



September 6, 2020

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



23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

“Again, [amen,] I say to you, if two of you agree on earth about anything for which they are to pray, it shall be granted to them by my heavenly Father.”

Matthew 18:19

From Our Pastor



We celebrate Labor Day this Monday. As a reminder, we will have only one Mass on Labor Day at 9 AM, in the main Church. Please join us!

Join us also for the Men's Club Golf Outing, on Friday, September 25. Details are in the bulletin.

Moving into the fall, we begin some of our other regular programs. *That Man Is You* is available for the men of the Parish. The men meet on Thursday mornings, beginning this week. Contact the Parish Office for more information.

We will also begin RCIA next week on Wednesday, September 16. RCIA (the *Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults*) is for those persons who are interested in joining the Catholic Church. However, all are welcome to attend, including non-Catholics who are interested in learning more, or Catholics who want to participate to refresh their knowledge of the Faith. Classes will meet on Wednesdays at 7 PM in the School Library. Please call the Parish Office, or simply attend the first class to register.

In the past, we have had a fall and spring adult education series for all parishioners. I'm interested in continuing that tradition, though it would be helpful to know what kinds of topics people would be interested in hearing about. If you have suggestions for topics for any individual presentations, please let me know. Individual presentations will be scheduled later in the fall.

-Msgr. Gray



Readings for the Week of September 6, 2020

Sunday	Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time Ezekiel 33: 7-9; Romans 13: 8-10; Matthew 18: 15-20
Monday	1 Corinthians 5: 1-8; Luke 6: 6-11
Tuesday	The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary Micah 5: 1-4a; Matthew 1: 1-16
Wednesday	St. Peter Claver, Priest 1 Corinthians 7: 25-31; Luke 6: 20-26
Thursday	1 Corinthians 8: 1b-7, 11-13; Luke 6: 27-38
Friday	1 Corinthians 9: 16-19, 22b-27; Luke 6: 39-42
Saturday	The Most Holy Name of Mary 1 Corinthians 10: 14-22; Luke 6: 43-49
Sunday	Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time Sirach 27: 30—28:7; Romans 14: 7-9; Matthew 18: 21-35

Mass Intentions

Monday, September 7, 2020

9:00 a.m. Harry LaHood II/Family

Tuesday, September 8, 2020

7:00 a.m. Ed Dotta/Ken Matheny

8:00 a.m. Nancy Fifield/George & Lauren Kovac

Wednesday, September 9, 2020

7:00 a.m. Sandy Rapp/D'Arcy Haeusser

8:00 a.m. Jerry Smith/Jim Stickelmaier

Thursday, September 10, 2020

7:00 a.m. Margaret Whalen/Alex & Nicole Schuster

8:00 a.m. Mariano Tolentino/Sarmiento Family

9:15 a.m. Mary Helen Runkle/John & Gina Wetzel

Friday, September 11, 2020

7:00 a.m. Anthony Arnold 16th Anniv/Steve & Maggie Jackson

8:00 a.m. Chip Chan/Family

Saturday, September 12, 2020

8:00 a.m. Lucille Phelan/The O'Connells

5:00 p.m. Elizabeth Mathers/The McGee Family

Sunday, September 13, 2020

7:00 a.m. For the People

9:00 a.m. Benefactors of Franciscan Sisters of John the Baptist

11:00 a.m. Ron Hardgrove/Ron & Jackie Gillis

5:00 p.m. Bob Berg/Family



Pray with the Pope

September 2020

Respect for the Planet's Resources

We pray that the planet's resources will not be plundered, but shared in a just and respectful manner.

Week of September 6

COFFEE AND DONUTS after morning Masses with assistance from our 8th grade students

LABOR DAY Monday, September 7, Mass at 9:00 a.m. only

ROSARY Tuesday, September 1, 10:00 a.m., Church

THAT MAN IS YOU Thursday, September 10, 6:30 a.m., Parish Hall

UPCOMING EVENTS

Men's Club Golf Outing

September 25

Our Sympathy

Paul Maske, father of Marc Maske and grandfather of Madilyn and Joe Maske

Glory be to God Father, Who created me, because He loved me... Glory be to Jesus Christ, Who died for me, because He loved me... Glory be to Holy Spirit, Who lives in me, because He loves me... St. Teresa of Kolkata

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.

Show me your hands. Do they have scars from giving? Show me your feet. Are they wounded in service? Show me your heart. Have you left a place for divine love?

Bishop Fulton J. Sheen

Weekly Collection

	August 30, 2020	Fiscal YTD
Collections needed.....	\$20,000.....	\$180,000
Sunday Collections.....	\$12,590.....	\$107,046
Electronic Collections	\$3,399.....	\$30,591
Total Collected.....	\$15,989.....	\$137,637
Over/(Short)	\$(4,011).....	\$(42,363)

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.

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
Peoria Toyota

In Jesus, we are all brothers and sisters on the same healing journey.
With Jesus we are instruments of God's peace, love and compassion.
Through Jesus, we strive to help people we serve to empower themselves.

From the Society of St. Vincent De Paul



Due to the Covid pandemic our preferred contact of home visits has been replaced with telephone interviews. A senior citizen called for assistance and repeatedly stated she doesn't like to ask for monetary assistance as there are others she feels are more in need. She requested help with a cell phone bill of \$95. Her teenage grandson lives with her and she needs to keep in touch with him.

From our conversation, we learned she is a diabetic and is on dialysis three times a week. She has special dietary needs and is compliant with guidance from her healthcare provider. She stated her adult children usually help her, but due to the pandemic their jobs and incomes have been negatively affected.

