



St. Thomas the Apostle Parish  
Diocese of Peoria  
904 E Lake Ave Peoria Heights  
stthomaspeoria.org



# 18<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY in Ordinary Time



## SAYING AGAINST GREED

*"Take care to guard against all greed, for though one may be rich, one's life does not consist of possessions."*

Luke 11:9



**EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

Reading I: Ecclesiastes 1: 2,2:21-23  
Reading II: Colossians 3: 1-5, 9-11  
Gospel: Luke 12:13-21

Jesus, addressed by someone in the crowd who wants him to tell his brother to give him his share of the inheritance, instead tells him the parable of the rich man. This rich man had a good harvest and he wanted to store it and save it. He was a fool for amassing such wealth, for upon his death he could not take it with him. Through the parable Jesus teaches that possessions and wealth are not bad. Rather, it is one's attitude toward possessions that matters. The danger is that one becomes possessed by possessions, keeping focused on things and wealth, rather than having God as the center of one's life. In other words, the danger is greed. Perhaps it would be better to keep a perspective toward possessions similar to the first reading where Qoheleth proclaims that all is vanity. "Vanity of vanities."



**Monday, August 1, 2016-St Alphonsus Ligouri**

7:00am Special Intention  
8:00am Teresa Varkey/The Joseph Family

**Tuesday, August 2, 2016**

7:00am All Souls in Purgatory  
8:00am Domenico Huu Dang/Family

**Wednesday, August 3, 2016**

7:00am Simeona Salamat/Reynaldo & MaPaz Cristobal  
8:00am John Ryan/Blanch Laffey

**Thursday, August 4, 2016-St John Vianney**

7:00am Eileen Downing/Barbara Schlink  
8:00am Mary Parry/Dan & Jeanne Smith & Family

**Friday, August 5, 2016- First Friday**

7:00am Janet Keithley/Catholic Women's League  
8:00am World Peace & Special Prayer Intentions

**Saturday, August 6, 2016-The Transfiguration of the Lord**

8:00am Purgatorial Society  
5:00pm Naya Ferris/Marie Ketcham

**Sunday, August 7, 2016**

6:30am For the People  
8:00am Ann Kelch/Bernadette McGrath  
9:30am Paul Doran/The Wombacher Family  
11:00am Dan Connolly/Joe & Cari Connolly  
5:00pm Raymond Bastonero/Family



**SIGN-UP FOR ADORATION** is in the gathering space this week.

**WOMEN'S GUILD** Monday, August 1 at 6:30 pm in the lower level of the church.

**CENTERING PRAYER** Monday, August 1 at 7:00 pm in the old church basement.

**SOCIAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE** Monday, August 1 at 7:00 pm in the parish office meeting room.

**ROSARY FOR PEACE** Tuesday, August 2 at 10:00 am in the chapel.

**BIBLE STUDY** Wednesday, August 3 at 8:45 am in the parish office meeting room.

**CHARISMATIC PRAYER GROUP** Thursday, August 4 at 7:00 pm.

**PEACE VIGIL/EUCHARISTIC ADORATION** Friday, August 5 from 8:30am to 8:00 pm in the chapel.

**ST VINCENT DE PAUL, FOOD PANTRY & CHRIST CHILD COLLECTIONS** will be at Masses next weekend.

**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION**

Saturdays: 4:00-4:45 pm & 6:00-6:30 pm  
or by appointment with a priest  
Confessions are held in the confessionals  
in the daily Mass Chapel

**WEEKLY COLLECTION**

	7/17/2016	Fiscal YTD
Collections needed	\$ 24,000	\$ 72,000
Sunday Collections	\$ 16,950	\$ 59,003
Electronic Collections	\$ 4,726	\$ 14,178
Total Collected	\$ 21,676	\$ 73,181
Over/(Short)	\$ (2,324)	\$ 1,181

**We appreciate your generosity.**

Please remember St. Thomas Church in your will.

## *From the Pastor*

As we move into August, we prepare for the beginning of a new school year. You can help those children that are in need by contributing to the backpack giveaway. More information is found in the bulletin.

At St. Thomas School, we look forward to another successful school year. I encourage our parents and students to consider coming to the 8:00 am daily Mass before school, even periodically. Daily Mass is a wonderful way to begin the day before school.

