



ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE CATHOLIC CHURCH



St. Thomas the Apostle is a Roman Catholic Church founded in 1896 in Corcoran, MN, and is part of the Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis. It's a vibrant parish where area Catholics of all ages come to worship, reflect, educate, gather, grow in faith, and generously help those in need. **The mission of St. Thomas the Apostle Church is to lead all souls to Jesus Christ.** It's a community where families and individuals seek holiness and grow in faithful service to God and each other by:

- Celebrating sacramental and liturgical moments together, especially the Eucharist
- Encourage prayer and other spiritual activities in our daily lives
- Ministering to each other, demonstrating through our actions the presence of Jesus for our neighbors
- Building spiritual growth through educational formation
- Evangelizing through a spirit of welcoming, openness, and acceptance
- Being good stewards, sharing our God-given gifts of time, talent, and treasures

We embrace this mission in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. *"Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and love your neighbor as yourself."* (Matthew 22:37-39)



ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE CATHOLIC CHURCH

Dear New Parishioner(s),

I want to warmly welcome you to St. Thomas the Apostle's vibrant parish community! We're thrilled you chose St. Thomas as your new parish home.

St. Thomas has well over a century of rich history. Founded by a small group of immigrant farm families, our parish has seen a lot of change over the years. Today, we have booming suburban developments moving into our rural area. Throughout our parish's long history, we have held strong to the convictions of our founding families: to provide a vibrant faith life, a strong supporting community, social outreach, and to help those in need generously.

To adapt to the challenges of evangelization today, the parish is making plans to address the reality of growth in our area. We're in the midst of a campaign to transform the campus so we can welcome all of the new neighbors.

As you participate in the parish community, we'll help draw you ever close to Jesus Christ and in the loving care of His people. These are exciting times to be at St. Thomas the Apostle!

We're excited to have you become an addition to St. Thomas's growing family; please visit the website for updated faith and social events.

May God Bless you,

Father Glen Jenson, Pastor
frjenson@saintsppta.org





ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE CATHOLIC CHURCH

 /StThomastheApostleMN

 /st.thomastheapostlemn

WELCOME

St. Thomas the Apostle is a Roman Catholic Church founded in 1896 in Corcoran, MN, and is part of the Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis. It's a vibrant parish where area Catholics of all ages come to worship, reflect, educate, gather, grow in faith, and generously help those in need.

- **St. Thomas the Apostle is part of a *parish cluster*** with Ss. Peter and Paul (SSPP) in Loretto, meaning two or more parishes share a pastor. Clustered parishes may also share some staff and programming; parishes in a cluster arrangement retain their parish status and basic organizational structure; clustering does not necessarily lead to merger of parishes.
- **Parish Center Office Hours:** Monday-Thursday 9am-4pm (closed Friday).
- **Wedding / Funeral:** contact Fr. Jenson frjenson@saintsppta.org.
- **Baptism:** email the Parish Office with baptismal candidates birth certificate.
- **Archdiocese's Victim Assistance Program:** call 651.291.4475.

BECOMING A MEMBER MEANS ACTIVELY PARTICIPATING IN...

WORSHIP JESUS IN THE MASS

DONATE TO SUPPORT THIS PARISH + COMMUNITY

INVITE OTHERS TO PARISH + COMMUNITY OPPORTUNITIES

LEARN MORE ABOUT YOUR CATHOLIC FAITH

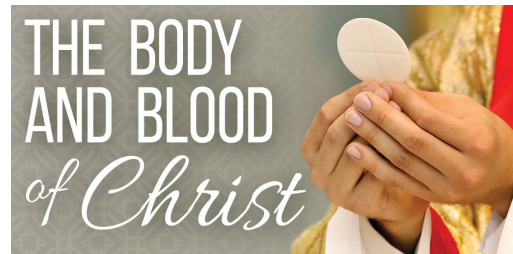
VOLUNTEER AND BE A HERO

PRAY FOR YOURSELF AND OTHERS

WORSHIP JESUS IN THE MASS

MASS

The central act of worship in the Catholic Church. In most Eastern Catholic churches, the Mass is called the Divine Liturgy. The Mass is divided into two main parts. The Liturgy of the Word includes Scripture readings and a homily and ends with general intercessions. The Liturgy of the Eucharist begins with offering gifts, followed by consecration of the bread and wine and the reception of Communion. Catholics believe that the consecration of the bread and wine truly becomes the body and blood of Christ. (From: archspm.org/catholic-glossary)



