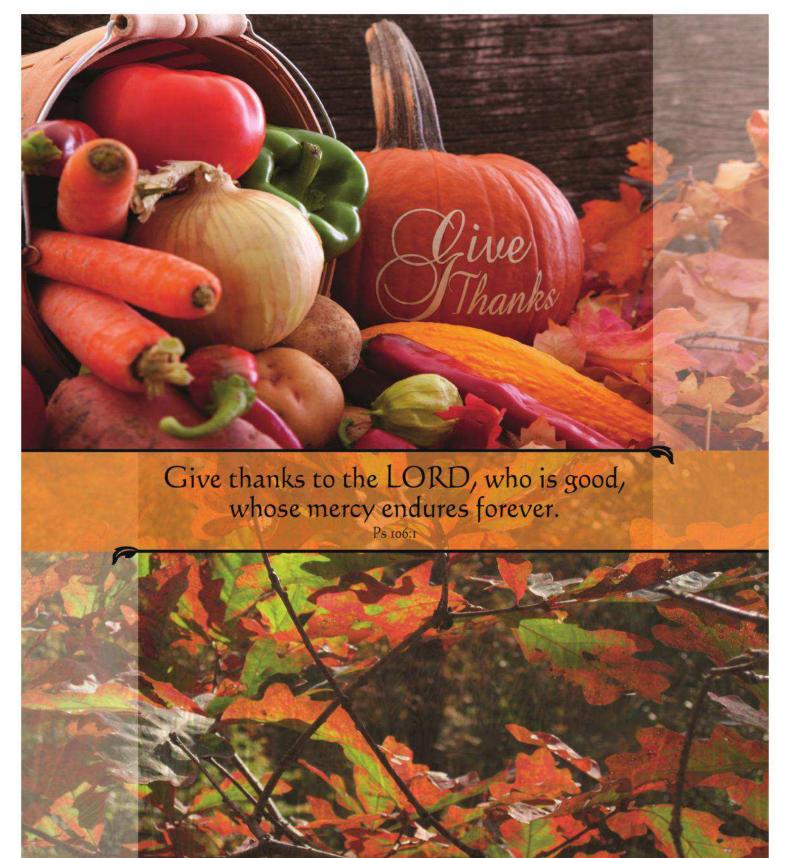


#### St. Thomas the Apostle Parish Diocese of Peoria 904 E Lake Ave Peoria Heights stthomaspeoria.org



#### **OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE**

 Reading I: Ezekiel
 34:11-12,15-17

 Reading II: 1 Corinthians
 15:20-26,28

 Gospel: Matthew
 25:31-46

The title of today's feast is somewhat misleading because in order to understand the kingship of Christ we have to forget our preconceptions about kings. The notion of king often conjures up the image of someone who is set apart from the common people. But the lordship of Jesus does not separate him from us; rather it unites us. The Gospel today makes the point even more strongly. The last few Sundays we have been focusing on the end-time and the final judgment. Today's Gospel leaves no questions about the pre-requisites for entrance into the kingdom: feed the hungry, comfort the sick, visit the imprisoned. To love our neighbor (without boundaries) is to love our king. The king is totally identified with the most humble of subjects.



#### Monday, November 24, 2014

7:00am Bonnie Madigan/Jack & Family 8:00am Bonnie Streid/Jay & Lois Streid

#### Tuesday, November 25, 2014

7:00am Lucille Joseph in Honor of St Anthony/Tom

Joseph

8:00am Suzanne Lynch/Family

9:00am Sam Ottenweller/Frank Eaton

#### Wednesday, November 26, 2014

7:00am Mary Nelson/Ruth Kennedy

8:00am William May 49th Anniv/Bernadean May &

Family

#### Thursday, November 27, 2014 Thanksgiving Day

9:00am Marilyn Roedell/Evie Schermer

#### Friday, November 28, 2014

7:00am Myrtle McManus/Joe & Freddie Waugh 8:00am Tom & Irene McNamara/Frank Eaton

