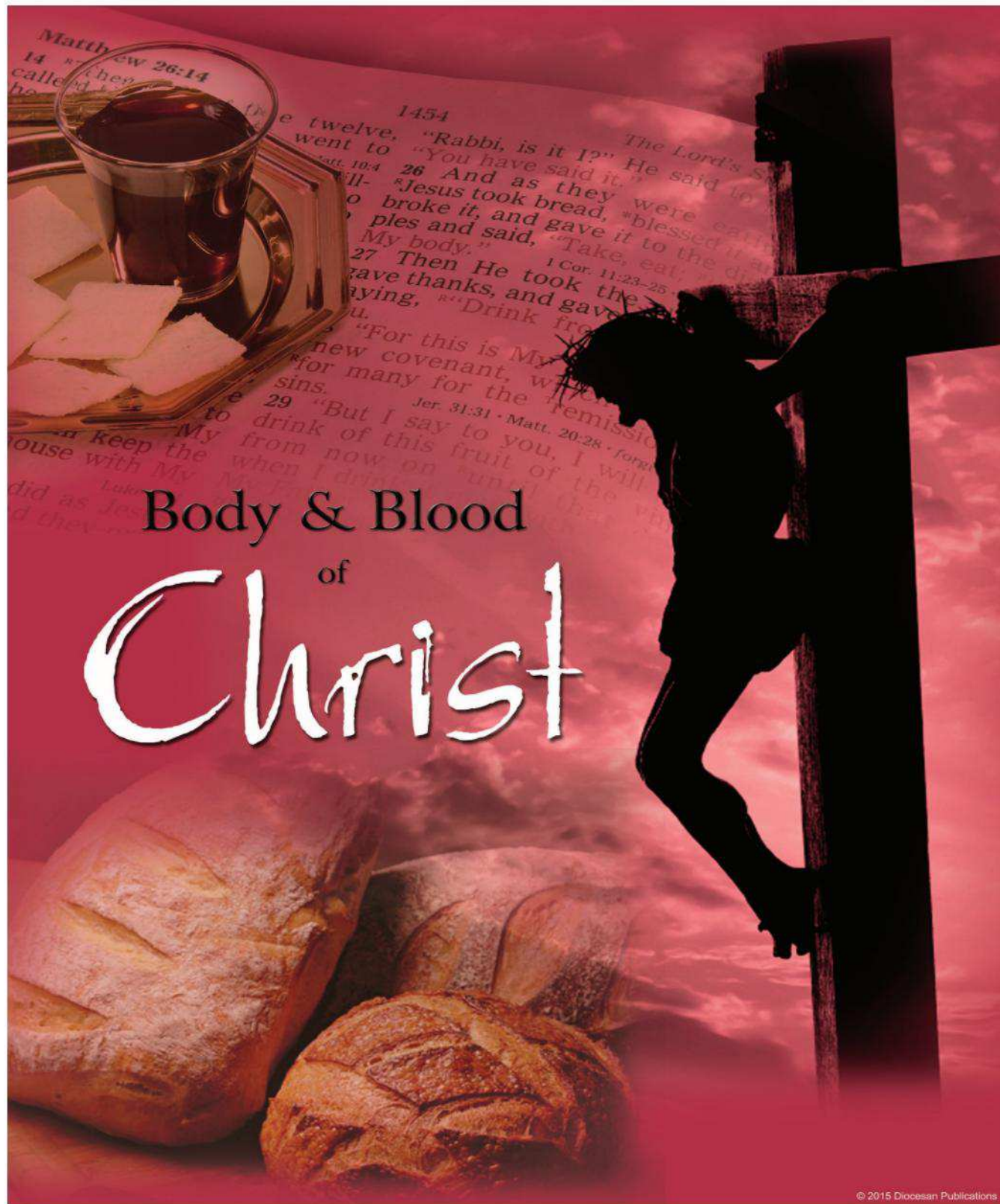


St. Thomas the Apostle Parish  
Diocese of Peoria  
904 E Lake Ave Peoria Heights  
stthomaspeoria.org

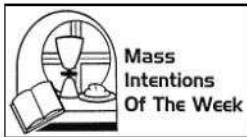


# Body & Blood of Christ

**SOLEMNITY OF THE MOST HOLY  
BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST**

Reading I: Exodus 24: 3-8  
Reading II: Hebrews 9:11-15  
Gospel: Mark 14:12-16,22-26

Most of us are familiar with the slogan of the American Red Cross, "Give the gift of life; give blood." Blood is life, and to give blood is to give life. In each of today's readings blood plays a central role. In the Gospel, Jesus takes a cup of wine and says, "This is my blood, the blood of the covenant, to be poured out on behalf of many." Jesus recognizes that his obedience to the Father's call will lead to his death, but that this will be "on behalf of many." Today's feast of the Body and Blood of Christ celebrates the life of Christ in us. The Church is his body and he nourishes us through the gift of the Eucharist.



