also commented that I had heard that the Obama administration was afraid of what FOX news-

Fr. Joel is on vacation and wants to share this reflection from Fr. Pat Brennan

person, Glenn Beck, might do with this whole situation; and that is why Obama's leaders wanted Shirley to step down. I did not make any sort of qualitative or judgmental statement about Glenn Beck. After mass, a woman walked by me and said, "Glenn Beck is a patriot; you are a socialist." That is what

I was called last week - a socialist. I have done some research into where that comment might be coming from. On March 2, on his radio and TV programs, Glenn Beck warned people to beware of religious leaders who talk about economic or social justice. He said that those were "code words" for socialism, Nazism, and communism. He said that if religious leaders persist in talking about social or economic justice, people ought to leave their parishes or congregations.

After I was called a socialist, a couple of other people came up to me expressing concern about my reference to distributive justice in the closing prayer of the mass. I have become surprised at the devotion so many people have to Glenn Beck. His extreme views have led him to gain millions of viewers and listeners and millions and millions of dollars. I need to set the record straight about being Roman Catholic and being concerned about justice. Last week, Jesus cautioned us against greed in all of its forms and reminded us that life is not about possessions. This week he tells us, in Luke, that God has given us the Kingdom of God, and that we are to sell our belongings and give alms to the needy. He tells us that whatever we treasure has really captured our hearts and he calls us to be vigilant about the quality of life. One of things we are called to be vigilant about as Catholic Christians is justice. This call to justice goes back to Jesus Himself. This call to justice is found also in the theology and spirituality of the Hebrew scriptures. This call to justice is part of the Hebraic Christian tradition.

In more recent times, the Catholic Church has developed a body of work that has become known as Catholic Social Teaching. In 1891, Pope Leo XIII produced the classic encyclical, *Rerum Novarum*, in which he talked about concern for the poor, rights of workers, and the duties of both workers and employees. In *Quadragesimo Anno*, Pius XI again called for respect toward workers, the creation of a just social order, and warned against inherent dangers in both capi-



Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

August 15, 2010

Blessed are you among women,
and blessed is the fruit of your womb.

— Luke 1:42

talism and socialism. In *Mater et Magistra*, John XXIII, in 1961, advocated just wages for workers. In 1963, John XXIII wrote *Pacem in Terris*, calling the world to the concern for the common good and calling also for nations to move toward disarmament. In *Gaudium et Spes*, the 2nd Vatican Council, in 1965, encouraged Catholics to pay attention to the signs of the times, and to work for justice and peace. In *Populorum Progressio*, in 1967, Paul VI spoke of structural injustices that need to be addressed in the world and called the world to a new healthy humanism. In *Octogesima Adveniens* (popularly known as a Call to Action), in 1971, Paul VI called for worldwide justice. In the statement of the Synod of Bishops in 1971, bishops spoke of justice as a gospel mandate. In *Evangelii Nuntiandi*, in 1975, Paul VI spoke of evangelization as being incomplete if not joined to works of social justice. In *Laborem Exercens*, in 1981, John Paul II spoke of the spirituality of work. In *Sollicitudo Rei Socialis*, in 1988, John Paul II spoke of God's radical option for the poor and challenged structures of sin in the world. In 1988, the Statement of the Pontifical Justice and Peace Commission warned against racism and encouraged conscience formation. In *Redemptoris Missio* John Paul II tried to raise consciousness about poverty. The Catechism of the Catholic Church in 1992 spoke of the importance of focusing on justice. In 1995, in *Evangelium Vitae*, John Paul II warned against abortion, euthanasia, and the death penalty.

Another significant work is *Economic Justice for All*, prepared by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops in 1986. That document spoke of the three classical divisions of justice in Catholic culture. We are to be about **commutative justice**, in which we practice honesty in all of our dealings with each other. We are to practice **distributive justice**. We are to be concerned about and act on proper distribution of the world's goods so that all of God's people have at least minimal resources to live happy and full lives. This has nothing to do with big government trying to reach into peoples' pockets and redistribute their wealth. The document also called us to **social justice**, that is to challenge and change systems that hold people in bondage and keep them from living the fullness of humanity.

(continued on page 11)

Worship Commission

The Church's Daily Prayer

The manner in which we begin and end each day becomes a lens through which we view the rest of the day. This is no contemporary wisdom. As long as human beings have been around to greet each new sunrise and pause in wonder at the setting of the sun, the need to mark the day's beginning and end has been in our bones.

The church, too, acknowledges the natural rhythms of the day by inviting us to share in the prayer called the Liturgy of the Hours. In recent centuries, the Liturgy of the Hours was commonly understood to be the domain of priests and nuns. Readers over forty may recall seeing their parish priests and religious praying what was then called the Divine Office from a book called a breviary. As a result of the Second Vatican Council, the Liturgy of the Hours has been restored to its proper place as an integral part of the church's public prayer for all who have been baptized.