#### Saturday, November 29, 2014

8:00am Dan Van Buskirk/Mary Ellen Van Buskirk 5:00pm Joanne Horan/Kim Batton Johnson

#### Sunday, November 30, 2014

6:30am Janet Kimberlin/Jeanette Hillyer & Jeanine

Stimeling

8:00am Pete Vonachen/Jim & Deb Rochford 9:30am Jim Coogan/The Wombacher Cousins

11:00am For the People

5:00pm Nancy Boehle/Bob & Marianne Reading



**CENTERING PRAYER GROUP** Monday, November 24 at 7:00 pm.

**ROSARY FOR PEACE** Tuesday, November 25 at 10:00 am in the chapel.

BIBLE STUDY Tuesday, November 25 at 12:30 pm.

**EDUCATION COMMISSION** Tuesday, November 25 at 7:00 pm.

**ST THOMAS SCHOOL** is closed for Thanksgiving November 26-28.

**NO BIBLE STUDY** Wednesday, November 26 at 8:45 am.

**THANKSGIVING MASS** Thursday, November 27 at 9:00 am. This is the only Mass that day.

**RITE OF ACCEPTANCE for R.C.I.A./R.C.I.C.** during the 9:30 am Mass next Sunday, November 31.

#### **Thanksgiving Dinner**

Thursday, November 27th Serving 11:00 am to 1:00 pm Dinner is FREE! St. Thomas School Cafeteria

Volunteers are needed to set up, serve, clean up and provide desserts. Please call the parish office (688-3446) if you can help.



## Our Sympathy

#### PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO HAVE DIED THIS

WEEK: Wendy Boatright

Sponsor of the Week

St. Thomas Website: stthomaspeoria.org
St. Thomas e-mail: parishoffice@stthomas-church.net

Please remember St. Thomas Church in your will.

#### 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

We greatly appreciate your generosity...

Greatest needs are:
Cereal Beef Stew Canned Fruit Instant Potatoes

On Thanksgiving Day we encourage you to bring canned goods for the Food Pantry to the altar at the Offertory.

#### WEEKLY COLLECTION

	11/9/14	Fiscal YTD
Collections needed	\$ 24,000	\$ 480,000
<b>Sunday Collections</b>		\$ 390,438
Electronic Collections \$ 3,632		\$ 72,640
Total Collected	\$ 19,279	\$ 463,078
Over/(Short)	\$ (4,721)	\$ (16,922)

We appreciate your generosity.

#### St. Thomas Barnes & Noble Shopping Day

The PTO of St. Thomas School will be hosting the annual "St. Thomas Shopping Day: at Barnes & Noble on Sunday, November 23. The school will earn a percentage of the sales . Please note you will need to either present or mention the special St. Thomas voucher in order for the sales to be credited to the school. Online sales may be purchased at www.bn.com/bookfair as well as at other Barnes & Noble stores.

#### St. Thomas School

Sunday, November 23, 2014 Peoria

#### 5001 N. Big Hollow Road

Please present this voucher prior to making your purchase. A percentage of the net sale will be contributed to your organization.\*



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Calli Daniels
Nolan Dean
Mary Goett
Benjamin Hafner
Rachel Horst
Gabriel Jockisch
Angita Koci
Elizabeth Morgan
Dani Parker
Jhaneza Sarmiento
Holly Short
Ally Walsh
Edith Woolsey

Martha Gardner
Benjamin Geers
Logan Hatley
Jack Kahn
Grace Kilian
Owen Kochanowicz
Rory LeMasters
Miriam Martinez
Christian Pag-ong
Felicia Phan
Kylee Roe
Shawn Slevin
Elizabeth Stermer
Olivia Stuart
Catalina Tyre

## Come, Ye Thankful People, Come!



But first, it's time to clear the house and prepare to: Thanksgiving Day. A well-loved Thanksgiving cusmis to share the many foods that Native American peoples introduced to the settlers. Native American foods include transcries, potatoes, yams, beans and corn, pumplins—and the maple syrup to sweeten them. And, of course, there's the tarkey, it's hard to imagine the holiday without hearry halpings of these good gifts.

