

FOURTH SUNDAY OF

Lent

Copyright © J.S. Paluch Co. Inc. - Photos: © Leo Lintang/Fotolia



MARCH  
11  
2018

God so loved the world that he gave his only Son,  
so that everyone who believes in him might not perish  
but might have eternal life.

John 3:16

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

## 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: Mar 15, Apr 5 & Apr 26*

**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>
Sheila O'Shea, <i>Admin. Assistant</i>	Ext 200	
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*

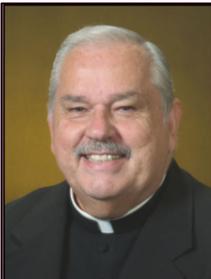
### Permanent Deacons

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 Homily*

Dear Parish Family of St. Thomas,

How is your Lent going? How are you going with more prayer, fasting and almsgiving? Do you realize that we are at the half-way mark in Lent? Are you spending more time in prayer—thanking the Lord for all the blessings He has given you? Have you been fasting and giving things up like—chocolate, coffee, impatience, TV, alcohol, anger, arguing with your spouse, yelling at your children, gossiping, jealousy?? Have you been “almsgiving” through your extra generosity of your time, talent and treasure?

In his prayer intention for the month of March, Pope Francis said: “Let us pray together that the church may appreciate the urgency of formation in spiritual discernment, both on the personal and communitarian levels.” *The times in which we live demand that we develop a profound capacity of discernment... To discern, from among all the voices we hear, which is the Lord’s voice, which is the voice of Him who guides us to the Resurrection, to Life, and the voice that frees us from falling into the “culture of death”. Every Christian ought to grow in the ability to “read within” his or her life, and to understand where and to what he or she is being called by the Lord, in order to carry on his mission. Let us pray together that the Church may appreciate the urgency of formation in spiritual discernment, both on the personal and communitarian levels.*

Have you ever thought about becoming a Eucharistic Minister? If not, why not? We need to serve our Parish Family at the Eucharistic table of the Altar. We are in need of more Eucharistic Ministers. Please pray about becoming one. There is a Saturday morning training coming up in April. This training is open to adults and teens who have received their Confirmation. Please call me at the Parish Office if you are interested.

Last weekend, we honored St. Patrick and St. Joseph. Our fifteenth Annual Party was another successful event of fun, frolic, and festivities as 198 parishioners and friends gathered to celebrate. It was a very entertaining and pleasant evening. Special thanks to our 2018 St. Patrick—St. Joseph committee led by chairperson Howard Pettinger and its membership of Brian O’Shea, Sheila O’Shea, Larry Peterson, Ed Walsh, Sandy Peterson, Vera Muir, Christine Colbrook, Dawn Pennachia and John Breit. There were also about thirty sub-committee volunteers. We thank all for the “blessed” evening. A full financial report will be given once all of the bills are in. Thank you to all who supported it (local businesses and parishioners), and to all who came.

Our “Renew My Church” Grouping Feedback and Discernment Team continues to meet as we seek to review the possible necessary “structural” changes to be sure that the Catholic Church is alive and well and viable in our geographical communities of Palatine, Arlington Heights and Rolling Meadows. The “structural” changes are necessitated by the shortage of priests (for example, in the next ten years we will have 100 less priests because of retirements and fewer priests being ordained), by the decline in number of Mass attendees, the resulting financial situations, and the aging and delayed maintenance of Parish buildings. Today and in these next few weeks, we will be sharing with you the data, statistics and our strengths and opportunities from our Town Hall Meeting. Mark your calendar for our next and last Town Hall Meeting on April 16 at 7pm.

Your Pastor,

*Father Tom*

Rev. Thomas R. Rzepiela

*P.S. Belated Birthday wishes to our Associate—Father Marcin! (He is getting older and his hair is getting grayer!)*

## Parish Events

### PARISH CALENDAR

#### Sunday, March 11

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, March 12

2:45pm	STV School Athletics	RAC
4:00pm	Religious Ed Classes	School
7:00pm	Faith Formation Team Mtg	MRC
7:00pm	STV Scripture Study	MRD

#### Tuesday, March 13

2:45pm	STV School Athletics	RAC
6:45pm	STV Scripture Study	MRD
7:00pm	Family School Assoc. Mtg	MRA
7:00pm	Rectory Bldg Committee	MRB
9:00pm	Men's Basketball	RAC

#### Wednesday, March 14

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

#### Thursday, March 15

2:45pm	STV School Athletics	RAC
7:00pm	Women's Club Guild 1	GA
7:00pm	Adult Choir Practice	Church
7:00pm	GIFT II Meeting	MRA & D

#### Friday, March 16

8:45am	STV Scripture Study	MRA-D
4:00pm	Fish Fry	RAC
7:00pm	Ultreya	MRA & B

#### Saturday, March 17

8:40am	STV Scripture Study	MRB
8:40am	Morning Bible Study	MRC
6:00pm	Religious Ed Reception	RAC

#### Sunday, March 18

7:00pm	K of C Pancake Breakfast	RAC
9:15am	Religious Ed Classes	School
9:40am	Children's Liturgy of the Word	MRD
10:30am	RCIA Classes	MRA
12:30pm	The Linked Cot (TLC)	MRB
3:00pm	STV School Athletics	RAC
7:00pm	Polish Adult Volleyball	RAC

# TODAY

- **OLIVE WOOD SALES** Today after Mass in the Gathering Area.