**Monday, June 8, 2015**

7:00am Dorothy Baker/Billy & Diane Dixon  
8:00am Bonnie Madigan/Family

**Tuesday, June 9, 2015**

7:00am Edie Matarelli/Ann Burnett  
8:00am Bob Christian/Gloria Christian & Family

**Wednesday, June 10, 2015**

7:00am Mary Nelson/Jeanne Whalen  
8:00am Anne Penn/Family

**Thursday, June 11, 2015**

7:00am T Joseph Varkey/The Joseph Family  
8:00am Alice Eaton/Joe & Cari Connolly

**Friday, June 12, 2015**

7:00am Sr Bernadette Kouri FSJB/Franciscan Sisters of St  
John the Baptist  
8:00am Rosetta Matarelli/Bob & Jane Bielenberg

**Saturday, June 13, 2015**

8:00am Teresa Hines/Suzann Draher  
5:00pm Ronnie Boyd & Jim Boyd/Dale & Brenda Noel

**Sunday, June 14, 2015**

6:30am For the People  
8:00am Dennis & Carol Harn 40th Wedding Anniv  
9:30am Tom Schmitt/Mary Schmitt  
11:00am Horace Giltner 27th Anniv/Family  
5:00pm The Harmison Family/Matt & Jo Garrison



**ST VINCENT DE PAUL, FOOD PANTRY AND CHRIST  
CHILD COLLECTIONS** will be at all Masses this  
weekend.

**FR BILL DONNELLY 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF  
ORDINATION CELEBRATION** will be Sunday, June 7 at  
11:00 Mass with a reception following the Mass.

**SR CITIZENS LUNCH** Monday, June 8 at noon at the  
50's Diner in the Metro Center. All seniors are  
welcome.

**CENTERING PRAYER GROUP** Monday, June 8 at 7:00  
pm in the original church basement.

**ROSARY FOR PEACE** Tuesday, June 9 at 10:00 am in  
the chapel.

**ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY** Tuesday, June 9 at  
7:00 pm in the parish office meeting room.

**BIBLE STUDY** Wednesday, June 10 at 8:45 am in the  
parish office meeting room.

**CHARISMATIC PRAYER GROUP** Thursday, June 11 at  
7:00 pm.

**PARISH OFFICE SUMMER HOURS**

**will be**

**8:30 am — 3:00 pm**

**PARISH REGISTRATION**

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

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

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

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

EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

## ST. THOMAS FOOD PANTRY

Following is the suggested list of food items:

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

**Our greatest needs are:**

**Jelly, Peanut Butter, Canned fruit, Pancake Mix & Syrup**

We appreciate your generosity..

## WEEKLY COLLECTION

	5/24/15	Fiscal YTD
Collections needed	\$ 24,000	\$ 1,128,000
Sunday Collections	\$ 15,847	\$ 918,746
Electronic Collections	\$ 3,471	\$ 169,738
Total Collected	\$ 19,318	\$ 1,088,484
Over/(Short)	\$ (4,682)	\$ (39,516)

**We appreciate your generosity.**

## 50th Class Reunion AOL/Spalding Class of '65

Saturday, June 27  
Lariat Steakhouse

Contact Jamie Schmitt, 678-9213

**Join us to celebrate  
Fr. Bill Donnelly's**

**50th Anniversary of Ordination**

**Sunday, June 7 at 11:00 am Mass**

**Reception following**

**Fr. Donnelly, a Maryknoll priest from Peoria (St. Bernard's), has worked in Guatemala for many years as a missionary.**

## *Our Sympathy*

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO HAVE DIED THIS WEEK:** Joseph Sodowski; Cassie Speten, mother of Kellyann Anderson and grandmother of Breann, Aiden, Keegan, and Collin Anderson; Donald Murphy, brother-in-law of Jolene Doyle; Sandra Rusch, sister of Sara Rusch.

Sponsor of the Week



St. Thomas School is seeking to fill a 7/8 grade English teacher opening for our 2015-2016 school year. Applicants must hold a valid Illinois teaching certificate. To apply please send a resume and letter of interest to Mrs. Maureen Bentley, Principal at 4229 N. Monroe St. Peoria Heights, IL. 61616 or email to maureen-bentley@stthomas-school.net

## Box Tops for Education

Do you ever wonder if it is really worth it to cut off those Box Tops and remember to send them to school? YES IT IS! Each Box Top, and bonus Box Top, is worth 10 cents. You can see that every Box Top counts!

Plus if you go too [www.boxtops4education.com](http://www.boxtops4education.com) you will find coupons and more ways to earn Box Tops Please send all that you have collected to the school or parish office.

