



## Weekly Newsletter

Friday, October 25, 2024

# WORSHIP

## The Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost

**Sunday, October 27, 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 Old School Building

### 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



Thank you to **Amelia Bello**, our Seminarian intern, for preaching at all three of our services this Sunday! *We are most grateful!*

Amelia's ordination will be **Saturday, December 14th** at the Cathedral of the Incarnation in Baltimore at 11:00 a.m.



**Tuesday, November 5th at 7:00 p.m.**

### Election Day Prayer Service

Join us in the church on **Tuesday, November 5th at 7:00 p.m.** for a special Election Day Prayer Service. The service will also be livestreamed.



During our 10:00 a.m. service last Sunday, St. Thomas' Outreach partners spoke about what our ministry means to them and all the ways parishioners have supported each organization, as well as how to become involved in our Outreach Ministry.

To view the presentation, click [HERE](#).

Click the button below to read about the good works of St. Thomas' Outreach Ministries for 2024 (thus far).

## St. Thomas' Outreach Ministries 2024



### Don't Forget to "Fall Back" next weekend!

Turn your clocks back one hour before heading to bed the night of Saturday, November 2nd. Daylight Savings Time ends on **Sunday, November 3rd at 2:00 a.m.**



### 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!*

## LEARN



**Sunday, November 3rd, 9:00 - 9:50 AM**

### YOUTH CONFIRMATION CLASS

The Confirmation Class will have its first meeting, **Sunday, November 3rd, 9:00 - 9:50 a.m. in the Parish Hall Library.**

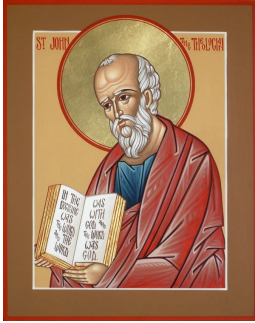
**Youth in Grades 8 and up** are invited and encouraged to register for Confirmation Class. Please contact [Jane Farnan](#) to register.

Fall Semester Confirmation Classes will be held on **Sundays from 9:00 a.m. to 9:50 a.m. on Nov. 3rd, Nov. 17th, Dec. 8th & Dec. 15th.**

The Confirmation Service will be at St. Thomas' on **Sunday, June 8th, at 10:00 a.m.**, with The Rt. Rev. Carrie Schofield-Broadbent presiding.

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**Adult Bible Study: Mondays at 7:00 p.m. on Zoom**



## JOIN US FOR ADULT BIBLE STUDY!

Join us for Adult Bible study 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.”

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

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**April 21, 2025 - April 25, 2025**

### Civil Rights Pilgrimage to Alabama: Truth and Reconciliation Commission's 2025 Annual Trail of Souls Event

Join Bishop Carrie Schofield-Broadbent and members of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission on a profound journey through history with the Episcopal Diocese of Maryland's Civil Rights Pilgrimage to Alabama.

[Click here for more information!](#)

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**December 20-22, 2024**

### The Claggett Center Program: Blue Christmas

For those experiencing grief or loss around the holiday season. Join us for a time of respite, support, and comfort in the winter months.

[Click here to register](#)

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## Children's & Youth Ministries



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

Sunday School for children ages 4-10 is in the Old School Building at 9:45 a.m. Please join us!

To 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](#).

## Sunday School Teachers Needed!

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

## This Week's Activity Links

Pre-Reader

Reader

## GIVE



**ORDERS DUE THURSDAY, OCTOBER 31ST**

### ST. THOMAS' GREENS SALE

*Enjoy beautiful Christmas greens and support St. Thomas' at the same time!*

**ORDER ONLINE:** Go to our [fundraising website](#), to order both direct delivery and local pickup items online.

**ORDER BY PAPER FORM:** Fill out paper order forms for either **local pickup (green forms)** and **direct delivery (red forms)** items or both. **Click the button(s) below to download each form** or pick them up in the Parish Hall or Narthex.

Pay online with a credit card through Tithely (*select Christmas Greens Fundraiser from the drop-down menu*) either directly on our fundraising website, or by scanning the QR code at the bottom of the paper form, or drop off or mail in cash or a check (*made payable to St. Thomas' Church, Greens Sale in memo line*) to the Parish office.