For our grade school parishioners who are not enrolled in Catholic school, more information will be coming regarding Wednesday evening CCD which will begin in September. I urge every parent to provide for the religious formation of your children through Catholic School or CCD.

Looking further ahead, RCIA classes will begin in October for those who would like to become Catholic or to learn more about the Catholic Church. Please encourage anyone who might be interested to contact Sr. Rachel at the Parish Office, 688-3446.

-Msgr. Gray

### UPCOMING SERVER SCHEDULES

Please check in the sacristy when you arrive to see if servers are needed.

#### JULY 30/31

**Sat 5:00 pm** E Sherman, Z Sherman, M Bell  
**Sun 8:00 am** D Bare, E Bare  
**Sun 9:30 am** J Tyre, A Dean, R Bender  
**Sun 11:00 am** Aimee Perez, Andrew Perez, A Meister  
**Sun 5:00 pm** C Girard, I Girard, L Bender  
**Aug 1-6 8:00am** B Messmer, C Messmer

#### AUGUST 6/7

**Sat 5:00 pm** B Socha, B Alexander, H Bauers  
**Sun 8:00 am** T Robenstein, A Wong  
**Sun 9:30 am** G Jockisch, L Byrkit, L Evans  
**Sun 11:00 am** M Buckardt, E Geers, J Geers  
**Sun 5:00 pm** J Kilian, H Kilian, L Fricke

**AUGUST 8-13 8:00 am** D Bare, E Bare

### ST THOMAS WOMEN'S GUILD

Dedicated in Providing the Parish Bread and Wine

**Meeting: August 1st, 6:30 pm**

**Speaker** The Peoria County Sheriff's Victims Services Coordinator will provide important information to help keep you and your family safe. She will explain how people can protect themselves against identity theft and how to avoid falling victim to common scams. She will explain how to recognize, avoid, and escape abusive behaviors. People attending this workshop will learn how to protect themselves and their property from residential burglary.

## CHURCH HAPPENINGS

### Swiss Yodel Choir

9:30 am Mass

July 31

A Swiss yodel choir, including relatives of Edie Zeller, will provide some of the music for the 9:30 am Mass on July 31. The choir of 16 men and their families, Alpstein Choir, are hosted by Albert Zeller. This choir was founded in 2000 and has sung in New York City, Peoria and Chicago in 2009. They have also sung in St. Petersburg, Russia and in Mongolia where a similar music using natural overtones (harmonics) is also known. After Mass they will play an Alphorn in the lower parking area. On Monday, August 1, the Swiss National Holiday, they will sing in Chicago.

### Charismatic Prayer Group

Christ the King Charismatic Prayer Group meets every Thursday at 7:00 pm on the following schedule:

- 1st & 4th (5th) Thursday: meet in old church basement for praise and worship music, Bible sharing, and individual prayer for healing and emotional support
- 2nd Thursday: meet in daily chapel for Holy Hour led by Deacon Mark Kelsch
- 3rd Thursday: meet in daily chapel for Healing Mass celebrated by Msgr. Gray or Fr. Stark

Please join us.

### Fiftieth Anniversary

On August 14, 2016, Fr. Donald Miller O.F.M. will celebrate the 50th Anniversary of his profession as a Franciscan at 11:00 am Mass. All are welcome to join in this celebration as well as a reception following the Mass in the lower level of the church.

## *Our Sympathy*

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO HAVE DIED THIS WEEK.**

St. Thomas Website: [stthomaspeoria.org](http://stthomaspeoria.org)  
St. Thomas e-mail: [parishoffice@stthomas-church.net](mailto:parishoffice@stthomas-church.net)





## ST. THOMAS SCHOOL

### TEACHER POSITIONS

St Thomas is seeking a full time Music/Band teacher for the 2016/2017 school year.

St. Thomas and St. Joseph, Pekin schools are seeking to fill a **Spanish teaching position** for the 2016-17 school year. The opening is four days a week, Monday through Thursday 8:00 am-3:30 pm. We are looking for teacher applicants who are credited through the State of Illinois.

To apply please email resume and cover letter to:  
maureenbentley@stthomas-school.net or  
**Maureen Bentley, Principal, St. Thomas School**  
4229 N. Monroe Avenue  
Peoria Heights, IL. 61616  
(309) 685-2533

### CAFETERIA STAFF POSITIONS

**Two Cafeteria staff positions**— Hours: 10:30 am-1:30 pm, Monday through Friday. Consists of serving food, monitoring children, cleaning area, etc.

