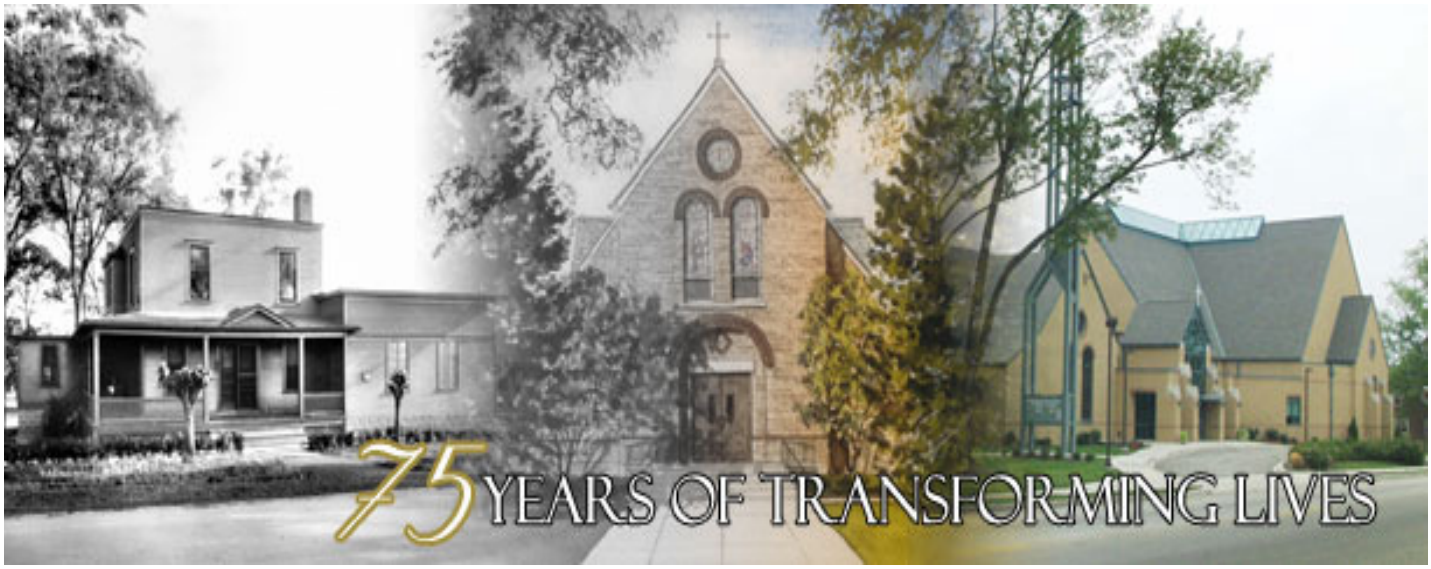
St. Thomas the Apostle Parish
Diocese of Peoria
904 E Lake Ave Peoria Heights
stthomaspeoria.org



**We thank our God in all our remembrance of you,
always in every prayer of ours for you all,
making our prayer with joy,
thankful for your partnership in the gospel from
the first day until now.
And we are sure that the One who began
a good work in you will bring it
to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.
It is right for us to feel thus
about you all,
because we hold you in our heart,
for you are all partakers with us of grace,
both in imprisonment and in the defense and
confirmation of the gospel.
For God is our witness,
how we yearn for you all with the affection of Christ Jesus.
And it is our prayer
that your love may abound more and more,
with knowledge and all discernment,
so that you may approve what is excellent
and may be pure and blameless for the day of Christ,
filled with the fruits of
righteousness which come through Jesus Christ,
to the glory and praise of God.
(Phil. 1: 3-11)**

Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Reading I:	Isaiah	35: 4-7a
Reading II:	James	2: 1-5
Gospel:	Mark	7:31-37

As we, as a parish community, celebrate 75 years of faith, it is important for us to remember...remember the many ways that the Gospel of Jesus Christ has informed us, comforted us, challenged us in our life together. Many, many people have come to St. Thomas searching for the healing that we hear about in the Gospel today. Each person, in his or her own way, has contributed to the healing of those in need. At the same time we have been healed through our compassion for each other. "Ephphatha" was the word Jesus used in the reading. Just as Jesus reached out and touched the man's ears and tongue and healed him, He asks us to continue that same work in His Name to build the kingdom of God in this place, St. Thomas the Apostle. May we continue to listen to Jesus' invitation to do His work and build the City of God.