DAILY MASS TIMES

Tues: 8am @ Ss. Peter & Paul
Wed: 8:30am @ Ss. Peter & Paul
Thurs: 8:30am @ Ss. Peter & Paul
Fri: 8:30am @ **St. Thomas**
Sat: 8:30am @ **St. Thomas**

SUNDAY MASS TIMES

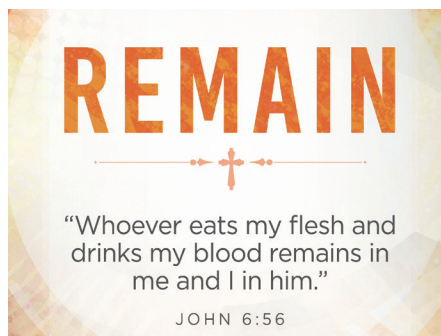
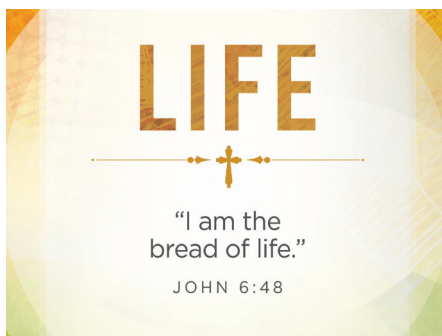
Sat: 4pm @ Ss. Peter & Paul
5:30pm @ **St. Thomas**
Sun: 7:30am @ **St. Thomas**
9am @ Ss. Peter & Paul
10:30am @ **St. Thomas**

CONFESSION TIMES

Tues: 7:15-7:45am @ Ss. Peter & Paul
3:30-4pm @ Ss. Peter & Paul
Wed: 7:45-8:15am @ Ss. Peter & Paul
3:30-4pm @ Ss. Peter & Paul
6:15-7pm @ **St. Thomas**
Thur: 7:45-8:15am @ Ss. Peter & Paul
Fri: 7:45-8:15am @ **St. Thomas**
3:30-4pm @ Ss. Peter & Paul
Sat: 7:30-8:15am @ **St. Thomas**
3-3:45pm @ Ss. Peter & Paul

Check bulletins, social media, Flocknotes (weekly enews), and the website for additional Masses on Holy Days of Obligation and various holidays.

Check bulletins, social media, weekly enews, and the website for additional Confession times leading up to Easter and Christmas.



DONATE TO SUPPORT THIS PARISH + COMMUNITY

WAYS TO GIVE

- Place donation in offering basket during Mass (weekly member envelopes are available)
- Donate online (scan QR code)
- Set up automatic bank payments
- Mail check to: St. Thomas the Apostle, 20000 County Road 10, Corcoran, MN 55340



CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic Church has moved forward with plans to upgrade our campus to accommodate the expected size increases of our growing community. St. Thomas the Apostle officially launched its Capital Campaign in 2022. We're currently seeking to secure funding for the building project. Visit churchofstthomas.org/future for more details or to donate to the Capital Campaign. You may also contact, Susan Wieneke, Campaign Chair at susan.wieneke3@gmail.com or 763.486.5441.

COMMUNITY COLLECTIONS

St. Thomas the Apostle also hosts several collections for those in need throughout the year. These will be listed in bulletins, social media, weekly enews, and the website.

Examples of these collections are second collections during worship services (Catholic Services Appeal, Catholic Home Missions Appeal, etc.), Archdiocese envelope collections (Peters Pence, Religious Retirement, etc.), donation drives (baby items, winter coats, food, etc.), and ongoing collections (St. Teresa Orphans Foundation).

DONATE TO SUPPORT THIS PARISH + COMMUNITY

ADDITIONAL WAYS TO GIVE

St. Thomas the Apostle relies on the support of our parishioners to keep our faith formation active and our church facilities safe and up to date. Gifts to St. Thomas the Apostle can be made in a variety of ways that are tax-efficient. Catholic Community Foundation (CCF) is our trusted partner that helps facilitate many of these transactions at no fee. As you consider your commitment, please review the following options:

Check or Electronic Giving

Donors can give by placing their donation in the basket during weekend Masses or by giving electrically. Donors can easily set up recurring giving by visiting our website. Tap on "Giving", then tap on "Sunday Donation or New Church Campaign." Such charitable contributions may be tax deductible.

Matching Gifts

Many employers sponsor matching gift programs and will match any charitable donations their employees make. This may allow you to double the impact of your gift! Check with your employer to determine if a gift to St. Thomas the Apostle is eligible for a matching gift.