# UPCOMING

- **FAMILY SKATE NIGHT** Monday, March 12 (Page 6)
- **FEED MY STARVING CHILDREN—REMINDER:** Tuesday, March 13—1072 National Pkwy, Schaumburg. Lenten Service Project sponsored by the Women's Club. Contact Alice Witt if you have questions: 847-705-5828
- **PRAYER WALK FOR PEACE** Wednesday, March 14 (Page 10)
- **GOLDEN VILLANOVANS** Wednesday, March 14 at 1pm. Monthly Meeting in MRA & B. Speaker: Lisa Kuchar regarding Fannie May.
- **FISH FRY Sponsored by Knights of Columbus** Friday, March 16. (Page 8)
- **RELIGIOUS ED CLOSING MASS** Saturday, March 17 at 5pm. (See Below)
- **K OF C PANCAKE BREAKFAST** Sunday, March 18 (Page 5)
- **EASTER FLOWER REMEMBRANCES** Due Sunday March 18 (Page 5)
- **ANNULMENT WORKSHOP** Monday, March 20 (See Below)

COMING NEXT WEEK!

**Saturday, March 17**  
**5:00pm MASS**  
**Religious Education and**  
**Mary Strybel's**  
**Retirement Celebration!**

All are invited! Come celebrate with us!




### ANNULMENT WORKSHOP

St. James Divorce Ministry is hosting an Annulment Workshop/Information Night for any interested Catholics. Annulments are the single most confusing topic for divorced Catholics. Many wonder: What is an annulment? Why do I need one? Do I need an annulment to stay Catholic? Can I get married again without an annulment? This workshop will address all the above and more.

**Tuesday, March 20th at 7:00 PM. St. James O'Brien Room**

Parish Center Building, 820 N. Arlington Hts Rd, Arlington Hts.

Presenter: Deacon John Breit, Annulment Coordinator.

For questions: Deacon Jim at [jamesrbannon@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jamesrbannon@sbcglobal.net) / 224-345-7200

### BEREAVEMENT MINISTRY

Unfortunately, the number of funerals being celebrated at St. Thomas of Villanova have been increasing. It is a fact of life. We are in need of more Bereavement Ministers to assist our families in their time of real need and pain.



If you are interested in volunteering for this important Ministry, please call me this week. We will train you in what you need to know and do. There is a day long training session on Saturday, April 7 at Holy Family Parish. The training focuses on the Catholic Theology of death, the rituals of a Wake Vigil and funerals, and the focus and compassion of Bereavement Ministry.

Please call me if you have any questions about Bereavement Ministry at St. Thomas. Or call me so that we can register you for the training and then become a Bereavement Minister to serve our Parish Family.

We are grateful to our current Bereavement Ministers for their service and commitment to our families in need of healing and feeling God’s love in the critical moments of life. I invite you to keep in your Lenten prayers our Bereavement Ministers as well as our Grieving Families.

*Connie West, Director of Bereavement*

### K OF C—PANCAKE BREAKFAST

The Knights of Columbus Holy Ghost Council 4977 are hosting a pancake breakfast on **Sunday, March 18**. Breakfast will be served from **7:00am until 12:30pm** in the Rowley Activity Center. Come enjoy with friends and family a hearty and healthy breakfast to start your day!



### EASTER FLOWER REMEMBRANCES

As Easter approaches, we invite you to help decorate our Worship area with a donation using your EASTER FLOWER ENVELOPE found in your sacrificial giving packet. If you wish to remember loved ones, living or deceased, you **MUST** write the names of your loved ones on your Easter Flower envelope. Donations may be deposited in the Sunday collection or mailed to the Parish Office.



For some, donating through *GiveCentral* may be an easier and faster means to share your Easter Flower remembrance. Just visit [www.givecentral.org](http://www.givecentral.org) which has an Easter Flower fund already set up. There is even a field labeled “*In Memory of or in Honor of*” for you to list the names of those you wish to donate the flowers for.

Donations due: **Sunday, March 18** to be printed in the Easter bulletin.  
Thank you for contributing to our Easter Art & Environment!

### HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

**Palm Sunday—March 25**  
**2:30pm—5:00pm**  
Confessions (Polish)

**Monday—March 26**  
**7:00pm—8:00pm**  
Confessions (English)

**Holy Thursday—March 29**  
**7:30pm**  
Mass of Lord’s Supper  
*Bilingual Mass*  
**Following Mass**  
Adoration until Midnight

**Good Friday—March 30**  
**3:00pm**  
English—Liturgy of the Passion & Death of our Lord  
**5:00pm**  
Polish- Liturgy of the Passion & Death of our Lord  
**7:30pm**  
Living Stations of the Cross  
*Performed by VOICES Youth Group*

**Holy Saturday—March 31**  
**1:00pm**  
English— Basket Blessing  
**2:00pm & 3:00pm**  
Polish— Basket Blessing  
**7:30pm**  
Easter Vigil

**Easter Sunday—April 1**  
5:30am—Polish Mass  
7:30am—English Mass  
9:00am—English Mass  
10:30am—English Mass  
Noon—English Mass  
1:30pm—Polish Mass

## ~~SKATE~~ MARCH DINE-N-SHARE

Orbit Skate in Palatine will host  
**St. Thomas of Villanova**

## **FAMILY**



## SKATE NIGHT

ALL are invited to a private  
(not open to the public)  
skate party on:

**Monday, March 12**  
**6:30—8:30pm**

**ORBIT SKATE CENTER**  
**615 S Consumers Ave**  
**Palatine**

**\$7/person**  
**includes skate rental**

*Proceeds benefit STV School.*

All children **MUST** have adult supervision. No drop-offs!

Food and beverage available at  
the Cosmic Café and  
Galaxy Sky Bar.



## *From the Principal's Desk*

Happy Spring...almost! Students are springing through this Lenten season with hope and a determination to make positive choices and involve themselves in meaningful actions. Our kindergarten children are showing their understanding in the Stations of the Cross by filling a bag with items that they feel Jesus could have used during his journey, like band aids, for example. Mrs. Secedi and the third graders made beautiful Lenten organizers, which are displayed on the student lockers. These organizers include information about Lent, including important days, Scripture, promises, and more. Fifth graders just displayed their illuminated manuscripts of the 1400's in the hall. These manuscripts with the Psalms on them are just beautiful! Great job Mrs. Liquin and the 5th graders.

Our Country is still grieving the loss of innocents, this time the attack at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School. In addition to this this latest tragedy, our city continues to experience daily violence that often affects our Catholic parishes and school families. At times such as these, our Catholic faith leads us to seek solace and strength in prayer, and fellowship and solidarity with those who are wounded and suffering great loss. We believe this is a time to come together and work as a community of Catholic schools to help achieve a lasting peace. To this end, our school will participate in a **Prayer Walk**—a peace-building activity—on Wednesday, **March 14 at 10am** in solidarity with a national movement on the same day. All are invited to join us:

- **10am**—Welcome prayer and background information (*Meet by the mosaic in front of the school*)
- **10:05am**—Begin prayer walk saying the rosary
- **10:30am**—Finish our prayer walk in front of the Church. Prayer over the First Responders who are present.
- **10:35am**—Release bubbles into the air signifying our prayers being lifted up for the victims and their families.

God bless,  
*Mary Brinkman*

A colorful graphic for a trivia night event. At the top, it says "Hola! Parishioners Save the Date" in orange. Below that is a yellow sombrero with a green band and red pom-poms. To the right, a green box says "Emcee for the Evening: Jim Schwantz, Mayor of Palatine". The word "TRIVIA" is written in large, white, block letters on a blue background. Below that, "- NIGHT -" is written in white on an orange background. At the bottom left, it says "May 5, 2018" and at the bottom right, "St Thomas of Villanova". At the very bottom, it says "See Future Bulletins for all the Details!" in blue.

**2018 FISCAL YEAR SUNDAY SACRIFICIAL GIVING**

Date	Weekend Collection	On-Line Giving	Weekly Total	Over / Under Budget: \$23,700
Mar 4	\$ 23,781.42	\$ 3,358.00	\$ 27,139.42	\$ 3,439.42
Mar 11				
Mar 18				
Mar 25				

YTD Totals	
YTD Budget	\$ 853,200.00
YTD Actual	\$ 788,107.63
Over / (Under)	<b>(\$ 65,092.37)</b>

**THANK YOU!**

**St. Angela School Green Dreams Project Update**

Dear Friends,

It has been just over a year since the Archdiocese of Chicago announced the plan to demolish the long-vacant church, convent and rectory on the St. Angela School campus. The parish closed in 2005 and the empty buildings had become unsafe and were a drain on the finances of both the school and the Archdiocese.

The original plan called for the demolition to be complete in the summer, but it turned out to be a bumpier road than anticipated. By mid-August, time for school to open again, only the convent was completely leveled and even that field was not adequately clear of debris.

