



Volume 17 - Issue 1

The Good Samaritan

May 2018

Upcoming Events

June

- 6—Spiritual Life
- 6-7—VBS Setup
- 7—K of C
- 8-9—VBS
- 10—Parish Picnic
- 13—St. Anne’s Club
- 14—Finance/Bld. Grounds
- 20—Women’s Club
- 21—K of C
- 24—Birthline
- 27—Parish Council

July

- 5—K of C
- 6—Adoration-12:30-6pm
- 11—St. Anne’s Club
- 17—Finance/Bld. Grounds
- 19—K of C
- 25—Parish Council
- 29—Birthline
- 31—Festival Setup

August

- 1-2— Festival Setup
- 2—K of C
- 3—Adoration 12:30-6pm
- 3—**Monte Carlo Festival**
- 5—Festival Teardown
- 8—St. Anne’s Club
- 10—Catechist Retreat
- 12—Parent Meeting
- 16—K of C
- 19—First RE Class
- 21—Finance/Bld. Grounds
- 26—Birthline
- 29—Parish Council



What’s Happening at St. Thomas

Parish Council

Parish Council Nominees were obtained and tallied. Nominees will be presented at the Masses on June 2nd & 3rd. Voting will be on June 9th & 10th. The Parish Council will meet again June 27th.

Religious Education:

Many of our Religious Education students participated in the Winter Retreat on February 16-17. The theme was “Pray, Fast, Give” and was a great beginning to the Lenten Season. The weekend was concluded with the children participating in the 5PM Mass, followed by a Chili Supper/Cook-off. Three new members were welcomed into the Church during the Easter Vigil on March 31. Eight of our high school youth celebrated their Confirmation at Saints Peter and Paul Cathedral in downtown Indianapolis on April 5th. On Saturday, April 28, five 2nd graders received their First Holy Communion. Lastly, we celebrated our graduating high school seniors in a Baccalaureate Mass on Saturday, May 19th. Sarah Dudley and Maya Watt were the recipients of the 100th Anniversary Memorial Scholarship.

Spiritual Life Committee:

The Good Friday mass was well attended at 3pm. June 10th will be the Parish Picnic, right after VBS. We are planning for another movie night in the fall.

Women’s Club:

The ladies recently enjoyed a night out to eat and will be finishing up for the year by having a Tea Party in June and taking the months of July and August off. Recently, we have bought 3 new benches for the Prayer Garden and covered the cost of 3 of the Scholarships given to our graduating high school seniors. We look forward to many more ways we can help in our parish and in the community. We welcome any female parishioner that would like to join us in our many endeavors.

St. Anne’s Club:

St. Anne’s ladies met again on the 2nd Wed. of the month for a fun filled afternoon of Euchre and chatter. Anyone else in the Parish who has Wed. afternoons free and would like to join us is very welcome. Call Lois Hanson 317-485-4692.

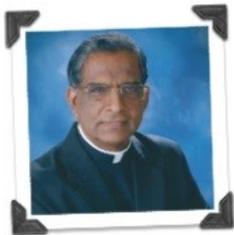
Finance/Building & Grounds Committee:

Vent cleaning in the hall was completed. New carpet in the hall and new floor in kitchen are complete. A new bench has been assembled and placed in the prayer garden and the broken removed. A new sound system has been installed in the church.



Eighth grade recipients of the Serra Club Servers Awards:

Sophia DeWael (Server of the Year) , Catherine Dudley, and Everett Burns



Dear Saint Thomas Family,

Greetings and Love! Time goes fast! Schools are being closed for summer holidays. Families start going for vacation. I can expect that Church attendance may fall too in the coming weeks. Here comes our Summer newsletter with beautiful photos of our graduates and their faith experience. Our Parish is proud of them and their presence in the Church. We will miss them. May God watch over them where ever they are going to live! Our congratulations to them! Saint John Vianney the patron saint of priests says "God has given each of us our own work to do. It is for us to pursue our road, that is to say, our vocation When God gives us such and such a vocation, He bestows upon us at the same time His grace to fulfill it".

June 3rd is the feast of "Corpus Christi" a day to remember that we are parts of Christ's mystical body. A Parish works and pursues to build up His body. We are connected and dependent on one another. We need one another's support and prayers in the family and in the community. I appreciate all the volunteers who are contributing their time and talents for the growth of our community. Without the spirit of stewardship, no Pastor can run a Parish. Let us contribute more to our Parish needs. Marvin Massey in his Wellness Class asked always to say five affirmations about us. So too I ask all of you to speak five affirmations about our Parish, St Thomas!
Let us pray for each other!

