

TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY

in Ordinary Time



August 23, 2020

St. Thomas the Apostle
904 East Lake Avenue
Peoria Heights, Illinois
309-688-3446
stthomaspeoria.org



Jesus said to him in reply,
“Blessed are you, Simon son
of Jonah. For flesh and blood
has not revealed this to you,
but my heavenly Father.

Matthew 16:17

From Our Pastor



We are learning more about how to stay safe while resuming more and more of our regular routines. One of those routines should be the regular participation in Sunday Masses. I was very much encouraged by the number of parishioners who have returned to Mass last weekend. Little by little, it seems that we are overcoming the fear that we all felt when we first learned about the virus.

Some parishioners have health conditions that require greater care. For these who are at risk, prudence urges us to take more precautions. No one is compelled to return to Mass if it is not safe to do so.

However, for those who can take reasonable precautions, I strongly urge you to get back into the habit of coming to worship in the Father's house on the Lord's Day. Come to be nourished by our common prayer as a community, and by receiving the Eucharist. There are more graces given when we choose to come to Mass voluntarily, especially when we are not required. Let us take advantage of these graces and offer up our prayers for the Church, and especially for our Parish and our School.

I would also like to draw your attention to the work being done in the Parish Office. We are undertaking some minor renovations to make this space more functional for our priests and our Parish staff. More information appears about the office in this bulletin.

I am personally very grateful for the service of the Franciscan Sisters of St. John the Baptist. They have been most helpful in caring for our Church and Chapel, especially through beautiful decorations. Most importantly, we all benefit from the prayerful witness of their religious life. They have recently agreed to serve as Sacristans, caring not only for the sacristy, but also setting up for each of our Masses and liturgies. Please join me in gratitude for their willing service to our beloved Parish!

-Msgr. Gray



Readings for the Week of August 23, 2020

Sunday	Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time Isaiah 22: 19-23; Romans 11: 33-36; Matthew 16: 13-20
Monday	St. Bartholomew, Apostle Revelation 21: 9b-14; John 1: 45-51
Tuesday	St. Joseph Calesanz, Priest 2 Thessalonians 2: 1-3a, 14-17; Matthew 23: 23-26
Wednesday	2 Thessalonians 3: 6-10, 16-18; Matthew 23: 27-32
Thursday	St. Monica 1 Corinthians 1: 1-9; Matthew 24: 42-51
Friday	St. Augustine, Bishop & Doctor of the Church 1 Corinthians 1: 17-25; Matthew 25: 1-13
Saturday	The Passion of St. John the Baptist 1 Corinthians 1: 26-31; Mark: 6:17-29
Sunday	Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time Jeremiah 20: 7-9; Romans 12: 1-2; Matthew 16: 21-27

Mass Intentions

Monday, August 24, 2020

7:00 a.m.	Dr. James N. Kenny/Family
8:00 a.m.	Joseph Tesar/Schafer

Tuesday, August 25, 2020

7:00 a.m.	Jack Pearl/Cari Connolly
8:00 a.m.	Honor Jacquin/Family

Wednesday, August 26, 2020

7:00 a.m.	Sr. Bernadette Kouri, FSJB
8:00 a.m.	Annie Joseph/Helen Couri

Thursday, August 27, 2020

7:00 a.m.	Mike Gray/Jim Sticklemaier
8:00 a.m.	Deb Tranel/Ed & Cathy Mallow

Friday, August 28, 2020

7:00 a.m.	Hylee Kemp/Tom & Susie Flanagan
8:00 a.m.	Elda Graves/Deb Gray & Linda Hajjar

Saturday, August 29, 2020

8:00 a.m.	Dolores Oppe/Shirley Oppe
5:00 p.m.	Ric & Joe Olson/Kari & Larry Tangel

Sunday, August 30, 2020

7:00 a.m.	Ray Little/Bill & Lucy McGann
9:00 a.m.	Susie Walsh/Paul & Ann Horst
11:00 a.m.	David Lynch 1 st Anniv./Greg & Margo Folley
5:00 p.m.	For the People

Week of August 23

CENTERING PRAYER Monday, August 24, 8:30 a.m., Church

ROSARY Tuesday, August 25, 10:00 a.m., Church

THAT MAN IS YOU Registration, Downstairs next weekend after Masses

UPCOMING EVENTS

Septemberfest
Men's Club Golf Outing

September 6
September 25

Act of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love you above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

RCIA

Do you know someone interested in becoming Catholic or learning more about the Catholic Church?

