

St. Thomas the Apostle Parish Staff

Office Hours: M-F 9:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m.

904 East Lake Avenue,
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parishoffice@stthomas-church.net

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msgrgray@stthomas-church.net
Fr. John Twinomujuni.....In Residence

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(688-3500); fsjbpeoria@yahoo.com

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Dcn. John Nelson.....981-2716
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Music Coordinator: Ann Horst..... 682-5507

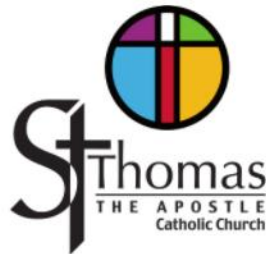
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erincraig@stthomas-school.net

Annulment Consultant:
John Mackoway.....699-5213

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

Stay in Touch

1. Join Msgr. Gray for Mass. Link can be found on the parish website, stthomaspeoria.org or the My Parish App
2. 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).

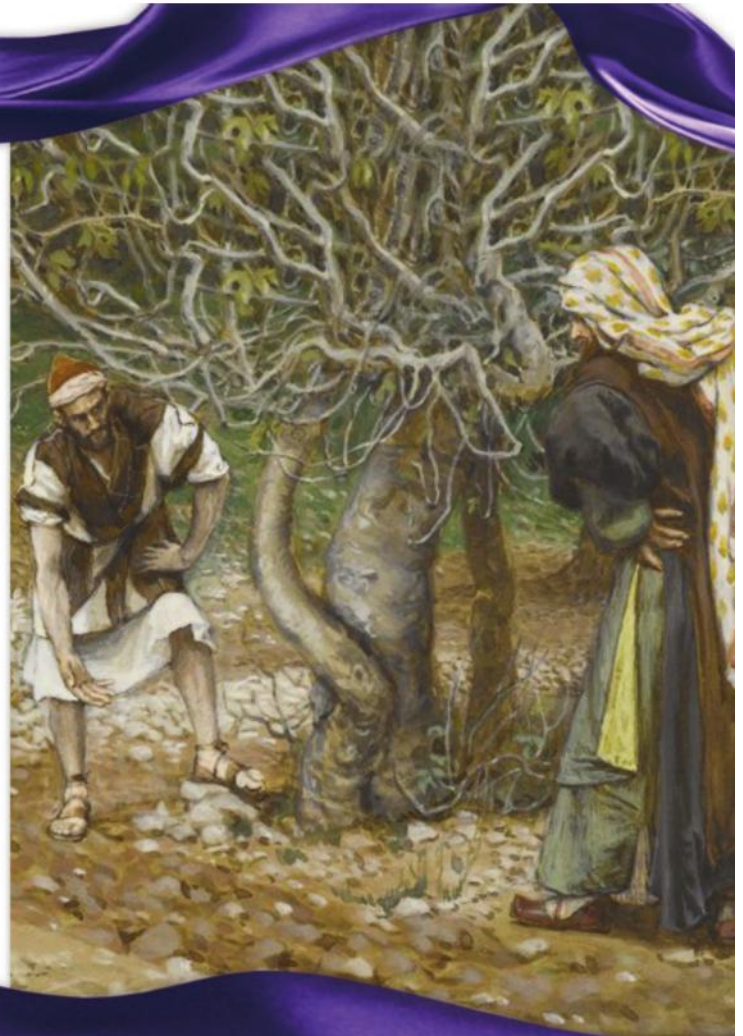


March 20 2022
Third Sunday of Lent

“Sir, leave it
for this year
also, and I shall
cultivate the
grounds around
it and fertilize it;
it may bear fruit
in the future.
If not you can
cut it down.”

Luke 13:8, 9

The Vine Dresser and
the Fig Tree
by James Tissot, circa 1890s



3RD SUNDAY OF
LENT



From Our Pastor

Last week I was invited to give a Canon Law presentation to a group of canonists in San Antonio, Texas. It was a short but good trip and I was glad to have the opportunity to make this presentation.

There are some presentations in our parish that you also might enjoy. Last Wednesday, we began the study of the Commandments 1, 2 and 3 in our RCIA classes. On March 23 we'll cover the next four Commandments and the last three on March 30. Join us on Wednesday evenings at 7 pm for any of these classes. It is good to make time for Confession during Lent, so these reflections might be a helpful examination to prepare for the Sacrament of Penance. I'm happy to offer extra confession times on Friday evenings, Saturdays, Sunday mornings and afternoons during Lent, so check the schedule to see what works for you.

After talking about the Feast of Tabernacles last Sunday, on Tuesday, March 29 at 7 PM, I will offer a study of the Old Testament feast days and sacrifices and their connection to the New Testament.

We have added extra lights focused on our hymn boards, so I hope this makes it easier to read the numbers on the board. I am also grateful to the Franciscan Sisters for the addition of the angels with holy water in the Narthex.

Finally, we have trained some new servers, so please encourage them as they become more familiar with the routines of serving at Mass.

