

St. Thomas the Apostle

Catholic Church

3774 Jackson Street • Riverside, CA 92503-4359

Phone: (951) 689-1131 • www.stthomasriverside.com • [Facebook.com/StThomasRiversideCA](https://www.facebook.com/StThomasRiversideCA)

Pastor

Fr. Frank T. Dicristina

Deacon Couple

Deacon Paul and Elsie Ann Myers

Parish Office Hours

Monday - Thursday 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Friday 7:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Closed weekdays during lunch 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Sunday: 8:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

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St. Thomas the Apostle School

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(951) 689-1981 • www.stasriverside.com

[Facebook.com/stthomastheapostleschool](https://www.facebook.com/stthomastheapostleschool)

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Jeanette Morrow Vice Principal

Martha Sepúlveda Ochoa Secretary

Volunteer Coordinators

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Quinceañeras

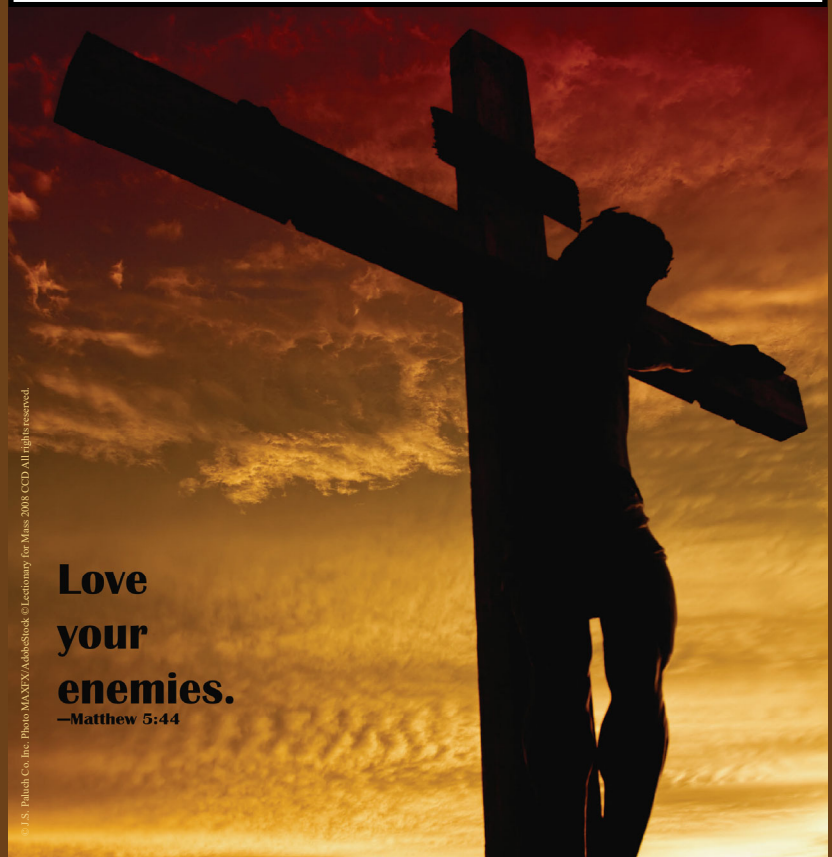
We the Parishioners of St. Thomas the Apostle strive to live

J.E.S.U.S.

Joyful Evangelizing Stewards United in the Spirit

Seventh Sunday of Ordinary Time

February 23, 2020



Love
your
enemies.

—Matthew 5:44

Schedule of Masses

Vigil: 5:00 p.m. - English, 6:30 p.m. - Spanish

Sunday: 7:00, 9:00, 11:00 a.m., 5:00 p.m. - English

Weekday: 8:00 a.m. Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday,
8:00 a.m. Communion Service: Thursday and Friday - English

Devotion: Novena to St. Anthony, Tuesday after 8:00 a.m. Mass

Adoration: 3rd Friday of each month in the church 8:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Anointing of the Sick: 2nd Saturday of each month at 4:00 p.m. in Church.