Charitable Contributions of Stocks and Securities

Gifts of appreciated assets such as stocks, bonds, and mutual funds are an excellent way to support St. Thomas the Apostle and at the same time maximize tax savings. To claim these benefits, they must be transferred to our parish directly.

Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD) from your IRA

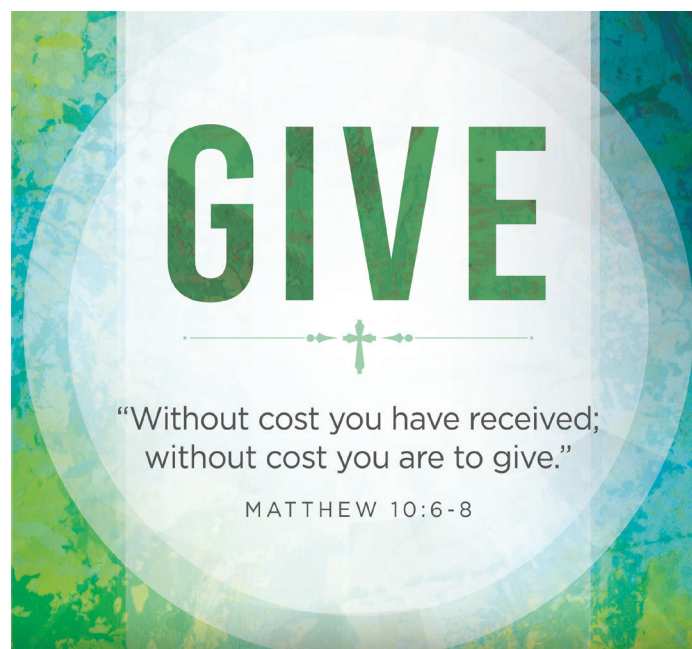
If you are over 70.5 years old, you may make a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD) from your IRA up to \$100,000 per year. The distribution can offset a Required Minimum Distribution (RMD). A QCD can be particularly beneficial for donors who do not itemize and instead use the standard deduction.

Donation of Assets

Donating real estate, business, personal property, and other complex gifts can provide valuable tax benefits. The donor receives a tax deduction equal to the property's fair market value and avoids capital gains on the appreciated property.

Bequest in a Will or Estate Plan

Designate St. Thomas the Apostle Church in your will or estate plan with a dollar amount or percentage of your estate as a gift.



If you would like assistance with any of these ways to give to our Church, please contact the Parish Administrator.

INVITE OTHERS TO PARISH OPPORTUNITIES

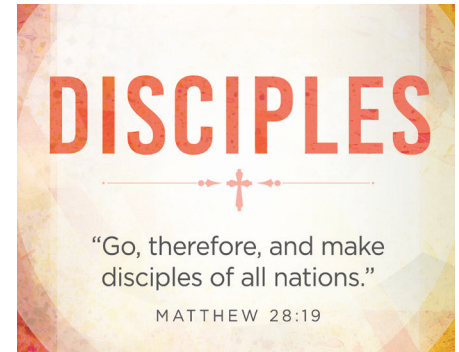


INVITE OTHERS TO PARISH + COMMUNITY OPPORTUNITIES

PARISH EVENTS

St. Thomas the Apostle hosts several events throughout the year with the goal of building Catholic community. Below is a sample list of typical events (*this list is subject to change*). Events will be listed in bulletins, social media, weekly enews, and the website.

- **Parish Festival** in August is St. Thomas's largest event of the year. It includes a delicious turkey dinner, a cash raffle, an interactive kid's area, a beer tent, cash Bingo, a silent auction, a craft sale, a farmer's market + bake sale, a cake walk, music, and much more!
- **Feast Day Celebration** celebrates St. Thomas the Apostle who the Church is named after (includes delicious treats).
- **Lenten opportunities** include soup and/or fish fry suppers, Stations of the Cross, speakers, etc.
- **Ham and/or Turkey Bingo** is hosted each year by the St. Thomas Men's Club.
- **Garage Sale** in October is hosted by the St. Thomas Women's Club.
- **The Lock-In** is an overnight event for the middle and high school youth that includes games, dancing, video games, movies, and prayer.
- **Blaster Battle** is an event where youth use foam blasters during the games and activities.
- **Dinner and craft sales** are held to help raise funds for youth programs, missions, etc.
- **Cookie bake and exchange** happens during the holiday time. Portions of the cookies are donated to housebound parishioners, etc.
- **Various pancake breakfasts and cafe brunches** are always fun for the family in the Parish Center dining hall following Mass.
- **Blue Mass + Brunch** celebrates local police, fire, and first responders.
- **Volunteer appreciation** events are a way to say thank you to those who help at St. Thomas.



