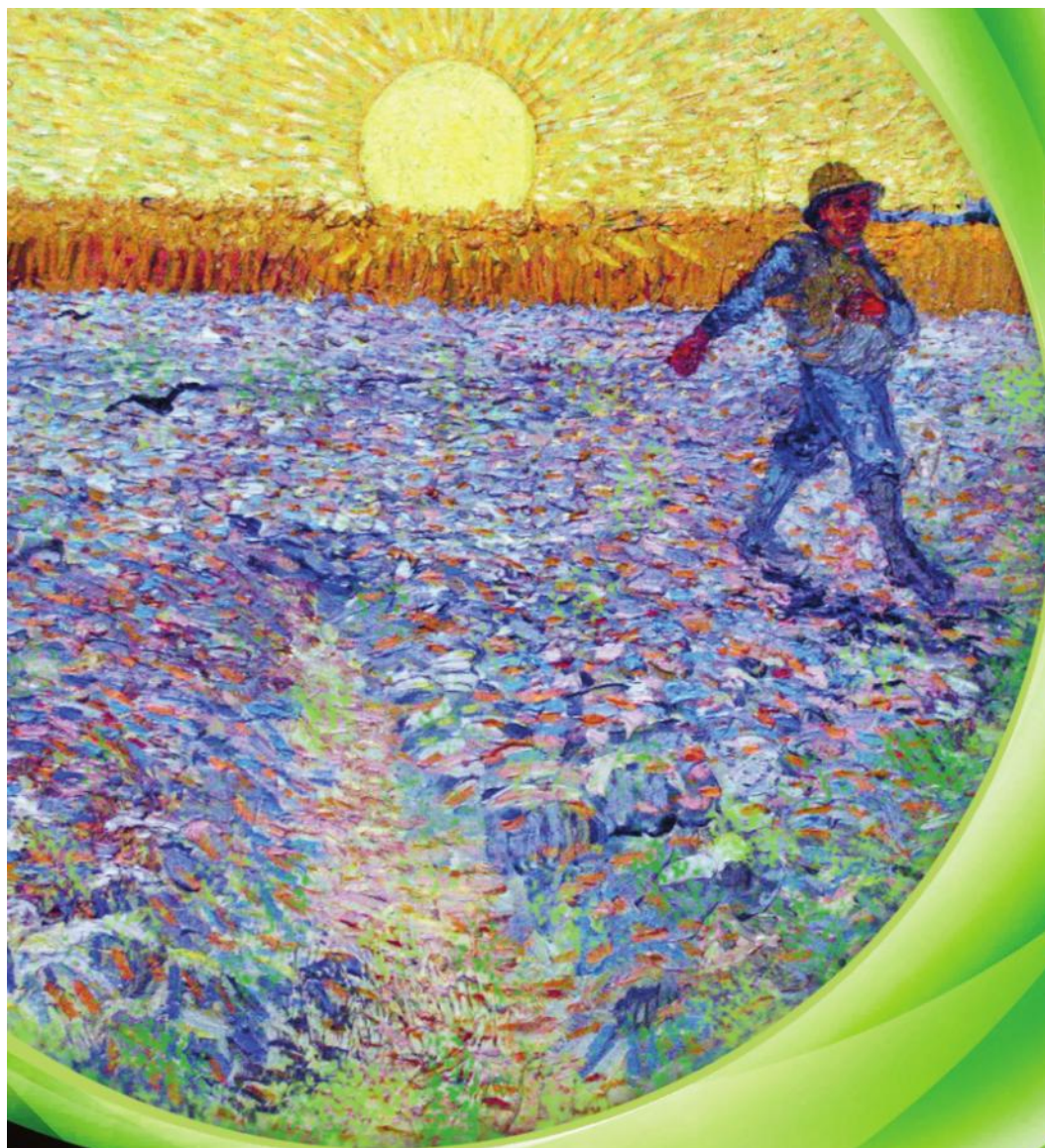


July 12, 2020

St. Thomas the Apostle
904 East Lake Avenue
Peoria Heights, Illinois
309-688-3446
stthomaspeoria.org



15th Sunday in Ordinary Time

He spoke to them at length in parables, saying:
“A sower went out to sow.”

