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
- Jueves - 6:00 - 9:00 PM

**Hispanic RE:**
- 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!**

- www.facebook.com/saintthomascl
- www.instagram.com/st.thomascl
- www.stthomascl.flocknote.com
- www.stthomascl.church

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

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

Last week, we were informed that we may begin the process of reopening for public confessions and Masses. Amid all the details of “Who will be allowed in? Who gets first priority? Sign up sheet?” etc., let’s just take a moment to remember that we get to return (albeit gradually) to the extreme PRIVILEGE of public worship.

I have included our long-time prayer of thanksgiving, the Te Deum, as a post-script. The original was written in the 400s, and has been sung/prayed ever since. One of the most famous examples was when the Parisians sang it in their beloved Notre Dame Cathedral to thank God for the end of the Second World War. The most famous English translation is the song we know as “Holy God, we praise Thy name.” Please skip below and pray it now.

Have you prayed it? Good! Okay, now, priorities. Remember why Christ founded a Church in the first place: to teach, govern, sanctify and SAVE every human being. When the COVID first broke out, a brother priest was surprised by all the fear of death. In his frustration, he said, “Father, we are not in the business of saving BODIES!!” As such, we will focus on those sacraments which are most necessary for salvation, and on those souls who need them the most. The rest will follow.

First and foremost, Jesus said to the adulterous woman, “Has no one condemned you?” (John 8:10). We are a Church of sinners, for sinners. Penitents, especially those in mortal sin, need access to what our Lord told St. Faustina is the “Tribunal of Mercy.” We will work to provide efficient access to this sacrament as soon as humanly possible. The long-standing saying, for a soul in mortal sin, confession is as necessary as baptism is for the unbaptized. Which brings us to…

Second, “Unless you be born again of water and the Spirit, you cannot enter the Kingdom of God” (John 3:5). RCIA and infant baptisms must be accommodated as soon as possible.

Third, “Let the little children come to Me!” (Matthew 19:14). First Holy Communion for our second graders is long overdue.

Fourth, “Sir, give us this Bread ALWAYS!” (John 6:34). We priests will provide access to the Eucharist as much as civil and ecclesiastical law will allow.

I cannot say it enough; thank you! Your patience with us has been our strength in these difficult times. It has happened more than I can count, that I have run into a parishioner out driving or at the pharmacy or on the phone and you’ve said to me “We miss you guys! Stay healthy!” Thanks for being what I call the Real Crystal Lake. A year ago, after our beloved AJ died, I couldn’t help but think “What happened to that child, is NOT the Real Crystal Lake! The Real Crystal Lake is full of kind, gracious people who always have a kind word and prayer.” Thanks for being the Real Crystal Lake!

Until next week, know that I remain

Yours in the Heart of Christ,
Fr. Evans

You are God: we praise you;
You are the Lord: we acclaim you; You are the eternal Father:
All creation worships you. To you all angels, all the pow’rs of heaven,
Cherubim and Seraphim, sing in endless praise: Holy, holy, holy Lord God of pow’r and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory. The glorious company of apostles praise you.
The noble fellowship of prophets praise you. The white-robed army of martyrs praise you.
Throughout the world the holy Church acclaims you; Father, of majesty unbounded,
your true and only Son, worthy of all worship, and the Holy Spirit
advocate and guide. You, Christ, are the king of glory,
the eternal Son of the Father. When you became man to set us free
you did not shun the Virgin’s womb. You overcame the sting of death
and opened the kingdom of heaven to all believers. You are seated at God’s right hand in glory.
We believe that you will come and be our judge. Come then, Lord, and help your people,
bought with the price of your own blood, and bring us with your saints
to glory everlasting.
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 24 will go to Louverture Cleary School in Haiti

Mass & Prayer Intentions

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

Monday, May 25: St. Bede the Venerable
6:30 +Yvonne Andejeske
8:30 +Carol Ann Boulet

Tuesday, May 26: St. Phillip Neri
6:30 +Souls of the Faithful Departed
8:30 +Souls of the Faithful Departed

Wednesday, May 27: St. Augustine of Canterbury
6:30 +Souls of the Faithful Departed
7:50 (at Pierson) +Souls of the Faithful Departed

Thursday, May 28
6:30 +Souls of the Faithful Departed
8:30 +Mary Sherwood
   +Kyle McCoy

Friday, May 29: St. Paul VI, Pope
6:30 Marjorie Swanson, Special Intention
8:30 +Gloria Novak

Saturday, May 30
7:30 Nancy Luehrs, Special Intention
4:30 +Deacon Ralph Statter
   +Robert Sund

Sunday, May 31: Pentecost
7:30 +Mary Sullivan
9:00 +Bill Winberg
   +Evelyn Kubica
10:30 Holy Hearts Eucharistic Chapel Adorers, Special Intention
Noon +Brenden Cohen
5:30 The People of St. Thomas Parish, Living & Deceased

Please pray for the sick:
Lillia Chlibovytsch    Richard Hoferle
Jeff Sclackitano

