

# TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY

*in Ordinary Time*



September 13, 2020

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



*So* will my heavenly Father do to you, unless  
each of you forgives his brother from his heart.

Matthew 18:35

## From Our Pastor



We continue to make progress in the sanctuary as the pieces for the back wall of the sanctuary are installed. These elements will draw our attention to the Blessed Sacrament in the Tabernacle. Our devotion to the Eucharist is fundamental to our faith. Let the liturgy and liturgical art raise our minds and hearts to God, especially by adoring the Son of God truly present in the Body of Christ reserved in our Tabernacle.

To deepen our faith in the Eucharist, please join us Thursday evening for our monthly parish Holy Hour at 7 PM. Use this time to grow in love of Our Lord. Use this time to pray for our parish and school. Use this time to pray for vocations to the priesthood and consecrated life, or for health and the end of the pandemic.

As we emerge more and more from the lockdown, we continue, little by little, to resume our normal routines in the parish. I look forward to our Women's Guild events and Men's Club activities, including the upcoming golf outing.

During the week ahead, we will have some additional work done in the Parish Office downstairs as carpet is installed. The rooms of the Parish Office have been connected and we have better space available for our parish staff and for meetings with the clergy. We'll have a Parish Office open house when the work is done.

Our participation in the Annual Diocesan Appeal was delayed from the spring when it would ordinarily take place. We will distribute the pledge cards next weekend and encourage you to support our Parish in our commitment to the Diocese of Peoria.

Finally, I have been reading an increasing number of books, or listening to more books, especially while walking. A few people have asked for book recommendations, which I am happy to make. I'll include some recommendations from time to time in the bulletin.

-Msgr. Gray



## 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.



## Readings for the Week of September 13, 2020

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time</b> Sirach 27: 30—28:7; Romans 14: 7-9; Matthew 18: 21-35
<b>Monday</b>	<b>The Exaltation of the Holy Cross</b> Numbers 21: 4b-9; Philippians 2: 6-11; John 3: 13-17
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Our Lady of Sorrows</b> 1 Corinthians 12: 12-14, 27-31a; John 19: 25-27
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Sts. Cornelius and Cyprian</b> 1 Corinthians 12: 31—13: 13; Luke 7: 31-35
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>St. Robert Bellarmine</b> 1 Corinthians 15: 1-11; Luke 7: 36-50
<b>Friday</b>	1 Corinthians 15: 12-20; Luke 8: 1-3
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>St. Januarius</b> 1 Corinthians 15: 35-37, 42-49; Luke 8: 4-15
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time</b> Isaiah 55: 6-9; Philippians 1: 20c-24, 27a; Matthew 20: 1-16a

## Mass Intentions

### Monday, September 14, 2020

7:00 a.m. Joseph Nham Vu/Phan & Tam Vu  
8:00 a.m. Frank Eaton/Dan Russ & Pam Swim

### Tuesday, September 15, 2020

7:00 a.m. Sr. Bernadette Kouri FSJB  
8:00 a.m. Gordon Jockisch/Rose Seghetti

### Wednesday, September 16, 2020

7:00 a.m. Smith & Hafner Families  
8:00 a.m. Thelma Antonacci/Sally & Jake Jacobson

### Thursday, September 17, 2020

7:00 a.m. Lynn Hathaway/Tom & Bonnie Stroot  
8:00 a.m. Noreen Therens/Jeanne Whalen  
9:15 a.m. Willi Flyn/Bob & Kathy Maushard

### Friday, September 18, 2020

7:00 a.m. Joe & Ric Olson/Cathy Krueger  
8:00 a.m. Wanda Cybaran/Bernie Shekleton

### Saturday, September 19, 2020

8:00 a.m. Rod Hinchman/Dale & Brenda Noel  
5:00 p.m. Rose Kelly 1<sup>st</sup> anniv./Sue Gavin

### Sunday, September 20, 2020

7:00 a.m. For the People  
9:00 a.m. Thomas S. Farragher/Frances Farragher  
11:00 a.m. Florence & Jim Ryan/Family  
5:00 p.m. Suzi Russell/Dale & Brenda Noel

