

You shall not
put the
Lord,
your GOD,
to the test



St. Thomas the Apostle

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

**Serving our Community
for over 60 years**

**February 26, 2023
1st Sunday of Lent**

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 9 AM 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 Chuter.....Property Manager

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-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. 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

Trust in God
Sunday February 26, 2023
1st Sunday of Lent
 10:00 AM Anthony Villanucci
 2nd Collection: Loose Change

Monday February 27, 2023
St. Gregory of Narek
 9:00 AM Special Intentions

Tuesday February 28, 2023
 9:00 AM Linda Hunt

Wednesday March 1, 2023
 9:00 AM Special Intentions

Thursday March 2, 2023
 9:00 AM L/D Vince & Nancy
 Harrington & family

Friday March 3, 2023
Abstinence
First Friday
World Day of Prayer
St. Katherine Drexel
 9:00 AM fr. Larry Ridgely
 4:00 PM Stations of the Cross

Saturday March 4, 2023
St. Casimir
 9:00 AM Joseph Aldrete
 4:00 PM David Ritter

Sunday March 5, 2023
2nd Sunday of Lent
 10:00 AM David Ritter
 2nd Collection: Loose Change



Weekly Collection Goal \$5,000.00
 February 19, 2023 \$4,066.00

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

Bulletin Change JS Paluch, our bulletin provider, is going out of business the end of February. Alternate companies are being reviewed. We will provide some kind of bulletin in the meantime.

Stations of the Cross will be every Friday during Lent at 4PM in the Church. Good Friday stations will be at Noon.

Evening of Confession will be on Wednesday, March 8th from 5-8 PM. Weekly confessions are every Saturday from 3-3:45 PM or by appointment.

St. Thomas Fish Fry begins on Friday, February 24th from 4-7 PM in Grismer Hall. We will be collecting donations of water, pop and desserts each Thursday & Friday. We need volunteers. Credit Cards and Take-Out available (440-949-8491. Contact Dave (440) 670-0204.

Lenten Bible Study will be held every Wednesday from March 1st-April 5th in Grismer Hall room #1. Our focus is "Becoming a Praying Person." Cost is \$10.00. Contact Bridget 4bcubed@gmail.com for more information.

Eiringer Hall Our small hall will be open only during June, July & August of the year.

Grismer Hall We will no longer be renting our Halls on any of the major Holidays.



Lent One of the liturgical reforms mandated at the Second Vatican Council was that the focus of the season of Lent be restored as a time of preparation for or renewal of Baptism. In order to prepare those who were to receive those sacraments, a special period of preparation (forty days) gradually developed and it had become simply a time of penance focused on individual spiritual renewal. Sunday scripture readings during Lent are very carefully selected with an eye to the journey of those preparing to be initiated at the Easter Vigil. Once again, the entire community is asked to undergo penance in solidarity with the candidates for Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist. Thus, in order to appreciate fully the meaning of the readings during this season, the "filter" through which they must be heard is always the knowledge that we are helping to prepare our sisters and brothers in the catechumenate for their initiation at the Easter Vigil.

Pre-Baptism Class-2023

February 26-11:30 AM St. Thomas (440) 949-7744
 March 21-7:30 PM St. Mary (440) 934-4212

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 Email Bulletin Send your e-mail address to the Parish Office and receive the bulletin electronically each week. Write e-mail address on your weekly envelope.

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 2023. They are \$10.00 each. Contact the office (440) 949-7744.

Liturgical Schedule

Saturday-February 25-4:00 PM
 C-J Mack L-S Lynch
 EM-A & J Balmert, P Reith

Sunday-February 26-10:00 AM
 C-J Ritter L-N Olitsky
 EM-K Mohrbach, D Gray, M Fairweather
 Cup servers removed until further notice. Fill in (if needed) for Eucharist Ministers at the Mass you attend.



Thank You

...to our decorating Angels.
...to ur Parishioners who give of their time, talents and treasures.

