

# Second Sunday of LENT



**"This is my beloved Son,  
with whom I am  
well pleased;  
listen to him."**

**Matthew 17:5**

March 8, 2020

St. Thomas the Apostle Parish  
904 East Lake Avenue  
Peoria Heights, Illinois  
309-688-3446  
[stthomaspeoria.org](http://stthomaspeoria.org)





We have all seen many reports about the flu season and especially the spread of the corona virus. I take this opportunity to stress again the importance of common-sense precautions. Washing your hands and minimizing contact with others is the best defense.

Out of an abundance of caution, we will continue to suspend the distribution of the Precious Blood until things have returned to normal. Do not feel obligated to hold hands at the Our Father or shake hands at the Sign of Peace. It is perfectly fine to greet one another without shaking hands.

We celebrate the sacrament of Confirmation this week as our eighth grade students receive the gifts of the Holy Spirit. We are happy to welcome Bishop Jenky on Wednesday evening as we celebrate this special sacrament. Please be aware that we will not have 5:30 pm daily Mass on the day of Confirmation.

Please pray for our students at this important time in their lives. May the Lord fill them with his gifts and help them to become the young men and women that the Lord has called them to be.

-Msgr. Gray



## Pray with the Pope

March 2020  
Catholics in China

We pray that the Church in China may persevere in its faithfulness to the Gospel and grow in unity.

## Readings for the Week of March 8, 2020

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Second Sunday of Lent</b> Genesis 12: 1-4a; 2 Timothy 1: 8b-10; Matthew 17: 1-9
<b>Monday</b>	<b>St. Frances of Rome</b> Daniel 9: 4b-10; Luke 6: 36-38
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Second Week of Lent</b> Isaiah 1: 10, 16-20; Matthew 23: 1-12
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Second Week of Lent</b> Jeremiah 18: 18-20; Matthew 20: 17-28
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Second Week of Lent</b> Jeremiah: 17: 5-10; Luke 16: 19-31
<b>Friday</b>	<b>Second Week of Lent</b> Genesis 37: 3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28a; Matthew 21: 33-43, 45-46
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>Second Week of Lent</b> Micah 7: 14-15, 18-20; Luke 15: 1-3, 11-32
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Third Sunday of Lent</b> Exodus 17: 3-7; Romans 5: 1-2, 5-8; John 4: 5-42

## Mass Intentions

### Monday, March 9, 2020

7:00 a.m.	Dr. James N. Kenny, Sr./Family
8:00 a.m.	Jarlath and Lucille Watson/Friends
5:30 p.m.	Mary Cooper/Friends

### Tuesday, March 10, 2020

7:00 a.m.	John Rush/Patty Rush
8:00 a.m.	Phyllis Walth/Joanna Jordan
5:30 p.m.	Jerry Smith/Mary Ann Noe

### Wednesday, March 11, 2020

7:00 a.m.	Michael Farraher/Frances Farraher
8:00 a.m.	Francis Schachtrup/Steve and Pennie Schachtrup
5:30 p.m.	NO MASS
7:00 p.m.	Edward Carrigan/Rick and Maureen Pantages

### Thursday, March 12, 2020

7:00 a.m.	Sonia Gray/Jeanne Whalen
8:00 a.m.	Joseph and Florence Whalen/Jeanne Whalen
9:15 a.m.	Norm and Jerry Ralph/Kim and Scott Kraeger
5:30 p.m.	Patrick Ruhaak/Family

### Friday, March 13, 2020

7:00 a.m.	Sr. Bernadette Kouri FSJB
8:00 a.m.	Smith and Hafner Families
5:30 p.m.	Howard and Clara Bell/Barkley Family

### Saturday, March 14, 2020

8:00 a.m.	Maushard and Cook Families
5:00 p.m.	Evangeline Anderson/Rich and Colleen Lavin

### Sunday, March 15, 2020

7:00 a.m.	Opal Mae Ulrich Gries/Don and Amy Gries
9:00 a.m.	Joe and Ric Olson/Ed and Cathy Mallow
11:00 a.m.	For the People
5:00 p.m.	Sandy Rapp/Mary Therese and Bob Wille

## Week of March 8

**ST. THOMAS SCHOOL CLOSED**, Monday, March 9, Parish Office is open

**CENTERING PRAYER** Monday, March 9, 8:30 a.m., Church

**ROSARY** Tuesday, March 10, 10:00 a.m., Chapel

**ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY**, Tuesday, March 10, 6:00 p.m., Parish Hall

**NO 5:30 pm MASS** Wednesday, March 11

**CCD** Wednesday, March 11, 6:00 p.m., School

**FINANCIAL PEACE UNIVERSITY** Wednesday, March 11, 6:30 p.m., School Library

**CONFIRMATION**, Wednesday, March 11, 7:00 p.m.

**CHOIR PRACTICE** Thursday, March 12, 6:30 p.m., Music Room

**CHARISMATIC PRAYER GROUP** Thursday, March 12, 7:00 p.m., School Conference Room

**THAT MAN IS YOU!** Friday, March 13, 6:15 a.m., Parish Hall

**CONFESSIONS** Friday, March 13, 6:00 p.m.; Saturday March 14, 4:00 p.m., 6:00 p.m.

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS**, Friday, March 13, 7:00 p.m.