Sacrament of Reconciliation - Confession

English on 1st, 3rd, and 4th Saturday of the month, arrive at 9:00 a.m. in Church.



Seventh Sunday of Ordinary Time Séptimo Domingo del Tiempo Ordinario

Diocesan Development Fund 2020

Our parish family of St. Thomas the Apostle has always been a generous community of faithful parishioners. Each year that I have been here, we have met and exceeded our goal for our parish for the DDF. The money we have gained by going over our goal has been a blessing for our parish community.

It has helped us to install the fencing around our whole property to enable our school and religious education children to be in a protective environment while they are here studying and growing in their academic knowledge, their love for the Lord and how to be of service to others in God's name. Those who contributed to the DDF and helped us go over our goal we thank for their generosity. They enabled us to achieve this and more.

A parish truly is a family. All members of this family are needed to keep our parish active in our faith life. The goal also enabled us to pay the \$1,800 that was needed for us to sign-up for FORMED. This wonderful learning experience that is available to all the families of our parish helps all our families from young children, teens, adults and seniors of our parish to continue to grow in our relationship with God. We are truly blessed by our getting to know the Father, Son and Holy Spirit better all the time.

All our facilities are nice and warm in the winter and cool in the summer due to the generosity of those who donated to the DDF. The buildings have good lighting so we can see in the church, our hall, the various buildings on our campus. This enables all our programs and organizations to have comfortable places to gather, learn and enjoy life together.

Your weekly contributions are the bedrock of our finances here at St/ Thomas and the funds that exceed our DDF goal makes our parish life even better. Once again it is that time of the year to start working on this year's DDF goal of \$98,900. Knowing that we can exceed this goal and benefit from those who have contributed to it will help us with a new project which is to update our school. No one knows when the school was updated but we do know it needs it now. Our school is a very important ministry of our parish. The buildings are important not only for the children who attend the school but also for our religious education program who uses the classrooms.

We are in the process of evaluating the school buildings and making a list of what needs to be updated and the cost to make this happen. The electric needs to be updated and added to so the classrooms will be equipped with enough outlets to make the technology needed for their academics will be there when needed. New flooring in the classrooms that will be durable and able to be cleaned, waxed and kept sanitary is needed. We need some colors in the rooms that will make the schoolrooms bright and beautiful learning spaces.

As with your own homes, we never know what will be needed to keep our parish facilities operating at their peak. Bishop Barnes thanked you for your contributions to last years DDF and I most heartily join his thank you for your weekly contributions and the contributions made to the DDF. Only 234 families contributed to the DDF out of close to 3,000 families that make up the Parish of St. Thomas the Apostle. We need the participation of every parish family to our weekly contributions and our Annual DDF. As in every family, all the members of that family are needed to help keep their home updated, clean, neat, and working at its best. So does our parish family need every member to be contributing their time, their skills and abilities and their financial contributions to the working of St. Thomas the Apostle at its best.

Make your financial contributions a part of your being a faithful, prayerful and holy member of St. Thomas the Apostle as God wants us to be. You are a member already. This Lenten season is a time to become more dedicated to God and your parish family. Join a ministry if you are not already a member of one. Add a few dollars more to your weekly contribution. From God's blessing to you, give part of that blessing to the Diocesan Development Fund and help us to renovate and update our school today and keep St. Thomas the Apostle the great place it is already and make it greater.



Fr. Frank T. Dicristina
Pastor

Recent Projects paid for by DDF:

- 2019: Fence to protect school and R.E. Children
- 2018: Replace broken air conditioning units in the Church and Office
- 2017: New KDC patio and trenching.
- 2016: New carpet and making the church more handicap accessible.

