

## WORSHIP

# The Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

Blessing of the Animals 10:00 a.m. service

**Sunday, October 6, 2024**

8:00 a.m. Holy Communion in the Church

10:00 a.m. Holy Communion outside in the circle

5:00 p.m. Last Chance Mass in the Old School Building

### SERVICE DETAILS AND REMINDERS

***Please note, the 10:00 a.m. service will be outside for the Blessing of the Animals. The 8:00 a.m. service will be livestreamed.***

- 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 welcome all pets this Sunday, October 6th at the 10:00 a.m. service. Join us for Blessing of the Animals outside in the circle. Please have all animals on a leash or in a carrier.

### 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



### 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



## October 12th First Fruits Farm Confirmation Class Event

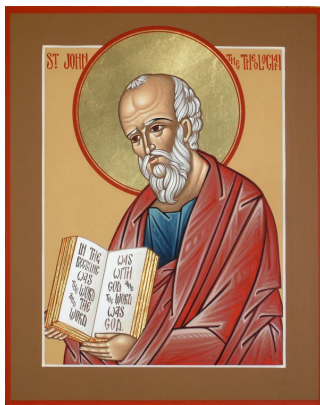
### YOUTH CONFIRMATION CLASS

Youth in **Grades 8 and up** are invited and encouraged to register for Confirmation Class. To register, please contact [Rev. Tom](#).

The Class will begin with volunteering at **First Fruits Farm on Saturday, October 12, 9:00 - 11:30 a.m.** Please click the button below to sign the waiver for all volunteers to sign before the event.

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

[First Fruits Farm Waiver](#)



## 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."

Even if you have not read the Bible since confirmation class, or not at all, you're welcome to log on, to speak and share, or just to listen. There are no right answers or tests, only the willingness to read the Scriptures and to use supplemental resources of your choice.

**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.



**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. This

immersive tour invites you to walk in the footsteps of the courageous people who fought for justice and equality during the pivotal Civil Rights Movement. Explore iconic landmarks in Birmingham, Montgomery, and Selma, where you'll gain insight into the struggles and triumphs that shaped the nation. With expert guides, poignant storytelling, and reflective discussions, this pilgrimage offers a powerful, faith based educational experience of the nation's civil rights and social justice struggle.

[Click here for more information!](#)



### **Spiritual Practices Retreat at The Claggett Center**

**October 25-27, 2024**

Deepen your prayer practices during this weekend of reflection and meditation. This year's workshops include the Ignatian practice of Examen, meditative movement, Lectio Divina, Anglican Prayer beads, and more! Come learn a new spiritual practice or deepen your existing prayer life in community with folks from all around the Dioceses of Maryland and Washington.

### **Blue Christmas**

**December 20-22, 2024**

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 for more information and to register for these programs](#)

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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



## 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 Hurricane Helene.

Click the button below to make donation and find out more about this important resource. Your gift will provide the Episcopal Relief and Development's partners on the ground with critical supplies, such as food and water, pastoral care, and other urgent needs. You'll also help assist with the long-term efforts needed to rebuild and heal.

A portion of the proceeds from the Harvest Festival will go to support the Episcopal Relief Development's Hurricane Relief Fund. For more information, please contact [Rev. Tom Murphy](#) or [Jane Farnan](#).

Episcopal Relief and Development Fund



## Orders due October 31st

### St. Thomas' Annual Greens Sale

Fall may have just arrived, but it is time to start thinking about the holidays! Order beautiful Christmas greens and support St. Thomas' at the same time.

**To view products offered:** click on the Download Greens Sale Forms button below to browse through both local pickup and direct delivery items.

**To both place direct delivery and local pickup orders and pay online all at once:** Click the Order Greens Online button below and you will be directed to our Sherwood Forest St. Thomas' site. You can pay through Tithe.ly directly when ordering online. Make sure to select to the Christmas Greens Fundraiser option in the drop-



down menu. You can also add a personalized message when ordering direct delivery items.

**To place an order on a paper form:** Click on the button below to download order forms. **Green forms** are for local pickup items and **red forms** for direct delivery items to be delivered from our supplier to any recipient(s).

Please fill out all information and send back to the Parish Office, along with cash or check (*made payable to St. Thomas' Church*), or pay online through [Tithely](#). Make sure to select to the Christmas Greens Fundraiser option in the drop-down menu.

**Make a donation to the Cemetery Wreaths!** Please consider making a donation, no matter the amount, to help us purchase 22" wreaths that we will use for the Old Cemetery for Christmas. Add this amount to your order total, when paying either online or by cash or check.

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

Contact [Kristin Nightwine](#) if you have any questions or need more information.

**Paper order forms are available in the Narthex and Parish Hall.**

*Please share with family and friends! Thank you for your support of this wonderful annual tradition!*

[Order Greens Online](#)

[Download Greens Sale Forms](#)

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## ST. THOMAS' OUTREACH: COMMUNITY CRISIS CENTER CARE BAGS

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.

