

JANUARY 7, 2018 | THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

**ST. THOMAS OF VILLANOVA**  
A CATHOLIC PARISH FAMILY - PALATINE, IL



BEHOLD, THE STAR

*that they had seen at its rising preceded them, until it came and stopped over the place where the child was.*

*~ Matthew 2:9*

# Parish Information

## MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday 5:00pm  
Sunday 7:30am, 9:30am, 11:15am  
1:30pm (*Polish*)

Weekday 6:30am (*Communion Service*)  
8:00am (*Including Saturday*)

## RECONCILIATION

Saturdays 8:30am—9:30am

**NEW PARISHIONERS:** All are welcome!  
Stop by the Parish Office to register and learn more about our Parish.

**BAPTISM:** Parents are required to attend a Baptism Preparation class preferable before the baby is born to avoid babysitting concerns. Baptisms are celebrated on most Sundays following the 11:15am Mass. Call the Parish Office for more information. *Upcoming Baptism Prep Classes— Jan 9, Jan 23 & Feb 15*

**MARRIAGE:** Arrangements for the celebration of marriage should be made at least six (6) months prior to your planned wedding date. Call Deacon Tom Dunne for more information.

**BECOMING A CATHOLIC:** Our RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) Process is for adults who were never baptized in any faith, who were baptized in another Christian faith but wish to become Catholic or who were baptized Catholics but never received the Sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist. Contact the Parish Office for more info. Brochures available in the Gathering Area kiosk.

## COMMUNION FOR HOMEBOUND:

Ministers of Care are available to bring Communion to the homebound. Contact Deacon Tom Dunne for information.

**PRAYERS FOR THE SICK:** Call the Parish Office to add your name to the sick list. Due to patient privacy (HIPAA Law,) only the ailing person, or in case of their incapacitation, the person delegated for the medical care, can add their name to the sick list.

## PRAYERS FOR MILITARY PERSONNEL:

Call the Parish Office to add a name of someone serving in the military, so our faith community can pray for their safety and service.

## PARISH OFFICE

1201 E Anderson Drive, Palatine, IL 60074

Phone: 847-358-6999; Fax: 847-934-4919; [www.stov.org](http://www.stov.org)

Parish Office Hours: Mon-Thu 9am—8pm, Fri 9am—5pm, Sat 9am—1pm

Rev. Tom Rzepiela, <i>Pastor</i>	Ext 204	<a href="mailto:fathertom@stov.org">fathertom@stov.org</a>
Rev. Marcin Zasada, <i>Associate Pastor</i>	Ext 206	<a href="mailto:fathermarcin@stov.org">fathermarcin@stov.org</a>
Rev. Mirek Kulesa, <i>Associate Pastor</i>	Ext 200	<a href="mailto:fathermirek@stov.org">fathermirek@stov.org</a>
Deacon John Breit, <i>Business Manager</i>	Ext 202	<a href="mailto:jbreit@stov.org">jbreit@stov.org</a>
Ron Schaefer, <i>Project Manager</i>	Ext 208	<a href="mailto:rschaefer@stov.org">rschaefer@stov.org</a>
Deacon Tom Dunne, <i>Minister of Care</i>	Ext 201	<a href="mailto:deacontomdunne@yahoo.com">deacontomdunne@yahoo.com</a>
Jeff Walczynski, <i>High School Youth Dir.</i>	Ext 212	<a href="mailto:jeff@stvoices.org">jeff@stvoices.org</a>
Connie West, <i>Bereavement Director</i>	Ext 207	<a href="mailto:cwest@stov.org">cwest@stov.org</a>
Suzie Walczynski, <i>Bulletin Editor/Admin</i>	Ext 205	<a href="mailto:suzie@stov.org">suzie@stov.org</a>
Joseph Spano, <i>Admin. Assistant</i>	Ext 200	<a href="mailto:stvliturgysched@yahoo.com">stvliturgysched@yahoo.com</a>
Meaghan Spano, <i>Admin. Assistant</i>	Ext 200	<a href="mailto:stvrec@yahoo.com">stvrec@yahoo.com</a>

## STV SCHOOL

1141 E Anderson Drive, Palatine, IL 60074

Phone: 847-358-2110; FAX: 847-776-1435; [www.stvschool.org](http://www.stvschool.org)

Mary Brinkman, <i>Principal</i>	<a href="mailto:stvprincipal@stvschool.org">stvprincipal@stvschool.org</a>
Stephanie Hardy, <i>Assistant Principal</i>	<a href="mailto:seventh@stvschool.org">seventh@stvschool.org</a>
Darcy Moder, <i>Admin. Assistant</i>	<a href="mailto:stvoffice@stvschool.org">stvoffice@stvschool.org</a>

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

1141 E Anderson Drive, Palatine, IL 60074

Phone: 847-358-2386; [www.stvrec.org](http://www.stvrec.org)

