

A N D O N T H E W H O L E W O R L D

April 11, 2021



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



From Our Pastor

The Resurrection of Jesus Christ is a central mystery of our faith. We celebrate Easter for a full week, so on this Octave of Easter we still proclaim: Christ is Risen! Alleluia!

The Second Sunday of Easter is also called Divine Mercy Sunday. This feast is associated with the Chaplet of Divine Mercy. This is a good time to become more familiar with this devotion if you are not already. We pray to our Savior who offered himself for us and for our salvation, in atonement for our sins and those of the whole world.

Thank-you once again for all the hard work that went into our celebrations for Holy Week and Easter. We continue to celebrate with joy the baptism and reception of our new Catholics at the Easter Vigil. Please continue to keep them in prayer. Please also remember our 8th grade students to be confirmed on April 19, and our 2nd grade students who will make their First Communion in May.

Now that Lent has concluded, we will also have a Donut Sunday next weekend. I look forward to gathering for distanced fellowship, but fellowship nonetheless as we invite our 1st grade and 3rd grade students to assist us at Mass on April 18.

I have also been encouraged by the remarkable number of baptisms that have been scheduled recently. As we emerge from the pandemic, it is a joy to see so many children receive sanctifying grace and the promise of eternal life.

-Msgr. Gray



Pray with the Pope

April 2021 Freedom from Addiction

We pray that those suffering from addiction may be helped and accompanied.



Readings for the Week of April 11, 2021

Sunday Divine Mercy Sunday

Acts 4:32-35; 1 John 5:1-6; John 20:19-31

Monday Acts 4:23-31; John 3:1-8

Tuesday St. Martin I, Pope & Martyr

Acts 4:32-37; John 3:7b-15

Wednesday Acts 5:17-26; John 3:16-21

Thursday Acts 5:27-33; John 3:31-36

Friday Acts 5:34-42; John 6:1-15

Saturday Acts 6:1-7; John 6:16-21

Sunday Third Sunday of Easter

Acts 3:13-15, 17-19; 1 John 2:1-5a; Luke 24:35-48

Mass Intentions

Monday, April 12, 2021

7:00 a.m. Jeanette Holland/Anne & Kevin Morrisey 8:00 a.m. Sr. Mary Ann Heyd, O.P./John F. Carlson

Tuesday, April 13, 2021

7:00 a.m. Joe Kelly/The Morton Family

8:00 a.m. Sandy Farwell/Joe & Sandy Whalen

Wednesday, April 14, 2021

7:00 a.m. Agnes Brake/Kevin & Lisa Schoeplein

8:00 a.m. Mary Cooper/Friends

Thursday, April 15, 2021

7:00 a.m. Richard Penn/Family 8:00 a.m. Cecelia LaHood/Family

9:15 a.m. Deceased Members of the McCauley Family

Friday, April 16, 2021

7:00 a.m. Jerry Callahan/John Callahan

8:00 a.m. Dolores Oppe 1st Anniv./Shirley Oppe

Saturday, April 17, 2021

8:00 a.m. Ward, Nyla, Needra Bell/Jack & Margaret Weinstein

5:00 p.m. Mary Carrigan/Jim & Mary Clare Geraghty

Sunday, April 18, 2021

7:00 a.m. Giles Keithley, Jr./Family

9:00 a.m. Lois Streid/Jim & Mary Clare Geraghty 11:00 a.m. Chuck Gavin/Joe & Sandy Whalen

5:00 p.m. For the People

Week of April 11

CENTERING PRAYER Monday, April 12, 8:30 a.m., Church

ROSARY Tuesday, April 13, 10:00 a.m., Church

FINANCIAL PEACE UNIVERSITY Tuesday, April 13, 6:30 p.m., Parish Hall

CCD Wednesday, April 14, 6:00 p.m., School

THAT MAN IS YOU Thursday, April 15, 6:30 a.m., Parish Hall

ST. THOMAS HOLY HOUR Thursday, April 15, 7:00 p.m., Church

CONFESSIONS Saturday, April 17, 4:00 & 6:00 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.