Monday, September 10, 2012
7:00am Rodney Burgener
8:00am Art Frangenberg/Ron Moewe

Tuesday, September 11, 2012
7:00am Bernard Sauer/Family
8:00am Marilyn Rush/John Rush
10:00am Chip Chan/Family

Wednesday, September 12, 2012
7:00am Benefactors of the Franciscan Sisters of St John the Baptist
8:00am Pat Peters/Bob & Mary Schlink

Thursday, September 13, 2012
7:00am Gus Gamperl/Mike & Theresa Haughney
8:00am Mark Henehan/Family
9:00am Mary, Jacob and Lilly

Friday, September 14, 2012
7:00am Mary Ruth Herbers/Clare Tschirn
8:00am Bob Christian/Gerald & Carol Dismang

Saturday September 15, 2012
8:00am Regina Stewart/Mary Stewart
5:00pm Suzi Russell/Dale & Brenda Noel

Sunday, September 16, 2012
6:30am For the People
8:00am Harold Naumann/Rita Deets
9:30am Winifred Giltner/Family
11:00am Robert Couri/Dave & Becky Shealy
5:00 pm Thomas Hietter/Debbie Conley Short

75TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION begins this weekend at all Masses. Following Mass the celebration will continue downstairs with our parish history display and food and drinks. Videos will be on display as well as a chance to tell stories about your remembrance of the past years at St. Thomas.

SENIOR CITIZENS Monday, September 10 at noon at the Sterling Family Restaurant. All seniors welcome.

WOMEN'S GUILD POTLUCK Monday, September 10 at 6:30 pm in the lower level of the church.

CONTEMPLATIVE PRAYER GROUP Monday, September 10 at 7:00 pm in the school chapel.

ALL SCHOOL MEMORIAL MASS Tuesday, September 11 at 10:00 am.

ROSARY FOR PEACE Tuesday, September 11 at 10:00 am in the chapel.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY Tuesday, September 11 at 7:00 pm in the parish office meeting room.

PTO Tuesday, September 11 at 7:00 pm in the school library.

BIBLE STUDY Wednesday, September 12 at 8:45 am in the parish office meeting room.

CCD Wednesday, September 12 at 6:15 in the school.

CHARISMATIC PRAYER GROUP Thursday, September 13 at 7:00 pm.

SEPTEMBERFEST Saturday, September 15 at 6:00 pm in the back parking lot for age 21 and over.

GREAT ADVENTURE BIBLE STUDY SIGN-UP will be after Masses next weekend.

PARISH REGISTRATION

NAME_____

ADDRESS_____

CITY_____ZIP_____

PHONE(H)_____(W)_____

CHANGE OF ADDRESS_____NEW ADDRESS_____

EMAIL _____

YOU CAN ALSO REGISTER ONLINE AT WWW.STTHOMASPEORIA.ORG
GO TO: ABOUT > PARISH REGISTRATION

Our Sympathy

PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO HAVE DIED THIS WEEK: Maxine Long, sister of Ron Rosenow; Wanda Cuboran, mother of Bernadette Shekleton; Christine Shea; Clifford Bohlman

RCIA

It is time to begin thinking about the R.C.I.A.—those who are interested in joining the Catholic Church. We will begin our sessions on Wednesday, October 3, 2012 at 7:00 pm in the school library. There are sessions for adults as well as children beginning with grade one. If you or someone you know might be considering this, please call Sr. Rachel at 688-3446.

St Thomas THE APOSTLE • SCHOOL

St. Thomas School News

Snowflake-Teen Leaders Needed St. Thomas School/CCD graduates: plans are underway for Snowflake 2012 to be held Saturday, October 20. Training sessions for leaders will begin on Sunday, September 9 from 3:00-5:00 pm. Call Erin Olsen at 682-4729 or email olsentorry@comcast.net.

Magazine Drive sponsored by St. Thomas School PTO is in process. Purchase or renew magazines to help the school. Call the school office, 685-2533 for information or order online at www.gaschoolstore.com. Use code: 2684637.

Please remember St. Thomas Church in your will..

Volunteer Opportunities

St. Thomas Parish, through the Social Justice Committee, has a partnership with Upgrade Companies. Upgrade is a non-profit housing corporation that owns and manages Pierson Hills and Lincoln Terrace.

For several years, the Salvation Army has run an after-school program for grade school age kids who live in nearby Pierson Hills. St. Thomas parishioners have been helping out the last 2 years. Again this year, we are asking for volunteers to help kids with homework.

Time slots: Grades 5-8: Mon—Thurs, 2:45-4:00 pm
Grades 1-4: Mon-Thurs: 3:45-5:00 pm

Your commitment can be 1-10 hours per week. Volunteers must also attend a 2-hour orientation that includes Safe From Harm Training. Call Jane Genzel, 645-5303.

Location: Salvation Army Building on Nebraska Ave.

Call Jane Genzel to register, 645-5303.

