



'the story'

St. Thomas Episcopal Church
Franklin, IN
May 2022

*All are Welcome
No Exceptions!*

St. Thomas Episcopal Church accepts all people and we commit to:

Celebrate the Eucharist regularly

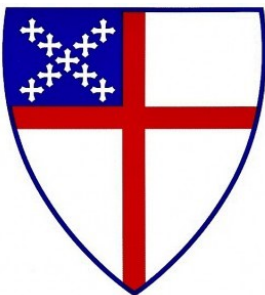
Keep a personal and community discipline of prayer and study

Proclaim the Good News of Jesus Christ by promoting justice, peace, and love

Nurture God's people as we grow in Christ

Live with thanksgiving, wonder, and openness to God's love

Restore all people to unity with God and each other



A Bounty of Blessings to Begin Eastertide

When I accepted the call to serve as Rector of St. Thomas, Franklin, in the fall of 2019, there was no way to know it would be 2 1/2 years before I would observe my first Holy Week and Easter with you in person. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, that's exactly what happened. I wouldn't wish such public health conditions on anyone, but the opportunity to experience Holy Week and Easter with you after such a long wait proved to be a rich, rewarding gift.

One of the best things about a parish the size of St. Thomas is that an individual or small group can make a tremendous difference. Here are just a few examples:

On Palm Sunday, our good youth turnout including children from the Bachman, McFarland and Smith families helped power our best Palm Sunday attendance in five years. On Maundy Thursday, Juanita Wahlberg sang Twila Paris's "How Beautiful" accompanied by Sue Downs. On Good Friday, Paula Sites narrated and Mike Ramsey portrayed Jesus in a compelling Passion of John. On Holy Saturday, parishioners sang Taize chants in a simple yet spiritual service followed by healing prayers. Our Easter service, begun with a processional led by new crucifer Grace Allen, featured the first congregational singing in more than two years, and the St. Thomas Choir led by Heather Orvek in "Good Christians All, Rejoice and Sing." Beth Stephens and Ann Kieffer organized our first Easter brunch in three years. Each baked a delicious casserole. Their culinary skills and hospitality gave us a chance to socialize, meet new friends or get reacquainted. For me, it was best summed up by the enthusiastic exclamation point that Junior Warden Steve Wahlberg added to our message out front: Easter Blessings!

—Fr. Whitney

Our beautiful altar for the 2022 Easter season:



From May 3rd to 9th, Fr. Whitney will be attending the CREDO clergy retreat in Richmond, Virginia. The Most Rev. Bob Giannini will return to preach and preside at our service on May 8th.

From the Junior Warden:

Work is proceeding with the Metronet installation. Tentative date for completion is the first or second week of May. We started this process way back last July. We also had a good cleanup day on the Saturday before Palm Sunday. Many thanks to all those who showed up to clean the inside and pick up a lot of broken branches outside.

—Steve Wahlberg

St. Thomas parishioners Beth Stephens and Ann Kieffer prepared a delicious brunch following our Easter service.



Presiding Bishop Michael B. Curry will visit the Diocese of Indianapolis on Saturday, June 4 and Sunday, June 5. The events below are open to all but registration is required. To register, go to <https://indydio.org/2022/04/presiding-bishop-visits-june-4-5/>

Festival Eucharist, 12:30p.m. June 4, in Bloomington

Presiding Bishop Michael Curry will preach and, with Bishop Jennifer, lead a festival Eucharist at the Monroe Convention Center in Bloomington. The service will include confirmations and ordinations.

Outdoor Reception 2:30p.m. June 4th, Bloomington.

An outdoor reception will follow the Festival Eucharist outside the Monroe Convention Center. Presiding Bishop Curry will speak, and there will be food and drinks.

Eucharist, Christ Church Cathedral, 1:00p.m. on June 5th.

Presiding Bishop Michael Curry will join in the celebration of the Feast of Pentecost in Spanish and English at Christ Church Cathedral. An outdoor fiesta will follow.

Adult Education Series Ends May 8th

We will be wrapping up our series on saints May 8th at 9:00 a.m. Robin Kares will lead us in learning about Julian of Norwich, the patron saint of contemplatives and cats. Many thanks to all who have facilitated and joined us.

- - Marikay Kapke

Food Pantry Seeks Donations

St. Thomas will be collecting donations for the Interchurch Food Pantry of Johnson County on May 15th. The pantry is requesting non-perishable food items, personal items as well as cleaning products. Monetary donations are also appreciated: make check payable to St. Thomas with Food Pantry in memo line.



MAY CELEBRATIONS

BIRTHDAYS

5/2—Steve Wahlberg
5/3—David Miller
5/5—Tilly Blade
5/6—Julie Stogsdill
5/11—Joshua Tullis
5/26—Sandy Moffett
5/31—Fr. Whitney Smith

ANNIVERSARIES

5/12—James & Barbara Hess
5/19—Mike & Marti Ramsey
5/22—Paul & Dee Jump
5/23—Phil & Deirdre Warrenburg
5/27—Dave & Pam Buchholz

ST. THOMAS VESTRY

Meeting: May 1, 2022.

The 26th Vestry of St. Thomas (2022--2024)



2022.....Dave Buchholz, Marikay Kapke
2023.....Steven Wahlberg, Rachel Allen, Brandi
Ashlock, Cheryl Faust
2024.....Julie Stogsdill, Eric Smith

The Staff and Officers of St. Thomas

Rector.....Fr. Whitney Smith
Senior WardenDave Buchholz
Junior Warden.....Steve Wahlberg
Clerk.....Julie Stogsdill
TreasurerJim Lewis
Assistant TreasurersRobin Kares, Eric Smith,
Mike Ramsey, Marti Ramsey
Parish Administrator.....Joy Tucker
Organist.....Heather Orvek

Clerk.....Julie Stogsdill
Treasurer.....Jim Lewis