In October and November, working with awareness of the calendar and always with an eye on the weather, we accomplished some of our dream: by Thanksgiving we had a clean and level field covered with sod, some trees on the periphery, and a new fence between the field and the parking lot. In the meantime, our friends at the Archdiocese contracted with a new demolition company and arranged to have the remainder of the work done during our Christmas vacation. We happily agreed to extend our break so that the children would be safe.

That demolition too, took a little longer than expected but we have, at last, a new canvas for our Green Dreams: a whole lot of empty space around our school!

What's next? Our priorities will be the installation of the perimeter fence; the surface (sod for soccer and play areas; compressed gravel for paths and outdoor classroom areas; mulch for fitness and

garden areas); and some trees! Just how many trees, just how many special features we will install, will depend on our funds, of course. (The concept drawing below offers some ideas for use of the space, but our plans are not complete.)

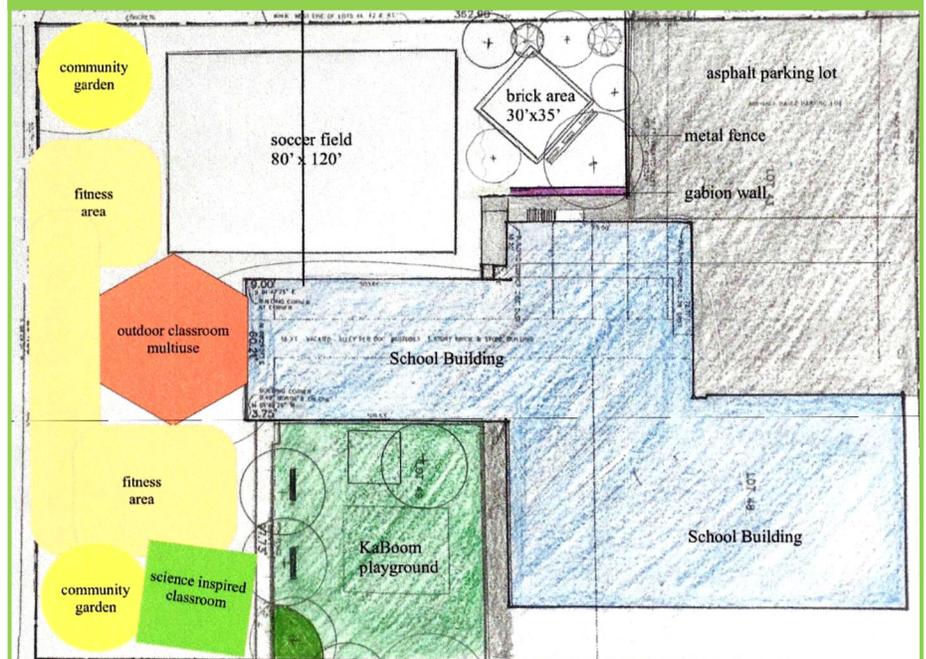
Sometime this spring we will be "planting" our first engraved bricks in specially designated "neighborhoods" representing individuals or eras of St. Angela's history. We hope to have an Earth Day volunteer event to get some

landscaping and planting finished. We will have a brick blessing and reception, tentatively scheduled for June 2, to officially open our new campus.

Our Green Dreams will not end there, though. To learn more about how you could help us fulfill our goals for outdoor learning and play spaces for our children visit our website, [www.saintangela.org](http://www.saintangela.org), or call Lynn at 773.626.2655. Please, dream with us!

**St. Angela School Green Dreams Concept Drawing**

*Faculty and students will help with the planning for Phase Two, the space along Potomac Avenue shown here in colored shapes. We expect that this space will include outdoor classrooms, a fitness area for older students and quiet garden spaces. We're happy to have salvaged some materials, like the Cyprus tree stumps, to use for seating or for part of an obstacle course. Somewhere on our campus, we will incorporate items of special significance to the St. Angela community, like the cornerstone of the church, and the statue of St. Angela.*



# LENT

## Stations of the Cross

Stations of the Cross will be offered every week during Lent

### ENGLISH

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

### POLISH

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

## Lenten Prayer

“The Little Black Book,” sponsored by Faith Formation, is available at all church exits. Free will offering.

**Eucharistic Adoration**—If your Lenten goal is to spend more time in prayer, come to Adoration for quiet prayer time before the Blessed Sacrament. Come alone or bring your family. Stay for 15 minutes or the entire hour. Every Wednesday, 6—7pm in Church.

### 6:30 am Communion Service

We are fortunate at St. Thomas to have a daily 6:30am Communion/Prayer Service Monday thru Friday. For people who are on their way to work, before early appointments or to start their day, our Communion Service is a perfect prayer.

**8:00am Daily Mass** Monday—Saturday; Come and pray and begin your day with the presence of Christ in the Eucharist!

### Saturday Morning Reconciliation

Come receive forgiveness and Reconcile with God this Lent. Reconciliation is offered every Saturday morning from 8:30am—9:30am in Church.