**Orders are due by October 31st.**

Please also consider making a contribution to the Christmas Cemetery Wreath Fund. Add this amount to the total order amount. All donations will be applied to purchase wreaths to adorn the oldest graves around the Old Cemetery.

For more information, please contact [Kristin Nightwine](#).

Order Greens Online



**SIGN UP TO PICK UP A BAG!****ST. THOMAS' THANKSGIVING DINNER BAGS FOR THE COMMUNITY CRISIS CENTER**

With help from our generous St. Thomas' parishioners, we hope to provide all the fixings for a ham-centered Thanksgiving feast for 150 families who are served by the Community Crisis Center. Thanks to a generous parishioner's donation, the church will provide a ham for each bag, so you will not need to buy hams this year!

**HERE IS HOW YOU CAN HELP:**

- **Click on the button below** to sign up for the number of bags you would like to pick up. If you are able, please consider signing up for multiple bags.
- There are also paper sign-up forms in the Narthex and Parish Hall. Our goal is to hand out 150 bags.
- Beginning on **Sunday, November 3rd**, you can pick up your custom St. Thomas' shopping bag(s) in the Parish Hall. Each bag includes a shopping list of items. *Please make sure to use ONLY the bags provided by St. Thomas'.*
- Go shopping! Each bag will provide food for a family of six. **Click on the button below to download a copy of the shopping list.** *Please remember: no glass containers, nuts, items that crumble or easily break, fresh food, or perishable items! Bags will be delivered before Thanksgiving and anything perishable will not last.*
- Return your bag(s) filled with Thanksgiving Dinner to St. Thomas' by **Friday, November 22nd**. Bags can be dropped off at the Parish Office, Monday thru Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., or dropped off in the Parish Hall each Sunday.
- We will need additional volunteer help on **Sunday, November 24th** to sort bags, and **Monday, November 25th** to deliver the bags to the Community Crisis Center. Please consider signing up for these volunteer opportunities if you are able!

For more information or questions, please contact [Jane Farnan](#).

*We are grateful for your help in helping others!*

**Click the button below to sign up for Thanksgiving Dinner bags.**

Sign Up for Thanksgiving Dinner Bags



**Sunday, November 17th**

### **Calling All Crafters for the St. Thomas' Craft Sale!**

Are you an artist, knitter, sewer, woodworker, crafter, or baker? We are looking for you! Join us for the St. Thomas's Craft Sale on **Sunday, November 17th following the 8:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m. services in the Parish Hall.** If you are interested in participating, please contact **Roz Corasaniti** at [\(410\) 812-5552](tel:(410)812-5552) or [Jane Farnan](#).

## **St. Thomas' Outreach: Community Crisis Center Care Bags**

**Sunday, November 10th: join us to help assemble Care Bags following the 8:00 and 10:00 a.m. services in the Parish Hall**

Each month, we will be making Care Bags consisting of smaller-sized items as a St. Thomas' community Outreach activity for household cleaning supplies and dental hygiene products.

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.

### **We are in need of supplies to fulfill the next round of Care Bags!**

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

Items can be dropped off to the Parish Office during office hours or in the baskets located in the Narthex and Parish Hall.

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

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

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

Care Bags Wish List Items



## **Episcopal Relief and Development: Support the Hurricane Relief Fund**

Please consider giving to the Episcopal Hurricane Relief Fund and help their partners and dioceses reach vulnerable communities devastated by Hurricanes Helene and Milton. Click the button below to make donation and find out more

## Our 2025 STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN IS UNDERWAY!

Continue to look for TENS (*The Episcopal Network for Stewardship*) weekly reflections and “A Story of Stewardship” offered by some of our own St. Thomas’ parishioners. We hope you will be renewed and inspired to give your time, talent, and treasure. Please fill in your pledge card front and back, and mail back to us or pledge online by clicking the **GIVE NOW** button below. For Planned Giving, contact [Andy Brooks](#).

[CLICK HERE](#) to watch the Stewardship Presentation during the 10:00 a.m. service on Sunday, September 15th.

