

Holy Spirit descended upon Him

St. Thomas the Apostle

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

**Serving our Community for
60 years**

January 9, 2022 Baptism of the Lord

Masses: Saturday Vigil: 4:00
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
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 next 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.....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

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

Peace in the Holy Land

Sunday January 9, 2022
Baptism of the Lord
 10:00 AM L/D Holy Name
 2nd Collection: Loose Change

Monday January 10, 2022
1st Week in Ordinary Time
 9:00 AM Melisa Munro & family

Tuesday January 11, 2022
 9:00 AM Marsha DeAngelis & family

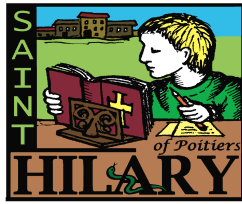
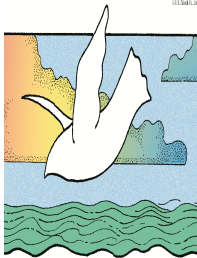
Wednesday January 12, 2022
 9:00 AM Rose Preisler & family

Thursday January 13, 2022
St. Hilary
 9:00 AM Carol Findish & family

Friday January 14, 2022
 9:00 AM Gregory Ganobcik

Saturday January 15, 2022
 9:00 AM L & D Joseph Walsh & family
 4:00 PM JoAnna Kerley

Sunday January 16, 2022
2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time
 10:00 AM L/D Ladies Guild
 2nd Collection: Loose Change



Pre-Baptism Class-2022

January 16-11:30 AM St. Thomas (440) 949-7744
 February 15-7:30 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 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 needs Lectors, Readers, Eucharist Ministers & Servers. "Never underestimate the power of the Holy Spirit working in you."

Musician (s) Needed for Sunday Masses. Contact Fr. Steve or leave a message at the Parish Office.

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 and please include a phone number for any questions on dates requested. First come-first served.

Liturgical Schedule

Saturday, January 15-4:00 PM
 C-L Prokay L-M Rozmarynowycz
 EM-P Rieth, S Lynch, R O'Connor

Sunday, January 16-10:00 AM
 C-A Hicks L-B Barelka
 EM-K Mohrbach, D Gray, H Centifanti



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

Weekly Collection Goal

\$5,000.00

December 25 \$8,983.50

January 2 \$4,607.00

Please increase your offering so we can meet our goal.

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 Pre Baptism Class St. Thomas will host a pre Baptism class on Sunday, January 16th at 11:30 AM in Church. One of the two God Parents must be an active Catholic with a Sponser Certificate from the Church they attend. All new parents must take the class before a baptism can be scheduled. Everything needed will be provide at that time.

Homeless Shelter To donate paper products, food, time or finances, call Penny (440) 949-7548. We serve all year to a full Shelter. Help us to help others.

The Sheffield Schools Food Pantry is Wednesday, January 19th from 4:30-06:00 PM. Food will only be distributed at this time. Make sure your vehicle and trunk are clean. Participants who arrive early will need to park in Sevets Stadium until dismillal is completed.



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

Catholic Renewal Ministries will host a Charismatic Mass on Friday, January 28th, at 7:00 PM at St. Peter Parish, 35777 Center Ridge Rd., North Ridgeville 44039. Fr. Bob Franco will be the celebrant. Praise and worship will begin at 7:00 and the liturgy will start at 7:30 PM. Healing prayer teams will be available after Mass for individual prayer, and a social after mass. Contact Fr. Franco at 440-327-2201 or CRM at 440-944-9445.

The Baptism of the Lord
 Almighty ever-living God,
 who, when Christ had been baptized in the River Jordan and as the Holy Spirit descended upon him, solemnly declared him your beloved Son,
 Grant that your children by adoption,
 reborn of water and the Holy Spirit,
 may always be well pleasing to you.
 Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
 who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen!



Baptism of the Lord

Reflection question: What can I do this week to be well pleasing to God?



St. Thomas Church is Kid Friendly



Thank You

...to Linda, our newest Senior Server.

