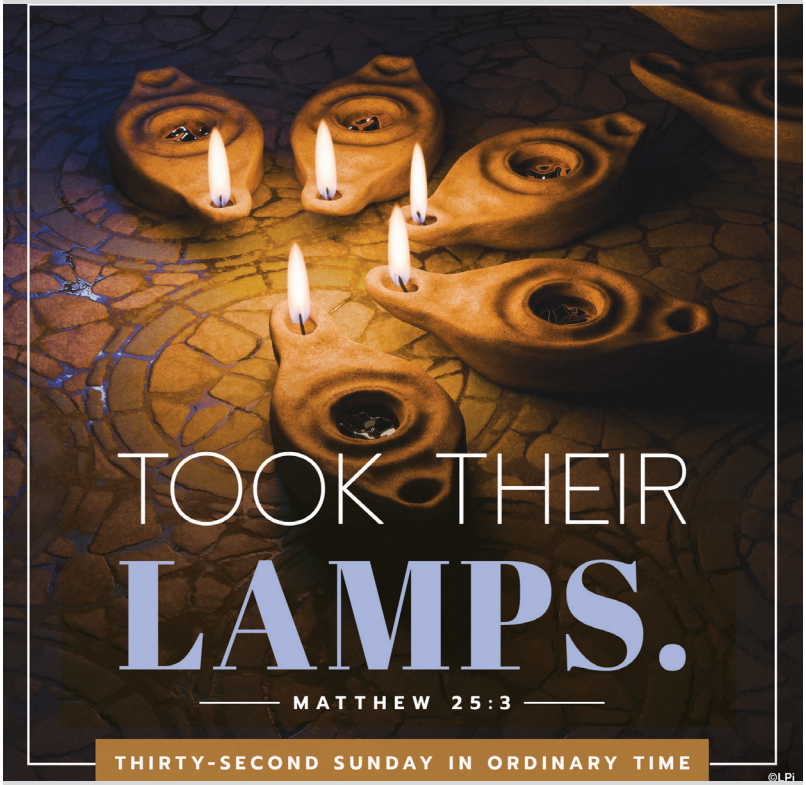
ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE CATHOLIC CHURCH

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2026



PARISH MISSION

Leading all souls to Jesus Christ.

WELCOME VISITORS + PARISHIONERS

- **St. Thomas the Apostle is part of a *parish cluster*** with Ss. Peter and Paul 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.
- **Parish Center Office Hours:** Monday-Thursday 9am-4pm (closed Friday).
- **Wedding / funeral:** Contact Fr. Glen Jenson at 763.496.5140 or *frjenson@saintsppta.org*.
- **Membership**: Email the Parish Office or complete the form at *churchofstthomas.org/new.*
- **Baptism**: Email the Parish Office the baptismal candidate's birth certificate or complete a Baptism Request Form at *churchofstthomas.org/sacraments*.
- **Archdiocese's Victim Assistance**: Call 651.291.4475.

/StThomastheApostleMN

/st.thomastheapostlemn

DAILY MASS

Fri: 8:30am
Sat: 8:30am

SUNDAY MASS

Sat: 5:30pm
Sun: 7:30am
10:30am

CONFESSION

Wed: 6:15-7pm *(Includes Adoration)*
Thur: 3:30-4pm *(1st Thurs of the month only)*
Fri: 7:45-8:15am
3:30-4pm
Sat: 7:30-8:15am

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Sunday

Wis 6:12-16/Ps 63:2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8/1 Thes 4:13-18 or 4:13-14/Mt 25:1-13

Monday

Ez 47:1-2, 8-9, 12/Ps 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9/1 Cor 3:9c-11, 16-17/Jn 2:13-22

Tuesday

Ti 2:1-8, 11-14/Ps 37:3-4, 18 and 23, 27 and 29/Lk 17:7-10

Wednesday

Ti 3:1-7/Ps 23:1b-3a, 3bc-4, 5, 6/Lk 17:11-19

Thursday

Phlm 7-20/Ps 146:7, 8-9a, 9bc-10/Lk 17:20-25

Friday

2 Jn 4-9/Ps 119:1, 2, 10, 11, 17, 18/Lk 17:26-37

Saturday

3 Jn 5-8/Ps 112:1-2, 3-4, 5-6/Lk 18:1-8

Next Sunday

Prv 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31/Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5/
1 Thes 5:1-6/Mt 25:14-30 or 25:14-15, 19-21



