

Masses November 25th- December 3rd, 2023

Saturday, November 25th:

5pm- Giulianna Destefano by Anthony Destefano

Sunday, November 26th: Christ the King

8am- Sheila Samson by Mark & Karen Anderson

9:30am- Jack Gaudet by Joanna & Richard Bounaparte

11:30am- David Mohlenbrok by The STM Choir

Marie Di Lorenzo by Bill & Lofi Rudden

Monday, November 27th:

9am- Melissa Jean-Baptiste & Family in Thanksgiving

Tuesday, November 28th:

9am- Peter Romano by The Romano Family

Wednesday, November 29th:

9am- Phyllis Markowitz by her STM Family

Thursday, November 30th: St Andrew, Apostle

9am- Dorothy Gillan by Arlene & John Aspromgos

Friday, December 1st:

9am- The Gomez-Mendoza & Dowling Families by Andy

Saturday, December 2nd:

5pm- Marie Drago by Noelle & Alex White

Sunday, December 3rd: First Sunday of Advent

8am- Robert Boston by Lou & Emilia Savarese

9:30am- MaryAnn Maggio by Kathryn Schook

Robert Pondt by Lou & Emilia Savarese

11:30am- Betty Kovacs by The Stanish Family

Charles A Stepanek by Peggy Stepanek & Family

Readings for this Week

November 26th, 2023 (Christ the King) Ezekiel 34:11-12.15-17 Psalm 23:1-2,2-3,5-6 1 Corinthians 15:20-26,28 Matthew 25:31-46

Readings for Next Week

December 3rd, 2023 (Advent 1) Isaiah 63:16b-17,19b, 64:2-7 Psalm 80:2-3,15-16,18-19 1 Corinthians 1:3-9 Mark 13:33-37

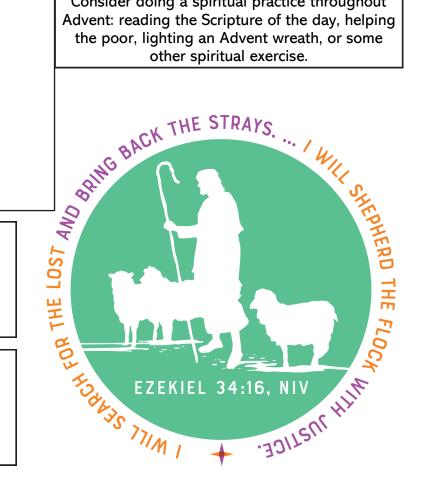
Mark 13:33-37 (Advent 1)

Jesus said to his disciples: "Be watchful! Be alert! You do not know when the time will come. It is like a man traveling abroad. He leaves home and places his servants in charge, each with his own work, and orders the gatekeeper to be on the watch. Watch, therefore: you do not know when the lord of the house is comina. whether in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or in the morning. May he not come suddenly and find you sleeping. What I say to you, I say to all: 'Watch!'"

Focus Questions for 12/3/23 Mark 13:33-37

1: What practices do you follow in Advent to be awake for the presence of the Lord? 2: Describe a time when you were not prepared for an event or a person's coming. 3: Relate a time when it felt like the end of the world as you knew it. How did you adjust to a new way of being?

Family & Children's Question: Consider doing a spiritual practice throughout Advent: reading the Scripture of the day, helping



Fr. Antony's Letter

Dear Friends,

Father wanted to correct his lazy son saying, "Son, do you realize when Lincoln was your age, he was already studying hard to be a lawyer?" His son retorted, "Right, Pop, and when he was your age, he was already President of the United States!" Using Lincoln as a role model to correct the son ended up working against the father.

This Sunday is the Solemn Feast of Our Lord Jesus Christ, Universal King. What kind of king is Jesus Christ, the King? Of all the kings who have lived through history, who can serve as a role model to describe and understand the kingship of Christ? Today's feast is not our attempt to understand how or what type of King Jesus Christ is. For no king on earth would be a fitting role model to describe or understand the kingship of Christ.

Rather, today's feast invites us to see how God in Jesus presents Himself to us and rules over us as King. When we acclaim Jesus Christ as our KING, we try to see how His Kingship sheds light upon all the Kings, Queens and all who govern the people; how Christ the King serves as a role model for those in power of governing and making decisions for the good of the people. Today's feast is not the celebration of how the power of Governing must receive its meaning and power from Christ the King.

