



**St. Thomas the Apostle**  
 715 Harris Road \* Sheffield Lake \* Ohio \* 44054-1409  
**December 23, 2018**  
**Fourth Sunday of Advent**

**Masses:** Saturday Vigil: 4:00 PM  
 Sunday: 9:00 and 11:00 AM  
 Monday through Saturday: 9:00 AM

**Confession:** Saturday: 3:00 to 3:45 PM  
 or by appointment

**Baptism:** Sunday: 12:30 PM  
 Parent Pre-Baptismal Class required

**Marriage:** At least one member must be a parishioner  
 Contact the Office at least six months  
 before the tentative date is set

**Home Communion:** Notify the Parish Office

**Funeral:** Arrangements with the Parish Office must be  
 made before publication. Hall rental and Funeral Luncheons  
 available. Call Dave 440-670-0204 for food list and pricing.

**Membership:** Call the Office when you arrive. If you are  
 moving, or turn 18 years of age contact us

**Sick Calls:** Communion for shut-ins and hospital  
 visitation notify the Parish Office

**Parish Office Hours:** Monday-closed  
 Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday-9:00 AM-4:00 PM  
 Friday-9:00 AM-1:00 PM  
 Information/insert for the bulletin must be in the Parish Of-  
 fice by Wednesday at 4:00 PM to make the following week.

**St. Thomas Mission Statement:** We are a Catholic  
 Community guided by the Holy Spirit. Inspired by our liturgy  
 and communal prayer, we reflect Jesus as servants, teachers  
 and leaders building the kingdom of God.

**Holy Days of Obligation**

Christmas	December 25, 2018
The Solemnity of Mary	January 1, 2019
The Assumption of Mary	August 15, 2019
All Saints	November 1, 2019
Immaculate Conception	December 8, 2019

**Diocese of Cleveland**

Website:.....www.dioceseofcleveland.org  
 Phone.....800-869-6525  
 Address.....1404 E. 9th St., Cleveland, Ohio 44114

**Parish Staff**

Father Stephen L. Shields..... Pastor  
 Mrs. Heather Centifanti.....Office Manager  
 Mr. Michael Chutes.....Custodian

**Communications**

Parish Office..... 440-949-7744  
 Office Fax..... 440-949-8611  
 Office Address.....521 Harris Road, Sheffield Lake  
 Email .....sthomas62@centurytel.net  
 Parish Website:.....saintthomaschurch.net  
 Facebook: www.facebook.com/saintthomaschurchohio  
 Twitter: .....Stthomas715  
 PSR/Kim & David Gray.....440-714-4007  
 Confirmation/John & Kathy Mack.....440-242-8683  
 RCIA/Chris Selent.....440-864-5792  
 CYO/Jim O'Connor.....440-949-2631  
 Grismer Hall/Gym.....440-949-8491  
 Funeral Luncheon/Dave.....440-670-0204

**Parish Cluster Contacts**

St. Anthony...www.stanthonylorain.parishesonline.com  
 1305 East Erie Ave. Lorain 44052 (440) 288-0106  
 St. Teresa.....http://www.sttereasparish.com  
 1878 Abbe Rd. Sheffield Village 44054 (440) 934-4227

**Our Honored Former Pastors**

+Fr. Raymond J. Grismer	1960-1962
+Fr. Urban A. Reichlin	1962-1968
+Fr. Claude J. Gaebelein	1968-1981
+Fr. John J. McCaffrey	1981-1998

St. Thomas the Apostle Church is fully accessible  
 No Steps, No Stairs, No Ramps

## Mass Schedule

### Weekly Intention: Rejoice & Give Thanks

**Sunday December 23, 2018**  
**4th Sunday of Advent**  
 9:00 AM St. Thomas Parishioners  
 11:00 AM Ken Hicks  
 2nd Collection: Loose Change