For most of us, the Sunday eucharist is our primary gathering for prayer each week. The Liturgy of the Hours invites us to pause during the course of each day, especially at morning and evening, to offer prayers of praise and petition to the God whose loving care permeates our days. Again, readers may recall praying the morning offering or the angelus, traditional prayers that were closely connected to particular times of day. In the Liturgy of the Hours, Morning Prayer calls us to offer praise and thanks to God for the wonders of creation and the great mystery of the resurrection. With psalms and hymns and a short reading from the scriptures, we acknowledge our dependence upon God's mercy and seek God's blessing on the day ahead. We might bless ourselves with holy water at Morning Prayer. We seal our prayer with the Lord's Prayer and the sign of peace. At Evening Prayer (also called vespers), the church gives thanks for the day's joys and sorrows and begs for God's continuing protection. We might begin with a service of candle lighting. We might also burn incense and sing Psalm 141: "My prayers rise like incense." We seal our prayer with the Lord's Prayer and the sign of peace.

Ideally, Morning and Evening Prayer are celebrated in common, but individuals are encouraged to mark the beginning and end of each day with prayer even if they cannot gather with others. At its heart, the Liturgy of the Hours calls us to a simple and repeated pattern of prayer, prayer that readily springs to our lips because it is already rooted deep in our hearts.

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Calling all Altar Servers!

If you have signed up to be an Altar Server for the next year, you should have received a letter last week. It is not too late to sign up. Training dates are Monday, August 16, 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. OR Tuesday August 17, 4:00 to 6:00 p.m.

Healing Masses

We will celebrate Masses for healing next weekend, August 21 and 22.

Fr. Pat Brennan's homilies are available weekly on line. To subscribe send your email address to: contact@ncepr.com

Presider's Schedule—August 14/15

4:30	Fr. Fritz Louis, Deacon Mike Barrett
7:30	Fr. Dolphe Arty,
9:00	Fr. Joel Fortier, Deacon Will Worden
10:45	Fr. Joel Fortier, Deacon Larry Kearney
6:30	Fr. Pat Brennan

There will be no 6:30 Mass Sept 5

Hail Mary

Hail Mary, full of grace.

The Lord is with thee.

*Blessed art thou among women,
and blessed is the
fruit of thy womb, Jesus.*

*Holy Mary, Mother of God,
pray for us sinners,
now and at the
hour of our death.
Amen.*



Pray For Our Parish

Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

*O God of the covenant,
with dancing and song
our people Israel welcomed into their midst
the ark of your presence.
John the Baptist leaped with joy in his mother's womb
at the advent of Christ borne within Mary.*

*As you lifted up Mary, your chosen vessel of grace,
to share body and soul in Christ's victory over death,
so make us like her
in bearing your word and obeying it,
that with her we may magnify your holy name.*

*We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God for ever and ever.
Amen.*

From: *Prayers for Sundays and Seasons*,
Liturgy Training Publications. www.ltp.org

Mass Intentions

Monday, August 16, 2010

8:30 †Marie Ryan, by Lee & Anne Gibson
†Griffin McCarthy, by Parents

Tuesday, August 17, 2010

8:30 God Bless & Protect the Unborn
†Marilyn Kane, by Ed Kane

Wednesday, August 18, 2010

8:30 †Barb Dederichs, by The 8:30 Music Group
†Ronald Anderson, by Sue & Keith Nystedt

Thursday, August 19, 2010

8:30 †Griffin McCarthy, by Parents

Friday, August 20, 2010

8:30 Family of Dan Wagner, by The Cuculich Family
God Bless & Protect the Unborn

Saturday, August 21, 2010

4:30 †Lucille Wilkins, by Pat
†John Patrick Humphreys II, by Beth Mahler

Sunday, August 22, 2010

9:00 †Gladys Servaitius, by Bev Phelan
†Marie Ryan, by Cecile Robinson
10:45 †Barbara Dederichs, by Mary Ann Rempé
†Jane (Tabor Hills)
6:30 †David Meuser
God Bless & Protect the Unborn

for the sick...

Linda Michiels and Mary Schepker,
friends of the Bauler family,
Paul Dempsey, father of Paul & Celeste
Fr. John Knoderschild,
friend of Helen & Tim Swanson
Patrick Rockowitz, son of Linda

for the deceased...

Tyler Ledezma, teenage cousin of Frank Trujillo
Edward Larkin, brother of Laura Newham
Kent Williams, husband of Beth,
father of Kent Jr. and Mary Kate;
Charlotte Engardio, mother of Jerry & Leticia,
grandfather of Mary & Matt;
Teodoro Bon, father of Rosie & Ruwanna
Paul E. Dempsey, father of Paul & Celeste and
grandfather of Max

for this couple celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary...

Bill and Jean McKinley

Today's Readings

First Reading — The vision concerning the woman clothed with the sun (Revelation 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab).

Psalms — The queen stands at your right hand, arrayed in gold (Psalm 45).

Second Reading — Christ, the firstfruits; then those who belong to him (1 Corinthians 15:20-27).

Gospel — Mary praises God in the Magnificat (Luke 1:39-56).

Readings for the Week

Mon: Ez 24:15-24; Mt 19:16-22
Tues: Ez 28:1-10; Mt 19:23-30
Wed: Ez 34:1-11; Mt 20:1-16
Thurs: Ez 36:23-28; Mt 22:1-14
Fri: Ez 37:1-14; Mt 22:34-40
Sat: Ez 43:1-7b; Mt 23:1-12
Sun: Is 66:18-21; Ps 117; Heb 12:5-7, 11-13;
Lk 13:22-30

Faith and Spiritual Formation Commission

ALPHA – The 3 Fs

Faith, friends and food (for body & soul) – that’s what ALPHA is about! This popular series returns to St. Thomas for 11 weeks, beginning Sept. 8, and offers two options – choose the one right for you:

ALPHA “Express” meets from 9-10:30am, an ideal time for those attending morning Mass, stay-at-home parents, people experiencing a change in employment - anyone with daytime availability. It includes a video, small-group discussions and light refreshments.

