MISSION STATEMENT

WE ARE A CATHOLIC FAMILY, LIVING OUR AWARENESS OF CHRIST'S PRESENCE THROUGH WORSHIP, SERVICE, EVANGELIZATION & COMMUNITY FOR THE BENEFIT OF ALL.
**Mass & Confession Schedule**

**Daily Mass at Oak St. Church:**
- M-F - 6:30 AM
- M, T, Th, F - 8:30 AM
- S - 7:30 AM - Oak St.

**Daily Mass at Pierson St. Church:**
- W - 7:50 AM with St. Thomas School

**Sunday Mass at Oak St. Church:**
- Sat. Vigil - 4:30 PM
- Sunday - 7:30, 9:00, 10:30, Noon & 5:30 PM

**Confession at Oak St. Church:**
- Monday - 5:30 PM
- Saturday - 8:00 AM & 3:30 PM

**Hispanic Mass at Pierson St. Church:**
- T, W - 6:00 AM
- TH - 7:30 PM - DURING SCHOOL
- 6:00 PM - DURING SUMMER
- F - 5:00 PM
- Sat. - 7:00 PM Vigil
- Sunday - 9:30 & 11:30 AM

**Parish Locations**

**Parish Office:**
- 272 King St.
- Crystal Lake, IL 60014
- 815-455-5400

**School:**
- 265 King St.
- Crystal Lake, IL 60014
- 815-459-0496

**Oak St. Church:**
- 451 W Terra Cotta Ave.
- Crystal Lake, IL 60014

**Pierson St. Church:**
- 453 Pierson St.
- Crystal Lake, IL 60014

**Hispanic Ministry:**
- M-Th - 8:00 - 8:00
- M-F - 9:00 - 5:00, Sat - 9:00 - 1:00 PM
- F - 8:00 - 5:00 PM

**Hispanic RE:**
- Jueves - 6:00 - 9:00 PM
- Sabados - 1:00 - 7:00 PM

**Parish Center Hours**

**September - May:**
- M-TH - 8:00 - 8:00
- F - 8:00 - 5:00 PM
- SAT - 9:00 - 1:00 PM

**June - August:**
- M-F - 9:00 - 5:00, Sat - 9:00 - 1:00 PM
- Oak St. Office:
  - Sunday - 8:30 - 1:30 PM

**Crystal Lake Food Pantry:**
- 42 East St., Crystal Lake, IL 60014
- 815-455-0961
- M, W, F - 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM
- TH - 5:00 - 7:00 PM
- SAT - 9:00 AM - NOON

**Little Christopher Resale Shoppe:**
- 469 Lake St., Crystal Lake, IL 60014
- 815-459-9442
- T-F - 10:00 AM - 3:00 PM, SAT 10:00 AM - NOON

**ST Thomas Outreach:**
- 469 Lake St., Crystal Lake, IL 60014
- 815-455-1249
- W, SAT - 9:00 - 11:00 AM

**Connect With Us!**

- www.facebook.com/saaintthomascl
- www.Instagram.com/st.thomascl
- www.stthomascl.flocknote.com
- www.stthomascl.church

Cover photo provided by CameraLady
Dear Sister/Brother in Christ,

May Christ, the coming King, guide and strengthen you this week!

I am so grateful to all of our extraordinary ministers who bring our Eucharistic Lord to the homebound! Isn’t it great that they can receive Jesus in a little gold pyx, and bring Him safely, quickly to those who could not be with us at Holy Mass?

This is not a given. In fact, in our adoration chapel, as you enter the ante-chamber on your right, is a statue of a young man who was beaten to death, just for refusing to let go of Jesus. Teenage Tarcisius was sent across town, it being assumed that he would be less obvious than if the Pope himself carried our Lord. And yet, some bullies found him, and tried to take Jesus from him.

At this point, the story gets a little cloudy. Some sources say that, even after he died, the pagans could not pry the Eucharist off Tarcisius’ body. Only when a priest arrived, did his lifeless hand open.

Other sources say that the pagans could not find the Eucharist, that the sacred species disappeared, or became one with the saint’s own body. Others say, Tarcisius managed to consume the sacred particles before the attackers could get at them. I don’t know which of these happened. I do know, that each possibility is miraculous in its own way.

Sir Isaac Newton was right. We stand on the shoulders of giants! Let’s keep going around the walls of the adoration chapel. Until next week, know that I remain

Yours in the Heart of Christ,
Fr. Evans

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**Help us knock their socks OFF!**

In honor of St. Nicholas’ Feast Day Dec. 6th!

