

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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msggray@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
Dcn. Ed Mallow.....360-7735

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

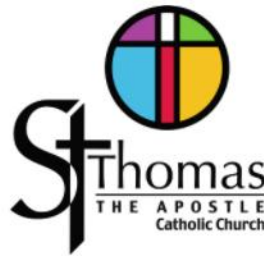
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erincraig@stthomas-school.net

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

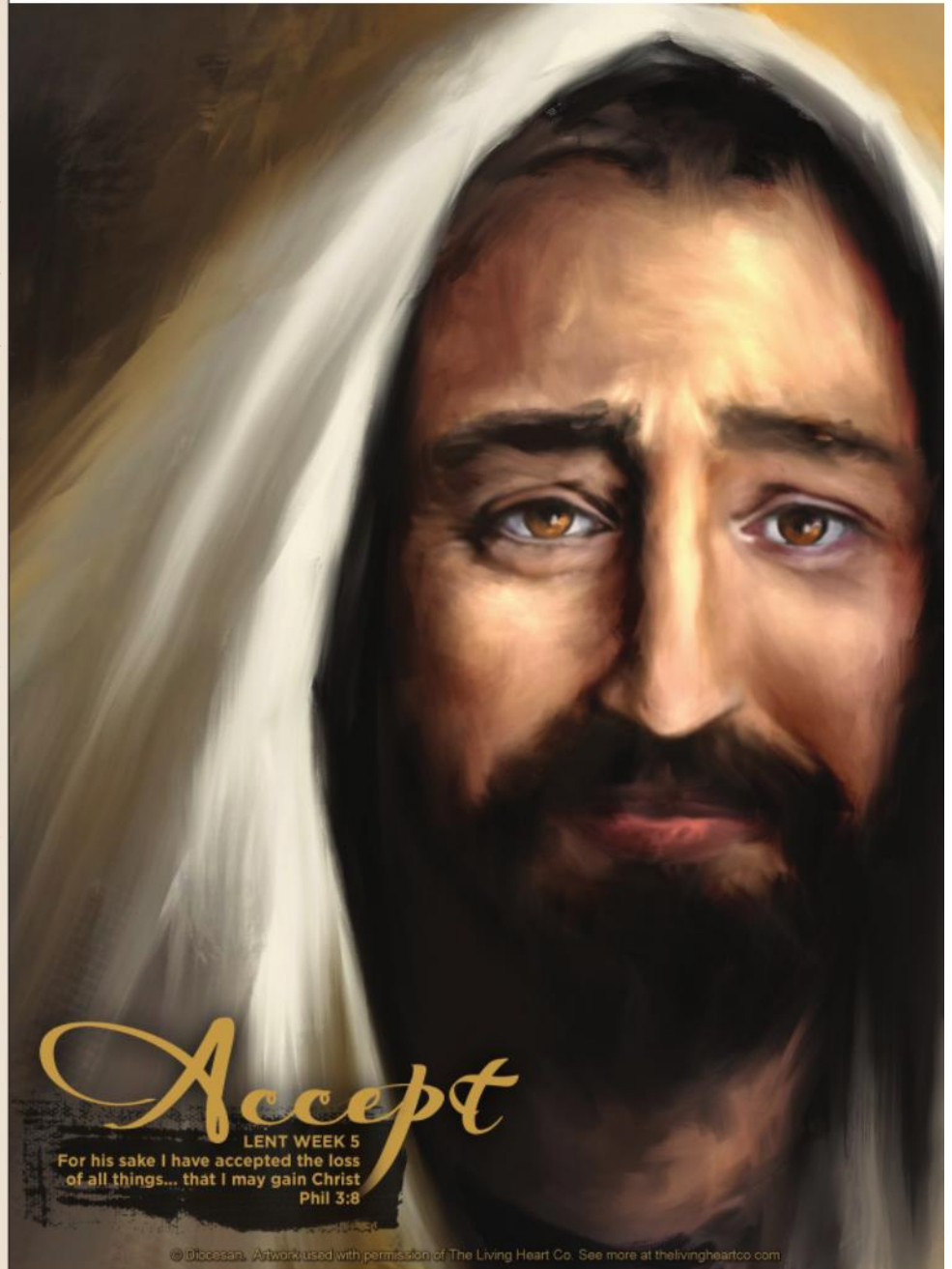
Parish Nurse: Mary Clare Geraghty.(x1350)
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Stay in Touch

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).



April 3, 2022
Fifth Sunday of Lent





From Our Pastor

Thanks to the Men's Club and all the volunteers who helped with our successful Fish Fry last week. We also look forward to the Pancake Breakfast next weekend. These events are much needed celebrations to reconnect with each other in the parish and school.

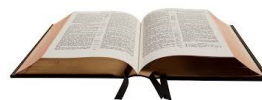
With the Fifth Sunday of Lent, we begin a turn toward Holy Week as we enter a more somber time of this season. The covering of statues is a traditional way to focus our spiritual attention on the Lord and the sacrifice that Jesus will make for us on the cross. Sometimes we can lose focus during Lent. If you need to recommit yourself to making this penitential season a time of growth, we still have these last two weeks to grow in our acts of self-denial, prayer, and sacrifice. Be aware of the times for confession that remain before Easter.