Today's readings portray that God in Jesus as the king is like a shepherd who is ready to serve his sheep; a king who is not above us but became one of us, even to the point of sharing death with us, that we may be freed from all that entangle us in our human weakness, such as sin and death. He died to give life to us here and now on earth and for ever with Him in heaven. Christ exercises His Kingship not as a King who commands and demands with power, but serves in love and life.

Today's Gospel tells how we should live in the world to savor His Rule over us. Our God-King is one with us, so much so that whatever we do, especially to the least of our human beings, we do directly to him. In serving those who are most in need of our service means serving Christ the king Himself. In every little thing we do, we can experience God's Kingship. Our little actions have a God's Kingly stamp. In what we do or say we become capable of participating in the power of God-King Jesus. The feast of Christ the King makes us aware of how the serving alone is the way of being a people of God's kingdom. Being servants to each other as Jesus, the Kings does, is the essence of God's kingdom among us.

Next Sunday December 3rd we begin the Season of Advent, a period of preparation for the birth of Our Lord Jesus in our hearts and home. It is also a very busy season of getting gifts for our beloved one. May I remind you that you can give no better gift than yourself. As much as we would like to express our good self in the gifts we give, let us not forget to give ourselves as gift in saying kind words, adopting better behavior, including the other without prejudice, and helping someone in need. Let us prepare ourselves as the best gift to be given on Christmas Day.

With love and prayers, Fr. Antony



His Presence Is Real - Reflections on the Eucharist by Deacon Matt

The Council of Trent

Way back in the sixteenth century, the Catholic Church was grappling with the Protestant Reformation. While there were many aspects to this movement, an important one to consider for us is the impact on the understanding of the Eucharist.

Protestant reformers like Martin Luther felt that humans were corrupting the Church, and that only those words found in Sacred Scripture (the principle of sola scriptura) could direct the Church and theological understanding. This led to the basis for arguments against many of the sacraments, including the Eucharist.

The Church convened an ecumenical council at Trent, Italy (1545-1563). The Council of Trent sought to correct the errors



and heresies of Lu-Protestant movement. From the proceedings of this council, we have a great deal of teachings in support of the Catholic understanding of the Eucharist and other sacraments.

Luther agreed that Christ instituted the Eucharist. However, he did not believe in the principle of *transubstantiation* (see this column from 6/18/23 for more on that topic). Catholic teaching used the philosophical terms "substance" and "accidents" to help explain how bread and wine truly became Jesus during the consecration. Luther rejected this, since those words are not found in the Bible. The Council of Trent sought to counteract this with reasoning from both Scripture and Sacred Tradition.

Unfortunately, to this day, issues like this divide Christ's Church. However, as Catholics, we point to Jesus' words themselves in Scripture, that the bread and wine truly become his Body and Blood, and that when we do this in memory of him at every Mass, he truly becomes present again on the altar, the bloodless sacrifice offered to the Father which is offered back to us to strengthen our faith and our love.

ther and others in the "And because that Christ [...] declared that which He offered under the species of bread to be truly His own body [...] a conversion is made of the whole substance of the bread into the substance of the body of Christ our Lord, and of the whole substance of the wine into the substance of His blood; which conversion is, by the holy Catholic Church, suitably and properly called Transubstantiation." - Council of Trent, 13th Session, Chapter IV

> Questions? Comments? Suggestions? Contact me at eucharist@stmli.org.

Parish Information				
Staff	Contact	Ministry	Contact	
Pastor Father Antony Asir	pastor@stmli.org	Parish Outreach Marti White	outreach@stmli.org	
Deacons Deacon Matthew T.J. Surico	deacon.matt@stmli.org	Pastoral Council Barbara & Joe Fratamico	bjfrat@optonline.net	
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Youth Ministry Noelle LaFontaine	youthgroup@stmli.org	OCIA Ann Russo	redaa@aol.com	
Music Ministry Emilia Savarese, Director	631-724-8820	Young at Heart Anna Beltrani	631-234-0714	

Prayers for Our Community

Pray for the Sick

Gregory Bennett Joey Cullum Kathryn Douglas Thomas Dwyer Barbara Cassetta Joseph Cassetta Barbara Foberg Pat Golembiewski Linda Heller William Hoell Jim Ilardi **Richard Landi** Frank Loporto