PARISH STAFF

Rev. Glen Jenson
Pastor
frjenson@saintsppta.org

Rev. Sebastien Bakatu
Weekend Assistant

Deacon Tom Utecht
Weekend Assistant
dcntutecht@saintsppta.org

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TJ Slamkowski
Youth Minister, Safe Environment Coordinator
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Dave Evensen
Director of Maintenance
devensen@saintsppta.org

Carrie Ferdinandt
Music Coordinator

PARISH TEAMS

Trustees
Roger Litchy,
Tom Hudinsky

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John Pratt, Brady Day, Justin Leighton, Michael Hreha, Michael Olson, Rathi Philip, Greg Dvorsak

Finance Council
Rick Fadgen, Mike Socha, John Ritz, Dave Gibbons, Diana Almedia, Gary Pull

Facilities Planning Committee
Carl Thelen, Steve Schmitz, Fr. Glen Jenson, Susan Wieneke, Jim Wawra, Jamie Heuton, Roger Litchy, Tom Hudinsky, Rick Fadgen, Brady Day, Dave Gibbons

Capital Campaign Contact
Susan Wieneke
763.486.5441

WORSHIP NOTES FROM FR. JENSON



Our gospel reading has the account of the wise and foolish virgins. The end of the Church's liturgical year is coming up in a few weeks. This parable uses the image of those designated to wait for the arrival of the groom to indicate that we are to be ready for the groom's return. The oil in the flasks each of them carried symbolizes both a loving faith relationship with the Lord and our kindly deeds, or good works.

Among other things, this parable calls us to pause and think about our own flask of oil, so to speak. How is my relationship with the Lord? Do I do for others and not just for myself and those close to me? The coming end of the Church's year reminds us that none of us can live here forever. The bridegroom will come back again. Are we ready to meet him with our lamp burning brightly, being filled with lively faith and generous action for others?

Live The Liturgy

Inspiration of the Week

The Christian life is a life of waiting, for the Bridegroom is long delayed. We can grow too comfortable in the waiting that we forget what it's all for. So let us look to our lamps and always remember — the waiting will not last forever.

It is so important to take some time to take stock of our faith and our life. To think about how we will explain our life when we meet our Lord Jesus when we leave this world. We have so many "helps" for growing in faith and love for Jesus in the church and daily prayers. Are we making use of as many of them as we need to be growing and not remaining stagnant? A good confession requires some time spent doing just this personal reflection. We have confessions ten times a week in our two cluster parishes. Spend some time thinking about life and how you're living it. Then come to the mercy seat of Jesus in confession and be washed in the embrace of His healing love. Then move forward to fill up the flask of faith and charity!

Announcement(s):

- Membership involves offering gifts of time, talent, and treasure to support St. Thomas the Apostle's mission. **Please welcome Tanveer + Fakhra Gulzar and their family** to the St. Thomas the Apostle parish family.
- Father Jenson is offering **home blessings** one Saturday a month (***must*** be a St. Thomas *registered* parish member to request). To sign up, please contact the Parish Office at 763.420.2385, or complete the request form at *churchofstthomas.org/homeblessing*. Please note that anointing of the sick and/or funerals may require a home blessing to be rescheduled. Dates are: November 14 (11am), and December 19 (9:30am and 10:30am).
- The local **Knights of Columbus hold a Coats for Kids** event each Fall. Pictured are some local KC Councils delivering the coats to Interfaith Outreach in Plymouth (left to right): Bill Swing (Medina), Glen Esposito (Wayzata), John Gooley (Medina), Dave Stumpf (Medina), John Rode (Medina), Jack Delaney (Wayzata), Greg Dvorsak (Loretto/Corcoran), Mike Benusa (Wayzata), Kurt Swiecichowski (Wayzata), Jim Grube (Medina).



MASS INTENTIONS | Nov 13-15

Fri	8:30am:	Luke Dugan
Sat	8:30am:	Parish Cluster
	5:30pm:	Kathie Borkoski †
Sun	7:30am:	Bonnie Morin †
	10:30am:	Mark Bartos †

DID YOU KNOW: *Mass intentions are scheduled by contacting the parish office. The suggested offering for each Mass is $7. The offering connected with the intention helps support the priest, parish, and broader works of the Church. Mass intentions are offered for a particular person or intention, and that the person or situation is entrusted to God in a special way during the celebration of the Eucharist.*

DONUT SUNDAY

All are encouraged to participate in the Catholic community following Sunday Mass including coffee, juice, and donuts (free-will offering). Just take a few steps to the Parish Center located northeast of the church.



DONATE TO SUPPORT THIS PARISH + COMMUNITY

$7.5 million

has been raised as of 9.30.26.

Continued donations are needed to reach the **$8 million** goal. We hope to have the new church site ready to begin construction in the summer of 2027. The new church will provide space for the growing parish, offer access without crossing a busy street, and ensure ADA compliance.

