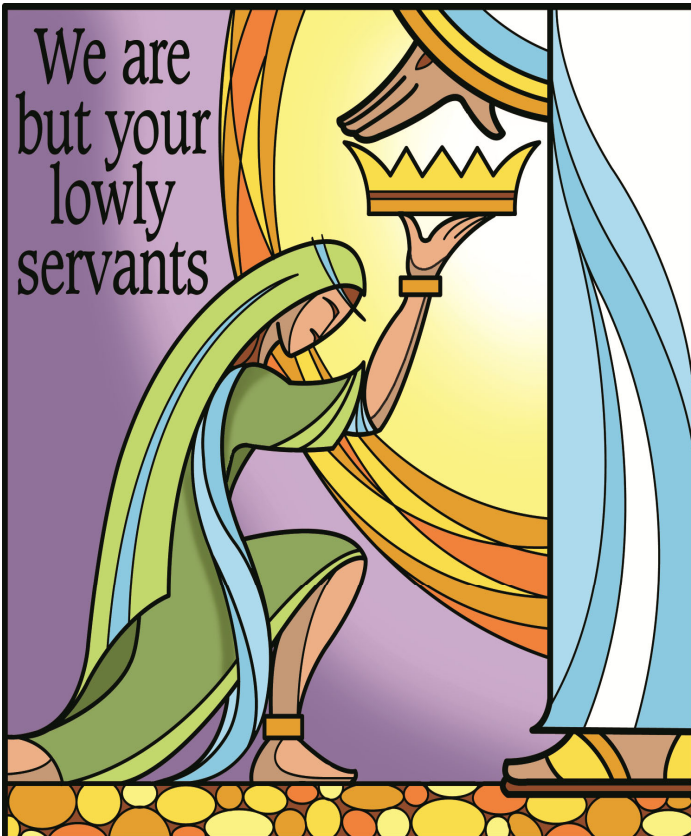


We are
but your
lowly
servants



St. Thomas the Apostle

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

**Serving our Community for
60 years**

**October 2, 2022
The 27th Sunday in Ordinary
Time**

Masses: Saturday Vigil: 4:00 PM

Sunday: 10:00 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 the weekends.

The Novena to Our Mother of Perpetual Help is prayed every Monday before Mass.

Baptism: Sunday: 11:30 AM 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.

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.....Sstthomas715
PSR-David Gray.....440-714-4007
Music Ministry- John & Kathy Mack440-242-8683
RCIA.....440-949-7744
CYO-Jim O'Connor.....440-949-2631
Grismer Hall/Gym.....440-949-8491
Funeral Luncheon-Dave Johnston.....440-670-0204

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. Gaebelien 1968-1981
+Fr. John J. McCaffrey 1981-1998

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

Mass Schedule
Strength in Time of Distress

Sunday October 2, 2022
 27th Week in Ordinary Time
 Respect for Life
 10:00 AM Doyle Ritter
 2nd Collection: Loose Change

Monday October 3, 2022
 9:00 AM L/D Lasby family

Tuesday October 4, 2022
 St. Francis of Assisi
 Yom Kippur
 9:00 AM Frank Szalay Jr.

Wednesday October 5, 2022
 St. Faustina Kowalska
 Blessed Francis Xavier Seelos
 9:00 AM L/D Lasby family

Thursday October 6, 2022
 St. Bruno
 Blessed Marie-Rose Durocher
 9:00 AM Jae Won Kim

Friday October 7, 2022
 Our Lady of the Rosary
 9:00 AM Daniel Hnanicek

Saturday October 8, 2022
 9:00 AM St. Thomas Parishioners
 4:00 PM Chue Youn Kim (Sarah Pina)

Sunday October 9, 2022
 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time
 10:00 AM L/D Holy Name
 2nd Collection: Loose Change



Weekly Collection Goal \$5,000.00
 September 25, 2022 \$3,191.50
 Please increase your donation so we can meet our weekly goal. Envelopes can be mailed to the office.

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.

