



Weekly Newsletter

Friday, September 6, 2024

WORSHIP

The Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost Renewal Sunday

Sunday, September 8, 2024

8:00 a.m. Holy Communion in the Church

10:00 a.m. Holy Communion in the Church

5:00 p.m. Last Chance Mass in the OSB

SERVICE DETAILS AND REMINDERS

- 1) [Click here](#) to watch the **10:00 a.m.** service live and to find previous services on the St. Thomas' Church website.
- 2) You can access the worship bulletin at <https://bit.ly/ST-Online>

We also offer weekday worship services!

Wednesdays at 12:00 p.m. in the Old School Building:
Holy Eucharist and Bible Study

Thursdays at 9:00 a.m. in the Old School Building:
Morning Prayer



ONLINE WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS WANTED!

We're looking for just a few more volunteers to help stream our 10:00 a.m. services each Sunday. No experience necessary—you will be trained! Contact [Jane Farnan](#) for more information. *Thank you to those who have already volunteered!*

JOIN US FOR RENEWAL SUNDAY!

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 8TH

FOLLOWING THE 10:00 AM SERVICE IN THE PH

A fun and meaningful way to come together and catch up with one another after the summer. We'll see you there!

Event Highlights include:

Blessing of the Backpacks • Outreach Activities • Parish Picnic • The Cow Ice Cream Truck • A Retirement Send-Off for our very own Barbara Parks and Wanda Waller!

We will welcome Amelia Bello, our Seminarian Intern, and Sue Stuck, our Ministry Intern. We will also commission John Lang as the Verger* of St. Thomas' Church!

* Vergers offer a ministry of service and hospitality. Responsibilities include making sure worship services are conducted in good order, and for welcoming all into the church. In other words, we will make official the work that John has been doing so faithfully and so well.

Outreach Activities Include:

Assembling teacher appreciation gift bags in a variety of themes for Owings Mills Elementary School (OMES) · Creating cards and packaging them with Target gift cards for students who are recognized as *Students of the Month* at OMES.

LEARN

MEET OUR NEW SEMINARIAN AND MINISTRY INTERNS!

We will welcome them to St. Thomas' this Sunday, September 8th during the 10:00 a.m. service.



Amelia Bello, Seminarian Intern

Amelia is a third-generation Episcopalian and a M.Div student at Virginia Theological Seminary, Class of 2025. She grew up in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic where she earned her undergraduate degree in LL.B from APEC University. Prior to moving to the United States, she worked as an Executive Secretary at the Superior Land Court in Santo Domingo.

In August 2022, Amelia moved to Alexandria, Virginia to begin her seminary studies. During her middler year, she completed her first year of field education placement at St. Alban's Episcopal Church in Annandale, VA. Amelia has contributed to the wider church through her involvement with the department of Ethnic Ministries, currently helping to design the conference for Seminarians of Color. Within the VTS community, she serves as a sacristan and finds joy in reading and photography.

She is thankful for the opportunity to form part of the team at St. Thomas' and is excited for the work that lies ahead.

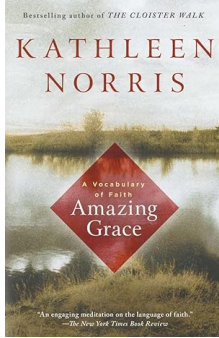
Sue Stuck, Ministry Intern

Sue is a mother of four daughters with four amazing grandchildren. Her undergraduate degree is from University of West Florida in Early Childhood and Elementary Education, and has a Masters degree in Thanatology from Hood College. Recently, Sue started a new job with the U. S. Army as the Parent



and Outreach Services Director for Children and Youth Services on Fort Meade.

As a cradle Episcopalian, Sue's home church is St. Mark's on the Hill in Pikesville. She has always felt a gentle calling from God that she heard much clearer after her third daughter fought brain cancer for five years. Watching her and her surviving three daughters, as well as their friends, truly showed her God's love and clarified her call to serve.

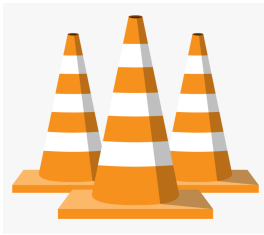


Our Parish Summer Reading Book Discussion is tomorrow!

Saturday, September 7, 2024 at 10:00 a.m.

Join us in Parish Hall this **Saturday, September 7th, at 10:00 a.m.** where we will discuss our summer reading selection, ***Amazing Grace: A Vocabulary of Faith***, by Kathleen Norris. We'll see you there!

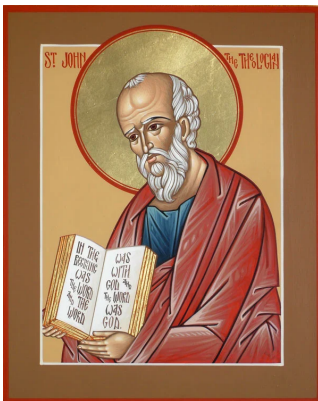
Contact [Jane Farnan](#) for more information.