## Emmaus Days, 2015

Session I: June 5-8 — High school graduates  
Session II: June 26-29 — High school junior/seniors  
Session III: July 5-8 — High school freshmen/sophomores  
Session IV: July 8-10 — 7th/8th graders

For more info, call 671-1550

## European-style Basketball Camp For entering 6th, 7th, 8th graders

June 18,19,20

St. Thomas old gym

- ◆ Boys — 9:00-10:30 am
- ◆ Girls — 10:30-12:00 pm

Coaches Daria and Sebastian Zwolak, certified coaches with professional playing experience.

Minimum enrollment per session 10 athletes  
Maximum enrollment per session 20 athletes

For more information, go to [www@wintraining.org](http://www@wintraining.org) or [plp73@hotmail.com](mailto:plp73@hotmail.com)

## Volunteer Opportunity

When Jesus says, "...for I was hungry and you gave me food..." (Matthew 25:35), do you think about hungry children in our area? During the school year, our food insecure children are assisted with free or reduced lunches. In the summer months, they have no such help. So, many faith-based groups are partnering to change this. Please consider volunteering for about 3 hours once a week at a summer feeding program so that our children do not go hungry this summer. Many of our Peoria Notre Dame students have already sign up to help. But we also need adults. For more information, contact Mary Anne Michelet, 657-2484.

## Summer Tutoring Available

For 5-7 year olds

Review basics: reading/math skills

1/2 hour or 1 hour sessions

Contact Jane Dunlap@ [rjaejdunlap39@gmail.com](mailto:rjaejdunlap39@gmail.com)

## "Stop the Summer Slump!"

**Summer Math Program** for 2nd graders through incoming freshmen. An **Enriched Math Program** to challenge students will also be offered. Contact Helen Engelbrecht at 256-5188 or 693-6289.



I have been a member of three parishes here in Peoria over sixty years and, like most Catholics, have become familiar with other parishes through travel. With time you realize that even though we are catholic in our liturgy, each parish has its own unique ambience and customs. When I came to St. Thomas I had to get used to the fact that the St. Vincent de Paul collection occurred after Mass rather than during the offertory on the first Sunday of the month. There is the announcement after communion alerting you that the ushers will be balancing those little brown boxes with the green felt linings along with the bulletins as you move toward the gathering space. If you pay close attention you'll notice that some men instinctively check for their wallets and women glance at their purses. This action is, for me, simultaneous with the self query; "did I remember extra money"? Occasionally I still have to prevail on family or friends for a small term loan before I reach the door but I have gotten better about remembering before Church.

Creatures of habit, over time, this becomes a reflexive process move us from church to parking lot to car and then "home James and don't spare the horses". We know the money somehow gets from those boxes to the poor in the area, but for most of us, the how of it, is more mystery than knowledge.

As the money is counted, with all the \$20s, \$10s, \$5s, and \$1s, plus the coins from the small children, a new reality takes shape. The money is more than just money. It is individual acts of kindness, dictated by circumstances, and molded into communal generosity. SVdP members visiting those in need, listening to individual tragedies small and large, hearing prayerful hopes and needs, and turning those individuals gifts into the living presence of Christ.

We SVdP representatives thank you for your generosity in bringing Christ's presence to those who most need it and ask for and depend on your continued support. Thank you.

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

Please remember St. Thomas Church in your will.



# *16th Annual St. Thomas Golf Outing 4 Person Scramble - Shotgun Start*

**Pine Lakes Golf Club – Washington, IL**

**Friday, June 26th, 2015**

**Sign In: 11:15AM**

**Shotgun Start: Noon**

**Dinner Reception: 6:00 PM at St. Thomas Church Lower Level**

**Steak Dinner – Beverages – Raffles - Door prizes**

Tee Sponsor	\$100.00	_____
Foursome	\$320.00	_____
Individual Golfer (before June 15)	\$85.00	_____
Individual Golfer (after June 14) (We'll fit you into a foursome)	\$90.00	_____
Dinner Only	\$25.00	_____
Dinner for Two	\$40.00	_____

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**Registration Deadline: June 18, 2015      Make checks out to: St. Thomas Men's Club**

**Sponsor Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Phone Number:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Sponsor Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Please include the following in my foursome:**

**Captain – Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_ **E-Mail:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Golfer #2 Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Golfer #3 Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Golfer #4 Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Please return payment to:**

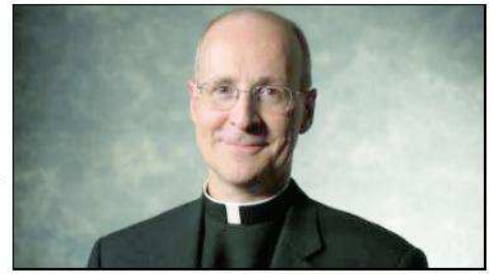
**Ed Schanzle**  
1122 W. Burnside  
Peoria, IL 61614      (309) 635-3373

**For additional information:**

**Gary Doll**  
(309) 369-9617

## In Jesus Footsteps

by James Martin, S.J.