Next week is Palm Sunday in which we will read the Passion according to Luke. Let us spiritually walk with Jesus from his entrance into Jerusalem to his death on the cross, taking in the full effect of all that he has done for us.

After that, we will have special celebrations of the Last Supper on Holy Thursday at 7:30 pm, the Lord's Passion on Good Friday at 3:00 pm, and the Easter Vigil on Holy Saturday at 8:15 pm. Please remember to pray for the members of our RCIA class who are preparing to enter the Church at the Easter Vigil. Your prayerful support is very much appreciated as they reach the end of their journey to baptism and professing their faith.

-Msgr. Gray

Sponsor of the Week



Readings for the Week of April 3, 2022

Sunday	Fifth Sunday of Lent Isaiah 43: 16-21; Philippians 3: 8-14; John 8: 1-11
Monday	St. Isidore, Bishop & Doctor of the Church Daniel 13: 1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62 or Daniel 13: 41c-62; John 8: 12-20
Tuesday	St. Vincent Ferrer, Priest Numbers 21: 4-9; John 8: 21-30
Wednesday	Daniel 3: 14-20, 91-92, 95; John 8: 31-42
Thursday	St. John Baptist de la Salle, Priest Genesis 17: 3-9; John 8: 51-59
Friday	Jeremiah 20: 10-13; John 10: 31-42
Saturday	Ezekiel 37: 21-28; John 11: 45-56
Sunday	Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord Luke 19: 28-40; Isaiah 50: 4-7; Philippians 2: 6-11; Luke 22: 14—23: 56

Mass Intentions

Monday, April 4, 2022	7:00 a.m. Melvin & Lucille Noe/Mary Ann Noe
Tuesday, April 5, 2022	7:00 a.m. John Waugh/The Barkley Family
Wednesday, April 6, 2022	7:00 a.m. Mark Brewer/Family
Thursday, April 7, 2022	7:00 a.m. Joan Adler/Everett & Judy Howard 9:15 a.m. Ralph Barrett/Tom & Bonnie Stroot
Friday, April 8, 2022	7:00 a.m. Pat McGann/Eileen Gasper
Saturday, April 9, 2022	8:00 a.m. People of Ukraine/Jack & Margaret Weinstein 5:00 p.m. Lawrence Cooling/The Steve Brereton Family
Sunday, April 10, 2022	8:00 a.m. Fr. Paul Stark, S.J./Bob & Barb Gusman 10:00 a.m. Sr. Bernadette Kouri, FSJB 5:00 p.m. For the People

Week of April 3

ST VINCENT DE PAUL and FOOD PANTRY COLLECTIONS this weekend

ROSARY Tuesday, April 5, 10:00 a.m., Daily Mass Chapel

CCD Wednesday, April 6, 6:00 p.m., School

RCIA Wednesday, April 6, 7:00 p.m., Parish Hall

THAT MAN IS YOU Friday, April 8, doors open 6:00 a.m., program 6:30 a.m., Parish Hall

STATIONS OF THE CROSS Friday, April 8, 7:00 p.m., after Benediction

CARMELITES Saturday, April 9, 11:00 a.m., Parish Hall

UPCOMING EVENTS

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.

~ Reminder From Our Bishop ~

...Now, having reached a point where many of the safety protocols are able to be lifted, the time has come to **rescind the dispensation** from obligation to attend Sunday Mass. This will occur on **Palm Sunday, April 10, 2022...**

Weekly Collection

	March 27, 2022	Fiscal YTD
Collections needed.....	\$20,000	\$780,000
Sunday Collections.....	\$16,157	\$563,060
Electronic Collections	\$3,188	\$124,754
Total Collected.....	\$19,345	\$687,814
Over/(Short)	\$(655)	\$(92,186)

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

Larry Bussman

Baptized & Received into the Church

Emma Gwynnolyn Wurzer, Evelyn Catherine Wurzer, & Elizabeth Ashley Wurzer, daughters of Christopher & Ashley Wurzer



Holy Week Schedule

Holy Thursday, April 14,
Mass of the Lord's Supper,
7:30 p.m.

Good Friday, April 15,
Liturgy of the Passion, 3:00 p.m.

Confessions April 15, 6:00 p.m.
Stations of the Cross, April 15, 7:00 p.m.

Holy Saturday, April 16
Easter Vigil Mass, 8:15 p.m.

Easter Sunday, April 17
Masses, 8:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m.

No morning Masses April 14-16
No 5:00 p.m. Mass
Holy Saturday & Easter Sunday

RCIA Topics

- Apr 6:** Examination of Conscience, Preparation for Confession, Review
- Apr 13:** Practice followed by Confession & penance
- Apr 16:** Easter Vigil (Saturday)
- Apr 20:** Mystagoga



Pray with the Pope

April 2022

For health care workers

We pray for health care workers who serve the sick and the elderly, especially in the poorest countries; may they be adequately supported by governments and local communities.