RCIA classes begin **Wednesday, September 16, 2020 at 7 PM** in the school library.

If you are interested in attending RCIA classes, please call the Parish Office, or simply attend the first class on September 16.

That Man is You ~ Registration

All men of the Parish are invited to participate in **That Man is You**, starting Thursday, September 10th, 6:00 a.m. This year's theme is *The Flight of Faith*, with a lineup of 10 dynamic speakers.

Registration: After all Masses, August 29 & 30.

If you are interested in participating, please register after Mass next weekend. Contact the Parish Office, or email George Burek at georgeburek@yahoo.com

Weekly Collection

	August 16, 2020	Fiscal YTD
Collections needed.....	\$20,000	\$140,000
Sunday Collections.....	\$8,581	\$82,576
Electronic Collections	\$3,399	\$23,793
Total Collected.....	\$11,980	\$106,369
Over/(Short)	\$(8,020)	\$(33,631)

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. Thank you for your support.

Our Sympathy

Please pray for those who have died this week



Pray with the Pope

August 2020
The Maritime World

We pray for all those who work and live from the sea, among them sailors, fishermen and their families.

Volunteers needed for Disinfecting

We could use a few additional volunteers to help disinfect the Church after each of our weekend Masses. The disinfecting process is not complicated. We use an antiviral disinfecting spray to wipe down commonly touched surfaces. The time required is not long. If you are willing to volunteer, please call the Parish Office or email

parishoffice@stthomas-church.net.

Stay in Touch

1. **Join Msgr. Gray for Mass.** Link can be found on the parish website, stthomaspeoria.org or the Parish App
2. **Bookmark the Parish Blog** which will feature regular updates (jgray.org/st_thomas).
3. **Download My Parish App** to receive push notifications (Visit myparishapp.com/download).
4. **Receive the Bulletin** and announcements in weekly emails from the parish. (Email parishoffice@stthomas-church.net to sign up).
5. **Bookmark the parish webpage** (stthomaspeoria.org).

Sponsor of the Week
Scherer

Small Changes Coming to the Parish Offices

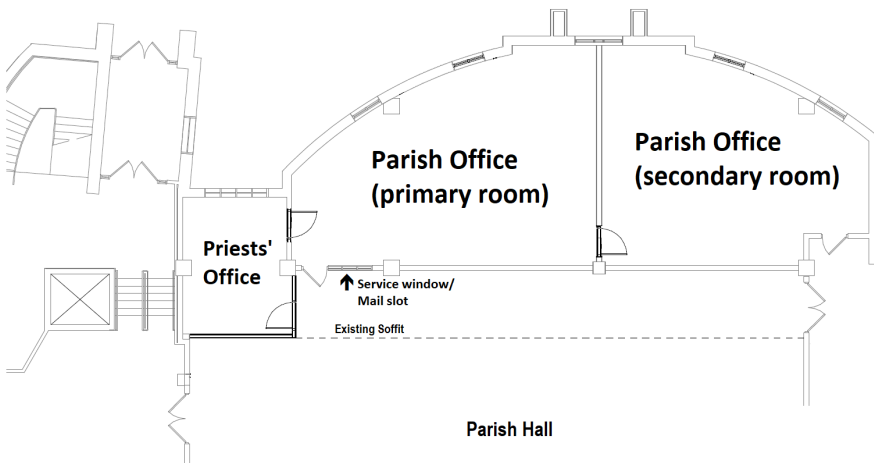
The Parish Office was closed temporarily last week while work was done to remodel the space in the church basement.

Last year, we repurposed two rooms in the Church Basement to serve as our Parish Office. These were the former music room and the former Pre-K or art classroom. Last summer, we relocated student classrooms as much as possible, into the secure areas of the school, to increase school safety for our children. Keeping our children safe in a secure environment is one of our highest priorities.

