

Jesus said to them, "A prophet is not without honor except in his native place and among his own kin and in his own house."

Mark 6:4

July 4, 2021

904 East Lake Avenue, Peoria Heights, Illinois
309-688-3446; stthomaspeoria.org

14
ORDINARY
TIME



From Our Pastor

Happy Fourth of July! It is good to appreciate all the gifts we have in the United States and the blessings that we have received. Beyond physical gifts, the blessings of freedom are among those we should cherish most. Even during times of political disagreement, our shared love for our country is a theme that can unite us. As Catholics, we pray for our country and ask God to continue to guide us and pour out His grace upon us and our civic leaders.

Last week, I mentioned the importance of being united to Jesus, and in communion with the Church, as we approach to receive Holy Communion. It is good to remember what unites us in *full communion* with the Catholic Church.

Full Communion with the Church includes three elements: we share a common faith, a common worship through the sacraments, and we recognize a common governing authority, especially through our Holy Father.

Common faith means we are united by the same fundamental beliefs that have been revealed by God. We express those beliefs every Sunday when we recite the Nicene Creed. In addition to the Creed, we also believe the infallible and unchangeable truths contained in the Word of God and taught by the Church. These include the dogmas about Jesus Christ, the Blessed Mother, the sacraments, the real presence of Jesus in the Eucharist, original sin, and the grave immorality of directly and voluntarily taking innocent human life.

Common worship means we are united by the common celebration of the seven sacraments. We worship God through the same sacraments as Catholics around the world, and we believe in the grace we receive through those sacraments.

Common governance means we are united by our obedience to our Holy Father, and to our bishops, who teach authentically in the name of the Church, as representatives of Christ.

We always have respect for our Christian brothers and sisters in other Christian religions, but we recognize we are not in full communion with them because we differ on one or more of those three elements: *common faith*, *common sacraments*, and *common acceptance of the Holy Father's authority*. We do not have *inter-communion* with them, meaning that we do not receive Communion in their churches and we do not admit their members to Communion at our Masses.

In future columns, I will talk in greater detail about sharing the same faith, as Catholics united by our common reception of Holy Communion.

-Msgr. Gray



Readings for the Week of July 4, 2021

| | |
|------------------|---|
| Sunday | Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time Ezekiel 2:2-5; 2 Corinthians 12:7-10; Mark 6:1-6 |
| Monday | St. Elizabeth of Portugal Genesis 28:10-22a; Matthew 9:18-26 |
| Tuesday | St. Maria Goretti, Virgin & Martyr Genesis 32:23-33; Matthew 9:32-38 |
| Wednesday | Genesis 41:55-57; 42:5-7a, 17-24a; Matthew 10:1-7 |
| Thursday | Genesis 44:18-21, 23b-29; 45:1-5; Matthew 10:7-15 |
| Friday | St. Augustine Zhao Rong, Priest, and Companions, Martyrs Genesis 46:1-7, 28-30; Matthew 10:16-23 |
| Saturday | Genesis 49:29-32; 50:15-26a; Matthew 10:24-33 |
| Sunday | Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time Amos 7:12-15; Ephesians 1:3-14 or Ephesians 1:3-10; Mark 6:7-13 |

Mass Intentions

Monday, July 5, 2021

| | |
|-----------|---|
| 7:00 a.m. | Winifred Haughney/Mike & Theresa Haughney |
| 8:00 a.m. | Caryl Lane/The Clary Family |

Tuesday, July 6, 2021

| | |
|-----------|-------------------------|
| 7:00 a.m. | Joe Maier/Britton Maier |
| 8:00 a.m. | Walter Arnold/Family |

Wednesday, July 7, 2021

| | |
|-----------|--|
| 7:00 a.m. | Lucinda Bautista/Bautista & Bennett Families |
| 8:00 a.m. | Elizabeth Lehnhausen/Jim & Mary Clare Geraghty |

Thursday, July 8, 2021

| | |
|-----------|--|
| 7:00 a.m. | John & Rita Sebastian/Mike & Tracy Seyfert |
| 8:00 a.m. | Msgr. William Watson/Ed & Cathy Mallow |

Friday, July 9, 2021

| | |
|-----------|-------------------------------------|
| 7:00 a.m. | Arnold Seyfert/Mike & Tracy Seyfert |
| 8:00 a.m. | Glen Morton/The Schafer Family |

Saturday, July 10, 2021

| | |
|-----------|--|
| 8:00 a.m. | Ed & Mary Schleigh/Jack & Margaret Weinstein |
| 5:00 p.m. | Intentions of Daniel Owens/Ed & Cathy Mallow |

Sunday, July 11, 2021

| | |
|------------|---|
| 7:00 a.m. | Ed Dotta /Jim, 1 st Anniversary |
| 9:00 a.m. | Sr. Bernadette Kouri FSJB |
| 11:00 a.m. | For the People |
| 5:00 p.m. | Intentions of Mary Zucksworth/Ed & Cathy Mallow |

Week of July 4

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL AND FOOD PANTRY COLLECTIONS this weekend

ROSARY Tuesday, July 6, 10:00 a.m., Church

SAFETY PRESENTATION BY HEIGHTS POLICE Wednesday, July 7, 5:00 p.m., Parish Hall

CARMELITES MEETING & FORMATION Saturday, July 10, 11:00 a.m., Parish Hall

UPCOMING EVENTS

| | |
|--|----------------|
| <i>St. Vincent de Paul</i> | <i>July 13</i> |
| <i>Men's Club</i> | <i>July 15</i> |
| <i>St. Thomas Holy Hour</i> | <i>July 15</i> |
| <i>Knights of Columbus Exemplification</i> | <i>July 18</i> |

Our Sympathy

Julann Condit, mother of Julie Durdel

Mary Kay Barkley

Mary Kay Barkley

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.

From time I have offered a book recommendation for your enjoyment.



This time, I suggest *Mindset: The New Psychology of Success* by Carol Dweck.

This book distinguishes between the growth mindset and the fixed mindset. The fixed mindset focuses on abilities we already have, while the growth mindset focuses on the skills and gifts we can develop by confronting challenges. When confronted by something new and difficult, the fixed mindset tends to become frustrated and sees the challenge as a cause for failure. The growth mindset looks at new challenges as opportunities for growth with the possibility of learning something new.

It is a fascinating read with applications to achieving our personal goals, finding success in sports, making accomplishments in business, developing positive relationships, and even becoming a more effective parent, teacher, or coach.



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A happy, and safe, 4th of
July to everyone



Weekly Collection

| | June 27, 2021 | Fiscal YTD |
|------------------------------|----------------|-------------|
| Collections needed..... | \$20,000..... | \$1,040,000 |
| Sunday Collections..... | \$9,889..... | \$834,827 |
| Electronic Collections | \$3,399..... | \$176,748 |
| Total Collected..... | \$13,288..... | \$1,011,575 |
| Over/(Short) | \$(6,712)..... | \$(28,425) |


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.

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Maintaining Personal Safety

July 7 at 5:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall

How do you know if it's a scam? How do you know who to trust coming into your home? These, and other safety-related questions, will be addressed.



Join us, and a representative from the Peoria Heights Police Department, for a Senior Safety program. While the target audience is older adults, people of all ages will gain useful information.



There will be time at the end for questions from the audience. Come, and bring a friend.

Knights of Columbus Spalding Council #427 Exemplification



K of C Spalding Council will be conducting an Exemplification for eligible Catholic gentlemen who wish to join the Knights of Columbus. The three major degrees of Knighthood are all included in this approximately one hour ceremony of induction into the K of C.

**Sunday, July 18, 2021 at 1:00 p.m.
at St. Thomas Church**

Registration is at 12:30 p.m.

Family members are invited to attend

Please call Dennis Goett for more information. Home: 309-685-3168 or Cell: 306-550-1967

Volunteer Fair

coming August 31 ~ keep watching for more information

Invitation to Join the Permanent Diaconate

Have you, or someone you know, considered becoming a Deacon? The deadline for application has been moved to January 15, 2022. If you are a man who:

1. Is over 35 and under 55 years of age in January 2022
2. If a convert is in full communion with the Church for 5 years as of January 2022
3. Has the recommendation of the Pastor

If you have further questions, would like to join the Diaconate yourself, or have someone to recommend, please see Msgr. Gray.

Parish Nurse

Mary Clare Geraghty has completed her training as our new Parish Nurse. More information is forthcoming about a variety of health and wellness offerings at the Parish.

Bereavement Group

Is there interest in the parish in a grief group? We've had some interest and will offer one with more interest. Please contact us in the Parish Office if you're interested in participating.

Emmaus Days

Session III: July 18-21 for HS Freshmen and Sophomores

Session IV: July 21-23 for 7th and 8th graders
sessions III & IV will be held at Peoria Notre Dame HS.

For more information, and to register, go to comeandfollowme.org/emmausdays.

The St. Thomas Contemporary Choir Needs You



The St. Thomas Contemporary Choir is blessed to combine contemporary Christian music with the celebration of Mass every Sunday at 5pm.

New singers and musicians are needed to continue to provide this unique ministry within the Parish. Male and female singers and musicians to play piano, acoustic guitar, electric guitar, bass and drums are all needed.



If you have the ability to sing or play an instrument and would like to share your gifts with others, please contact:

churchband@stthomas-church.net.

COVID Vaccines available at Sophia's Kitchen

103 Richard Pryor Place, next to St. Joseph Church. Everyone 12 years old, and up, are welcome.

- Thursday, July 15 - 9 to noon - Pfizer, Moderna and J&J available
- Friday, July 16 - 9 to noon - Pfizer vaccine
- August 6 - 9 to noon (2nd vac) Pfizer vac.



July Ultreya

Please join us for our Cursillo July Ultreya

2021 Theme: Go Make Disciples
Guests and families are Welcome!

Saturday, July 10 at 7:00pm at Holy Family Catholic Church, Peoria, and on the Peoria Cursillo Office Facebook Live page

Join us for a chance to pray and share!
Lay Reflection by Ron Budzinski
Host Couple: Maurice and Maureen Alouan
Social Time outside afterwards with snacks and beverages - individually wrapped

Guests are welcome!

No sign up needed! Please join us!

You can contact the Cursillo Office at 309/676-5587 or cursillopeoria@gmail.com for more information.

When you go the poor, you encounter Jesus



Did you know that through your prayers, kindness, and generous financial assistance to the St. Vincent de Paul Society, you recently helped a mother get on a rent payment plan so that she could remain in her home?

Our St. Thomas conference of the St. Vincent de Paul Society recently received a call from the mother of two young teens. The mother has Multiple Sclerosis. In March, she was severely stricken with Covid-19 and had to spend two weeks in the hospital. During that time, she was unable to work. In her job, there is no such thing as "paid sick-leave". After she was released from the hospital and had recovered from Covid-19, she returned to work, only to be stricken with appendicitis. Again, she had to spend time in the hospital to have her appendix removed, and again, was unable to work until she fully recovered from her surgery. Because of her health problems and time off work, she got behind on her bills. She had never before had to ask for financial help, and she didn't know where to turn. A friend told her to call 211, an emergency resource help line. 211 referred her to the St. Vincent de Paul Society. We spoke with her about her financial need, and we spoke with her landlord. After speaking with her landlord, we agreed to make a rent payment to get her on a payment plan. She was most appreciative and expressed her sincere gratitude to the Society. We explained that the members of the St. Vincent de Paul Society are only the "middle man", and that you, our donors, are the ones who allow us to help our neighbors in need. Thank you so very much.

If you are interested in joining the St. Vincent de Paul Society, please call the Parish Office at 688-3446, and you will be put in touch with someone who can answer your questions. Those of us who serve in this charity agree that we receive much more than we give.

Edie Brereton

HIPAA and Privacy

HIPAA laws prohibit the release of medical information, even to the Church. If you have a family member or loved one in an area hospital, nursing home, or sick at home, please call the Parish Office and let us know, especially if you would like one of the Priests or a Eucharistic Minister to visit.

Comet Cash is Available after Masses

- We need sellers after Masses. If you are able to volunteer as a seller let me know!
- If you want to place an order and you are not able to come to Mass, or no one is at the table, you can contact me at any time to place an order! Any order able to be filled with cards in stock, and is received by Wednesday each week, will be filled and left in either the Parish Office or the School Office for pick-up during their normal hours on Friday of that week. If the order is not able to be filled with cards in stock, or if it is placed after Wednesday, the order will be filled and left for pick-up the following Friday. Reach me by email: aebuckardt@gmail.com or text/call: 309-231-0449.
- If you have not set up your online account, you can do that here: <https://shop.shopwithscrip.com/login>
- When you initially set up your account, you will need to provide a school code. That code is: **BA38E9AD7759**. Please let me know if you would like help setting this up. You can load funds electronically and also place orders for physical cards as well. Orders placed this way will be processed as noted above.

Contact me for any questions!

Allison Buckardt



Staff Openings

St. Thomas School offers the following teaching positions for our 2021-2022 school year:

- 5-8 Grade English teacher
- Second grade teacher
- Fourth grade teacher

Applicants must hold an Illinois elementary education (K-9) teaching certificate. If interested, please submit a letter of interest and a resume to Mrs. Maureen Bentley at maureenbentley@stthomas-school.net

Recent college graduates are welcome!



Diocesan 25th & 50th Wedding Anniversary Celebration

If you are celebrating your 25th or 50th wedding anniversary in 2021, and would like to participate in the Diocesan celebration, please notify us in the Parish Office.

Each couple will receive a personal invitation this summer from the Bishop to attend a Mass on September 26th at 3:30 p.m. in your honor.

Catholic Women's League Membership Annual Meeting & Box Luncheon

Date: Tuesday, July 20, 2021
Place: St. Philomena Parish Hall
1000 W. Albany Peoria, IL 61604

Time: 9:30 am Registration
10:00 am Welcome
10:15 am Annual Meeting

Box Luncheon:
(Please choose one) Ham, Grilled Chicken, or Vegetarian Sandwich.
Broccoli Salad, Fresh Fruit Salad & Cookie included.
Cost: \$15 per person

Reservation Deadline: July 12, 2021

Send your check payable to CWL with your sandwich choice to:
Catholic Women's League
P.O. Box 9674
Peoria, IL 61612-9674

If you have any questions, please call Sandy Gasparovich at 309-264-4847

St. Thomas Food Pantry

Current needs are: canned fruit, canned soup, jelly, meal helper, pasta sauce, peanut butter, and personal hygiene items

Thank you for your generosity

Around the Diocese

July 11-17: *Totus Tuus* at Blessed Sacrament Parish, Morton & St. Mary Parish, Metamora

Peoria Heights High School Blood Drive

Peoria Heights Public Library
Community Room
816 E. Glen Ave.
Peoria Heights

Friday, July 23, 2021
11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

For an appointment, call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit **redcrossblood.org**. Students need to bring either a driver's license or two forms of other ID (with one that has proof of age).

Eat a healthy meal and drink an extra 16 oz. of water and fluids before the donation. You can save up to 15 min. when you donate by using RapidPass! Visit **redcrossblood.org/RapidPass** for more information.

Donate July 7-31 for a \$10 Amazon.com Gift Card by email
Plus a chance to win gas for a year, a \$5,000 value! There will be 3 winners!
Terms and conditions apply; visit rcblood.org/fuel

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 _____

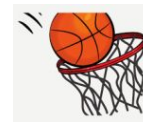
Address _____

City _____ ZIP _____

Phone _____

New Parishioner _____ Change of address/phone _____

St Jude's Summer Basketball Camp



Jim Carlson will again be conducting a Basketball Camp for St. Jude's Hospital.

It will be held at the St Vincent de Paul Catholic School Gym from July 5-9 for Boys and Girls Grades 1-8.

Any questions please call Jim at **681-8717** or **james.j.carlson@countryfinancial.com**

Holy Hour for the Rights of the Unborn

July 5th, 2021, the first Monday; 7:00 P.M.
Saint Mark's Church,
1113 W. Bradley Avenue, in Peoria.

If you have received the vaccine, face masks are not required. If you have not you are asked to continue to wear a mask.

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.

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).

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|---|--|--|--|--|--|
| 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) terimoon@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 CoordinatorAngie Robenstein 309-645-1364 ccd@stthomas-church.net | | |
| School Principal Maureen Bentley (x1210) maureenbentley@stthomas-school.net | | | Music Coordinator Ann Horst (682-5507) | | |
| Sacrament of Baptism Parents participate in a Baptism class before the Baptism of their first child. Contact the Parish Office to schedule the class. | | | Choir Director Erin Craig erincraig@stthomas-school.net | | |
| Confessions Saturday 4:00-4:45pm & 6:00-6:30 p.m. | | | Annulment ConsultantJohn Mackoway (699-5213) | | |
| | | | 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. | | |

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