## A ST. THOMAS' STORY OF STEWARDSHIP

### Youth Confirmation

Confirmation class is full of surprises. During a reading of the Christmas Story from Luke, the baby Jesus slides across a highly polished wooden floor at an astonishing speed, to giggles and laughter all around. A discussion of the concept of Hell ends with a young man saying, “I don't know, but I think Hell can just be a state of mind.” Deep insights one would never expect from a child in middle-school alongside extreme silliness. Confirmation class has it all.

Paul Corbin and I have been teaching Confirmation together for fifteen years, and Paul has been at it for longer than that. We keep at it because we learn something new from every class we meet. We watch the kids enjoy the pleasure of giving, when we go to Target or the Dollar Store before the Christmas Extravaganza, where the kids purchase items to give to their peers needing help through the Community Crisis Center. A trip to First Fruits Farm to lend hands to the giving of food to those less fortunate, usually produces happy kids, especially if we are harvesting cabbages. That's when they get to use long knives to cut the cabbages from their stalks, all while Paul and I keep our heads on a swivel. Whether it is harvesting cabbages, picking beans, or bagging potatoes, the kids are all in.

The surprising thing about Confirmation class is the depth of the faith of our youth. Of course, it does not come out all the time in our discussions, but when it does, their faith is touching and real. Making the decision to become a part of the Church, to agree to follow Christ's teaching, is big for a child in middle school. Indeed, it is big at any age. There are those who pass through Confirmation because parents or grandparents expect it. But mostly we find that the Spirit has motivated our Confirmation candidates to do their best, and they happily and personally confirm the Baptismal vows made for them by their parents and Godparents. Sometimes a potential confirmand is not ready at the end of the program and says so. When that happens, we support them. There is always time to make the decision to follow Christ. God works in God's time.

Giving to St. Thomas' Church both through service and financial means has been a pleasure and a life-changing experience for me. I have been Registrar, Junior Warden, and Senior Warden, but none of those roles comes up to Confirmation teacher. Seeing the kids we help guide through their initial spiritual journey return to church as young adults, post-college, is one of the greatest pleasures of my life.

Roll up your sleeves and jump into a ministry that interests you, and pledge with all your might. You'll never regret it.

— Greg VanGeison



### Did you know you can submit your 2025 Pledge online?

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.

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

[Give Now](#)

2024-2025 Stewardship Reflections

## GROW



### We're Looking for a Parish Office Volunteer for Data Entry and Scanning

Are you good with computers and data entry? Do you have a couple hours to spare during the week? We are looking for you! We are in need of someone to help scan and update our lists and records in our database. If you think you would be a good fit and interested in volunteering, please contact [Jane Farnan](#).



**Saturday, November 2nd**

### Save the Date for a Newcomers Reception!

Welcome all newcomers - we are glad you are here! Join us for a reception **Saturday, November 2nd at the Rectory from 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.** To RSVP, please email [Jane Farnan](#).



### Care Packages for College Students: We Need Addresses!

Once again we are sending out care packages to our college students as they prepare for final exams. Please send your student's name and school address by **November 15th** to [Jane Farnan](#). We will mail them a little bit of "home" from St. Thomas'!



## SAVE THE DATE!

A Celebration of Life Planning Session  
Sunday, December, 1st  
following the 10:00 a.m. service in the PH

\*If you attended the previous Planning Session, please bring your folder with your completed forms. If you have any questions, please contact Jane Farnan.

**Acolytes!** Don't forget to sign up on Ministry Scheduler Pro for the Sundays you can participate in the 10:00 a.m. service. Please email [Kristin Nightwine](#) with any questions.



### SUNDAY FELLOWSHIP SIGN UP

Come join us for fellowship, following the 10:00 a.m. service each Sunday in the Parish Hall. Coffee, conversation, and good eats await! **Click the button below to sign up to bring food items for Fellowship.**

Sign up for Fellowship!

## The Thursday Morning Group

**COME JOIN THE FUN - ALL ARE WELCOME!**

The Thursday Morning 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, Gee, Jacqueline, Kathleen D., Lidia, Linda, Lou Ann, Michael, Michael Z., Mike P., Morgan B., Nick, Randy, Rhonda, Sara H., Steve G., 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:*  
Patricia MacHamer ~ D. Terence MacHamer

In our Parish Ministry Cycle of Prayer, we pray for the Ushers.

## DAILY READINGS

CLICK HERE



## St. Thomas' Church Owings Mills

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

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