Mary Strybel, <i>Religious Ed Coordinator</i>	<a href="mailto:stvrec@yahoo.com">stvrec@yahoo.com</a>
Lisa Lechowicz, <i>Religious Ed Admin Asst.</i>	<a href="mailto:stvrec@yahoo.com">stvrec@yahoo.com</a>
Meaghan Spano, <i>Religious Ed Admin Asst.</i>	<a href="mailto:stvrec@yahoo.com">stvrec@yahoo.com</a>

## Priests

Rev. Tom Rzepiela, *Pastor*  
Rev. Marcin Zasada, *Assoc. Pastor*  
Rev. Mirek Kulesa, *Assoc. Pastor*  
Rev. Martin Luboyera, *Weekend Assoc.*  
Rev. Ray Yadron, *Pastor Emeritus*

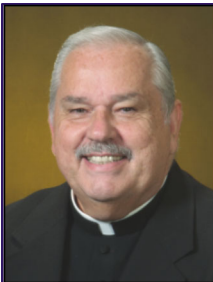
## Permanent Deacons

Deacon John Breit  
Deacon Mark Duffey  
Deacon Tom Dunne  
Deacon Bill Karstenson  
Deacon Len Marturano  
Deacon Rich Willer

## Pastoral Council

Jane St. Pierre Murguia, *Chairperson*  
Deacon John Breit  
Lexine Cramm  
Barb Howell  
Ann Johnson  
Norbert Krogstad  
Rev. Mirek Kulesa  
Steve Lundell  
Pam Maloney  
Rev. Tom Rzepiela  
Gay Sladky  
Connie West  
Rev. Marcin Zasada

**NOTE: Bulletin deadlines** Articles for the bulletin are due on Fridays—9 days before publication



## *Second Family*

Dear Parish Family of St. Thomas,

It's a New Year and like all the previous years—nothing stays the same. Change—both minor and major—are part of everyone's life. And I am sad to announce that we will be losing a Pastoral Staff member. Mary Strybel, our Coordinator of Religious Education at STV, has informed me that she will be retiring in June. Mary has been an STV employee for 21 years come this June. She has done an excellent job in this Religious Education Ministry. While we are sad to lose her, we are happy that she will be able to enter the "retirement phase" of her life and instead of being at meetings and classes, she can tend to her family and friends. We will soon begin the search for her replacement. I share with you her announcement letter:

*Dear Parish Family,*

*Why is it sometimes so difficult to compose a letter and find just the right words to truly express what one's heart and soul feels? This is exactly where I find myself, my wonderful St. Thomas of Villanova Parish Family.*

*After much prayer and thought, I've decided that it is time for me to retire after this school year. Please know that it has been my honor and pleasure to serve St. Thomas of Villanova for over 20 years. As you can probably guess, this was not an easy decision for me, not because I don't look forward to spending more time with my husband, sons, daughters-in-law, grandbabies, and friends, but because it is so hard for me to leave you all. I love you all so very much.*

*Please know that not a day goes by now without my prayers for you and yours, and I promise that not a day will go by without my continued prayers for you and yours, in my retirement either. I would like to especially thank Mrs. Lisa Lechowicz and Ms. Meaghan Spano, a.k.a. A-Team, for all of their support during my tenure in our Religious Education Program. They have, like you, been such a blessing to me.*

*God Bless You and Yours,  
Mrs. Mary Strybel  
Coordinator of Religious Education*

New Year's Day Masses were not well attended for two reasons—it was not a holy day of obligation this year, and the weather was frigid. Temperatures were double digits below zero. 9:30am Mass was half full! 11:15am Mass had only 135 people in attendance while the 1:30pm Polish Mass had a full Church. We prayed for our entire Parish Family that God would continue to bless all of us in the New Year of 2018.

Your Pastor,

*Father Tom*

Rev. Thomas R. Rzepiela

*P.S. My New Year's Day Slogan Sermon was - "Keep God in your routine in Twenty Eighteen!"*

*P.P.S. Just a reminder, I hope that you are praying the "Renew My Church" prayer everyday in 2018.*

# Parish Events

## PARISH CALENDAR

### Sunday, January 7

9:15am	Religious Ed Classes	School
9:40am	Children's Liturgy of the Word	MRD
10:30am	RCIA Classes	MRA
3:00pm	STV School Athletics	RAC
7:00pm	Polish Adult Volleyball	RAC

### Monday, January 8

12:00pm	Church Decorating	Church
2:45pm	STV School Athletics	RAC
4:00pm	Religious Ed Classes	School
5:00pm	Free Throw Contest	RAC
7:00pm	Faith Formation Meeting	MRC
7:00pm	STV Scripture Study	MRB

### Tuesday, January 9

2:45pm	STV School Athletics	RAC
7:00pm	STV Family School Assoc.	MRA
9:00pm	Men's Basketball	RAC

### Wednesday, January 10

1:00pm	Golden Villanovans	MRA & B
4:00pm	VOICES Drop-In	TR/RAC
6:00pm	Eucharistic Adoration	Church
7:00pm	GIFT I Meeting	MRA & D
8:00pm	A.A. (Closed Meeting)	MR4

### Thursday, January 11

2:45pm	STV School Athletics	RAC
7:00pm	Adult Choir Practice	Church
7:00pm	GIFT II Meeting	MRA & D

### Friday, January 12

8:45am	STV Scripture Study	MRA-D
12:00pm	Church Decorating	Church

### Saturday, January 13

8:30am	STV School Athletics	RAC
8:40am	STV Scripture Study	MRB
8:40am	Morning Bible Study	MRC
7:00pm	Christian Family Movement	RAC

### Sunday, January 14

9:40am	Children's Liturgy of the Word	MRD
10:30am	RCIA Classes	MRA
3:00pm	STV School Athletics	RAC
7:00pm	Polish Adult Volleyball	RAC

# TODAY

No After-Mass DSP this weekend.