Scan to donate



Visit *churchofstthomas.org/future*.

2026 Year-End Contributions

DEC 31

Cash and checks must arrive at the St. Thomas Parish Office by 3pm on Dec 31.

Checks received or postmarked in January will be counted towards 2027 contributions.

Thank you for your generous support.

SUNDAY DONATION

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

VOLUNTEER BE A HERO



Looking for a meaningful way to give back to your community? Volunteer and help create positive change in others' lives.

- Meet new people and build connections
- Develop valuable skills
- Spread kindness and compassion

Opportunities Include

- Altar Server
- Lector
- Sacristan
- Usher
- EHMC (Mass or Homebound)
- Donut Sunday Hospitality
- Choir
- Money Counter
- Parish Events
- Men's Club
- Women's Club
- Small Groups
- Mission Quilters
- Prayer Chain Ministry
- Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration
- Knights of Columbus

763.420.2385 **churchofstthomas.org** **hello@saintsppta.org**

INVITE OTHERS

For event details and times please visit churchofstthomas.org.

NOVEMBER

- **Holy Apostles Youth Group** at Ss. Peter & Paul | Nov 8
- **Nourishing HOPE** at St. Thomas | Nov 9
  ourfatherschurch.org/nourishing-hope.html
- **Choir Practice** at St. Thomas | Nov 9, 6-7:30pm
- **Veterans Day** | Nov 11
- **Faith Formation** at St. Thomas | Nov 11
- **Choir at Mass** at St. Thomas | Nov 15, 10:30am; warm-up meet time 9:45am
- **Turkey Bingo** at Ss. Peter & Paul | Nov 15
- **Dead Theologian Society** at Ss. Peter & Paul | Nov 15
- **American Heritage Girls** at St. Thomas | Nov 16
- **Faith Formation** at St. Thomas | Nov 18
- **Knights of Columbus meeting** at Ss. Peter & Paul | Nov 19
- **Turkey Bingo** at St. Thomas | Nov 22
- **Holy Apostles Youth Group** at Ss. Peter & Paul | Nov 22
- **Choir Practice** at St. Thomas | Nov 23, 6-7:30pm
- **Thanksgiving Day Mass** at Ss. Peter & Paul | Nov 26, 9am, *(parish offices closed)*
- **Choir at Mass** at St. Thomas | Nov 28, 5:30pm; warm-up meet time 4:45pm
- **Christkindlmarkt** at Ss. Peter & Paul | Nov 28
- **First Sunday in Advent** | Nov 29

DECEMBER

- **Faith Formation** at St. Thomas | Dec 2
- **1st Thursday Confession** at St. Thomas | Dec 3, 3:30-4pm
- **Family Intercessory Prayer** at St. Thomas | Dec 4
- **First Saturday Devotion** at St. Thomas | Dec 5
- **Holy Men's Club Meeting** at St. Thomas | Dec 6, 9am
- **Holy Apostles Youth Group** at Ss. Peter & Paul | Dec 6
- **American Heritage Girls** at St. Thomas | Dec 7
- **Immaculate Conception Mass** | Dec 8 *(Parish offices closed)*
  - Ss. Peter & Paul | 8am
  - St. Thomas | 7pm
- **Choir Practice** at St. Thomas | Dec 14, 6-7:30pm
- **Choir at Mass** at St. Thomas | Dec 20, 10:30am; warm-up meet time 9:45am







PRAY

PRAYER REQUESTS

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 at 763.420.2385 or *hello@saintsppta.org.*

THE SICK

To respect privacy, individuals may only request to add a name from their own family. Names will be removed after three months unless the requester notifies the Parish Office.

- Katie Chastek Thorfinnson *(thru 1.10.27)*
- Luke Dugan *(thru 1.10.27)*

THOSE IN THE MILITARY

To have a member of the U.S. Military listed or removed, please contact the Parish Office.