Send letter of interest to school marked attention to  
**Kim Reese—Open Cafeteria Position**

### SAFE ENVIRONMENT CLASS

For adults who work with our children. September 8 at 7:00 pm in the school library.

## PARISH REGISTRATION

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ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

CHANGE OF ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_



## PEORIA NOTRE DAME CLASS OF 1991

Our 25th Reunion will be Saturday, August 6 at the Peoria Riverfront Museum. Enjoy one of the best views of Peoria while catching up with friends. Advanced ticket purchase is required.

Details can be found at [www.myevent.com](http://www.myevent.com) using pnd1991 as your search or on the Peoria Notre Dame alumni reunion page for the direct internet links.

Email: [peoriand1991@gmail.com](mailto:peoriand1991@gmail.com)  
Michelle Aaron 309-369-7545



### Great pre-season / back-to-school clinic

Join us for fun and learning with successful coaches who are excited to help your children further develop their skills as soccer players!

**Who:** All PPSA schools invited  
All ages 1st grade-8th grade

**When:** Saturday, July 30th  
7:30AM-8AM Coaches Clinic  
8AM-9:30ISH Players Clinic

**Where:** PPD - Mossville Soccer Complex

**Participating schools:**

St. Thomas Holy Family  
St. Philomena Concordia  
St. Vincent St. Mark  
St. Jude St. Edwards  
St. Mary Peoria Christian  
St. Joseph

Featuring Mike Bare, Head Coach of PND Men's Soccer



**Mike Bare**, Peoria Notre Dame's Head Men's Varsity Coach, is the 2013 NFHS Coaches Association State Coach of the Year and has an impressive record of nine straight Sectional Championships (2007-2015) and five straight State Tournament Appearances (2008-2012) and again in 2015.

Also, Mike will be bringing additional coaches and players from the men's and women's soccer programs to provide demonstration and instruction.

Please wear soccer cleats, shin guards, shorts and t-shirts. No jewelry.  
Water & lemonade will be available

Please RSVP at:  
[www.ppsasoccer.org/clinic](http://www.ppsasoccer.org/clinic)



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## Care for our Neighbors

### Sometimes We Say "Sorry, No"

The St. Thomas family is generous. You are generous. You fill our pantry, and each month you donate money for the benefit of people in crisis. You trust the St. Thomas Vincentians to use your money wisely. We try very hard to do just that, even if it means saying "no."

We look for real need, and we certainly do assist many people in crisis. However, we do not offer financial "fixes" repeatedly to the same people. We do not pay rent for people in crisis if there does not appear to be any budget in place, or any way for them to sustain themselves and continue to stay in the same place. We do not give money directly to clients, and we verify the amounts owed to Ameren, other utility companies, landlords, etc, and we visit people and try always to listen carefully, and, yes, sometimes we break our own "rules" if we justify doing so.

We do offer food as needed. We do provide information about many community resources regarding job finding, budgeting, educational and counseling opportunities, housing and so on. We may assist with furniture from the St. Joseph Furniture Bank or the Habitat for Humanity Restore. We often suggest that clients consider the "Coming Together To Get Ahead" program sponsored by the Vincentian community in the Peoria area. Some become interested in making a commitment to this program and to work on lifting themselves out of chronic poverty.

Please continue to share your personal resources. This is our busiest time of the year. Thank you—we promise to be good stewards.

### ST. THOMAS FOOD PANTRY

Following is the suggested list of food items:

Dry Pasta	Pasta Sauce	Rice
Box Potatoes	Pancake Mix	Syrup
Can Tomatoes	Can Fruit	Tuna
Beef Stew	Crackers	Jelly
Peanut Butter	Can Veggies	Cereal
Meal Helpers	Mac & Cheese	Soup
Tomato Sauce	Paper items	Ramen

**Our greatest needs are:**

**Beef Stew, Tuna, Jelly, Pancake Mix, Syrup, Can Fruit**

## Diocesan Events

### AROUND THE DIOCESE

#### FOUNDERS DAY -- AUGUST 25, 2016 - SAVE THE DATE

Bishop Jenky invites the priests, deacons, religious, and all the faithful of the Diocese of Peoria to commemorate the 100th Anniversary of the Death of our founding bishop, John Lancaster Spalding, and to celebrate the restoration of his historic cathedral. Thursday, August 25, 2016, Cathedral of Saint Mary of the Immaculate Conception, 1:00 pm Solemn Mass. The Founder's Day Festival Choir will provide the music.

