

Saint Thomas More Parish

Service opportunities
in the surrounding community



Summer 2009

Why serve?

In the spirit of stewardship, we are called to serve others. From family and neighborhood, to civic and global communities, we accept the scriptural charge.

Who serves?

We are all called by virtue of our baptism to serve in our community, offering our time and our talents. St. Thomas More parishioners are involved in many of the social outreach ministries listed here. You can look them up in your parish directory. We invite you to get involved too.

About Saint Thomas More

The mission of Saint Thomas More Parish is to provide a welcoming, inclusive and loving community by proclaiming and living God's Word through worship, education, and social justice.



Saint Thomas More
11822 Holmes Road
Kansas City, MO 64131
(816) 942-2492
www.stmkc.com
information@stmkc.com

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I want to help internationally.

Guatemala Action Group

This parish organization works to foster awareness of the needs and values of our sister parish, San Andreas Itzapa, and San Bartolome School in Guatemala. Our goal is for people from both countries to grow from our shared journey of faith. Two trips to Guatemala take place each summer. For more information about trips or volunteering, contact Janet Woulfe, (816) 525-4480.

I want to volunteer with children.

Upper Room

5930 Swope Parkway
Kansas City, MO 64130

The Upper Room is a nonprofit organization that addresses educational equity in inner city Kansas City. Volunteers can work two hours a week helping with child care or with the summer reading program that serves children from kindergarten to eighth grade. Volunteers (ages 13 and over) can also tutor and read to first and second grade children. The summer hours are 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Volun-

teer time is flexible. The summer program runs from June 16th to August 8th. Tutoring during the school year occurs each afternoon from 3:30 to 6:00 p.m. Contact parishioner Jerry McEvoy at the Upper Room at (816) 363-3819. Web site: www.upperroomprogram.org

Operation Breakthrough

3039 Troost

Kansas City, MO 64109

Operation Breakthrough is a day care that serves hundreds of young children from infancy. Volunteer in a classroom or help on a field trip. Call ahead to Debbie Skaggs at (816) 329-5233 or e-mail her at Debbie@operationbreakthrough.org, or contact parishioners Gerard & Julie Grimaldi and family.

New House

Provides shelter for victims of domestic violence and their children. Volunteer to do art or read with the children. For the safety of the guests, volunteers are required to fill out an application with references. Call ahead to (816) 474-6446 x224 or e-mail eventcoordinator@newhouseshelter.org.

Boys Hope Girls Hope

12307 St. Line Road

Kansas City, MO 64145

This residence in Kansas City is cur-

rently only boys from 4th through 9th grade. They are at-risk youth (challenging home environments) who are academically capable and show promise if they receive a good education. There is a "mom's group" that plans birthday parties, prepares meals three nights a week, provides tutoring and provides transportation. You can volunteer with any of these activities. Contact Gary Christ (913) 381-1030 or parishioner Becky Mullen. Web site: boyshopegirlshope.org/locations/kansascity/home.html

I want to help women facing an unplanned pregnancy.

Birthright

6309 Walnut

Kansas City, MO 64113

Birthright is an agency that helps any woman who feels distressed by an unplanned pregnancy. Services are provided free of charge and kept confidential. To volunteer contact Glenda Merten at (816) 444-7090.

Continued...

I want to help the poor and feed the hungry.

Bishop Sullivan Center

6435 Truman Road
Kansas City, MO 64126
Bishop Sullivan Center provides basic necessities to residents of Northeast Kansas City who are in need and helps them become self-sufficient. Volunteer opportunities are available in the food pantry, answering phones, mailings, job placement, and special projects. Call Jane McQueen (816) 231-0984 for further information or parishioner Tina Gaughan. Web site: bishopsullivan.org.

St. James Place

3934 Troost
Kansas City, MO 64110
St. James Place is a sister organization to the Bishop Sullivan Center. Volunteer opportunities include working in the food pantry, or serving a hot meal from 4:15 -7:00 p.m. Mon. – Fri. Contact Frank Peak at (816) 561-8515 or stjames@sbcglobal.net, or parishioners Tina Gaughan and Phil Smith.

