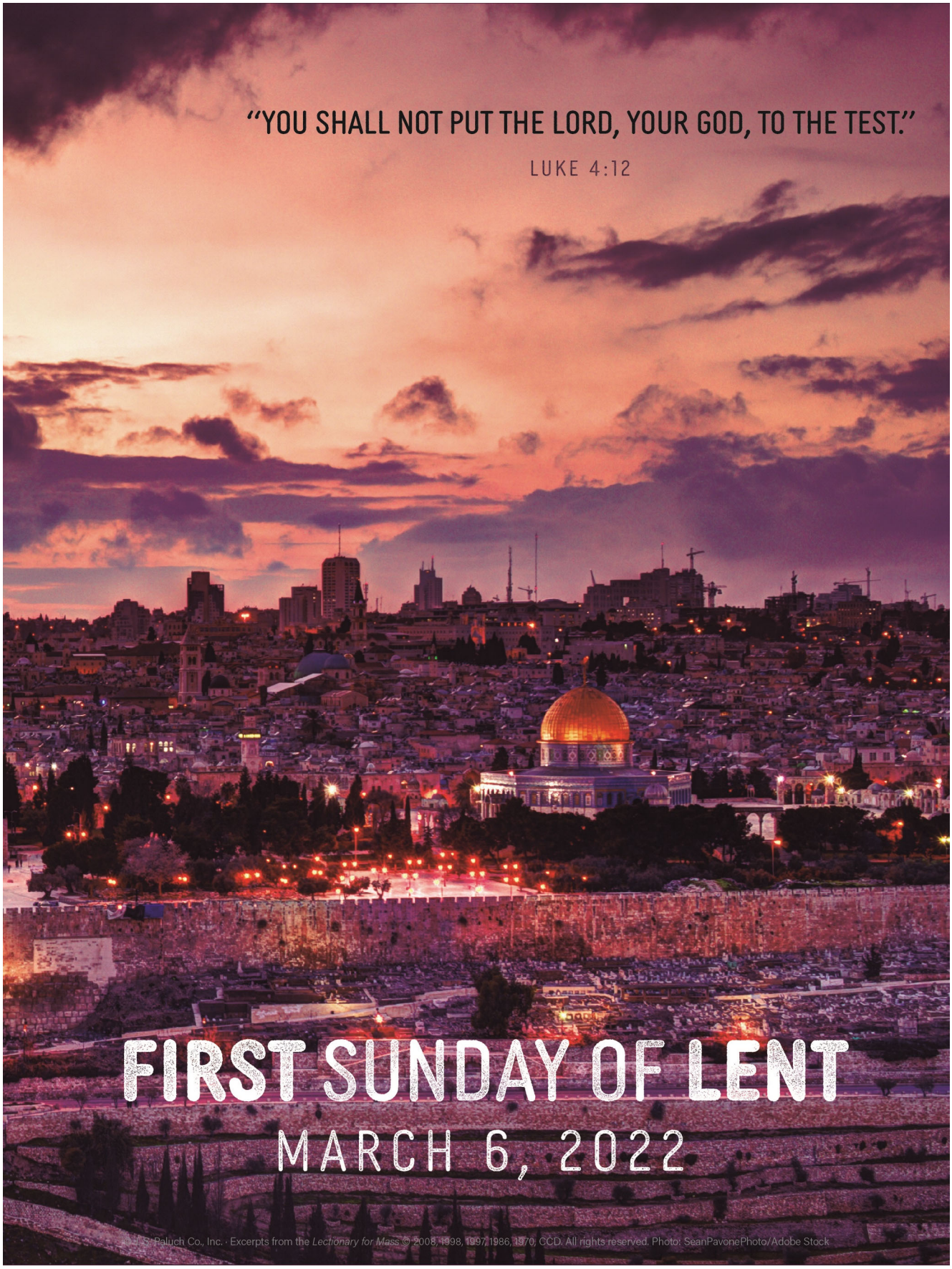

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St. Thomas of Villanova

A Catholic Parish Family—*Palatine, IL*

Parish Information

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday	5:00pm
Sunday	7:15am
	8:30am *(Polish)*
	10:00am
	11:30am *(Polish)*
Weekday	8:00am *(Including Saturday)*
1st Friday	7:00pm *(Polish)*

COMMUNION SERVICE

6:30am Friday

ADORATION

Thursday After 8:00am Mass—7:00pm

RECONCILIATION

Saturday	After 8:00am Mass
1st Friday	5:30pm—6:45pm

NEW PARISHIONERS: All are welcome! Visit our website www.stov.org to download our registration form or call the Parish Office for more information about our Parish.