ALPHA “Regular” begins with a full dinner followed by a video and small-group discussions. It’s a great way to cap off a day and the timing is perfect for commuters, couples and singles.

Intended for anyone interested in exploring the Christian faith in a relaxed setting, ALPHA promises to stretch the mind, stir the conscience, touch the heart and engage the will. There is no cost for this series, which includes a retreat experience on Oct. 22-23. Child care will be provided.

Register now, or come to the ALPHA table in the Gathering Area after all Masses next weekend. Fliers and forms are in the Gathering Area and on the parish website at <http://www.stapostle.org/storage/alphareg.pdf>. Completed forms should be returned to Chari Rosales in the Adult Faith Formation Office.



It’s Back-to-School at the St. Thomas School of Prayer

Just as it’s a good idea to change up your exercise routine from time-to-time to keep it from getting stale and diminishing effectiveness, so too, your prayer life needs the occasional boost for revitalization.

To experience that new energy, come to one or all of the School of Prayer sessions once a month on Mondays from 7:30-9pm in the Senior Center. This is “try it” time, doing prayer, not talking about it! Watch the bulletin and website for each month’s offering.

First up on Sept. 13 will be “Psalms: Life as Prayer” in word, song, art and story, guided by Chari Rosales. Next, on Oct. 11, will be Jane Barnes on prayer in and through poetry. As the saying goes, “Try it – you’ll like it.”

“Come and See” Preview Nights

The BIDJ (Biblical Institute of the Diocese of Joliet) invites you to either of two Preview Nights to acquaint yourself with its 4-year comprehensive study of the Bible, as a whole and book-by-book. Choose Tuesday, August 17, from 7-8:30pm at St. Mary Immaculate Parish Center, 15629 S. Rte. 59, Plainfield OR Thursday, August 19, from 7:30-9pm at St. Petronille Parish, 420 Glenwood Ave., Glen Ellyn.

The Institute’s instructor, Carol Kloss, M.A. in Biblical Studies/Theology from Catholic Theological Union, will be on hand to welcome you and your questions about the program, which begins in September. For information & registration, visit www.dioceseofjoliet.org/reo or email carol@scriptureschool.org.

Form your faith. Feed your soul. Come to the Table of the Word!

C.A.R.E. CORNER

Today we interrupt our usual flow of gospel readings for Ordinary Time to afford some honor to Mary, the Mother of our Lord. On this Sunday, the American Catholic Church commemorates the Solemnity of the Assumption. The Assumption proclaims that Mary’s body was taken directly to Heaven at the end of her earthly life. This makes Mary the first human being to participate in Jesus’ Resurrection. Catholics have believed this since the 7th century. But it wasn’t until 1950 that Pope Pius XII, after consultation with the Bishops of the World, made the Assumption an official dogma of the Church.

It’s important to remember that all devotions to Mary should occur within the perspective of her role in the life of Christ. After all, Mary had a rather unique relationship with God. Mary conformed to the will of God, like all good disciples should. And Mary gave all the credit, praise and glory to God, as all believers should. Just like all good parents, Mary modeled a great example of faithfulness and holiness for all of her children through all generations, including us today.



Soul Searchers Resumes

St. Thomas Soul Searchers meets once a month to explore and discover truths in Edith Stein's *The Science of the Cross*: "...it is only by beginning with God that it is possible to understand what spirit is; however, that means that spirit is a mystery that constantly attracts us because it is the mystery of our own being." Born in 1891 to a German Jewish family, she received a doctorate in philosophy, supported women's issues and wrote several books. She converted to Catholicism in 1922 and entered the Carmelite Convent of Cologne in 1934 to become Sister Teresa Benedicta. This book, a tribute to St. John of the Cross, remained unfinished because the Gestapo arrested her in 1942 and transported her to Auschwitz where she was gassed to death. Stein was beatified in 1987 as a martyr. We will discuss chapters 1-2, pp. 15-42.

The first meeting of Soul Searchers is Saturday, September 11 from 9:15 to 10:30 a.m. in the Rectory Basement. The text is available at the Carmelite Center in Darien and on the website: www.icspublications.org. Deacon Will and Mary Maloney are group leaders.

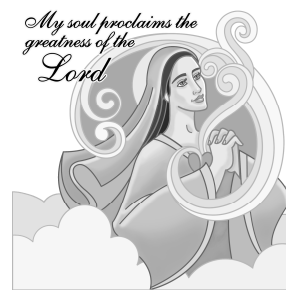
Come whenever your schedule allows and enjoy a thought provoking experience. All are welcome to attend this monthly discussion group.



Watercolor Art Class at St. Thomas

Yes, you are an artist! Everyone from beginner to accomplished artist is invited to the 6-week series "Watercolor Step-by-Step" offered by professional artist Bob Sunyog in the Senior Center on Saturdays from 9am-noon, beginning September 11. Detailed demonstrations and guidance on all the techniques needed will transform your ideas into finished paintings!

Information on the fee and needed supplies is in the Gathering Area. But hurry – class size is limited and registration is requested by September 1.