Back to School Safety!

St. Thomas' Preschool & Kindergarten Traffic Cones

Now that STPS is back to school, on weekdays, the driveway between the main parking lot and the office parking lot is closed to traffic. We are looking out for everyone's safety, especially our preschool families. We apologize for any inconvenience.



Monday Evenings: September 16th through November 18th

Join us for Adult Bible Study!

Please join us for Adult Bible study, **starting Monday, September 16th at 7:00 p.m.**, as we progress through the Gospel of John. The author expressly wrote this gospel for you "so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Christ, the son of God; and that by believing, you may have life in His name."

Even if you have not read the Bible since confirmation class, or not at all, you're welcome to log on, to speak and share, or just to listen. There are no right answers or tests, only the willingness to read the Scriptures and to use supplemental resources of your choice.

Our weekly Zoom will be at 7:00 p.m. on Monday nights, September 16th through November 18th. Contact [Jane Farnan](#) to receive your email invitation that includes the schedule, resources, suggestions, and the Zoom invitation.



October 25-27, 2024

Spiritual Practices Retreat at The Claggett Center

Deepen your prayer practices during this weekend of reflection and meditation. This year's workshops include the Ignatian practice of Examen, meditative movement, Lectio Divina, Anglican Prayer beads, and more! Come learn a new spiritual practice or deepen your existing prayer life in community with folks from all around the Dioceses of Maryland and Washington.

[Click here for more information and to register!](#)

Children's & Youth Ministries



WELCOME BACK!

Sunday School is in the Old School Building at 9:45 a.m.

Sunday School for children ages 4-10 begins this Sunday, September 8, 2024, in the Old School Building at 9:45 a.m.

Please register your child/children for our Children & Youth Ministry programs, or to volunteer, click [here](#).

Worship bags and children's bulletins are available in the Narthex each Sunday.

Questions? Please contact [The Rev. Tom Murphy](#).

This Week's Activity Links

[Pre-Reader](#)

[Reader](#)



Sunday School Teachers Needed!

We are in need of Sunday School teachers to help us one Sunday a month, beginning in September.

If you are interested in being a part of this important ministry, please contact [Jesse VanGeison](#) or [Michelle Schmidt](#).



A Brief Volunteer Time Commitment with a Long-Term Impact!

St. Thomas's is excited to sponsor an after-school academic support and sports club at Owings Mills Elementary School called OWLS FIRST. We are able to develop this **community-requested program** through the generosity of a parishioner — **thank you!**

Volunteers Needed!

OWLS FIRST will have two 8-week long sessions, Fall and Spring. We are looking for volunteers willing to commit just 1.5 hours once a week in the afternoons, at Owings Mills Elementary. Please consider participating in this important program. Your time is a gift you can bring to the community and its children.

Sign up online by clicking the button below or use the signup sheet in the Parish Hall.

Program Details

Fall Program Dates: Tuesday, October 1st through Thursday, November 21st.

Third Grade Math Help: **Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 4:00-5:15 p.m.** We need 12 helpers for Tuesdays and 12 helpers for Wednesdays for one-on-one support. Each day's math activities will be scripted and given to you. There will be a training for the math curriculum in advance of the program.

Sports Club: **Tuesdays and Thursdays from 4:00- 5:15 p.m.** We need 2 helpers for Tuesdays and 2 helpers for Thursdays. There will be up to 20 children on each day, playing fun and energetic games. In addition to some St. Thomas' adults, we will have high school and college students assisting in this part of the program.

If you have any questions or need more information, please contact: [Margaret Green](#) or [Betsy Wilmerding](#).

Sign up to volunteer for Owls First!

ST. THOMAS' OUTREACH: COMMUNITY CRISIS CENTER CARE BAGS

The St. Thomas' Outreach Committee is reimagining their Clean, Clean, Clean program to better serve the Community Crisis Center. Instead of accepting donations of single, larger-sized items, ***we will be making Care Bags consisting of smaller-sized items each month as a St. Thomas' community Outreach activity*** for household cleaning supplies and dental hygiene products. With this change in format, we will be better able to provide items to more families and those in need.

Click the button below to view the wish list items from Dollar Tree. If you would like to participate, please purchase the specific items either in-store or through the [Dollar Tree website](#) or app.

The Community Crisis Center is relying on St. Thomas' parishioners to provide **200 Care Bags each month** (100 Household Cleaning Supplies and 100 Dental Hygiene Products). Please consider donating these Wish List items on a monthly basis so we can fulfill our promise.

Items can be dropped off to the Parish Office during office hours or in the baskets located in the Narthex and Parish Hall. If ordering from the Dollar Tree website, items can be delivered to your home or directly to the Parish Office.

