

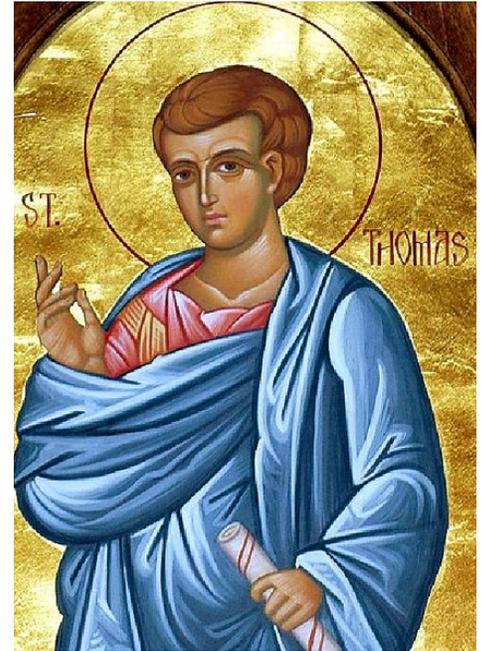


DEAR FRIENDS IN CHRIST

Saint Thomas the Apostle is participating in *One Church, Many Disciples*, along with every church in the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City. This first ever major campaign will build a Shrine for Blessed Stanley Rother, support faith formation ministries and strengthen local parishes, including St. Thomas. We join with faithful from across the archdiocese who are also helping to ensure our local church is strong and vibrant for generations to come.

As an archdiocese, we form a faith community of 200,000 Catholics in central and western Oklahoma; we truly are *One Church, Many Disciples*! With the Beatification of Blessed Stanley Rother, each of us has the opportunity to share in his legacy. What an occasion to live Jesus' call to missionary discipleship.

Please take a moment to review the impact *One Church, Many Disciples* will have on St. Thomas. This campaign has my full support and, as your pastor, I hope you will embrace this opportunity here at St. Thomas.



Rev. Jaroslaw P. Topolewski

OUR PARISH ROOTS



Bishop McGuinness had as a personal goal to put at least one Catholic church in every county in Oklahoma. He almost succeeded, with churches in all but two counties, out of 77. Seiling is in the northeast corner of Dewey County, on Highway 3 about 35 miles southeast of Woodward. Father Joseph B. McGurk, pastor of Woodward, began offering Mass in the homes of Seiling Catholics in the mid-1940's. Saint Thomas' church was originally an American Legion Hall; through the help of Seiling and Woodward parishioners half of that building was moved away and the other half turned into a

church. The bishop dedicated the church in 1950. In 1969, responsibility for Seiling was transferred to the pastor at Okeene. During the 1980's, the church interior was renovated. Lastly, in 1990, a parish hall and three classrooms were attached to the church; Archbishop Salatka blessed this addition in 1991.



PARISH LIFE TODAY

Today, St. Thomas the Apostle is very active, with multiple clubs and ministry groups that benefit the faith community in Seiling. With an active Altar Society, Knights of Columbus, and youth group, St. Thomas provides a well-rounded array of ministries for the diverse faith community in Seiling. St. Thomas also hosts a variety of community events, such as graduation celebrations and bible studies.



OUR CAMPAIGN PARTICIPATION

Saint Thomas welcomes the opportunity to participate in the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City's campaign, *One Church, Many Disciples*. This campaign will enable the building of a shrine for Blessed Stanley Rother, and will fund shared ministerial needs. Through participating in this campaign, St. Thomas will raise significant funds toward the needs of our beloved community. We are seeking five-year pledges to achieve the parish campaign goal of \$30,000. St. Thomas will receive 20% of all funds we raise up to the goal, totaling \$6,000. Plus, 50% of every dollar raised above the goal will be returned to St. Thomas.

OUR SHARE OF THE FUNDS

Through the *One Church, Many Disciples* campaign, we will not only play a significant role in this historic moment in the Church's history, but we will also be able to support exciting new projects at St. Thomas.

With St. Thomas' share of the funds raised in this campaign effort, we will begin funding for replacing the carpet within the sacristy and parish hall. The parish hall is one of the most important communal gathering places for our faith community. It is vital to our faith community that our hall is up-to-date for generations to come.

Parish Hall Renovations

Carpet Replacement in Sacristy