St. Thomas Church Events

****St. Thomas PSR** St. Thomas will not be having PSR classes this year 2022/2023. Any families of students needing continued religious education grades 1-8 can contact our neighbor, St. Anthony. They have Registration on their website at stanthonylorain.org/our-parish or contact Ms. Obermiller at 440/288-0106 (ext. 247) or at obermillerk@stanthonylorain.com. For questions, contact David Gray, for further assistance.

St. Thomas Bible Study Bible Study of Mary, Jesus' Mother and Ours. Session begins Wednesday, 9/28-11/2 from 7-9 PM in room #1 of the school. Please register with form in bulletin and fee ahead of time so we can supply workbooks. Contact Bridget (440) 731-1238.

St. Thomas Fall Fish Fest Fall Fish Fest will be Oct 15th 4PM to 7PM. We are taking donations of pop, water and desserts October 14/15th from 10 AM-2 PM

Blessing Blankets Ministry continues to make blankets for the needy. Blankets are available for donation. To donate materials call Justine (440) 830-9990.

Homeless Shelter is served meals every week by our Parish with the hard work of Penny. If you can help or donated food or finances, call (440) 949-7548.

Virtus Training <http://www.virtus.org> click training tab. Anyone working with children in our Parish must do this.

First Friday Forum of Lorain County presents Nick Ksenich M.D, on October 7th. Lunch at 11:30; speaker at 12:00 at the Spitzer Conference Center of LCCC, Abbe Rd. Elyria. Reservations by 6:00 PM Monday, October 3rd. Visit fflorain@gmail.com or 440-213-2132.

27th Sunday in Ordinary Time Growing up, I thought you were not supposed to pray in a restaurant. You were not to flaunt your faith in public. It probably had more to do with fear of being embarrassed. I think of that when I hear "God did not give us a spirit of cowardice but of power, love and self-control." Today mentions the difficulties that people of faith will encounter, and each reading has its own way of facing those hardships. Jesus says: Look at the difficulties of being a disciple as part of your job. No servant expects to be praised for doing his job. So if the Lord says forgive those who hurt me, be patient with customers, or share with the poor--no problem; it's part of the job of a disciple. I'm there to support them. God's promise "will not disappoint

Pre-Baptism Class-2022
 October 18-7:30 PM St. Mary (440) 934-4212
 November 17-7:30 PM Holy Spirit (440) 933-3777
 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.

Prayer Line In need of prayers? Contact the Sisters of Notre Dame prayer line (440) 279-1163.

St. Thomas Facebook: Send your e-mail address to the Parish Office and receive the bulletin electronically each week. <https://m.facebook.com/thomas.church.39142>.

St. Thomas Parish needs Lectors, Readers, Eucharist Ministers & Servers. "Never underestimate the power of the Holy Spirit working in you."

Mass Intentions are available for 2022/2023. They are \$10.00 each. Contact the office (440) 949-7744 or drop into the weekly collection. Mark the envelopes Masses.

Liturgical Schedule

Saturday-October 1-4:00 PM
 C-MB Riley L-S Riley
 EM-A & J Balmert, R O'Connor

Sunday-October 2-10:00 AM
 C-J Ritter L-N Olitsky
 EM-B Smith, L Janis, H Centifanti
 Cup servers removed until further notice. Fill in (if needed) for Eucharist Ministers at the Mass you attend.

Thank You

...to our Parishioners who give of their time, talent and treasures to the Parish.

LESS IS MORE We have seen Jesus speaking in parables that were long, complex, and sometimes it was difficult to find the point of his message. Today he speaks simply to the Apostles and gives them a graphic image that is very easy to grasp. Think of an open hand holding mustard seeds, or the image of the seeds and the grown tree. The thing is, those photos are worth a thousand words. One could call it the "elevator pitch" on faith. Jesus provides his followers with a touchstone to hold onto, a spiritual roadmap as it were. But along with that beloved parable is a more difficult message.