Jim Marquette Matt O'Connell Al Pankus Joanne Pelletier George Pflugel Nunzio (Steve) Puleio Rosalie Rocchio **Richard Ronning** Noah Simonetti (2 yrs) John Spadaro Lorraine White John Zuzzolo



*this listing will expire on March 31st, 2024

Pray for Our Military

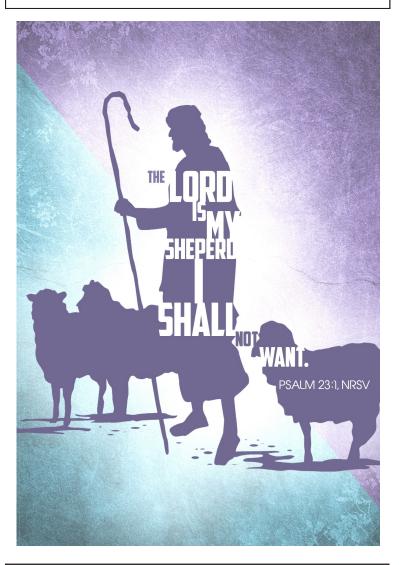
Please continue to pray for the brave members of our parish family who serve our country:



Altar Bread & Wine Memorial



contact the Rectory. Donation for the week is \$50.



To submit a prayer request, fill out the card in the Literature Rack. Return it to the rectory, or place it in the collection basket during mass. We bring all prayers to Him, even those said in silence.

Parish Ope rations

SUPPORT COLLECTION

Collection from: November 18th & 19th

\$6524

Weekly Goal: \$6700

St. Thomas More Parish needs your support now more than ever!

Envelope users: Please <u>enter the amount of your</u> <u>donation in the space provided on the envelope</u>. This will greatly help us when counting the collection and for recording your contribution.

(If you want to receive envelopes, please fill out the form on the literature rack.)

Faith Direct: Sign up today by visiting faith.direct/ NY227, or text 'Enroll' to 631-250-8141. More information is available in the literature rack

Rectory Office Hours Monday-Friday 9:30 A.M. - 3:00 P.M.

If in need of the immediate attention of a priest during non-office hours please call **(631) 234-5551** and choose **option 4**

All other calls received after office hours will be returned the next business day.



JANUARY			Calendar Club Winners		r	ARCH		
т	W	т	F		3	т	W	т
3	L.	5	6	November 20 (\$25): Fran Donato (538)			1	2
10	11	12	13	November 21 (\$25): Emiddio J Ippolito (973)	6	7		9
17		19	20	November 22 (\$25): Michael Welch (903)	13	74		16
24			27		20	21		23
31				November 23 (\$50): Christina Falcone (622)	27		29	30
	a d d l l			November 24 (\$25): Evelyn Mentock (786)			211 11 5	
	AVKIL						JUNE	
т	S	T	F	November 25 (\$25): Eileen & Mike Barr (88)	3	т	S	T
28				November 26 (\$50): Diane & Terry Coumou (1203)				1
4			7	8 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 4	5		7	8

Parish Social Ministry

"Give thanks to the Lord for he is good" ~Psalm 118

Our <u>cupboards are low</u> and we have had to purchase many items that are typically donated. Even 1 or 2 items are a help.

> Our immediate needs... Beans Cereal Canned Vegetables/Fruit Soup Ketchup Oatmeal Juice/Drink Mixes Coffee/Tea

We appreciate all of your donations! Please remember that it is difficult for us to use large cans, bottles, bags of rice, etc. as many of our neighbors do not have the ability to store extra food. Packages for 2-



Please do not leave other items such as clothing or household items in the donation bins. Clothing can be placed in the St. Vincent de Paul box at the back right corner of the parking lot. Please contact Outreach regarding other donations. Thank you!





Please reach out to Parish Outreach if you are, or know of someone, in need of support. Keep our elderly neighbors in mind and let us know if there is anyone you would like us to reach out to.

Monday – Thursday 10AM to 2 PM 631-234-3149 Outreach@stmlil.org

AN ADVENT OPPORTUNITY

Please see our Advent Calendar flyer for a suggestion on how to celebrate Advent while helping our Outreach program. Each day of Advent there is a suggestion for a food item. After Christmas you can drop your donations off at church or at Outreach!

