

## St. Thomas the Apostle Parish Staff

Office Hours: M-F 9:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m.

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Dcn. John Nelson.....981-2716  
Dcn. Ed Mallow.....360-7735

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Music Coordinator: Ann Horst..... 682-5507

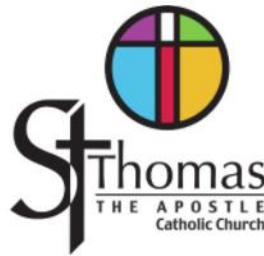
Choir Director: Erin Craig.....  
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Annulment Consultant:  
John Mackoway.....699-5213

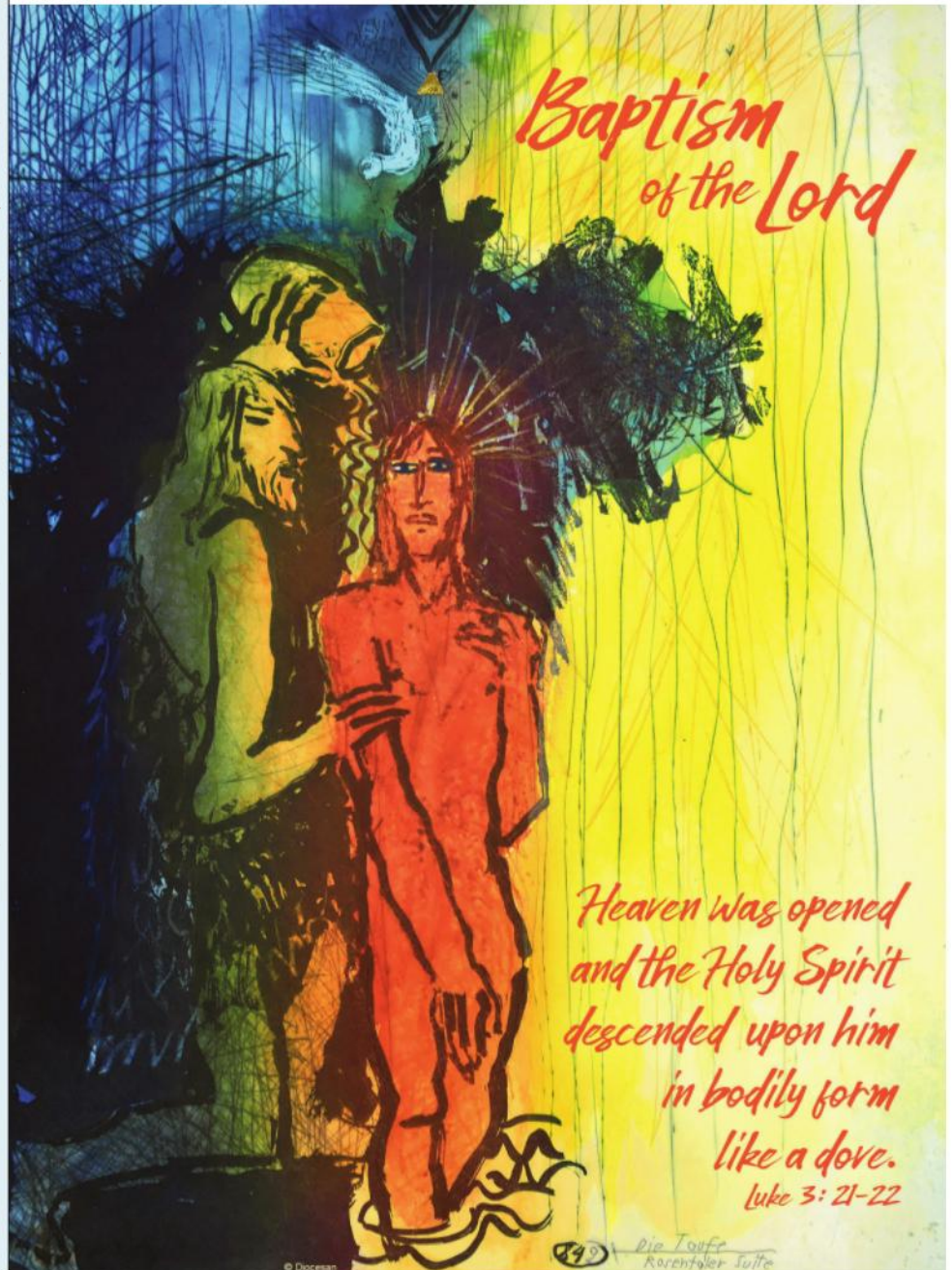
Parish Nurse: Mary Clare Geraghty.(x1350)  
[parishnurse@stthomas-church.net](mailto:parishnurse@stthomas-church.net)

### Stay in Touch

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



January 9, 2022  
*Feast of the Baptism of the Lord*





## From Our Pastor

With the celebration of the Baptism of the Lord, we finish the Christmas season and return to ordinary time.