The Parish Office has made use of these two rooms as they were previously configured. However, a few inexpensive modifications will make these areas more useful for our Parish staff.

There was no private area for the priests to meet with parishioners who might require privacy or confidentiality. We have walled off a small part of the Parish Hall to provide a more private location for a priests' office. There was also no way to pass between the two large rooms of the Parish Office. We have opened a door to allow staff to move from one room to the other. These very modest changes will make the Parish Office much more functional.

When the work is complete, we look forward to a *Parish Office Open House* for you to tour this area.



Free Event ~ Find out about Scouting

Scout Pack 28 and Troop 28



Youth and parents can learn more about joining **Scouts BSA** (and can collect *Pokémon* on the *Pokémon Go* app) by visiting a Pokémon gym in your area.

Come to the Pokémon gym at the bell tower in front of St. Thomas Church, and speak to volunteers involved in St. Thomas scouting. You will receive a rope and instructions to practice knot tying.

Open to girls and boys ages Kindergarten through age 20. Come out to learn about Scouting and catch some Pokémon while you are there!

Join us, Saturday, August 29, 9:00 am to 2:00 pm.

This will be a socially distanced event, not a large gathering. Please wear a mask and be considerate to others in your vicinity!

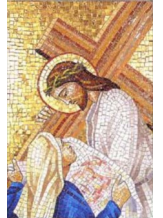
Mosaics of the Stations of the Cross

Stations of the Cross: You are welcome to contribute to the purchase of new mosaic Stations of the Cross to match the new mosaics that we will have in our sanctuary.

Please contact Msgr. Gray or the Parish Office
for more information.



Station 4



Station 6

Food Pantry

Current needs are: rice, syrup, pasta sauce, and meal helper.

Thanks for your generosity



Children's Religious Education

Religious Education serves children in grades 1 through 8 who attend St. Thomas Parish, but do not attend St. Thomas school.

At this time we have not yet developed a plan in place for in-person instruction; however, be assured your child(ren) will receive religious education, despite the obstacles facing all of us from COVID. Please follow the Church bulletin for more details and start-up information.

Classes are held Wednesday evenings from 6:00-7:00 p.m., and we hope to start at the end of September or beginning of October.

Contact Angie Robenstein at 309-645-1364, or 309-685-2533, for registration materials to be sent to you, as plans progress.



2020 St. Thomas Golf Scramble

In support of the St. Thomas Sponsor a Student Assistance Fund
Hosted by: St. Thomas Men's Club

Friday, September 25th, 2020 • Mt. Hawley Country Club

All golf outing proceeds will be used in the support of the St. Thomas Sponsor a Student Tuition Assistance program. The net proceeds from this year's outing will fund \$500 scholarships for students of St. Thomas who demonstrate a financial need. It is the goal of the Men's Club to fund 15 scholarships for the 2020-21 school year. Your support of the golf outing is greatly appreciated.

GOLF REGISTRATION \$95 per person

Golfer sponsorship includes: Door prize ticket, green fees, cart, and dinner.

Registration Deadline Friday, September 11th • Late registration after September 11th, \$100 Per Person

DINNER ONLY \$25 Per Person / Dinner starts at 5:30pm.

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

HOT SPOT SPONSORS

- Golf Beverage Sponsors: \$200 / Logo on Sign at beverage stations
- Dinner Sponsors - \$200 / Logo on table tents at dinner

TEE SPONSORS \$125 / 35 Sponsors

Placement of company logo sign at the Tee Box or at the Hole.

BE A PRIZE OR RAFFLE SPONSOR

Feature your business by donating a raffle or prize item. Please drop off prize or raffle item at 613 W. Glen Ave. Include donor information and value (optional).