Matthew 13:3

Week of July 12

CENTERING PRAYER Monday, July 13, 8:30 a.m., Church

ROSARY Tuesday, July 14, 10:00 a.m., Church

HOLY HOUR Thursday, July 16, 7:00, Church

RECOGNITION OF 8TH GRADE GRADUATES Sunday, July 19, 11:00 a.m. Mass

UPCOMING EVENTS

Fish Fry	August 1
Parish and School Picnic	August 9
Msgr. Rank Mass	August 20
Septemberfest	September 6
Men's Club Golf Outing	September 25

For those not yet ready to come back to Mass

We will continue to have Communion available outside of Mass on Sunday from 12:00 to 12:30 pm. Come into the narthex, or pull up in the crescent drive to receive.

We will continue to record Mass and post the recordings on YouTube. See the parish website stthomaspeoria.org for a link to the channel.

We will begin recording the Sunday 7 AM Mass in place of the Saturday 5 PM Mass. As we begin to have music at Saturday evening Mass, we may have copyright issues with videos posted on YouTube. The silent Mass on Sunday morning at 7 AM will be easier to upload.

Stay in Touch

1. **Join Msgr. Gray for Mass.** Link can be found on the parish website, stthomaspeoria.org or the Parish App
2. **Bookmark the Parish Blog** which will feature regular updates (jgray.org/st_thomas).
3. **Download My Parish App** to receive push notifications (Visit myparishapp.com/download).
4. **Receive the Bulletin** and announcements in weekly emails from the parish. (Email parishoffice@stthomas-church.net to sign up).
5. **Bookmark the parish webpage** (stthomaspeoria.org).

Weekly Collection

	July 5, 2020	Fiscal YTD
Collections needed.....	\$20,000	\$20,000
Sunday Collections.....	\$16,761	\$16,761
Electronic Collections	\$3,399	\$3,399
Total Collected.....	\$20,160	\$20,160
Over/(Short)	\$160	\$160

Your support of St. Thomas Parish is important to sustain our mission. Please remember to contribute regularly with your envelopes or checks in our regular Sunday collection. Electronic contributions can be made through direct debit, or by using the Giving tab on our parish website: stthomaspeoria.org. Thank you for your support.

Our Sympathy

Please pray for those who have died this week

Act of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love you above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

St. Thomas Holy Hour

Thursday, July 16
7:00-8:00 p.m.

Parish Office Hours

11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

We will continue to have limited hours in the Parish Office. The office will be open Monday-Friday from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Staff will also be available by email or voicemail. To leave a message, call 309-688-3446, and at the prompt press:

- 3 - Msgr. Gray
- 4 - Fr. Stark
- 0 - Terri-Administrative Assistant
- 1340 - Julie-Accounting
- 1341 - Pat-Tuition

If you have items to deliver for the Parish Office you are welcome to put them under the door of the Office downstairs in the Church, or under the door of the main Sacristy upstairs. The church building is open from 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. every day.

Sponsor of the Week



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Summary of the depictions of the 12 Virtues depicted symbolically in the Sanctuary

Left side, in descending order:

Obedience: Two tablets depicting the Ten Commandments

Charity: Heart on fire with love

Justice: Scales and Balance

Prudence: Mirror and serpent calling for reflection and wisdom

Faith: Cross with rays of glory

Poverty: Two turtledoves depicting the offering of a poor Israelite

Right side, in descending order:

Humility: Lily of the Valley with blossoms bowing low

Martyrdom: Cross with martyr's palm and crown

Fortitude: Tower of strength

Temperance: Basin and ewer depicting moderation of excess

Hope: Anchor of hope

Chastity: Upright lily of purity

Cardinal Virtues

That means that the virtue of fortitude can be practiced by anyone, Christian or not. Unlike the theological virtues, the cardinal virtues are not, in themselves, the gifts of God through grace. Rather, the cardinal virtues are developed by practice to develop a habit. The Cardinal Virtues of Justice and Fortitude were presented in a previous bulletin.