All are welcome to be a part of the Choir. Rehearsals are on Thursdays, August 4, 11, and 18 from 7:00 –8:30 pm. At the Bishop Franz Center. For more information, call Greg Etzel at 671-1550.

#### ARCHBISHOP FULTON J. SHEEN MUSEUM

The official Museum of Archbishop Sheen's Cause for Canonization is open Monday-Friday, 9am to 4pm at the Spalding Pastoral Center, 419 NE Madison Ave, Peoria, Illinois. [CDOPMuseums.org](http://CDOPMuseums.org)  
[ArchbishopSheenCause.org](http://ArchbishopSheenCause.org)

**WOMEN'S CARE CENTER** is in need of volunteers to help with greeting clients and light clerical work. Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday from 9:00 am—5:00 pm. Call Jody at 689-0200.

### Cursillo Day of Renewal

Peoria area Cursillo is sponsoring a Day of Renewal on Saturday, August 27, 2016. The day will be held at the Pastoral Center. The cost is \$14.00 per person and includes lunch. Mass at 8:30 am; conclusion of day 3:00 pm. The day is open for anyone who has made a Cursillo in the past.

**TMIY — That Man is You!** sessions will begin again September 16. For more information, contact the Parish Office, 688-3446.





***The St Thomas Social Justice Committee  
will be hosting BACKPACK Giveaways  
for kindergarten through 6<sup>th</sup> grade at 2 sites:  
St Thomas and the Bishop Franz Center***

We are asking for donations of NEW backpacks filled with the following supplies:

- Pencils                      Pocket Folders 2                      Colored pencils                      Ruler
- Scissors                      Primary notebooks 2                      Pencil pouch
- Erasers                      Wide lined white paper                      Black/blue pens
- Markers                      Glue/glue sticks                      Crayons

**Backpacks** can be brought to the Church and put in boxes in gathering space.

If you would rather have us do the shopping, please put your monetary donation in an envelope marked "Backpacks" and put in Sunday collection, or bring to the Parish Office.

We hope to offer **free haircuts** at the event! If you are a barber/beautician and would like to offer your services, please contact one of the people listed below:

Carol Pitcher 453-6736, Sean Kerwin smkerwin@gmail.com, Mary Cooper 686-8171

**Giveaway : St Thomas**

**Saturday, Aug 13 2016 \ 9-11**

**Giveaway: Bishop Franz Center**

**Date to be determined**

**ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE PARISH** 309-688-3446  
**904 EAST LAKE AVENUE**  
**PEORIA HEIGHTS, IL. 61616**  
*parishoffice@stthomas-church.net*

Msgr. Jason A. Gray, Pastor, ext 3  
*msggray@stthomas-church.net*  
 Rev. Paul Stark S.J., Parochial Vicar  
 Sr. Rachel Bergschneider, Pastoral Associate, ext 5  
 Maureen Bentley, St. Thomas School Principal  
 Deacon Frank Eaton  
 Deacon Mark Kelsch  
 Deacon John Nelson  
 Terri Moon, Parish Secretary, ext 0  
 Valerie Wallenfang, Parish Secretary  
 Mary Curry, CCD Coordinator  
 Ann Horst, Liturgical Music Coordinator  
 Julie Streid, Parish Accountant  
 Pat Wombacher, Tuition Coordinator  
 Jan Smith, Director of Development & Alumni  
 Jan Alt, Parish Nurse  
 Linda Hernandez, Pastoral Care/Caring Presence Ministry  
 Annulment Consultations:  
 Colleen Caldwell, 256-0730  
 John Mackoway, 699-5213  
 Linn Perkins 231-0261

**SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM**

Baptism class is held for all parents before the baptism of their child. Please contact Sr. Rachel to schedule the class.  
 Next Baptisms: July 31 at 11:00 am Mass.



**PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERS**

Beth Salmon, Trustee	243-2257
Matt Vonachen, Trustee	360-0578
Mike Haughney, President	692-6086
Brian Barkley	692-4165
George Burek	446-3623
Anne Gray	691-1479
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