The volunteers at Outreach give thanks everyday for YOU, our STM family, and the gifts you provide to our neighbors in need. The joy we see on the faces of our neighbors when they receive their Thanksgiving food cannot be described! Thank you, thank you, thank you for your kindness and generosity!

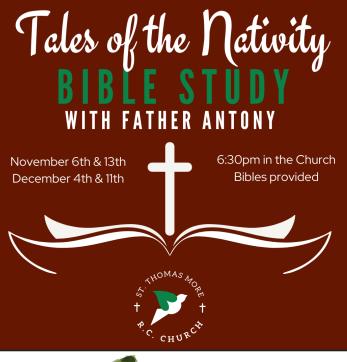


St Vincent de Paul

Today as we celebrate Christ the King, we hear Jesus say: "...whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me."

Knowing that we find the face of Christ in the poor, your generosity throughout this year has enabled us to help our Hauppauge neighbors. Thank you and we wish you a Blessed Thanksgiving!

In Our Parish





Children's Christmas Choir **Bonus Rehearsals!**

Our children are invited to join the Christmas Choir, singing at 3:30pm on Christmas Eve. See the flyer for more information.

USU Emilia will be running additional rehearsals after the 9:30 masses on Sundays (nice and quick, we will be done well before the 11:30 mass).

1-1

Kids (and their parents) who want to sing at Christmas are encouraged to join us.

See the flyer for more information.

Young at Heart New Members Always Welcome! Next Meeting: Fri December 8th @ 12:30

December 12th: Christmas Luncheon at Butterfield's (12pm) RSVP to Anna @ 631-234-0714

18th Annual Spaghetti Dinner

240 people. The Spaghetti Dinner on November 18th was a great success, with over 240 attendees! Many thanks to everyone who attended, and to our Council 6062 Knights and Columbiettes.

Special thanks to everyone who brought food to donate to Outreach. It was a huge help for restocking our shelves after Thanksgiving!





"Fr Antony with his best foot forward"

On Care For Our Common Home

Children Lead the Way!

Our Religious Education students were encouraged to talk about how Pope Francis encourages each person to pray for our Earth and take an action to try and heal the planet.

The 6th graders in John Savastano's class did just that! They went to a local sump (known as "the dumping ground" to that neighborhood) armed with gloves and trash bags. They cleaned up much trash, and separated out the recyclables, making \$8 to donate to the parish! That's a lot of cans!





Art in Nature, Art from Nature

The 2nd graders in Religious Ed were encouraged to go out on a nature walk and do an inspired art project when they got home. These art projects will be on display at the church on December 2nd and 3rd (first weekend of Advent). Please check them out and support the awesome work our students are doing.

> AUDATO S GOALS

Pray for Pope Francis

The Holy Father will be attending the UN Climate Change Conference (COP28) at the beginning of December. Please pray that his words will strike the hearts of our world leaders into making positive change for our environment.

Lord God, we pray that you open the hearts and minds of our leaders around the world, that they may listen to the needs of our planet.

Fill your servant Francis with the strength to change their hearts and minds, to protect the creation you entrusted to us.

Bring healing to our lives, that we may protect the world and not prey on it, that we may sow beauty, not pollution and destruction.

Happening at St. Thomas More

Coming Up @ STM

Thur Nov 30th, 5:30pm Children's Choir Rehearsal

Thur Nov 30th, 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal

S at Dec 2nd, 9:00am EM Mass & Retreat

Sun Dec 3rd, 12:30pm Youth Group

Mon Dec 4th, 6:30pm Bible Study w/ Fr Antony Session 3

Weekly Mass Schedule

Monday-Friday 9:00 AM S aturday 5:00 PM Sunday 8:00 AM 9:30 AM 11:30 AM C onfessions Every Saturday 4:00 PM-4:45 PM

Then the King will say to those on his right,

COME, YOU WHO ARE BLESSED BY MY FATHER, INHERIT THE KINGDOM PREPARED FOR YOU FROM THE FOUNDATION OF THE WORLD.



St.Thomas More

Giving Tree

Our Giving Tree can be found in the Narthex and is filled with tags for gifts and gift cards.

We invite you to help us make Christmas special for those less fortunate by donating gift cards,pajamas, toys, baby clothes, or diapers for our families and those who are in need in our community. Gift cards to Walmart or Target allow our families to shop for their children.

There is a table set up in the Narthex for your donations as well as a basket for gift cards. Please attach the tag to your donation. You can also put gift cards in the weekly collection basket or drop them off at the Outreach office.