Virtue of Prudence



Prudence is the virtue that disposes us to use our powers of reason to discern what is good in every circumstance. Prudence also helps us choose the right means of achieving that good. For these reasons, Prudence is called right reason in action. It is not simply the intellectual virtue of knowing what is right, but also a moral virtue of knowing how to do what is right.

With the help of Prudence, we can apply sound moral principles, even in difficult particular cases, to accurately and confidently know how to achieve the good and avoid evil. The prudent man is attentive to where he is going, since Prudence will guide the observance of the other virtues. Hence, Prudence is often called the mother of all virtues.

Prudence is depicted with a mirror, as the prudent person will reflect on his choices with wisdom and foresight in order to choose rightly. Prudence is also depicted with a serpent with several layers of meaning. First, the serpent is associated with the "remora" fish which attached itself to the hull of a ship, creating drag and causing the ship to sail more slowly. Prudence requires careful decision making that is slow, deliberate and not rushed. Second, Jesus tells us to be as "clever as serpents" (Mt 10:16), as wisdom is required in the application of Prudence. Third, Prudence is not blinded by the reflection of beauty in the mirror but is also aware of the dangers of evil presented by the serpent.

Virtue of Temperance



Temperance is the virtue that moderates the attraction of pleasures. It also calls us to be balanced in our use of worldly goods. Temperance teaches us to keep mastery over our instincts and desires within the limits of what is honorable. Through Temperance, we learn to restrain our appetites and practice self-restraint. Fasting helps us grow in Temperance.

Temperance is associated with moderation or sobriety, teaching us to be restrained in our consumption of food and drink. Temperance also calls us to be modest with respect to the fleshly desires and measured in our use of money and worldly objects.

Temperance directs our passions toward the high goals of loving God with all our heart and our neighbor as ourselves, since it teaches us to curb our love for lesser things. Temperance helps love remain uncorrupted.

Temperance is depicted as an ewer and basin used to carefully measure what is needed while avoiding excess. In Christian art, the pitcher is used to pour a moderate amount of wine into a cup. Alternatively, the basin can receive a modest amount of water, lest it overflow because of excess.

Ordination of Bishop Elect Louis Tylka

Bishop Elect Louis Tylka will be ordained as the Coadjutor Bishop of Peoria on Thursday, July 23, at 2:00 PM in the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Peoria.

Because tickets will be limited because of current restrictions, everyone is invited to view the ordination as it is streamed online. It will be available at the Diocesan website: cdop.org.



The gardens around St. Thomas grow more beautiful each year.

Cared for by Dr. Phil Adams and our wonderful volunteers



Food Pantry

Current needs are: rice, jelly, syrup, and meal helper.

All student positions are filled! Thank you!

NFP Week

Natural Family Planning Week is July 19-25.

The theme is *"Live the truth and beauty of God's plan for married love!"*

In our Diocese there are many NFP methods available, as well as a Catholic Healthcare system that provides the services as well.

Link to NFP providers: <https://cdop.org/evangelization-and-faith-formation-old/marriage/>

Link to OSF Fertilitycare: <https://www.osfhealthcare.org/fertility>

Cecilia Soñe, NFP Director, Diocese of Peoria, csone@ccdop.org

Please Help!

It's time to think about backpacks for school children in need! The COVID-19 pandemic has left many parents struggling, so we expect more need than ever before!

This year, we're putting together backpacks for grades K-8, and to make things easy and safe for everyone, **we are asking only for monetary donations.** This keeps everyone out of the stores and away from the virus. Our committee is then able to purchase supplies in bulk, making your donations go even further.

If you can help, please put your donation in an envelope marked BACKPACKS and place it in the collection plate during Mass, or drop it off at the parish office.

