

## St. Thomas the Apostle Parish Staff

Office Hours: M-F 9:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m.

904 East Lake Avenue,  
Peoria Heights, IL 61616  
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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 30, 2022*  
*Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time*

*National Catholic Schools' Week ~ Jan 30-Feb 5*

## a dozen reasons to choose Catholic Schools





## From Our Pastor

Join with us in the celebration of Catholic Schools' Week. There will be an open house in the school this Sunday morning. St. Thomas School is a great benefit to our parish. Please stop by the school for a visit.

On Wednesday, February 2, we will celebrate the Presentation of the Lord in the Temple. This is a traditional day to bless candles which we will do at our 7 AM Mass. Please join us for Mass on Wednesday.

In order to increase the number of altar servers for our Masses, I will be training new fourth grade students soon. Any student, fourth grade or older, is welcome to be trained to serve. Please contact the school or parish for more information.

Last week I offered homework of scripture readings to offer a fuller understanding of the Sunday readings. For those who would like to continue, I offer these passages for this weekend's readings.

Read Jeremiah 1. When reading the entire chapter, note how Jeremiah is chosen by the Lord who is *watching to fulfill his word* and who is calling foreign nations *like a boiling cauldron* to oppose and flow over Judah for the sake of their conversion.

Jesus speaks about Elijah who was sent to a widow in Zarephath and Elisha who cured Naaman the Syrian. Read these passage from the Old Testament in 1 Kings 17 and 2 Kings 5.

-Msgr. Gray

## RCIA Topics

**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



## Readings for the Week of January 30, 2022

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time</b> Jeremiah 1: 4-5, 17-19; 1 Corinthians 12: 31—13: 13; Luke 4: 21-30
<b>Monday</b>	<b>St. John Bosco, Priest</b> 2 Samuel 15: 13-14, 30; 16: 5-13; Mark 5: 1-20
<b>Tuesday</b>	2 Samuel 18: 9-10, 14b, 24-25a, 30—19: 3; Mark 5: 21-43
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>The Presentation of the Lord</b> Malachi 3: 1-4; Hebrews 2: 14-18; Luke 2: 22-40
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>St. Blaise, Bishop &amp; Martyr</b> 1 Kings 2: 1-4, 10-12; Mark 6: 7-13
<b>Friday</b>	Sirach 47: 2-11; Mark 6: 14-29
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>St. Agatha, Virgin &amp; Martyr</b> 1 Kings 3: 4-13; Mark 6: 30-34
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time</b> Isaiah 6: 1-2a, 3-8; 1 Corinthians 15: 1-11; Luke 5: 1-11

