



The Tower

St. Thomas Episcopal Church
168 West Boston Post Road
Mamaroneck, NY 10543
914-698-0300
www.SaintThomasmmrk.org



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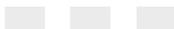
Dear St. Thomas Family,

Happy New Year! No, I haven't lost my mind; I haven't even misplaced it. And, no, it isn't January, it's September and that means school starts and the clock in our new "year" will tick from now through next June.

Not only will our kids be heading back to college or returning to local schools, at St. Thomas, we are looking forward to the choir's return, to resuming Sunday School as well as our Thursday morning adult conversation group. You will see other opportunities in this newsletter for conversation and growth.

Everything that is offered at St. Thomas – the Book Group, our Thrift Shop, Community Dinners, this year's men's and women's retreats – everything is meant to strengthen our congregation and deepen our spiritual lives.

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I invite you to consider the various ministries, events and formation opportunities here at St. Thomas. Consider them all, prayerfully and carefully. I hope you will participate as much as you are able, in ways that feed your soul in both receiving and serving.

Welcome back. May the coming months bring us closer to each other, and to the God we all love and serve through Jesus Christ.

God's Peace,

Pastor Tanneau

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

When you throw a rock into a still pond, the splash creates a ripple which starts small, but grows bigger and bigger as it moves across the surface. Recent events have lead me the think that maybe violence is like the rock that drops in the water, with effects that start small but become more consequential as time goes by.

With a heavy heart, I read of the shooting at a Sikh temple in Wisconsin a few weeks ago. The Old Testament reading for the following Sunday was the story of Absalom's death, which concludes a violent chapter in King David's reign. When Amnon, heir apparent for the throne, rapes his half-sister Tamar, her brother Absalom swears revenge. After waiting patiently for two years, Absalom arranges to have Amnon killed at a banquet he hosts. Still unsatisfied with killing Amnon, Absalom leads a palace coup which leads to a civil war with his father David's army. Absalom, and many others end up dead at the end of the narrative. From one act of violence, spring many more.

I don't know what went through the mind of the shooter when he decided to do what he did. From what events, ideas, or people in his life did he learn to speak the language violence? I hope that it ends.

Were I a pessimist I would feel disheartened. But I am not. The Gospel has taught me that, if anything, one act of kindness, justice-making, or reconciliation can ripple out and lead to more. I believe, as an Easter person, that the potential is there for the waves of love to overwhelm the waves of hate in our world. It starts with a small act. It starts with a small choice. What choice will we make?

In Peace,

Jo Will+

Deacon Thinkin'

I confess I am doing some recycling here, work with me.

Would it surprise you to learn that people often state that it is difficult for them to pray?

Welcome to the club!

Prayer, I have learned (the hard way), is a lot like learning to play the piano, or tennis, or soccer. To do any of this well, or at the very least feel comfortable doing it, takes practice, practice and more practice.

Reminds me of a story... Admit it, you were waiting for this.



A little girl was sitting on her grandfather's lap as he read her a bedtime story. From time to time, she would take her eyes off the book and reach up to touch his wrinkled cheek. She was alternately stroking her own cheek, then his again.

Finally she spoke up, "Grandpa, did God make you?"

"Yes, sweetheart," he answered, "God made me a long time ago."

"Oh," she paused, "Grandpa, did God make me, too?"

"Yes, indeed, honey," he said, "God made you just a little while ago."

Feeling their respective faces again, she observed, "God's getting better at it, isn't he?"

There is a whole truck load of references to prayer in Bible. For starters; go to Romans 8:26, Matthew 7:7, Luke 18:1, Ephesians 6:18. There are many more. The point being, if prayer was so easy, the authors of the Bible would not have reminded us of the need to pray, nor would Jesus have commanded us to pray.

Prayer does not require falling on ones' knees, it can be done at the kitchen sink, mowing the lawn, at the red light, in the barber's chair, at Dunkin Donuts, on a park bench. It wouldn't surprise me if more prayers are said on a golf course than in church!

A prayer does not have to be asking for something, a prayer of praise must sound good to God's ears, a prayer of thanksgiving will lift your spirit as well. Check out James 5:13.

St. Paul in his First Letter to the Thessalonians wrote, “pray continually” 5:17. Same message, different words in Philippians 4:6 and Colossians 4:2. See for yourself.

Pablo Casals, arguably one of the greatest cellists, practiced six to eight hours every day. When asked why he practiced so much, he responded: “I am beginning to see improvement.”