## Week of September 13

**CENTERING PRAYER** Monday, September 14, 8:30 a.m., Church

**ROSARY** Tuesday, September 15, 10:00 a.m., Church

**RCIA**, Wednesday, September 16, 7:00 p.m., School Library

**THAT MAN IS YOU** Thursday, September 17, 6:30 a.m., Parish Hall

**HOLY HOUR** Thursday, September 17, 7:00 p.m., Church

### UPCOMING EVENTS

Men's Club Golf Outing  
Blessing of Animals

September 25  
October 2

## Recommended Reading from Msgr. Gray

*Psycho-Cybernetics*: Updated and Expanded by Maxwell Maltz

Dr. Maltz uses the term *Psycho-Cybernetics* to describe the way we were created with a brain that is engineered to help us be successful. However, we can also psych ourselves out to repeat negative behavior. The book addresses ways to overcome negative and false beliefs that can preoccupy our mind. Instead, we can develop positive goals and a sense of confidence that we can accomplish them. The mind helps us unconsciously accomplish the goals that we set for ourselves, so let the mind move us in a positive direction.

Dr. Maltz presents the fruits of his research in the way that our self-image controls our ability to achieve any goal, with examples of ways that a negative self-image sets us up to fail to achieve a goal.

I found the ideas in the book very intriguing. The approach is filled with lots of examples and practical suggestions to help ourselves focus and become the best version of ourselves that we can be.

## RCIA

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.

## Weekly Collection

September 6, 2020

Fiscal YTD

Collections needed.....	\$20,000.....	\$200,000
Sunday Collections.....	\$17,304.....	\$124,350
Electronic Collections .....	\$3,399.....	\$33,990
Total Collected.....	\$20,703.....	\$158,340
Over/(Short) .....	\$703.....	\$(41,660)

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

Sr. Mary Ann Heyd, sister of Pat Calloway



## PARISH HOLY HOUR

Thursday, September 17

7:00 p.m. — 8:00 p.m.

## 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.*

## Stay in Touch

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

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## Students Appreciate Your Generosity

Dear Parishioner,

Thank you so much for donating .  
Now I can continue at that amazing catholic school and church. I'm extremely grateful for the donation, towards my education. With my tuition I will get good grades, help others, and have Fun at the church and school. I will not waste my opportunity when coming back, I will work my hardest on paper work, listen, and pay good attention in my classes and mass.  
I'm excited for church and school, and seeing my friends again.  
Thank you again

From a very  
greatFul,  
Student

### Food Pantry

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

Thanks for your generosity



## Children's Religious Education

We are currently registering students grades 1-8 for our 2020-2021 Religious Education classes (CCD) and will begin class on **Wednesday, October 7, 6:00 -7:00 p.m.**

We will offer in-person classes, as well as home-based learning for students, with lessons provided from our religious education teachers.

Sacramental classes (First Holy Communion and Confirmation) for Grades 2, 7, and 8 will be held in-person only.

Contact Angie Robenstein at 645-1364 or 685-2533 for registration materials and any questions or concerns.

## Sponsor a Student

We have included a copy of one of the many *thank you* letters we have received from our school families who have received financial assistance for the current school year. Your generous donations, to our *Sponsor a Student Fund* and to the *Invest in Kids Act* through *Empower Illinois*, make Catholic education affordable for many of our families. Approximately 45% of our school families receive assistance through our *Sponsor a Student Fund*, *Empower Illinois*, or the *Lancaster Spalding Fund*, administered by the Diocese of Peoria.

Students, and their families, are all so grateful for your support of Catholic education. If you have any questions about making donations please contact Julie or Pat in the Parish Office.



September 23 - November 1  
**40 DAYS FOR LIFE**

## HELP SAVE LIVES IN PEORIA

You can protect mothers and children by joining this worldwide mobilization! Through prayer and fasting, peaceful vigils and community outreach, 40 Days for Life has inspired 1,000,000+ volunteers!