## CRS RICE BOWL—WEEK 4

### ENCOUNTER ANDRISE

We encounter Andrise, a teacher in Haiti who knows the importance of forming young people who will give back to the community—and their country. Reflect on the role teachers have played in bringing you closer to God and your community. How can you support those, worldwide, who are forced to flee their homes to find safety or better opportunities? Visit [csrricebowl.org](http://csrricebowl.org) for more. *Note: Rice bowls should be returned on Palm Sunday.*



## RESPECT LIFE EVENTS

- Celebrate the **Lenten “40 Days for Life”** by joining members of the St. Theresa / St. Thomas Respect Life Team for prayer at the Downers Grove vigil site on **TODAY, March 11 from 4—5pm**: Access Health Center, 1700 7th St, Downers Grove. Email Maria for info or to arrange a carpool: [marigold1272@yahoo.com](mailto:marigold1272@yahoo.com) *This is NOT a protest. It is a peaceful prayer vigil. We will pray the Rosary, Divine Mercy chaplet and sing hymns.*
- **“The Facts of Life”** on **Sunday, March 18 from 2:00 - 4:00pm** at St. James Parish Center, 820 N. Arlington Hts Rd, Arlington Hts. with speaker Fr. Tad Pacholczyk, the Director of Education for the National Catholic Bioethics Center. Fr. Ted is nationally known for his clear and compelling commentaries on life issues and is a frequent guest on Relevant Radio and EWTN. No Charge—but a free will offering will be accepted. For more info: Marybeth or Mike 847-392-5506 / [mschoney@wowway.com](mailto:mschoney@wowway.com)

## “40 CANS FOR LENT”

Please continue to donate 1 can of food for each day of Lent to the “40 Cans For Lent” sponsored by our Knights of Columbus. Collection boxes are in the Gathering Area and the Narthex. *(No expired food. We cannot distribute expired food to our Pantry clients.)*



## FRIDAY FISH FRYS

All are invited to the Knights of Columbus Holy Ghost Council 4977 Fish Fry Dinners throughout Lent. The dinners will be held on **Friday, March 16 & 23** from 4:00pm until 7:00pm, in the Rowley Activity Center. TAKE-OUT AVAILABLE!

- **Menu:** Cod, Fried Shrimp (*additional charge*), Cheese Pizza, Salad, Cole Slaw, French Fries, Beverages, Coffee and Dessert.
- **Prices:** Adults \$10.00; Fish Plus 5 Fried Shrimp \$12.00; Children (under 12 years of age) \$5.00; Family of 4 \$28.00





## Renew My Church: Data Dashboard



### U.S. CATHOLIC CHURCH

- Catholic marriages are down 55% since 1990
- Baptisms went from 986,000 to 694,000 (-30%)
- 1 in 5 children baptized do not receive 1st Communion
- 2 in 5 children baptized are not confirmed
- 85% of children confirmed stop practicing their faith by age 21
- Millennials are less religious than preceding generations

### ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

- **27% Decline in Mass attendance:** 150,000+ fewer people attend Mass each Sunday compared to 20 years ago.
- **Significant population shifts:** Areas of Chicago that were once predominantly Catholic with a parish for each ethnic group now have fewer people and fewer Catholics but often the same number of facilities as in the past.
- **Fewer priests to serve our communities:** More than 180 priests will retire in the next decade with fewer priests being ordained per year (5-6 in each of the past two years) to replace them.
- **An aging infrastructure:** Many parishes are significantly underinvesting in building repairs, leading to challenges with building upkeep that take time and resources away from ministry.

### OUR GROUPING (St. Collete, Mission San Juan Diego, St. Theresa & St. Thomas of Villanova)

- **Local Demographics:**
  - ◊ Total population continues to grow
  - ◊ Hispanic and Asian populations continue to increase
  - ◊ Age group 65+ continues to grow as a share of the area’s population
- **Grouping Mass Attendance:**
  - ◊ 15% decline in Mass attendance over 20 years
  - ◊ 33% of total Mass attendance at Spanish language Masses in 2017;
  - ◊ 8.7 % at Polish language Masses

### ST. THOMAS OF VILLANOVA PARISH

- **Parish Mass Attendance:**
  - ◊ Mass attendance is ~14% lower than 20 years ago
  - ◊ 30% of total Mass attendance was at Polish language Mass in 2017
- **Sacraments and Funerals July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2017:**

	Parish	Median in diocese	Highest 25% in diocese
Infant Baptisms	107	48	90
First Communions (Youth)	163 *	52	90
Confirmations (Youth)	145 *	43	74
Weddings	11	9	18
Funerals	65	28	50

\* Includes Chopin Polish School

### St. Thomas of Villanova had a very successful RESPECT LIFE January! Thank you for caring so much about women and babies!