***Blessed are you among women,
and blessed is the
fruit of your womb."***

Luke 1:42

On November 1, 1950 Pope Pius XII, in his Encyclical Letter *Munificentissimus Deus*, proclaimed, declared and defined to be divinely revealed dogma that "...the Immaculate Mother of God, the ever Virgin Mary, having completed the course of her earthly life, was assumed body and soul into heavenly glory." Some ask why, how, when, and where? Those are fair questions. The simple answer is "It's a mystery!" But it is more important to ask, "Why not?" Why would Jesus not want to honor the young girl who accepted God's call to be his mother (at great risk to her life), who carried him in her womb and gave birth to him in a cave, who watched him grow and was with him when he died on a cross, and who rejoiced at his Resurrection by assuming her uncorrupted body to be with him in heaven for eternity? The world would be a much better place if we all honored our parents, family, friends and the strangers who often do so much for us that we do not appreciate! Once again Jesus reveals to us that gratitude is the beginning of generosity.

Spread the Word

Curious about the Bible? Want to know what's behind the Sunday Scripture readings? Join one of St. Thomas's Bible studies, two of which are about to launch Fall openings. Choose the one that's right for you among these options:

Thursday: 9:15-11:15am OR 7:30-9pm, Sept. 9, 2010 thru June 2, 2011. We'll be journeying with "Israel on the Move," (Genesis, Chapters 29-50), the stories of Jacob and sons, finding our lives mirrored in their hopes and dreams, fears and failures, challenges and relationships. This is a lively, interactive group, incorporating prayer, study and discussion, led by Chari Rosales.

Friday: 9-11:30am, beginning Sept. 3. An Orientation session for new members is 9-10:30am on Aug. 20 in the Senior Center. Through personal study, questions & answers, and small-group discussion, we will unearth the beauty of the Gospel of Matthew, the assurance that Jesus is Emanuel, "God-with-us."

All sessions are held in the Senior Center, with child care available for a nominal fee.

For more information, or to register, see the materials in the Gathering Area or on the website and contact Chari Rosales in the Adult Faith Formation Office.

Religious Education

Safe Environment for Children

St. Thomas the Apostle, is committed to protecting children and has implemented the following:

- Protecting God's Children Workshops are required for employee or volunteer who is involved with minors on a regular, recurring basis and those who may have an opportunity to be alone with children during parish, school or religious education sponsored events.
- Background checks (through an approved licensed agency) on volunteers working with children
- Safe Touch Program, a sensitive, developmentally appropriate approach to providing children with knowledge and skills needed to avoid becoming victims of sexual abuse. Presented in Grades K-8 in Religious Education Program and at All Saints Catholic Academy
- Parent Session presented each fall with award winning Video: "What Do I Say Now". Poignant vignettes and practical examples show parents how to teach children key touching safety rules and how to respond to a child's disclosure of abuse.
- Diocesan Policies and Standards of Behavior for Those Working with Minors distributed to parents yearly

As a precaution, parents should escort their children while in the church or ministry center, as well as in any public place, especially in public restrooms.

Families: Take some time to discuss and reflect on the readings of the week.

August 15 Question of the Week...

Will you pray the "Hail Mary" or Rosary today?

Religious Education Calendar

2010 – 2011 Class dates for Religious Education are available on line.

Please see the St. Thomas web site:
www.stapostle.org.

Liturgy of the Word with Children

Liturgy of the Word with Children begins on Sunday, September 26 at the 9:00 and 10:45 liturgies. This is for children who have turned 4 through grade 3. Once a child turns 4 they can attend. There is no sign up and either mass is fine.

We need more help. We form two teams so that when conflicts arise, one can switch with the opposite team. Adults that work with children must take Protecting God's Children and have a back ground check. Our next PGC workshop is Thursday, August 26 at 6:30 p.m. and another option is Saturday, September 18 at 8:30 a.m. There are other PGC sessions available at other churches if needed. Training for leaders of Liturgy of the Word is also provided.

At the 10:45 mass, we really need a couple more leaders, youth helpers and adults to walk the children in and out of mass.

At 9:00 mass we need just a couple more youth helpers and one leader for 5th grade which meets only five times during the school year.

Please consider bringing God's Word to the little children. Contact Patti Dougherty at church, 355-8980 ext. 109 or pdougherty@stapostle.org. Thank you.

Sessions Scheduled for Protecting God's Children

The "Protecting God's Children" Program is a very pro-active, positive, professional approach to preventing child sexual abuse. This Program is now part of diocesan policy to establish a "safe environment" for members of our parish. While "Protecting God's Children" sessions are primarily for all staff and volunteers, over 18, who work with children, they are also open to any parent or person from the parish who wishes to attend. Please note these dates and times scheduled at St. Thomas and if your ministry involves children in any way, please register by going to the web site: www.dioceseofjoliet.org. Click on Protecting Children; halfway down that page, see Virtus Protecting God's Children Workshop Schedule. Register for a workshop at a time and location that works for you.

Upcoming Training Dates at St. Thomas

Thursday, August 26 6:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.
Saturday, September 18 8:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

*Check in and refreshments begin 15 minutes before the start of each session. Each training session lasts the full three hours, so please arrive promptly. Questions may be directed to Patti Dougherty at 630.355.8980 ext. 109.

