

We, the baptized ministers,

declare Christ's Mission for us:

to grow as a Church

in the spiritual strength

of community,

and to care, reach out,

and include all people in Christ's love.

Ninth Sunday after Pentecost



Holy Eucharist, Rite II—10:00 AM August 10, 2025

Welcome to St. Thomas! We are so glad that you are here with us. If you are new to our community, we invite you to fill out a welcome card located in the pew rack in front of you, and either place it in the offering plate or hand it to a priest.

We also invite you to stay with us for coffee hour after the service.

THE WORD OF GOD

Welcome

The Rev. Dr. Caroline Mitchell

Prelude



Words: Translations and Paraphrases, 1745, alt.; para. of Hebrews 12: 1-3. Music: St. Fulbert, Henry John Gauntlett (1805-1876).

The Acclamation

Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

Collect for Purity

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.





Music: Robert Powell (b. 1932), rev. Setting: Copyright © Church Publishing Inc.

The Collect of the Day

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.** Let us pray.

Grant to us, Lord, we pray, the spirit to think and do always those things that are right, that we, who cannot exist without you, may by you be enabled to live according to your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Lessons

The First Lesson Isaiah 1:1, 10-20

A reading from the Prophet Isaiah.

The vision of Isaiah son of Amoz, which he saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem in the days of Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah, kings of Judah.

Hear the word of the Lord, you rulers of Sodom! Listen to the teaching of our God, you people of Gomorrah! What to me is the multitude of your sacrifices? says the Lord; I have had enough of burnt offerings of rams and the fat of fed beasts; I do not delight in the blood of bulls, or of lambs, or of goats. When you come to appear before me, who asked this from your hand? Trample my courts no more; bringing offerings is futile; incense is an abomination to me. New moon and sabbath and calling of convocation-- I cannot endure solemn assemblies with iniquity. Your new moons and your appointed festivals my soul hates; they have become a burden to me, I am weary of bearing them. When you stretch out your hands, I will hide my eyes from you; even though you make many prayers, I will not listen; your hands are full of blood. Wash yourselves; make yourselves clean; remove the evil of your doings from before my eyes; cease to do evil, learn to do good; seek justice, rescue the oppressed, defend the orphan, plead for the widow. Come now, let us argue it out, says the Lord: though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be like snow; though they are red like crimson, they shall become like wool. If you are willing and obedient, you shall eat the good of the land; but if you refuse and rebel, you shall be devoured by the sword; for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 50:1-8, 23-24 (We will pray a portion of Psalm 50 responsively by half verse)

1 The Lord, the God of gods, has spoken; *

he has called the earth from the rising of the sun to its setting.

2 Out of Zion, perfect in its beauty, *

God reveals himself in glory.

3 Our God will come and will not keep silence; *

before him there is a consuming flame, and round about him a raging storm.

4 He calls the heavens and the earth from above *

to witness the judgment of his people.

5 "Gather before me my loyal followers, *

those who have made a covenant with me and sealed it with sacrifice."

6 Let the heavens declare the rightness of his cause; *

for God himself is judge.

7 Hear, O my people, and I will speak: "O Israel, I will bear witness against you; * for I am God, your God.

8 I do not accuse you because of your sacrifices; *

your offerings are always before me.

23 Consider this well, you who forget God, *

lest I rend you and there be none to deliver you.

24 Whoever offers me the sacrifice of thanksgiving honors me; * but to those who keep in my way will I show the salvation of God."

The Second Lesson

Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews.

Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. Indeed, by faith our ancestors received approval. By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was made from things that are not visible.

By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to set out for a place that he was to receive as an inheritance; and he set out, not knowing where he was going. By faith he stayed for a time in the land he had been promised, as in a foreign land, living in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. For he looked forward to the city that has foundations, whose architect and builder is God. By faith he received power of procreation, even though he was too old-- and Sarah herself was barren-- because he considered him faithful who had promised. Therefore from one person, and this one as good as dead, descendants were born, "as many as the stars of heaven and as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore."

