# 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 stthomaspeoria.org; 309-688-3446 parishoffice@stthomas-church.net

Pastor: Msgr. Jason A. Gray......(x3) msgrgray@stthomas-church.net Fr. John Twinomujuni.....In Residence

Sacristan: Mother Vaclava Ballon, FSJB (688-3500); fsibpeoria@yahoo.com

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

Choir Director: Erin Craig.....erincraig@stthomas-school.net

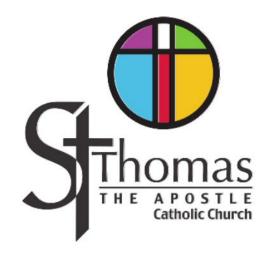
Annulment Consultant:

John Mackoway......699-5213

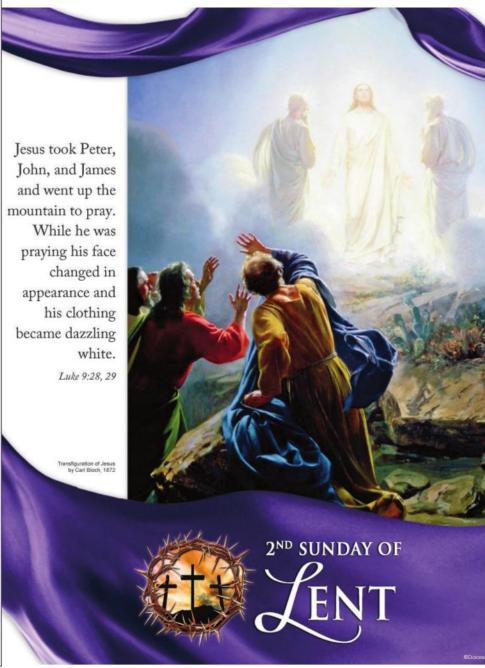
Parish Nurse: Mary Clare Geraghty.(x1350) parishnurse@stthomas-church.net

#### 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).



March 13 2022 Second Sunday of Lent





#### From Our Pastor

On Bishop Jenky's 75th birthday, Pope Francis accepted his resignation, simultaneously confirming Bishop Louis Tylka as our ninth Bishop of Peoria. Bishop Tylka marked the beginning of his ministry as Bishop of Peoria last Sunday as his Coat of Arms was installed above the cathedra in the Cathedral of St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception. You can find a depiction and explanation of his Coat of Arms in the bulletin.

We recently presented our RCIA class to Bishop Tylka at the Cathedral for the Rite of Election. The members of our RCIA class are nearing the final stages before their entrance into the Catholic Church at the Easter Vigil. Please remember them in your prayers.

As we continue through Lent, please join us for devotions on Friday evenings with Adoration and Confessions at 6:00 p.m. and Stations of the Cross at 7:00 p.m. There are additional times for confessions on Saturday afternoon as well as Sunday morning and Sunday afternoon. Please see the bulletin for details.

We will also have our monthly holy hour this week, Thursday, March 17, from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. Please join us as we honor the Blessed Sacrament.

Finally, I am grateful for the donations that have come forward to support the replacement of our old school windows. We have now raised over \$360,000 with about \$60,000 to go to fully pay the expense of the windows and their installation. With your help, we can fully fund this project before we carry out this improvement over the Summer.

-Msgr. Gray

#### Sponsor of the Week





### Readings for the Week of March 13, 2022

Sunday Second Sunday of Lent

Genesis 15: 5-12, 17-18; Philippians 3: 17-4: 1

Luke 9: 28b-36

**Monday** Daniel 9: 4b-10; Luke 6: 36-38

**Tuesday** Isaiah 1: 10, 16-20; Matthew 23: 1-12

Wednesday Jeremiah 18: 18-20; Matthew 20: 17-28

Thursday St. Patrick, Bishop

Jeremiah 17: 5-10; Luke 16: 19-31

Friday St. Cyril of Jerusalem, Bishop & Doctor of the Church

Genesis 37: 3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28a; Matthew 21: 33-43, 45-46