There is no need to wrap toys, gifts or put gift cards in special envelopes. Your generosity is always appreciated and is a clear reflection of who we are as a St. Thomas More parish family!

> Thank you and God Bless you and your families this Christmas season!

(Please submit all donations by December 10th)

Apostle of the Impossible: Tour of the Relics *of* Saint Jude the Apostle

IN DIOCESE OF ROCKVILLE CENTRE



2023 Tour Schedule & Locations

All are invited to visit and venerate the relics.

Monday, November 27, 2023

St. Jude Church

89 OVERLOOK DRIVE, MASTIC BEACH, N.Y. 11951 Veneration of Relic: 1:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m. Special Mass in honor of Saint Jude at 7:00 p.m.

Tuesday, November 28, 2023

St. Anthony of Padua Church 20 CHESHIRE PLACE, EAST NORTHPORT, N.Y. 11731 Veneration of Relic: 1:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m. Special Mass in honor of Saint Jude at 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday, November 29, 2023 St. Patrick Church

9 NORTH CLINTON AVENUE, BAY SHORE, N.Y. 11706 Veneration of Relic: 1:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m. Special Mass in honor of Saint Jude at 7:00 p.m.

Thursday, November 30, 2023 Holy Family Church

17 FORDHAM AVENUE, HICKSVILLE, N.Y. 11801 Veneration of Relic: 1:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m. Special Mass in honor of Saint Jude at 7:00 p.m.

Friday, December 1, 2023 Notre Dame Church

45 MAYFAIR ROAD, NEW HYDE PARK, N.Y. 11040 Veneration of Relic: 1:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m. Special Mass in honor of Saint Jude at 7:00 p.m.

Sunday, December 3, 2023

Holy Name of Jesus Church 690 WOODBURY ROAD, WOODBURY, N.Y. 11797 Special Mass in honor of Saint Jude: 2:30 p.m. Veneration immediately following Mass Veneration ends at 9:00 p.m.

Monday, December 4, 2023

St. Agnes Cathedral

29 QUEALY PLACE, ROCKVILLE CENTRE, N.Y. 11570 Veneration of Relic: 1:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m. Special Mass in honor of Saint Jude at 7:00 p.m.



For more information on the visit of the relics of Saint Jude the Apostle, visit: www.ApostleOfTheImpossible.com

HEAR YE! HEAR YE! CHRISTMAS IS COMING SOON! COME PREPARE THE WAY OF THE LORD!

O COME ALL YE CHILDREN COME TO SING FOR JESUS O COME JOIN OUR CHRISTMAS CHOIR TO WELCOME HIS BIRTH

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THE MELODE

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SONG

COME TO REHEARSALS SATURDAYS FROM NOON TO ONE

O COME AND LIFT YOUR VOICES O COME AND LIFT YOUR VOICES O COME LET US ADORE HIM CHRIST THE LORD

Only 2 rehearsals: Dec 9th & 16th, 12-1. Ages 8-18. We will sing 3:30 Christmas Eve Mass and then through the Christmas season at 9:30 mass!

For info or to join, call Emilia by December 2nd 631-724-8820

ST. THOMAS MORE ANNUAL

Christmas Tree Lighting

SATURDAY DECEMBER 9TH AFTER THE 5PM MASS

Santa! Hot Cocoa! Hot Dogs! Hamburgers! Snacks! Drinks!

Join us as we light our tree, then come to Walden Hall for pictures with Santa! Refreshments at a nominal cost.