BAPTISM: Visit our website www.stov.org to fill out a request form for a baptism or call the Parish Office for more information.

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 info.

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 Deacon Mark Duffey at rcia@stov.org for more info.

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

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK: Contact 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: Contact the Parish Office to add a name of someone serving in the military, so our faith community can pray for their safety and service.

FUNERALS: Please contact our Parish Office for more information to plan a funeral service.

PARISH OFFICE

1201 E Anderson Drive, Palatine, IL 60074
Phone: 847-358-6999; Fax: 847-934-4919; www.stov.org

Parish Office Hours:
Monday, Wednesday from 9:00am—5:00pm *
Tuesday, Thursday from 9:00am—8:00pm *
Friday from 9:00am—1pm
** Closed from 12:00pm – 12:30pm for lunch.*

Rev. Kris Janczak, *Pastor*	*fatherkris@stov.org*
Rev. Marcin Zasada, *Associate Pastor*	*marcin.zasada@yahoo.com*
Deacon Robert Cyran, *Business Manager*	*rcyran@stov.org*
Vito Manola, *Facilities Manager*	*vmanola@stov.org*
Deacon Tom Dunne, *Minister of Care*	*deacontomdunne@yahoo.com*
Jeff Walczynski, *High School Youth Dir.*	*jeff@stov.org*
Jeanne Slatkay, *Music Director*	*jslatkay@stov.org*
Suzie Walczynski, *Communication/Outreach*	*suzie@stov.org*
Sheila O'Shea, *Admin. Assistant*	*soshea@stov.org*
Ann Duffey, *Admin. Assistant*	*aduffey@stov.org*

STV SCHOOL

1141 E Anderson Drive, Palatine, IL 60074
Phone: 847-358-2110; FAX: 847-776-1435; www.stvschool.org

Mary Brinkman, *Principal*	*stvprincipal@stvschool.org*
Alice Scardina, *Admin. Assistant*	*stvoffice@stvschool.org*

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

1141 E Anderson Drive, Palatine, IL 60074
Phone: 847-358-2386; www.stovrec.org

Owen Walsh, *Religious Ed Director*	*owalsh@stov.org*
Lisa Lechowicz, *Religious Ed Asst. Director*	*rec@stov.org*

Priests

Rev. Kris Janczak, Pastor
Rev. Marcin Zasada, Assoc. Pastor
Msgr. John Canary, Weekend Assoc.
Rev. Tom Rzepiela, Pastor Emeritus
Rev. Ray Yadron, Pastor Emeritus

Permanent Deacons

Deacon John Breit
Deacon Mark Duffey
Deacon Tom Dunne
Deacon Bill Karstenson
Deacon Len Marturano
Deacon Derek Oliver

Pastoral Council

Pam Maloney, *Co-Chairperson*
Barb Howell, *Co-Chairperson*
Deacon John Breit
Lexine Cramm
Ann Johnson
Norbert Krogstad
Steve Lundell
Gay Sladky
Rev. Marcin Zasada

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

Parish Information

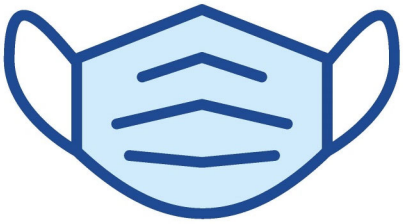
Presider Schedule for March 12 / 13

	Presider	Deacon
ENGLISH: Saturday—5:00pm	Fr. Marcin *	Mark Duffey
ENGLISH: Sunday –7:15am	Fr. Marcin *	Len Marturano
ENGLISH: Sunday—10:00am	Msgr. Canary *	Mark Duffey
POLISH: Sunday—8:30am	Fr. Kris *	
POLISH: Sunday—11:30am	Fr. Kris *	Derek Oliver

** Preaching*

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

MASKS OPTIONAL



MASECZKI NIEWYMAGANE

ST. THOMAS OF VILLANOVA PARISH

live-streaming
SUNDAY MASS

Join us virtually each Sunday for Mass.
8:30 am—Polish
10:00 am—English

Look for the livestream links in our Friday Flocknote Newsletter OR visit our livestream website page

flocknote

Want the latest news from St. Thomas of Villanova?