In the last bulletin, there was a misprint regarding Mass times on January 1, the feast of Mary, Mother of God, which was not a holy day of obligation this year. I offer my apologies for any confusion caused by this oversight.

I will take some time for vacation during these early days of January. I am grateful to the priests who will be assisting with the celebration of Mass during my absence.

As I look back over the last several months, I am not sure that I completely realized the demands of taking care of Fr. Stark as his health began to show signs of decline in August, as he received his diagnosis of cancer, and in his final days before he passed. After Christmas, I was more aware of the weight of carrying all the responsibilities for pastoral care at Saint Thomas by myself. As I take some time off, I look forward to disconnecting for a bit, which is both healthy and necessary. I know this will help me return with a renewed spirit.

— Msgr. Gray

## Pray with the Pope



**January 2022**  
**For true human fraternity**

We pray for all those suffering from religious discrimination and persecution; may their own rights and dignity be recognized, which originate from being brothers and sisters in the human family.



## Readings for the Week of January 9, 2022

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Feast of the Baptism of the Lord</b> Isaiah 40: 1-5, 9-11; Titus 2: 11-14; 3: 4-7; Luke 3: 15-16, 21-22
<b>Monday</b>	1 Samuel 1: 1-8; Mark 1: 14-20
<b>Tuesday</b>	1 Samuel 1: 9-20; Mark 1: 21-28
<b>Wednesday</b>	1 Samuel 3: 1-10, 19-20; Mark 1: 29-39
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>St. Hilary, Bishop &amp; Doctor of the Church</b> 1 Samuel 4: 1-11; Mark 1: 40-45
<b>Friday</b>	1 Samuel 8: 4-7, 10-22a; Mark 2: 1-12
<b>Saturday</b>	1 Samuel 9: 1-4, 17-19; 10: 1a; Mark 2: 13-17
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Second Sunday in Ordinary Time</b> Isaiah 62: 1-5; 1 Corinthians 12: 4-11; John 2: 1-11

## Mass Intentions

### Monday, January 10, 2022

7:00 a.m. Fr. Paul Stark, S.J./Angela Kenny

### Tuesday, January 11, 2022

7:00 a.m. Mary Vogel Kelly/Amy & John Kelly

### Wednesday, January 12, 2022

7:00 a.m. Bishop Edward O'Rourke/Jeanne Whalen

### Thursday, January 13, 2022

7:00 a.m. Charles Morris/Ed & Cathy Mallow  
9:15 a.m. Jeremy Snyder/Grandpa

### Friday, January 14, 2022

7:00 a.m. Dr. James N. Kenny, Sr./Family

### Saturday, January 15, 2022

8:00 a.m. Mariano Tolentino/The Tolentino & Sarmiento Families  
5:00 p.m. Raymundo Aguila/Juanita Corrales

### Sunday, January 16, 2022

8:00 a.m. Tom Burek/George & Connie Burek  
10:00 a.m. Intentions of Jacinta Axelson/Michael & Whitney Axelson  
5:00 p.m. For the People

## Week of January 9

**COFFEE AND DONUTS** after Sunday morning Masses, Parish Hall

**ROSARY** Tuesday, January 11, 10:00 a.m., Church

**ST. VINCENT DE PAUL** Tuesday, January 11, 7:00 p.m., Parish Hall

**CCD** Wednesday, January 12, 6:00 p.m., School

**RCIA** Wednesday, January 12, 7:00 p.m., Parish Hall

### UPCOMING EVENTS

St. Thomas Holy Hour	January 20
Ladies Night	January 28
Adoration	February 4



Each week we will highlight one of the volunteer opportunities available here at St. Thomas. This week it's *Eucharistic Ministers to Homebound*. You can call, or email, the Parish Office if you are interested in helping.

## Eucharistic Ministers to Homebound

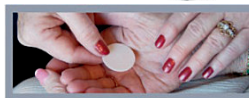
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion take the Holy Eucharist to those who are unable to attend mass due to illness or disability.

Extraordinary ministers should be distinguished by their holiness of life and must receive a mandate from the Bishop.

Volunteers will need a pyx and burse to hold the Eucharist while transporting it. They will also need a booklet.

Homebound parishioners like to visit and just talk about what is going on in their lives. Homebound ministers can also notify Monsignor if one of the shut-ins needs confession or anointing.