All of these died in faith without having received the promises, but from a distance they saw and greeted them. They confessed that they were strangers and foreigners on the

earth, for people who speak in this way make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. If they had been thinking of the land that they had left behind, they would have had opportunity to return. But as it is, they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God; indeed, he has prepared a city for them.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.



Words: Laurentius Laurenti (1660-1722); tr. Sarah B. Findlater (1823-1907), alt. Music: Llangloffan, melody from Hymnau a Thonau er Gwasanaeth yr Eglwys yng Nghymru, 1865.

The Gospel

Luke 12:32-40

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said to his disciples, "Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom. Sell your possessions, and give alms. Make purses for yourselves that do not wear out, an unfailing treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

"Be dressed for action and have your lamps lit; be like those who are waiting for their master to return from the wedding banquet, so that they may open the door for him as soon as he comes and knocks. Blessed are those slaves whom the master finds alert when he comes; truly I tell you, he will fasten his belt and have them sit down to eat, and he will come and serve them. If he comes during the middle of the night, or near dawn, and finds them so, blessed are those slaves.

"But know this: if the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon

The Rev. Fran Gardner-Smith

The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,

the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father,

God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,

begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father.

Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven:

by the power of the Holy Spirit

he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures;

he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son.

With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.

He has spoken through the Prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

The Prayers of the People

The prayers of the people is a time for us to come together as we offer our prayers to God. Please offer your own prayers in the pauses, either silently or aloud. Kneeling as you are able, let us pray.

Lord, listen to the prayers of your people, gathered at your table. We remember our community and its needs [pause]. In faith, we pray to you, our God.

Here, where we celebrate how Christ gave us his body to be our spiritual food, listen as we pray for his body the Church, spread throughout the world. We pray for Sean, our Presiding Bishop; Mark, Gayle, and Mark, our Bishops; Fran, Will, Caroline, Lori, Rishabh, Mary and Nicole, our staff; Beth, our Seminarian; the teachers at the Early Learning Center; and the Vestry and Officers of St. Thomas. In faith, we pray to you, our God.

Here, where we recognize the presence of Christ, who takes away the sin of the world, listen as we pray for that world and for its peoples for whom his blood was shed [pause]. In faith, we pray to you, our God.

Here, where we come together as Christ gathered with his friends to give us this meal of holy fellowship, listen as we pray for all whom you have given us, our friends and all whose lives are joined with ours. We pray for Rob Coogan, Chris Forward, and all those celebrating birthdays this week; for all those celebrating wedding anniversaries this week; and for those blessings you would name [pause]. In faith, we pray to you, our God.

Here, where we remember the night of Christ's agony and trial, listen as we pray for all who share his sufferings through fear or pain or distress of any kind. Together we pray for Ethan, Vincent, Yusuf, Emily and Dave, Lynn, Jan, Cathy, Erin, Andy, Diane, Alison, Sean, Bill, Katie and Scott, Bill, Frank, Bridgid, Roger, Christian, Chuck, Dani, Doris, Dave, Anne, John, Skeets, and those whom you would name [pause].

In faith, we pray to you, our God.

Here, where we join our praises with the whole company of heaven, listen as we pray for those who have died. We remember all those whom you would name [pause]. In faith, we pray to you, our God.

Lord, satisfy our hunger with the food that lasts, the bread of God which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world, Jesus Christ your Son our Lord. **Amen.**

Adapted from the Church of England, Common Worship resource, found at https://www.churchofengland.org/prayer-and-worship/worship-texts-and-resources/common-worship/churchs-year/times-and-seasons-5#mmm260

Together let us pray for St Thomas Church.