4th and 5th Graders and Families Special Bible Activity at Parish Picnic Sunday, August 29

Anytime between 1:00 and 2:30 p.m. during the St. Thomas Parish Picnic (Aug. 29), fourth and fifth graders along with their families are invited to a special Bible Activity in the Gathering Area.

Fourth graders in the Religious Education Program will receive a new bible for no cost as part of the RE program to use in RE classes. Fifth graders may bring their bibles from home. There will be a limited number of extra bibles available for purchase for \$5. Families will bless their Bibles and go through stations in the Gathering Area, learning some Bible Basics, which will take about twenty minutes.



NEWS from...
All Saints Catholic Academy

Help All Saints Catholic Academy Win Half a Million Dollars

In celebration of Kohl's Cares 10th anniversary, they are donating \$500,000 to 20 schools for a total of \$10 million. Go to facebook.com/kohls to vote for ASCA. No purchase is necessary. Open to legal residents of the United States 13 years of age or older. Contest ends on September 3, 2010.

For more information on All Saints Catholic Academy, visit the website at www.ascacademy.org or call the school office at 630-961-6125.

Catechist Formation Meetings

Catechists have Formation Meetings on the following dates in the Ministry Center starting at 7:00 p.m.

Mon, Aug 23—Catechist Kick-Off for all Catechists (Pre-K through Adult)

Mon, Aug 30—"Break Open the Word with Children" by Diane Huber. Diane, from *All Saints Catholic Academy*, Naperville, IL, has served in the ministry of Religious Education for 29 years and 19 of those years with the Diocese of Joliet. This workshop is for area catechists.

Tues, Sept 7—the first Grade Level Meeting (Pre-K – 8th) when lesson plans and materials will be distributed.

Help Wanted ~ 5-10 Hrs/Week

Youth Ministry Internship

We had our first intern over the summer, Matt Engardio, and it was great for him and us! I'd like to try it over the school year too. I'm looking for someone who is interested in getting their hands dirty in the ministry, tackling a project or researching a new element, and of course who is passionate about teens and helping them connect to God, our catholic identity, and our community.

Hours, times, would have to be flexible. This is a volunteer position, but I'm looking for someone who can commit at least a semester of time.

Pray. Discern. Then call and let's chat!
630.355.8980 x123 or ym@stapostle.org



Pancakes after Mass THIS Sunday August 15!

St. Thomas the Apostle's teens are going on mission this summer and are hosting a fundraiser next Sunday. There will be a pancake breakfast August 15 after the 7:30, 9:00, and 10:45am masses (serving 8:30am-1pm). Enjoy delicious apple-cinnamon, plain or chocolate chip pancakes, scrumptious sausage, orange juice, fruit, and coffee. Yum...yum! **A free-will offering will be accepted at the door before or after your tasty meal.** All of the proceeds will help purchase supplies and cover expenses for youth missions. Please plan on attending and getting to know your fellow St. Thomas family better at the table.

Service Commission

Outreach & Social Justice

Father Frantdzy and the Seminarians on TV!

Naperville Community TV (Channel 17) did a news story on our Haitian summer visitors. Father Frantdzy was extensively quoted in the two minute story. Go to the web to view the story. <http://www.nctv17.com/napervilleneews17/article.php?id=489>. Below is an excerpt from the story.



Six months after a destructive earthquake rocked Haiti, its citizens still suffer from the after-effects. Four Haitian visitors staying in Naperville this summer are sharing their earthquake experiences while taking classes at St. Thomas the Apostle Church. "Water is not good and it's difficult to find and they are living together in some place where garbage is," Father Frantdzy Joseph says of the current condition in Haiti. Their visit to Naperville was planned prior to the earthquake. Host families were eager to welcome their visitors and extend their stay for three months as the nation struggles to recover basic services.

St. Thomas has had a relationship with a Haitian church long before the earthquake, and when it hit, parishioners donated \$100,000 to relief efforts. "There's a good example of people according to their faith trying to help those in need," said Joseph.

Though money has certainly helped, there's still a long way to go when it comes to permanent recovery for the people of Haiti. "If you give them the structure for them to work, to have a job, to have money, to pay rent to pay for school for their children, you will not have to come back to do the same things," said Joseph.

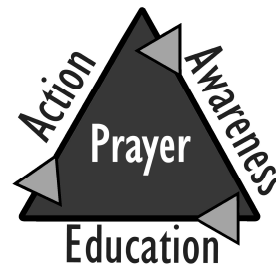
St. Thomas Social Justice Ministries

In today's bulletin (see page 3 & 11), Father Pat provides a wonderful explanation on why we, as Catholics, have a responsibility to address social justice in our community and in the world. The mandate begins with Jesus and is further outlined in our Catholic Social Teaching.

Did you know that we have seven social justice ministries at St. Thomas?

- **Care with God's Creation** – Focusing on the environment around us and throughout the world.
- **DuPage United** – Dealing within our local area.
- **Just Matters** – Providing educational courses on Social Justice topics.
- **Justice & Peace** – Most recently working on world poverty issues.
- **Pax Christi** – Beginning an emphasis on eliminating the death penalty in Illinois.
- **Pro-Life** – emphasizing abortion issues, but supporting life from conception to death.
- **Migration/Immigration Initiative** – A one year effort to encourage comprehensive immigration reform.
- **S.T.E.P.** – An annual event that highlights social justice issues, directed primarily at our youth.