	JULY	AUGUST	PTEMBI	ER
T	W	TFS SMTWTFS SMT	W	Т
		30 1 2 31 1 2 3 4 5 6 28 29 30	31	1
5	6	Colondar Club 2024	7	8
12	13	Calendar Club 2024	14	15
19	20	21 20	21	22
26	27	The Every Day Lotto!	28	29
		Numbers are drawn every day of the year (except during the Easter	5	
•	CTODE	Triduum). The lucky winner of each day is awarded \$25 (or \$50 on	(C M D C	•
 	CTOBE	Sundays and Holy Days!)	CFWRF	.K .T
	W	One number for \$25, or 5 numbers for \$100.	W	1
27	28	Buy as many entries as you want, and win as many times as your luck	30	1
ч	5	allows! You can even purchase numbers as gifts for family and friends.	7	8
11	12	The Calendar Club is a great way to support our parish, and a very	14	15
18	19	important annual fundraiser for us! Please fill out the form below and	21	22
25	26	return it to the rectory, or put it in the basket during Sunday collection.	28	29
		3 4 5 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 1 2 3	ų	
]	A N U A R	NAME(S):	1ARCH	
т	W	TADDRESS: S M T W T F S S M T	W	т
3	ų	5 PHONE: 29 20 21 1 2 3 4 20 27 28	1	2
10	11		8	9
17	18	□ ONE for \$25 □ TWO for \$50 □ THREE for \$75 □ FIVE for \$100	15	16
24	25	*Early Bird Special: Deadline Sun Dec 17th*	22	23
31		Order FIVE numbers and get a SIXTH on us! Note: You must return your form and payment by Sunday	29	30
		December 17th.		
l	APRIL	TOTAL ENCLOSED:	JUNE	
Т	W	Please place in envelope labeled Calendar Club 2024 and return	W	Т
		to the rectory or the Sunday collection basket. Thank you!	31	1
4	5	6 7 8 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 4 5 6	7	8



COFFEE with JESUS

Advent Zoom Webinars



Join Bishop Andrzej

10:00 am on Friday mornings in December:

December 1, 8, 15, 22 Online Advent Reflections

on Scripture Readings

with the special emphasis on Mary, Joseph and Jesus.

Great opportunity to prepare and nourish your mind and heart,

in preparation for Christmas.

To register, please call Suzanne 516-744-6850 or email <u>westernvicariate@drvc.org</u>.

Once you are registered, you will be emailed the ZOOM Webinar information prior to each session of this Advent series.



Saints of November



St. Charles Borromeo Bishop & Confessor Feast Day: November 4 Patron: Bishops, Apple Orchards

Archbishop of Milan, leading figure of the Counter-Reformation. Responsible for founding seminaries for the education of priests.



St. Frances Xavier Cabrini Sister, "Mother Cabrini" Feast Day: November 13 Patron: Immigrants

Italian-American sister. Considered too frail to become a sister. Started her own order, Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart of Jesus.



Andrew Trần Dũng-Lạc Priest & Martyr Feast Day: November 24

Vietnamese priest. executed during the reign of Minh Mang. Took the name Andrew at his baptism, changed his name again from Dung to Lac to avoid persecution.



St. Leo the Great Pope, Doctor of the Church Feast Day: November 10

First Pope to get title "the Great". Known for meeting Attila the Hun and convincing him to turn back from his invasion of Italy.



St. Elizabeth of Hungary Princess of Hungary Feast Day: November 17 Patron: Hospitals, Dying Children

Lived the ideals of Francis of Assisi. Widowed at 20, used her money to build a hospital that she herself served the sick at.





St. Martin de Tours Bishop & Confessor Feast Day: November 11 Patron: against poverty

Third bishop of Tours. Known for cutting his cloak in two with his sword to give half to a beggar in the winter. Most recognizable saint in France.



Virgin & Martyr Feast Day: November 22 Patron: Musicians

Given away to be married, despite vow of virginity. At her wedding, "sang in her heart to the Lord". Convinced husband to be baptized.



Apostle & Martyr Feast Day: November 30 Patron: Fishermen, Fishmongers

Brother of Simon Peter, both were fishermen. The "first-called". Preached along the Black Sea, as far as Kiev after Jesus.

Outreach Advent Calendar

Each day, add an item to a box. After Christmas, donate the box to the STM Outreach Pantry!

Day 1	Pancake Mix
Day 2	Spaghetti Sauce
Day 3	Coffee or Tea
Day 4	Syrup
Day 5	Canned Tuna
Day 6	Package of Spaghetti
Day 7	Canned Yams/Sweet Potatoes
Day 8	Oatmeal
Day 9	Jelly
Day 10	Peanut Butter
Day 11	Chef Boyardee Meal
Day 12	Rice
Day 13	Canned Soup
Day 14	Applesauce
Day 15	Rice
Day 16	Canned Beans
Day 17	Juice/Drink Mix
Day 18	Boxed Milk
Day 19	Box of Cereal
Day 20	Instant Potatoes
Day 21	Macaroni & Cheese
Day 22	Box of Crackers
Day 23	Canned Fruit
Day 24	Cookies