Sign up for Flocknotes!
It's our way to stay connected with you!

stov.flocknote.com

Please visit our website: WWW.STOV.ORG for the latest information and resources about our Parish.

Our Parish Calendar is now *LIVE* on our website. Visit www.stov.org and click on Parish Calendar to see the most up-to-date information on events happening at STV!

Like us on Facebook!
Saint Thomas of

From Our Pastor

Dear Friends,

Today is the First Sunday of Lent. In the Gospel reading we witness Jesus being tempted by the devil. What is interesting to me is the fact that the devil used only three temptations against the Son of God. First, he tempted Jesus to use his power and change the stones into bread; then he offered Jesus all the power and glory of this world but only if Jesus worshiped him; and lastly, evil tempted Jesus to put God to the test and see if He would save Him. Three temptations: selfishness -- satisfy yourself, lust for power, and pride.

Evil knows very well what our human desires are, and how he can destroy the harmony of this world. Evil doesn't need any other temptations, because it knows what people want in this life. We have to be careful and learn from this Gospel reading today how evil operates. "It is written, one does not live on bread alone." --"You shall worship the Lord, your God, and him alone shall you serve." And, "You shall not put the Lord, your God, to the test."

And here is my full homily for this Sunday:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LjCAMXo_G6o

Also, I want to welcome back Monsignor John Canary who has returned from his long trip to Florida. He is back with us, and you will see him almost every weekend, here at St. Thomas.

And other great news is that Fr. Marcin is staying with us at least for one more year. We asked the diocese for an extension for him, and he was granted it officially until July of 2023!

Please continue to pray for peace and especially for peace in Ukraine.

God bless you!

Fr. Kris

Moi Drodzy,

Dzisiaj pierwsza niedziela wielkiego postu. Jesteśmy świadkami jak szatan kusi Pana Jezusa. Co ciekawe, szatan kusi tylko trzy razy. Najpierw namawia Syna Bożego, żeby kamień zamienił na chleb i zaspokoił swój głód, następnie kusi, aby Jezus oddał mu pokłon a on w zamian odda mu wszelkie bogactwa i panowanie na tym świecie i w końcu namawia Pana Jezusa- rzuć się w dół, a Bóg na pewno Cię uratuje. Trzy pokusy- zaspokój swoje potrzeby- egoizm, oddam ci wszystko za pokłon- rządza władzy, rzuć się w dół, Bóg cię uchroni- pycha. Szatan zna nas ludzi dobrze i wie na czym nam najbardziej należy. Będzie nas do tego ciągle namawiał i kusił, po to, żeby zburzyć harmonię w tym świecie. Musimy być roztropni i z dzisiejszej Ewangelii wyciągać mądre wnioski i uczyć się od Jezusa jak zwalczać te trzy najgroźniejsze pokusy: "Napisane jest: Nie samym chlebem żyje człowiek -- Panu, Bogu swemu, będziesz oddawał pokłon i Jemu samemu służyć będziesz -- Nie będziesz wystawiał na próbę Pana, Boga swego".

Jak zwykle na kanale YouTube jest całe moje rozważanie do dzisiejszej ewangelii:

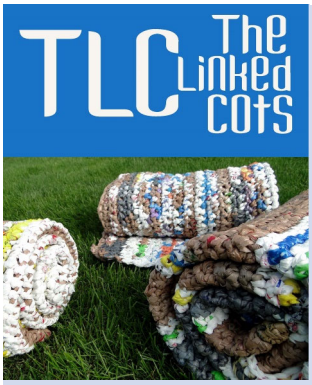
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=I_eeAcnkKBs

Na koniec, dobra wiadomość, ksiądz Marcin zostaje z nami jeszcze kolejny rok, a może i dłużej. Jak niektórzy z was wiedzą, przeważnie księża wikariusze służą w parafii ok 6 lat, a później zmieniają parafię. Ksiądz Marcin jest z nami o wiele dłużej, dlatego pisaliśmy list do diecezji z prośbą o przedłużenie jego służby w naszej parafii i oficjalnie dostaliśmy potwierdzenie, że będzie z nami do lipca 2023 roku.

Módlmy się ciągle o pokój na świecie, zwłaszcza na Ukrainie.

Ks. Krzysztof

Parish News & Events



Looking for a fun way to connect with others AND make a difference during these challenging times? We need you! Join us!