If you already have backpacks and/or school supplies that you would like to donate, we will still gladly accept them. Please put supplies in the designated boxes in the narthex.

Thank you!



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FLAG FOOTBALL AGES 5 - 7

TACKLE FOOTBALL AGES 8 - 14

Register today at www.ndjfl.com



A child's friend through and beyond a parent's cancer.

Camp Kesem at Bradley University helps support local children whose parents or guardians have been affected by cancer.

This summer, we are hosting our **Kesem at Home** program **July 23-27**. Spots are still available.

If you know of any families currently affected by cancer, we would be excited to provide our support to the family and their children this summer.

The family can visit our website to find more information:

<https://www.campkesem.org/find-a-camp/camp-kesem-at-bradley-university>

For any questions contact us at: bradley@campkesem.org

2020 St. Thomas Golf Scramble

HOSTED BY ST. THOMAS MEN'S CLUB

Save the Date!
Friday, September 25, 2020
Mt. Hawley Country Club



St. Vincent de Paul Helpline: 677-7696

Parish Registration

Complete this form and drop it in the collection basket, **or** mail to the Parish Office **or** Register on our website at stthomaspeoria.org. Under *About* open the *New Parishioner Registration*, complete and submit the form.

Last Name _____

First Name(s) _____

Email _____

Phone _____

Address _____

City _____ ZIP _____

Phone _____

New Parishioner _____ Change of address/phone _____

For our Liturgical Volunteers

Ministry Scheduler Pro has released a new version of the program that we use to manage liturgical volunteers. Readers, servers, ushers, and extraordinary ministers should check out the new platform. If you use the mobile app, it should have updated automatically.

Comet Cash is back! Volunteers are needed to sell Comet Cash after Masses at St. Thomas. Your help makes it possible for us to increase our tuition assistance and support our PTO.

Servers, get ready! For those families that feel comfortable, trained servers are encouraged to sign-up for open positions. Little by little, we are getting back to normal.

We will soon begin training for new servers from the previous year's fourth-grade students!

AmazonSmile

To date, **AmazonSmile** has donated \$1,039.98 to help with continued expenses of our school. Please join us, as a parish family, to support our school.

AmazonSmile, a website operated by Amazon, lets customers enjoy the same wide selection of products, low prices, and convenient shopping features as on Amazon.com. The difference is that when customers shop on *AmazonSmile*, the *AmazonSmile Foundation* will donate 0.5% of the price of eligible purchases to charitable organizations. Please use this link to shop and help St. Thomas!

<https://smile.amazon.com/ch/37-0662587>

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Pastor Msgr. Jason A. Gray (x1400) msgrgray@stthomas-church.net		Bulletin EditorPeggy Sullivan.....(x1301) peggysullivan@stthomas-church.net
Parochial Vicar Rev. Paul Stark S.J.(x1430) paulstarksj@stthomas-church.net		Accountant Julie Streid(x1340) juliestreid@stthomas-church.net
Deacon Dcn. Mark Kelsch (692-4908) Dcn. John Nelson (981-2716) Dcn. Ed Mallow (360-7735)		Tuition CoordinatorPat Wombacher(x1341) patwombacher@stthomas-school.net
School Principal Maureen Bentley (x1210) maureenbentley@stthomas-school.net		CCD CoordinatorAngie Robenstein.....(x1200) angierobenstein@stthomas-school.net
		Music Coordinator Ann Horst (682-5507)
		Choir Director Erin Craig erincraig@stthomas-school.net
		Annulment ConsultantJohn Mackoway (699-5213)

Sacrament of Baptism
 Parents participate Baptism class before the Baptism of their first child. Contact the parish office to schedule the class.

Confessions
 Saturday
 4:00-4:45pm &
 6:00-6:30 p.m.

How to Submit Bulletin Information
 Send information for the bulletin to parishoffice@stthomas-church.net with subject "Bulletin". Submissions are due by Friday noon one full week prior. Send images or logos separately as attachments. Submissions may be edited for content and length.

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