**SCIENCE PALOOZA** Saturday, March 14, 11:00 a.m., School Gym

### UPCOMING EVENTS

St. Thomas Holy Hour	March 19
Msgr. Rank Memorial Mass	March 25
Men's Club Fish Fry	March 27
Pancake Breakfast	April 5

## Weekly Collection

	March 1, 2020	Fiscal YTD
Collections needed.....	\$20,000	\$700,000
Sunday Collections .....	\$19,448	\$514,196
Electronic Collections.....	\$3,399	\$118,583
Total Collected .....	\$22,847	\$632,779
Over/(Short) .....	\$2,847	\$(67,222)

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](http://stthomaspeoria.org).

Thank you for your support.

## Our Sympathy

Marilyn Phelan

Dr. Jerry Grawey

## St. Thomas Lenten Schedule

### Lenten Daily Masses

7 am, 8 am, 5:30 pm

### Lenten Confessions

Fridays, 6 – 7 pm

Saturdays, 4 – 4:45 pm, 6 – 6:30 pm

### Friday Lenten Devotions

Eucharistic Adoration, 6 – 7 pm

Stations of the Cross and Benediction,  
7 – 7:30 pm

No 5:30 pm Mass: March 11, April 7

## Regulations for Lent and the Easter Triduum

Lent is the principal season of penance in the Christian year. Priests, religious and laity are strongly urged to develop and follow a program of voluntary self-denial, attentiveness to prayer, and especially to works of charity and mercy.

Everyone of 14 years of age or over is bound to abstain from meat on all the Fridays of Lent.

Everyone 18 years of age and under 59 years of age is bound to fast on Good Friday, April 10, 2020.

On these two days of fast and abstinence, Ash Wednesday and Good Friday, only one full meatless meal is allowed. Two other meatless meals, sufficient to maintain strength, may be taken according to each one's needs, but together they should not equal another full meal. Eating between meals is not permitted on these two days, but liquids including milk and fruit juices are allowed. When health or ability to work would be seriously affected, the law does not oblige.

To disregard completely the law of fast and abstinence is a serious matter.

All  
Homemade

St. Thomas Men's Club

50 / 50  
Drawings

# All-You-Can-Eat

# FISH

# FRY

## Friday, March 27, 2020

Serving from  
4:30 pm – 7:30 pm

In the school cafeteria  
Adults (13 and older) – Advance\* \$10.00; Door \$12.00  
Children (6 through 12) – Advance\* \$5.00; Door \$6.00  
Children five and under free with paid adult.  
Advance sales only\* - Large Families: Pay for two adults and three children,  
the rest are FREE (High school age and under)  
\*Advance price good until 3/22/2020

Tickets  
For Sale  
Downstairs

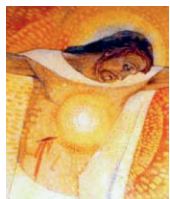
New  
in 2020

### Carry Outs Available

Menu includes: Fried Fish, French Fries, Green Salad, Cole Slaw, Bread, and Drink  
Limited amount of Lemon Butter Baked Tilapia will be available for our  
"Low in gluten" guests - \$12.00 for 2 piece fish dinner  
**Baked fish pre-order only during advanced ticket sales**  
Children's menu: Fish or Grilled Cheese  
Women's Guild : Pies, cakes & desserts available (Donation accepted)

St. Thomas the Apostle  
904 East Lake Avenue  
Peoria Heights, IL

Proceeds support new St. Thomas school sport uniforms



## Lenten Day of Recollection: "Encountering the Heart of Mercy"

**Saturday, March 28, 2020, 9:30 a.m.**  
**Spaulding Pastoral Center, 419 N.E. Madison Ave., Peoria**

Speakers Fr. Tom Otto, Fr. David Whiteside and Sr. Catherine Thomas, OP, address: surrendering trustfully to God, encountering the person of Jesus in Adoration, and Mary the Mother of Mercy.

The day includes continental breakfast, lunch, the Sacrament of Reconciliation, and concludes with Mass at 4:00 p.m.

**Deadline for registration is March 21:** \$25 per person. College students \$15. Priests and religious are free but, must register.