- **MONTHLY FOOD PANTRY COLLECTION**—Thank you!
- **DAILY HERALD AD CAMPAIGN SIGN UP** After All Masses in the Gathering Area & Narthex

# UPCOMING

- **K of C—FREE THROW CONTEST** Monday, January 8 (Page 5)
- **GOLDEN VILLANOVANS**
  - Ladies Lunch: Monday, January 8 at 1pm. Briana's Restaurant, Northwest Hwy and Smith Rd. Call Kathy: 847-358-7122
  - Annual Pizza Party: Wednesday, January 10 at 1pm. Meeting Rooms A & B. RSVP to Maureen: 847-358-2586
- **DIVORCE MINISTRY** Tuesday, January 9 - next session of the *Divorce Care* program. Topic: *Kid Care*. Location: O'Brien Room, (Lower Level, Northside Entrance) St. James Parish Center—820 N Arlington Hts Rd, Arlington Hts. For info: Deacon Jim Bannon jamesrbannon@sbcglobal.net / 224-345-7200
- **PADS SIGN-UP** Next weekend, January 13 / 14 in the Gathering Area (Page 6)
- **MARCH FOR LIFE** Sunday, January 14 (Page 6)
- **CATHOLIC CEMETERIES SEMINAR** Saturday, January 20 (See Below)
- **COUPLES BAGS TOURNAMENT** Saturday, January 20, (Page 6)
- **BABY SHOWER FOR EMMA & LIAM** (Our spiritually adopted children) Weekend of January 20/21 (Page 7)
- **MEMORIAL MASS & CANDLELIGHT PRAYER SERVICE** Saturday, January 20 at the 5:00pm Mass. (Page 7)

## CATHOLIC CEMETARIES SEMINAR

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

## CATHOLIC CEMETERIES



The Catholic Cemeteries invites you to a pre-planning seminar and luncheon on **Saturday, January 20<sup>th</sup>**. The seminar will begin promptly at noon. A complimentary luncheon will be served, sponsored by the Catholic Cemeteries. Our cemetery consultant will talk about the importance of pre-planning your burial arrangements and answer questions relating to the purchase of graves, crypts, cremation burial, interest-free payment options or any other cemetery burial questions you may have. For reservations call Connie West, Director of Bereavement at 847-358-6999 by Monday, January 15<sup>th</sup>. Seating is limited.

**K OF C—BASKETBALL FREE THROW CONTEST**

On **Monday, January 8**, the Knights of Columbus Holy Ghost Council 4977 will conduct a Basketball Free Throw contest for boys and girls aged 9 to 14 in the Rowley Activity Center from 5pm—6:30pm. Winners will advance to District Level competition. All participants must furnish proof of age and written parental consent.



**STV SCRIPTURE STUDY (STVSS)—WINTER 2018**

**Follow Me: Meeting Jesus in the Gospel of John An 8-Week Study** on Friday mornings beginning January 12<sup>th</sup>, 2018 from 9:30-11:30am **OR** Tuesday evenings beginning January 16<sup>th</sup>, 2018 from 7-9pm. \$25 per person. Contact Nancy Hulsebosch 847-757-5630 or nhulsebosch@gmail.com to register.



**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

The St. Pat / St. Joe Fundraiser Committee is looking for volunteers. Won't you consider helping?

- **After Mass Ticket Sales:** Sign up to cover the ticket sales table for 15 minutes after your favorite Mass.
- **Decorating:** We are still in need of a Decorating Coordinator for our big event. Also, help is needed both the night before and the day of the fundraiser.



**Parish Fundraiser**

To volunteer or learn more, contact Howard: hapsoxfan@att.net

**GREETER MINISTRY**

The Lord needs people to greet everyone who walks into His house for weekend Mass. He wants His friends and family to feel welcome. He gave each of you a smile and a warm heart, so you can fulfill this role. We are in **desperate** need for greeters especially at the Saturday 5pm and Sunday 7:30am Masses. No experience necessary. Flexible scheduling. Great heavenly pay. No meetings to attend. Training is fast and can be done over the phone. Please, please volunteer! Just contact Jeanie or Jack Landeweer 847-842-0679.