PARISH HOLY HOUR

Thursday, April 15 7:00 p.m. — 8:00 p.m.



Leisure is a form of silence, not noiselessness. It is the silence of contemplation such as occurs when we let our minds rest on a rosebud, a child at play, a divine mystery, or a waterfall.

- Fulton J. Sheen

Weekly Collection April 4, 2021 Fiscal YTD Collections needed \$20,000 \$800,000 Sunday Collections \$14,170 \$676,320 Electronic Collections \$3,399 \$135,960 Total Collected \$17,569 \$812,280 Over/(Short) \$(2,431) \$12,280

Easter Collection.....\$6,456

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

Lois Lipka

Linda Horton, mother of Andy Piper and grandmother of Liam Piper

Joseph Maier

For the sake of His sorrowful Passion, have mercy on us and on the whole world.



Actions not words...We are inspired by the belief that the instructions Jesus gave St. Faustina to spread His mercy were profound and clear in her Diary (paragraph 742).

I demand from you deeds of mercy, you must not shrink from this or try to excuse or absolve yourself from it. I give you three ways of exercising mercy, the first by deed, the second by word, and the third by prayer.

In these three degrees are contained the fullness of mercy, and it is an unquestionable proof of love for Me. By these means a soul glorifies and pays reverence to My mercy. (Diary of Saint Faustina 742).

JESUS, I TRUST IN YOU!

Sponsor of the Week



Live Stream of the Mass in the Parish Hall



For those who have been hesitant to return to Mass in person, because of COVID, we have a live broadcast of the 11:00 a.m. Mass every Sunday in the Parish Hall.

All those attending in the Parish Hall will be required to wear a mask and maintain social distance. Communion will be distributed in the Parish Hall.

Do not forget that the value and interest of life is not so much to do conspicuous things... as to do ordinary things with the perception of their enormous value.

- Teilhard de Chardin, SJ



2021 PND National Honor Society



Congratulations to the STS alumni who have been inducted into the 2021 PND National Honor Society. Job well done!

Isabella Alexander
Ryan Bender
Ella Benjamin
Andrew Berry
Alester Dawson
John Frederickson
Carissa Freeman
Logan Fricke
Maggie Guingrich
Danny Gutzwiller
Abigail Halberg
Isabella Hernandez
Jenna Horst

Ben Kelly
Clare Kube
Olivia Lowder
Jacqueline Luong
Emelia Owen
Carmela Pag-ong
Carissa Phan
Brady Socha
Trey Socha
Thatcher Spears
Emelia VanSlyke
Danny Ward
Sydney Watts

This group represents close to 30% of the 2021 PND inductees!



Marriage Blessing

It has been our custom throughout the year to bless the milestone marriage anniversaries of our Parishioners. We generally have this blessing at the 9:00 a.m. Sunday Mass the last Sunday of the month.

Did you, because of the pandemic in the past year, miss your opportunity for a Marriage Blessing for a milestone anniversary?

If you would like to be part of our Marriage Blessing please call or email the Parish Office, 309-688-3446 or **parishoffice@stthomas-church.net** to make arrangements.



Welcome to Our New Catholics!

Volunteers Needed

As COVID restrictions begin to lift, we need volunteers.

Our **Martha Group** needs helpers to bring in food, or to assist, for luncheons following funerals at St. Thomas.

In anticipation of resuming taking Communion to homebound parishioners, we also will need additional **Extraordinary Ministers**.

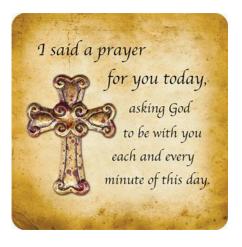
If you are able to participate in either ministry, please call or email the Parish Office at 309-688 -3446 or parishoffice@stthomas-church.net, to let us know.

Mass Intentions

Recently there have been inquiries as to how one goes about scheduling a Mass intention.

It is easy to request a Mass intention for a loved one, deceased or living, here at St. Thomas.

All you need to do is email the Parish Office at parishoffice@stthomas-church.net, and ask to schedule a Mass intention. Subject to specific Mass availability efforts are made to accommodate your requested date and Mass time. The suggested donation is \$10.00 per Mass.





Caterpillar Matching Gifts Program ~ Invest in Kids Act

The opportunity to support students at St. Thomas School is again available in 2021 through the State of Illinois' *Invest in Kids Act*. Illinois taxpayers can receive a state income tax credit of 75% of their total donation. Donations can be made throughout the year and will be awarded to our students on the *Empower Illinois* waiting list who are eligible to receive a State Tax Credit Scholarship. Last year we received donations to support 25 of our students through this program. We are hoping to be able to help even more students during the upcoming school year.

In addition, The Caterpillar Foundation is proud to offer the year-round Matching Gifts Program to support U.S. employees, retirees and board of directors in their contributions to worthy causes. Eligible Caterpillar participants may request an annual combined total maximum match of \$10,000 each calendar year to accredited public/private preK-12 schools in the U.S. to which contributions are tax deductible. After making the donation directly, Caterpillar participants then may request a match at <code>caterpillar.com/matching-gifts</code>. Submit the matching gift request online by January 31 of the year following the donation.

If you are interested in learning about the Illinois Tax Credit Scholarship program, please contact Pat or Julie in the Parish Office at 309-688-3446.

We are so grateful for all the ways that our parishioners support St. Thomas.

PEORIA NOTRE DAME DANCE TEAM TRYOUTS 2021-2022 SEASON



Monday, May 3 4:30 PM - 6:00 PM Tuesday, May 4 4:30 PM - 6:00 PM *Parent meeting @ 5:15 PM Wednesday, May 5 4:30 PM - 6:00 PM Thursday, May 6 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM

- * Where: Peoria Notre Dame Gym
- Parent meeting: Tuesday, May 4 @ 5:15 PM in the PND Commons (cafeteria).
- What to bring/wear: jazz shoes or tennis shoes, T-shirt, leggings, water, etc.
- The tryout dance and requirements will be taught on May 3rd, May 4th, and May 5th. May 6th will be the judged tryout.
- Please download and fill out the tryout form on our team website under Tryouts 2021-2022:

https://pnddanceteam.weebly.com/tryouts-2021-2022.html.

- Results will be posted by 9:00 PM on May 6th on our team website under Team Roster.
- If you have any questions, please contact Coach Sevier at pnddanceteam@gmail.com.



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.

New Parishioner	Change of address/phone
Phone	
City	ZIP
Address	
Phone	
Email	
First Name(s)	
Last Name	

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 are also 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.

St. Thomas Food Pantry

Current needs are: cereal, canned fruit, pasta sauce, pancake syrup and meal helper, cleaning supplies

Thank you for your generosity

Stay in Touch

- 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).
- 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@stthomaschurch.net to sign up).
- Bookmark the parish webpage (stthomaspeoria.org).



St. Vincent de Paul Helpline: 677-7696

View Our Parish Supporters at www.DiscoverMass.com		
St. Thomas the Apostle Parish • 309-688-3446	Administrative AssistantTerri Moon(x0)	
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SacristanMother Vaclava Ballon, FSJB(688-3500)	patwombacher@stthomas-school.net	
fsibpeoria@yahoo.com	CCD CoordinatorAngie Robenstein(x1200)	
	angierobenstein@stthomas-school.net	
Deacon	Music Coordinator	
Den. Ed Mallow(360-7735)	Choir Director Erin Craig	
School Principal Maureen Bentley(x1210)	erincraig@stthomas-school.net	
maureenbentley@stthomas-school.net	Annulment ConsultantJohn Mackoway(699-5213)	
Sacrament of Raptism Confessions How	to Submit Rulletin Information	

Sacrament of Baptism

Parents participate in a Baptism class before the Baptism of their first child. Contact the Parish Office 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 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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