REMEMBER WHO YOU ARE At some point, Jesus must just get exasperated with these folks. The Apostles and disciples have been following him for how long now? And they still don't understand. The kingdom of God is not about how great you are on earth, or how much faith you have. There is much work to be done. He reminds them that they are still the folks who are going to be cooking dinner when they come home in the evening. They are the servants. Their work continues until the kitchen is clean! It is not enough for us to simply show up to church on Sunday morning. We must be servants in our daily lives. Some of the ways we may lead our families, our workgroups, our faith groups include: listening to others, showing empathy, healing yourself through work-life balance, developing your self-awareness, and being a good steward. Wrap it any way you want, it is all about being a good Christian. Have faith. Serve others. Watch it grow!

Treasures from Our Tradition Sometimes human relationships go awry, but Christ's choice for us is irrevocable. In marriage celebrations, the Church always recalls God's faithfulness to help prepare married couples for enduring the inevitable rough spots. The Byzantine liturgy does this by adorning the couple with crowns that remind them of the martyr's crown. The couple therefore takes on a vocation of witnessing to the sacredness of life in all of its suffering and joy, and of keeping their eyes fixed on the banquet of heaven. In Eastern theology, people have a liturgical vocation to give God praise, and marriage fits within that plan. It is not so much saying prayers that counts, but becoming prayer. Interestingly, in this liturgy the couple never utters a word other than joining in the community's chants; there are no marriage vows as such. There is therefore not a hint of our Western Christian sense that marriage is a legal contract. Rather, it is all about living out one's baptismal vocation, embracing the cross, pouring oneself out in love, and opening to the grace of the Holy Spirit.

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. In the Church.



Living God's Word

Faith is a gift. When the disciples asked Jesus to increase their faith, they were going to the source of that faith with their request. God is the giver of all good gifts, including faith. When we put our faith in Christ, we believe that God is with us, even though we cannot physically see God. Or can we? If we are attentive, we see the evidence of God's presence in the love of family and friends, care poured out in service of our neighbors, the living beauty of creation. This is not blind faith, but rather is the result of seeing with the eyes of faith. Followers of Jesus look beyond what is apparent to see what is possible with the power and presence of the Holy Spirit within and among us.

Events Around Town

No Political Advertising

Advertising for political candidates is forbidden at any location on parish property.

Qualified Charitable Distributions If you are 70 1/2 or older, you may be able to make a gift of a Qualified Charitable Distribution from your IRA that will help us in our ministry and reduce your taxable income. Talk to your advisors and IRA administrator for more information and to be sure that your IRA Qualified Charitable Distribution gift is made directly from an IRA to our parish. Contact Jean Ann Montagna of the Catholic Community Foundation at 216-696-6525 x www.catholiccommunity.org/ira.

Brookside High School Mobile Food Pantry is the 3rd Wednesday of each month from 4:30 PM-6:00 PM. Make sure your trunk is cleaned out. No early distribution.

Elyria Catholic Marching Band and Color Guard are happy to announce that the 2022 Holiday Craft Fair will take place on November 12 from 9-3PM. All crafters are invited to register by September 30. Interested crafters can register at elyriacatholic.com/2022-holiday-craft-fair.

Catholic Cemeteries continues with monthly Grief Support the third week of every month at 3 PM At St. Joseph, Avon, Holy Cross, Brookpark. We meet the 4th Sunday of every month. You don't have to grieve alone.

TV Mass The Sunday television Mass may now be viewed at 10 AM on WUAB Channel 43. This does not fulfill your Sunday obligation of Mass.

Catholic Radio Stations

1220 AM-WHKW Radio The Word
1260 AM-The Rock



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

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

Protecting God's Children from sexual abuse. Inform authorities of inappropriate behavior. Call 216-334-2999 responseservices@dioceseofcleveland.org

Pro-Life Doctor's List Call 440-322-0076 or visit www.loraincountyrighttolife.org under Resources/Issues.



Rest in Peace, John J. Gaal. Pray for the consolation of his family and friends.