Practice, practice, practice, you **will** get better at it. You will know it, and so will your spirit.

Blessings and peace



What’s Cooking for St. Thomas Kids this Fall

My Grandpa Ray loved a smorgasbord. He drove my family in his old Impala, a car so rusty I’d thought it had been sprayed by gunfire, to a huge Swedish place in Beverly, the Southside Chicago neighborhood where my mom was raised. While my sisters and I probably would’ve preferred a burger at the nearby palace of golden arches, we were enticed by the notion of an offering for every appetite. There had to be something good, we were certain, somewhere in those acres of steam tables. And of course there was that boundless array of desserts.

At St. Thomas, we love a smorgasbord, too. In anticipation of this fall, we started cooking up ideas for our kids and their families in June. This year you will find something old, something new, and probably even something

borrowed and blue on the menu! So please, make some time to feed your kids in the spiritual sense—feed your soul-- at our veritable smorgasbord of activities appropriate for kids, teens and families.

Coming up in September and October:

Weekly, starting September 9, Nursery. Our supervised nursery opens at 9:30 AM and will remain open, most Sundays, until 12:30. Appropriate for our youngest parishioners, infants through age 3. Come have some fun with Janessa and the girls!

Weekly, starting September 9, Sunday School. Drop-off begins at 9:45 AM, class begins promptly at 10 AM. We will offer a homemade Bible Basics curriculum and special activities the first few weeks. Most weeks we will have three separate age group classes for children ranging from 4 years old through the 7th grade. Contact Kate if you want to know more.

Carpenter's Kids Potluck Dinner, September 13, 6:30 PM. Please call the office to RSVP. This event is appropriate for children who can sit respectfully for an hour and a half. For kids who would rather play we can get a babysitter, let us know.

Pre-Confirmation and Heifer Farm Trip orientation meeting with Father Will September 16 at 10 AM. St. Thomas kids (grade 6 and up) who will attend this weekend trip must attend.

Choir Parents Meeting on September 16 at 11:30 AM. If you think your child is interested in the kids' choir, plan on attending this important informational session.

Sock Hop, September 22, 7 PM – 11 PM, Heathcote Hall

First Kids' Choir Rehearsal, September 23, at 11:15 AM.

St. Thomas Kayak and Cookout, Orienta Yacht Club, September 23 from 1 PM – 5 PM.

Pumpkin Delivery, volunteer at the Pumpkin Patch, 5 PM, September 29

Heifer Farm Trip October 6-8

Family Chapel Church October 21 at 10 AM

Questions? Please feel free to e-mail or call me.

Hope that whets your appetite! Looking forward to growing in faith, but not in the waistline, with you and your family this year.

Best, *Kate Beeby*

Sunday School Director
914-833-3237 katebeeby@optonline.net





Dance to the sounds of the fifties.

Grab your letter sweater and poodle skirt and return to the days of the greasers, hula hoops, dance contests and crazy socks.

Enjoy the taste of the nifty fifties favorite foods.

WHEN: September 22, 2012
WHERE: St. Thomas Church, Heathcote Hall
168 West Boston Post Rd, Mamaroneck, NY
TIME: 7:00 PM-11:00 PM
COST: \$15.00 per person/\$25.00 for a family of 4
Children under 5 free

This event is co-sponsored by All Saints Church Harrison

RESERVATIONS REQUIRED: Please call (914) 698-0300
or e-mail office@saintthomasmrk.org



Kayaking FUN Raiser!

YOU ARE INVITED!

WHO: All St. Thomas Parishioners and Guests
WHAT: Kayaking and BBQ FUN Raiser
Kayaks provided by Aqua Vision Scuba
WHEN: September 23, 2012
WHERE: Orienta Yacht Club, behind Diner
405 East Boston Post Rd, Mamaroneck, NY
TIME: 1:00 PM-5:00 PM
COST: A smile and a good time!

RESERVATIONS REQUIRED:

To insure there are enough kayaks, please RSVP with John Brown at jb@sunyacht.com or (914) 907-0054

Thrift Shop

Do you have a flair for fashion, designer clothes, and vintage items? Do you enjoy working with people? Or perhaps you're a teen and would like to volunteer some of your time towards community service, or are involved in an organization at school or perhaps a Girl Scout working toward the Gold award? Please join our team of volunteers at the St. Thomas Church Thrift Shop. This is a very valuable program which is supported by volunteers of mixed ages and gender. They come together on Wednesdays and Saturday's, sorting clothes, hanging & folding, and pricing items as numerous donations are dropped off.

