

LOVE



St. Thomas the Apostle

715 Harris Road * Sheffield Lake * Ohio * 44054-1409

December 10, 2017
2nd Sunday of Advent

PARISH INFORMATION

MASSES: Saturday Vigil: 4:00 PM
Sunday: 9:00 and 11:00 AM
Monday through Saturday: 9:00 AM

CONFESSIONS: Saturday: 3:00 to 3:45 PM
or by appointment.

BAPTISM: Sundays: 12:30 PM
Parent Pre-Baptismal Class required

MARRIAGE: Contact the Office at least six months
before the tentative date is set.

HOME COMMUNION: Anyone desiring Communion at
home should notify the Parish Office.

FUNERALS: Arrangements with the Parish Office must be
made before publication.

MEMBERSHIP: New members are welcome. Call the Office
when you arrive. If you are moving, or turn 18 years of age
contact us to keep our files updated.

SICK CALLS: Communion for shut-ins and hospital visitation
notify the Parish Office

PARISH OFFICE HOURS: Monday-closed
Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday-9:00 AM-4:00 PM
Friday-9:00 AM-3:00 PM
Any information/insert included in the bulletin must be in the
Parish Office by Wednesday at 4:00 PM

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

Immaculate Conception	December 8, 2017
Christmas	December 25, 2017
The Assumption of Mary	August 15, 2018
All Saints	November 1, 2018

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

Parish Office..... 440-949-7744
Office Fax..... 440-949-8611
Office Address.....521 Harris Road, Sheffield Lake
Emailsthomas62@centurytel.net
Parish Website:.....saintthomaschurch.net
Facebook: www.facebook.com/saintthomaschurchohio
Twitter:Stthomas715
PSR/Kim & David Gray.....440-714-4007
Confirmation/John & Kathy Mack.....440-242-8683
RCIA/Chris Selent.....440-864-5792
CYO/Jim O'Connor.....440-949-2631
Grismer Hall/Gym.....440-949-8491

PARISH CLUSTER CONTACTS

St. Anthony...www.stanthonylorain.parishesonline.com
1305 East Erie Ave. Lorain 44052 (440) 288-0106
St. Teresa.....http://www.sttereasparish.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 Intention: Joyful Vigilance

Sunday December 10, 2017
2nd Sunday of Advent
International Human Rights Day

9:00 AM L/D Holy Name
 Confirmation Enrollment

11:00 AM Mary T. Kurish
 2nd Collection: Retired Religious

Monday December 11, 2017

St. Damasus I

9:00 AM Bob Markovich

Tuesday December 12, 2017
Our Lady of Guadalupe
Hanukkah begins

9:00 AM Michael Maynard & Family

Wednesday December 13, 2017

St. Lucy

9:00 AM DeAnne Mitchell

Thursday December 14, 2017
St. John of the Cross

9:00 AM Jack M. Walsh & Family

Friday December 15, 2017

9:00 AM Charlene Schwager

Saturday December 16, 2017

Las Posadas

9:00 AM Mr. & Mrs. Michael Walsh (Anniversary)

4:00 PM Judy Borer

Sunday December 17, 2017

3rd Sunday of Advent

9:00 AM L/D Ladies Guild

11:00 AM Ken Hicks
 2nd Collection: Loose Change
 Lectionary Year: "B"

Pre-Baptismal Classes-2018

NO December Classes

January 21 St. Thomas-12:30 PM (440)949-7744

February 20 St. Mary-7:30 PM (440)934-4212

New and expecting parents are required to attend a class before scheduling a baptism at their church of Worship.

Facebook: www.facebook.com/saintthomaschurchohio

Twitter: [Stthomas715](https://twitter.com/Stthomas715)

ONEPARISH.COM sign up to an app and receive the bulletin on line. Download the App store or Google play.

St. Thomas Prayer Lines Call, a friendly voice is on the other end.(440)865-9387 or (440)949-7548.

St. Thomas the Apostle Church is Kid Friendly

Gospels for the Week: Thursday Mt 11:11-15

Monday Lk 5:17-26 Friday Mt 11:16-19

Tuesday Lk 1:39-47 Saturday Mt 17:9a, 10-13

Wednesday Mt 11:28-30 Sunday Jn 1:6-8, 19-28

Weekly Collections

Weekly	Goal	Fiscal Year to Date
December 3, 2017	\$5,000.00	\$120,000.00
Offertory	\$5,456.50	\$92,180.72
	\$456.50	-\$22,362.28

Thank you for your generous and continued support.

Please remember St. Thomas Parish in your Will.

St. Thomas News/Events

12/17-Decorating Party

BP/Sugar Screening

Communal Penance Service

3 Parish Communal Penance Service will be held at St. Teresa Parish Hall on Sunday, December 17th at 2:30 PM. This is the only additional confessions for the Advent Season. Regular confession at St. Thomas is every Saturday from 3-3:45 PM or by appointment.

The Blessed Christmas Wafer (Oplatki) is available in the Sacristy for \$5.00 each. Sharing this Christmas wafer at the vigil meal we hallow His proclamation "I am the bread of life."

Christmas Memorials are \$5.00 each. Fill out the paper clearly and return by December 17th. Memorials are used to decorate the Church for the Christmas Season. Make checks payable to St. Thomas church.

St. Thomas Christmas Decorating Party will be Sunday, December 17th after the 11:00 AM Mass. Volunteers needed. Just show up to help.