- Jeff Benson | Air Force
- Tony Ramminger | Air Force
- Brianna Schmidt | Air Force
- Luke Hartwig | Army
- Jack + Sara Burm | Army National Guard
- Annabelle Schmidt | Navy

SEMINARY + RELIGIOUS LIFE

- Cory Plotts | Institute of Diaconate Formation, St. Paul Seminary

LEARN MORE ABOUT YOUR CATHOLIC FAITH

GOSPEL MEDITATION | By Father John Muir

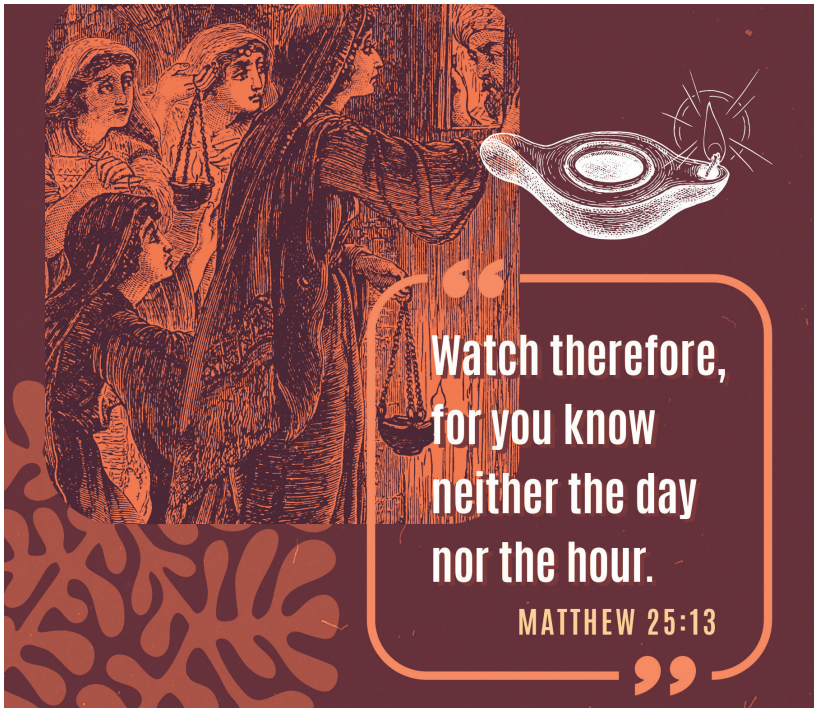
My first instinct when I wake up is to grab my phone and start scrolling. Sometimes I do it for 20 or 30 minutes, and it makes me feel distracted and agitated. I also feel guilty for wasting my first moments of the day. So recently, I committed those minutes to reading a book that would focus my mind on Jesus. I enjoy the fact that I am not scattering my attention as much. I feel more peaceful and focused on God.

In today's Gospel, Jesus speaks about attention. He contrasts wise and foolish virgins, and then sums up the teaching by saying, **"Therefore, stay awake, for you know neither the day nor the hour" (Matthew 25:13).** The basic currency of the human heart is *attention*. The foolish bridesmaids are not immoral or malicious; they are unfocused, distracted, and unprepared. They assume that borrowed oil will suffice, that someone else's readiness can make up for their own lack. But the attention which is love cannot be outsourced. A relationship with God requires personal attentiveness cultivated over time.

This Gospel leaves us with an honest question. What am I giving my attention to each day, and am I forming a heart that is awake, watchful, and ready to meet the Lord when He comes? How can I use key moments of my day to focus my attention where I need it?

Prayer – Blessing for Veterans

O God,
Bless the men and women who have stepped forward in the service of our country.
Protect them in Your mercy, care for their needs:
physical, mental, emotional, and spiritual.
Give them courage, strength, perseverance, and support.
Amen.



"Then all those virgins got up and trimmed their lamps. The foolish ones said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' But the wise ones replied, 'No, for there may not be enough for us and you. Go instead to the merchants and buy some for yourselves.'" - Mt 25:7-9

LEARN MORE ABOUT YOUR CATHOLIC FAITH

Why Do We Do That?

Catholic Life Explained

Question

Why do Catholics light candles in church?

Answer

Candles have been part of the Church's worship from the earliest times. In the days before electricity, candles and oil lamps were the ways that people lighted buildings. Even today, we often still depend on candles during power outages, relying on their flickering flames to bring light into the dark.

Like our ancestors, we also light candles on special occasions. Think about a festive family meal or a romantic dinner for two — there will often be candles on the table, special objects for a special event. We light candles on birthday cakes and carry them in processions. We also place candles at makeshift memorials that appear when there has been an accident or act of violence. In these moments, their light casts aside a different kind of darkness — the darkness of grief, fear, and death.

The custom of the early Christians lighting candles and lamps at the tombs of the martyrs gave way to the practice of having candles at Mass, honoring the sacredness of the celebration.

As Christians decorated their worship spaces with statues and icons, they would burn candles in front of sacred images and the relics of the saints, basically "shining a light" on what they held to be sacred. When pilgrims would visit these shrines, they would often bring candles to light before the image or relic. These candles came to be a symbol of the person, and their prayer and the burning these candles came to be understood as an extension and continuation of the prayer that was offered. What began as a practical way to provide light has come to be a symbol of the hopes, desires, loves, losses, fears, and faith of everyday Christians offering their prayers to God and his saints.

