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

Parish Center Hours

Sept - 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

Hispanic Ministry:
M-F - 9:00 - 4:30 PM
Hispanic RE:
Jueves - 6:00 - 9:00 PM
Sabados - 1:00 - 7:00 PM

Parish Resources

Little Christopher Resale Shoppe:
469 Lake St., Crystal Lake, IL
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
815-455-1249
W, Sat. - 9:00 - 11:00 AM

Crystal Lake Food Pantry:
42 East St., Crystal Lake, IL
815-455-0961
M, W, F - 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM
Th - 5:00 - 7:00 PM
Sat. - 9:00 AM - Noon

Connect with us!

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Cover photo provided by St. Thomas PR & Promotions Dept.
My dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

May Christ, Son of Mary, guide and strengthen you this week!

Remember the goal: all of us, priests and people, physically, mentally, and (most importantly) spiritually healthier AFTER the plague lifts, than we were before the first outbreak. We priests are doing everything we can in that direction; please do the same, for your good, and for ours. Before Vatican II, priests used to joke “How ridiculous would it look to preach to an empty congregation?!?” Perhaps they were prophets….

As you read this, I will be leading what’s called a canonical retreat. Deacon Jack Reichardt (God willing) is going to be ordained a priest on 6 June of this year. Normally, we pack our cathedral for such a celebration. This year, not more than 10 people (including his parents and siblings) will be able to be physically present.

Canon (Church) Law insists that, before a man is ordained, he must make a one-week retreat, asking God for His blessing upon the ordination. I remember making mine. Having had several years of formal priestly education/preparation, on the retreat, I kept saying, “God, if you DON’T want me to be a priest, please speak now!” Eleven years later, here we are!

Speaking of future priest news, one of our St. Thomas homegrown seminarians, Ryan Noorae, did a wonderful interview in this week’s Observer. A great read!

You’ve heard from Kevin Gregus on Ask a Seminarian. He did such a wonderful job! And our Eric Schreifels is staying at his assigned parish, St. Bridget’s, Loves Park, with a number of priests, including one who, before he was ordained, was a chef. If you get to choose where to quarantine, go with the former chef!

On a more serious note, John McFadden has been assured that he WILL be ordained a deacon this year, and a priest next, but the authorities are unsure as to exactly when. He was scheduled to be ordained a deacon on the 6th with the new priest. If you know John (and he’s too loud for most of you NOT to know him), you’ll know that he’s incredibly gracious about this delay, but this HAS to be a big temptation to impatience. Your prayers for him will be most appreciated.

I’m so proud of all my little brothers! In my daily prayers, I say “O Lord, send us priests! O Lord, send us many priests! O Lord, send us many HOLY priests and religious vocations!” The “holy” part of that prayer is already being answered; it’s the “many” part that I’m still waiting on…

If you’re tempted to think we have enough priests, I invite you to consider the following. In Poland, there is a town the size of Crystal Lake, with 19 priests. Before the plague, they had only two daily Masses. Unless there was a funeral, the other 17 priests would attend and concelebrate one Mass or the other. Since the outbreak, each priest does his own Mass publicly daily, and everyone who wants to go to Mass, can go to Mass, allowing for social distancing. An idea of how things COULD be, if every man who God called, said yes. I myself have prayed for the ability to bilocate; no answer yet. Please keep praying! Know that I am always

Yours in the Heart of Christ,
Fr. Evans

Deacon Jack Reichardt  
John McFadden  
Eric Schreifels  
Ryan Noorae  
Kevin Gregus

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR SEMINARIANS!
Thank you for your generosity to our Lord and to our Parish, both monetarily and prayerfully.

Weekly Donations can be mailed or dropped off at the Parish Center:
St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic Church
Attn. business office
272 King St.
Crystal Lake, IL 60014

Want to avoid the cost of checks & stamps and make budgeting easier? Click here to download the EFT form for automatic deduction!

Our Parish Tithe May 10 will go to Crystal Lake Food Pantry in Crystal Lake.

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**Mass & Prayer Intentions**

All prayer intentions are being prayed by the priests in their private Masses

**Monday, May 18**
6:30  +Leonard & Luella Streit
8:30  +Souls of the Faithful Departed

**Tuesday, May 19**
6:30  Francis X. Barciak, Special Intention
8:30  +Souls of the Faithful Departed

**Wednesday, May 20**
6:30  +Deceased Family & Friends of Paul & Alina Cribb
     Christina Moran, Special Intention
7:50 (at Pierson)  Kim Pavey, Special Intention

**Thursday, May 21**
6:30  Francis J. Barciak, Jr., Special Intention
8:30  +Nicky Fues

**Friday, May 22**
6:30  +Souls of the Faithful Departed
8:30  +Joan Robaczewski
     Chester Robaczewski, Special Intention