**HUGS FOR HOMEBOUND**

The children of STV are continuing to send monthly notes of prayer and encouragement to your relatives and friends, even neighbors who are homebound, in nursing homes or just need cheering up. The recipients do not need to be our parishioners. **To have a note sent or remove someone from the list:** Contact Deacon Tom Dunne 847-358-6999 *Sponsored by STV Respect Life Committee with the help of Ministry of Care, STV School Children and STV Religious Education Children*



**SECOND COLLECTION—NEXT WEEKEND**



Next week, we will take up the Collection for the Church in Latin America. For many in Latin America and Caribbean, rural terrain and a lack of ministers are obstacles to practicing their faith. Your support to the collection provides lay leadership training, catechesis, priestly and religious formation, as well as other programs to help share our faith with those who long to hear the Good News of Christ. To learn more visit: [www.usccb.org/latin-america](http://www.usccb.org/latin-america).

**SAVE THE DATE**

**PARISH MISSION**  
**FEBRUARY 19, 20 & 21**

Mark your calendars and plan to join your fellow parishioners for our Lenten Parish Mission, **“Transforming Anger into Forgiveness,”** led by Fr. Tom Allender, S.J. on February 19, 20, and 21, 2018. Fr. Allender will speak at all Masses the weekend of February 17 / 18. Fr. Allender will be presenting this retreat after the 8:00am Mass and in the evenings from 7:00—8:00pm.



**PADS SIGN-UP**

*for February, March & April will be after all Masses NEXT weekend—January 13/14.*

**STAFF THE PADS SITE:**

Please consider volunteering to help us staff our PADS site at Christ Lutheran Church every Sunday evening from 7pm to 7am on Monday morning. The PADS season lasts until the last Sunday in April. We especially need volunteers for the overnight shifts: 11pm-3am and 3am-7am. Volunteers are not asked to work every week. Even one night between February and April would help.

**FOOD FOR PADS:**

Two ways to help PADS with food:

1. We will be collecting food for the PADS shelter next weekend in the Gathering Area. We need the following items: regular and decaffeinated ground coffee, single-serve cereal boxes, creamy peanut butter, grape jelly and paper towels.
2. Please also consider signing up to bring food on one of the Sundays in February through April. We need over 20 volunteers a week and have plenty of items on our menus that don't require cooking.

Thank you for any help you may offer to maintain our mission to the homeless.

*For questions, call Peg: 847-358-5150 or Brian: 847-358-3282.*

**9<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL STOV BAGS TOURNAMENT**

ALL COUPLES (*Married, engaged or dating*) ARE INVITED SUMMERTIME IN JANUARY!

**Saturday January 20, 2018**

6:30 p.m. until ??? In the Rowley Activity Center

**\$20.00 admission per couple Includes:**

- Pizza
- Non-Alcoholic Liquid Refreshments
- BYOB (wine or beer)
- Prize Pool included in admission



**PLEASE RSVP (by January 18) TO: John or Donna Breit (847) 359-2870**

**MARCH FOR LIFE CHICAGO**

**Sunday, January 14<sup>th</sup>**

Reserve your seat for easy travel to and from the March for Life Chicago.

- **10:00 am** Mass at St. Theresa
- **11:00 am** Bring your own lunch and join us for fellowship in the St. Theresa Pauline Center
- **12:00 pm** Board the bus from east parking lot for March for Life Chicago at Federal Plaza (*March begins at 2pm*)
- **5:00 pm** Arrive back at St. Theresa



To reserve your seat, fill out the form below or print a form at [www.NorthWestFamiliesforLife.weebly.com](http://www.NorthWestFamiliesforLife.weebly.com). Registration & payment due to the Parish Office by Jan. 8. Questions? Contact Mary Ann at 847-991-9732 or

**MARCH FOR LIFE—RESERVATION**

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

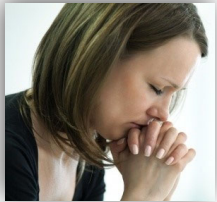
Tickets = \$10 per person Total number attending \_\_\_\_\_ Total amt paid \$\_\_\_\_\_

**Make checks payable to - St. Theresa Respect Life**



## REMEMBERING THE VICTIMS OF ABORTION 45 YEARS AFTER ROE V. WADE

*"Every child who, rather than being born, is condemned unjustly to being aborted, bears the face of Jesus Christ, bears the face of the Lord, who even before he was born, and then just after birth, experienced the world's rejection." - Pope Francis*



### JOIN THE DAILY HERALD AD PROJECT

The Catholic Parishes in the Chicago Archdiocese and the Joliet Diocese are sponsoring a pro-life ad in the Daily Herald to mourn the 45<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Roe vs. Wade Supreme Court decision legalizing abortion through all nine months of pregnancy. Since the Roe v Wade decision in 1973, the lives of 60 million innocent babies have been lost.

Please consider contributing \$5.00 (minimum) toward the cost of the ad. Sponsors have the option of listing their names in the ad, or remaining anonymous. The ad will run on Sundays, January 14 and January 21, 2018, full color, in the first section of the newspaper. The Daily Herald distribution area includes: Cook, DuPage, Kane and Lake Counties.