We shopped for cleaning supplies that she had difficulty finding due to recent shortages. We also took her food from our pantry and gave her a Kroger gift card and paid the phone bill. Our client was very grateful for our concern and what we were able to provide.

Please keep her in your prayers, and continue to support our pantry and monthly collections.

Nancy Medendorp



FREE PROGRAM!

The **Greater Peoria Family YMCA's Rebound Program** will not only teach (co-ed, ages 8-14) the skills of **teamwork** and **leadership** but also spend **dedicated time** each week to foster development in the **principles** and **values** of the YMCA. The session topics include:

- Hard work, Academics
- Employment
- Streets, Bullying, Gangs
- Cheating, Honesty
- Healthy Living

REBOUND SCHEDULE

St. Thomas Community Center
 1008 E Lake, Peoria Heights, IL

Ages 8-10, from 9a - 10a
 Ages 10-12, from 10:15a-11:15a
 Ages 12-14, from 11:30a-12:45p

*A meal is provided to all kids who are enrolled in the program.

2020/2021 SESSIONS

Session 4: Sept. 12-Oct. 31
 Session 1: Nov. 21st-Jan. 23rd
 Session 2: Feb 13th-Apr. 3rd
 Session 3: Apr. 24th- June 12th

Volunteers needed! If you would like to help with this FREE program, the Y has the following opportunities: Coaching, Topic Speakers & Mentors, Snack Aid, Scoreboard, and Referees.

Contact Charles @ Charles.gordon@peoriaymca.org or 309.251.1057

More info @ peoriaymca.org/REBOUND



Children's Religious Education

Religious Education (CCD) 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.

Food Pantry

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

Thanks for your generosity

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.

Catholic Women's League

Rosary Prayer
 Monday, September 21st at 9 am
 St. Philomena Church
 1000 W. Albany
 Peoria, IL 61604

CWL Membership Renewal
 now - Nov. 1st, 2020

Please mail dues (\$10) to:
 Catholic Women's League
 P.O. Box 9674
 Peoria, IL 61612-9674





FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®
FOR HEALTHY LIVING
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

Youth Volleyball League Sept. 27th—Nov. 15th



Children learn the fundamentals, focusing on basic skill development and proper technique. Participants progress from learning the rules to developing skills in the areas of underhand and overhand serving, setting, spiking, and digging.

Who: Co-ed, Ages 7 to 14

When: Sundays

Ages 7-10, Grades 2nd-4th,
11:00a- 12:00p

Ages 10-12, Grades 5th-6th,
12:15p-1:15p

Ages 12-14, Grades 7th-8th, 1:30p-2:30p

Where: St. Thomas Community Center

Cost: \$36

Registration: Open Now. Online or with our Membership Team at the YMCA! **Program scholarships are available.**

We are seeking volunteers for coaches, co-coaches, referees, and snack bar. If you would like to help with your child's team, email Charles.gordon@peoriaymca.org

peoriaYMCA.org/YOUTHSports



Join us for Coffee and Donuts after morning Mass this weekend in the Parish Hall



BISHOP TYLKA KEEPSAKE

July 23 was a special day in the history of the Diocese of Peoria, and the highlights of the episcopal ordination of Coadjutor Bishop Louis Tylka have been beautifully captured in a special keepsake program, *A Moment of Grace*. The 8.5-by-11, 56-page high quality commemorative includes nearly 40 color photos from the day, the full texts of homilies and other remarks by church leaders, background on Bishop Lou and his family, and more.

The program is available by sending \$12 (\$10 per booklet, plus \$2 for shipping) to Bishop Tylka Commemorative, c/o The Catholic Post, PO Box 1722, Peoria, IL, 61656. Make checks payable to The Catholic Post.

We will have some available, in the narthex, for \$10.

St. Thomas 2020 Golf Scramble

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

**Friday, September 25, 2020
Mt. Hawley Country Club**

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

HOT SPOT SPONSORS

- Golf Beverage Sponsors: \$200 / Logo 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.

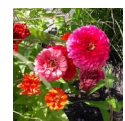
BE A PRIZE OR RAFFLE SPONSOR
Feature your business by donating a raffle or prize item. Please drop off prize or raffle item at 613 W. Glen Ave. Include donor information and value (optional).

GOLF REGISTRATION
\$95per person
Registration Deadline Friday, September 11th
Late registration after September 11th,
\$100 Per Person

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

For more information contact:
Terri Moon
(309) 688-3446

Register Online At:
<https://www.stthomaspeoria.org/product/2020-st-thomas-golf-scramble/>



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.

Restore Revival ~ Women of the Parish Invited

Date: Monday, September 7 and Tuesday, September 8
Place: St. Mary's Cathedral
Time: 7-9pm; doors open at 6pm

Blessed Is She Catholic women's ministry is hosting the revival. Each night will include music, adoration, confession, and a talk by either Beth Davis from *Blessed Is She*, or Fr. John Burns from the Archdiocese of Milwaukee.

The Revival is for any woman 18 or older, and lap babies are welcome. Tickets may be purchased at <https://blessedishe.net/restore-revival/>



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 AssistantTerri Moon.....(x0) terrimoon@stthomas-church.net	
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Parochial Vicar Rev. Paul Stark S.J..... (x4) paulstarksj@stthomas-church.net		Accountant Julie Streid.....(x1340) juliestreid@stthomas-church.net	
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.