We are still accepting donations of diapers and feminine hygiene products.

If you have any questions or need more information, please [contact Margaret Green](#).

Sunday, September 22nd

Join us for a St. Thomas' community Outreach activity where we'll be assembling Care Bags following both the 8:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m. service in the Parish Hall.

Click the button below to view and purchase Care Bag Wish List items.

Care Bags Wish List Items



Gently-Used Car Needed

One of our Outreach missions is supporting the transition of refugees to life in America. We are currently helping an Afghan family of six. Transportation is a significant problem, as many of the more desirable start-up jobs are not on public transportation routes. We are looking for a vehicle that can seat 5 or 6 people. Compensation, inspection and transfer costs could be covered.

If you or a family member has a gently-used vehicle to offer, please contact [Louis Hogan](#), (443) 474-3516.

Stewardship Sunday is Sunday, September 15th



We're making contributing to St. Thomas' Church easy through our online system. No worries about finding stamps or envelopes. Click on the **Give Now** button below.

If you have not yet submitted your 2024 Pledge, please click [here](#).

Make an online gift through [Tithe.ly](#)

Give Now

GROW

*Calling all Parishioners who have
been at St. Thomas' 50-plus years!*

— JOIN US FOR A —
JUBILEE RECEPTION

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 5, 2024

OPEN HOUSE 1:00 - 4:00 PM

AT THE RECTORY

More information to follow



SAVE THE DATE!

ST. THOMAS' HARVEST FESTIVAL

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 20TH 1:00–4:00 PM

Fun for the whole family while supporting our church!
If you'd like to help with this event, please contact Rev. Tom.



Sunday, September 22nd - 1:35 p.m. game start

Let's go Os!

Our 3rd annual trip to the Orioles, **Sunday, September 22nd at 1:35 p.m.**

If you have requested tickets, please pay online through Tithely, under "Orioles" in the drop-down menu: \$27 per ticket for adult (*parishioners 16 and under are free*). Click on the button below to link to our Tithely site. Or mail or drop off a check to the Parish Office (write "Orioles Tickets" on the memo line).

Please note there will be no bus service this year.

Click the button below to pay for your Orioles tickets!

Pay for Orioles Tickets



St. Thomas' Craft Sale is Sunday, November 17th

CALLING ALL CRAFTERS!

Are you an artist, knitter, sewer, wood worker, crafter, or baker? We are looking for you! The St. Thomas's Craft Sale is **Sunday, November 17th following the 8:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m. services in the PH.** If you are interested in participating, please contact [Jane Farnan](#). We ask that a portion your sales be donated to the church for our Outreach efforts.





WELCOME HOME STPS!

St. Thomas' Preschool and Kindergarten is officially back for the 2024-2025 school year! Last week, we welcomed our students and families to explore the school, meet our amazing teachers, and take a peek at their new classrooms. We are looking forward to a magical year ahead — full of wonder, curiosity, exploration, discovery, learning, play, and of course family, friends and fun.

From all of us at STPS, we can't wait to see what the school year brings, and we wish everyone a safe, happy and healthy school year!

[Access online registration for St. Thomas Preschool & Kindergarten](#)

JOIN US FOR THESE UPCOMING SUNDAYS!

St. Thomas' Preschool and Kindergarten Sunday & Open House

Sunday, September 29th

Blessing of the Animals

Sunday, October 6th ~ 10:00 a.m. service

Outreach Sunday

New Date! Sunday, October 13th



Summer Fellowship

Our Fellowship Team will resume Sunday, September 15th. Come join us for at Sunday Fellowship, following the 10:00 a.m. service each Sunday in the Parish Hall.

Look for a Fellowship Team Signup next week!

The Thursday Morning Group

COME JOIN THE FUN - ALL ARE WELCOME!

The group meets in the St. Thomas' Church Library **each Thursday at 9:30 a.m. to noon.**
Friendship, laughter and stories are shared, as well as ideas for many different kinds of projects.

Prayer List

We pray for those who are ill, those in pain, those under stress, and those who are lonely, especially Allannah, Amy, Barbara L., Carter, Dan R., David, David G., Dixon, Ellen, Emma, Eric S., Gee, Jacqueline, Justine, Katharine, Kathleen D., Kathy C., Lidia, Linda, Michael, Michael Z., Mike P., Morgan B., Nancy B., Nick, Randy, Richard, Rick V., Sara H., Sinead, Susan, Verna, and Vicki; Give them all the joy of your saving help, and sustain them with your bountiful Spirit.

The Altar Flowers are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of:
Yvette L. Wilson ~ Nancy P. Welbourn

In our Parish Ministry Cycle of Prayer, we give thanks for the Outreach Committee.

DAILY READINGS

[CLICK HERE](#)

St. Thomas' Church Owings Mills

232 St. Thomas Lane, Owings Mills
MD 21117 United States

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