Members of the Men's Club hard at work preparing for the Fish Fry



Lines were long, but efficiency in serving kept folks moving

Overflow seating filled the gym!



More photos on page 6

St. Thomas Parish Annual Pancake & Sausage Breakfast Sunday, April 10th, 2022 Serving 7:00 a.m.—12:00 noon



ALL PROCEEDS BENEFIT ALL THE CHILDREN OF ST. THOMAS SCHOOL

Tickets can be purchased at the cafeteria doors after all morning masses.

PRICES ARE:

Family - \$20.00

Adult - \$5.00

Kids - \$3.00

The St. Thomas PTO appreciates your support. We look forward to seeing you and your family at our annual breakfast on April 10th, 2022.

To volunteer to help: **St. Thomas PTO & Men's Club:**
St. Thomas Pancake Breakfast (signupgenius.com)



WOMEN'S RETREAT with Bonnie Engstrom

Blessed
are they

who have kept the word with a
generous heart
and yield a harvest through
perseverance.

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

A free will offering may be made the day of the retreat. To sign up or questions ~ email:

parishoffice@saintannpeoria.com.



When you go to the poor, you encounter Jesus



Several years ago I was asked by a customer if our company would donate product to a church here in Peoria. I obliged and the church Pastor came to our facility on a beautiful fall Saturday afternoon. Everyone had left for the day except the two of us. When we were finished loading the Pastor's van he asked if our business had ever been blessed. I said "No" and he proceeded to bless the buildings with holy water while I walked with him holding a crucifix. We ended the ceremony in our offices and after thanking him we shook hands in the parking lot. He was a wonderful priest, whom I had never met before, and asked me a simple question "Who owns all this?" I thought for a moment and gave the typical stock answer "Well, the Bank, my folks, and our families." He looked stunned and said "Come on, that's not truly what you think, is it?" I was baffled and didn't have a second answer to his question. "God owns everything and I mean everything! Your family is just being allowed the use of it. You're His caretaker and always act accordingly with the precious gift He has bestowed." As he drove off I stared at his van until it was out of sight. Completely speechless. Anyone who knows me, knows I am rarely speechless!

That day, God gave me more than I could ever give back to Him. Isn't that how it always is? Since becoming a Vincentian midway through 2021 He continues to bless me in ways I cannot fully comprehend. The people we encounter, who have contacted the call center asking for our help, are the poor Christ talks about all through the Bible. They are the same from centuries ago with a different face. The need is always there and goes on day after day. Our SVdP Society is immensely grateful for all you have done and will do here at St. Thomas Church in the form of your monetary contributions. We also need YOU and your compassion for those in need. If you're looking for a way to become more involved here at St. Thomas please consider our group.

If you no longer have any income, you will not be neglected – you will not starve to death.... We panic at first, but God does not always allow the evil that is feared to happen.

~ St. Vincent de Paul

Sincerely,
Brian Barkley

Tuition Assistance for the 2022/2023 School Year

Families who are interested in being considered for financial assistance for the 2022/2023 school year must complete the online *FACTS Grant & Aid Application* at online.factsmgt.com/aid. The application and required supporting tax documents (your 2021 tax return and W-2's) must be received online by FACTS by the application **deadline date of April 29, 2022**. There is a \$35.00 fee required in order to complete the FACTS application.

Completion of the FACTS application by the **April 29, 2022** deadline makes you eligible to receive financial aid from the *John Lancaster Spalding Scholarship Fund* through the Diocese of Peoria and the *St. Thomas Parish Sponsor a Student Fund*.

If you have any questions about the financial aid process or would like assistance in completing your application please contact Pat in the parish office at 688-3446.

All Men of the Parish are Encouraged to Attend the Men's March



A CALL TO CATHOLIC MEN OF FAITH

Fighting for Faith & Family

ANNUAL MEN'S MARCH & MASS








SATURDAY, APRIL 30, 2022

8:30am- Confessions at the Peoria Riverfront
 9:00am- Gathering & Opening Prayer
 9:15am- Men's Rally Begins
 9:45am- March to Cathedral
 10:30am- Mass with Bishop Lou Tylka at the Cathedral of St. Mary
 11:45am- Fellowship & Food Following the Mass at Spalding Pastoral Ctr.

**Food & Beverages will be available for purchase*

Catholic Diocese of Peoria ~ 309-671-1550 ~ www.cdop.org

Holy Hour for the Rights of the Unborn

St. Mark's Church,
1113 W. Bradley Avenue, Peoria
April 4, 2022, 7:00 p.m.

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

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

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 90% of tuition assistance applicants receiving financial aid, Peoria Notre Dame is committed to helping any student afford a Catholic high school education.

Contact **Admissions Director Matt Blackford** at **309-691-8741** or **m.blackford@pndhs.org** for more information about academics, extracurriculars, faith formation, and financial assistance at PND.

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.

Monthly Holy Hours for Vocations with Fr. Chase.

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

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

Fish Fry Success!

Thank You to everyone who worked so hard to make the Fish Fry a success, and to all who came and enjoyed a wonderful meal and good fellowship.



All the condiments



Many hands made light work



Happy faces all around

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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