- *Registration/Check-in 11:00am-11:45am*
- *Shotgun Starts at Noon (Be at your hole by Noon)*
- *Followed by a Steak Dinner at St. Thomas*
- *Registration Deadline Friday, September 11th*
- *Late Registration \$100 Per Person*

For more information please contact:

Terri Moon (309) 688-3446

Email: terrimoon@stthomas-church.net

Please Submit Payment with Registration

REGISTRATION FORM

Contact Person: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Golfers

Player 1: _____ Phone: _____ Amount \$ _____

Player 2: _____ Phone: _____ Amount \$ _____

Player 3: _____ Phone: _____ Amount \$ _____

Player 4: _____ Phone: _____ Amount \$ _____

Dinner Only \$25 X _____ = Amount \$ _____

Sponsorship

Sponsorship Category : _____ Amount \$ _____

Make Checks Payable to: **St. Thomas Men's Club**

Mail registration along with payment to:

Terri Moon / Golf • 904 E. Lake Ave. • Peoria Heights, IL 61616

Total Enclosed \$ _____

Parish Office Hours

9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

The Parish Office is open Monday-Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Staff will also be available by email or voicemail. To leave a message, call 309-688-3446, and at the prompt, press:

- 3 - Msgr. Gray
- 4 - Fr. Stark
- 0 - Terri-Administrative Assistant
- 1340 - Julie-Accounting
- 1341 - Pat-Tuition

If you have items to deliver for the Parish Office, you are welcome to put them under the door of the Office downstairs in the Church, or under the door of the main Sacristy upstairs. The Church is open from 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. every day.

Helping Those in Need

Please do not give any money to anyone who approaches you at St. Thomas. All requests should be referred to one of the priests.

The volunteers in our St. Vincent de Paul Society chapter provide a great service, and are ready to meet with those in need and determine what help is appropriate to provide.



St. Vincent de Paul Helpline: 677-7696

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. 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 _____



For those not yet ready to come back to Mass

We will continue to have Communion available outside of Mass on Sunday from 12:00 to 12:30 pm. Come into the narthex, or pull up in the crescent drive to receive.

We will continue to record Mass and post the recordings on YouTube. See the parish website stthomaspeoria.org for a link to the channel.

We are recording the Sunday 7 AM Mass in place of the Saturday 5 PM Mass. As we begin to have music at Saturday evening Mass, we may have copyright issues with videos posted on YouTube. The silent Mass on Sunday morning at 7 AM will be easier to upload.

Resting in God

Join Sister Linda Burkitt, OSF, in a virtual three, or five, day retreat.
Heading Ave. Franciscan, W. Peoria.

Call 309-214-0187, or email srlbicc@gmail.com, for more information/details/arrangements.



Peoria Notre Dame Golf Classic

Get your foursome together and sign up for the 24th Peoria Notre Dame Golf Classic.

THURSDAY, September 10, Weaver Ridge Golf Club.

The outing includes a round of golf with cart, great prizes, a box lunch, dinner and awards. This is a fun way to support Catholic secondary education.

Questions? Contact Tara Shane at 691-8741 or t.shane@pndhs.org.

Registration for golf participation, hole sponsors, and major sponsors is available at www.PeoriaNotreDame.com/golf.

St. Thomas the Apostle Parish • 309-688-3446 904 East Lake Avenue, Peoria Heights, IL 61616 stthomaspeoria.org parishoffice@stthomas-church.net			Administrative AssistantTeri Moon (x0) terimoon@stthomas-church.net		
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SacristanMother Vaclava Ballon, FSJB.....(688-3500) fsjbpeoria@yahoo.com			Tuition CoordinatorPat Wombacher(x1341) patwombacher@stthomas-school.net		
Deacon Dcn. Mark Kelsch (692-4908) Dcn. John Nelson (981-2716) Dcn. Ed Mallow (360-7735)			CCD Coordinator Angie Robenstein.....(x1200) angierobenstein@stthomas-school.net		
School Principal Maureen Bentley (x1210) maureenbentley@stthomas-school.net			Music Coordinator Ann Horst..... (682-5507)		
			Choir Director Erin Craig erincraig@stthomas-school.net		
			Annulment ConsultantJohn Mackoway (699-5213)		
Sacrament of Baptism Parents participate in a Baptism class before the Baptism of their first child. Contact the Parish Office to schedule the class.		Confessions Saturday 4:00-4:45pm & 6:00-6:30 p.m.	How to Submit Bulletin Information Send information for the bulletin to parishoffice@stthomas-church.net with subject <i>Bulletin</i> . 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.		