Sponsor of the Week
American Landscaping

ST. THOMAS
WOMEN'S GUILD
Dedicated to Providing the Parish Bread and Wine
Nancy Krakowiecki, President 682-3246

POTLUCK

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 10

Come share the evening with our St. Thomas Women's Guild
and bring a friend to share our wonderful meal!

Lower Level of the Church at 6:30 PM

A-F/ Bring a Dessert G-M/ Bring a Main Dish N-Z/ Bring a Vegetable or Salad

(In addition to your wonderful food dish, would you please bring an item for the Food Pantry)

All women of the Parish are invited!

PLEASE PRAY FOR…

Please keep the men and women in the military in your prayers:

James Blanchard
*Dan McDonough
*Glen Louthan
*Chris Lehman
*Bridget Kelley
*Travis Williams
*Alex Fritz
*Jason Kidd
*Roseanne Milroy
*Victoria Coers
*Scot Wettach
*Jacob Moody
*Liam O'Neill
*Erich Snyder
*Drake Comfort
*Mark Fagenkrantz
*Fred Wilson
*Jason Thyne
*Jordan Good
*Ricardo DeLaCruz
*Dan Svymbersky
*Jeff R. Dudley
*Joe Espinosa
*Jason Kedzior
*Michael McKee
* Joe Kuchan
*Tom Stimeling
*Curtis Bohlman
*Ryan Schatsiek
*Joe Moran
*JoanneMcGregor
*William Kelley, III
*Michael O'Brien
*NaToane Russell
*Casey Redington
*Darren Hodgkins
*Joshua Logan Stroot
*Lt. Col. James Godfrey
*David Hodges
*Scott C. Powers
*Brian M Godsill
*Alexis Moran
*Jason Stevenor
*Brian Behm
*Christopher Miller
*F.Michael Schachtrup
*Maegan Brown
*Jim Comfort
*Jason Blankenship
*Farrah Bramble
*Mackinzie Wilts
*Lt. Blake Baldi
*Craig Bohlman
*SPC Nicole Meixner
*Anthony Alessi
*Jeff Good

Liturgy of the Word for Children will begin in September. Children grades 1-5 are included in the sessions. If you are interested in being a teacher for the children during the 9:30 am Mass, please contact Sr. Rachel at 688-3446. Commitment would be about once a month.

40 Days for Life Kickoff Rally

Peoria's 40 Days of Life Kickoff Rally will be held on Thursday, September 14 at 6:30 pm at St. Paul Baptist church on Lake Avenue. The featured speakers will be Pastor Cal Rychener of Northwoods Community Church and Bishop Jenky. For more information, visit www.40daysoflife.com/peoria.

A Mother's Love—Healing Retreat After a Pregnancy Loss

If you have suffered a miscarriage, stillbirth, or early infant loss and are looking for healing, please join A Mother's Love group for an annual retreat. Retreat: October 20 from 8:00 am—3:00 pm at St. Philomena Sacred Heart Room. Call Rynne Carr, 253-0314.

St. Thomas Food Pantry

Following is the suggested list of food items:

Spaghetti	Spaghetti Sauce	Rice
Canned Fruit	Pancake Mix	Jelly
Dry Beans	Pork & Beans	Cereal
Soup	Crackers	Syrup
Beef Stew	Canned Vegetables	Noodles
Peanut Butter	Mac & Cheese	Tuna
Paper Towels	Toilet Paper	
Toothpaste	Instant Potatoes	

Thank you for your contributions to the Food Pantry.
We greatly appreciate your generosity.

There are few of us who are not aware that it is "back to school" time! In our St. Vincent de Paul Conference at St. Thomas we've noticed the fall-out from that in the families who already had a difficult time keeping their heads above water (financially). They are choosing between paying rent, utilities or getting appropriate clothing and school supplies for their children. The food box in the Gathering Space is not being filled very well. H.E.L.P.!!
To paraphrase St. Vincent de Paul's belief: Any work of love is done for God. This is our opportunity to help our area needy. Thanks for all you have done—and will do.

Peoria Notre Dame High School is looking for academic volunteers willing to tutor students in Algebra, Geometry, Trigonometry, Calculus, College Algebra, Chemistry, Physics and other subjects as needed. Call Susie Cicciarelli at 691-8741.