[Join us Sunday, October 13th following the 8:00 and 10:00 a.m. services in the Parish Hall to assemble Care Bags!](#)

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



### St. Thomas' Thanksgiving Dinner Bags

Once again, we will be distributing Thanksgiving Dinner lists and bags for parishioners to purchase Thanksgiving dinners for families in need at the Community Crisis Center.

Thanksgiving bags and lists **will be distributed on Sunday, November 3rd**. All bags must be **dropped off on or before Sunday, November 24th**. *Thank you for helping those in need!*

## Our 2025 STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN IS UNDERWAY!

Over the next several weeks, look for TENS 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.

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

## A ST. THOMAS' STORY OF STEWARDSHIP CEMETERY COMMITTEE

Helping a parishioner choose a grave site is a straightforward process because there are specific guidelines set by the Vestry of St. Thomas'. However, as a group, many Americans tend to shy away from or are uncomfortable planning for end of life processes. As a result, they put off writing a will, planning a funeral, or buying a burial site. When that happens, choosing a grave site after the recent loss of a loved one, doesn't seem so straight forward.

Often the surviving spouse, or children are overwhelmed with details of the funeral and other family responsibilities at a difficult and emotional time. Some live out of town. For me, helping a parishioner through the process of choosing a burial site is a privilege. Listening, answering questions, and providing clear information are the best ways to help.

Stewardship might seem an unlikely word to connect with burials, but as my mom said to me more than once, “You do for the living.”

Often with stewardship, I feel that I get back much more than I give. In the past five years as Cemetery Warden, I have gotten much more than I have given. I have had the privilege of being advised by the wonderful staff, especially Barb Parks. I have learned more about the mission of the church during the end of life process. Most importantly, I have met and become friends with parishioners whom I might not have known.

— Betsy Baetjer

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.**

If you have not yet submitted your 2024 Pledge, please click [here](#).

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

**Give Now**

2024-2025 Stewardship Reflections

## GROW

### JUBILEE RECEPTION

Saturday, October 5th

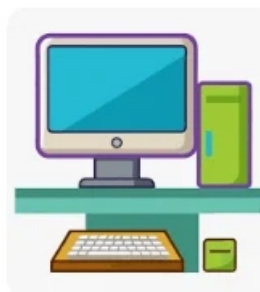
1:00 - 4:00 p.m. Open House

at the Rectory

Due to limited parking at the Rectory, valet shuttle service will be available from the church parking lot.

Please park in the main church lot, where the doors to the Parish Hall vestibule will be open for you to wait inside.

*We cannot wait to celebrate our long-time parishioners!*



#### Looking for a Parish Office Volunteer for Data Entry!

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 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](#).



# ST. THOMAS' HARVEST FESTIVAL

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**SUNDAY  
OCT 20**



*join us*

11:00 AM TO 3:00 PM  
IN THE PARISH HALL

**CORNHOLE • COOK-OUT • FUN**

SCAN THE QR CODE TO RSVP AND SIGN UP  
TO BRING SIDES AND ITEMS FOR THE BAKE SALE.

PLEASE RSVP BY OCTOBER 15TH OR SOONER.

CONTACT JANE FARNAN AT [JFARNAN@STTHOMASCHURCH.US](mailto:JFARNAN@STTHOMASCHURCH.US)  
OR CALL THE PARISH OFFICE (410) 363-1044 FOR MORE INFORMATION.

RSVP for the Harvest Festival



Saturday, October 12th 9:00 a.m.

## First Fruits Farm Event

Join us for a fun community service project in conjunction with the St. Thomas' Preschool & Kindergarten families and the St. Thomas' Confirmation Class. Dress for the weather and expect to get dirty!



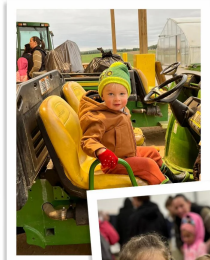
All volunteers must sign a waiver before arrival that morning. If you are logging volunteer hours, please bring paperwork to have signed. For more information, contact [Jane Farnan](#) or [Nicole Norris](#), STPS Director.

Click on the button below to sign the First Fruits Farm volunteer waiver.

First Fruits Farm Waiver



Join Us for our Annual VOLUNTEER DAY!  
SATURDAY October 12th  
FIRST FRUITS FARM  
9:00am - 11:00am  
20431 Middletown Road, Freeland MD 21053



All volunteers must sign our waiver BEFORE arrival.



