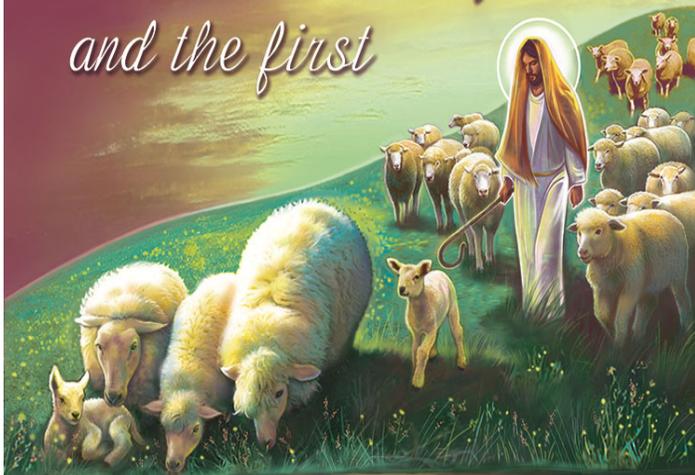


*The last will be first,
and the first*



will be last

St. Thomas the Apostle

715 Harris Road * Sheffield Lake * Ohio *
44054-1409
(440) 949-7744

September 20, 2020 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

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

The Rosary: Prayed daily before 9 AM Mass. This includes weekends.

Baptism: Sunday: 12:30 PM
Parent Pre-Baptismal Class required
One Sponsor must be an active Catholic with a Sponsor Letter from the Church they attend.

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-3:00 PM
Friday-9:00 AM-1:00 PM
Information/insert for the bulletin must be in the Parish Office by Wednesday at 3:00 PM to make the weekend.

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

The Solemnity of Mary	January 1, 2021
Immaculate Conception	December 8, 2020
Christmas	December 25, 2020

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

Office Address.....521 Harris Road, Sheffield Lake
Parish Office..... 440-949-7744
Office Fax..... 440-949-8611
Emailsthomas62@centurytel.net
Parish Website.....saintthomaschurch.net
Facebook..<https://m.facebook.com/thomas.church.39142>
Twitter.....Stthomas715
PSR-Kim & David Gray.....440-714-4007
Confirmation-John & Kathy Mack.....440-242-8683
RCIA.....440-949-7744
CYO-Jim O'Connor.....440-949-2631
Grismer Hall/Gym.....440-949-8491
Funeral Luncheon-Dave Johnston.....440-670-0204
Music/Choir-Roger Brooks.....440-346-3022

Parish Cluster Contacts

St. Anthony...www.stanthonylorain.parishesonline.com
1305 East Erie Ave. Lorain 44052 (440) 288-0106
St. Teresa.....office@stteresaparish.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: Unity & Peace
Sunday September 20, 2020
25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:00 AM L/D Ladies Guild
 11:00 AM St. Thopmas Parishioners

Monday September 21, 2020
St. Matthew

9:00 AM Joseph Andulics
Tuesday September 22, 2020
Autumn Begins

9:00 AM Kathleen Klajka
Wednesday September 23, 2020
St. Padre Pio

9:00 AM Rosemary & Tommy Thomas
Thursday September 24, 2020

9:00 AM Richard & Gail Stevens
Friday September 25, 2020

9:00 AM All Souls
Saturday September 26, 2020
Ss. Cosmas & Damian

9:00 AM M/M Eddie Abdalla
 4:00 PM BJ Blazina

Sunday September 27, 2020
26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:00 AM Ellen Norman
 11:00 AM M/M Eddie Abdalla

Lectionary Year: "A"

Pre-Baptismal Classes-2020

October 20 St. Joseph-6:30 PM (440) 933-3152

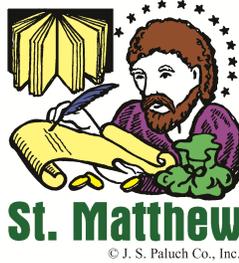
November 15 St. Thomas-12:30 PM (440) 949-7744

All new, expecting parents are required to attend a Pre-Baptismal Class before scheduling a baptism at the Parish they attend. One of the two Godparents must be an active catholic with a Sponser Certificate from their church.