**Who:** St. Thomas the Apostle RE Students

**What:** Socks, hats, gloves to be collected

**How:** Donate new or gently used socks, hats, gloves

**When:** As soon as possible in the collection box at Oak St. Church

**Why:** Their toes are cold! Everyone should have warm feet...and hands...and heads...and hearts!

*Stamp out cold feet!*
### Mass & Prayer Intentions

**Monday, December 9**
- 6:30 Fr. John Evans, Special Intention
- 8:30 +Colleen Zervic
- 8:30 +Mike Schuch

**Tuesday, December 10**
- 6:30 +Deceased Members and Friends of the Cribb & Smorczewski Families
- 8:30 +Richard Weidner
- 8:30 +Janice Felix

**Wednesday, December 11**
- 6:30 Frances J. Barciak, III, Special Intention
- 7:50 (at Pierson) +Souls of the Faithful Departed
- 7:50 (at Pierson) +Colleen Gallagher

**Thursday, December 12**
- 6:30 Francis X. Barciak, Special Intention
- 8:30 The People on St. Jude’s Prayer List, Special Intention

**Friday, December 13**
- 6:30 +Kevin Kowasz
- 8:30 +Carol Grivett
- 8:30 +Phil Kirchberg

**Saturday, December 14**
- 7:30 +Souls of the Faithful Departed
- 7:30 +Michael Locascio
- 4:30 +Nora Hanes
- 4:30 +Evelyn Zurek

**Sunday, December 15**
- 7:30 +Norine Thomas Dalessandro
- 7:30 +Robert Thomas
- 9:00 +Robert Schrempf, Sr.
- 9:00 +Christopher Byrnes
- 10:30 +Kyle McCoy
- Noon The People of St. Thomas Parish, Living & Deceased
- 5:30 Breeze Recupido & Family, Special Intention

**Please visit or call the Parish Center to schedule a Mass Intention**

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**Please pray for the sick:**
- Don and Arline Phalin

**Please pray for the deceased:**
- Curt Benson, Judith Harding
- Danita Chesler, Tim Keough
- David MacDonald

**If you would like the St. Jude Guild to pray for your loved one, please contact Georgia Kostur at 815-459-5432**

**Congratulations to our newly baptized:**
- Adam James Farrell - child of Eric and Jessica Farrell
- Elizabeth Grace Strong - child of Patrick and Caroline Strong
- Nolan Thomas Wertschnig - child of Andrew and Alaina Wertschnig
- Yeilin Cenaidera Macas - daughter of Manuel Jesus Macas Marca & Yesenia Cervantes

**Adoration Chapel Candles Dedicated December 8 - December 21:**
- Gallo Family
- Keller Family
- Corpuz Family
- Ponsaran Family

**Weekly Readings: December 8-15, 2019**
- **Monday:** Gn 3:9-15, 20/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4 [1]/Eph 1:3-6, 11-12/Lk 1:26-38
- **Tuesday:** Is 40:1-11/Ps 96:1-2, 3 and 10ac, 11-12, 13/Mt 18:12-14
- **Wednesday:** Is 40:25-31/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 8 and 10/Mt 11:28-30
- **Thursday:** Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a/Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17 [cf. 8]/Lk 1:5-25
- **Friday:** Is 48:17-19/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6/Mt 11:16-19
- **Saturday:** Sir 48:1-4, 9-11/Ps 80:2ac and 3b, 15-16, 18-19/Mt 17:9a, 10-13
- **Next Sunday:** Is 35:1-6a, 10/Ps 146:6-7, 8-9, 9-10 [Is 35:4]/Jas 5:7-10/Mt 11:2-11

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**Thank you for your generosity to our Lord and to our Parish!**

**Sunday, November 24, 2019:**
- **Oak St.** - $40,970.67
- **Pierson St.** - $3,041.21

**Sunday, December 1, 2019:**
- **Oak St.** - $39,934.71
- **Pierson St.** - $2,919.01

**Our Parish Tithe will go to St. Thomas Outreach**

“A generous person will prosper; whoever refreshes others will be refreshed.” Proverbs 11:25
Ministry Schedules - December 14-15, 2019

**Altar Servers:**

4:30 pm: F. Liparoto, A. Liparoto, M. Lyons, A. Smith
7:30 am: J. Anchor, M. Davis, J. Dunlea, A. Kobeluch
9:00 am: C. Katta, T. Kohls, E. Markuson, L. Wolff
10:30 am: A. Dovidio, N. Gawart, L. Morehead, J. O’Neill
Noon: D. Hronick, J. Hronick, A. Kinghorn, C. Kurzeja
5:30 pm: M. Fisher, W. Nieckula, L. Polston, D. Sankot