Almighty God, by your Spirit the whole body of your Church is governed and sanctified, hear our prayer for St Thomas, build in us a renewed vision of your Church; shape our life according to your will; empower us with the gifts to make us one that together we may grow as a church in the spiritual strength of community and reach out to include all people in Christ's love, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Confession and Absolution of Sin

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor. *A time of silence*. Together, let us pray: Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through the grace of Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

The Peace

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you

Following the exchange of peace in the church, peace is exchanged with the congregation on Zoom.

The Offertory

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.



It's Easy to Give Electronically to St. Thomas

Scan the QR code, or visit the GIVING page on the St. Thomas website: https://stthomasmcleanva.org/giving/donate.

Offertory Anthem

Bless Now

#142 Voices Found





- 1 Bless now, O God the jour - ney that all your peo - ple make, 2 Bless so way—
- journ-ers and pil grims who share this wind-ing e ter nal lov er, you meet us on the 3 Di - vine road.





the path thru noise and si - lence, the way of give and take. whose hope burns throughout the ter - rors whose love sus-tains the day. We wait for land of prom-ise where milk and hon - ey flow.









Play either keyboard or guitar accompaniment, but not together.

The Doxology (to the tune of Old 100th)

#380 Hymnal 1982

Praise God from whom all blessings flow Praise Him all creatures here below Praise Him above, ye heavenly hosts Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Gluten free wafers are available on request. We will not have a healing minister during communion, but if you desire prayers for healing, you can see Rev. Fran or Rev. Caroline after church.

The Great Thanksgiving Eucharistic Prayer A

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

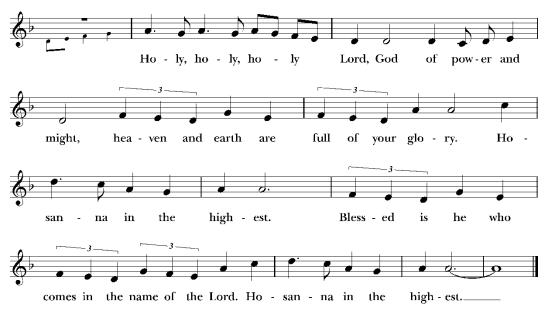
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give him thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. For you are the source of light and life, you made us in your image, and called us to new life in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Sanctus: #S129 Hymnal 1982



Music: Robert Powell (b. 1932). Setting: Copyright © Church Publishing Inc.

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all. He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

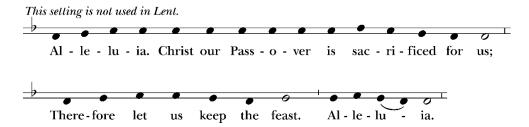
We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray,

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

The Fraction: #S152 Hymnal 1982



The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

A note about the distribution of the Eucharist:

We offer both the common cup and a cup for intinction. If you would like to receive by intinction, please go the left side of the altar rail and the presiding priest will dip the bread in the cup for you. If you would like to sip from the common cup, please go to the right side of the altar rail where the bread and the cup will be offered separately.

<u>Prayer for Spiritual Communion on Zoom</u>

While some are receiving communion at church, those worshiping on Zoom say the following prayer: My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the Blessed Sacrament. I love you above all things and I desire you in my soul. Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. As though you were already there, I embrace you and unite myself wholly to you; never permit me to be separated from you. Amen.



Words: Johann Franck (1618-1677); tr. Arthur Wellesley Wotherspoon (1853-1936), alt. Music: *Jesu, meine Freude*, Johann Cruger (1698-1662), alt.