-Msgr. Gray

Sponsor of the Week

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Readings for the Week of March 20, 2022

Sunday	Third Sunday of Lent Exodus 3: 1-8a, 13-15; 1 Corinthians 10: 1-6, 10-12; Luke 13: 1-9
Monday	2 Kings 5: 1-15ab; Luke 4: 24-30
Tuesday	Daniel 3: 25, 34-43; Matthew 18: 21-35
Wednesday	St. Turibius of Mogrovejo, Bishop Deuteronomy 4: 1, 5-9; Matthew 5: 17-19
Thursday	Jeremiah 7: 23-28; LUKE 11: 14-23
Friday	The Annunciation of the Lord Isaiah 7: 10-14; 8: 10; Hebrews 10: 4-10; Luke 1: 26-38
Saturday	Hosea 6: 1-6; Luke 18: 9-14
Sunday	Fourth Sunday of Lent Joshua 5: 9a, 10-12; 2 Corinthians 5: 17-21; Luke 15: 1-3, 11-32

Mass Intentions

Monday, March 21, 2022	7:00 a.m. Intentions of the Zarley Family/Mary Ann Noe 7:00 p.m. Fr. Paul Stark, S.J./STS 8 th Grade Class
Tuesday, March 22, 2022	7:00 a.m. Cyril & Mary McNamara/Jeanne Whalen
Wednesday, March 23, 2022	7:00 a.m. Mary Nelson/John & Sonia Nelson
Thursday, March 24, 2022	7:00 a.m. Mickey Kelly/John & Amy Kelly 9:15 a.m. Grace Cafaro/Denise Noell
Friday, March 25, 2022	7:00 a.m. Jerry McDonough/Eileen McDonough
Saturday, March 26, 2022	8:00 a.m. Andrew Burgeson/The Burgeson Family 5:00 p.m. Joe Vernon/The Fontana Family
Sunday, March 27, 2022	8:00 a.m. Fr. Paul Stark, S.J./Linda Osika 10:00 a.m. John Smith/Ken & Judy Zika 5:00 p.m. For the People

Week of March 20

FISH FRY tickets on sale after all Masses this weekend, downstairs

CONFIRMATION Monday, March 21, 7:00 p.m., Mass, Church

ROSARY Tuesday, March 22, 10:00 a.m., Daily Mass Chapel

CCD Wednesday, March 23, 6:00 p.m., School

RCIA Wednesday, March 23, 7:00 p.m., Parish Hall

THAT MAN IS YOU Friday, March 25, doors open 6:00 a.m., program 6:30 a.m., Parish Hall

MEN'S CLUB FISH FRY Friday, March 25, 5:00 p.m., School Cafeteria

STATIONS OF THE CROSS Friday, March 25, 7:00 p.m., after Confessions

UPCOMING EVENTS

Adoration	April 1
Pancake Breakfast	April 10
St. Thomas Holy Hour	April 21
Memorial Mass	April 27

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.



Weekly Collection

	March 13, 2022	Fiscal YTD
Collections needed.....	\$20,000.....	\$740,000
Sunday Collections.....	\$9,306.....	\$539,139
Electronic Collections	\$3,188.....	\$118,378
Total Collected.....	\$12,494.....	\$657,517
Over/(Short)	\$(7,506).....	\$(82,483)

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

Gloria Christian, grandmother of Mallory Picl and Mother-In-Law of Rick Picl

Michael Tamkin

Marjorie Brooks



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.



Thank you to the Franciscan Sisters for these holy water fonts which are a lovely addition to our Narthex.

RCIA Topics

- Mar 23:** Commandments 6, 9, 10
- Mar 30:** History of the Church
- Apr 6:** Examination of Conscience, Preparation for Confession, Review
- Apr 13:** Penance Service, Practice
- Apr 16:** Easter Vigil (Saturday)
- Apr 20:** Mystagogia

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



Make plans now to attend the Pancake Breakfast coming soon to a cafeteria near you! That's right, here at St. Thomas on **April 10th** ~ pancakes and goodies.

More information in an upcoming bulletin.

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] <https://www.usccb.org/prayer-and-worship/liturgical-year-and-calendar/lent>



WOMEN'S RETREAT with Bonnie Engstrom



OPEN TO ALL WOMEN
APRIL 9, 2022
7:30-NOON
ST. ANN CHURCH
PEORIA, IL
BREAKFAST INCLUDED



2021-2022 RCIA Class

Please pray for these Catechumens and Candidates as they complete their studies in preparation for reception into the Church.

Catechumens

Thomas Bannan
Richard Guingrich
Morgan Kumer
Lea Ann Juska
Elizabeth Copeland

Candidates

Kathy Joseph
Heather Kohout
Colin Kohout
Caleb Kohout
Eva Bushong

*Father of love and power,
it is your will to establish everything in Christ
and to draw us into his all-embracing love.
Guide the elect of your Church:
strengthen them in their vocation,
build them into the kingdom of your Son,
and seal them with the Spirit of your promise.*

We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

From: prayerist.com/prayer/rciacandidates

All
Homemade

St. Thomas Men's Club

50 / 50
Drawings

All-you-Can-Eat FISH FRY

Friday, March 25, 2022

Serving from
5:00 pm – 7:30 pm
In the school cafeteria

PRICES ARE:
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)
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

After Mass
Tickets For
Sale
Downstairs*

Scan this QR
code to place
your Fish Fry
Order

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

*Ticket sales
after all Masses
3/19-3/20

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



Catechumens and Candidates with sponsors and families

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.



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

Lebanese Food Festival

Sunday, April 3, 2022,

St. Sharbel Church will hold its **44th Annual Lebanese Food Festival**
St. Sharbel Parish Hall, 9:00 am to 4:00 pm.

It is Carry Out only. Tickets are \$12 each.

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.

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 5th: 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

Participation in the Legislative Process

A trip to the Illinois State Capitol in Springfield, hosted by Peoria Notre Dame, is **Wednesday, March 30th**. We will be there to encourage lawmakers to pass House Bill 4126 which makes improvements to the Invest in Kids Act.

Everyone will meet at PND at 7:30 am, attend a legislative session in the morning, lunch, and an afternoon session before departing for home between 2:00 pm and 3:00 pm.

If you would like to take part in the legislative process to make Catholic education more affordable for lower-income families, contact the Director of Advancement **Cindy Dermody** at c.dermody@pndhs.org or call the school at 309-691-8741.

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.

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 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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