## Mass Intentions

### Monday, January 31, 2022

7:00 a.m. John & Marge McNally/Jack & Margaret Weinstein

### Tuesday, February 1, 2022

7:00 a.m. Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians

### Wednesday, February 2, 2022

7:00 a.m. Harry LaHood, Sr./Family

### Thursday, February 3, 2022

7:00 a.m. Krystle Camp/Mary Camp

9:15 a.m. Fr. Paul Stark, S.J./Bob & Barb Gusman

### Friday, February 4, 2022

7:00 a.m. Joseph & Florence Whalen/Jeanne Whalen

### Saturday, February 5, 2022

8:00 a.m. Purgatorial Society

5:00 p.m. Ann White/Jerry White & Laurie Trimble

### Sunday, February 6, 2022

8:00 a.m. Sr. Bernadette Kouri, FSJB

10:00 a.m. Kevin Harmon & Ed Harmon

5:00 p.m. For the People

## Week of January 30

**SIGN-UP FOR FIRST FRIDAY ADORATION** This Weekend after all Masses, narthex

**ST. THOMAS SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE** Sunday, January 30, 10:00 a.m., School

**ROSARY** Tuesday, February 1, 10:00 a.m., Church

**CCD** Wednesday, February 2, 6:00 p.m., School

**RCIA** Wednesday, February 2, 7:00 p.m., Parish Hall

**THAT MAN IS YOU** Friday, February 4, doors open 6:00 a.m., program 6:30 a.m., Parish Hall

**ADORATION** Friday, February 4, after 7:00 Mass until Benediction at 7:00 p.m.

**STS MOMS & MOMOSAS** Saturday, February 5, 9:00 a.m., STS Cafeteria

### UPCOMING EVENTS

St. Thomas Holy Hour  
Adoration

February 17  
March 4



## Open House

**St. Thomas School**  
**Sunday, January 30, 10:00 a.m.—12:00 p.m.**

Come and see what our students have been doing, learn about our school community, meet our teachers and staff.

We especially invite those families with prospective students to come and talk with us.

*Academic excellence is the hallmark of Catholic education intentionally directed to the growth of the whole person – mind, body and spirit. Service is fundamental to Catholic education and the core of Catholic discipleship. Service is intended to help form people who are not only witnesses to Catholic social teaching, but also active participants through social learning.* From: Office of Catholic Schools, Diocese of Peoria

## Weekly Collection

	January 23, 2022	Fiscal YTD
Collections needed.....	\$20,000	\$600,000
Sunday Collections.....	\$15,285	\$434,605
Electronic Collections .....	\$3,188	\$96,062
Total Collected.....	\$18,473	\$530,667
Over/(Short) .....	\$(1,527)	\$(69,333)

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

Jeanine Stimeling

## Baptism Congratulations

Braxton Michael Bell, son of Kaitlen Bell

Mazie Renee Bell, daughter &  
Marshall Kenneth Creveling, son of  
Sarah Lowry & Skylar Bell

## 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.



February 2022

For religious sisters and consecrated women

We pray for religious sisters and consecrated women; thanking them for their mission and their courage; may they continue to find new responses to the challenges of our times.

Sponsor of the Week







# Catholic Schools Week 2022

## January 30–February 5

[www.NCEA.org/csw](http://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](mailto: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*

## 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](mailto:cometmoms123@gmail.com) by January 31, 2022.

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



PRAYING TO HAVE HEARTS THAT BRING GOD'S LOVE TO THE NEEDY

The members of SVDP at St. Thomas wish to thank you for your prayers and monetary support without which we could not assist the needy calling for help. Beginning the new year, the rate of calls we received has significantly increased. As of Jan. 12, we have received 19 requests to help 40 family members - 12 for rent, 3 for water, 1 for power, 2 for transportation, and 1 for tuition. There are many reasons why the callers are in desperate need of help. We listen to their stories, do some investigating and offer other resources, in addition to ours, that may be helpful. Then we pray that we make the right decision. It is an honor to serve those less fortunate.

If you are interested in joining our group, please call the church office at 309-688-3446. A member of SVDP will be alerted to contact you to answer any questions.

## Holy Hour for the Rights of the Unborn

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

Face masks and social distancing requested.

Holy Hour consists of Benediction, the Rosary, and other prayers.



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

## Martha Group

We provide lunch for a family after the funeral of a loved one.

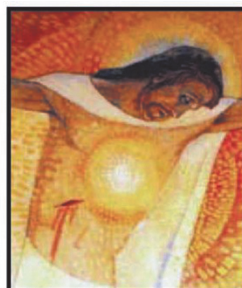
Volunteer opportunities include:

- Helping coordinate food
- Providing a potluck dish
- Setting up for the meal
- Helping serve and clean up



Dropping off food usually occurs the morning of a funeral between 7-10 AM.

Serving the meal involves coming before to set up and helping with clean up.