Respect Life Representatives will be available to accept your donations after all Masses **TODAY** or you can complete the form and bring it to the Parish Office or place it in the collection basket.

**DEADLINE FOR DONATIONS –  
JANUARY 9, 2018**

#### DAILY HERALD AD PROJECT

- I/we wish to contribute \$\_\_\_\_\_ to help sponsor the ad in the Daily Herald.
- I/we wish my/our name to appear in the Daily Herald as a supporter
- I/we DO NOT wish my/our name to appear in the Daily Herald.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

### OTHER WAYS TO GET INVOLVED

The St. Thomas / St. Theresa Respect Life Team, in coordination with the Knights of Columbus and other ministries, are sponsoring **FOUR ways for you to both mourn the loss of Life and take action that others may live.**

#### 1. Saturday/Sunday, Jan. 20/21: Baby Shower for Spiritually Adopted Babies

- To celebrate the births of Liam and Emma, bring an unwrapped baby gift to be donated to a home for women in crisis pregnancies. **Collection in the Narthex and Gathering Area after all Masses.**
- **Most needed items:** Newborn and size 1 diapers, wipes, clothes (new - 6 months)

#### 2. Saturday, January 20: Memorial Mass and Candlelight Prayer Service

- Come to 5:00pm Mass and be part of the special candle procession immediately following.
- Volunteers are needed to bear 95 candles in memory of the 95 babies who die from abortion every day in Illinois. *Contact Mary Ann to be a candle bearer for a child: 847-991-9732.*

#### 3. Monday, January 22: All-Night Eucharistic Adoration at St. Theresa Parish

- Begins Monday, Jan. 22, 8:30am through the entire day and night until 6:30am, Tuesday, Jan. 23.
- Come spend time with Jesus remembering the children, women, men and families harmed by abortion.
- Sign up for an hour. Contact Pierre: pierre.zermatten@kofc.org

#### 4. Tuesday, February 6, 7:00pm: Respect Life Team Meeting, St. Theresa's Pauline Center

- Looking for a way to do more to protect the unborn and their mothers? The Respect Life Team offers many opportunities to get involved.
- Don't have time for a monthly meeting? No problem! We have opportunities to fit every schedule. Email for information: Maria at marigold1272@yahoo.com.

***If you or someone you know is suffering from an abortion experience: You are not alone. You are loved. God forgives.***  
*You can experience forgiveness right here at St. Thomas in the Sacrament of Reconciliation.*  
*For counseling, care and compassion from someone who understands: [www.HopeAfterAbortion.org](http://www.HopeAfterAbortion.org) or call 1- 888-456-HOPE*



## DECEMBER SCHOOL LOTTERY WINNERS

December 2017

- \$25 The Lopez Family  
~ Sold by Ben Lopez
- \$25 The McGarvey Family  
~ Sold by the McGarvey Family
- \$50 Leanne Kotlarz  
~ Sold by the Kotlarz Family
- \$50 Ryan Regan  
~ Sold by Colin Regan
- \$100 Addy & Jared Nemec  
~ Sold after Mass
- \$200 The Sanchez Family  
~ Sold by the Sanchez Family

**The two holiday prize winners of \$500 each are:  
...drum roll...**

- \$500 Carrie Moore  
~ Sold by Melie Ortiz
- \$500 John Brinckerhoff  
~ Sold after Mass / Bulletin

## Every family deserves a **STABLE** foundation!



**Registrations accepted at  
St. Thomas of Villanova School**

*God Bless,  
Mary Brinkman*

## St. Thomas of Villanova Catholic School **OPEN HOUSE**

**Sunday, January 28—11AM to 1PM  
Thursday, February 1— 6PM to 7PM**

**Come Join Our  
Catholic School Family!**

Discover your neighborhood treasure of academic excellence in a faith-filled setting.





**2017 FISCAL YEAR SUNDAY SACRIFICIAL GIVING**

Date	Weekend Collection	On-Line Giving	Weekly Total	Over / Under Budget: \$23,700
Dec 3	\$25,447.47	\$ 2,523.00	\$ 27,970.47	\$ 4,270.47
Dec 10	\$ 17,634.66	\$ 2,903.00	\$ 20,537.66	(\$ 3,162.34)
Dec 17	\$ 22,874.12	\$ 1,533.00	\$ 24,407.12	\$ 707.12
Dec 24	\$ 21,360.24	\$ 2,478.00	\$23,838.24	\$ 138.24
Dec 31	\$ 15,183.72	\$6,993.00	\$22,176.72	(\$ 1,523.28)

YTD Totals	
YTD Budget	\$ 639,900.00
YTD Actual	\$ 593,244.04
Over / (Under)	(\$ 46,655.96)

**THANK YOU!**



**ON-LINE GIVING**

GiveCentral ONLINE GIVING is a convenient way for St. Thomas of Villanova to receive your SSG support, as well as your Parish Christmas Gift, especially if you will be away for Christmas. It is a secure online system with payment options from direct debit (ACH) to all major credit cards: Visa, MasterCard, American Express and Discover.