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 24 - June 6:
Spitznogle Family    Ringness Family

Weekly Readings: May 25-May 31
Monday: Acts 19:1-8; Ps 68:2-3ab, 4-5acd, 6-7ab; Jn 16:29-33
Tuesday: Acts 20:17-27; Ps 68:10-11, 20-21; Jn 17:1-11a
Thursday: Acts 22:30; 23:6-11; Ps 16:1-2a, 5, 7-11; Jn 17:20-26
Friday: Acts 25:13b-21; Ps 103:1-2, 11-12, 19-20ab; Jn 21:15-19
Saturday: Acts 28:16-20, 30-31; Ps 11:4, 5, 7; Jn 21:20-25
Sunday: Vigil: Gn 11:1-9 or Ex 19:3-8a, 16-20b or Ez 37:1-14 or Jl 3:1-5; Ps 104:1-2, 24, 35, 27-28, 29-30; Rom 8:22-27; Jn 7:37-39
Day: Acts 2:1-11; Ps 104:1, 24, 29-31, 34; 1 Cor 12:3b-7, 12-13; Jn 20:19-23
O Mary Immaculate, the precious name of Mother of Confidence, with which we honor you, fills our hearts to overflowing with the sweetest consolation and moves us to hope for every blessing from you. If such a title has been given to you, it is a sure sign that no one has recourse to you in vain.

Accept, therefore, with a mother’s love our devout homage, as we earnestly beseech you to be gracious unto us in our every need. We pray that you will make us live in constant union with you and your divine Son, Jesus.

With you as our guide, we are certain that we shall walk in the right way and that it will be our happy lot to hear you say on the last day of our life those words of comfort: “Come then, my good and faithful servant, enter into the joy of the Lord.”

Amen.
Little Saints Preschool 2020-2021

Are you wondering if you should enroll your preschooler for the fall with all that is going on in our world? Do you have questions on your mind?

We are all feeling unsure of what the plans are going to be for back to school in the fall. We will continue to pray for health, safety and peace as we continue through the summer months. We will remain faithful and watch patiently as our nation begins to rise and rebuild.

In terms of back to school, we are aware that this can be a confusing process for parents. This is especially true for our first-time preschool families during a time in our world when things are so uncertain. Back in February, Little Saints Preschool hosted a 2020-2021 preschool registration event. Several of our eight sections of preschool classes filled right away. Many positions are still available for children in our Toddler and Parent Class all the way through our five day per week classes. Little Saints Preschool days begin at 8:00am and continue through both a morning session (8:00am-10:30am) and an afternoon session (11:30am-2:00pm). In addition, we provide extended care for little ones until 6:00pm.

We are in the process of continuing to accept 2020-2021 registration paperwork and placing students in class sections in order to properly be prepared when our preschool is ready to open and resume classes. If you are interested in securing your space for class, we would encourage you to contact us. You will be under no obligation if you choose to change your decision of attending preschool as information becomes available in terms of reopening for fall 2020. Please contact Preschool Director Jennifer Gallien (815) 459-0496 ex. 239 or jgallien@stthomascl.org for more information.
**Virtual Junior High Hangout**

We are continuing JH youth ministry VIRTUALLY!
All junior high students are invited to join us for our JH hangouts, Thursday afternoons via Skype! A link to join the Skype call is sent out 5-10 minutes before each call. If you’d like to join and don’t receive an email aroche@stthomascl.church for the link.

**Thursday afternoons**
- Grades 6-8
- Via Skype call
- 4-5:30PM

---

**Virtual High School Hangout**

We are continuing HS Hangout VIRTUALLY!
All high schoolers are invited to join us for our high school hangouts, Tuesday afternoons via Skype! A link to join the Skype call is sent out 5-10 minutes before each call. If you’d like to join and don’t receive an email aroche@stthomascl.church for the link.

**Tuesdays**
- Grades 9-12
- Via Skype
- 3-5PM

---

**Gospel Reflection**

Twice a week we get together on Skype to pray with and reflect on the gospel of the day. This is an opportunity to add some structured prayer time in this season of confusion and chaos, as well as keeping a sense of community in the midst of social distancing.

I send out a link for the video chat just minutes before the call, if you don’t receive an email please email aroche@stthomascl.church and I’ll email you the link to join!

**Mondays and Wednesdays**
- Grades 6-12
- Via Skype
- 10am

---

**Religious Education Corner**

**Jesus has ascended, but has he left us?**

*But I tell you the truth, it is better for you that I go. For if I do not go, the Advocate will not come to you. But if I go, I will send him to you.* - **John 16:7**

When Jesus ascended into heaven, the apostles most likely would have been filled with uncertainty, fear about the future, full of questions, and perhaps even loneliness. They gathered strength from their knowledge of who they knew Jesus to be and that He always kept His promises. He promised to go before them and prepare a place for them. Times have not changed. He goes before us to prepare the way.