Post-communion Prayer for a Multi-located Congregation

Let us pray. God of abundance, we gather as your faithful people near and far. We believe you are present with us as we are united with Christ and one another in prayer and sacrament. We thank you for feeding all of us with your love and for making us one with all your people in heaven and on earth. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your love to the world and continue for ever in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen. Written by the Rev. Dorota Wright-Pruski, adapted by the Rev. Will Drosos

The Blessing

May God give you grace to follow his saints in faith and hope and love; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

<u>Announcements</u>

The Recessional Hymn can be found on pages 16-17

The Dismissal

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Worship Participants

	p : a: ::-pa::-:
Presider	Rev. Caroline Mitchell
Preacher	Rev. Fran Gardner-Smith
Acolytes	Joseph Cuomo & Charlie Rhodes
Altar Guild	Louise Armitage
Flower Guild	Melinda Fairchild
Digital Usher	Jennifer Alexander
Digital Verger	Jeff Crigler
Lector & Intercessor	Rev. David Smith
Eucharistic Ministers	Louise Armitage & Pat Smith
Usher	Louise Rosenburgh
Fellowship Hour Host	Steve Wickman

AUGUST VESTRY PERSON Alan Thode

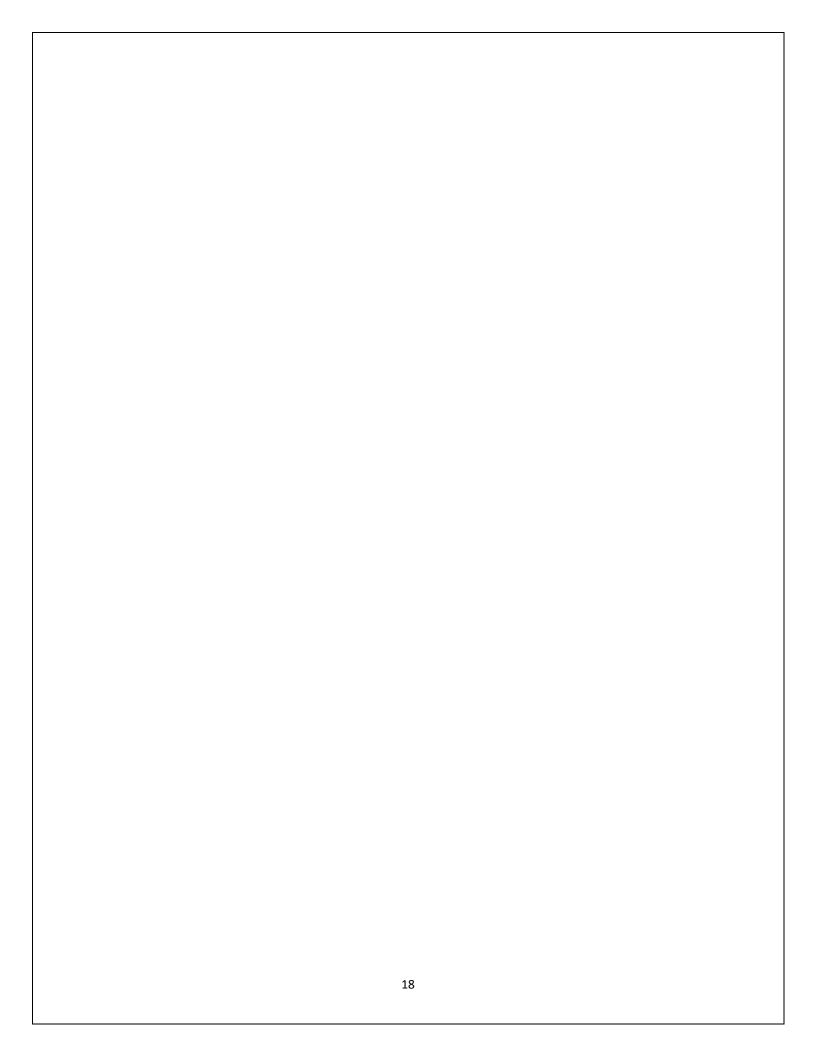
afthode@hotmail.com

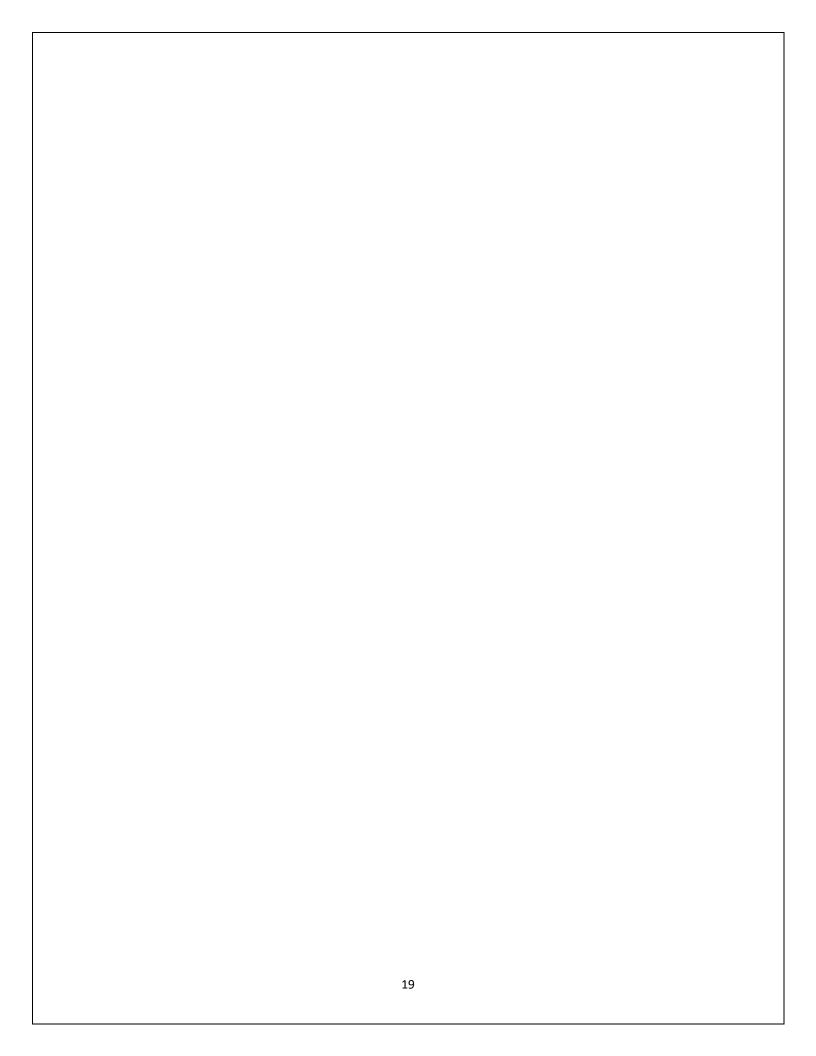
Questions, comments, concerns, compliments, all welcome.





Words: Delores Dufner, OSB (b. 1939). Music: Haywood's Home, Carl Haywood (b. 1949), from Tunes for Grace.





PRAYER FOR ST. THOMAS CHURCH

Almighty God, by your Spirit the whole body of your Church is governed and sanctified. Hear our prayer for St. Thomas: build in us a renewed vision of your Church; shape our life according to your will; empower us with the gifts to make us one, that together we may grow as a church in the spiritual strength of community, and reach out to include all people in Christ's love, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

MINISTERS

The Baptized Faithful of St. Thomas Episcopal Church

The Most Rev. Sean Rowe, Presiding Bishop

The Rt. Rev. E. Mark Stevenson, Bishop

The Rt. Rev. Gayle E. Harris, Assistant Bishop

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The Skinny at St. Thomas August 10th, 2025



More information about many of these events can be found on the Announcements page on our website. Scan the QR code to see them.

Thanks to your generosity, we collected 73 backpacks for Second Story! (That's 10 more than last year!) Second Story is a longtime mission partner, and every summer, we are honored to support their annual drive to collect school supplies and help children have what they need to learn successfully in the upcoming school year.