Baptism, Death and Resurrection As we celebrate the Baptism of the Lord, we also honor our own baptism as our initiation into the Christian life and community. In the Gospel, the baptism of Jesus, with his immersion and then emergence from the water, points to his later submission to God at his death, and his emergence from the grave at his resurrection. This pattern of death and resurrection is our path too, as followers of Jesus. Throughout life we learn to surrender our limited and self-centered agendas. This surrender often feels like death. The sacrament of Baptism ritually enacts this pattern to remind us of Jesus' death and resurrection, so that we too might embrace the deaths and resurrections of our own lives. As Jesus emerged from the water, he encountered his Father and the Holy Spirit. Like Jesus, we can know we are God's beloved, empowered by the Spirit.

Did the first reading from Isaiah sound familiar? I suppose it could be a reminder that John the Baptist appears at the beginning of the Advent/Christmas season and at the end. In Advent we were preparing for Jesus' coming at Christmas. Now we are preparing for his coming at any time. The reading talks about the Lord coming in mercy to the people whose "guilt is expiated." With our sins forgiven we need not fear asking God for help: "Fear not to cry out." The Lord comes in power, not to strike sinners down but to shepherd them and lead them. Jesus gave his life for us on the cross so that we could be free to give ourselves in love as he did. No matter how bad I was in the past, the Lord loves me enough to forgive it all, and even better, to give the Spirit to help me stay close to God. Ask the Spirit to help look for ways you can be more loving with your family, friends, and eventually with anyone who needs your help. When we let that Spirit guide us, we become like Jesus in that we can listen for God to say, "You are my beloved child; with you I am well pleased"

Treasures from Our Tradition On Christmas Day the Gospel reading is the Prologue of John's Gospel, which reveals the glory of Christ shining through our humanity precisely in his baptism. More than most other ancient people, the Egyptians understood the life-giving properties of water. On this day, they drew water from the Nile, so central in the history of their people, and reserved it in honor. Many other places copied the custom, so that St. John Chrysostom wrote of people in Antioch gathering at midnight to collect flowing water into vessels they brought from home since "today there is a blessing on the water." At home for dinner tonight, decorate the table with beautiful bowls of water and white candles, toast one another with goblets of sparkling water, and light a Christmas candle in the window one last time.

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 Church.

Family Perspectives

When Jesus came to John to be baptized, John resisted because of his own unworthiness. Jesus insisted and John obeyed. We, too, must not let our unworthiness stand in the way of the Lord's leading. False humility does not serve the Lord. Listen, obey, and see what God will do. For parents asking the Church to baptize their children, that they might be channels of God's love and model disciples of Jesus at home...

Events Around Town

USCCB "Receiving the COVID-19 vaccines ought to be considered an act of love, charity and safety toward members of our community, our neighbor and part of our moral responsibility for the common good," Visit <http://usccb.org/moral-considerations-covid-vaccines>

Qualified Charitable Distributions If you are 70 ½ 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 to be sure that your gift is made directly from an IRA to a qualified charity such as our parish. Questions? Contact Mary Lou Ozimek of the Catholic Community Foundation at 216-225-9120.

Masks Our Bishop Edward recommends that we wear masks for Mass and other indoor parish gatherings, while maintaining patience and charity for those who choose not to get vaccinated or wear the masks.

NET (National Evangelization Teams) Ministries is a Catholic retreat ministry whose mission is to "Challenge young Catholics to love Christ and embrace the life of the Church." Members travel the country in vans doing retreats for junior high and high school aged youth. visit www.netusa.org/retreats

CCA Grief Support January 16th "In-Office" at 3:00PM and "Virtual" at 5:00PM: Catholic Cemeteries Association provides free monthly grief support groups in two formats: In-Office (3PM) and Virtually (5PM) via Zoom. We meet the 3rd Sunday of every month for open discussion, surrounding a monthly topic or whatever is on your heart. The January 16th topic is "Facing the New Year with Hope and Love". We offer a comfortable, private, and safe environment where you are free to explore your grief. Come and be in the presence of those who understand. In-Office Grief Support groups meet in the main office Holy Cross, Brook Park | 14609 Brook Park Rd St. Joseph, Avon | 32789 Detroit Road.

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. Park in Sevits stadium parking lot due to school dismissals. No early pick-up.

Catholic Radio Stations

1220 AM-WHKW Radio The Word

1260 AM-The Rock

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