The Thrift Shop proceeds allow us to offer needed supportive services to the community: Brown Bag Lunches, the weekly Pantry, Community Dinners, and the Thrift Shop as well.

The Thrift Shop is a wonderful resource which aids many individuals and their families within the community by offering clothes, an assortment of household items, china ware, glasses, linens, and much more at very affordable prices. We also gather gloves, hats, and scarves from our donations and distribute them to our Brown Bag Lunch and Pantry clients during the winter months.

Our biggest fund raiser is our annual Christmas Fair, which generates \$6,000-\$8,000 and often more. The Fair proceeds are used to support local charitable organizations. Thanks to the thousands of donated items to the Thrift Shop throughout the year, the fair committee is able to collectively organize and selectively choose the best items that will generate sales for this event that so many enjoy.

Please consider this ministry, Thrift Shop hours are Wednesdays 11-3, and Saturdays 10-1. If interested, please come by and visit us or contact Deacon Werdal.

Thank you,
Donna Robinett and Ann Strychalski



Presents

An Evening With The Arts

Art Exhibit * Concert * Coffeehouse * Auction Fundraiser

Saturday, September 29th, 2012 7:00pm

*St. Thomas Church – Heathcote Hall
168 West Boston Post Road, Mamaroneck, NY*

All Tickets \$25 in advance

Includes show, specialty desserts and coffee

Featuring:

The New York Vagabonds!

*Royal Caribbean, Holland America, Regent Cruise Line Favorites
The Premier Male Quartet "... America's Best Kept Secret"*

For tickets call 914-305-5088

or go to

www.thelaberfoundation.org

YOU DON'T WANT TO FORGET...



Tuesdays at 10:00 AM: Brown Bag Lunch Preparation. Every week we prepare about 100 sandwiches and distribute them between **11:00AM and 12:00PM.**



MEN'S GROUP

St. Thomas **Men's Group** meets every first Friday of the month at 7:30PM



On **September 16** after the 10AM service find out more about the trip to the Heifer Farm for the Youth of our Parish on **October 6-8**.



The Pumpkin Patch starts **September 28** and is open all through October from 12 to 5PM on weekdays and from 10AM to 6PM on weekends. **Please help us when the pumpkins are delivered on September 28 at 5pm!**



Community Dinner on **October 13 at 5:30 PM.** Please come and help with set-up and clean-up.



October 15 at 7:00PM: The **Helping Hands Knitting Group**

September / October Birthdays

Steven Bonaparte	12-Sep	Mary Louise Cox	07-Oct
Ann Hunt	16-Sep	Betty Pollak	11-Oct
Noel Hart	20-Sep	Carolyn Young	13-Oct
Louis Scenti	21-Sep	Ira Hart	14-Oct
Janessa Bing	27-Sep	Robert Poney, Jr.	14-Oct
James Whitehouse	28-Sep	Charlotte Fisher	15-Oct
Jacqueline Thomas	30-Sep	Veronica Sessler	16-Oct
Don Giallorenzo	01-Oct		

Transitions:

Deaths:

Phyllis Hewson Evans

St. Thomas Clergy, Vestry, and Staff Directory

Rector: The Rev. Deborah G. Tammearu rector@saintthosasmrk.org

Associate Minister of Youth: willfisher@msn.com
The Rev. William A. Fisher

Deacon: The Rev. Dn. Lynn Werdal deacon@saintthosasmrk.org

Director of Music: Noel A. Hart, Jr. ExcellentSingers@aol.com

Senior Warden: Ira Hart

Junior Warden: Sue Perciasepe

Treasurer: David A. Brown

Vestry:

John Brown

Peggy Saunders

Nigel Holloway

Pamela Sullivan

Mary Olsson

Gloria Welcome

Sunday School Director: Kate Beeby sundayschool@saintthosasmrk.org

Parish Secretary: Barbara Gessler office@saintthosasmrk.org

Bookkeeper: Nancy Mustacato bookkeeper@saintthosasmrk.org

Sexton: Edgar Garza

Sunday Sexton: Anner Garza

Service Schedule:

Sundays:	8:00 AM	Holy Eucharist (said)
	10:00 AM	Holy Eucharist with music
	11:30-12:45	Choir rehearsal

Christian Education for Young People:

10:00 AM Sunday School

Nursery care available from 9:45AM until the service ends

Deadline for articles and submissions for the next Tower: October 15, 2012

Submit articles to June Hendry at dgclemence@gmail.com