- ◆ The response for the Daily Herald Roe v. Wade ad campaign was overwhelming! St. Thomas parishioners were again among the most generous (*raising over \$1,050*) in all the parishes that joined in this campaign. We helped raise so much money again this year that FIVE different Pregnancy Centers and Homes for Women in Crisis Pregnancies received donations from the money remaining after the ads were paid for. Your efforts for the unborn are immeasurably appreciated.
- ◆ Many participated in the Chicago March for Life.
- ◆ The candle memorial at the 5pm Mass was very special. We remembered the 95 babies that lose their lives every day in Illinois because of abortion. Deacon Jacob gave an amazing homily at all Masses.
- ◆ Our parishioners were once again VERY generous with their donations to the baby shower for Liam and Emma, the children we spiritually adopted. All items will be donated to a pregnancy crisis center opening in April.
- ◆ STV School's 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders participated in an essay contest. The theme was, "How can I promote the dignity of each human life through the words I speak and the life I live?"
  - 8<sup>th</sup> grade: First Place—Ryan Regan & Second Place—Brian Corsiga
  - 7<sup>th</sup> Grade: First Place—Aaron Hardy & Second Place—Michael Nix



**STV should be very proud of their commitment to be a PRO-LIFE PARISH!!**

#### EXCERPTS FROM THE ESSAY CONTEST

"There are people all around us with problems of their own. They may be homeless, depressed, lonely, etc.

... A way of dealing with these problems people have is praying for them so that God may reach out to them and give them the help, strength and kindness they need in their lives." - *Ryan Regan, 8th grade*

"I have attended the Mass of the unborn last year at St. Theresa and this year at St. Thomas, and it is sad to think that so many innocent lives are lost to abortion each day right here in Illinois. I can pray that mothers who find themselves in this situation where they don't know if they can choose life realize that yes, they CAN choose life, SHOULD choose life." - *Aaron Hardy, 7th grade*

"If someone is in need of guidance from God, understand that God will put you onto the right path. In all choices, choose life." - *Brian Corsiga, 8th Grade*

"Instead of abortions, I wish all babies that are unwanted by their mothers could be adopted into a home that will love them and let them live out God's plan." - *Michael Nix, 7th Grade*

"Who are 'the least of these' that Jesus mentions? They are the elderly, the unborn child, the sick, the homeless, the disabled, imprisoned persons and the ones who can't take care of themselves." - *Eliza Oberda, 8th grade*

"We should respect, care and pray for people who are sick, for unborn children and their families, because everyone's life is valuable." - *Sebastian Skoczen, 7th grade*

"Families go through hard times with little babies, toddlers, teenagers and even grown kids. We as individuals and a parish community can come together and help families." - *Nora Loftus, 8th grade*

"Many innocent children are being killed because of abortion every day. It is very important to keep kids alive so they can experience life. The gift of life is the best gift ever." - *Sam Hamilton, 7th grade*

"In our Catholic faith we are taught that everyone deserves respect no matter what age, race or religion they are." - *Maura McGarvey, 8th grade*

"As Catholics, we support pro-life and believe that every life is sacred. We spend time to show people that this is not a topic to be lightly touched upon." - *Olivia Walczynski, 7th grade*

"It is up to us as individuals to promote the dignity of each human life through our prayers, the words we speak and the life we live." - *Connor Loftus, 8th grade*

"Life. It's a powerful word. Life is a very precious and valuable thing." - *Victoria Walsh, 7th grade*

## On Epiphany Moments all Around

“Lettuce, fruit, chicken, lunchmeat, cream cheese, liver sausage, rolls, dill, sausage, fz potatoes, pork chop, eggs.” I found this list--scribed in very neat cursive hand-writing on a small piece of lined note paper--in the parking lot when I was leaving work a few days ago. I didn't know what it was when I bent down to pick it up, I was just intent on throwing it away. And I since have, but not before taking note of the items detailed above. As the primary grocery shopper in my household, I thought, “This could be my list!” Until I got to the liver sausage. Not a fan. My wife is, though, so I guess it could have still been my list, but trust me here: the Braunschweiger wouldn't have come from me.

“Lettuce, fruit, chicken, lunchmeat, cream cheese, liver sausage, rolls, dill, sausage, fz potatoes, pork chop, eggs.” I don't do Facebook. My wife does a little bit, though, and she told me once that Facebook posts are akin to fingerprints, often identifying the person leaving them. She said that in her circle of Facebook acquaintances, for example, Person

A usually posts something about, say, animals; Person B usually posts something about, say, politics; and Person C usually posts something about, say, the environment. These comments define the person to a certain extent, in the same way a routine shopping list defines a person to a certain extent.

