



St. Thomas the Apostle

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

September 6, 2020 23rd 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: Holiness and Faith

Sunday September 6, 2020
23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:00 AM Kitty Keane
11:00 AM St. Thomas Parishioners

Monday September 7, 2020

Labor Day
9:00 AM M/M Sephan Stevens

Tuesday September 8, 2020
The Nativity of the Virgin Mary

9:00 AM Arthur Stevens
Wednesday September 9, 2020

St. Peter Claver
9:00 AM Special Intentions

Thursday September 10, 2020
9:00 AM Frank Knisely

Friday September 11, 2020
Patriot Day

9:00 AM Christopher Stevens
Saturday September 12, 2020

The Most Holy Name of Mary
9:00 AM Thanksgiving to St. Anthony

4:00 PM All Souls
Sunday September 13, 2020

24th Sunday in Ordinary Time
9:00 AM L/D Holy Name

11:00 AM Howard Collins
Lectionary Year: "A"

Pre-Baptismal Classes-2020

September 17 Holy Spirit-7:30 PM (440) 933-3777

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.

Traits of a Teacher All who undertake to teach must be endowed with deep love, the greatest patience, and, most of all, profound humility. The Lord will find them worthy to become fellow workers with him in the cause of truth.

Liturgical Schedule

Saturday, September 12-4:00 PM

C-J Mack L-M Rozmarynowycz

EM-L & M Wenzel, S Lynch

Sunday, September 13-9:00 AM

C-J Houlihan L-J Mack

EM-K Janosik, B Smith, P Blazina

Sunday, September 13-11:00 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.



Weekly Collection	Goal	\$5,000.00
	August 30, 2020	\$3,509.50

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

Masks at Mass by decree from Gov. DeWine, Masks are mandetory during Mass, except for the brief moment of receiving Holy Communion. Continue Social Distancing in Pews and during Holy Communion..

Ladies Guild Rummage Sale I am sorry to announce that the Ladies Guild Rummage Sale has been cancelled.

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 Peter Claver (1581-1654)

Nearly two hundred years before the Declaration of Independence proclaimed "that all men are created equal," two hundred fifty years before the Emancipation Proclamation mandated an end to slavery, three hundred fifty years before Martin Luther King's "I Have a Dream," and four hundred years before the election of an American president boasting African heritage, Peter Claver left his native Spain to volunteer for the Jesuit missions in Colombia. He was horrified by slavery as an institution and by the inhuman brutality inflicted upon the slaves. He solemnly vowed to become "the slave of the slaves," and lived that vow heroically for close to forty years. Not knowing their language, he began his ministry among the slaves by using the universal language of practical charity, providing medical care and though wordless assertion of their human dignity: "We spoke to them not with words but our hands, kneeling beside them, bathing their faces and bodies, encouraging them with friendly gestures." Then came evangelization and baptism. Holiness as human wholeness: Peter Claver's enduring witness.

Rest in Peace Blasino Molina. May God's light shine upon you forever and ever, Amen.

September 9



St. Thomas Church
is Kid Friendly



Thank You

...to those in our Parish Community who give of their time, talents and treasures.

Not My Problem Ever notice how people ignore the evil in the world? We hear stories of children starving in poor countries and say, "Not my problem." Today's readings challenge this attitude. Ezekiel proclaims God's word of repentance to the wicked. The Lord tells Ezekiel that he will be held responsible for the death of the wicked if he refuses to warn against the evil they are doing. Jesus describes how his disciples should confront the sinner. His words teach us something about our duty to the sinner. First sin is our problem, and when we see it we need to take the initiative to stop it. Second we need not feel alone in this duty. When the sinner refuses to listen, we bring in help. This command is meant for the whole church. Third be persistent; don't give up on someone too easily. So what about treating the sinner who refuses to listen? On one hand, the sinner should be excluded from the church, excommunicated, if he doesn't repent. On the other hand, Jesus never rejected tax collectors. He said he came to call sinners, to save them. He loves sinners. For that reason we are to confront them--not to punish them, but to love them. As we see in the second reading, "love is the fulfillment of the law." That is why the Gospel ends with Jesus' words about disciples praying together. When we think we cannot make a sinner repent, we remember that only God can do that. We can pray for sinners, including ourselves, and ask God to renew them in the Spirit. God never forces a person to repent. God invites with love, especially the love Jesus showed by dying on the cross. May we all learn to fight evil with love!

Treasures from our Tradition In the early years of the church, most people never availed themselves of once-in-a-lifetime penance. Penitents were highly visible. They wore distinctive garments or chains, and they were relegated to special zones in the church. They might be dismissed from Sunday assembly after the Word, forbidden to join in the Prayer of the Faithful or the Eucharist. This dismissal was done with great affection and tenderness as the bishop laid his hands on the heads of the sinners. During Lent almost everyone would identify with penitents by clothing, insignia, or by following the penitents' regular diet. Rather than sit in judgment over them, the church desired to intercede for them before the Lord. "Let Mother Church weep for you and wash away your sins with her tears," said St. Ambrose to his penitents in Milan. Ambrose liked to think of them as Jonah in the whale, meditating on his errors. In a letter to his sister he said that Jonah is also a sign of Christ in the tomb, and so he had great faith in the penitents' future proclamation of the Resurrection with their reclaimed status in the assembly.

Parish Cluster Events

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

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

A MESSAGE OF LOVE

In the final verses of today's Gospel reading Jesus says that when two or three are gathered in his name, "there am I in the midst of them." So we understand that fraternal correction is always undertaken with Jesus present to us. Encouraging the good in others is not only the right thing for us to do, it is a necessity. The Lord tells the prophet Ezekiel that if he "does not speak out" to dissuade a person from evil, then he too will be held responsible. We live in a "do your own thing" age when moral objectivity is often ignored. Clearly when the message we share with others is one of love, our motives cannot ever be misinterpreted. As St. Paul writes, "Love does no evil to the neighbor; hence, love is the fulfillment of the law"

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 3:00 PM – 4:00 PM at Saint 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 local 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.