Ladies Guild Christmas Dinner will be held on Monday, December 11, 2017 at 6:30 PM at Athena's Restaurant in Avon Lake. All ladies are welcome. Any questions call Karen (440) 949-7714.



Liturgical Schedule

Saturday, December 16-4:00 PM

C-J Mack L-S Riley

EM-L Wenzel, J Kirtos, MB Riley

C-M Wenzel, R O'Connor

S-

Sunday, December 17-9:00 AM

C-J Houlihan L-R Kirsch

EM-K Yatson, P Blazina, H Schremp

C-R Arena, K Janosik

S-W Holley, H Centifanti

Sunday, December 17-11:00 AM

C-J Ritter L-J Ganobsek

EM-J Ritter, C Rouhier, AM Woltman

C-S Brunkow, L Prokay

S-S Bonner

Looking for new Servers, Lectors, Commentators or Eucharist Ministers, call the Parish Office at 949-7744.



Thank You

...to those who helped change out the new Missalettes.
...to our Parish Nursing team all those participating in the monthly BP/Sugar screening.
....to those who donated to the Baby bottle for Corner Stone Among Women. We raised \$876.73. God Bless!



Christmas Traditions The custom of a Christmas Crib or crèche to represent the mystery of the nativity dates back to St. Mary Major in Rome in the 7th century. St. Francis of Assisi, in 1233, directed his followers to fill a manger with hay and tether an ox and ass nearby. He then invited villagers to attend an outdoors Mass near the crib, the worshippers themselves becoming the living nativity.



Take a tag from the tree, purchase the gift, wrap it and return it to the tree. Attach the tag on the outside of the package to insure proper delivery.

News of Comfort In a time of preparation, much of it having to do with material things, it is good to hear the words of Isaiah, "Comfort, give comfort to my people, / says your God." In a time of such stress and rush, when our usual burdens are augmented by piles of Christmas preparations, we can choose to slow down, take some time to heal, and appreciate the enormous gift we are about to receive. Christ, the Son of God, has become one of us, and knows our human limitations. Yet God, even now, is freeing us from the burdens that our inattentiveness to our God and to our deepest inner longings have heaped upon us. The Lord comes, not as a king with mighty armies, but as a shepherd leading the flocks with care and tenderness. Isaiah prophesies good news: our oppression is over, our sins forgiven. The savior we have awaited is coming, not the first time, but in the end times, as our salvation.

Catholic Radio Stations

1220 AM-WHKW Radio The Word
1260 AM-The Rock Tune
1060 AM-Living Bread



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

EWTN-Is a Catholic news, television and radio network which offers news from around the world as it happens. www.ewtnnews.com Check EWTN's for Mass schedule. Televised Sunday Mass-Channel 8 at 6:00 AM.

Family Perspectives

John the Baptist stood out from the crowd. The way he dressed, his lifestyle, his fervor, and his commitment to proclaiming the coming of Jesus Christ. Families proclaim their beliefs every day by the way they live and the choices that they make. Do our family's priorities proclaim our belief in Jesus?

Events Around Town

Live Nativity on Sunday, December 10th from 4-8 PM. St. Matthew Lutheran Church, 15617 Mason Rd in Vermilion. Bring a non-perishable food item to be donated to the local food bank.

The Retirement Fund for Religious, is an effort to assist religious communities to meet the needs of their elderly members. This year's collection will be on the weekend of 9-10 December 2017.

Chaplain Services are available for Prisons and Jails located in the Diocese of Cleveland. If you have a loved one incarcerated and would like a priest, deacon or one of our lay volunteer ministers visit with them, call the Parish Life Office at 800-869-6525 or 216-696-6525 x 3500.

Retrouvaille Weekend – January 19-21, 2018 - A Life-line for Troubled Marriages. Has your marriage become unloving or uncaring – your relationship cold, distant – thinking about a separation or divorce? Retrouvaille (rediscovery), is open to couples of all faiths, consists of a weekend experience for couples and six follow up sessions. A registration fee of \$150 is required to confirm your reservation. Call 1.800.470.2230, or go online to www.helpourmarriage.org.

Bulletin Ad Campaign 2018 Our Advertising Representative is working on a 2018 Ad Campaign for our Church Bulletin. Call 440-382-2805 to include an ad or recommend a business. Please support these local businesses throughout the year.

Catholic Cemeteries Grief Support leaders are certified as Ministers of Consolation by the National Catholic Ministry to the Bereaved, Inc. We meet the 3rd Sunday of every month at 3:00 p.m., except on holidays, then we meet the 4th Sunday. Join us Sunday, December 17th at St. Joseph Cemetery in Avon, and Holy Cross Cemetery in Brook Park.

Parish Events this Week

Dec 10-Confirmation Class	Church/Hall	9-11:15 AM
Dec 11-PSR	Grismer Hall	6:15-7:30 PM
Dec 11-15 CYO	Grismer Hall	3:30-9:00 PM
Dec 16-CYO	Grismer Hall	9AM-4PM
Dec 17-Christmas Decorating	Church	NOON
Confirmation Class	Church/Hall	9-11:15 AM

3 Parish Cluster Events

St. Thomas: Music Club invites all singers and musicians to join us. Contact Roger (440)346-3022.

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

St. Anthony: Our Perpetual Adoration Chapel is open 24/7 behind the Church.