Sunday, March 6
11 a.m. - Noon
Meeting Room B

We are making sleeping mats for the homeless out of plastic grocery bags! No experience needed. We need people to cut the bags into strips and link the strips together. Do you crochet or would you like to learn? We need you too! Great for teen service hours and anyone who would like to be part of this fun community. Meetings are the first Sunday of the month. Come check it out. Stay for a few minutes to learn a little more, or for the entire time. Masks optional. Questions? 224-735-3535 or email dawnpennacchia1313@gmail.com.

ALL SAINTS LUTHERAN
& ST. THOMAS OF VILLANOVA

MONTHLY FOOD COLLECTION

FIRST WEEKEND OF EACH MONTH

MARCH 5 / 6, 2022

BRING YOUR ITEMS TO MASS &
PLACE BY THE AMBO IN CHURCH

MOST NEEDED:
Cereal, Laundry Soap & Diapers

STV partners with All Saints Lutheran Church - Food Pantry (ASLC-FP). The pantry operates out of the Community Resource Center located at 1585 N Rand Road in Palatine. If you have any questions about our partnership, donations or volunteering, please email *foodpantry@stov.org.*

ASSISTIVE LISTENING SYSTEM

Did you know that our parish has a digital Assistive Listening System in the Church?

This system is designed to help those persons needing hearing assistance during the Mass and other liturgies. Please see a Mass Ambassador prior to Mass who can provide you with the listening device and instructions on how to use it. **Please remember to return the device** to a Mass Ambassador after the service.

NOTE: We are missing two (2) devices. If you have borrowed a device in the past, PLEASE check your belongings for the unit. We need it returned ASAP. Thank you!

STAY UP TO DATE ON ALL THE LATEST ACTIVITIES & EVENTS AT STV

VISIT WWW.STOV.ORG

GOLDEN VILLANOVANS The Golden Villanovans monthly meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 9th at 1pm in meeting rooms A & B.

LENT

STATIONS OF THE CROSS Offered every week during Lent.

ENGLISH

- Friday Mornings—after 8am Mass with our school children
- Friday Evenings—6:00pm

POLISH

- Friday Evenings—7:30pm; Stations of the Cross followed by Mass

PRAYER OPPORTUNITIES

- 8:00am Weekday Mass
- 6:30am Friday Prayer Service
- Eucharistic Adoration - Every Thursday following 8:00am Mass until 7:00pm.

LENTEN ALMS *Please see page 8 for this year's Lenten Almsgiving info.*

"THE LITTLE BLACK BOOK" sponsored by the Evangelization Team, is available at all Church exits. Each book has been carefully crafted to help you explore the depths of Scripture and deepen your relationship with Christ. Perfect for personal devotional time. Spend some quiet time with the Lord this Lent. *Free will offering.*

LENTEN MISSIONS Mark your calendar now! More info, soon.

- Polish: Sunday—Tuesday, March 20—22 at 7:00pm in church ***(SEE AD BELOW)***
- English: Monday—Wednesday, March 28—30 at 7:00pm in church

LENT

"For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them." ***Matthew 18:20***

Let us pray together Our Parish Lenten prayer at every Mass.
May this community prayer help us become closer to God through others.

Our Parish Lenten Prayer

Lord Jesus Christ,

We ask that you enlighten our minds,
inflame our hearts,
and make us aware of your great love for us.

Increase in us the faith that you are truly here
in the Eucharist and in every member of our Church.

You have defeated death itself
and called us to you by our Baptism.

Thank you for the ways you have
blessed our St. Thomas of Villanova Parish Family.

Help us to communicate to others
the joy we have received.

We ask this in your Holy Name.

Amen

Modlitwa na wielki post

Panie Jezu Chryste,

Prosimy Cię, oświeć nasze umysły i rozpal nasze serca Twoją miłością.

Daj nam większą wiarę w to, że prawdziwie jesteś obecny tutaj w Eucharystii oraz w każdym człowieku.

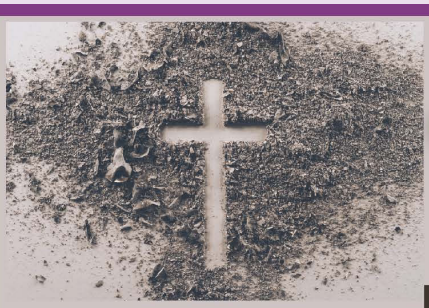
Ty pokonałeś już śmierć a nam dałeś nowe życie. Przez chrzest, staliśmy się Twoimi dziećmi.