Thank you for considering this ministry.  
Deacon Ed Mallow (309) 360-7735



## Weekly Collection

	January 2, 2022	Fiscal YTD
Collections needed.....	\$20,000.....	\$540,000
Sunday Collections.....	\$13,076.....	\$393,630
Electronic Collections .....	\$3,188.....	\$86,498
Total Collected.....	\$16,264.....	\$480,128
Over/(Short) .....	\$(3,736).....	\$(59,872)

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

Sue Alexander

Genevieve Hinchman

John McNally

## RCIA Topics

**Jan 12:** Orders, Religious Life

**Jan 19:** Penance, Anointing, Funerals

**Jan 26:** Marriage

**Feb 2:** Moral Life, virtues, sin, moral society

**Feb 9:** Prayer, Universal Call to Holiness

**Feb 16:** Our Father, Hail Mary, other prayers, prepare for Lent

**Feb 23:** Moral Law, grace

## That Man is You



Is returning in the Spring. It will run **Fridays** from **January 28<sup>th</sup> until April 29<sup>th</sup>**.

Everyone who participated in the fall is automatically enrolled for spring. All other men who are interested are invited to join.

Doors open for coffee and light breakfast at 6:00 a.m. The program begins at 6:30 and ends at 7:30 a.m.

If you have questions, or want to join, please email George Burek at [georgeburek@yahoo.com](mailto:georgeburek@yahoo.com).

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Congratulations to our 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Comets on their Championship in the Holiday Tournament.



## When you go to the poor, you encounter Jesus



My apologies to the members of the Society, last week a portion of the information from the SVdP Society was accidentally left out of the bulletin. Here is that information.

These are the numbers for the year October 1, 2020 - September 30, 2021 is as follows:

**Balance 10/1/2020** \$21,224

### Income

Church Collections \$60,577

Other Donations \$15,810

### Expenses

Pantry \$2,096

Miscellaneous \$2,657

For those we serve \$65,052

**Balance 9/30/21** \$27,176

We are deeply grateful for your continued support. Please consider joining our group of Vincentians. For more information please call:

Don Smith 309 693 8062

Deacon Mark Kelsch 309 692 4908

Nancy Medendorp 309 688 5996



Congratulations to our 7th grade Comets for bringing home some hardware from the Michael P. Honan Memorial Tournament at St. Joe's! These boys got 2<sup>nd</sup> place to a tough BSS team. Way to go Comets! Congratulations to Matt Kilian, Paddy Graham, and Sean Graham for being named to the All-Tournament Team.



Join us for Coffee and  
Donuts after morning  
Mass this weekend



## Ladies Bunco Night Out

Friday, January 28<sup>th</sup> in the Parish Hall  
6:00 pm - Dinner  
7:00 pm - Bunco Starts

All Ladies of the Parish are invited!

\*Note the date change since our last bulletin

## Mass for the Protection of the Unborn

Friday, January 28, 2022 at 10:30 a.m.  
Cathedral of St. Mary of the Immaculate  
Conception, 607 NE Madison Ave., Peoria

For more information contact: Cecilia Soñe at  
309-671-1550 or [csone@ccdop.org](mailto:csone@ccdop.org)

## THANK YOU FROM PEORIA NOTRE DAME



The students, faculty, and staff of  
Peoria Notre Dame wish to thank  
everyone who supported the 12  
Days of Christmas Cash and Car  
Raffle. Your participation helps  
provide a quality Catholic

education to high school students in the Peoria  
area.

To view the list of winners, visit  
[pndhs.org/12days/](http://pndhs.org/12days/).

Thank you!

## EMPOWER ILLINOIS SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS FOR THE 2022/2023 SCHOOL YEAR JANUARY 12, 2022 AT 6:30

Families can make a reservation for the 2022-2023 Empower Illinois tax credit scholarships on **January 12, 2022 at 6:30pm**. It is very important to apply for a reservation on January 12<sup>th</sup> because applications are considered on the basis of the date and time that the reservation is submitted. You will need to go to the Empower Illinois website at [empowerillinois.org](http://empowerillinois.org) to apply.

The **reservation form** will be available at **6:30 pm on January 12<sup>th</sup>** to give families time to enter their information before **submission at 7 pm**. The reservation form will have two pages. On page one, you will enter basic information, such as parent or guardian name, student name, and contact information. On page two, you will review this information and click submit. *Only after clicking submit on Page two will you receive your first-come first-served timestamp.*

After completing part one, you will be notified by email when part two of the application process opens. You should complete part 2 as soon as possible for the best chance at receiving a scholarship. Completion of Part 2 includes uploading a copy of your 2020 tax return.