The Covid - 19 pandemic has left us all in our own upper rooms with the door locked for fear of the virus. Human beings do not like uncertainty. Anyone with children will tell you they thrive with a routine and knowing what comes next. We are God’s children. Like the apostles, I know Jesus to be a man of His word. I believe He will send an advocate. His promise fills me with hope. So this week join me in calling down the Holy Spirit in preparation for Pentecost, next Sunday. (Easter was 50 days ago? Who is counting? We are all counting.)

Pray for that strong driving wind to fill your house.

Pray for those tongues of fire to set us ablaze.

*Veni, Sancte Spiritus - Holy Spirit, Lord of Light...Come!*  

*When the time for Pentecost was fulfilled, they were all in one place together. And suddenly there came from the sky a noise like a strong driving wind, and it filled the entire house in which they were. Then there appeared to them tongues as of fire, which parted and came to rest on each one of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit* - **Acts 2:1-4**
“EMPUJADOS” A LA MISIÓN

Hay un personaje encantado en Las historias del Dr. Dolittle llamado “Pushmi-Pullyu” [equivalente a Mempujas-Tehalo]. Es una bestia con dos mitades idénticas, con una cabeza en cada extremo. Sea cual fuera la dirección en que camina la bestia, un extremo “empuja” y el otro “hala”. La fiesta de hoy refleja algo parecido en la vida de la Iglesia. En el libro de los Hechos de los Apóstoles, es la Ascensión de Cristo la que llama al Espíritu Santo, quien a su vez envía o “empuja” a la Iglesia a realizar su misión. Tal es el mensaje que hoy oímos decir a los ángeles cuando dicen a los amigos de Jesús que no se queden mirando hacia las nubes, sino que se pongan en acción. Es el mensaje del mismo Jesús en el Evangelio según Mateo, cuando los envía a bautizar: “yo estaré con ustedes todos los días, hasta el fin del mundo” (Mateo 28:20). Y es este mensaje, con fe llena de confianza en Jesús que ha ascendido con gritos de gozo, el que “nos empuja” hacia nuestro destino final. La vida del discípulo fiel, enviado al mundo con su misión, es la que un día conocerá la misma gloria resucitada y ascendida.

La Ascensión del Señor
Se fue elevando a la vista de ellos, hasta que una nube lo ocultó a sus ojos.
— Hechos 1:9

IMPORTANTÉ:
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
Ministerio Hispano
7 Rosary Tips for Catholic Families

~ from KatieWarner.com ~

Want to pray the Rosary as a family? Here are some helpful strategies.

The first three ideas are taken from the advice of Fr. Basil Cole, O.P., mentioned in the Catholic News Agency article by Matt Hadro, “The rosary – pray it, don’t just say it, priest exhorts.” I added a few additional tips, which, through personal trial and error and through hearing what other families do, have proven to be useful in giving the Rosary a more regular place in our family life.

1. **Pause before each mystery to reflect.** Mention the mystery before you start the decade, and pause a moment to reflect on that mystery, reminding you to think of that moment in Christ’s life (maybe even through the perspective of Mary) as you pray the following Our Father and Hail Mary’s.

2. **Offer up each decade for a specific intention.** Have someone in the family (or everyone) mention an intention they’d like that decade to be offered for.

3. **Split it up.** The Dominican priest, Fr. Cole, recommends that people consider praying a decade of the Rosary at different times throughout the day, allowing more time to focus on each one. He recommends this as a far better alternative to “rushing through an entire Rosary” just for the sake of praying it all at once.

4. **Pick a set time.** In our family, we usually pray a decade of the Rosary after dinner, since we are all gathered together then anyway. Warning: If it’s too close to bedtime, you’ll have sleepy pray-ers. Having a routine location is helpful, too.

5. **Rotate voices.** Maybe dad prays the beginning of each prayer and the family completes, for example. Give children the chance to lead, too.

6. **Ask for the intercession of the saints.** Have each family member ask for one favorite saint’s intercession before or after the Rosary or decade.

7. **Set the atmosphere.** Make a holy atmosphere around the place you’ll pray. Perhaps you can have a picture or icon of Jesus and the Blessed Mother nearby, and/or light candles.

“Many in the world have lost the sense of contemplation, but if it is recovered, prayer could greatly strengthen individuals and families…. If it [the rosary] is done correctly, wow it can really strengthen a marriage. Because in a marriage [and family], you have to face trials and difficulties. You need patience and kindness – graces that the rosary offers us are there.” -Fr. Basil Cole, O.P.

For free resources to help you live an intentional faith at home with your family, visit KatieWarner.com.
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
(815) 356-0860
jguimaray@stthomascl.church

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

Evangelization:
Allyson Svigelj, Director
Ext. 404

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

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

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

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, Administrative Assistant
(815) 459-0496
265 King St.
Crystal Lake, IL 60014
www.stthomascl.org

Little Saints Preschool:
Jennifer Gallien, Director
(815) 459-0496, ext. 239
454 Lake St.
Crystal Lake, IL 60014

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