1st Sunday of Lent Ashes and gardens, failings and faithfulness, death and life. Lent, invites us to turn our thoughts, hearts, and lives toward God and God's ways, to turn away from the death of sin, which separates us from God, and to embrace the gift of life offered in Christ, now and into eternity. Eve and Adam listened to the serpent rather than God who had given them a garden filled with beauty and abundance. On the contrary, Jesus stood firm in the face of temptation. This Lent, we ponder the choices we make in our daily lives, trust in God's mercy as we repent from sin, and strengthen our commitment to discipleship, following Jesus' model of faithfulness.

Turn Away from Sin Lent is a season in which we resolve to turn away from sin and turn toward Jesus. Turning away from sin requires us to admit that we miss the mark and fail to live as God desires. The first Sunday of Lent always includes a gospel account of Jesus facing temptation in the desert. Notice that it is not generic temptation Jesus meets, nor do we. Our temptations are personal, areas of particular weakness, situations in which, like Eve and Adam, we may rationalize and give in to sin rather than holding firm to what we know is right and just. Jesus gives us a model for meeting temptation: draw on the wisdom and truth found in sacred scripture and the teaching tradition of the Church to know what we must do or not do. Be strong and know that the Lord is with you as you resolve to be faithful.

Treasures from our Traditions In a few weeks' time, at the Chrism Mass of the diocese, fresh sacramental oils will be blessed and chrism consecrated for use in every parish. Olive oil is the main ingredient of chrism, but olive oil with some exotic additives that change its character and purpose. Rich balsam and perfumes separate chrism from the pantry. Food no longer, neither is this oil for grooming or toning muscles. It has a breathtaking aroma that is both alluring and enduring. The prayer of consecration is a good meditation for the coming Lenten season since it focuses us on the goal of our journey, linking it with the olive-bearing dove at the end of Noah's stormy voyage of forty days. The dove signaled the birth of a new world, a society reborn from the wreckage of the old, drowned world of sin. At the end of our Lenten journey, the oil of chrism will be poured down in abundance on the brows of catechumens and infants, as well as on those to be confirmed or ordained. Lent puts us in touch with the hard edges of life in need of salvation, and the chrism of Easter joy redeems and restores.

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.

CATHOLIC PRAYER CORNER

Prayer during Lent

Holy God, now is the acceptable time to return to you. As we walk the path of these forty days, may we turn away from sin and embrace a life of goodness and truth. Strengthen us on our Lenten journey and keep us focused on the cross and resurrection of your Son, our Savior and Redeemer. He is Lord forever and ever. Amen.

Events Around Town

Catholic Calendars Catholic homes have Catholic Calendars: <https://www.ashbypublishing.com/printed-church-calendars/15/catholic> (800) 413-2220.

First Friday Forum March 3rd presents Elyria Catholic Student Voices. Cost is \$25.00 at the door. Call 440-213-2132 for more information.

50th Jubilee Celebration is 9:30 AM on June 24, 2023. Save the date. We encourage pastors to personally recognize couples celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary. Details about the Diocesan celebration and certificate request will follow soon. Watch the Bulletin.

Qualified Charitable Distributions If you are 70 ½ or older, you may make a gift of a Qualified Charitable Distribution. Talk to your IRA administrator to be sure that your gift is made directly to our parish. Call Jean Ann Montagna of the Catholic Community Foundation at 216-696-6525 or www.catholiccommunity.org/ira.

Women's Reflection with Erin Marie Raines Saturday, March 25, 9:00 am- Noon Holy Trinity Church Avon Call (440) 937-5363 for more information.

Monthly Virtus Training is available at <https://www.virtus.org>. Anyone working with children in the Diocese must the monthly worksheet.

Prison Ministry Our ministry serves those with incarcerated loved ones or family members. Visit St. Julie Billiart Catholic Church, 5500 Lear Nagle Rd, North Ridgeville, (440) 327-1978 on the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 7 PM

FEST Internship The FEST is looking for college interns for a paid internship. If you are interested in getting real-life experience creating an event for 40,000 people, apply today. Caitlin Arbogast: Caitlin@theFest.us

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.

Catholic Cemeteries monthly Grief Support is the third Sunday of the month at 3 PM at St. Joseph, Avon, Holy Cross, Brookpark. You don't have to grieve alone.

No Political Advertising Advertising for political candidates is forbidden at any location on parish property.

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