Would you like more information? Would you like to actively participate? Call the St. Thomas OSJ Office (630.355.8980)



Words from Tutwiler Habitat for Humanity

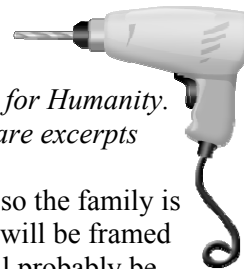
St. Thomas sends mission teams to Tutwiler, Mississippi every Juneto build houses with Habitat for Humanity.

Last June we sent two adult teams and a youth team. The comments below are excerpts from an email from the Habitat Coordinator in Tutwiler.

This summer was an extremely successful one ... we completed House 34 so the family is now living in it ... Likewise, we poured a cement slab for House 36 that will be framed up this October with one of my volunteer groups and the rehab house will probably be done and dedicated with the second or third group I get in next year. If St. Thomas were to come down again this fall, you would have it all done in probably two days working at the pace you all do!

Your groups would probably have a house completed, start to finish, in like five weeks! I am very excited to hear that St. Thomas wants to send down four volunteer groups next year.

— Allison Patten, Affiliate Coordinator, West Tallahatchie HFH



That's a LOT of Shampoo!

St. Thomas parishioners donated 343 large bottles of shampoo, plus two boxes of sample size shampoos for the residence of Hesed House in Aurora in response to an emergency need. What a great response!! Thanks to everyone who was able to help. And also a thank you for those that provided food for Hesed House in July and August.

Stonebridge Area Food Drive

The eighth annual summer food drive for our Care Pantry held on Saturday, July 24, was one to remember. The heavy rains during the night and into the morning undoubtedly impacted the amount of food collected (just over 700 bags), which was about 75% of last year's total. However, despite soggy conditions and a flooded route back to church, all of our hardy volunteers showed up! Almost 100 faithful workers - teens, families, neighbors and friends - pitched in to collect, sort, tray, and stock the shelves of the Care Pantry. A portion of the food was shared with the Marie Wilkinson Care Pantry in Aurora.

Many thanks go out to all of you who gave up your Saturday morning to help in this event. And to all who donated food and money, God bless you. We hope the shelves don't empty before the Harvest Sunday collection this fall, which is why it is a continuing effort to resupply the Pantry with our monthly food collections during Mass.

Also thanks to the Jewel-Osco store on N. Aurora and Eola Rd. which donated 5,000 paper grocery bags for the drive! We thank you all!

— Bud Hildebrand, Michelle Hunt,
Carolyn Lowrie
(Pantry Coordinators)

Father Pat Brennan on Social Justice — Socialist?

A reflection on the readings for August 8, 2010

(continued from page 3)

As much as people might like or enjoy Glenn Beck, his admonition to leave your church if your church speaks of justice is something that flies in the face of Catholic identity.

Someone who has helped me understand the call to justice better than I have in the past is Jim Wallis, founder of the Sojourners Community, in Washington D.C. The Sojourners Community is a faith community in which to belong, people must make a commitment to justice. Writing in his classic Call to Conversion, Jim Wallis has said that too many Christians live a kind of political conformity and a spiritual lukewarmness that are not inclusive of justice consciousness and justice work. To be a Christian, he wrote, one must live with and spend time in proximity to the victims of injustice, working with them and helping them. The issues of justice, Wallis said, must become part of our prayer lives and become part of our worship lives.

Unfortunately, despite all of the qualitative writing that has been done on social justice in Catholic history, often people have not been helped to discover practical steps in which they can become involved in the various dimensions of justice.

Someone who helped Holy Family, where I worked for a number of years, is a man by the name of Michael Cowen, who with Bernard Lee wrote the classic Dangerous Memories on Small Christian Communities. I asked Michael to come to the parish to talk to Small Christian Communities about how to get practical about social justice missions in their groups, challenging groups to not just be into self nurture, but also to be about justice. Cowen said that justice is something that cannot just be worked on alone. People need a community to work with on issues of justice. He said that in the context of community, people ought to share with each other all of their concerns about mercy and justice, to get all of them out on the table. After that has been done, there ought to be discernment as to which one issue the group is willing to come together to work on. Discussion needs to be had on how much time people are willing to give to the justice project and what would be the starting point and what would be signs of success or effectiveness. He encouraged groups to bring in people who have worked in whatever area of justice they are concerned about, to resource them and to serve as consultants. Cowen's methodology made at least some groups able to get their arms around issues of mercy and justice.

Both the first reading from Wisdom and the Gospel this week call us, as people of faith, to be prepared and vigilant. That vigilance seems to involve an eschatological dimension, being prepared for the end of time. I think the vigilance issue also has a very day-to-day meaning. We are to pay attention to what is important and to what matters in life. As people of faith, we are descendants of Abraham who is talked about in Hebrews today. As people of faith and descendants of Abraham, one of the aspects of human life that we need to be attentive to is justice.

I need to be honest in conclusion about something, and I take some ribbing from other people about this. I am, in fact, a FOX News junkie. Rupert Murdoch and Roger Ailes, who put together FOX News some years ago, have significantly trounced CNN and MSNBC in the ratings. FOX broadcasts have great production value and good reporting. I find some reporters on the station to be rather shrill, and I cannot stay with them too long; but I enjoy the station. Some reporters are more "fair and balanced" than others. My particular favorite is Megyn Kelly.