“It sounds so Jewish!” one woman exclaimed during our recent pilgrimage to the Holy Land. We were in the Church of the Pater Noster, outside the walls of the Old City in Jerusalem. On this spot, according to tradition (which means it could have happened anywhere nearby), Jesus taught his disciples the Our Father. Our tour guide, a Melkite Catholic from Galilee named Maher, had just recited the prayer in Aramaic, Jesus’ native tongue. Of course everyone in our group knew that Jesus spoke Aramaic, but it was something else entirely to hear it spoken aloud in the confines of the stone chapel.

From April 18 to 25, America Media sponsored its first-ever pilgrimage to the Holy Land, for roughly 50 pilgrims. We began at the Sea of Galilee, visiting sites where Jesus definitely lived or that he visited—and not simply “according to tradition”—like Capernaum, Bethsaida, Nazareth and Cana. After a few days we journeyed to Jerusalem via Jericho and Bethany. Each day Jeremy Zipple, S.J., executive editor of America Films, produced a new video highlighting our visits. (You can find them on [America Media’s YouTube page](#).) With us were our editor in chief, Matt Malone, S.J.; Dan Pawlus, America Media’s vice president for advancement; and Brendan Lally, S.J., rector of the Jesuit community at St. Joseph’s University in Philadelphia, who had visited the Holy Land 23 times before.

Like the pilgrim who realized how Jewish Jesus was, everyone was graced with new insights. Many centered on Jesus’ humanity. Standing in Capernaum on the site of the first-century synagogue where Jesus healed the “man with the unclean spirit,” within sight of St. Peter’s house a few hundred feet away, grounded the Gospels for many of us in a fresh way.

An aside by Father Lally struck me. Not long ago, he said, archeologists discovered in Capernaum a house with a Roman bath. The excavators were baffled: Who in this first-century Jewish town would have had a Roman bath? Then it hit them: The most likely candidate was the Roman centurion spoken about in the Gospel of Luke. “It is he who built our synagogue for us,” the people tell Jesus. This is the man who later says, “Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof.” When excavators realized whose house this probably was, they paused in prayer. Not long after hearing Father Lally’s aside, we celebrated Mass and repeated the centurion’s words to Jesus.

For me, it was an emotional trip. How could it be otherwise for any follower of Jesus? Simply looking at the Sea of Galilee (I had been there only once before) was moving. But let me tell you about another moment.

It happened aboard a boat on the Sea of Galilee. When a boat ride was proposed to us by Catholic Travel Centre (our superb travel agency), I rolled my eyes. It sounded unbearably cheesy. Stepping aboard the motor-powered wooden boat didn’t allay my fears of cheesiness. Maher quietly relayed the offers of the boat’s captain. Did we want him to play the “Star-Spangled Banner” as we left the harbor? We did not. Did we want him to play Gospel music as we plowed the sea? We did not. Did we want him to cast a net off the boat as if he were a fisherman? We did not. Instead we asked the captain simply to turn off the engines while Father Lally read aloud two Gospel passages. So all of us heard again, but as if for the first time, the accounts of Jesus stilling the storm and walking on the water. After the engines were silenced, it was just us and the sea.

And the wind. The plastic pennants that hung from a thin rope strung around the boat snapped loudly in the strong wind. Then I imagined what it would be like if the wind stopped suddenly—at someone’s word. I realized how terrified the disciples must have been, and a wave of pity for them swept over me. “Who then is this,” they said, “that even the wind and the sea obey him?” How could the disciples have been anything other than afraid? How amazing that after any of the miracles they could be with Jesus without fear.

The Holy Land is often called the “Fifth Gospel,” the Gospel that explains the other four. Here we were able to meet Jesus in a new way. But you needn’t travel there to do that. Jesus comes to all of us, in so many ways, including in prayer. Because of this, any ground that we traverse is holy ground, and wherever we are is a holy land.

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**ST. THOMAS STAFF**

Msgr. William A. Watson, Pastor  
Rev. Thomas E. Taylor, Parochial Vicar  
Sr. Rachel Bergschneider, Pastoral Associate  
Maureen Bentley, St. Thomas School Principal  
Deacon Frank Eaton  
Deacon Mark Kelsch  
Deacon John Nelson  
Terri Moon, Parish Secretary  
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

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

**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: June 28 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	679-0953
Mike Haughney, President	692-6086
Brian Barkley	692-4165
George Burek	446-3623
Jim Corkery	363-6799
Anne Gray	691-1479
Kim Kellock	713-2200
Carolyn Kinskey	966-3252
Mary Jo Pinto	692-6107
Matt Vonachen	243-7641
Dr Ted Wolgamot	691-0618