**Saturday, May 23**
7:30  +Souls of the Faithful Departed
4:30  +Jesus Ibarra Avila
     +Angeline Huber

**Sunday, May 24**
7:30  The People of St. Thomas Parish, Living & Deceased
9:00  +Mary Lou VanBuskirk
     +Elizabeth Mueller
10:30 +Paul Warren
     +Sam Scianna
Noon  +Ken Ryan
5:30  +Nicolas Antonio Fernandez

**Please pray for the sick:**
Lillia Chlibovytsch  Richard Hoferle
Jeff Sciackickano

**If you or your family member would like to be listed, please call the parish center -**
815-455-5400

**Please pray for the deceased:**
Norma McPherron (sister of Joan Macklin)

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

**Adoration Chapel Candles Dedicated May 10 - May 23:**
Kalecius Family  Kolberg Family

**Weekly Readings: May 11 - May 17**
**Monday:** Acts 16:11-15/Ps 149:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6a and 9b [cf. 4a]/Jn 15:26—16:4a
**Tuesday:** Acts 16:22-34/Ps 138:1-2ab, 2cde-3, 7c-8 [7c]/Jn 16:5-11
**Wednesday:** Acts 17:15, 22—18:1/Ps 148:1-2, 11-12, 13, 14/Jn 16:12-15
**Thursday:** Acts 18:1-8/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4 [cf. 2b]/Jn 16:16-20
**Ascension:** Acts 1:1-11/Ps 47:2-3, 6-7, 8-9 [6]/Eph 1:17-23/Mt 28:16-20
**Friday:** Acts 18:9-18/Ps 47:2-3, 4-5, 6-7 [8a]/Jn 16:20-23
**Saturday:** Acts 18:23-28/Ps 47:2-3, 8-9, 10 [8a]/Jn 16:23b-28
**Next Sunday:** Ascension: Acts 1:1-11/Ps 47:2-3, 6-7, 8-9 [6]/Eph 1:17-23/Mt 28:16-20

7th Sunday of Easter: Acts 1:12-14/Ps 27:1, 4, 7-8 [13]/1 Pt 4:13-16/Jn 17:1-11a
O most beautiful Flower of Mount Carmel, Fruitful Vine, Splendour of Heaven, Blessed Mother of the Son of God, Immaculate Virgin, assist me in this my necessity. O Star of the Sea, help me and show me herein that you are my Mother.

O Holy Mary, Mother of God, Queen of Heaven and Earth, I humbly beseech you from the bottom of my heart, to succour me in this necessity; there are none that can withstand your power.

O, show me herein you are my Mother, Our Lady, Queen & Beauty of Carmel, pray for me & obtain my requests.

Sweet Mother, I place this cause in your hands.

Amen.
St. Thomas is now accepting registrations for the 2020-2021 school year. Class sizes are small, and teachers give personal attention to each individual child’s proficiencies. Every Wednesday begins with the entire school attending Mass. Teachers at St. Thomas are highly qualified and caring. Kindergarten at St. Thomas not only teaches social, emotional and fine and gross motor skills but includes a full range of academics as included in our entire elementary program: math, language arts, science, social studies, music, art, physical education and technology.

St. Thomas provides an extracurricular athletic program beginning at grade 5 for both boys and girls. Other after school activities include science clubs, photography club, and choir.

Tuition is customizable through our FairAbility Program. For more information please call 815-459-0496

Our 2nd-graders participated in a virtual May Crowning, crowning either their Mary statues or their versions of Mary.
St. Thomas the Apostle Little Saints Preschool: The Importance of Play and Socialization
By Preschool Director Jennifer Gallien

The importance of preschool play and socialization is often a topic that parents look to find information on in a child’s early formative years. At first glance, preschool play may seem like just another way for children to spend time and keep occupied, but truly preschool play is so much more. Play within a social setting with peers allows children to explore, think creatively and learn new skills in preparation for the elementary school years ahead. Preschoolers practice social behaviors such as sharing, taking turns, following directions, separating from caregivers and advocating for personal needs.

At St. Thomas the Apostle Little Saints Preschool, we have implemented the philosophy of play-based learning. Our staff has developed a theme-based curriculum that applies the academic areas of religion, science, math, language arts, social sciences, Spanish, sign language, art, physical education and music education into a play-based approach to learning. Our students are given the benefits of socialization and play while strengthening their academic skills in preparation for kindergarten. Our teaching staff provides the necessary tools while making suggestions for opportunities to expand their imaginations. This play-based learning philosophy sets the stage for development of self-confidence, independence and feelings of personal accomplishment.

We are truly excited to begin our 2020-2021 school year at Little Saints. We still have openings within our classes for 2yr.Old-5yr.Old students. We would love to give you a tour of our beloved Little Saints Preschool. If you would like more information regarding our programs, tuition prices and offerings, please contact Little Saints Preschool Director Jennifer Gallien (815) 459-0496 ex. 239 or jgallien@stthomascl.org
Congratulations to all our graduates! We pray that whatever your next step is after this milestone, that you will take your faith and love of God with you.