**Lectors:**

4:30 pm: C. Ossman, L. Bianchi
7:30 am: R. Lohmann, B. Williams
9:00 am: J. Tole, T. Walters
10:30 am: L. Dalton, D. Amoruso
Noon: A. Svigelj, J. Majewska
5:30 pm: N. Carpenter, P. Godfrey

**Extraordinary Ministers of Communion:**

4:30 pm: #1 R. Heuel, G. Marmol, D. Rose, S. Smith
7:30 am: #1 F. Moczulewski, D. Dunlea, M. Przybylski, P. Wyman
9:00 am: #1 S. VanHerzeele, #2 Volunteer Needed, C. Anderson, C. Brauneis, J. Brauneis, V. Cuchna, J. Ellinger, J. Gallagher, D. Schaffer, M. VanHerzeele
10:30 am: #1 Sr. Appolonia, #2 Volunteer Needed, S. Gawart, G. Houston, J. Nissen, R. Nissen, M. Popp, S. Popp, L. Tevyaw, Volunteer Needed
Noon: #1 A. O’Connell, M. Krikorian, B. Montanaro, Volunteer Needed
5:30 pm: #1, I. Carlino, M. Carpenter, J. Ladd, Jr., D. Talaga

**Celebrants:** December 9 -14, 2019

12/9 - 6:30 am - Fr. Evans, 8:30 am - Fr. Simon
12/10 - 6:30 am - Fr. Fitzpatrick, 8:30 am - Fr. Evans
12/11 - 6:30 am - Fr. Simon, 7:50 am - Fr. Fitzpatrick
12/12 - 6:30 am - Fr. Fitzpatrick, 8:30 am - Fr. Simon
12/13 - 6:30 am - Fr. Evans, 8:30 am - Fr. Fitzpatrick
12/14 - 7:30 am - Fr. Fitzpatrick

**Sunday Masses:** December 14 & 15, 2019

4:30 pm: Fr. Akan Simon
7:30 am: Fr. Charles Fitzpatrick
9:00 am: Fr. Charles Fitzpatrick
10:30 am: Fr. John Evans
Noon: Fr. John Evans
5:30 pm: Fr. Akan Simon

Parish Calendar

**Sunday, December 8:** 2nd Sunday of Advent

Coffee & Donuts

9:00 am - Parish Center - Deaf Mass
10:00 am - Lower Level - RCIA

**Monday, December 9:** Immaculate Conception of B.V.M.

10:30 am - Pierson St. Church - MMP Rosary Group
5:15 pm - Lower Level Oak - YM High School Dinner
5:30 pm - Oak St. Church - Confession
7:00 pm - Parish Center - SPRED Total Community

**Tuesday, December 10:**

9:30 am - Community Center - Mom’s Group
7:00 pm - Community Center - American Heritage Girls
7:00 pm - Lower Level Oak - Knights of Columbus

**Wednesday, December 11:** St. Damasus 1

4:00 pm - YM Office - Advent Study

**Thursday, December 12:** O.L. Guadalupe

12:00 pm - Offsite - St. Anthony Guild
6:00 pm - Community Center - Big Brothers Big Sisters Christmas Party

**Friday, December 13:** St. Lucy

10:00 am - Lower Level Oak - Prayer Shawl Ministry
6:30 pm - Community Center - Christmas Carols & Cookies

**Saturday, December 14:** St. John of the Cross

6:00 am - Community Center - That Man is You
8:00 am - Oak St. Church - Confession
8:15 am - Lower Level Oak St. - Men’s Group
8:30 am - Parish Center - SPRED Total Community
3:30 pm - Oak St. Church - Confession

**Sunday, December 15:** 3rd Sunday of Advent

Knights of Columbus Breakfast with Santa!

10:00 am - Lower Level Oak - RCIA & Adult Confirmation

**Sunday, December 8:** 2nd Sunday of Advent

Coffee & Donuts

9:00 am - Parish Center - Deaf Mass
10:00 am - Lower Level - RCIA

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**Sunday, December 15:** 3rd Sunday of Advent

Knights of Columbus Breakfast with Santa!

10:00 am - Lower Level Oak - RCIA & Adult Confirmation
Knights of Columbus Tree Lot
The Knights of Columbus #3880 would like to extend a heartfelt thank you for support of our Christmas tree and Wreath fundraiser.
- Monday-Friday 5:00 pm to 9:00 pm
- Saturdays 9:00 am to 8:00 pm
- Sundays 8:30 am to 7:00 pm

Operation Support Our Troops America
The Knights of Columbus will conduct their annual Christmas collection drive of needed items in support of our overseas military. A collection table for items being donated will be set up near the north disability entrance of the Oak St. Church. Donated items will be included in care Packages and sent to our military overseas. We will collect these items from November 30 through Sunday, December 15, at 12:00 noon.