Dziękujemy Ci, za wszystkie łaski i błogosławieństwa jakich udzielasz naszej wspólnocie Św. Tomasza.

I naucz nas dzielić się tymi wszystkimi błogosławieństwami z innymi.

Który żyjesz i królujesz na wieki wieków.

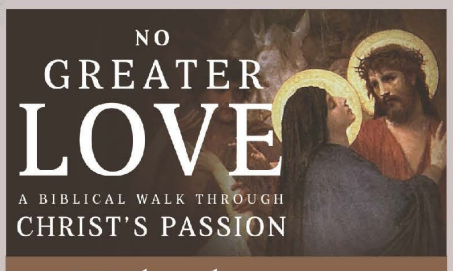
Amen



Lent with YAM-NW

Young Adult Ministry-NW (YAM-NW) serves those in their 20s and 30s within Northwest Cook County.

Email
yamnw.suburbs@gmail.com
for questions and
to join our mailing list



Wednesdays 7-9pm
St Thomas Villanova

Stations of the Cross

Fridays
See Facebook
for parishes
and times

Young Adult Ministry-Northwest Chicago (YAM-NW)

LENT ALMSGIVING

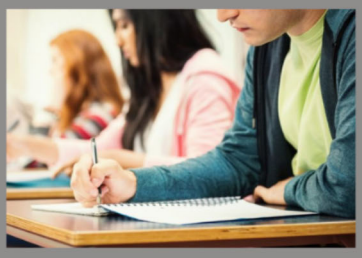
2 CAUSES.

As in past years, St. Thomas of Villanova will donate your Lenten Alms to two organizations. Our Lenten call to almsgiving means making the needs of other people our own. Thank you for hearing the call.

NATIONAL.

40% of the households living on the New Mexico Navajo reservation have no running water in their homes. Considered one of the driest places in the U.S., these families rely on water hauling to meet their daily water needs for drinking, cooking, bathing and cleaning. Part of your 2022 Lenten almsgiving will be given to St. Bonaventure Indian Mission & School. It is a private, Catholic agency providing the people of the Eastern Navajo Nation the basic necessities of clean water, food, shelter and education. To learn more: www.stbonaventuremission.org

LOCAL.



After the overwhelming response last year, we will again partner with Palatine High School to help students who are in crisis situations or lack the necessary funds to fully participate in high school. Part of your 2022 Lenten almsgiving will help students who are homeless, food insecure or lack money for various school interests such as a physical for athletics, fees for CNA classes, graduation gown rentals and much more. Together, we can help these students remain focused on learning and fully engaging in their high school years.

DONATE.

1. Online at www.givecentral.com
2. In person, if you attend Mass *
3. By mail to STV at 1201 E Anderson Dr, Palatine, IL 60074 *

- Please write **"Lenten Alms"** on your envelope and in the memo field, if donating by check.

Fish Fry Alert!

Knights of Columbus Fish Fry

Five (5) Friday Fish Frys
4:00 to 7:00 PM

St. Thomas of Villanova Rowley Center

1201 East Anderson Drive, Palatine

Dinner includes: Fried Cod, Fried Shrimp (add'l charge), Pizza, Salad, Cole Slaw, Beverages and Yummy Desserts

CASH or CREDIT

NOW ACCEPTING CREDIT CARDS

Per person $12.00 Family 4 or more $30.00

Ages 5 – 12 $5.00 Ages 1 – 4 **FREE**

Money in short supply? Enjoy a Fish Dinner on the Knights!

5 Fridays:	Net Fundraising Proceeds for the Benefit of:
Mar 4	Mercy Home for Boys and Girls
Mar 11	- - - - - NO FISH FRY - - - - -
Mar 18	Society of St. Vincent de Paul
Mar 25	St. Thomas of Villanova School
Apr 1	St. Theresa School
Apr 8	Combined Parish Respect Life Team

SPONSORED BY THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS HOLY GHOST COUNCIL #4977.
WE FAITHFULLY SERVE OUR ST. THERESA AND ST. THOMAS OF VILLANOVA PARISHES AND OUR SURROUNDING COMMUNITY www.kofc4977.org

After many years without a price increase, the Knights need to raise our 2022 Fish Fry prices due to the nearly 40% increase in fish costs since 2019. We are still committed to serving a delicious meal to you, your family and friends while supporting a greater cause with proceeds donated to various community organizations. Thank you for understanding and we hope you will join us!

