

Impact Report



Giving Plan

Saint Thomas the Apostle Catholic Church 2018-2019

Impact of YOUR Parish Giving, 2017-2018

Saint Thomas strives to be a welcoming, Christ-centered parish, guided by the Holy Spirit. We celebrate prayer, worship, education, sacraments, community, and outreach as the way of living God’s kingdom on Earth.

Here is a **sampling** of the impact of the Saint Thomas Community in 2017-2018:

- 360+ hours of spiritual guidance in personal meetings with individuals, couples and families with Father Jim, Deacon Dean, or Deacon Jim.
- 400+ times the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass was celebrated, which allowed Christ to teach, feed, transform, heal, and help us to become one with Him.
- 25+ people were visited each week in their homes or in the hospital.
- 38 new families joined the Saint Thomas Parish Community.
- 5 young adults pursued their religious vocations.
- 31 newly baptized babies, 37 first communicants, 26 newly confirmed, 45 marriages & 13 funerals.
- \$60,000 donated to Esperanza, Hope for Haiti, and local outreach.
- 42 high school students participated in a Steubenville Youth Conference.
- 352 school students engaged in a dynamic education centered in Christ.
- 200+ friends and neighbors were served at the Thanksgiving Day Community Dinner.
- 180+ hours of noon holy hour adoration completed.
- 30+ children participated in Children’s Liturgy of the Word twice a month during the school year.

Check out www.stthomasapostlegr.org or the Faith in Action Ministry Guide (available at Mass in October) for a complete listing of Parish ministries and opportunities.

My plan for making an impact on the Saint Thomas Community

Weekly Offertory is the foundation that supports the privilege of a church community, a priest, worship, sacraments, and an unapologetically Catholic education for about 450 students through the elementary school and evening Religious Education.

My plan is to give:

Annual Giving Amount _____ Weekly _____ Bi-weekly _____ Monthly _____ Other

Catholic Services Appeal (CSA) supports programs and functions that are best managed at the diocesan level, including the education of seminarians (currently more than 30 men), direction and oversight of parishes and Catholic schools, outreach, etc. Any overage beyond our goal of \$197,320 comes back to the parish.

Annual Pledge



Discretionary Giving – Parishioner Supported Events

Parish Auction is a bi-annual event held this year on September 22 to support parish programs such as retreats, new hymnals, Vacation Bible School, and school programs such as field trips, teaching supplies, recess equipment, graduation and tuition assistance (approximately ¼ of our school families are supported by this assistance).

Education Foundation – ongoing appeal accepts gifts to the school endowment, which largely supports tuition assistance for our school as well as mini-grants for special educational projects.

Rummage Sale annual fundraiser in the Spring is a great way to clean out your house by donating items for the sale or pick up a few treasures, all of which support maintenance projects like new carpeting for the parish and school.

Boosters Golf Outing in May is a great event to support all of our Saint Thomas athletic programs (basketball, soccer, football, cross-country, volleyball, lacrosse, tennis, and track), pays for uniforms, referees and fields, and is open to all parishioners regardless of their school affiliation.

Community Dinner special collection in November supports the two parish dinners hosted on Thanksgiving and the last weekend of January for parishioners and our neighbors. Funds are used to pay for food and supplies.

Advent Angel Tree collection in December gives parishioners the opportunity to purchase a Christmas gift or food item for a family in need. Assistance is fulfilled by purchasing a gift or volunteering to wrap or deliver items to individual homes.

Discretionary Giving – Diocesan Collections

World Mission Sunday, second offertory collection in October, promotes evangelization of our Catholic faith throughout the world.

Campaign for Human Development, a special collection in November, is a domestic anti-poverty, social justice program of the U.S. Catholic bishops.

Retirement Fund for Religious, the second offertory collection in December, assists and supports frail, elderly women and men religious who have given their lives to prayer and ministry.

Catholic Relief Services, the second offertory collection in March, carries out the commitment of the Bishops of the United States to assist the poor and vulnerable overseas.

Operation Rice Bowl during Lent encourages individuals and their families to collect money at home to make a concrete difference in the lives of those living in poverty. Families can return the boxes to Saint Thomas during Holy Week. (25% stays local and 75% goes to CRS International)