LEARN MORE ABOUT YOUR CATHOLIC FAITH

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION *subject to change*

For Adults

- **Bible study** group meets weekly during the academic year.
- **Small Groups** include moments of relational connection, spiritual growth through teaching and discussion, and prayer with and for one another (topic varies).
- **The Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (OCIA)** is the name of the process taken by adults to enter into the Catholic Church.
- **Well Read Mom's Book Club** women accompanying one another in reading the classics, and timeless spiritual works from Western and Christian traditions to nurture moral imagination. It aims to help women make space for reading and reflection.

For Children and Youth

- **Faith Formation**
 - *Catechesis of the Good Shepherd* (age 4-grade 1)
 - *Catechesis of the Good Shepherd* and supplemented by *Word of Life* by Augustine Institute includes Reconciliation and Holy Communion (grade 2)
 - *Word of Life* (grades 3-5)
 - **Confirmation** (grades 6-8)
- **Holy Apostles Youth Group** is a fun, Christ-centered community for youth (grades 6-12)
- **Holy Apostles COR Team** are students (grade 9-12) who serve our community as leaders.
- **Vacation Bible School (VBS)** summer programming for children (age 4-Kindergarten)
- **Totus Tuus** is a week-long Catholic summer day camp for children and youth (grades 1-12)
- **Extreme Faith Camp** is a week-long summer faith camp for youth (age 6-12) at Trinity Woods (trinitywoodscatholic.com).
- **Steubenville** is a Catholic summer conference to bring youth (grades 9-12) into a life-changing encounter with Jesus Christ.



CATHOLIC RESOURCES

- **Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis:** A Latin Church ecclesiastical jurisdiction or diocese of the Catholic Church in the United States. It's led by an archbishop who administers the archdiocese from the cities of Saint Paul and Minneapolis. (archspm.org)
- **The Catholic Spirit:** The official publication of the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis Mission. (thecatholicspirit.com)
- **The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB):** An assembly of the hierarchy of bishops who jointly exercise pastoral functions on behalf of the Christian faithful of the United States and the U.S. Virgin Islands. (usccb.org)
- **Minnesota Catholic Conference (MCC):** The public policy voice of the Catholic Church in Minnesota. (mncatholic.org)
- **Vocations:** The Vocations Office for the Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis helps men and women discern their vocation through counsel, events, prayer, location visits, and more. (1000vocations.org)
- **Formed:** Catholic content for parishes, families, and individuals. Includes award-winning studies, inspiring audio content, movies, e-books, and family-friendly kids' programming. Led by the Augustine Institute and Ignatius Press. (formed.com)
- **Catholic Answers:** Catholic Answers is a media ministry that answers questions about what the Church really teaches. (catholic.com)

VOLUNTEER AND BE A HERO



PARISH FESTIVAL PLANNING

Join the FUN! The success of the Parish Festival depends on the support of volunteers! Help is needed in many areas. See below for volunteer areas. Volunteers are part of a fun group of people, learn new skills, and meet new friends.

- Festival Co-Chair
- Raffle
- Sponsorships
- Kid's Area
- Cake Walk

COMMUNITY EFFORTS

- Be trained as a EMHC (Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion) and distribute Communion to local senior living communities.
- Pack and/or distribute food for Nourishing Hope.
- Helping Hands Committee keeps track of requests from charities, etc. asking for help from our parish. It helps make sure that we reach out to those in need.
- Join the Knights of Columbus of Our Lady of Loretto. Visit kc9601.mnknights.org to learn more.

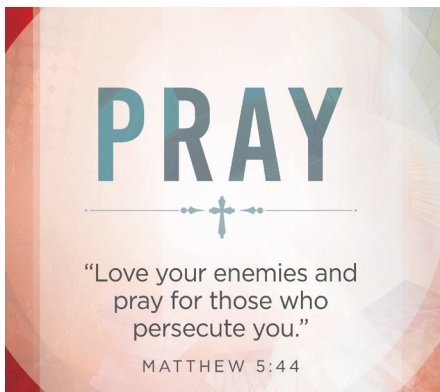
MAKE A DIFFERENCE

- Help with quarterly church campus clean ups
- Volunteer during Mass; lector/reader, usher, sacristan, communion minister, altar serve, hospitality, choir, or play an instrument etc.
- Support the children and youth faith formation programs.
- Help with fundraising, raffles, or sponsorships.
- Volunteer for parish events; Lenten soup supper/fish fry, Ministry Fair, Feast Day Celebration, Parish Festival, Cafe Sunday Brunch, Blue Mass brunch, Ham/Turkey Bingo, Garage Sale, Mission Quilters, etc.
- Help with funeral luncheons
- Be a substitute offering money counter
- Help maintain church grounds and/or the cemetery



To get involved in volunteering, contact the Parish Office.