Advent Giving Trees
Please choose a color coded ornament labeled with a gift item. Purchase your gift and attach the ornament. When you drop off your gift, please place it on the table coded with the same color as your ornament. Most of the tables are located in the Community Room and a few tables are set up near the tree. Gift cards should have an ornament attached but DO NOT WRAP. Drop them in the Oak St. Library door drop slot. Please return your gifts no later than NOON ON SUNDAY, Dec. 15th. Contact Jean Bianchi - 815-529-4259

Brass Player Memorial
Would you like to memorialize your loved one in a special way? Please consider sponsoring one of our brass or string players in honor/memory of a loved one at one of our Christmas Masses. The bulletin will have the memorial to your loved one, e.g. “The instrumentalist at our 9:00 am Mass was sponsored by the Smith Family in honor of John Smith”. The fee for an instrumentalist is $100 per Mass. If you are interested in memorializing your loved one please go to stthomascl.church/brass or contact Julie Hermann at 815-455-5400 x416 for more information.

Christmas Carols & Cookies
All are invited to this fun family celebration of Christmas carols, stories & cookies, presented by the 8th-grade class from St. Thomas School! The little ones will enjoy being read to and the rest of the family can enjoy caroling, cookies & cocoa. We also heard that Santa will be making an appearance, so be sure to bring your camera! This is a fundraiser for the 8th-grade class so a suggested donation of $10 is greatly appreciated!

Breakfast with Santa
All are invited to see Santa on Sunday, December 15 after all morning Masses. While you’re there, have a wonderful family breakfast cooked up by our Knights of Columbus Council #3880! The Knights generously donate proceeds from the breakfast to many local charities. Be sure to bring your camera for a great photo op with Santa and the kids!

Breakfast purchase not required to see Santa.
**Communal Penance Services**

Catholics are required to go to confession at least once a year. Why not make the most of this Advent season by seeking God’s most abundant mercy before receiving Him at Christmas?

**Tuesday, December 17 - St. Thomas Oak St. Church**

**Wednesday, December 18 - St. Margaret Mary - Algonquin**

An additional individual confession time at Oak St. has been added:

**Wednesday, December 18 - 3:30 - 4:30 pm**

N0 confessions on 12/16 or 12/23

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**Christmas Wafer (Oplatek)**

Does your family enjoy this beautiful tradition on Christmas Eve? If so, we have Oplatek available for purchase at the Oak St. Church. If not, why not try something new? Share these wafers as a foreshadowing of the Eucharist at your family meal on Christmas Eve. Go to [http://tiny.cc/93xvgz](http://tiny.cc/93xvgz) to learn more!

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**Traditional Christmas Concert - St. Thomas Music Ministry**

We invite you to enjoy a traditional Christmas Concert presented by our Music Ministry at the Oak St. Church on Friday, December 20, 2019 at 7:00 pm. Enjoy beautiful music from the Traditional Choir, Contemporary Choir, Handbells and Children’s Choir as they fill you with holiday cheer and the wonder of the Savior’s birth. A reception will follow in the Community Center!

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**Christmas Flower Donations**

We are now accepting cash donations for Christmas Flowers for our Altar. The suggested donation is $10 or more. Please place in an envelope marked “Christmas Flower Donations 2019”, no later than December 17 and leave in a collection basket at Mass or drop off at the Parish Office, with your name and address. Thank you for your generosity and helping to make our Church beautiful during the Christmas Season!

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**Polish Dinner**

Mówimy Po Polsku?? It’s time again for the annual Fr. McCormickski Knights of Columbus Council 3880 Polish Dinner. We’re getting ready to serve up scrumptious beef barley mushroom soup, roast pork, polish sausage, pierogi, sauerkraut, golabki, bigos and blintzes. Entertainment will include the Polinia Dance Ensemble. Get your tickets ASAP. $20.00 per adult and $10.00 per child under 12. Tickets will go on sale starting at the Knights breakfast on 12/15 and after masses on the following weekends. “Nie będzie późno”

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**Financial Peace University**

If you want to reduce stress, strengthen your marriage and get the financial traction that can give you opportunities to pay your bills with confidence, save for your future, and give like no one else, please consider joining our next Financial Peace University (FPU) class. FPU is a 9-week course that walks you through many aspects of financial prudence, including budgeting, saving, paying down debt, insurance, and more. For more details & to register please call, text, or email Mark Hryniewicz at 815-355-2774, mark.hryniewicz@gmail.com

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**Debt is the Thief of Your Future**

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**While Quantities Last**

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**Holiday Cheer & the Wonder of the Savior’s Birth**
YOUTH MINISTRY

SERVICE WITH THE SISTERS
Join us as we go to serve with the Franciscans of the Eucharist in Chicago for their annual Christmas Party! This is a beautiful and rewarding opportunity to give of yourself and serve those in need.