“Lettuce, fruit, chicken, lunchmeat, cream cheese, liver sausage, rolls, dill, sausage, fz potatoes, pork chop, eggs.” In a bad way, Israel defines itself in the first reading from 2 Chronicles. “In those days, all the princes of Judah, the priests, and the people added infidelity to infidelity, practicing all the abominations of the nations and polluting the Lord's temple which he had consecrated in Jerusalem.” It gets worse. God sends messengers in his compassion for them, “But they mocked the messengers of God, despised their warnings, and scoffed at his prophets, until the anger of the Lord against his people was so inflamed that there was no remedy.” Except, maybe, I don't know...*seventy years of captivity*?!!? Very defining, I'd say...

With history and grace on our side, though, something else defines us. Something glorious. Something magnificent. Something unbelievable, yet we dare to believe. We are God's children, and we stand blameless before him because Jesus took the nails on our behalf. According to a Catholic website I stumbled upon while working on this column, Pope Francis in 2015, while reflecting on John 3:16 from today's Gospel (“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life”) observed “This is the simplest expression that summarizes the whole Gospel.” It's a powerful statement. By emulating the Christ, we embrace it, and on our best days, the whole world knows it. “Lettuce, fruit, chicken, lunchmeat, cream cheese, liver sausage, rolls, dill, sausage, fz potatoes, pork chop, eggs.” Our shopping lists, our Facebook posts, any number of things define us. But one thing defines us *and* brings salvation.

*Copyright 2018 by John B. Reynolds*

### LITURGY SCHEDULE for MARCH 17 / 18

	SATURDAY 4:00 PM	SUNDAY 7:30 AM	SUNDAY 9:30 AM	SUNDAY 11:15 AM	SUNDAY 1:30 PM
<b>PRESIDER</b>	Fr. Tom Rzepiela	Fr. Ray Yadron	Fr. Marcin Zasada	Fr. Tom Rzepiela	Fr. Marcin Zasada
<b>DEACON</b>	Deacon John Breit	Deacon Bill Karstenson	Deacon Jacob Rouse	Deacon Tom Dunne	
<b>HOMILY</b>	Fr. Tom Rzepiela	Fr. Ray Yadron	Deacon Jacob Rouse	Deacon Tom Dunne	Fr. Marcin Zasada
<b>LECTORS</b>	<i>Readers from our Religious Ed Program</i>	Rob Dix Bill Pocklington	Jackie Nogle David Asta	Jean Pope Conrad Bertz	
<b>MINISTERS OF COMMUNION</b>	Donna Breit Larry Coco Marian DeGroot Jim Dunne Corinne Greico Peggy Jablonski Helen Janicki Mike Kanis Peggy King Mick Lasiewicz	Marilynn Stone Don Ullmer Diane Zielinski Bonnie Fennig Karen Flasch Jim Hajost Bob Hicks Mary Anne Horan Peter Kain	Kathy Schappert Randy Schappert Beth Stowick Susan Weres Alice Witt Debbie Yurcheshen Marty Yurcheshen Sue Allen Bev Dalton	Earl Schaffnit Ted Tomusiak Maureen Treanor Karen Barrett Mary Carlson Sandy Peterson Tom Cavenagh Bob Haas Lynn Haas	
<b>SERVERS</b>	Ruth Hall Mark Hulsebosch Caitlin Wilson	Ethan Leigh Connor Loftus Ryan Loftus	Bree Holmes Jacob Korney William Slatkay	Grace Hedgepeth Kara Rady Kyle Rady	
<b>GREETERS</b>	<b>M</b> Open <b>G</b> Sylvia Schaffer <b>N</b> Bob & Nancy Bachmann	Mila Quiaoit Tom & Marianne Greener Karen Froelich	Cheryl Sutton Stedronsky Family Carol Thompson	Brian & Becky Rady Basil & Carol Romanizsak Earl & Carol Schaffnit	

# Our Weekly Prayers

## MASS INTENTIONS

### Monday, March 12

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

### Tuesday, March 13

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

### Wednesday, March 14

6:30am Communion Service  
8:00am † Rosie Casarez;  
† June Falardeau;  
† Bea Gavin;  
† Irene Klamka

### Thursday, March 15

6:30am Communion Service  
8:00am † Margaret S. Mulryan

### Friday, March 16

6:30am Communion Service  
8:00am For the Sanctity of All Human Life;  
6:00pm Stations of the Cross—ENGLISH  
7:30pm Mass & Stations of the Cross—  
POLISH

### Saturday, March 17

8:00am † Jack Monohan;  
† David Sladky;  
5:00pm † Kathy Bryne;  
† Laura Syracuse;  
† Marilyn Korney;  
† Mary Chernesky;  
† Anne O'Neill;  
† Terry Braun;  
† Lucy Madsen;  
And All Deceased REC Catechists  
† Patrick Dolphin

### Sunday, March 18

7:30am All Living & Deceased Parishioners  
9:30am † Jack Nolan;  
† June Falardeau;  
† Sylvia Gronski;  
† Agapito DeJesus  
11:15am † Richard Heart;  
† Kathy Tomusiak;  
† Marie Kay;  
† Mary L. Murrill;  
† Marianna & Tony Falvo  
1:30pm Mass—POLISH