Catholic Trivia

What musical instrument is more commonly found inside churches than not?

Answer: The organ



Virtues, *Explained!*

In the modern lexicon, the quality of "kindness" is often equated with politeness — but real, virtuous kindness is so much more. Virtuous kindness is a way of seeing others through the eyes of God.

God is not polite — God is kind, and His kindness is abundantly evident in all of creation. It was suspicion of this divine kindness that precipitated the fall of Adam and Eve (CCC 214), and it was this unfailing kindness that facilitated our own adoption as God's children, conformed to the image of His son (CCC 257).

Also known as benevolence or beneficence and derived from the theological virtue of charity, kindness is a fruit of the Holy Spirit (Galatians 5:22) and is a central theme in the famous parable of the Good Samaritan. In practicing kindness and seeking the good of another without prejudice or condition, the Samaritan reflects God's own plan of loving kindness for us.

FORMED

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LOOKING AHEAD

LITURGICAL MINISTERS | November 14-15

Ushers

Sat 5:30pm	Brian Crane, Barney Haechrel
Sun 7:30am	Lisa Adolphson, Steve Marsden, Randy Titchner
Sun 10:30am	Paul Novotny, Chris Hanson, Greg Dvorsak, **open spot**

Lector

Sat 5:30pm	Susan Thomas
Sun 7:30am	Barbara Dzurik
Sun 10:30am	Ann Novotny

EMHC *(Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion)*

Sat 5:30pm	Donna Socha
Sun 7:30am	Rick Dzurik
Sun 10:30am	Ann Novotny

Hospitality

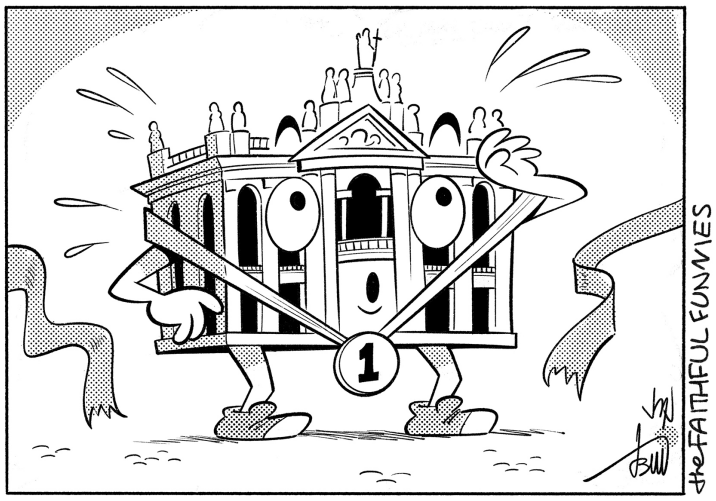
Sun 7:30am	Jim + Lill Wawra
Sun 10:30am	Greg + Deb Franzen

Priest

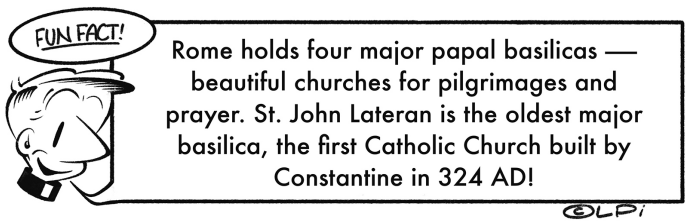
Sat 5:30pm	Fr. Bakatu
Sun 7:30am	Fr. Bakatu
Sun 10:30am	Fr. Bakatu

Ministry Schedule Pro (MSP) is the application used to schedule Liturgical Ministers. Visit *churchofstthomas.org/volunteer* to access MSP, its User Guide, or view a short video on how to use the MSP mobile app. Please contact the Parish Office to be added to the Liturgical Minister volunteer list.

"Which major basilica would win in a footrace?"



"St. John **LateRAN!**"





Observances for the Week of November 8, 2026

Sunday
32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Monday
The Dedication of the Lateran Basilica

Tuesday
St. Leo the Great, Pope and Doctor of the Church

Wednesday
St. Martin of Tours, Bishop; *Veterans Day*

Thursday
St. Josaphat, Bishop and Martyr

Friday
St. Frances Xavier Cabrini, Virgin

Next Sunday
33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

BULLETIN SUBMISSIONS

The deadline for weekend bulletin submissions is noon on Mondays. Please contact the Parish Office at *hello@saintsppta.org* or 763.420.2385.

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