**God Bless You,
Fr. George Nangachiveettil**

*If one part of the body suffers,
Then all the other parts suffer with it.
Or if one part is honored,
then all the other parts share its honor.
All of you together are the body of Christ.
Each one of you is a part of that body.
1 Corinthians 12:26-27*

ADMINISTRATOR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

When I was a younger mom and stayed home, I relished all the little quirky conversations and the offbeat logic that my kids used to explain life. My kids were amusing. My kids and I will have some pretty good conversations now that they are in college and the laughter can be crippling. I enjoy this young adult period in my children's lives enormously. I do miss the simplicity of their lives making paper dolls and tucking them (the paper dolls) in at night, building a sand castle in the sand box then driving a Tonka truck over it to rescue a Barbie who was being attacked by a dinosaur, and picking red clover flowers from the empty lot to make tea. Sometimes we mothers get too busy driving the car pool, grocery shopping and fixing life's little catastrophes that we forget until many years later how much joy we had raising our children. I long for those days. I know someday I will have grandchildren to do it all over again (not toooooo soon).



In the meantime, I have all of your children to amuse me. Someone asked me the other day what has been the highlight of my year. The highlights have been far too many to count. Rather, ask me what has been the highlight of my week or my Sunday. Because even on the most regular of Sundays there IS something that has made my week – your children. I am in awe of these children (PreK – 12) how smart they are, how well they read, their observations about Jesus, Christianity and life. They are so respectful and willing to help and share their knowledge. Parents, you did that! I am in awe of you. Thank you for all of these treasures.

You all know I am a crier. I tear up even as I write this thinking of all the wonderful memories we've made together this year. Someday, if I am lucky maybe I will be a recognized saint of the Catholic Church. I will be St. Theresa the Joyful Crier. I am so blessed not only in my position here at St. Thomas but with my family, marriage, health, friends and your continued support.

We had a wonderful season of sacraments with our RCIA neophytes, first communicants, and confirmands. I am now planning for VBS on June 8, 9 and 10. June 9th will be my 3rd anniversary as A.R.E. here at St. Thomas and my birthday. I am thinking about it a lot now because I will be too busy having fun at VBS with your kids to think about it then. The only present I want on that day is to spend time with your kids and deliver the best possible VBS experience I can. Don't forget to register! At least one of my kids will be here to help and for that I am grateful.

Remember to attend Mass over the summer months wherever you are and to continue to talk about God and Jesus and to pray with your children regularly. I hope I have lived up to your expectations. I am available to you almost 24/7. I am here to help in whatever way I can and to bring the Catechesis of the Catholic Church to you and your children.

**God Speed,
Theresa Werking**



FORMED®

Did you know there are cartoons and other video for kids on FORMED? If you are a parishioner at St. Thomas, go to Formed.org and register using the code, **PJR9PB**. If you see something that might help a lapsed Catholic or non-Catholic by removing misconceptions about the Catholic faith, then please share for evangelization purposes. Please register and check it out.

Register

Sign up free using your parish code

Go to www.formed.org and use code **PJR9PB**

Please welcome our New Parishioners:

January 2018

Joe & Rita Cerda

William Hukill & Diana Enyeart

Brett & Courtney Schroeder

March 2018

Paul & Heather Braun, Blake, Grant & Luke

Thomas Jeschke

Kevin & Christine Wagner

April 2018

Chris & Kayla Huffman

Joseph Miller, (child) Ava

Presence

The Mystery of the Eucharist

It's not about what it is. It's about *Who* it is.

Explore the mystery of God's love expressed in the Eucharist with this new original series by Augustine Institute Studios. World-renowned Catholic presenters unveil the truth and beauty behind the "source and summit" of the Christian life, from its origins in Sacred Scripture, to its profound role in the life of the Church and its members.



Watch on formed.org

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The 12 Apostles



Do we know the 12 Apostles, their patronage, and feast days?

