



# 27<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

“The kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that will produce its fruit.”

*Matthew 21:43*



October 4, 2020  
St. Thomas the Apostle  
904 East Lake Avenue  
Peoria Heights, Illinois  
309-688-3446  
[stthomaspeoria.org](http://stthomaspeoria.org)

## From Our Pastor



We look forward this weekend to another Donut Sunday. While observing all the normal precautions, it is good for us to be able to gather for refreshments after Sunday morning Masses.

This Tuesday is the celebration of the Anniversary of the Dedication of St. Thomas Parish. On October 6, 2002, the new church was dedicated by Bishop Jenky. This anniversary is a special solemnity for us each year. Please join us for Mass on Tuesday either at 7 or 8 AM.

We are preparing a special event to celebrate the progress in the sanctuary of the church and the renovated Parish Offices. In mid-November we will have a progressive tour of the building.

In the past, we have had a progressive dinner in which people gather in different homes for appetizers and dinner and then gather for dessert. Because of restrictions, we will change our plans. Rather than going to different homes, we will arrange for small groups to progress through the church building in different locations. Each group will be able to move from station to station, touring the Church and Parish Office, and enjoying appetizers and refreshments as we give thanks for what we have accomplished.

We have used the progressive dinner to promote donations to St. Thomas. Last year, we raised the funds for the church and our sanctuary project. This year, we will focus on the school and raise funds that will benefit our students and our school program.

In order to keep distance, we will take reservations to spread people out in small groups as they move from station to station. If you're interested in helping, we will look for help with refreshments and station ambassadors who can assist each group as they move through the various stations.

This should be a fun evening for us to dive into the successes that we've enjoyed. We can celebrate the church and what we've accomplished. We can also work to improve our school. I look forward to welcoming our St. Thomas Parish and School families to join in this event. More to come!

-Msgr. Gray



## Readings for the Week of October 4, 2020

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time</b> Isaiah 5: 1-7; Philippians 4: 6-9; Matthew 21: 33-43
<b>Monday</b>	<b>Blessed Francis Xavier Seelos, Priest</b> Galatians 1: 6-12; Luke 10: 25-37
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Blessed Marie Rose Durocher, Virgin</b> Galatians 1: 13-24; Luke 10: 38-42
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Our Lady of the Rosary</b> Galatians 2: 1-2, 7-14; Luke 11: 1-4
<b>Thursday</b>	Galatians 3: 1-5; Luke 11: 5-13
<b>Friday</b>	<b>St. Denis, Bishop, and Companions, Martyrs</b> Galatians 3: 7-14; Luke 11: 15-26
<b>Saturday</b>	Galatians 3: 22-29; Luke 11: 27-28
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Twenty-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time</b> Isaiah 25: 6-10a; Philippians 4: 12-14, 19-20; Matthew 22: 1-14

## Mass Intentions

### Monday, October 5, 2020

7:00 a.m.	Raymond Little/John & Amy Kelly
8:00 a.m.	Charles Bode/Family

### Tuesday, October 6, 2020

7:00 a.m.	Paul & Barbara Willi/Mary & Cliff Stamm
8:00 a.m.	Walter Arnold/Robert & Kay Grillo
9:15 a.m.	Mary Helen Runkle/Maureen Williams

### Wednesday, October 7, 2020

7:00 a.m.	Sr. Bernadette Kouri FSJB
8:00 a.m.	Elda Graves 1 <sup>st</sup> . Anniv/Deb Gray & Linda Hajjar

### Thursday, October 8, 2020

7:00 a.m.	Macilia Toussaint/Ed & Cathy Mallow
8:00 a.m.	Nancy Fifield/George & Lauren Kovac

### Friday, October 9, 2020

7:00 a.m.	Rosemary Bartley/Terry & Marty Best
8:00 a.m.	Smith & Hafner Families

### Saturday, October 10, 2020

8:00 a.m.	Frank Eaton/Kevin & Linda Zeeb
5:00 p.m.	Winnifred A. Farragher/Frances Farragher

### Sunday, October 12, 2020

7:00 a.m.	Joe & Ric Olson/Judy Hendricks
9:00 a.m.	Marilyn Schachtrup/Pennie & Steve Schachtrup
11:00 a.m.	Patty Resutko/Larry Resutko
5:00 p.m.	For the People



## Week of October 4

**ST VINCENT DE PAUL and FOOD PANTRY** Collections this weekend

**COFFEE AND DONUTS** After morning Masses, Parish Hall

**CENTERING PRAYER** Monday, October 5, 8:30 a.m., Church

**ANNIVERSARY OF THE DEDICATION OF ST. THOMAS** Tuesday, October 5, 7:00, 8:00 a.m., Mass

**ROSARY** Tuesday, October 6, 10:00 a.m., Church

**CCD** Wednesday, October 7, 6:00 p.m., School Conference Room

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

**THAT MAN IS YOU** Thursday, October 8, 6:30 a.m., Parish Hall

### UPCOMING EVENTS

Women's Guild Dinner	October 12
Columbus Day	October 12
Parish Holy Hour	October 15
Octoberfest	October 17



## RCIA

RCIA classes continue, and all are invited to participate: those interested in becoming Catholic, those who are just curious, and Catholics who want to deepen their faith.