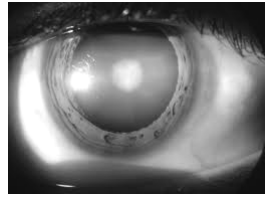
Finally, I am not a socialist. I am an Irish Catholic, an independent voter, a person trying to be a disciple of Jesus Christ, someone who tries to live the Reign of God.

In Jesus,
Pat Brennan

Pastoral Care

August is Cataract Awareness Month

What is a cataract? Behind the iris and pupil of the eye lies the lens, clear in color and made of protein and water. As we age, it becomes inflexible, less transparent, and thicker. Some of its protein clumps together and starts to cloud a small area of the lens and is called a cataract.



A healthy lens *focuses* light that passes into your eye, producing sharp images at the back of the eye (the retina). A cataract *scatters* the light as it passes through the lens, reducing the sharpness of the image. In time a cataract may grow so large and dense that it's difficult to read, drive at night, or see the expression on a grandchild's face.

The risk of a cataract increases as you get older. About half the population has a cataract by age 65, and nearly everyone over age 75 has at least one. Exposure to ultraviolet light and other types of radiation may injure the eye and result in cataracts. Studies suggest those with diabetes are at greater risk. Other possibilities are major tranquilizers, steroids, diuretics; cigarette smoke; air pollution, exposure to lead; heavy alcohol consumption; hormone replacement.

For a while, self-care methods like using a magnifying glass, limiting night driving, keeping eye prescriptions current, and improving home lighting may help. But when vision loss begins to interfere with quality of life, consider cataract surgery. It's simple and relatively painless.

Cataracts: Symptoms, Preventions, and Corrections

Having cataracts has been compared to viewing life through a foggy window. Specifically, here are the most common signs of cataracts (which can affect one or both eyes):

- Vision is cloudy, blurry, or dim.
- Colors seem faded or have a brown or yellow cast.
- Glare. Headlights, lamps, or sunlight seems too bright; or a halo appears around lights.
- Night vision is increasingly poor.
- Double vision occurs in a single eye.
- New prescriptions for eye glasses or contact lenses are needed frequently.

There are many ways you can protect your vision, and most rely simply on common sense:

- Wear sunglasses and a wide-brimmed hat to block ultraviolet sunlight and delay the formation of cataracts.
- If you smoke, stop!
- Eat right—especially leafy green vegetables and foods with antioxidants.
- Maintain a healthy weight.

More than 3 million Americans have cataract surgery each year, making it the most frequently performed surgery in the country. All surgery involves some risk, but very few patients have serious problems or complications after cataract surgery. Cataract surgery is highly successful at restoring vision: 90% of patients have vision between 20/20 and 20/40 afterwards!

— Source: Advocate Health Care

Jill Bates Presents A Day of Respite, Renewal and Reflection for Caregivers

**Saturday August 14 OR October 23
at Mayslake Ministries**

Caregivers are people who have found themselves in the role of caring for someone they love, usually a family member. Either physical or mental disabilities come along and decisions have to be made about who will be there to provide care. Some times caregivers are paid professionals who “live in”; they get burned out, too.

There are 65 million unpaid caregivers in the United States, and one third of them are men. Women and men have some similar concerns as caregivers, and some different ones, too.

Everyone is different. Some feel this task has been thrust upon them, but more often they have accepted the role because... “What else would I do, but care for this one whom I love?”

Anyone who is experiencing the role of caregiver is welcome. Light refreshments will be provided. Please bring the following with you: a sack lunch, a pillow and a small blanket for our relaxation technique.

Call Mayslake Ministries to register at 630.268.9000 or visit www.mayslakeministries.org

Blood Pressure Screenings Resume In September

4:30 Saturdays added.

Nurses are needed
for this ministry.

Contact Felicia

Lawlor at

355-8980 x 104



Parish Life Commission

Parish Picnic August 29

Your help is needed!
Please consider helping in the following areas:

- Food
- Drinks
- Children's Games
- Adult Games
- Set up
- Take down
- Finances
- General Helper

Contact Patti Dougherty
630.355.8980x109 or sign up on the volunteer board in the Gathering Area.
If we each take a small piece, a lot can happen!



50 *and Holding*
Mature Adults
Young at Heart

Wed, Sept 1, Luncheon at 1:00 at Olive Garden Restaurant.
Call Barbara Bigus 1.630.357.8958 for reservations

Nursery Opens in September

The nursery will open Sunday September 5 for the Sunday 9:00 and 10:45am masses. Children of walking age through the age three are permitted to utilize the nursery. Please come early to register your child or pass by my window and pick up a form. The fee is \$3 per child per Sunday.



Parent volunteers are welcomed and encouraged to sign up to assist in the nursery. Volunteers are exempt from paying nursery fees. Deadline for signup 8/29. Contact me for details.

If you have a teen willing to volunteer their time and have fun with toddlers, sign them up too! It's a great way to gain experience while providing assistance.

Donations are *always* welcomed. If you have gently used, large area rugs, toys or anything that does not pose a choking hazard, please pass them along.

See you soon... Nursery Facilitator Ombretta Schutz
630-375-0516 or brettaschutz@yahoo.com

Job Seekers Support Group Sponsored by St. Thomas Jobs Ministry & Pastoral Care

Samaritan Interfaith Counseling Center is offering a professionally led support group for job seekers. This support group will offer the opportunity to explore the adjustments to job loss. We will look at the emotional, spiritual and psychological process involved in this life change. Group members will gain insight, support, and coping strategies to navigate this difficult transition.