Mass Intentions**Saturday/Sabado, February 22nd**

1 Pt 5:1-4; Ps 23:1-3a, 4-6; Mt 16:13-19

5:00 p.m. † Jesse Mendiola

6:30 p.m. † Antonio Macias

Sunday/Domingo, February 23rd

Lv 19:1-2, 17-18; Ps 103:1-4, 8, 10, 12-13; 1 Cor 3:16-23; Mt 5:38-48

7:00 a.m. † Marta Onido

9:00 a.m. † Daniel Pascual

11:00 a.m. † Anita Castillon

5:00 p.m. † Roy Lopez

Monday/Lunes, February 24th

Jas 3:13-18; Ps 19:8-10, 15; Mk 9:14-29

8:00 a.m. † Marcus Bayne

Tuesday/Martes, February 25th

Jas 4:1-10; Ps 55:7-11a, 23; Mk 9:30-37

8:00 a.m. † Amelia Ramirez

Wednesday/Miercoles, February 26th

Jl 2:12-18; Ps 51:3-6ab, 12-14, 17; 2 Cor 5:20 - 6:2; Mt 6:1-6, 16-18

9:00 a.m. Families, Friends, & Benefactors

7:00 p.m. Families, Friends, & Benefactors

Thursday/Jueves, February 27th

Dt 30:15-20; Ps 1:1-4, 6; Lk 9:22-25

8:00 a.m. † Bertha Muñoz

Friday/Viernes, February 28th

Is 58:1-9a; Ps 51:3-6ab, 18-19; Mt 9:14-15

8:00 a.m. † Felipe & † Ramona Alcala

Saturday/Sabado, February 29th

Is 58:9b-14; Ps 86:1-6; Lk 5:27-32

5:00 p.m. † Charo Gaudia

6:30 p.m. † Rosa, † Mercedes, & † Ignacio Lomeli

Sunday/Domingo, March 1st

Gn 2:7-9; 3:1-7; Ps 51:3-6, 12-13, 17; Rom 5:12-19 [12, 17-19]; Mt 4:1-11

7:00 a.m. † Ed Cardoza

9:00 a.m. † Anthony & † Pam DeMarco

11:00 a.m. † Mauro Banzon Paguio

5:00 p.m. † Pat Romani

Sanctuary Ints. First Communicants**Blessed Virgin** † Jesse Mendiola**Blessed Virgin** Ints. Debbie & Luther Friend**St. Joseph** † Jesse Mendiola**St. Joseph** Ints. Mack Morris**Sunday Responsorial Psalm:**“The Lord is my light and my salvation,
of whom should I be afraid.”**Prayers for the Deceased**

We pray for all the faithful departed, especially

Mary Rolle, Pat McCarthy, Larry Riley, Joanne Tumulty, Deloris Lamb, Pam DeMarco, Thomas Kussin, Fred Roybal, Rose Fournier, Virginia Zuniga, Alfonso Navarette, Anthony Molchan, Loren Havlik, Laurie Buswell, Claudio DiGiamberardino, Robert Drachslin, Ernest Buckley, Kaitlin St. Croix, Tony DeMarco, Barbara Reul, Mariano Hernandez, Robert Kilman, Mary Merriam, and James Littler.

May the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace. Amen.

Prayers for the sick

We pray for:

Debbie & Luther Friend, Jim Reed, Herminio Nieves, Jon Jackson, Miriam Maldonado - Borjon, Mary Jones, Herman Lee Jackson, Jax Johnson, Frank Haynes, Luke Swierczek, Alvaro Avalos, Bob Eid, Tony Flores, Lucille Christianson, Joseph Galante Sr., Mary Garcia, Theresa Morris, Orest Stetkevich, Brian Flannagan, Teresa Chamiec, Deanna Rice, and Lupita Muñoz.

May they feel the healing power of prayer. Amen.

This week at a glance:**Sunday, February 23rd**

- Parish Office is open 8:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
- K of C Hospitality - Hall 7:00 a.m. and 9:00 a.m. Masses

Ash Wednesday, February 26th

- 7:00 a.m. Prayer service
- 9:00 a.m. School Mass (English)
- 12:00 p.m. Prayer service
- 5:00 p.m. Spanish Prayer service
- 7:00 p.m. Mass (English)

**Thursday, February 27th**

- Bible Study - KDC room MC 5 at 9:00 a.m.