St. Thomas of Villanova School

presents

Sister Act JR.

Advance Ticket $5
Day of the Event Ticket: $6

SHOW DATES

Friday, March 11th | Saturday, March 12th
DOORS OPEN AT 6:30 PM SHOW STARTS AT 7PM
Sunday, March 13th
DOORS OPEN AT 2:30 PM SHOW STARTS AT 3:00PM

Show will be held in the STV Rowley Activity Center (GYM)

Stewardship

FISCAL YEAR SACRIFICIAL GIVING

(7/1/2021—6/30/2022)

Date	Weekend Collection	On-Line Giving	Weekly Total	Over / Under Budget: $19,000.00
Feb 6	$ 19,373.50	$ 4,271.00	$ 23,644.50	$ 4,644.50
Feb 13	$ 11,753.50	$ 3,276.00	$ 15,029.50	*($ 3,970.50)*
Feb 20	$ 12,478.41	$ 4,096.00	$ 16,574.41	*($ 2,425.59)*
Feb 27	$ 16,237.00	$ 3,961.00	$ 20,198.00	$ 1,198.00

YTD Totals	
YTD Budget	$ 665,000.00
YTD Actual	$ 654,755.57
Over / *(Under)*	*($ 10,244.43)*

THANK YOU!

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
HOLY GHOST COUNCIL #4977

THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

SPONSORS

40 CANS FOR LENT

You **CAN** do it!

Help stock our local food pantries by providing food for the hungry in our community!

We graciously ask parishioners to donate 1 can of food for each of the 40 days of Lent. You can bring 1 can every day or 7 cans when you come to Sunday mass.

Please check expiration dates on the items. We cannot distribute expired food items to our Food Pantry clients.

Collection bins are in the Gathering Area

2021 TAX DONATION STATEMENTS To receive your statement, please either call the Parish Office at 847-358-6999 or email your request to: **soshea@stov.org** and put *"2021 Tax Statement"* in the subject line. Thank you for your continued support to St. Thomas of Villanova Parish.

SACRIFICIAL GIVING

PLEASE CONTINUE YOUR SUPPORT FOR OUR CHURCH!

Our weekend collections are vital to provide the income which pays our Parish Family's operational expenses and the salaries of our STV staff. We definitely need and appreciate your sacrificial offerings. Here are various ways to contribute:

1. If you attend Mass, place your donation in the offertory basket or box at the church entrance or exit.

2. Sign up online using GiveCentral. **www.givecentral.com.**
   - Click "**FIND YOUR CHARITY**"
   - Type St. Thomas of Villanova in the search box and click on our picture.
   - Choose a fund to donate, entering the frequency, date range and dollar amount, then click "**ADD TO MY GIFT BASKET**."
   - You may click "**CHECKOUT**" at any time, or add more donations.
   - Click "**CONTINUE**," then "**COMPLETE PROFILE**" to register.
   - Complete the registration form, then click "**REGISTER AND CONFIRM GIFT**."
   - *You're registered!* Look for a confirmation email from GiveCentral.

3. Use the Archdiocese of Chicago Universal Offertory Program online. Visit our website: www.stov.org and click on the GIVING PAGE to find this link. If you do choose to donate through this universal program, please be sure to select "St. Thomas of Villanova" to credit your gift.

4. Mail your sacrificial offering envelope directly to our Parish Office:
   St. Thomas of Villanova
   1201 E Anderson Dr, Palatine, IL 60074

THANK YOU!

Our Weekly Prayers

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, March 7
8:00am ✞ Jeanette Beard

Tuesday, March 8
8:00am ✞ Francis Heraty
✞ Guy & Jean Hansen

Wednesday, March 9
8:00am All Who Are Sick

Thursday, March 10
8:00am ✞ James Hendrickson
✞ Francis Heraty

Friday, March 11
8:00am For Peace in Ukraine
6:00pm Stations of the Cross—ENGLISH
7:30pm Stations of the Cross & Mass—POLISH

Saturday, March 12
8:00am For the Sanctity of All Life
5:00pm ✞ Deacon Rich Willer

Sunday, March 13
7:15am ✞ David Sladky
8:30am Mass—POLISH
10:00am ✞ Marie Kay
✞ Mark Rissky
✞ Magdaleno del Mar, Jr.
✞ Earnest Brooks, Sr.
11:30am Mass—POLISH

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — The Israelites show their faith by offering the LORD first fruits of the products of their new land (Deuteronomy 26:4-10).
Psalm — Be with me, Lord, when I am in trouble (Psalm 91).
Second Reading — All who express faith in the risen Christ and confess that he is Lord will be saved (Romans 10:8-13).
Gospel — Jesus was led into the desert by the Spirit and was tempted (Luke 4:1-13).