Saturday St. Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary

2 Samuel 7: 4-5a, 12-14a, 16; Romans 4: 13, 16-18, 22;

Matthew 1: 16, 18-21, 24a

Sunday Third Sunday of Lent

Exodus 3: 1-8a, 13-15; 1 Corinthians 10: 1-6, 10-12;

Luke 13: 1-9

#### **Mass Intentions**

Monday, March 14, 2022

7:00 a.m. Dr. James N. Kenny, Sr./Family 9:15 a.m. Mary Kay Barkley/Susan Brady

Tuesday, March 15, 2022

7:00 a.m. Hafner & Smith Families

Wednesday, March 16, 2022

7:00 a.m. Joe & Joe Clyde Broussard/Mary Lou & Mike Bartley

Thursday, March 17, 2022

7:00 a.m. Msgr. William Watson/Friends

Friday, March 18, 2022

7:00 a.m. Joan Adler/Everett & Judy Howard

Saturday, March 19, 2022

8:00 a.m. Living & Deceased Sisters of St. Joseph/Frances Farraher

5:00 p.m. Adeline Snyder/Alan

Sunday, March 20, 2022

8:00 a.m. John Schermer/Family 10:00 a.m. Len Kuchan/Family 5:00 p.m. For the People

#### Week of March 13

ROSARY Tuesday, March 15, 10:00 a.m., Daily Mass Chapel

CCD Wednesday, March 16, 6:00 p.m., School

RCIA Wednesday, March 16, 7:00 p.m., Parish Hall

MEN'S CLUB Thursday, March 17, 6:30 p.m., Rudy's Cantina

HOLY HOUR Thursday, March 17, 7:00 p.m., Church

**THAT MAN IS YOU** Friday, March 18, doors open 6:00 a.m., program 6:30 a.m., Parish Hall

STATIONS OF THE CROSS Friday, March 18, 7:00 p.m., after Confessions

#### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

Fish Fry March 25 Adoration April 1

#### **Lenten Confessions**

**Fridays** 6:00 – 7:00 p.m.

Saturdays 4:00 – 4:45 p.m. & 6:00 p.m. until the last confession

**Sundays** 9:00 – 9:45 a.m. & 4:15 – 4:45 p.m.

#### Stations of the Cross

**Fridays** 7:00 P.M.



# Pray with the Pope

March 2022

For a Christian response to bioethical challenges

We pray for Christians facing new bioethical challenges; may they continue to defend the dignity of all human life with prayer and action.

# **Weekly Collection**

	March 6, 2022	Fiscal YTD
Collections needed	\$20,000	\$720,000
Sunday Collections	\$22,200	\$529,833
Electronic Collections	\$3,188	\$115,190
Total Collected	\$25,388	\$645,023
Over/(Short)	\$5,388	\$(74,977)

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.

# **Our Sympathy**

Rita Marie Willems, step-mother of Jennifer Willems

Jerry Watkins



#### **PARISH HOLY HOUR**

Thursday, March 17 7:00 p.m. — 8:00 p.m.

# Bishop Louis Tylka's Coat of Arms

As Bishop of Peoria, Bishop Tylka's Coat of Arms is now posted together with the Coat of Arms of the Diocese of Peoria over his chair (cathedra) in the Cathedral.

The red background represents the Holy Spirit. The two white waves represent the waters of Lake Michigan, along which the Archdiocese of Chicago is found where Bishop Tylka served as a priest. They also represent the waters of St. Mary of the Lake, Mundelein, the seminary where Bishop Tylka attended. Water also reminds us of our baptism and the beginning of our life of faith.

The center of the Coat of Arms is a mystical rose, an image of the Blessed Mother. The main petals of the rose are heart-shaped with a tongue of fire, an image of the Sacred Heart, and the fire of the Holy Spirit. Between the large petals are signs of the fleur-de-lis, a reference to St. Joseph, and to St. Louis the King (Bishop Tylka's baptismal patron). At the heart of the image is a Host, demonstrating the central importance of the Eucharist.

The motto below the shield is, Go Make Disciples, taken from Matthew 28:19.