Friday, February 28th

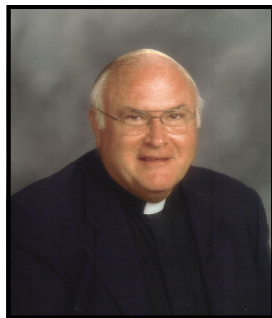
- Fish Fry - Hall 5:00 - 7:30 p.m.
- Stations of the Cross- Church at 7:00 p.m.
- Via Crucis- Iglesia a las 8:00 p.m.

**Sunday, March 1st**

- Parish Office is open 8:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
- K of C Hospitality - Hall 7:00 a.m. and 9:00 a.m. Masses
- **Parish Mission - KDC after 5:00 p.m. Mass**

Starting Next Saturday, February 29th, our Spanish Mass will move from 6:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

St. Thomas the Apostle School News



Fr. Joe's Tuition Assistance Fund

Thanks to your generous donations, we have been able to bless about 20 families, nearly 30 children, with partial tuition assistance for quality Catholic school education. So far this school year your donations total nearly \$23,000. With rising costs we have had to raise tuition. We try to keep tuition as low as possible, but we also need to charge enough to keep our doors open. We help as many families as possible, but there are still those we must turn away for lack of funds, and greatly appreciate your continued donations. If you have any questions, please call the school office (951) 689-1981 or Norbert Holscher at (951) 733-5199.

Parish News

Feeding the Body of Christ

"I was hungry and you fed me, thirsty and you gave me drink." We have teams serving dinner at the homeless shelter a few days a week between 4:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. Each team serves once every other month. If you are interested, please leave a message for Bob Davis with the Parish Office.

Girl Scouts #604 will be hosting

Pancake Breakfast

Sunday, March 1st

after the 7:00 a.m. and
9:00 a.m. Masses.



"May the Lord make you ready to do His will in any kind of good action." Hebrews 13:21

Thank you Father Frank for commissioning and blessing 8 new Stephen Ministers.

They are (from left) Allison Santos, Ruby Rodriguez, Gustavo Gomez, Cindy Petit, (Father Frank), Marsha Welch, Paul Barrios, Consuelo Meyer and Clare "Stoney" Jewett.

Stephen Ministers take a 50 hour course that includes how to listen, pray for, and bring God's love to their care receivers. They also attend meetings followed by supervision sessions twice a month. If you are interested in becoming a Stephen Minister yourself, and have questions about the next training class, or would like a compassionate minister to meet with you weekly, please call the Parish Office: (951) 689-1131.



Save the date! Knights of Columbus # 12213 present

Cinco de Mayo Celebration!

Saturday, May 2nd

Parish Hall 4:30 - 9:00 p.m.

Join the fiesta!

Musical performance by:

Mariachi Supremos de Riverside

\$15 per plate, includes homemade enchiladas, rice, beans, salad, and drink.

Dessert and alcohol available to purchase.

We accept Credit Cards



BEREAVEMENT HOSPITALITY

At St. Thomas the Apostle, when one of our parish members passes away, we show Love to those who are left behind in any way we can. One way our Bereavement Hospitality does this is by supplying side dishes for the family's funeral reception. We also have a small team of hospitality helpers who set-up and are present for the reception as a symbol of love to the family during this time. This is such an important and appreciated comfort we can offer our families in time of their grief. If you feel this is a valuable ministry and are able to volunteer please call the office and speak to Valerie Doran. We are in need of replacing some of our key ministers, who are ready to pass on the torch to our next generation.



Are you interested in helping RCIA but have limited time? There are hospitality needs within the ministry based on your availability. If you are interested in being a hospitality helper for RCIA/Adult Confirmation, please call Grace Fernandez in the Parish Office: (951)689-1131 Ext. 233

Youth Ministry - 7th - 12th grade

It's not too late to join!