Make checks payable to "Divine Mercy Centacle." Include: Name(s) of all attendees, address, contact phone number and email. Registration confirmation will be via email.

Mail registration to: Paula Gottemoller, 13027 W. Parks School Rd., Princeville, IL 61559

For any questions please call Arlene Heinz 309-868-9061 OR Janice Lukich 309-231-1814

## RCIA Topics

March 18	Commandments 4,5,7,8
March 25	Commandments 6, 9,10
April 1	Prayers, Review and Precepts of the Church
April 8	Penance Service, Practice
April 11	Easter Vigil

## What Do I Do During Lent?

### HOW ABOUT: Prayer, Fasting and Almsgiving?

- ✚ Spend less time on phones, TV, computer and other technology and spend more time with family
- ✚ **Pray** the Angelus once a day or three times a day
- ✚ **Pray** the Prayer to St. Michael, for protection against the devil, the forces of evil
- ✚ **Fast** Go through the closets in your house and in your mind and get rid of 40 things in 40 days—stuff, bad attitudes, harmful practices. Then don't bring any of it back.
- ✚ **Almsgiving** Lent asks us to focus more seriously on almsgiving, charity to others. Donating money or goods, & performing other acts of charity. Almsgiving is a witness to fraternal charity & a work of justice, pleasing to God. (Catechism of the Catholic Church, #. 2462). We see several special collections throughout Lent, serving local appeals in our parish, the Diocese, and the Universal Church.
- ✚ How can you offer your time, talent and treasure, in your prayer, fasting, and almsgiving to people and organizations in need during Lent & throughout the year?

## Food Pantry Item of the Week

The food pantry is always in need of your generous donation. Of particular need this week: **Beef Stew**

***Unless there is a Good Friday in your life,  
there can be no Easter Sunday***

**Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen**



## St. Thomas Community Center Talent Search

Most of you are familiar with the work of the St. Vincent de Paul Society and the Food Pantry, which have been ministries of St. Thomas for decades.

Ten years ago, our St. Vincent de Paul Society added 'home visits' to our mission of helping our neighbors in need (clients). Thirty-some people (Vincentians) are involved in this work at St. Thomas. We welcome more parishioners to become involved, and we *thank you* for your generous support of this work, for so many years.

The new initiative with the old gym will offer another way to help our neighbors in the community. Our home now is the *St. Thomas Community Center*, no longer known as the old gym.

Our mission: *To provide a safe, welcoming place to serve the needs of our Parish, school, and neighbors with love, compassion, and hope.*

A core group has worked on this expanded mission, and more volunteers are needed and welcome. We seek people with:

- expertise leading focus groups to assess community needs
- strategic planning experience
- grant seeking, and writing, experience

If you want to join our group of volunteers ~ please do! We believe that St. Thomas has the generosity and the will of a strong, active community presence, especially for those in need. Be a part of this exciting venture! Please call:

Dr. Mike Shekleton  
309-258-2326

Don Smith  
309-472-3228

Sponsor of the Week



**St. Thomas School presents**  
**Science PALOOZA**  
**Saturday, March 14th 11am-1pm**  
Entry fee \$5 per person, \$10 per family

**Zoomobile**  
11 - noon  
**Wildlife Prairie Park**  
**Ag Lab**

**WMBD Meteorologist**  
**U of I Extension**  
**PND Chemistry Department**

**PND and STS Robotics Teams**  
**Smart Grid for Schools**  
**Virtual Reality**

**Pi Day Activities**  
**Materials Magic**  
**Frozen experiment**  
**...and more!**

## Excellent Behavior is Rewarded



Miss Voice's class ~ free time with play-doh



## PND Dance Team Tryouts

For all interested 8<sup>th</sup> Grade girls - held in the PND Gym

**March 30-April 1**—learn tryout dance and requirements  
**April 2**—judged tryout **4:15-6:16 p.m. each day**  
Mandatory Parent meeting: **March 31, 5:15 p.m.**, PND Commons

Please see the website for more information, or to download an application

<https://pnddanceteam.weebly.com/tryouts-2020-2021.html>



## New or Used Military Boots Needed

*Boot Memorial Hero & Remembrance Run* comes to St. Bede Abbey & Academy, Peru, IL, June 13, 2020.

*Boot Memorial* honors service members who have lost their lives since 9/11, including those killed in action and non-combat related deaths. There will be a 5K run, walk or roll with the boots displayed along the route. After the run, the boots are placed in a large viewing display.

Event organizers need 4200 pairs of new or used military boots, all branches, for this event.

If you have a pair of boots you would like to donate, or are able to volunteer from June 2-13, please contact Rhonda Parker at (309) 645-5285 or [rmop1995@gmail.com](mailto:rmop1995@gmail.com). Visit [bootmemorial.org](http://bootmemorial.org) for more information.