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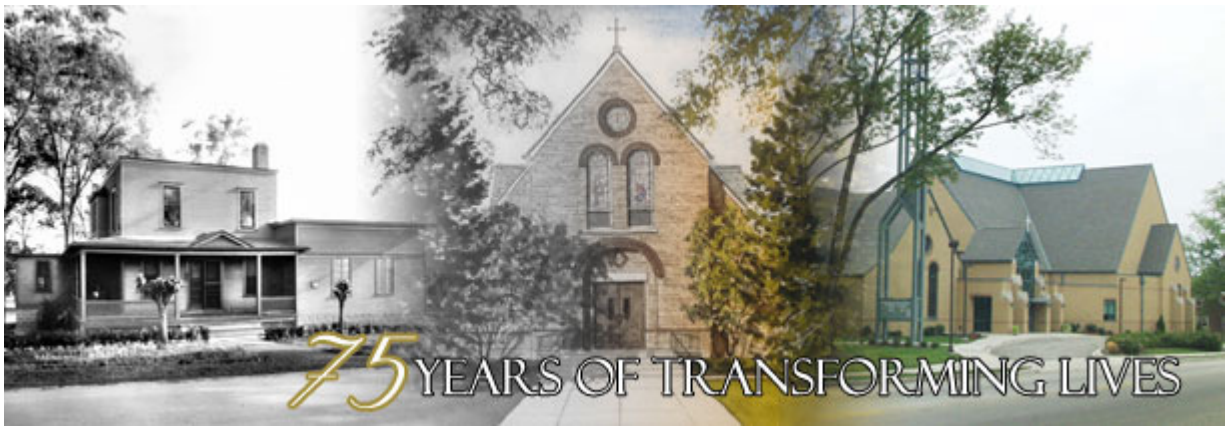
Tryouts for 2013 ND Pony/Travel baseball will be Sunday, September 9 & 16. Contact Tony Shadid for information, president@ndyouthbaseball.com



St. Thomas the Apostle Church is celebrating our 75 years as a parish. We are beginning our celebration in September with a presentation of several aspects of our history as a parish. Go to the website this week and see if you can identify pictures/events of moments in our parish history. We will try to keep you guessing in the next several weeks.

Save the Dates!

- **Sept. 8th & 9th** – Enjoy the history of St. Thomas Church through pictures and video in the lower level of the church after all the weekend Masses. Be sure to join us after the Mass you celebrate in the lower level of the church for pictures/videos/stories of the parish history. Food will be provided.

- **October 13th – 17th** All are welcome to participate in a Parish Retreat. Brother Michael, a Passionist brother from New Jersey, will lead us in our retreat. He is from the same religious community as the priests who have been with us for our former retreats.

- **November** – Our liturgical celebrations will be presented by various groups within our parish during the week end Masses over the course of the month.

- **December 1st** – Winter Whimsy Biennial Auction. This Auction is themed "Winter Whimsy 75th Celebration".

St Thomas
THE APOSTLE • CHURCH

September Fest

9.15.12 at 6:00pm on the blacktop

BEERS Sample a wide selection of craft and traditional brews.

BRATS Plan on having dinner... we'll be grilling brats, dogs and more.

BAGS Show us your stuff! There will be pickup games throughout the night.

BANDS Get down to the musical stylings of The Midnight Special & more.

Bring your chairs and blankets!

Must be 21 to enter. In the event of rain, the fest will be moved to the new gym.
Contact Dave Wiles at 264-9252 for more information or to volunteer.

ST. THOMAS STAFF

Msgr. William A. Watson, Pastor
Rev. Thomas E. Taylor, Pastoral Vicar
Sr. Rachel Bergschneider, Pastoral Associate
Mrs. Maureen Bentley, St. Thomas School Principal
Deacon Frank Eaton
Deacon Mark Kelsch
Deacon John Nelson
Terri Moon, Parish Secretary
Mrs. Valerie Wallenfang, Parish Secretary
Mrs. Terri Schlicksup, CCD Coordinator
Mrs. Ann Horst, Liturgical Music Coordinator
Mrs. Charlene Henehan, Bookkeeper
Mrs. Jan Smith, Director of Development & Alumni
Mrs. Jan Alt, Parish Nurse
Mrs. Linda Hernandez, Pastoral Care/Caring Presence Ministry
Annulment Consultations:
Colleen McCulla Caldwell, 682-4571
John Mackoway, 699-5213
Linn Perkins 231-0261

ST. THOMAS PARISH/RECTORY
904 EAST LAKE AVENUE **688-3446**
PEORIA HEIGHTS, IL. 61616

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: September 30 at 11:00 am Mass.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturdays: 4:00-4:45 pm & 7:00-8:00 pm
or by appointment with a priest
Confessions are held in the confessionals in the daily Mass Chapel

PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERS

Joe Connolly, Trustee	692-8647
Mary Ward, Trustee	691-7453
Beth Salmon, President	243-2257
Cyndie Mueller, Secretary	243-5631
Pat Donnelly	693-7315
Mike Haughney	692-6086
Kim Kellock	713-2200
Len Kuchan	691-7131
Karen Metzinger	243-9009
Tom Perkins	693-1402
Matt Vonachen	243-7641