You can donate to these funds:

- Sunday Giving
- Parish Christmas Gift
- Sharing / Ministry of Care
- "To Teach Who Christ Is"

**How to sign up:**

1. Go to [www.givecentral.org](http://www.givecentral.org)
2. Click the "START GIVING" button.
3. Type St. Thomas of Villanova in the search box and click on our picture when it appears.
4. Choose a fund to which you would like to donate, entering the frequency, date range and dollar amount, then click "ADD TO MY GIFT BASKET."
5. You may click "CHECKOUT" at any time, or add more donations, if you wish.
6. When you are ready, click "MY GIFT BASKET" at the top of the page and verify your gifts.
7. Click "CONTINUE," then "COMPLETE PROFILE" to register.
8. Complete the registration form, then click "REGISTER AND CONFIRM GIFT."
9. You're registered! You will receive a confirmation email from GiveCentral.

**PARISH CHRISTMAS GIFT**

**Thank you for your special SACRIFICIAL CHRISTMAS GIFT to your Parish Family.**

*There is still time to give! We will gratefully accept your Christmas gift until tomorrow, Monday, January 8, 2018. Christmas checks dated December 31, 2017 can still be included in your 2017 charitable donations. Thank you!*

*- Your Finance Committee*

**THANK YOU FROM THE WOMEN'S CENTERS**

Dear St. Thomas of Villanova,  
 We would like to express our gratitude to you for participating in the 2017 Baby Bottle Project for The Women's Center. The total collected from your Parish in this year's campaign came to **\$5,652.51**. This is a fantastic effort, and we are truly grateful for everyone's generous support. The Baby Bottle Project is our primary fundraiser and enables us to continue our efforts of saving moms and their babies from the tragedy of abortion. We are able to provide women with counseling, material goods assistance, pregnancy testing, ultrasounds and more. All of our services are *free of charge*! We have been blessed with the support of so many wonderful souls like you. And thanks to you, we will continue our efforts to promote a culture of life.



God Bless you,

*Lowell Wallace*, Project Manager



### A Prayer For RENEW MY CHURCH

*Lord Jesus, you speak to us today, as you spoke to holy men and women who have gone before us.*

*In every age and in our own time, you call to us and say: Renew My Church.*

*Pour out the gift of your Holy Spirit upon us, and so enable us*

- *to hear you clearly*
- *to listen to each other attentively*
- *to imagine our future boldly*
- *to discern your direction wisely*
- *to persevere in your holy will courageously*
- *to stay together in charity*
- *to surrender our own plans readily*
- *to embrace the greater good*
- *to hand on your gifts to future generations.*

*May we remain in the holy company of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the apostles, and all the saints.*

*May their example and presence inspire us with patient confidence in the work of your grace.*

*We ask this of you who live and reign with the Father in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen*

## ON EPIPHANY MOMENTS ALL AROUND

When we stop to think about it, we find that life is filled with little epiphany moments. They happen all the time. We're always learning things--we're always gaining profound insight--in unexpected ways. We just need to pay attention. Such is my experience, anyway. And my most recent epiphany moment manifested itself shortly before Christmas, when I found myself out and about in the neighborhood without my wallet. I discovered this while running a local errand and called my wife at home to see if (hopefully) I'd just left it there somewhere. I was very, very happy to hear that such was the case. So very, very happy, perhaps, that I quickly forgot my just-found circumstance and stopped in at a nearby hardware store on my way home to buy some Christmas lights. They were three dollars and change. As soon as I reached for my wallet to pay for them, though, I remembered what I'd learned only thirty minutes or so earlier: no credit card, no cash, no wallet.

I did, however, have my checkbook--and I needed the lights--so I asked the woman behind the counter if I could write a check. I explained in the same breath that I didn't have my wallet, though, and that I therefore didn't have my driver's license/ID either. She seemed dubious. I told her I that I lived just around the corner, and that I'd shopped there many times before. I still sensed resistance, so I told her that it was no big deal, really, and that I didn't want to violate any rules, and that I'd just put the lights back on the nearby shelf. That's when she called for Joe, who I think is the owner. I'd asked for his home-repair help there in the past. Joe appeared

in seconds, and maybe he'd overheard some of the back-and-forth between the clerk and me because he right away asked what was going on. I told him the story. He said, "Yeah, I know you," and then he told the counter lady to go ahead and take my check.

Immediately I recalled something I'd heard or seen before: "If you were arrested for being a Christian, would there be enough evidence to convict you?" I remembered it, I think, because the hardware store experience put an even easier question in play: Does Jesus know us? And more specifically, does he know me? Yeah. I show up on Sunday, and showing up on Sunday is good. But relationships form over days/months/years of conversation and sharing. If I just show up on Sundays and forget about Jesus the rest of the time, what kind of relationship am I forming? "Yeah, I know you," Joe said at the hardware store, so I got my Christmas lights. It felt good, but not so much because of the lights, really. It felt good more so because of the recognition. How much better will it be when I step before Jesus someday and he says essentially the same thing? Yeah. I know you... According to dictionary.com, epiphany means "a sudden, intuitive perception of or insight into the reality or essential meaning of something, usually initiated by some simple, homely, or commonplace occurrence or experience." Like I said. We just need to pay attention.