This support group is limited to 10 members and an eight-week commitment is required. As a group member you must agree to respect the privacy and confidences of other group members. The group will meet at St. Thomas the Apostle Thursdays, Aug. 19, 26, Sept. 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 and Oct. 7 from approximately 9-9:30 am to Noon.

This support group will be led by Mark Pedigo, M.Div., a Licensed Clinical Social Worker with Samaritan Interfaith Counseling Center. To register: Please call Mark Pedigo at 630.357.2456x23.

Stewardship... A Way of Life

Last Weekend's stewardship
of financial gifts...

Weekly Sunday Offertory

August 8, 2010 (week 6)	\$19,368
Automatic Direct Debit	\$16,655
Mailed in & stock donations	\$4,601
Total for week	\$40,624

*Based on Collection Counters Reports

Fiscal Year (7/1 to 6/30) to date:	\$201,258
Weekly Average 7/1/10 to date:	\$33,543
Offertory Goal Year to Date	\$214,434
Over/short of goal to date:	(\$13,176)
Goal for Fiscal Year 7/1 to 6/30	\$1,858,400
Remaining for Fiscal Year goal	\$1,657,142

Diocesan Appeal Updated Results

Parish Appeal Goal:	\$142,782
Pledges Received:	\$85,287
% of Goal pledged to date:	59.73
Remaining amount to goal	\$57,495
Number of Donors:	494

Administration Commission

Jobs Ministry

Weekly Networking Meeting

Friday mornings at 9:30 a.m.

(after the 8:30 a.m. Liturgy) Lighthouse

AUGUST KEYNOTE SPEAKER PRESENTATION

Wed, Aug 25, 7:00 pm: *Lasting First Impressions, How Your General Health and Well Being Can Influence the Hiring Process*

First impressions often include being evaluated on our general health and well being. Unfortunately, poor health sends questions of our workplace effectiveness. Being healthy is good for us and good for business. Learn the impacts and walk away with a strategic health plan which includes how to get **FREE** stuff for your personal wellness program.

Sandra Larkin is a Certified Wellness Program Manager who specializes in onsite workplace wellness design and consulting. Sandra is uniquely qualified to provide objective direction, creativity and strategic direction in planning and delivering wellness initiatives to achieve profit focused objectives. She maintains key partnerships in her global strategic network of wellness professionals which provide her client base with a distinct competitive advantage. Sandra is the publisher and author of "Healthy Profits: The 5 Strategic Elements of Strategic Wellness In The Workplace". She is a contributing author for the book "*Find Your Passion*" as well as a health blogger for Wellsphere.com, www.wellsphere.com and has been feature on numerous radio and magazine interviews.

St. Thomas the Apostle Church, 1500 Brookdale Road, Naperville, IL 60563 630.355.8980. Friday meeting formats include announcements, speaker presentation, and 2 rounds of networking. Prepare your elevator speech, and bring enough handbills to pass out to 20 fellow networkers. Wednesday night is speaker only, no formal networking. Contact Jim Breen at jimb4853@yahoo.com for more info.

Fri, Aug 13, at 9:30 a.m.: Laura Menze, owner of Life Quest Alliance, and a Life/Success Coach, will present *Overcoming Me, Myself & I*. Are you feeling lost in the unemployment world? Do you have a task list that grows and nothing seems to get checked off? Find out why, and understand what it takes to overcome yourself and succeed. Discover how you hold yourself back and what it takes to persevere, move forward, and start living your life-long dreams.

THE WEEK AHEAD...

Monday, Aug. 16

7:00—9:30 p.m. Coed Volleyball, Gym

Tuesday, Aug. 17

10:00—11:00 a.m. Care Pantry, Lighthouse

7:00—9:00 p.m. Charismatic Prayer Group, Judea

7:00—9:00 p.m. Adult Basketball, Gym

Wednesday, Aug. 18

7:00—9:00 p.m. Baptism Class, Senior Center

7:00—9:00 p.m. STEP, Judea

Thursday, Aug. 19

Friday, Aug. 20

9:15am-12:00 p.m. Jobs Ministry, Gym

Saturday, Aug. 21

9:00—10:30 a.m. Men's Saturday Sharing, Senior Center

Sunday, Aug. 22

10:15am-1:15 p.m. RCIA, Senior Center

4:00—6:00 p.m. Habitat Pot Luck, Lighthouse

Fri, Aug 20, 9:30 a.m.: Bill Burnett, change catalyst at Launchpad Partners, with a wealth of international business experience in over 65 countries on 6 different continents, will present *The Peak Interview*, which emphasizes all the best practices you need to skillfully deliver in the interview, but then shows you how to leverage the Peak/End phenomenon as you prepare for, and produce an outstanding interview.

Wed, Aug 25, 7:00 p.m.: Sandra Larkin, a Certified Wellness Program Manager (CWPM), specializing in onsite workplace wellness design and consulting, will present *Lasting First Impressions, How Your General Health and Well Being Can Influence the Hiring Process*. First impressions often include being evaluated on our general health and well being. Poor health sends questions of our workplace effectiveness. Being healthy is both good for us and business. Walk away with a strategic health plan and how to get **FREE** stuff for your personal wellness program.

Fri, Aug 27: NO MEETING