To make this meal more menorable, portuge we can make the three days before Thankagiving Day a fast before the feast. Surely in these busy days of preparation, our meager meals and even skipped meals can be acts of repengance and vigilance that cry to God for inside.

In religious (midition, fasting is complete only when joined by its two companions — prayer and charity. We don't sit down to a feast without making sure that others are enabled to feast as well. St. Leo told as that "our fasts must be turned into banquets for the poor."



This is a prayer for the simple meals of Mondos, Twesday and Wednesday. Begin with lighting a randle and a short time of silence.

Almighty God, to you belongs the sea, for you made it, and the dry land shaped by your hand. We hold the riches of the universe only in trust.

Make us honest stewards
of your creation,
careful of the good earth
you have given us,
compressionate and just
in sharing its bounty
with the whole human family.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

\* Catholic Household Blessings and Prayers

## Prayer for Thanksgiving Dinner

Gracious God, Lord of the harvest, in love you give us this meal to be our joy and delight.

We thank you for the goodness of the people of this country and for the spirit of justice that sometimes shakes our nation.

We thank you for the beauty and bounty of the land and the challenge of the cities.

We thank you for our work and our rest, for one another and for our home.

For all we have spoken, and all that we keep in our hearts, accept our Thanksgiving Day.

We make this prayer in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord.

Amen

## ADVENT

The theme of our Advent journey this year is STILLNESS. The Scriptures invite us to listen and wait—be attentive to the movement of the Lord in our lives. We are *still* to ready ourselves that Jesus will be able to enter into our lives more fully. In an effort to do this, we are suggesting a few tips:

- \* There will have a two minute silent period at the beginning of Mass—after it begins. To aid in the atmosphere of silence, we will keep the doors of the church proper closed and ask that you remain in the Gathering Space until the quiet period is completed. Our hope is that, during this season, you will be able to begin the Mass with everyone in the church.
- \* You are invited to stop in the church during the week outside of Mass time for some time of quiet. Just stop for a few minutes. It is a marvelous opportunity to be STILL. Reflection material (if you have that need) will be available. The church is open from 6:30 am 9:00 pm.

#### Preparing for Advent



The season of **ADVENT** has traditionally been a wonderful time for family activities in the home. In these days when being at home as a family is a precious and sometimes rare experience, we encourage you to make the most of the season of **ADVENT**. Besides the Advent Wreath, we will offer other family activities next week to bring joy as well as teach children the importance of waiting for Jesus to arrive in your family again this Christmas by learning about our common stories of faith as well as experiencing the symbolism of this season.





#### ADVENT IN THE HOME

Perhaps the most popular tradition in the home during Advent is the **Advent Wreath**. The Advent wreath reflects the spirit of expectation. The four candles, one more lit each week, helps us in our anticipation of the great event of Christmas, Christ's coming. This custom originated in ancient times with the festival of lighting of fire as the days shortened. It was "christianized" in Europe and has taken on religious significance.

The Advent Wreath, which can be of any size, is circular and made of evergreens, and is placed on a table in the home. There are four candles, one for each week of Advent. Three of the candles are purple, one is pink, the traditional color of the Third Sunday of Advent. A prayer is prayed by the family members and a candle is lit each day—one the first week, etc. Light increases, pushing out darkness. The basic symbolism of the Advent Wreath represents the tension between light and darkness. It represents the long time when people lived in spiritual darkness, waiting for the coming of the Messiah, the light of the world. Each year in Advent we wait in darkness for the coming of the Lord, the anniversary of Christ's birth and His coming into our hearts again.

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for more information contact Cathy Williams @ (309) 648-6685 or cathleen.williams @me.com

Don't forget to buy your raffle tickets (1 for \$20, 3 for \$50)
1st prize - \$5000 gift certificate from Jones Bros. Jewelers
2nd prize - \$1000 cash
3rd prize - \$500 scholarship courtesy of the st. thomas men's club



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#### 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: December 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

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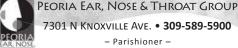
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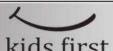
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