## 44<sup>th</sup> Annual Lebanese Food Festival

St. Sharbel Church - 2920 W. Scenic Dr., Peoria  
Sunday, March 29, 2020 11:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

All Lebanese menu—meat pies, cabbage rolls, breads, pastries and more!

Come and enjoy Lebanese music

Adults \$10.00; Children (under 12) \$6.00; Tickets available at the door

Continuous serving; Carry outs available

## 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](http://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** \_\_\_\_\_

## Holy Hour for Vocations

Every Wednesday, Holy Family, 4:00 p.m.

Every First Friday, Holy Family 4:00 p.m.

## Understanding the Sacred Liturgy

**Sacred Heart Church Fr. Clair Hall**  
**504 Fulton St., Peoria**  
**All are at 7:00 p.m.**

**March 2:** Where Heaven Embraces Earth: The Structure of the Liturgy and Its Space

**March 9:** In the beginning Was the Word: The Liturgy of the Word

**March 16:** *Et Incarnatus Est*: The Eucharistic Prayers

**March 23:** Take and Eat: The Communion Rite

**March 30:** *Ite Missa Est*: Catholic Life as Liturgy

## Upcoming Cursillo and TEC Weekends

Cursillo: Men's June 11-15

Women's July 16-19

More information, and applications, at <https://peoriacursillo.org/>

TEC: May 30-June 1 (Girls)

August 8-10 (Boys)

More information, and applications, at <https://peoriatec.org/>

## Sophia's Kitchen needs Volunteers



Dishwashing help is needed Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday afternoons. Can you give one 4-hour shift per week? For more information, and to fill out a volunteer application, go to [www.CatholicPeoria.com](http://www.CatholicPeoria.com).

If you have questions please contact Claire Crone, Program Director at (309) 655-1578

## Veterans Assistance

The Illinois Valley Fuller Center for Housing is offering FREE spring yard cleanups for Veterans and widows of Veterans. Volunteers will provide a maximum of 2 hours of service March 28 and April 25 weather permitting.

To sign up for this service, call **309-363-3737**. Volunteers can also sign up to help out with the yards by calling **309-363-3737**.

<b>St. Thomas the Apostle Parish • 309-688-3446</b> 904 East Lake Avenue, Peoria Heights, IL 61616 <a href="mailto:parishoffice@stthomas-church.net">parishoffice@stthomas-church.net</a>		<b>Administrative Assistant</b> .....Terri Moon .....(x1300) <a href="mailto:terrimoon@stthomas-church.net">terrimoon@stthomas-church.net</a>	
<b>Pastor</b> ..... Msgr. Jason A. Gray ..... (x1400) <a href="mailto:msgrgray@stthomas-church.net">msgrgray@stthomas-church.net</a>		<b>Bulletin Editor</b> .....Peggy Sullivan.....(x1301) <a href="mailto:peggysullivan@stthomas-church.net">peggysullivan@stthomas-church.net</a>	
<b>Parochial Vicar</b> ..... Rev. Paul Stark S.J..... (x1430) <a href="mailto:paulstarksj@stthomas-church.net">paulstarksj@stthomas-church.net</a>		<b>Accountant</b> ..... Julie Streid .....(x1340) <a href="mailto:juliestreid@stthomas-church.net">juliestreid@stthomas-church.net</a>	
<b>Deacon</b> ..... Dcn. Mark Kelsch..... (692-4908) Dcn. John Nelson ..... (981-2716) Dcn. Ed Mallow ..... (360-7735)		<b>Tuition Coordinator</b> .....Pat Wombacher .....(x1341) <a href="mailto:patwombacher@stthomas-school.net">patwombacher@stthomas-school.net</a>	
<b>School Principal</b> ..... Maureen Bentley ..... (x1210) <a href="mailto:maureenbentley@stthomas-school.net">maureenbentley@stthomas-school.net</a>		<b>CCD Coordinator</b> .....Angie Robenstein .....(x1200) <a href="mailto:angierobenstein@stthomas-school.net">angierobenstein@stthomas-school.net</a>	
<b>Sacrament of Baptism</b> Parents participate Baptism class before the Baptism of their first child. Contact the parish office to schedule the class.		<b>Music Coordinator</b> ..... Ann Horst ..... (682-5507) <b>Choir Director</b> ..... Erin Craig <a href="mailto:erincraig@stthomas-school.net">erincraig@stthomas-school.net</a>	
<b>Confessions</b> Saturday 4:00-4:45pm & 6:00-6:30 p.m.		<b>Annulment Consultant</b> .....John Mackoway ..... (699-5213)	
<b>How to Submit Bulletin Information</b> Send information for the bulletin to <a href="mailto:parishoffice@stthomas-church.net">parishoffice@stthomas-church.net</a> 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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