St. Thomas needs Lectors, Readers, Eucharist Ministers & Servers. No Experience needed. "Never underestimate the power of the Holy Spirit working in you.



Autumn
 Listen! The wind is rising,
 and the air is wild with leaves,
 We have had our summer
 evenings,
 now for October eves!



Weekly Collection Goal \$5,000.00
 September 13, 2020 \$2,737.00

Online Giving www.CatholicCommunity.org/Offertory.
 Please continue to support St. Thomas by mailing in your weekly envelopes.

Thank you for your generous and continued support.
 Remember St. Thomas in your Will.

New Sunday Mass Schedule 1/1/2021
 Starting 1 January 2021 we will have one Mass on Sunday at 10:00 AM. The rest of our Mass schedule for the weekend and weekdays will remain the same.

St. Thomas Church Events

St. Thomas Fish Fry St Thomas is having the final fish fry of 2020 on September 26th 4 pm -7 pm. It will be a limited menu/while supplies last. Perch, Shrimp and Cod Dinners. Sides will be Fresh Cut Fries or Pierogies. Donations of Pop, Water and Desserts will be accepted on Thursday 24th and Friday 25th at the school between 10:00 am - 2:00 pm. Donation are greatly appreciated. We will follow all Cov19 regulations. Credit Cards Accepted.

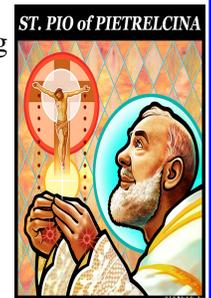
St. Thomas has a new Facebook address:
<https://m.facebook.com/thomas.church.39142>

Thanks Rocky. This will keep you up to date on currant events both upcoming and attended.

Virtus Training <http://www.virtus.org> click training tab.

St. Pius of Pietrelcina (1887-1968) September 23

Did the World War II American flyer really see Padre Pio in midair, preventing the bombing of his village below? Did Pio actually "bilocate" in Italy, the Holy Land, even America, as countless witnesses testified? Or "read hearts" before penitents spoke? What of the stigmata, Christ's wounds imprinted on Padre Pio's hands, feet, and side? John Paul II, who as a young man visited Pio, never mentioned these extraordinary elements at the canonization. Instead, the pope spoke of "trials accepted with love," referring perhaps to sanctions restricting Pio's faculties for hearing confessions and celebrating public Mass, imposed because of criticism, later discredited, sent to the Vatican; of Pio's offering his sufferings in union with Jesus' passion for a suffering world; of his continual availability to sinners seeking direction and absolution; of Padre Pio's prayer that blossomed in charity, especially through his House for the Relief of Suffering, a healthcare facility that anticipated by decades today's holistic partnering of medical science and spirituality. Finally, how comforting for us ordinary Christians, this extraordinary saint's most frequent advice: "Pray, hope, and don't worry!"



Liturgical Schedule

Saturday, September 26-4:00 PM

C-J Mack L-M Rozmarynowycz
 EM-L & M Wenzel, S Lynch

Sunday, September 27-9:00 AM

C-J Houlihan L-
 EM-K Janosik, H Schremp, P Blazina

Sunday, September 27-11:00 AM

C-L Prokay L-M Fairweather
 EM-D Gray, J Kelly, D Munro

Cup servers removed until further notice. Fill in for Eucharist Ministers if needed at the Mass you attend.



St. Thomas Church is Kid Friendly



Thank You

...to Lectors, Eucharist Ministers and Commentaters.

Unfair Management The workers grumbled because the latecomers got the same pay as those who worked all day. Paul has worked for the Lord for years, he thinks it is better to keep working than to claim his reward of eternal life. Matthew was referring to the Jews who had served God for centuries and now see newcomer Gentiles claiming equality in the church. They complained about God's generosity in reaching out to all peoples, not just the chosen few. God's generosity is the real point. Contrast that with Paul, who loves the Philippians so much that he is willing to put off his heavenly reward to help more people come to Christ. That is the attitude that Jesus hopes for in all his disciples. We can care more about bringing Jesus to others than we do about our own comfort or even our lives. We can do this because we know the Lord's ways are not fair--they are more generous than we can imagine!