Shrine Mont Registration Ends Next Week

Please scan the QR code below to download the registration form for our annual parish retreat to Shrine Mont September 26-28. There are also physical forms available in the Narthex. Please complete and return to Rishabh in person or by email at rishabh.bajekal@stthomasmcleanva.org by August 17th. Space is limited this year so please register as soon as you can!



The Share Garden has been yielding harvests with produce like lettuce, kale and spinach, cucumbers, eggplant, okra, beans, and tomatoes. Now that more crops are ready for harvest, we are asking for volunteers who would be willing to harvest and deliver to Share. Please sign up by scanning the QR code below. Or you can reach out to Jon Spear by email at ion.spearl@verizon.net or by phone at 571-251-6547.



at High Point Pub in Whole Foods, Tysons. Join us for learning and conversation in a relaxed environment. The first round of drinks (alcoholic or non-alcoholic) is on us! Next time, we will continue our focus on the apostolic church and holy orders.

Volunteer to Support Fairfax Diapers Thursday, September 4th at 10am

Join us for the next monthly repackaging meeting at Fairfax diapers. The task is simply repackaging diapers from bulk quantities to household-size bundles to be distributed to needy families. If you are interested, please access the sign up by scanning the QR code below. Questions? Please contact Anne Spear by phone at (703) 915-4300.



We are taking a break in August, join us next month.

3rd **Monday, Sept. 15**th **at 11:15 am** Patio at Kalypso's Sports Tavern

1617 Washington Plaza N, Lake Anne, Reston https://www.kalypsossportstavern.com
For more information, email Audrey at adreyjadair@gmail.com or text her at (813) 956-7550

Coffee Hour Hosts needed for the Fall!

Thank you to all that have signed up for coffee hour this year. We are now in need of hosts for Sundays in this summer and fall. Coffee hour sign-ups are available via a link to SignUpGenius or by using the QR code, which are on the back of this page. If you need help signing up electronically, I would be happy to help! Thank you for continuing this tradition of Fellowship at St. Thomas! If you have any questions, please contact me directly. Becky Ventorini, Fellowship Hour Coordinator

beckyventorini@gmail.com

Home (703) 288-3166 / Cell: (202) 390-4412 https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0B4EAAAC2 CA64-52775851-stthomas



The critical reviews for Romeo and Juliet are in, and they are glowing! Opera Today:

https://operatoday.com/2025/07/shakespeare-opera-theatres-romeo-and-juliet-sumptuous-romance-in-the-heart-of-northern-virginia/
Operagene: https://operagene.com/new-blog/2025/7/24/shakespeare-opera-theatres-romeo-ampjuliet-a-novel-tale-by-two-composers
I'd like to thank you all for coming to see the show, and especially those who donated and volunteered to make it happen. We quite literally could not do it without you. Bottomless love to all for the generous use of building space. All four shows at St. Thomas were sellouts. It's my fondest hope that these performances bear much fruit for our church and community. Thank you again for supporting the music ministry and SOT.

The 4th Annual FCIA (Fairfax County's Faith Communities in Action network) Interfaith Resiliency Conference

Will be September 18th from 8:30 AM to 12:30 PM at Fairfax Church, located at 11451 Braddock Road, Fairfax, VA 22030. Hear from an informative keynote speaker and have the opportunity to participate in an emergency response exercise.

SHARE Needs

Scan the QR code below to see the list of most needed items for our ministry partners at Share



This Week

Sunday August 10th

7 pm – MIC Prayers and Meal for Gaza

Monday August 11th

12 pm – Noonday Prayer

Tuesday August 12th

12 pm – Holy Eucharist

Wednesday August 13th

10 am – Staff Meeting

12 pm – Noonday Prayer

6:30 pm – Pints with Doubting Thomas

Thursday August 14th

12 pm – Noonday Prayer

Friday August 15th

11 am to 3 pm - McLean Islamic Center Worship

Saturday August 16th

12 pm to 9pm: United Nepalese Fellowship Wedding and Reception

Sunday August 17th

9:15 am – Choir Rehearsal

10 am – Worship