If you would like help in applying for the Empower Illinois Scholarship please contact Pat at [patwombacher@stthomas-school.net](mailto:patwombacher@stthomas-school.net) or at **688-3446, ex 1341**.

Please remember that even if you received an Empower Illinois Scholarship for the 2021/2022 school year, you will still need to reapply for next year.

## RMDs and QCDs

Yes, we know that those of us who are at least 72 years old and have an IRA or 401K retirement account must withdraw a **Required Minimum Distribution** each year. But, did you also know that your RMD can be in the form of a **Qualified Charitable Distribution**? You can designate the amount to go directly to one, or more, qualifying 501(c)(3) charities, and **you don't have to pay income taxes** on your withdrawal.

Be sure to contact your financial advisor for more information.

**St. Thomas Parish is a qualifying 501(c)(3)**

## Catholic Women's League

### Membership Dues

For the calendar year Jan. 1st - Dec. 31, 2022

Members - \$20/per year  
Life Members - \$10/per year

Please pay before April 1st, 2022

New Members contact **Ann Gerardo** for applications and questions  
(630)-464-8474 (cell)



## Catholic Charities Praying Partners

Starting on January 3, 2022 join us via Zoom on Mondays from 12-12:30 p.m. to pray a rosary of intercession for all the prayer requests received and in solidarity for all those that suffer.



Zoom link: [https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89259333685?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89259333685?pwd=UDg1Tjhvc04yLzUxWjNjZlYjIhbiY5Zz09)

[pwd=UDg1Tjhvc04yLzUxWjNjZlYjIhbiY5Zz09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89259333685?pwd=UDg1Tjhvc04yLzUxWjNjZlYjIhbiY5Zz09)

Meeting ID: 892 5933 3685

Passcode: 483895

One tap mobile +13126266799,,89259333685#,,,,\*483895# US (Chicago)

## A NEW FUNDRAISER FOR BUILDING HOPE IN KIDS- UGANDA



VS

PEORIA RIVERMEN VS. QUAD CITY STORM

FRIDAY JANUARY 21<sup>ST</sup> 2022 @ 7:15 PM

PEORIA CIVIC CENTER

TICKETS ARE \$ 25.00 EACH

\$9.00 OF EACH TICKET GOES TO BHIK-U

PLEASE MAKE YOUR CHECKS OUT TO

**ADOLPH ARNOLD**

**111 REGENT CT.**

**EAST PEORIA IL.61611**

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

### 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. Thomas - Food Pantry

Current needs are: canned fruit, canned soup, jelly, meal helper, pasta sauce, peanut butter, and boxed side dishes

Thank you for your generosity



**nami**

National Alliance on Mental Illness

**Tri-County Illinois**

Peoria, Tazewell & Woodford Counties

NAMI of Tri-County Illinois is again offering their education and support group monthly meetings starting this month.

**Proof of vaccination or negative test within the week and masks are required**

Support groups meet at **7:00 p.m.** on **Thursday, January 20<sup>th</sup>** in Poplar Hall

Same vaccine requirements!

**Connection:** For individuals living in recovery of any mental health diagnosis. Poplar Hall, Rm 127

**Family Support Group:** For family, close relations of individuals living with mental health conditions, Poplar Hall, Rm 132

Contact NAMI Tri-County Illinois:

Phone information line 309-693-0541

[www.namitricountyillinois.org](http://www.namitricountyillinois.org)

Fb: Nami Tri- County IL

## Rachel's Vineyard Retreat

**February 25-27, 2022**

Has the abortion experience that has left you feeling empty and alone? Rachel's Vineyard Retreat is available in our diocese for any man or woman who has struggled with the emotional and spiritual pain of abortion. This healing weekend is for singles or married couples, mothers, fathers, grandparents, siblings, or anyone suffering the effects of an abortion loss.

Register now for the **Feb. 25-27, 2022** retreat by calling **309-264-1489** or email [rvrpeoria@gmail.com](mailto:rvrpeoria@gmail.com).

All communications are strictly confidential. For more information: <https://cdop.org/offices/respect-life/rl-programs-resources/rachels-vineyard> or the national Rachel's Vineyard website at <https://www.rachelsvineyard.org/>.

**How to Submit Bulletin Information**

Send information for the bulletin to [parishoffice@stthomas-church.net](mailto: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. Please, DO NOT send PDFs.**

**Sacrament of Baptism**

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

**Confessions**

Saturday 4:00-4:45pm  
&  
6:00-6:30 p.m.

**Parish Office Hours**

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
- 0 - Terri- Administrative Assist.
- 1340 - Julie-Accounting
- 1341 - Pat-Tuition

If you have items to deliver for the Parish Office, you are welcome to put them through the mail slot 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.

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