## OUR NEWLY BAPTIZED

*Julia Susanne Faletti*

## FOR OUR SICK

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

## 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

### U.S. Army

- MAJ Robert Bland
- MAJ Bernadette O'Shea Bland
- PFC Ryan Camis-Sutherland
- CPT Ben Couchey
- SSGT Brian J. Dankowski
- SGT Raymond Dickenson
- PVT Ryder Dickenson

- CPT Joel Hilborn
- 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

### 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

- CPT Thomas McCarthy
- CPL Cameron Miller
- CPL Sam Miller
- SGT Conor O'Neill
- SGT Nicholas Regini
- SGT Kyle Rich
- LT Jake Schlenbecker
- SGT Corey A. White

### U.S. Navy

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

And all those serving in the Middle East.



**ROSE OF LIFE**  
In Loving Memory of My Wife  
**ROSE CASAREZ**

## FOR OUR DEPARTED, REST IN PEACE

† Harv Hochhaltar  
- Father of Cheri Allen

† Dorothy Dias  
- Mother of Pat Paprocki

### IV NIEDZIELA WIELKIEGO POSTU – NIEDZIELA RADOŚCI – LAETARE

#### Ukryta wiara

Dramatycznie brzmią słowa Jezusa: 'Kto nie wierzy, już został osądzony...' (J 3, 18). Czy oznacza to, że ktoś deklarujący się jako niewierzący nie doświadczy Bożego miłosierdzia? Czy musimy już teraz zaakceptować, że ktoś z naszych przyjaciół, rodziców, dzieci nie znajdzie po śmierci miejsca w królestwie Bożym? Mądry poeta ks. Jan Twardowski zalecał i sugerował, by wsłuchać się w słowa modlitwy eucharystycznej wypowiedzianej podczas Mszy Św.: 'Pamiętaj, Panie, o tych, których wiarę jedynie Ty znałeś...' To znaczy, że powinniśmy mieć nadzieję, iż jest wiara w sercu człowieka, którą zna tylko Bóg, choć my jej dostrzec nie potrafimy...

### Dwa kraje, dwa serca, dwie tęsknoty – tak wygląda prawda o emigracji...



Kochamy swoją rodzinę, lubimy miasto i wioski, z których pochodzimy, ale już zawsze będziemy mieli dwa kraje, dwa serca i dwie nostalgie. Już zawsze będziemy tęsknić jak latarnik Skawiński z noweli Henryka Sienkiewicza. Ale... 'You will never be completely at home again, because a part of your heart will always be elsewhere. This is the price you pay for the richness of knowing and loving people in more than one place...' Taka jest cena naszej emigracji...

### Starożytna modlitwa do św. Józefa...



Choć ani jedno słowo św. Józefa nie zostało zapisane w Piśmie Świętym, to jego milczący przykład posłuszeństwa, wierności i troskliwej opieki nad Jezusem i Maryją sprawiły, że stał się świętym orędownikiem wielu...

Nabożeństwo do św. Józefa zaczęło się rozwijać w trzecim lub czwartym wieku, jednak w modlitewniku 'Pieta' można znaleźć modlitwę do Opiekuna Jezusa datowaną na... A.D. 50!

By modlitwa do św. Józefa faktycznie była skuteczna i nie zawiodła, należy spełnić jeden ważny warunek: **musimy w niej prosić o faktyczne duchowe dobro dla siebie bądź dla osób, które powierzamy Bogu za wstawiennictwem Józefa.**

#### Modlitwa do św. Józefa

'O, święty Józefie, którego opieka przed tronem Boga jest tak wspaniała, mocna i natychmiastowa, powierzam Ci wszystkie moje sprawy i pragnienia.

O, święty Józefie, pomóż mi przez Twoje potężne wstawiennictwo i wyproś mi u Twojego Boskiego Syna wszelkie duchowe błogosławieństwa, żebym – poddany Twojej niebiańskiej mocy – mógł złożyć moje dziękczynienie i hołd najbardziej kochającemu ze wszystkich ojców.

O, święty Józefie, nigdy nie zmęczę się kontemplowaniem Ciebie. A w Twoich ramionach zasypia Jezus. Nie ośmielę się zbliżyć do Ciebie, kiedy On spoczywa na Twoim sercu. Uściskaj Go mocno w moim imieniu, ucałuj Jego drogocenną głowę i poproś Go, by odwzajemnił ten pocałunek, kiedy będę wydawał moje ostatnie tchnienie. Święty Józefie, patronie odchodzących dusz, módl się za mnie. Amen...'

#### NIEDZIELNA SKŁADKA

4 marca 2018 r	\$ 2,073.00
11 marca 2018 r	
18 marca 2018 r	
25 marca 2018 r	

**W sumie: \$ 2,073.00**

**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 proszone 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**