# **RCIA Topics**

Mar 16: Commandments 4, 5, 7, 8 Mar 23: Commandments 6, 9, 10

Mar 30: History of the Church

Apr 6: Examination of Conscience, Preparation

for Confession, Review

#### Lent 2022

Ash Wednesday - March 2, 2022 Holy Triduum - April 14—16, 2022 Easter Sunday - April 17, 2022

Lent, a 40 day season of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving, begins on Ash Wednesday and ends at sundown on Holy Thursday. It is a period of preparation to celebrate the Resurrection of Jesus at Easter. During Lent, we seek the Lord in prayer by reading Sacred Scripture; we serve by giving alms; and we practice self-control through fasting. We are called not only to abstain from luxuries during Lent, but to a true inner conversion of heart as we seek to follow Christ's will more faithfully. We recall the waters of baptism in which we were also baptized into Christ's death, died to sin and evil, and began new life in Christ.

#### Prayer

For me, prayer is a surge of the heart; it is a simple look turned toward heaven, it is a cry of recognition and of love, embracing both trial and joy. -St. Therese of Lisieux (CCC 2558)

During Lent, we are asked to devote ourselves to seek the Lord in prayer and reading Scripture, to service by giving alms, and to practice self-control through fasting. Dive into God's word in Scripture this Lent or pray the rosary with your family.







PRAYER

FASTING

ALMSGIVING



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### **Fasting**

Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are obligatory days of fasting and abstinence for Catholics. In addition, Fridays during Lent are obligatory days of abstinence.

For members of the Latin Catholic Church, the norms on fasting are obligatory from age 18 until age 59. When fasting, a person is permitted to eat one full meal, as well as two smaller meals that together are not equal to a full meal. The norms concerning abstinence from meat are binding upon members of the Latin Catholic Church from age 14 onwards.

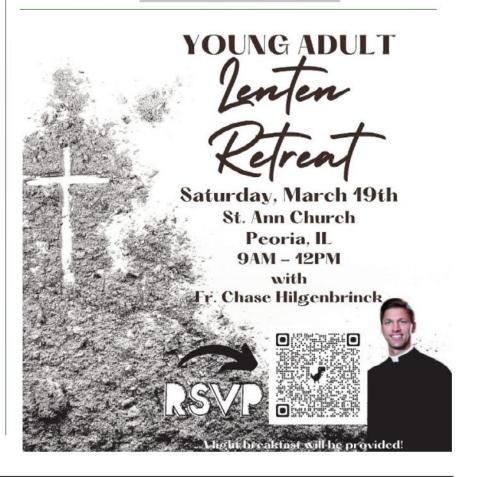
Members of the Eastern Catholic Churches are to observe the particular law of their own sui iuris Church.

If possible, the fast on Good Friday is continued until the Easter Vigil (on Holy Saturday night) as the *paschal fast* to honor the suffering and death of the Lord Jesus and to prepare ourselves to share more fully and to celebrate more readily his Resurrection.

#### **Almsgiving**

The foundational call of Christians to charity is a frequent theme of the Gospels. During Lent, we are asked to focus more intently on almsgiving, which means donating money or goods to the poor and performing other acts of charity. As one of the three pillars of Lenten practice, almsgiving is a witness to fraternal charity and a work of justice pleasing to God. (Catechism of the Catholic Church, no. 2462).

More information is available from the United States Conference of Catholic bishops [USCCB] <a href="https://www.usccb.org/prayer-and-worship/liturgical-year-and-calendar/lent">https://www.usccb.org/prayer-and-worship/liturgical-year-and-calendar/lent</a>



# CAT Matching grants for St. Thomas School Windows

If you work at Caterpillar, you might consider using their matching grant program to help finish our fundraising for our school windows. Many of our windows are original single pane glass that allows heat and cold air to seep out of the building, making them inefficient. We have raised over \$360,000 of donations toward replacement windows and are looking for an additional \$60,000 to fully fund this project, which we will complete this summer.



Schools can qualify for matching grants from Caterpillar, so you can double your impact by making a donation to St. Thomas School through this program.

Caterpillar | Caterpillar Foundation | Employee Giving & Matching Gifts

If you have not already ~ Daylight Savings Time has started! Spring is near!