For more info go to stthomascl.church/ym.

December 14, 2019
Our Lady of the Angels Mission
6:30am - 5:00 pm
Grades 8-12

HS WINTER RETREAT
Don’t miss the chance this winter to come on a weekend retreat you’ll never forget. Our theme for this winter retreat is I AM and will focus on the Trinity and what our relationships with the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit look like. There will be a mix of great speakers, praise and worship, and prayer. Of course, on top of all of that, we will have tons of time for food, games, and a fun weekend. For more info go to stthomascl.church/ym.

February 7-9, 2020
Bishop Lane Retreat Center
Grades 9-12

Taste of Benedict’s
We meet every Tuesday at Taste of Benedict’s for fun and fellowship! Bring games, your homework, and friends! For more info go to stthomascl.church/ym.

Tuesdays
3:00 -5:00 pm
Taste of Benedict’s in downtown Crystal Lake
Grades 9-12

St. Thomas Students have been collecting food for the Crystal Lake Food Pantry since November 12th to help those in need. For a total of 24 days, students are asked to bring in a specific item to help towards our goal of exceeding 697 pounds! Students will continue to add to our collection until December 20, 2019. If you would like to assist us with our goal, please call the school at 815-459-0496.
LARGA ESPERA

A medida que transcurren los domingos de Adviento el foco de las lecturas cambia de la venida final del Señor a su histórico nacimiento. Las lecturas de hoy mezclan ambos. Isaías, desilusionado de los reyes de sus tiempos, imagina al rey ideal que gobernará con la aprobación de Dios y será guiado por la divina sabiduría. Por siglos el pueblo judío anticipó la llegada de ese Mesías, quien inauguraría una era de gracia cuando todo el mundo finalmente viviría en justicia y paz. Luego de siglos de creciente expectativa, la predicación de Juan Bautista sobre la inminente llegada del Mesías no hizo más que provocar un intenso interés. El mensaje del Bautista sobre “el que viene” (Mateo 3:11) deja claro que Jesús, de hecho, es aquel esperado por largo tiempo que inaugura la nueva era predicha por Isaías y todos los profetas. Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.
PARISH STAFF

PARISH CENTER – 272 King St., Crystal Lake, IL
(815) 455-5400  FAX (815) 455-2733
www.stthomascl.church
Reverend John Evans, Pastor
Reverend Charles Fitzpatrick, Parochial Vicar
Reverend Akan Simon, Parochial Vicar
Permanent Deacons:
Allen Bondi, David Deitz, Edward Morrison

Hispanic Ministry:
Reverend William Tunarosa, Parochial Vicar
Marissa Lopez, Hispanic Ministry Secretary
Jose Guimaray

Administrative Services:
Donna Kothera, Parish Secretary
Patricia Roatch, Financial Secretary
Melinda Popp, Financial Assistant

Evangelization:
Allyson Svigelj, Director

Music & Liturgy:
Julie Hermann, Music Director
Meg Struttman, Administrative Assistant

Religious Education:
Charlotte Kolodzik, Director
Christina Benkert, Secretary
Nancy Miller, Coordinator
Renee Lyons, Coordinator

Young Adult & Youth Ministry:
Anna Roche, High School Youth Minister
Lisa Kendzior, Junior High Youth Minister
Maureen Sullivan, Secretary

Receptionists:
Val DeLance, Renee Lyons,
Kris Noonan, Nancy Leibforth

Oak Street Church (Main Church)
451 W. Terra Cotta Ave (Rte. 176)
Crystal Lake, IL 60014

Pierson Street Church (Hispanic)
453 Pierson St.
Crystal Lake, IL 60014

St. Thomas the Apostle School:
Gina Houston, Principal
Gina Ruffolo, Assistant Principal
Michelle Boppart, Director of Development
Michelle Deitz, Bookkeeper

Little Saints Preschool:
Jennifer Gallien, Director

Marian Central Catholic High School
(815) 338-4220
Woodstock, IL
www.marian.com