FIRST FRUITS 10/12

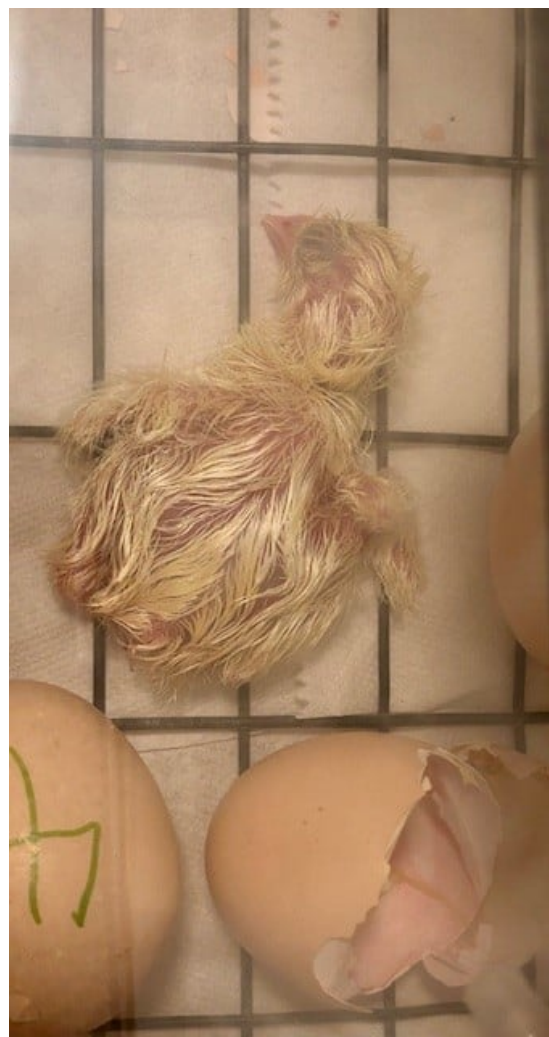
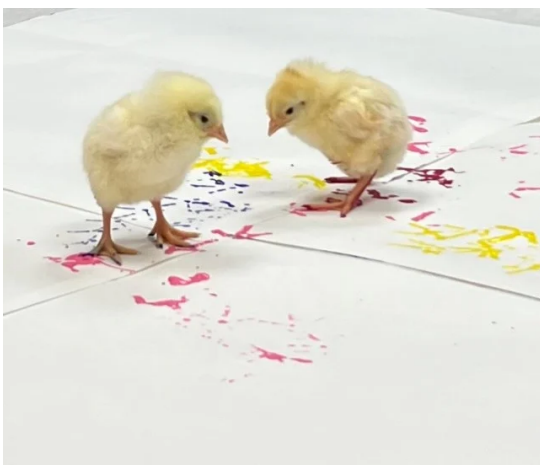


Dress for the weather, and expect to get dirty - no sandals or flip flops please! First Fruits Farm will provide: work gloves, drinking water, and on-the-job training.



If you have any questions, please contact Nicole Norris [norris@stthomaspreschool.info](mailto:norris@stthomaspreschool.info)





## OUR BABY CHICKS!

Each fall, eggs arrive at St. Thomas' Preschool and Kindergarten from Quiver Farms in PA. But before the eggs even arrive, we prepare for them by learning all about eggs and chickens.

Over the next few days, the children became helpful "egg turners," while the baby chicks were incubating and getting ready to hatch out of their shells, stretch, and meet new friends.



Each day, the eggs were checked on for any cracks, and if the children were very quiet, they could hear the chicks pecking their way out! It was exciting to hear so many peeps!

After much cuddling, observing, and holding the baby chicks, they left St. Thomas' Preschool and Kindergarten on Friday to head back to their farm, but we had lots of fun caring for them, loving them, and letting them get a little bit messy making “chick tracks!” Our new little artists will be missed.

This is such a special time for our school each year and we are always grateful for time we can spend with our furry farm friends—and I think our families loved every minute too.



## KINDERGARTEN OPEN HOUSE

MONDAY, OCTOBER 14TH

9:00 - 10:00 AM

Join us for a tour and information session about our wonderful Kindergarten program. Contact [Nicole Norris](#), Director, for more information.

[Access online registration for St. Thomas' Preschool & Kindergarten](#)

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ST. THOMAS' EPISCOPAL CHURCH

ST. THOMAS' PRESCHOOL AND KINDERGARTEN

# Fall Fest

Please RSVP using the QR Code:



OCTOBER 26 2:30-4:30

Parking: If you do NOT plan to participate in trunk or treat, please park in the circle near the Church. The parking lot by the school is reserved for Trunk-or-Treat parking only and will be closed at 3pm for safety. No cars will be permitted in or out of the parking lot while the kids are trunk-or-treating.

COSTUMES ENCOURAGED



## 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 to [Jane Farnan](#) by **November 15th**. We will mail them a little bit of "home" from St. Thomas'!



**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](mailto:jane.farnan@stthomasparish.org).

## 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](mailto:kristin.nightwine@stthomasparish.org) at with any questions.

*Thank you for your service!*



## 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, Eric S., Gee, Jacqueline, Katharine, Kathleen D., Lidia, Michael, Michael Z., Mike P., Morgan B., Nick, Randy, Rhonda, Rose, Sara H., Steve S., Verna, Vicki, and all those who were in the path of Hurricane Helene; 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:*

Randy Arnot ~ Jared Jones ~ Anthony Jones

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

## St. Thomas' Church Owings Mills

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

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