

St. Thomas the Apostle

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

**Serving our Community
for over 60 years**

**February 19, 2023
7th 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 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

Love Thy Neighbor

Sunday February 19, 2023
6th Sunday in Ordinary Time

10:00 AM L/D Ladies Guild
 2nd Collection: Loose Change

Monday February 20, 2023
President's Day

9:00 AM Special Intentionos

Tuesday February 21, 2023
St. Peter Damian
Shrove Tuesday; Mardi Gras

9:00 AM Joseph Andulics

Wednesday February 22, 2023
Ash Wednesday (Fast & Abstinence)
Washington's Birthday

9:00 AM All Souls
 7:00 PM St. Thomas Parishioners

Thursday February 23, 2023
St. Polycarp

9:00 AM All Souls
Friday February 24, 2023
Abstinence

9:00 AM St. Thomas Parishioners
 4:00 PM Stations of the Cross

Saturday February 25, 2023
 9:00 AM Chaplin James R. Perdew, USN
 4:00 PM Joan Roth

Sunday February 25, 2023
1st Sunday of Lent

10:00 AM Anthony Villanucci
 2nd Collection: Loose Change

Pre-Baptism Class-2023

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

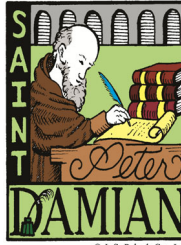
All new, expecting parents are required to attend a Pre-Baptismal Class before scheduling a baptism at the Parish they attend. One of the two Godparents must be an active Catholic with a Sponser Certificate from their church.

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.



Weekly Collection Goal \$5,000.00
 February 12, 2023 \$2,890.00

Please increae your donation so we can meet our weekly goal. Envelopes cam 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

Our Gift to You A Free Will-Writing Resource
 We've partnered with FreeWill to make it easier to create their Catholic legacy. You can write a legal will for free and protect your blessings to create an eternal legacy gift in your plans. This resource can be paired with an attorney for more complex estates. Visit <https://www.freewill.com/catholiccommunity> to write a free, legal will.

Ash Wednesday begins on Wednesday, February 22nd. Masses will be at 9 AM and 7 PM. Ashes will be distributed at those times.

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.

Ashes There are three major Biblical traditions concerning ashes: repentance, mourning, and mortality, and they are interrelated. Throughout the Bible we encounter the use of ashes as a penitential practice. . Ashes are a metaphor for human life, which is seen as brief and destined to end in death: Ashes are the result of fire, the complete burning of something that was alive. We can now begin to see how appropriate a symbol ashes are for the season of Lent. For Lent is not only a time of repentance, of sorrow for our sins. It is a baptismal season of preparation for the new life of our catechumens and of recalling the new life of our own baptism. We start Lent in ashes, and end it in Easter. What will the ashes mean to you this Lent?

Liturgical Schedule

Saturday-February 18-4:00 PM
 C-S Lynch L-MB Riley
 EM-Markoski, R O'Connor, R Zaborski

Sunday-February 19-10:00 AM
 C-N Olitsky L-B Barelka
 EM-K Yatson, L Janis, B Smith

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



St. Thomas Church is Kid Friendly

Thank You

...to Larry our Catholic Charities Angel.
...to parishioners who give of their time, talent, & treasures.

7th Sunday in Ordinary Time Today's readings reflect on our communal identity as disciples. Before we begin Lent together we take time to appreciate what God has done by giving us our family of faith. In Leviticus, God tells Moses to "speak to the whole Israelite community" and give them instructions for living in love. Moses passes along the message—to each and every believer—that God's people must strive together for holiness. St. Paul echoes this message, insisting that we are indeed God's holy children. As temples of the Spirit, we belong to Christ and to one another. This mutual belonging is a blessing and a challenge. Jesus sets a high bar for Christian community: his followers must love not only those who are easy to love, but also the people who upset us. Let us ask God to give us this kind of love.

The Sermon Today we conclude the series of Sunday Gospel passages from the Sermon on the Mount. Having proclaimed the coming of the Kingdom, Jesus extensively described to his new community what life is like in this new realm, and the inner dispositions needed to enter into it. He exposed hidden places of the heart, especially those places that need to be healed. The Sermon pushes against our attempts to compromise what God summons us to be and do. It challenges our desires to see ourselves as virtuous, and resist God's desire to transform us. It reminds us that we are loved by God and in need of God's help. As we anticipate the season of Lent, we are invited to carefully explore our deeper motivations, to allow God to uncover and to heal our fears and our wounds.

Treasures from our Traditions Until recent "Holy Thursday" and "Good Friday" were centered on personal devotions, not public liturgy. Holy Thursday was about veneration of the Blessed Sacrament. People were encouraged to walk to seven churches for a "visit" to each parish's repository. On Good Friday, the Stations of the Cross, or a three-hour program of word and preaching beginning at noon. The Holy Thursday seven-church hike was a way of participating in a custom of the city of Rome. Each day in Lent was assigned to a particular parish church or basilica in the city. The pilgrimage was a symbol of unity and faith. The pope would go to each place for a liturgy, but political strife removed the pope from Rome in 1305. With the papacy relocated in France, the custom ceased until Pope Leo XIII expressed restoring it in 1900, and St. John XXIII fully restored the custom in 1959. Many American cities had enough parishes and monasteries that the faithful could participate in the revived tradition of stational liturgies by a very long walk!

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 for Family and Friends

Loving God, hear this prayer,
which I offer on behalf of my family and friends.
Keep them safe in your care.
When they are in trouble, be with them.
When they despair, bring them hope.
When they are joyful, help them share their happiness.
Help us all to realize that we are your sons and daughters
and that you love us more than we can imagine. Amen.

Events Around Town

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

Ash Wednesday February 22, 2023. The blessing and distribution of ashes is at 9:00 AM and 7:00 PM Masses.

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.

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

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