PRAY FOR YOURSELF AND OTHERS



PRAYER REQUESTS + PRAYER CHAIN

Add prayer requests to the Prayer Chain. The Prayer Chain is composed of parishioners dedicated to praying for others. To submit a prayer request or to join the Prayer Chain, please contact the Parish Office.



PERPETUAL EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

Give time with Our Lord at Our Lady of Loretto Adoration Chapel. You're welcome to come for a short visit or take an open hour as part of your journey to become closer to Our Lord. If you commit to an hour and a conflict arises, just call to arrange a substitute. Please contact Joanne Schumacher at 763.360.2639 or Diane Oberg at 612.730.9386 with any questions about Adoration or about spending time in the chapel.

INTERCESSORY PRAYER

Prayer is held on the first Friday of the month following the 8:30am Mass at St. Thomas. There is power in prayer! During these difficult and confusing times, children and grandchildren (young and old) are in need of prayer! The group begins in the lower level of the church. Father Jenson gives a brief talk followed by some discussion. Then finish up in the church doing intercessory prayer for family in front of the Blessed Sacrament.

BLESSED VIRGIN'S ROSARY MINISTRY (BVRM)

Each member of the BVRM is assigned a mystery of the Rosary to pray each day. To join, contact the Ss. Peter & Paul parish office (sppoffice@saintspta.org) or Joanne Schumacher (jmschu@live.com).





ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE CATHOLIC CHURCH

VOLUNTEER + MINISTRY INTEREST FORM

Please prayerfully reflect on how God calls you to share your time, talent, and treasure here at St. Thomas the Apostle. You are asked to complete and return this form to the parish office.

NAME:

EMAIL:

PHONE:

LITURGICAL VOLUNTEER

- Altar Server
- Sacristan
- Greeter
- Donut Sunday Hospitality
- Bring Holy Communion to homebound
- Lector
- Usher
- EHMC

MUSICAL VOLUNTEER

- Choir / Cantor / Vocalist
- Organist / Instruments

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION VOLUNTEER

- Teacher for children/youth
- Assistant Teacher for children/youth
- Event Chaperone for children/youth
- Adult Education Leader
- Adult Small Group Leader

EVENT / HOSPITALITY VOLUNTEER

- Parish Festival
- Capital Campaign efforts
- Ministry Fair
- Feast Day Celebration
- Cafe Sunday Brunch
- Blue Mass + Brunch
- Ham/Turkey Bingo
- Garage Sale
- Pancake Breakfast
- Youth events (Lock-In, Blaster Battle, etc.)
- Nourishing Hope (food distribution)

VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES

- Fundraising / raffles / sponsorships
- Money counter
- Maintain church grounds, cemetery, and/or garden
- Quarterly church campus cleaning
- Baking / cooking (cookie exchange, brunches, funeral luncheon, Lenten soup supper/fish fry, parish dinners)
- Concession sales

TALENTS + INTERESTS

Services you'd like to share with the parish if needed.

- Electrician
- HVAC
- Painting
- Arts + Crafts
- Carpentry
- Religious Art/Decor
- Other (write in below)
- Childcare
- Plumbing
- Teaching / Education
- Travel
- General Labor
- Landscape

PARTICIPATE IN PARISH MINISTRIES

- Men's Club
- Women's Club
- Bible Study
- Small Group Study
- OCIA
- Mission Quilters
- Family Intercessory Prayer
- Prayer Chain Ministry
- Blessed Virgin's Rosary Ministry
- Vacation Bible School
- Totus Tuus
- Holy Apostles Youth Group
- Holy Apostles COR Team
- Extreme Faith Camp
- Well-Read Mom's Book Club (held at SsPP)
- Widows Group (held at SsPP)
- Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration (held at SsPP)
- Vigilante Mecum (Young Adult Fellowship held at SsPP)
- Knights of Columbus (held at SsPP)

Volunteers working with children and/or vulnerable adults are required to complete VIRTUS Training, provided at no cost.

QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS