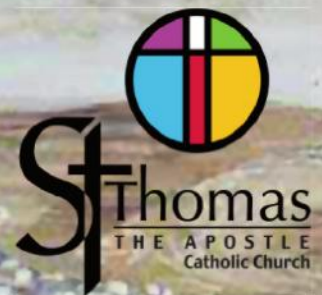


# 15TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Jesus summoned the Twelve and began  
to send them out two by two  
and gave them authority over unclean spirits.

Mk 6:7



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

July 11, 2021



## From Our Pastor

We look forward this week to our regular monthly Holy Hour on *July 15 at 7 PM*. Please join us as we pray for our parish and for deeper devotion to the Eucharist. Thank you also to the Knights of Columbus for all their support of our parish especially on Donut Sundays. We look forward to the Exemplification next week, as new members are inducted into the Knights.

Over the past weeks, I have been reflecting on the relationship between being in full communion with the Church and receiving Holy Communion. This week, I will consider the difference between an internal and an external separation from full communion. The Church addresses these circumstances in two related canons, 915 and 916, of the Code of Canon Law.

A person may be conscious internally of mortal sin. In this case, the person is encouraged to recognize this state and refrain from receiving Holy Communion. Even if no one else is aware of the situation, it is better for the person's soul not to receive in this circumstance. The ultimate goal is to encourage contrition and repentance, especially through confession.

In the second case, the separation from full communion may be externally evident, which makes it public. This separation can occur when a person's words or actions demonstrate that he or she does not share the same fundamental beliefs of our faith.

It is not a public act if the person is simply struggling internally about one of the truths revealed by God. The denial of an essential truth becomes public if the person expresses this opinion openly and obstinately. In other words, the person perseveres in the contrary opinion, even when challenged and called to reconsider. If the person perseveres, he or she has openly manifested an opinion contrary to the teachings of the Church.

The problem with this kind of public denial of the faith is found in the danger it poses to others who may be influenced by the error. The Church must be concerned for the person who teaches something opposed to the faith, but also for the other faithful who may be scandalized or influenced by this opinion. In serious cases, the Church can withhold Communion both for the good of the individual person, as well as the community as a whole.

Again, the ultimate goal is to encourage each of us to avoid error, to have a real change of heart, to adopt a sincere attitude of repentance, and to recommit ourselves to the fundamental beliefs of our Catholic faith.

— Msgr. Gray



## Readings for the Week of July 11, 2021

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time</b> Amos 7:12-15; Ephesians 1: 3-14 or Ephesians 1: 3-10; Mark 6:7-13
<b>Monday</b>	Exodus 1: 8-14, 22; Matthew 10:34—11:1
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>St. Henry</b> Exodus 2:1-15a; Matthew 11:20-24
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>St. Kateri Tekakwitha, Virgin</b> Exodus 3:1-6, 9-12; Matthew 11:25-27
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>St. Bonaventure, Bishop &amp; Doctor of the Church</b> Exodus 3:13-20; Matthew 11:28-30
<b>Friday</b>	<b>Our Lady of Mount Carmel</b> Exodus 11:10—12:14; Matthew 12:1-8
<b>Saturday</b>	Exodus 12:37-42; Matthew 12:14-21
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time</b> Jeremiah 23:1-6; Ephesians 2:13-18; Mark 6:30-34

## Mass Intentions

### Monday, July 12, 2021

7:00 a.m.	Msgr. Gray Anniversary of Ordination
8:00 a.m.	Len Kuchan/Beth Washburn

### Tuesday, July 13, 2021

7:00 a.m.	Mary Ward/Mary Ruth Jarboe
8:00 a.m.	Susan McPheeters/Linda Osika

### Wednesday, July 14, 2021

7:00 a.m.	Dr. James N. Kenny, Sr./Family
8:00 a.m.	Joseph Daniel Arnold/Linda Osika

### Thursday, July 15, 2021

7:00 a.m.	Intentions of Glenn Bautista
8:00 a.m.	All Souls in Purgatory

### Friday, July 16, 2021

7:00 a.m.	Intentions of Michael Seyfert
8:00 a.m.	J. Gordon Hannagan/Jeanne Whalen

### Saturday, July 17, 2021

8:00 a.m.	Jack McClernon/Mark & Marlynn Kelsch
5:00 p.m.	Melvin & Lucille Noe/Family

### Sunday, July 18, 2021

7:00 a.m.	Msgr. William Watson/Ancient Order of Hibernians
9:00 a.m.	The Meixner & Connolly Families
11:00 a.m.	Chuck Gavin/Ellen Vosberg
5:00 p.m.	For the People



## Week of July 11

**ROSARY** Tuesday, July 13, 10:00 a.m., Church

**ST. VINCENT de PAUL** Tuesday, July 13, 7:00 p.m., Parish Hall

**MEN'S CLUB** Thursday, July 15, 6:30 p.m., Parish Hall

**HOLY HOUR** Thursday, July 15, 7:00 p.m., Church

### UPCOMING EVENTS

<i>Knights of Columbus Exemplification</i>	July 18
<i>Adoration</i>	August 6
<i>Parish Picnic</i>	August 15
<i>St. Thomas Holy Hour</i>	August 19
<i>St. Thomas Volunteer Fair</i>	August 29



## PARISH HOLY HOUR

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



Far better it is for you to say: "I am a sinner," than to say: "I have no need of religion." The empty can be filled, but the self-intoxicated have no room for God.

— Fulton J. Sheen, **Seven Words of Jesus and Mary: Lessons from Cana and Calvary**

## Weekly Collection

	July 4, 2021	Fiscal YTD
Collections needed.....	\$20,000.....	\$20,000
Sunday Collections.....	\$16,688.....	\$16,688
Electronic Collections .....	\$3,399.....	\$3,399
Total Collected.....	\$20,087.....	\$20,087
Over/(Short) .....	\$87.....	\$87

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

Please pray for those who have died this week

## 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.



### July 2021 Our Families

We pray that today's families may be accompanied with love, respect and guidance.

## Guardian Angel Prayer

Angel of God,  
my guardian dear,  
To whom God's love  
commits me here,  
Ever this day,  
be at my side,  
To light and guard,  
Rule and guide.  
Amen.



Sponsor of the Week

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## Knights of Columbus Spalding Council #427 Exemplification



K of C Spalding Council will be conducting an Exemplification for eligible Catholic gentlemen, 18 and over, 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**

## Grief Support

St. Thomas Parish is considering offering a Grief Support Program this fall that includes 10-12 weeks of videos and small group discussion that coincides with a workbook. Please contact the Parish Office if you are interested in participating.



A hard-working crew gathered recently to spread mulch under, and around, the new playground structures. Its shaping up to be great play space ready for the start of the new school year.

Check the STS Facebook page for any further updates.  
(3) *St. Thomas the Apostle School | Facebook*



## 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](https://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 5:00 p.m.

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](mailto:churchband@stthomas-church.net).

## Using The Creighton Model of Natural Family Planning

Through the use of this model a couple learns about the naturally occurring phases of fertility and infertility. This true method of family planning can be used to achieve, as well as avoid, pregnancy. These classes do fulfill one of the requirement options for marriage preparation in the CDLP of Peoria. Engaged and married couples are invited to participate.

Diane Meads, Natural Family Planning Educator, will be available for classes mid-August. Contact her directly at: [d.meads.nfp@gmail.com](mailto:d.meads.nfp@gmail.com) or **217-649-9065** to schedule your class.

The first session is introductory, with subsequent classes scheduled individually for couples (or singles just interested in knowing more about their own health). Classes will be held at St. Vincent de Paul, Peoria



## Together We Play ... In Space

Saturday, July 17th, 2-4pm  
Tower Park, Peoria Heights



Please join the St. Thomas RoboComets and Advocates for Access for a family-fun event to support building an accessible playground in Tower Park.

Participants are welcome to come dressed as their favorite Star Wars character, and can build their own foam light saber, play games, participate in a scavenger hunt, and enjoy many other fun, youth-oriented activities.

Activity tickets available at the event are \$1 each, or unlimited passes are \$15 for an individual, or \$25 for a family. Watch the *Together We Play* Facebook page, **(4) Together We Play | Facebook**, for more details.

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## Campaign for 22 Million Rosaries

Join the Campaign for 22 Million Rosaries for Peace in the Family, Nation, & World. Visit the website to register how many rosaries you have prayed.  
<https://www.praytogetherstaytogether.net>

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## 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.

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## 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](mailto: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:

- 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](mailto:maureenbentley@stthomas-school.net)

**Recent college graduates are welcome!**

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## Diocesan 25<sup>th</sup> & 50<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary Celebration



If you are celebrating your 25<sup>th</sup> or 50<sup>th</sup> 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 the Cathedral, at 3:30 p.m., in your honor.

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## 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](http://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](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 \_\_\_\_\_

## 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](mailto:james.j.carlson@countryfinancial.com)**



## 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](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)).



<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 ..... 309-645-1364 <a href="mailto:ccd@stthomas-church.net">ccd@stthomas-church.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>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>Choir Director</b> ..... Erin Craig <a href="mailto:erincraig@stthomas-school.net">erincraig@stthomas-school.net</a>		
<b>Confessions</b> Saturday 4:00-4:45pm & 6:00-6:30 p.m.			<b>Annulment Consultant</b> .....John Mackoway ..... (699-5213)		
			<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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