# Catholic Women's League of Peoria, Illinois General Membership Meeting

Date: Tuesday, March 15th, 2022

**Time**: 10:00 am

**Place**: St. Philomena Parish Hall, Peoria 10:00 - 10 20 am - Social with coffee, tea,

water, & sweets

10:25 - 10:45 am - Business Session - Past year Review with Focus on New Year

10:50 - 11:20 am - Lenten Reflection -

Carla Oliver

11:20 - 11:30 am - Question & Answer Session

That day school will be in session, so please park on the right side of the Church or only along the fence on the left side of the church.



Friday, March 25, 2022

Serving from

5:00 pm - 7:30 pm

In the school cafeteria

PRICES ARE:

After Mass
Tickets For
Sale
Downstairs

Adults (13 and older) – \$12.00 Preorders, \$15.00 Adult Day of at The Door Children (6 through 12) - Kids Fish Meals \$8.00, Kids Grilled Cheese Meals \$5.00 Children five and under free with paid adult.

> Menu includes: Fried Fish, French Fries, Cole Slaw, Bread and Drink Children's Choice: Fish or Grilled Cheese

# Drive-Thru (Enter the Back Parking Lot)

Scan this QR code to place your Fish Fry Order



Adult meal: 2 pieces of Fish, French Fries, Cole Slaw and Bread Children's meal: 1 Fish or Grilled Cheese, French Fries, Cole Slaw and Cookie

> St. Thomas the Apostle 904 East Lake Avenue Peoria Heights. IL

A Portion of the proceeds to benefit the St. Thomas School Window Replacement Fund.

# Appliance Drive Thank you!

A big thank you to all those who donated to our appliance drive, which was a tremendous success. We were able to provide a requested item to each food pantry client who made a request.

There are needs in our community that go beyond just food, and we made a big difference in making life a little better for those who are less fortunate. Thanks to all who participated.



### **Enrollment Going on Now at PND**

Peoria Notre Dame is now enrolling! With the solid foundation rooted in Catholicism provided by PND, students are more likely to continue practicing their faith into adulthood. With a 100% graduation rate and 98% of alumni attending a college or university, students are on a path to a bright and successful future. For more

information, contact **Admissions Director Matt Blackford** at **309-691-8741** or **m.blackford@pndhs.org**.



As scientific truths put us in an intelligent relation with the cosmos, as historic truth puts us in temporal relation with the rise and fall of civilization, so does Christ put us in intelligent relation with God the Father; for He is the only possible Word by which God can address Himself to a world of sinners.

- Fulton J. Sheen

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#### Women's Care Center Peoria is GROWING!

With our new location underway and set to open this summer, we need extra supporting staff with a heart for our mission of serving women and building healthy families!

Full and Part time positions available. Please email resumes to:

Christine@supportwcc.org

or contact Christine Dennis at (309) 370-4662 for details.

# **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.

New Parishioner Change of address/phone	
Phone	
City	ZIP
Address	
Phone	
Email	
First Name(s)	
Last Name	
About open the New Parishioner R form.	egistration, complete and submit the

### 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

# 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.

- April 5<sup>th</sup>: St. Edward's, Chillicothe
- May 10th: St. Vincent's, Peoria

#### WANTED: Full-Time Cook

The Sisters of St. Francis of the Immaculate Conception are seeking a full-time cook at their Heading Avenue location in West Peoria, Illinois. This position would involve preparing lunch and evening meals for 22 Sisters, Monday through Friday. Preparation will be on-site; some specific diet restrictions may be needed. Previous experience is required, as well as references.

Please call (309) 674-6168 for all inquiries and ask for **Sister Diane**. We are looking to fill this position as soon as possible

# Peoria Heights HS Blood Drive

Sponsored by the Key Club In the Gym, 508 E. Glen, Peoria Heights, IL

**Friday, March 18, 2022** 8:00 a.m. ~ 1:00 p.m.

For an appointment call 309-686-8803 or sign up at the school

Students need to bring either a driver's license or two forms of other ID (one with 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 minutes when you donate blood by using RapidPass! Visit redcrossblood.org/

RapidPass for more information

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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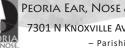
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