Here's how to take part:

- **Vigil location:** Outside of Planned Parenthood at 2709 Knoxville Avenue in Peoria
- **Vigil hours:** 7 am to 7 pm daily
- **Local contact:** Michelle Marcinak  
[40daysforlifepeoria@gmail.com](mailto:40daysforlifepeoria@gmail.com)
- **Kickoff rally:** Mount Carmel Farm at 4600 Mount Carmel Way in Peoria. 6pm on Tuesday, September 22. Bring a lawn chair or blanket for seating.  
\*Weather updates will post to FB @prolifePeoriaIllinois\*

Learn more and get involved by visiting [40daysforlife.com/Peoria](http://40daysforlife.com/Peoria)

## Catholic Women's League

Rosary Prayer  
Monday, September 21<sup>st</sup>, 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



## Peoria Diocesan Council of Catholic Women

Join us in telephone conference call for a prayer service on the Feast of Our Lady of Sorrows. Tuesday, September 15, 7:00 p.m.

We will pray for our nation, struggling under the an ongoing pandemic, economic strife, civil unrest, and general spiritual brokenness.

To participate call (605) 472-5313 then enter access code 770 334#

## Youth Sports ~ St. Thomas Community Center

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

Several sessions are scheduled from September 2020 through June 2021. For more information: <https://peoriaymca.org/rebound/>

Youth Volleyball League: Co-ed, ages 7—14

Sundays from September 27—November 15

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.

For more information: [peoriaYMCA.org/YOUTHSPORTS](https://peoriaYMCA.org/YOUTHSPORTS)

## 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 programs are available, in the narthex, for \$10.

## 2020 St. Thomas Golf Scramble

Hosted by: St. Thomas Men's Club

In support of the St. Thomas Sponsor a 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 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.

Franciscan Custody of the Holy Land  
Commissariat of the Holy Land

At the request of Pope Francis, the

## 2020 Pontifical Good Friday Collection

will be taken  
September 13, 2020

Remittance deadline: December 31, 2020 to:  
Commissariat of the Holy Land

### 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 \_\_\_\_\_



### 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](http://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, Heading Ave. Franciscan, in a virtual three, or five, day retreat.

Call 309-214-0187, or email [srlbicc@gmail.com](mailto:srlbicc@gmail.com), for more information/details/arrangements.

### 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




<b>St. Thomas the Apostle Parish • 309-688-3446</b> 904 East Lake Avenue, Peoria Heights, IL 61616 <a href="http://stthomaspeoria.org">stthomaspeoria.org</a> <a href="mailto:parishoffice@stthomas-church.net">parishoffice@stthomas-church.net</a>			<b>Administrative Assistant</b> .....Terri Moon ..... (x0) <a href="mailto:terimoon@stthomas-church.net">terimoon@stthomas-church.net</a>		
<b>Pastor</b> ..... Msgr. Jason A. Gray ..... (x3) <a href="mailto:msggray@stthomas-church.net">msggray@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..... (x4) <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>Sacristan</b> .....Mother Vaclava Ballon, FSJB..... (688-3500) <a href="mailto:fsjbpeoria@yahoo.com">fsjbpeoria@yahoo.com</a>			<b>Tuition Coordinator</b> .....Pat Wombacher ..... (x1341) <a href="mailto:patwombacher@stthomas-school.net">patwombacher@stthomas-school.net</a>		
<b>Deacon</b> ..... Dcn. Mark Kelsch ..... (692-4908) Dcn. John Nelson ..... (981-2716) Dcn. Ed Mallow ..... (360-7735)			<b>CCD Coordinator</b> .....Angie Robenstein..... (x1200) <a href="mailto:angierobenstein@stthomas-school.net">angierobenstein@stthomas-school.net</a>		
<b>School Principal</b> ..... Maureen Bentley ..... (x1210) <a href="mailto:maureenbentley@stthomas-school.net">maureenbentley@stthomas-school.net</a>			<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>Annulment Consultant</b> .....John Mackoway ..... (699-5213)		
<b>Sacrament of Baptism</b> Parents participate in a Baptism class before the Baptism of their first child. Contact the Parish Office to schedule the class.		<b>Confessions</b> Saturday 4:00-4:45pm & 6:00-6:30 p.m.	<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 <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.		



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