St. Thomas the Apostle Parish Staff

Office Hours: M-F 9:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m.

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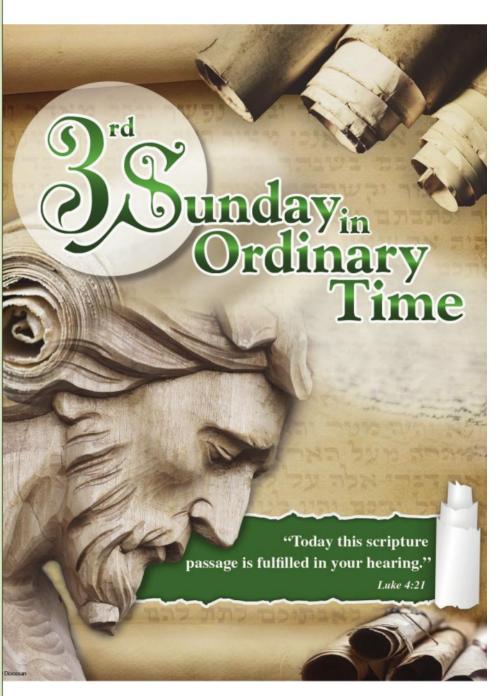
Parish Nurse: Mary Clare Geraghty.(x1350) parishnurse@stthomas-church.net

Stay in Touch

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



January 23, 2022 Third Sunday in Ordinary Time





On the anniversary of Roe v. Wade, the Catholic Church unites with other Churches throughout the country to pray for a greater respect for the dignity of human life. Please join in your prayerful support for the protection of the unborn. Saturday, January 22, was also a day of penance in which we are asked by the Conference of Bishops to offer some voluntary sacrifice for the protection of the right to life.

The gathering for the March for Life in Washington D.C. was limited by the spread of COVID, so not everyone who intended to travel to the Capitol was able to do so. However, we can all be united in our prayer for this cause.

It is important that everyone know that the Lord's mercy is readily available, especially for those who have dealt with abortion in the past. The Diocese of Peoria offers resources, including Project Rachel, to help those who are grieving to find healing. Rather than condemning, Jesus said, Let he who is without sin cast the first stone. And then, offering forgiveness, Nor do I condemn you. Go and sin no more (See John 8:7-11).

In a week, we also have the celebration of Catholic Schools' Week with many activities planned for the school children. Our parish should also celebrate because St. Thomas School is supported by our Parish and is a testament to our shared commitment to educating our children. A sign of this commitment has already been shown in the generous donations from parishioners to replace worn out school windows, as well as the generous contributions to our Sponsor A Student program and Empower Illinois.

Please encourage those you know among your neighbors, friends, and family to visit St. Thomas School and consider enrolling their children. I know how dedicated our staff is and I am confident in the superior quality of education that our school provides. Each of you can help be an ambassador for our school and parish.

On behalf of our students, school families, faculty, and staff, I thank you for your ongoing support of Catholic Education!

— Msgr. Gray



Readings for the Week of January 23, 2022

Sunday Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Nehemiah 8: 2-4a, 5-6, 8-10; 1 Corinthians 12: 12-30;

Luke 1: 1-4; 4: 14-21

Monday St. Francis de Sales, Bishop & Doctor of the Church

2 Samuel 5: 1-7, 10; Mark 3: 22-30

Tuesday The Conversion of St. Paul the Apostle

Acts 22: 3-16 or Acts 9: 1-22; Mark 16: 15-18

Wednesday Sts. Timothy & Titus, Bishops

2 Timothy 1: 1-8 or Titus 1: 1-5; Mark 4: 1-20

Thursday St. Angela Merici, Virgin

2 Samuel 7: 18-19, 24-29; Mark 4: 21-25

Friday St. Thomas Aguinas, Priest & Doctor of the Church

2 Samuel 11: 1-4a, 5-10a, 13-17; Mark 4: 26-34

Saturday 2 Samuel 12: 1-7a, 10-17; Mark 4: 35-41

Sunday Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Jeremiah 1: 4-5, 17-19; 1 Corinthians 12: 31—13: 13;

Luke 4: 21-30

Mass Intentions

Monday, January 24, 2022

7:00 a.m. Marita Merkle/Mike & Theresa Haughney

Tuesday, January 25, 2022

7:00 a.m. Intentions of Michael Axelson

Wednesday, January 26, 2022

7:00 a.m. Special Intentions of Bob & Deb Wenzel Family/

Mary Ann Noe

Thursday, January 27, 2022

7:00 a.m. Intentions of James Zucksworth/Ed & Cathy Mallow

9:15 a.m. Del Bertschy/Catherine Eilers

Friday, January 28, 2022

7:00 a.m. Dr. William Marshall/Linda Osika

Saturday, January 29, 2022

8:00 a.m. Dolores Oppe/Shirley Oppe

5:00 p.m. Ricky Mercurio/The Corrales Family

Sunday, January 30, 2022

8:00 a.m. Jeri Callahan/John Callahan

10:00 a.m. Mary Kay Barkley/Doug & Sandy Milby

5:00 p.m. For the People

Week of January 23

ROSARY Tuesday, January 25, 10:00 a.m., Church

CCD Wednesday, January 26, 6:00 p.m., School

RCIA Wednesday, January 26, 7:00 p.m., Parish Hall

THAT MAN IS YOU Friday, January 28, 6:30 a.m.,

LADIES NIGHT Friday, January 28, 6:00 p.m., Parish Hall

UPCOMING EVENTS

Adoration February 4 St. Thomas Holy Hour February 17

Our Sympathy

Andrew Burgeson, father of Bridget Sherman

James Lasher

Ed Harmon

Baptism Congratulations

Nora Jane Scrivner, daughter of Jonathan & Katherine Scrivner

That Man is You



Begins again this Friday, January 28th and will continue until April 29th.