If you are graduating from grade school, take God to High School...make a commitment to actively participate in youth groups, service opportunities at your high school, and decide to make God part of your decision process. Be the light to others and offer hope. Invite God in to help guide your future on a daily basis.

Graduating from High School this year? Take your faith to college, employment, or deployment. If you leave home to attend college or if you are entering the military, google where the Catholic Church will be in your new area. The universality of Catholicism may help us to feel connected to something familiar when everything is new and unsettled. Is there a Neuman Center on campus? Are there service projects you can assist with on campus or base? Where will God be in your life? What role will He play in the decisions you make on a daily basis? You may share a Confirmation date with many other people...but not everyone unwraps the gift at the same time. Will you unwrap yours at college? Or will you carry it to campus and leave it on the shelf? Have you asked the Lord what he wants from you and how you can best help to carry out his Mission? Have you asked the Lord to put people in your life that bring out the best in you? Have you begun to pray for your future spouse? Are you graduating from college? Do you feel your plans have been upended? Are you feeling overwhelmed by the next step in life? Have you asked God to meet you in your anxiety and show you the way through? Have you asked St. Joseph to guide your employment search? Have you asked God to show you where to go to do the most good? Is God a part of your discernment process for where you will live, work, and play? Unsure of how to discern these issues...ask a priest...they are here to help. God is always with us. He goes before us, we just need to follow.

If your journey keeps you close to us for a bit longer, or if it brings you back to us here in Crystal Lake, my hope is that you continue to find God here in this community and that you feel called to join us in our mission. Know that wherever you go, you are part of our faith family and we are here for you in all of life’s stages and challenges. We congratulate you, we celebrate your gifts, and we will leave the light on for you!
RAZÓN DE NUESTRA ESPERANZA

“¿Cuál es la razón de tu esperanza?”. Imagina que alguien se te acerca y te hace esa pregunta. No “¿qué es lo que esperas?” o ¿qué esperas hacer?”. No; no se trata de los deseos de poseer cosas o de aspiraciones en la vida, sino “¿por qué tienes esperanza?”. Hoy Pedro nos dice que debemos estar dispuestos a responder esta pregunta. A decir verdad, pocos son los que se dedican a pensar por qué tenemos esperanza. Por suerte, las Escrituras de hoy nos ofrecen la respuesta. Esperamos porque Cristo sufrió por nosotros, a fin de que podamos venir a Dios. Esperamos porque sabemos que, en el Espíritu, Dios nos concede otro Defensor en Cristo que permanecerá con nosotros por siempre. Sin importar lo que podamos esperar, o lo que esperamos poder hacer, siempre debemos saber y proclamar la razón de nuestra esperanza: la presencia de Dios en Cristo con nosotros por el poder del Espíritu. Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

DESTELLOS

Todo creyente es llamado a ser, en el mundo de hoy, como un destello de luz.

—Beato Papa Juan XXIII

“Yo le rogaré al Padre
y él les enviará . . . el Espíritu de verdad”.

— Juan 14:16–17

IMPORTANTE:

Se les comunica a todas las personas que desean contribuir a la colecta dominical que lo pueden hacer en línea, a travez del sitio web de nuestra parroquia: www.saintthomascatholicchurch.org

Así como también pueden utilizar el buzón de correo localizado a la entrada de la oficina parroquial, dejando su contribución en un sobre cerrado con su nombre escrito; de igual manera pueden enviar su contribución por correo a la oficina parroquial con dirección: 272 King St. Crystal Lake, IL. 60014

Gracias.

Santo Tomás Apóstol

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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 (815) 356-0860 jguimaray@stthomascl.church

Administrative Services:
Donna Kothera, Parish Secretary (815) 455-5400 Ext. 400
Patricia Roatch, Financial Secretary Ext. 413
Melinda Popp, Financial Assistant Ext. 405

Evangelization:
Allyson Svigelj, Director Ext. 404

Music & Liturgy:
Julie Hermann, Music Director Ext. 416
Meg Struttman, Administrative Assistant Ext. 417

Religious Education:
Charlotte Kolodzik, Director (815) 455-9787
Christina Benkert, Secretary
Nancy Miller, Coordinator
Renee Lyons, Coordinator

Young Adult & Youth Ministry:
Anna Roche, Youth Minister (815) 455-9037
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

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St. Thomas the Apostle School:
Gina Houston, Principal (815) 459-0496
Gina Ruffolo, Assistant Principal
Michelle Boppart, Director of Development
Michelle Deitz, Administrative Assistant

Little Saints Preschool:
Jennifer Gallien, Director (815) 459-0496, ext. 239

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