Community Assistance Council

10901 Blue Ridge Blvd.
Kansas City, MO 64134
Community Assistance Council pro-

vides emergency assistance to residents of the Hickman Mills School District. Volunteers can serve Meals on Wheels. The meals are picked up in Grandview and delivered to 6-8 places. The delivery usually takes 1½ hours. You can also volunteer in the food pantry which is open two days a week from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Volunteer time is flexible. Volunteers should be at least 13 years of age. Contact Carol Bird Owsley (816)763-3277. Web site: www.cackc.org

Community LINC

4012 Troost Ave.
Kansas City, MO 64110
Community LINC works directly with homeless families who participate in rigorous programs designed to enable them to live independently in their own homes or apartments. Volunteer opportunities exist in the areas of one-on-one tutoring, budget counseling, children's tutoring, preparation of apartments for occupancy, and various fund-raising activities. To volunteer or for additional information call Laura Gray, Executive Director at (816) 531-3727, or Heidi Brake-Jones, or parishioner Frank Janner. Web site: www.communitylinc.org.

Holy Family Catholic Worker House

912 E. 31st Street

Kansas City, MO 64109

Catholic Workers live a simple life-style in community, serve the poor, and resist war and social injustice. Most are grounded in the Gospel, prayer, and the Catholic faith, although some houses on this list state that they are interfaith. You can volunteer to be on the supper crew. St. Thomas More serves the first Saturday of every month from 4:00 – 7:30 p.m. For additional questions, contact Br. Louis Rode-man (816) 753-2677, or parishioner Tom Purcell, who coordinates this ministry for STM.

Seton Center

2816 E. 23rd Street

Kansas City, MO 64127

Seton Center provides health, social and educational programs to address current needs and tools to support people in transforming their lives. Volunteer opportunities are available in the food pantry, tutoring, special projects and Christmas giveaway. Contact Bruce Palmer for further information on volunteering (816) 231-3955 or parishioner Rita Tiehen who coordinates this ministry for STM. Ladies of Charity are regular volunteers there. Web site: www.setonkc.org

reStart, Inc.

918 E. 9th Street

Kansas City, MO 64106

reStart Inc. is an interfaith ministry with homeless persons that is committed to providing shelter and supportive services to homeless men, women, youth and families. Volunteer opportunities include sorting donations, helping tutor students, and administrative work. Contact Gwen Green at (816) 472-5664 x. 244, or parishioners Dan and Ronda Porter, who coordinate this ministry for STM: (816) 943-1533.

I want to comfort the sick or dying.

The Hope Lodge

1120 Pennsylvania Ave.

Kansas City, MO 64105

The Hope Lodge provides housing for cancer patients receiving treatment in the Kansas City area who must travel more than 40 miles for their care. Volunteer to provide an evening of entertainment (music, dance, etc.), cook food, or just help around Hope Lodge. To volunteer, call Rachel Miller at (816) 218-7200.

Kansas City Hospice House

12000 Wornall

Kansas City, MO 64145

Kansas City Hospice House provides medical and nursing care for patients facing advanced illnesses. They offer emotional and spiritual support for patients and their families. Come in to bake cookies to share with the patients and their families. The smell of fresh baked goods adds to the warm and peaceful atmosphere here. Several other volunteer opportunities exist. Call Allison Fisher at (816) 941-1058 or e-mail her at afisher@kchospice.org, or contact parishioners Mary Zahner Bauer or Ralph Gundelfinger.

St. Joseph Medical Center

1000 Carondelet Drive

Kansas City, MO 64114

Volunteers can fill out an application and volunteer for a variety of jobs at flexible times. Volunteers start at 14 years of age. The volunteer office is located on the first floor of the medical mall. Contact the volunteer office at (816) 943-2775, or parishioner Bob Frazier, who is the Executive Vice-President. Web site: www.carondelethealth.org

St. Luke's Health System

St. Luke's Health System has a well-

developed program for people who want to volunteer at a hospital or other health-care facility (7 different sites available). Like most hospitals, applications, training, etc are required for all volunteers. Contact Sheila Hogg at (816) 932-2005 or shogg@saint-lukes.org. Web site: www.saintlukeshealthsystem.org.