**Monday December 24, 2018**  
**Christmas Vigil**  
 4:00 PM Agnes & Bob Meckes  
 10:00 PM Holley Family

**Tuesday December 25, 2018**  
**The Nativity of the Lord**  
 10:00 AM L & D Bayus & Prosek Family

**Wednesday December 26, 2018**  
**St. Stephen; Kwanzaa**  
 9:00 AM Julie Hogan

**Thursday December 27, 2018**  
**St. John**  
 9:00 AM Blas Garza

**Friday December 28, 2018**  
**The Holy Innocents**  
 9:00 AM Blas Garza

**Saturday December 29, 2018**  
**St. Thomas Becket**  
 9:00 AM Special Intentions  
 4:00 PM Judy Borer

**Sunday December 30, 2018**  
**The Holy Family, Jesus, Mary & Joseph**  
 9:00 AM St. Thomas Parishioners  
 11:00 AM Ken Hicks  
 2nd Collection: St. Vincent de Paul  
 Lectionary Year: "C"



### Pre-Baptismal Classes-2019

January 15 St. Joseph-6:30 PM (440) 933-3152  
 February 17 St. Thomas-12:30 PM (440) 949-7744  
 New and expecting parents are required to attend a class before scheduling a baptism at their church of Worship.



**St. Thomas Prayer Lines** Call, a friendly voice is on the other end.(440)-865-9387 or (440)-949-7548.

**E-mail Bulletins** add your e-mail address to your Sunday envelope. Keep up on weekly news and upcoming events.

**Bulletin Ad Campaign** Our Bulletin Advertising Representative is working on a Ad Campaign. Call 440-382-2805 to include an ad or recommend a business and events. Contact [rachel@cornerstoneofhope.org](mailto:rachel@cornerstoneofhope.org)

**St. Thomas the Apostle Church is Kid Friendly**

**Gospels of the Week:**

Monday	Lk 1:67-79	Thursday	Jn 20:1a, 2-8
Tuesday	Lk 2:1-14	Friday	Mt 2:13-18
Wednesday	Mt 10:17-22	Saturday	Lk 2:22-35
		Sunday	Lk 2:41-52

### Weekly Collection

December 16, 2018

### Goal

\$5,000.00

Early bulletin

Thank you for your generous and continued support. Please remember St. Thomas Parish in your Will.

### St. Thomas News/Events

December 23-Church decorating Party  
 December 24-Office Closed  
 December 25-Office Closed  
 December 31-Office Closed  
 January 1-Office Closed



**The Blessed Christmas Wafer (Oplatki)** is available in the Sacristy for \$5.00. Sharing this Christmas Wafer at the vigil meal we hallow His proclamation "I am the bread of life." This ancient ritual unites the past with the present. The white wafers are for humans and the pink is for your animals, yes they were witness to the birth of Christ.

"God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us." To whom might I share Jesus and God's love and mercy with today?



*Merry Christmas* In Jesus Christ, God had entered into our lives in the most intimate way, so that we could enter into his through the Holy Spirit. Pray that we become part of the intimacy of God's inner life by which we are born anew.

*Blessings from Fr. Steve and the St. Thomas Staff*

**Happy New Year Mass** on Tuesday, January 1, 2019 will be at **10 AM only**. This is a Holy Day of Obligation.

**Speak Love on Valentines Day Weekend** St. Thomas is proud to present the Family Sowell on Saturday, February 16, 2019. Tickets are \$10.00. Call (440) 670-1931.

### Liturgical Schedule

**Saturday, December 29-4:00 PM**  
 C-P Dietz L-MB Riley  
 EM-MB Riley, R Zaborski, S Lynch  
 C-R O'Connor, P Rieth  
 S-

**Sunday, December 30-9:00 AM**  
 C-J Houlihan L-R Radeff  
 EM-R Arena, K Janosik, R Radeff  
 C-H Centifanti, J Houlihan  
 S-X & J Centifanti

**Sunday, December 30-11:00 AM**  
 C-J Ritter L-M Fairweather  
 EM-J Kelly, S Helman, M Fairweather  
 C-S Brunkow, AM Woltman  
 S-S Bunner, N Barsan



### Thank You

...to those who give of their time, talents and treasures during the year to benefit St. Thomas Parish.. You are deeply appreciated and prayed for. God Bless!  
 ....to those who donated to our Baby Bottle Campaign helping us to raise \$494.00 for Cornerstone of Hope.