Peter, Patron of Rome and fishermen- feast day: June 29

Andrew, Patron of fishermen, Scotland, Greece and Constantinople - feast day: November 30

James the Greater, Patron of Spain, arthritis and hat makers - feast day: July 25

John the Evangelist, Patron of editors, writers, burn victims and prison victims - feast day: December 27

James the Less, Patron of fullers and pharmacists - feast day: May 3

Bartholomew, Patron of shoemakers, cobblers, butchers and tanners - feast day: August 24

Thomas, Patron of India, Pakistan and doubters - feast day: July 3

Jude Thaddeus, Patron of lost causes, hopeless cases and impossible burdens - feast day: October 28

Matthew, Patron of tax collectors, accountants and book keepers - feast day: September 21

Philip, Patron of pastry chefs, jockeys, horsemen, Uruguay and Luxembourg - feast day: May 3

Simon the Zealot, Patron of lumberjacks and woodcutters - feast day: October 28

Matthias, who replaced Judas, Patron of reformed alcoholics and tailors - feast day May 14

Festival

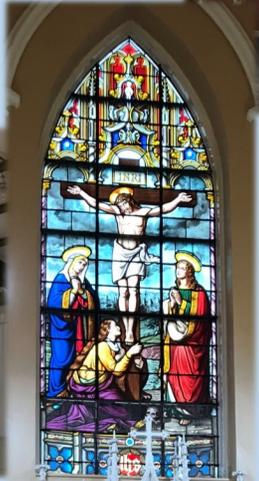
The Festival Committee has been meeting and organizing for our Annual Summer Festival. The Festival will be on Saturday, August 4th with Monte Carlo the night before. Our Festival is totally run by our own parishioners and their family and friends. We do not have outside vendors. This is a large undertaking and a fun filled day for all involved. If you have not had a chance to sign up, there are sign up sheets in the back of church or just get a hold of Stephanie Garst and she will help get you involved. It is a great function that we have held for 36 years and is a major addition to the parish budget to help with the running of St. Thomas.



Please invite your family and friends out for the day. There will be entertainment, good food, games for the children, raffles, bingo and much, much more. See you there!

Long Range Planning Committee

On March 24th, Matt Dickerson, Mike Tinnel, Kevin Brady, and Kevin Sears traveled to Kentucky to visit two churches. One ended up not being able to accommodate our visit, but we did visit the other, St. Mary Catholic Church. This church was a traditional design similar to St. Thomas, only larger with seating for around 400. The Crucifix over the tabernacle was stained glass from France, which was amazing. There was a center aisle and aisles on each side also. Being a slightly larger version of our church, it felt very inviting and with the same quaint feel that our church exudes. They also have a Red Cross approved community center on their campus. A community center like this would be a great addition to the Fortville area and to our parish.



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

The St. Thomas council 15712 received an award of Star Council for 2017. The Star Council Award recognizes outstanding achievement in membership, insurance and service program activities. Part of this award recognizes excellence in your council's programming and charitable outreach. This year the Knights have hosted, coordinated, or sponsored several events, including the Fat Tuesday Dinner, Valentine's Day Dinner, 40 Cans for Lent, Mother's Day Breakfast, and Field of Honor. The Field of Honor is being chaired by Jeff Young and will be held on June 13-17, 2018 at Mt. Comfort Airport. Go to www.healingfield.org/greenfield18/ or contact Jeff Young at jly350@yahoo.com to find out how you can help sponsor this gift to our community!



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Congratulations Graduates

“It has been a place where I feel others encouraging me to go back into the world and live my life as a blessing to others. The most influential thing the parishioners of St. Thomas have done for me is to show me how important it is to not just go through the motions of practicing your faith.”

“The greatest impact that St. Thomas has had on my faith journey is when I had the opportunity to help serve the elderly at the nursing homes. Seeing those people who do not get many visitors smile and see the joy they have makes me very happy. It showed me that my faith can not only help to benefit myself, but those that I touch with it. In the end, St. Thomas has helped to further my faith life and to strengthen it as well.”

“The biggest role model for me in our parish is Mary Weir because even at her age she still attends church.

Another is my Mom; despite my dad not being catholic, she has made a point to show us the importance of attending mass and growing in our faith.”

“My favorite memory is Sophomore Confirmation class at Dave Garst’s Farm. The style of education being blended with discussion & good times (Bonfires & hay rides) is a format that should never be lost to time.”



“I greatly look up to my father and his faith. He practices Catholicism in his everyday life, which is very admirable. Also, Mother Theresa’s willingness to help the poor and her selfless actions have greatly influenced me to help others who are unfortunate.”



Spring Happenings

Busy times!



First Communion and First Communion Brunch



May Crowning



LAST DAY OF CLASS



**Women's Club Night
out on the Town**



Have a GREAT Summer