You are welcome on Wednesday evenings at 7 pm in the school library. Videos from each session will also be posted on our YouTube channel. Search "Jason Gray St. Thomas" on YouTube. You will find a dedicated RCIA playlist of each class session.

## Weekly Collection

September 27, 2020

Fiscal YTD

Collections needed.....	\$20,000.....	\$260,000
Sunday Collections.....	\$12,873.....	\$155,582
Electronic Collections .....	\$3,399.....	\$44,187
Total Collected.....	\$16,272.....	\$199,769
Over/(Short) .....	\$(3,728).....	\$(60,231)

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

Margaret Waltman, sister of Mike Shekleton



## Pray with the Pope

October 2020

The Laity's Mission in the Church

We pray that by the virtue of baptism, the laity, especially women, may participate more in areas of responsibility in the Church.

## 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.*

Moral principles do not depend on a majority vote. Wrong is wrong, even if everybody is wrong. Right is right, even if nobody is right.

— Fulton J. Sheen

## SUGGESTIONS NEEDED

Do you have suggestions for topics that you might want to learn more about in an adult education series of presentations in the fall?

If you have thoughts or interests, please make your suggestions to Msgr. Gray or to the Parish Office.

Sponsor of the Week





## 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.

### Food Pantry

Current needs are: peanut butter, pasta, pasta sauce, meal helper, mac & cheese, canned fruit, & boxed side dishes

*Thanks for your generosity*

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

### 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)).

## 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](http://peoriaYMCA.org/YOUTHSports)

## Knights of Columbus I.D. (Tootsie Roll) Drive

**This Weekend!**  
After the Masses



**When you go the poor,  
you encounter Jesus**

The Need Is Still There

Perhaps you have read about the eviction moratoria in place since COVID-19 for some tenants. Perhaps you have also read about the major utility companies holding off on shutting down service to customers. These steps provide wonderful help to our friends in need. However, those who call our Helpline still have major financial concerns. We speak with many whose jobs and income have been greatly affected. And those bills – for rent and electricity and gas and water – will be due eventually.

Your financial assistance for St. Vincent de Paul here at Saint Thomas allows us to continue to serve, to coach and to advise those with heavy worries about their ability to *make it through* these times. We thank you for your loyal support. Our friends in need also thank you sincerely. Please pray for them and for us as we discern each case one by one.

Mary Kay and Tom Pilat

## 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)

## Many Thanks!

Friday, September 25th saw our Men's Club annual golf outing at Mt. Hawley Country Club. The bright sun and warm temperatures heralded a wonderful day.

Thanks to **Tim Streid and his committee** for all their hard work in making this a success.

Thanks also to all our sponsors. Their generous support, as well as that of the golfers, goes to support our St. Thomas students through the Scholarship program.

A grand time was had by all and ~ there was a hole in one!



## Mark Your Calendar!

Coming October, 17



# St Thomas Women's Guild



will host a dinner  
for the ladies of the parish on  
**Monday, October 12 at 6:30 p.m.**  
in the Parish Hall!

Reservations are required for dinner.

***PLEASE TEXT OR CALL WITH YOUR RESERVATION:***

***Nancy Krakowiecki, 682-3246 or  
Sonia Nelson, 231-2637***



## 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.

## 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.

## Catholic Women's League

### Rosary Prayer

**Date & Time:** Monday, October 19th, 9 am

**Place:** St. Philomena Church  
1000 W. Albany, Peoria, IL 61604

### Join (or renew membership in) the Catholic Women's League

All Catholic Women are invited to join: The Catholic Women's League (new members and membership renewal) now – Nov. 1st, 2020

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



## Holy Hour for the Rights of the Unborn

**Place:** Saint Mark's Church  
1113 W. Bradley Avenue, Peoria

**Time:** 7:00 P.M.

**Date:** October 5th, 2020  
the first Monday of the month

Face masks and social distancing will be observed.

The Holy Hour consists of Benediction, the Rosary, and other prayers. Please join us in praying for the protection of these innocent lives and the restoration of their Constitutional rights.

Please remember that to have a right to do something is not the same as being right in doing it.

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

## 40 Days For Life

September 23 ~ November 1

## Vigil for Life

### St. Thomas Day of Participation

Parishioners meet outside Planned Parenthood @ 4709 N. Knoxville Ave., Monday, October 26, 2020 from 7 a.m.—7 p.m., the day designated for St. Thomas sidewalk participation

Please sign up @ [40daysforlife.com/Peoria](http://40daysforlife.com/Peoria) and click on **sign up for vigil hours**



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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