2022 Lenten Day of Recollection

*Redemptive Suffering & the Hope of Heaven*

Saturday, March 19, 2022 9am – 3pm  
Spalding Pastoral Center  
419 N.E. Madison Ave., Peoria



Fr. John Verrier  
Pastor, St. Joseph, Brimfield  
and St. James, Williamsfield



Sister Faustina Thomas O.P.  
Dominican Sisters of Mary,  
Mother of the Eucharist



Fr. Daniel McShane  
Parochial Vicar, St. Jude Peoria

9:00 a.m. Check-in and Continental Breakfast  
Breakfast, Lunch, and talks | Adoration | Sacrament of Reconciliation  
Mass at 11AM

Books, gifts, religious goods for sale  
Community of St. John | Dominicans of Mary, Mother of the Eucharist | Servants of the Pierced Hearts  
Fulton Sheen Museum (on-site) | Visit Fulton Sheen tomb at St. Mary's Cathedral (2 blocks away)

**\*\*REGISTRATION CLOSING MARCH 11\*\***  
Due to lunch reservation required

Questions? Arlene Heinz (309)868-9061 or Janice Lukich (309)231-1814.

\$25 per person Check made payable to "Divine Mercy Cenacle of Peoria"  
Please include attendee(s) name, contact email, and phone.

ALL REGISTRATIONS WILL BE CONFIRMED VIA EMAIL

MAIL TO: Mrs. Paula Gottemoller, 13027 W. Parks School Rd., Princeville, IL 61559

"You expired, Jesus, but the source of life gushed forth for souls, and the ocean of mercy opened up for the whole world. O Fount of Life, unfathomable Divine Mercy, envelop the whole world and empty Yourself out upon us."  
(Diary of St. Faustina, 1319)



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Option 1- [go.illinois.edu/HCHEAL1](https://go.illinois.edu/HCHEAL1)  
 Option 2- [go.illinois.edu/HCHEAL2](https://go.illinois.edu/HCHEAL2)  
 Option 3- [go.illinois.edu/HCHEAL3](https://go.illinois.edu/HCHEAL3)

	Option 1 Mondays, 12-12:30p	Option 2 Wednesdays, 3-3:30p	Option 3 Thursdays, 6:30-7p
Lesson 9:	January 24	January 26	January 27
Lesson 10:	February 14	February 9	February 10
Lesson 11:	February 28	February 23	February 24
Lesson 12:	March 1	March 9	March 10

**Join us for the last four classes!**

\*There are 12 sessions in all and you may earn up to \$75 per household if you attend the full series. Choose the option that works best for you!

If you need reasonable accommodations to participate in the program, contact: [racumri@illinois.edu](mailto:racumri@illinois.edu)

This program/project has been made possible by a grant from the Ending Hunger Together Fund of the Community Foundation of Central Illinois.

**Illinois Extension**  
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

**EAT. MOVE. SAVE.**

This institution is an equal opportunity provider. This material was funded by USDA's Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program - SNAP. College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences. University of Illinois | United States Department of Agriculture. Local Extension Councils Cooperating. Illinois Extension: <https://go.illinois.edu/EatMoveSave>.

## Monthly Holy Hours for Vocations with Fr. Chase.

Did you know that Fr. Chase Hilgenbrink 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 15<sup>th</sup>: St. Mark's, Peoria
- March 8<sup>th</sup>: St. Jude's, Peoria
- April 5<sup>th</sup>: St. Edward's, Chillicothe
- May 10<sup>th</sup>: St. Vincent's, Peoria

PND Annual Blue & Green Gala, March 19, 2022  
 Event includes food, fun, & fundraising. Tickets:

<https://pndhs.ejoinme.org/Gala2022> or scan the QR code



**Fish Fry** The St. Bernard Men's Club fish fry  
**Friday, February 4<sup>th</sup>**, from 5:30-7:00 p.m.  
 School Gym, 512 E. Kansas, Peoria.

**You may dine in or carry out.**

**Cost:** \$15.00 for catfish or a baked cod  
 \$10.00 for shrimp or fried cod

Dinners include cole slaw, choice of potato and bread.

Children's meals of corn dogs, fried cod, or shrimp are available for \$5.00.

## 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](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/>.

## 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 \_\_\_\_\_



**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 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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Keri Thierer, mother of  
Aberdeen in St. Thomas  
graduating class of 2026.

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