DAILY READINGS

Monday: Lv 19:1-2, 11-18; Ps 19:8-10, 15; Mt 25:31-46
Tuesday: Is 55:10-11; Ps 34:4-7, 16-19; Mt 6:7-15
Wednesday: Jon 3:1-10; Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 18-19; Lk 11:29-32
Thursday: Est C:12, 14-16, 23-25; Ps 138:1-3, 7c-8; Mt 7:7-12
Friday: Ez 18:21-28; Ps 130:1-8; Mt 5:20-26
Saturday: Dt 26:16-19; Ps 119:1-2, 4-5, 7-8; Mt 5:43-48
Sunday: Gn 15:5-12, 17-18; Ps 27:1, 7-9, 13-14; Phil 3:17 — 4:1 [3:20 — 4:1]; Lk 9:28b-36

FOR OUR SICK

Lou Akins
Lisa Antonelli
Baby Aubrey
Helene Behrman
Anthony Benecik
Alex Bingham
Mary Carlson
Lauren Clark
Carmen Cline
Jason Dean
Ramil Diaz
Dan Diewald
Nona Dix
Jeanne Formanski
Jaime Forseth
Steve Fortunski
Michael Gerambia
Bill Gerl
Phil Gerould
Tommy Glaser
Grace Gorska
Judy Gott
Patti Grabowski
Conrad Hansen
David Hicks
Barbara Kerlin
Mary King
Roswitha Kist
Mary Alice Kobler
Susan Kordell
Frank Koss
James LaCapra
Louis LaCapra
Sue Langowski
Gene Lazich
Mary Margaret Lazich
Robert C. Lee
John Lenz
Harold Lewis
Ron Magnuson
Alexa Rae Mang
Eva Mannina
Gina Manola
Elayne Maruska
Timothy Matchen
Brunilda Melendez
JoAnn Moser
Jeff Moskala
Lana Murley
Earl F. Nicholas
David Jace Paprocki
Amie Parisi
Emily Piscitelli
Jean Pope
Barb & Bob Ridge
Brad Rohrssen
Dick Samojla
Jane Samojla
Adam Serena
Eric Serena
Shirley Serena
Sue Sloma
Virgilio Sotto
Kristina Sromek
Richard Steelman
Joseph Suchowski
JoAnn Swanson
Robert Szott
Marita Szyszka
Sharon Tadsen
Luke Wilberding
Susan Wilberding
Charmaine Zuchel
Erin Zwadoo

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
- A1C Arick Duffey
- 1LT Kirsten Eissman
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FOR ALL CLERGY IN FORMATION

Pray for all Seminarians as they continue their priestly formation.

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Informacje po polsku

I NIEDZIELA WIELKIEGO POSTU – Chrystus jedyną nadzieją w pokusach

Początek dzisiejszej Ewangelii przywodzi na myśl zielone i kwitnące ziemie, zroszone przez wody Jordanu, a także kamienistą pustynię Judei. Oba te miejsca są polem działania Ducha. Tak też powinno być w naszym życiu. Zarówno chwile radości i obfitości, jak też chwile smutku i bólu mają być wypełnione obecnością Bożą. Chrystus kuszony na pustyni nie ulega pokusom. Zemstę diabła znamy z opisu Męki Pańskiej: na krzyżu dokonało się ostatnie kuszenie. Jezus mógł udowodnić, że jest Synem Bożym, i uniknąć śmierci, ale wtedy życie każdego z nas już na zawsze byłoby pustynią, z dala od ożywczych wód Jordanu…

Post, modlitwa i jałmużna:
nieodzowne pomoce do nawrócenia czyli główne zadanie chrześcijanina i nie tylko w Wielkim Poście

Post, modlitwa i jałmużna – wielkopostna triada. Uczy wstrzemięźliwości, pozwalającej zdobyć pewien dystans do rzeczy, chroniącej przed zachłannością i łapczywością. Daje dyspozycyjność wobec poznanej woli Boga, zachowując przed złudzeniami i prowadzi do miłosierdzia. Czy może być lepszy program na czterdzieści dni paschalnej pokuty?