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# Our Weekly Prayers

## MASS INTENTIONS

### Monday, January 8

6:30am Communion Service  
8:00am All Who Are Sick

### Tuesday, January 9

6:30am Communion Service  
8:00am All Military Personnel

### Wednesday, January 10

6:30am Communion Service  
8:00am † June Falardeau

### Thursday, January 11

6:30am Communion Service  
8:00am For the Sanctity of All Human Life

### Friday, January 12

6:30am Communion Service  
8:00am Int. for Kristina Sromek Griffin

### Saturday, January 13

8:00am † David Sladky  
5:00pm All Living & Deceased Parishioners

### Sunday, January 14

7:30am † Sue Rheaume;  
† William Mitchell;  
† Rosie Casarez  
9:30am † Mary Obey;  
† William Yadron  
11:15am † Carl Hlavka;  
† Catherine Milligan;  
† Paul Gratzel  
1:30pm Mass—POLISH

## WEEKLY READINGS

Mon: Is 42:1-4, 6-7; Ps 29:1-4, 3, 9-10;  
Mk 1:7-11  
Tue: 1 Sm 1:9-20; 1 Sm 2:1, 4-8abcd;  
Mk 1:21-28  
Wed: 1 Sm 3:1-10, 19-20; Ps 40:2, 5,  
7-10; Mk 1:29-39  
Thu: 1 Sm 4:1-11; Ps 44:10-11, 14-15,  
24-25; Mk 1:40-45  
Fri: 1 Sm 8:4-7, 10-22a; Ps 89:16-19;  
Mk 2:1-12  
Sat: 1 Sm 9:1-4, 17-19; 10:1a; Ps 21:2-7;  
Mk 2:13-17  
Sun: 1 Sm 3:3b-10, 19; Ps 40:2, 4, 7-10;  
1 Cor 6:13c-15a, 17-20; Jn 1:35-42

## OUR NEWLY BAPTIZED

Alexander James Alesi  
Kirra Rose Faron  
Benjamin Alexander Martinez

Fabian Pieniazek  
Callum Michael Stark  
Charlotte Halina Szewc

## FOR OUR SICK

Barbara Amato	Kirk Forseth	Elegie LoCascio	Dick Samojsla
Lou Anderson	Faith Forseth	Allan Loden	Dan Schaffer
Jim Baur	Parker Forseth	Peggy Lowe	Carlos Serna
Vito Boffa	Daniel Gajewski	Richard Maloney	Shawn Smith
Cherie Bott	Mel Gass	Baby Alexa Mang	Russell Spano
Andy Bouchonville	Bill Gerl	Helen Mariano	Kristina Sromek
Charles Campagna	Ralph Gonzalez	Bob Maruska	Alice Stedronsky
Eleanor Campagna	Dave Hicks	Elayne Maruska	Anne Swaw
Anna Marie Candorla	Adeline Kaczmarek	Baby Benjamin Mauro	Robert Szott
Tom Cook	Katherine Kearney	Mike McGee	Sharon Tadsen
Baby Seamus Cullen	Mary Anne Kiesel	Candida Morales	Jack Treanor
Brenda Darling	Wesley Knutson	Mike Moran	John Welge
Jason Dean	Mary Alice Kobler	JoAnn Moser	Jim White
Emily Dempsey	Susan Kordell	Paul Moser	Tom Yadron
Beth Dix	Gilmour Krogstad	Rita Olles	Frances Zanetti
Eamon Downey	Lauren Lambert	Patty Reynolds	Martha Zara
Jeanne Formanski	Gene Lazich	Elaine Romanchek	
Jaime Forseth	Harold Lewis	Ken Romanchek	

## IN SERVICE TO OUR COUNTRY

Lord, bless the men and women of our military as they answer the call to serve our nation and defend our freedom. Protect and heal them-- body, soul, mind and spirit--especially those in harm's way. Most of all let them know your love; that you are with them, and that you will never forsake or abandon them. I ask this in the name of Jesus, our Lord and Savior. Amen.

### U.S. Air Force

- MSGT Dan Fialek
- SSGT Justin Godsey
- MSGT Matthew Grelck
- CPT Erin Killion
- CPT Sean McGee
- SrA Trenton J. Metyk
- SSGT Darrel J. Moe
- Lt Col Ross A. Mol
- SSGT Brian R. O'Donnell
- SrA Joshua Olszak
- MAJ Matthew Walz
- SF Joseph Kilcullen III, Green Beret
- LT Michael Labek
- 2LT Daniel Lloyd
- SSGT Dustin Lyles
- SPC Michael Medina
- SGT Kevin Miller
- CWO2 Timothy O'Cain
- CPT James Ruetsche, Ranger
- PFC Will Willis
- Troops in the Middle East

### U.S. Coast Guard

- LT Kevin O'Brien

### U.S. Marine Corps

- MAJ Joey Cross
- CPL David Crouse
- PVT Nicholas G. Dean
- WO1 Thomas Grygowski
- PFC Jeffrey Daniel Krantz