Sundays 6:15 - 8:30 p.m.

Parish Hall.

All teens grade 7-12 are welcome!

We are preparing for the Passion Play on Palm Sunday.

No registration required.



For more information, contact Lisa Upattiya: lupattiya@sbdiocese.org

Faith Formation News



First Holy Communion
Saturday, May 2nd
at 10:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m.

English - Dana Robles, Coordinator of Catechesis at (951) 689-1131, ext. 240 drobles@sbdiocese.org
 Español - Bertha Muñoz (951) 689-1131 ext. 235 bamunozmarquez@sbdiocese.org



Confirmation News



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Confirmation will be Sunday, April 19th
at 2:00 p.m. with our new Bishop,

Most Reverend
Alberto Rojas.



Confirmation

Ash Wednesday is February 26th

- 7:00 a.m. Prayer service
- 9:00 a.m. School Mass (English)
- 12:00 p.m. Prayer service
- 5:00 p.m. Spanish Prayer service
- 7:00 p.m. Mass (English)



Ashes will NOT be available in the office, please plan to attend one of the scheduled services for ashes.

If you are a minister to the homebound and wish to take ashes to them, please notify Deanna in the Parish Office: (951)689-1131



"We honor the dead by helping the Living" St. Thomas the Apostle church invites you to take part in a 5-week grief support program, called Healing After Loss. You can begin the

healing process by getting yourself help and support from our caring team on Wednesday evenings beginning March 4th and continuing through April 1st at St. Thomas' Katherine Drexel Center from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. If you are interested in meeting with this group or know of anyone who may benefit, contact Valerie Doran in the Parish Office at (951)689-1131.

A one-time \$35 fee is requested to cover the cost of handout materials.



Morning Bible Study
Thursday at 9:00 a.m. in the KDC.

Parish Lenten Mission

This year, we will host a 5-week workshop to prepare ourselves for Easter. **Please join us each Sunday, March 1st - March 29th at 6:30 p.m. in the KDC.**

We will have workshops in both English and Spanish, materials will be provided. You may also opt to pick up a study guide in the parish Office and follow along at home with Formed.

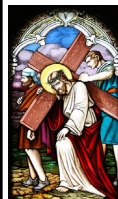


Create your Formed account in 4 easy steps:

- 1 Go to signup.formed.org
- 2 Enter "92503" and select St. Thomas the Apostle
- 3 Press "Next" and enter your full name and email address, all personal information is secure!
- 4 Check your email to verify your account, click on the link to "Sign in Now"

St. Joseph's Table

Thursday, March 19th after the 8:00 a.m. Communion Service in the Parish Patio. Please bring a dish to share for the annual breakfast potluck to celebrate the feast day of St. Joseph.



Please join us every Friday during Lent for the Stations of the Cross in the church.
Friday, February 28th - Friday, April 3rd.
English Stations of the Cross: 7:00 p.m.
Spanish Stations of the Cross: 8:00 p.m.

Fish Fry Friday



Knights of Columbus Council #12213

Annual Lenten Fish Fry Starts Friday, February 28th

Join the Knights in the Parish Hall from 5:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. every Friday from February 28th – April 3rd.

*Parish Ministries will be hosting dessert tables weekly.

*You can also participate in the 50/50 raffle, Assorted Basket Raffles and Grand Prize raffles. We hope to see you there!!!

***Good Friday, April 10th** Solemn Soup & Bread Dinner hosted by ministries.



Please help support our various ministries by making a purchase at the Dessert Table!

Each ministry also accepts donated baked goods. Be sure to drop off your goodies at the hall before 4:30 p.m. on Fish Fry Fridays. Thank you!

Ministry Dessert Schedule for Fish Fry-days:

- February 28th - St. Thomas School
- March 6th - RCIA
- March 13th - Stephen Ministry
- March 20th - Girl Scouts #604 & Serra Club
- March 27th - Youth Ministry
- April 3rd - Boy Scouts /Cub Scouts