Szatan istnieje, naprawdę. Nie bądź naiwny i broń się przed jego przebiegłym działaniem

Szatan: przebiegły wróg człowieka

‘Odrzekł mu Jezus: «Idź precz, szatanie! Jest bowiem napisane: Panu, Bogu swemu, będziesz oddawał pokłon i Jemu samemu służyć będziesz»’ (Mt 4, 10)

Diabeł, czyli szatan, istnieje. I jest zły świadomie. Gardzi tobą całym sobą i jest zręcznym, przebiegłym i śmiertelnym wrogiem naszych dusz. Ma całą wieczność na to, by nas rozpracować i odkryć nasze słabości. Wie, jak nas przywieść do upadku za pośrednictwem ciała, świata, pieniędzy czy pychy. Kusi nas dyskretnie po to, byśmy pogrążali się w grzechu i oddalali od Boga.

Wie również doskonale, że z dala od Boga porzucimy dobre uczynki, modlitwę i sakramenty. W ten sposób sprawia, że stajemy się coraz bardziej podatni na jego ataki, chętnie ulegamy coraz większym pokusom i z łatwością wpadamy w jego sidła. Dla wielu osób te stwierdzenia to jakieś bajki i dlatego nie mają się przed nim na baczności.

Wielu katolików nie wierzy w istnienie diabła

W swoim działaniu na zgubę naszych dusz diabeł ma wielu pomocników. Biblia pomaga nam rozeznać i zrozumieć, że istnieją ciemne moce, których nie widzimy, ale które codziennie na nas oddziałują. Szczególnie, jeśli w naszym życiu brak wiary, modlitwy czy też łaski uświęcającej na skutek trwania w grzechu ciężkim. Kim są te złe duchy? Ewangelia wspomina o nich w różnych fragmentach.

‘Złe duchy prosiły Go: «Jeżeli nas wyrzucasz, to poślij nas w tę trzodę świń!». Rzekł do nich: «Idźcie!»’ (Mt 8,31).

‘I zapytał go: «Jak ci na imię?» Odpowiedział Mu: «Na imię mi „Legion”, bo nas jest wielu»’ (Mk 5,9).

Wielu katolików, nie wierzy w istnienie diabła. Tkwią bowiem w przekonaniu, że to jakiś wymysł, stara bajeczka, którą straszy się dzieci, nakłaniając je w ten sposób do dobrego zachowania. Część ludzi postrzega diabła w kategoriach mitu i nie zdaje sobie sprawy z niebezpieczeństw, na jakie są narażeni w przeżywanych pokusach.

W Katechizmie Kościoła katolickiego, który wyjaśnia fundamenty naszej wiary, czytamy:

2850 ALE NAS ZBAW ODE ZŁEGO. Ostatnia prośba do naszego Ojca jest również zawarta w modlitwie Jezusa: ‘Nie proszę, byś ich zabrał ze świata, ale byś ich ustrzegł od Złego” (J 17,15)”.

Następujące w kolejnym punkcie wyjaśnienie nie pozostawia najmniejszych wątpliwości:

2851 Zło, o którym mówi ta prośba, nie jest jakąś abstrakcją, lecz oznacza osobę, Szatana, Złego, anioła, który sprzeciwił się Bogu. ‘Diabeł’ (diabolos) jest tym, który ‘przeciwstawia się’ zamysłowi Boga i Jego ‘dziełu zbawienia’ wypełnionemu w Chrystusie.

Mając świadomość jego istnienia co zamierzasz zrobić dla swojej duszy, gdy będzie jej groził upadek? Nie sądzisz, że Wielki Post to dobry moment na szczerą spowiedź? Odnów swoją więź z Bogiem, strzeż w sercu łaski uświęcającej, zbliż się do Kościoła, korzystaj z sakramentów. Żyj w pokoju i świętości oraz z dala od grzechu.

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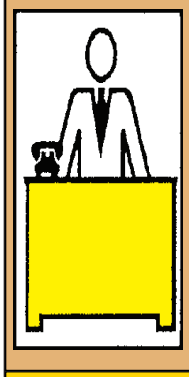

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