Direction Isaiah tells us something we already know, and yet forget every now and then. He tells us that God is God and we are not. When we're confused and troubled and can't figure everything out, it might be wise to recall Isaiah speaking on the Lord's behalf and explaining that God who is on a much more Godly wavelength than we are moves in ways we can't even imagine. St. Paul has everything figured out. Kind of. At least he understands his calling in life to magnify Christ in everything he does. That should give us the direction we need. Jesus gives us direction, too, explaining to us once again that the last will be first, and the first, last.

Treasures from our Tradition Over time, the severe form of one-chance penance collapsed under lack of enthusiasm. As ordinary Christians prayed for sinners, it occurred to them they were sinners no less, and they required a form of penance to. The Irish came to the rescue, inventing a system called "tariff penance," which was completely private, available to everyone, and wildly popular. After confession, priest and penitent would lie on the floor before the altar and recite psalms. The priest then pronounced a judgment, a tariff, giving a task or a prayer to complete before reconciliation. The surviving guidebooks for confessors make for hair-raising reading as the sins of which the Irish people were supposedly capable were catalogued and keyed to penances. Cattle or sheep rustling might require stripping down to sing psalms in an icy brook, or adultery could be the occasion for rolling in a thicket of thorns. All of this might have stayed in Ireland had not the monks had a desire to travel, blazing across Europe with their theology and their rituals, and their sense that Christians needed strong medicine for sin and the assurance of God's forgiveness.

Parish Cluster Events

St. Teresa: Eucharist Adoration is every Wednesday from 9 AM-1 PM in the Church.

St. Anthony: Rosarys for the Unborn are said the first Saturday of each month from 10 AM-3:30 PM.

Life is not Fair

Children are usually young when they shout, "That's not fair!" At some point in our lives, we've probably all felt the bitterness of unfairness. Today's readings agree that life isn't always fair yet, unexpectedly, invites us to rejoice! We rejoice because God's mercy is totally unfair: God lavishes us with forgiveness and love even when we deserve less. Both the reading praise the great mercy of God, mercy that forgives our sins over and over. Jesus demonstrates that God longs to give good things to all of us, even to those who seem less worthy. When St Paul reflects on God's goodness, embodied in Jesus Christ, he can hardly wait to enter his heavenly reward.

Events Around Town

St. Thomas is still providing food for the Homeless Shelter. Call Penny (440) 949-7548 to make a financial donation, donate food or help prepare or deliver meals. We supply meals year round.

Act of Spiritual Communion:

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

Our Cathedral's YouTube Channel features the Stations of the Cross and the Rosary, in addition to various tracks of the Cathedral Choir. Consider visiting and subscribing to Cleveland Cathedral YouTube channel

Catholic Radio Stations

1220 AM-WHKW Radio The Word

1260 AM-The Rock

1060 AM-Living Bread

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

'Table Talk' 1260AMtherock.com for times and dates.

EWTN-www.ewtnnews.com TV or online liturgy does not fulfill the Sunday Mass obligation.



Catholic Cemetery Grief Support has limited seating for social distancing. We meet on the 3rd Sunday from 3:00 -4:00 PM at St. Joseph Cemetery, Avon (NEW office). Contact Rhonda 216-930-4866 rabrams@clecem.org, or view our calendar at clecem.org.

Protecting God's Children "Protecting God's Children" protects children from sexual abuse. Inform authorities of inappropriate behavior. Call 216-334-2999 responseservices@dioceseofcleveland.org "Jesus, Mary and Joseph, I love you very much. I beg you to spare the life of the unborn baby that I have spiritually adopted who is in danger of abortion."

Pro-Life Doctor's List Pro-life doctors, who don't practice abortion or support its use. Call 440-322-0076.

www.loraincountyrighttolife.org under Resources/Issues tab. Abortion destroys God's plan for the life of that child.