**St. Thomas Church** is in need of Lectors, Readers, Eucharist Ministers and Servers. Please consider helping out at the Mass you regularly attend. The feeling of participating deeper into the Mass is so rewarding in many ways.



**Memories and Dreams** Throughout our lives, we retain the language and habits of our native region and family of origin. Should we return to our home after a long absence, we quickly revert to its familiar speech and practices. Our deep memory is reflected in old stories and words and speech patterns. This familiarity runs like an underground river and accompanies us wherever we go. Not only do we remember, we are incorporated into and made part of a greater memory. In remembering and recollecting, we are in turn gathered up and re-collected. Today we remember Mary, a small figure travelling the country roads to visit Elizabeth. All the great pronouncements and dreams of the prophets point to this time when the Lord's words to Mary would be gathered and fulfilled. The memories of her people are alive in her, and memories of her nourish our own living faith.

### Catholic Radio Stations

1220 AM-WHKW Radio The Word  
 1260 AM-The Rock  
 1060 AM-Living Bread



<http://www.dioceseofcleveland.org/catholicradio>

'Table Talk' radio show featuring Bishop Perez on AM 1260 The Rock, Cleveland's Catholic radio station. Visit: [1260AMtherock.com](http://1260AMtherock.com) for times and dates.

**EWTN**-Is a Catholic news, television and radio network which offers news from around the world as it happens. [www.ewtnnews.com](http://www.ewtnnews.com) Check EWTN for Mass schedule. Televised Sunday Mass-Channel 8 at 6:00 AM. For those who can get to church, the TV or online liturgy does not fulfill the Sunday Mass obligation.

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Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

### Family Perspectives

Jesus was born into a family. Because of his birth, not only was the world changed-the role of the family life was also profoundly changed. Every family is called to recognize, value and nurture the presence of God in their midst.

### Events Around Town

**Chaplain Services for Prisons and Jails** located in the Diocese of Cleveland. Call the Parish Life Office at 800-869-6525 or 216-696-6525 x 3500. The Diocesan Ministry to the Incarcerated has a presence in the three state prisons, the county jails and the juvenile facilities located within our diocese we would be glad to visit with them.

**Boxes from Home** St. Vincent de Paul sends boxes to our military people. Call Dorothy at 984-2192 with your soldier's information and they will send a box!



**Protecting God's Children** The Diocese of Cleveland's "Protecting God's Children" program is a continuing effort to instruct and inform everyone about the protection of children from sexual abuse. You are also asked to immediately inform local authorities about inappropriate behavior. Call the Diocesan Response Service at 216-334-2999 or [response\\_services@dioceseofcleveland.org](mailto:response_services@dioceseofcleveland.org).

**West Side Catholic Center**- needs volunteers to partner with participants of their Workforce Development Certificate Program assisting an individual as they progress through the work readiness program and into the first months of employment. Training provided. Contact Frank Johanek at 216-332-2538.

**Give the Gift of Time:** Volunteer Cornerstone of Hope has opportunities to use your talents and skills as well as offer group team building projects. Help ranges from weekly commitments to once a year help for programs. Call (440) 28-1010 for information.

**Pregnant and in need?** call 1-800-712-HELP. Please visit [OptionLine.org](http://OptionLine.org)  
**Homeless and pregnant?** Please call Good Counsel Homes, 1-800-723-8331 or visit [www.goodcounselhomes.org](http://www.goodcounselhomes.org).



**Hurting from an abortion?** Visit us online at [www.AbortionForgiveness.com](http://www.AbortionForgiveness.com).

**Help Protect Life** Cleveland Right to Life needs volunteers. Call 216-661-3000.

**Pro Life Thought of the Week;** Each life is an indescribably sacred and fragile mystery. Abortion destroys the revealing of God's plan for that child.

### Weekly Parish Events

December 23-Church Décor	Church	11:30-2:00 PM
December 26-Music Club	Church	7-8:00 PM
December 24-29 CYO	Grismer Hall	3:30-9:00 PM

### Parish Cluster Events

**St. Teresa:** Eucharist Adoration is every Wednesday from 9 AM-1 PM in the Church.  
**St. Anthony:** Rosary's for Unborn is said the first Saturday of each month from 10 AM-3:30 PM.