I want to visit with and learn from the elderly.

Residents of Nursing Homes love visits from young people! Volunteer to play cards or bingo, paint nails, or just sit and visit. Try these sites or others near you:

Villa Ventura Senior Living Community

12100 Wornall Road

Kansas City, MO 64145

Villa Ventura is a senior living community for independent and assisted living. Volunteers can spend time with residents playing bingo, helping with crafts and gardening and a variety of other activities. Contact Mary Cole or Linda Smith at (816) 941-0525, or parishioner Ray Goffinet who coordinates this ministry for STM. Web site: www.seniorstar.com

Carondelet Manor

621 Carondelet Dr.

Kansas City, MO 64114

Carondelet Manor is a Catholic sponsored skilled nursing facility associated with St. Joseph Medical Center. Volunteer opportunities include serving mid-morning and evening snacks and delivering ice water, delivering or reading mail and e-mail for residents, reading, playing cards, assisting with gardening or craft projects, and accompanying residents to chapel, activities, and appointments. Contact Kathy Eisman at (816) 943-4777
Web site: www.carondelethealth.org/cltc/cm/

Timberlake Care Center

12110 Holmes Rd.

Kansas City, MO 64146

Volunteer to play bingo or transport residents to activities. Contact Christy Stewart (816) 941-3006 or parishioner Mike Kleinman, who coordinates this ministry for STM.
Web site: www.timberlakecare.com

Waterford South Assisted Living

11515 Holmes Rd.

Kansas City, MO 64131

Waterford South is a small assisted living facility in the Red Bridge area. Contact them at (816) 942-4898, or parishioner Frank Clifford, who

coordinates this ministry for STM.
Web site: www.waterfordsouth.com

The Greens at Creekside

12942 Wornall Road

Kansas City, MO 64146

(816) 942-6705

Contact Adele Wurtz, who coordinates this ministry for STM

Catholic Charities Senior Housing Program

Catholic Charities is looking for families/organizations to adopt residents at the Red Bridge Place (a low-income seniors facility). Contact Jana Fielder, Service Coordinator, at (816) 405-8535, ext.318.

I want to help build homes.

Christmas in October

Christmas in October is an organization that strives to repair and restore homes for the economically disadvantaged and disabled in Kansas City. This one day event that impacts hundreds of homes offers homeowners a fresh start and a chance to live in warmth, safety and dignity. Exceptional volunteer opportunities are available for all skill levels. To volunteer, contact Brian Mooberry at (816) 531-6443,

or parishioner Tom Redmond, who is Executive Director. Web site: www.christmasinOctober.org.

Habitat for Humanity

Habitat for Humanity Kansas City works to fulfill the dream of home ownership for low-income families by providing decent, affordable homes to qualified families. Volunteer opportunities include helping build a home, administrative help, and working at the retail store. To volunteer, contact Dana Byron at (816) 924-1096 or visit their web site, www.habitatkc.org.

I want to care for the earth & its creatures.

Bridging the Gap offers opportunities to do something directly about the amount of trash that goes into the landfills. Recycling centers are open every week Wednesday through Saturday. Volunteers help unload cars, help people carry their recyclables to the appropriate bins and help answer questions. Contact Laura O'Brien at (816) 561-1061 ext. 109. Web site: www.bridgingthegap.org.

Wayside Waifs rescues dogs and cats and places them into loving

homes. Contact Ashley Cunningham at (816) 986-4431 or acunningham@waysidewaifs.org. Web site: www.waysidewaifs.org.

I want to help people with developmental disabilities.

Community of the Good Shepherd

10101 James A. Reed Road
Kansas City, MO 64137

Community of the Good Shepherd is a residential care center for developmentally delayed adults. They provide 24/7 services and day care to adults 18 years of age and older. Volunteer opportunities are available on an "as needed" basis with tasks including: stocking pantry shelves, housecleaning, office work, garden and yard work Spring through Fall, and assistance with adult day care activities. They are also in need of janitorial cleaning of the administrative offices on a biweekly basis. To volunteer, call John Gilbert at (816) 215-0295 (cell) or parishioners Keith & Bonnie Connell. Web site: www.cgshepherd.org.