All men of the Parish are invited to join.

Everyone who participated in the fall is automatically enrolled for spring.

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.

RCIA Topics

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

Mar 2: Ash Wednesday, NO Class

Mar 9: Ten & Great Commandments, #1-3;

Divine/Natural Law Mar 16: Commandments 4, 5, 7, 8

Mar 23: Commandments 6, 9, 10 Mar 30: History of the Church

Weekly Collection

	January 16, 2022	Fiscal YTD
Collections needed	\$20,000	\$580,000
Sunday Collections	\$10,986	\$419,320
Electronic Collections	\$3,188	\$92,874
Total Collected	\$14,174	\$512,194
Over/(Short)	\$(5,826)	\$(67,806)

Your support of St. Thomas Parish is important to sustain our Please remember to contribute mission. regularly 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 port.



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.

Sponsor of the Week



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Catholic Schools Week 2022 January 30-February 5

www.NCEA.org/csw

#CSW22

Join us for an Open House!

Check out St. Thomas Catholic School on Sunday, January 30 from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Come see and hear ALL that St. Thomas has to offer!

CALL: **309-685-2533**

PRE3—8th GRADE

Now accepting Preschool/Kindergarten and New Student Applications
Contact Cheryl Reese at office@stthomas-school.net or visit our website http://school.stthomaspeoria.org

Pre-K & Kindergarten

There is arguably no more important time in your child's education than the pre-k and kindergarten years. It's a special time for every child where they meet new friends, while developing academically and emotionally. At St. Thomas, we know just how special the early years of a child's education can be and we've created a nurturing and enriched environment designed to start your child off on the right educational path.

Academics

Our students are well prepared to move on to the next grade level and we have the test scores to prove it. Our students in every grade consistently score well above the national averages on standardized tests.

They perform well because of a combination of an enriched curriculum, outstanding teachers and personalized attention to student learning.

Religion

Our Catholic faith is at the foundation of all that we do. Christian values are woven into daily school life, with religious instruction as a regular part of the curriculum and the ongoing development of your child's faith at the forefront of our teaching. We foster an environment where our child's faith comes to life.



We Teach Truth, Build Character and Inspire Service. Remember, at our school everyone matters and counts.

Activities

We know that learning happens in many ways and that skills developed outside of the classroom are just as important as those developed within. We offer a wealth of extracurricular activities to help your child reach his or her fullest potential. From robotics to basketball, students are able to develop their social, physical and mental skills through peer interaction.

Community Fun. Friendly. Nurturing.

These are words students and families alike use to describe the atmosphere and spirit of St. Thomas School. Our sense of community is prevalent in everything we do, and is truly one of the distinguishing aspects of your child's learning environment.

St. Thomas - Food Pantry

Current needs are: boxed skillet meals, pasta sauce, peanut butter, boxed side dishes, and personal hygiene products

Thank you for your generosity



Friday, January 28st* in the Parish Hall 6:00 pm - Dinner 7:00 pm - Bunco Starts

All Ladies of the Parish are invited!

This is a covid-friendly event, with individual dinners from Panera. RSVP to Jessica Ramsay at 309-265-1989



Robotics Team Awarded

Congratulations again to our Robotics Team! This team received the Core Values Award and is going at the end of the month to represent us at the State Competition in Champaign! Congrats Robocomets!

Good Luck at State!!



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

Right to Life

We educate and encourage involvement in activities that respect, protect, and support human life.

Volunteer involvement can vary, including prayer, planning, and participation in a wide variety of activities that support prolife organizations or provide the parish and school information and updates on current issues. The needs are great involving life and death issues.



Moms and Mom-osas!

MOMS! Please join us!

Let St. Thomas treat you to brunch. Bring friends!

Join us for food, mimosas, games, and new friends in the St.

Thomas Cafeteria.

February 5, 2022 from 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

RSVP: cometmoms123@gmail.com by January 31, 2022.



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)



Monthly Holy Hours for Vocations with Fr. Chase.

Did you know that Fr. Chase Hilgenbrinck hosts a monthly holy hour and leads meditation in various Peoria area parishes? Join the movement of monthly devotion to our Eucharistic Lord for the increase in faithful vocations to priesthood and consecrated life!

All holy hours are from 6:30pm-7:30pm.

- February 15th: St. Mark's, Peoria
- March 8th: St. Jude's, Peoria
- April 5th: St. Edward's, Chillicothe
- May 10th: St. Vincent's, Peoria

Holy Hour for the Rights of the Unborn

Saint Mark's Church, 1113 W. Bradley Avenue, in Peoria. 7:00 P.M., Monday February 7, 2022.

Face masks and social distancing requested.

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

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.

·
ZIP

Change of address/phone ___

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**

Rachel's Vineyard Retreat

February 25-27, 2022

Has the abortion experience 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.**

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/.

New Parishioner _____

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. 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 p.m.-until last confession heard.

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 4:00 p.m. every day.



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