### U.S. Navy

- LTJG Jeremy Adams
- LCDR Kevin Brandwein
- LCDR John-Paul Falardeau
- CAPT Jason Haen
- SN Caleb Harrington
- PO2 David Holley
- LT Quinn Daniel Kilpatrick
- SN Gregory Minott
- AN James Steining



**ROSE OF LIFE**  
In Fond Memory of My Grandmother  
JUNE FALARDEAU

## FOR OUR DEPARTED, REST IN PEACE

† Sally Rossetti  
Wife of Chuck Rossetti

### ŚWIĘTO CHRZTU PAŃSKIEGO

#### – Praktykuję wiarę



Zesłanie Ducha Świętego na Jezusa podczas Jego chrztu miało afirmować, że jest On Synem Bożym. Było to potwierdzenie zewnętrzne, na potrzeby obecnych tam osób, gdyż Jezus i tak był już od dnia swoich narodzin pełen Ducha Świętego. Takie zewnętrzne znaki były niezbędne, by 2000 lat temu można było zrozumieć prawdy wiary. Także dzisiaj

Kościół posługuje się znakami i obrzędami. Są one nam potrzebne, byśmy łatwiej mogli przyjąć prawdy wiary. Nie rezygnujemy zbyt łatwo z praktyk religijnych. Czasem wydaje się nam, że można być wierzącym, ale niepraktykującym. Gdyby tak było, to Jezus także zrezygnowałby z wszelkich zewnętrznych form. Nie przyjąłby chrztu ani nie odwiedzał świątyni. On jednak ustanowił w Kościele sakramenty, byśmy z nich korzystali i dzięki nim odnaleźli drogę do Boga...

### UROCZYŚĆ OBJAWIENIA PAŃSKIEGO

#### – Wędrowka wiary

Czym jest uroczystość Objawienia Pańskiego, można lepiej zrozumieć, wczytując się w Ewangelię o mędrcach z dalekiej krainy. Przybywają oni do nowo narodzonego Jezusa i rozpoznają w Nim króla, Mesjasza. Prowadzeni przez gwiazdę afirmują prawdę, że w ludzkim sercu ukryte jest pragnienie poznania Boga.



To właśnie w tych tajemniczych trzech wędrowcach mogą odnaleźć się ci wciąż poszukujący... Wiara to przecież droga, a my po niej idziemy. Szukający szczerze Boga z pewnością w końcu Go znajdzie. Zauważmy, że mędrcy ze Wschodu w drodze ku Betlejem doświadczyli spotkania się z Herodem. To przestroga, że w wędrowce wiary nie brakuje przeszkód...

#### NIEDZIELNA SKŁADKA

3 grudnia 2017 r	\$ 1,867.00
10 grudnia 2017 r	\$ 1,601.00
17 grudnia 2017 r	\$ 2,283.00
24 grudnia 2017 r	\$ 2,479.00
31 grudnia 2017 r	\$ 2,270.00

**W sumie: \$ 10,500.00**

**Dziękujemy!**

#### INTENCJE MSZALNE I REJESTRACJA

Intencje mszalne można zamówić po Mszy św. niedzielnej w pokoju marszałków lub zakrystii.

#### MSZE ŚW.

Parafia Świętego Tomasza z Villanova zaprasza całą wspólnotę polskojęzyczną do wspólnej modlitwy i nabożeństw.

**Msze św. w jęz. polskim—**

Niedziela: 1:30pm;

Pierwszy Piątek miesiąca: spowiedź od 5:30, Msza św. o godz. 7:30pm;

#### **Pierwsza Sobota miesiąca:**

**Nabożeństwo 'Pierwszych 5. Sobót' i Msza św. o godz. 7:30pm;**

**Trzeci Piątek miesiąca: Nabożeństwo do Bożego Miłosierdzia i Msza św. o godz. 7:30pm.**

#### SAKRAMENT CHRZTU ŚW.

Sakrament Chrztu Św. w jęz. polskim jest udzielany w każdą niedzielę miesiąca po Mszy św. w języku polskim—prosimy o wcześniejszy kontakt z ks. Marcinem.

#### SAKRAMENT MAŁŻEŃSTWA

Pary prozone są o kontakt z biurem parafialnym przynajmniej 6 miesięcy przed planowanym ślubem w celu ustalenia daty ślubu i spotkania się z księdzem.

#### SAKRAMENT POKUTY

Niedziela 12:45pm- 1:15pm.

#### RÓŻA RÓŻAŃCOWA

Spotkania w drugą niedzielę miesiąca po Mszy św. Serdecznie zapraszamy do wspólnej modlitwy różańcowej w każdą niedzielę przed Mszą św. o godz. 1:00 pm.

#### KONTAKT Z KANCELARIĄ

Poniedziałek—Czwartek: 9:00 am—8:00pm

Piątek: 9:00 am—5:00 pm

Sobota: 9:00 am—1:00 pm

**Telefon: 847-358-6999**