

## 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](mailto:parishoffice@stthomas-church.net)

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

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Dcn. John Nelson.....981-2716  
Dcn. Ed Mallow.....360-7735

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309-645-1364; [ccd@stthomas-church.net](mailto:ccd@stthomas-church.net)

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

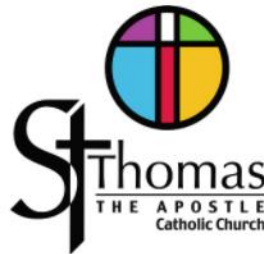
Choir Director: Erin Craig.....  
[erincraig@stthomas-school.net](mailto:erincraig@stthomas-school.net)

Annulment Consultant:  
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)).



*April 17, 2022*

## *Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord*





## From Our Pastor

*Christus Resurrexit! Vere resurrexit! Christ is risen! His is truly risen!*

The seeds of penance sown during Lent can now bloom forth in the joy of Easter. I pray that our works of self-discipline have produced a real conversion of heart that is now ready to receive the good news of the Resurrection with a deeper sense of joy that strengthens our faith.

The Octave of Easter is a blessed time to celebrate the mercy we receive from Our Lord. From Good Friday to the Second Sunday of Easter, the Church celebrates the novena of Divine Mercy. This novena includes the Divine Mercy Chaplet and the prayers for the nine intentions associated with this devotion. During the Octave of Easter, you are invited to join in this novena which will be prayed after the morning Mass.

On Divine Mercy Sunday, April 24, we will have devotions in the afternoon. Confessions will be available from 2 to 3 PM, with the Chaplet, Adoration, and Benediction celebrated at 3 PM. Please join us for this celebration.

A special thank you to all who made the pancake breakfast successful this year. I am grateful for the hard work that goes into this community event. Please also pray for those who completed our RCIA program and were brought into the Church at the Easter Vigil. This is a time of great joy for those who have now received for the first time the Easter Sacraments of the Church.

On a separate note, now that we have completed our civic duty to render unto Caesar... by paying taxes... this is a good time to consider a gift to Empower Illinois in order to give the gift of a Catholic education to a family in need. You can receive an Illinois tax credit of 75¢ for each dollar donated. Your Illinois tax return for this year can help you estimate what potential gift you could give to Empower Illinois. For example, a hypothetical family that paid \$3,000 in taxes to Illinois this year could make a \$4,000 donation to Empower Illinois and receive a \$3,000 tax credit to be used in 2023. In this case, this family would save on paying Illinois tax and simultaneously help send a deserving student to St. Thomas School.

More information about Empower Illinois is available through, Pat Wombacher, our tuition coordinator. Please contact the parish office.

-Msgr. Gray



## Readings for the Week of April 17, 2022

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord</b> Acts 10:34a, 37-43; Colossians 3: 1-4 or 1 Corinthians 5: 6b-8; John 20: 1-9
<b>Monday</b>	Acts 2: 14, 22-33; Matthew 28: 8-15
<b>Tuesday</b>	Acts 2: 36-41; John 20: 11-18
<b>Wednesday</b>	Acts 3: 1-10; Luke 24: 13-35
<b>Thursday</b>	Acts 3: 11-20; Luke 24: 35-48
<b>Friday</b>	Acts 4: 1-12; John 21: 1-14
<b>Saturday</b>	Acts 4: 13-21; Matthew 16: 9-15
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Sunday of Divine Mercy</b> Acts 5: 12-16; Revelation 1: 9-11a, 12-13, 17-19; John 20: 19-31

## Mass Intentions

<b>Monday, April 18, 2022</b>	7:00 a.m. Sarah Grace Barrowman/Jeanne Whalen
<b>Tuesday, April 19, 2022</b>	7:00 a.m. Jeri Callahan/John Callahan
<b>Wednesday, April 20, 2022</b>	7:00 a.m. Adeline Snyder/Alan
<b>Thursday, April 21, 2022</b>	7:00 a.m. Mary Basler/Mary Ann Noe
<b>Friday, April 22, 2022</b>	7:00 a.m. Giles Keithley, Jr./Family
<b>Saturday, April 23, 2022</b>	8:00 a.m. Remedios Tolentino/The Tolentino & Sarmiento Families 5:00 p.m. Linda Schachtrup/Terry & Marty Best
<b>Sunday, April 24, 2022</b>	8:00 a.m. Benefactors of Franciscan Sisters of St. John the Baptist 10:00 a.m. Karen Helton/John & Sonia Nelson 5:00 p.m. For the People

## Week of April 17

**PARISH OFFICE CLOSED** Monday, April 18

**ST THOMAS SCHOOL CLOSED** for Spring Break week

**ROSARY** Tuesday, April 19, 10:00 a.m., Daily Mass Chapel

**RCIA** Wednesday, April 20, Mystagogia, 7:00 p.m., Parish Hall

**MEN'S CLUB** Thursday, April 21, 6:30 p.m., Rudy's Cantina

**THAT MAN IS YOU** Friday, April 22, doors open 6:00 a.m., program 6:30 a.m., Parish Hall

**DIVINE MERCY DEVOTIONS** Sunday, April 24, Confessions 2:00 p.m., Chaplet, Adoration, & Benediction, 3:00 p.m., Church

### UPCOMING EVENTS

*St. Thomas Holy Hour* April 28  
*Memorial Mass* April 27

## Easter Masses

### Holy Saturday, April 16

Easter Vigil Mass, 8:15 p.m.  
Baptism & reception of new Catholics  
No 5:00 p.m. Mass

### Easter Sunday, April 17

Masses, 8:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m.  
No 5:00 p.m. Mass



## Our Sympathy

Please pray for those who have died this week

## Wedding Congratulations

Dawn Mason & Diego Zamudio

## Congratulations RCIA Catechumens & Candidates!

Thomas Bannan

Eva Bushong

Mary Elizabeth Copeland

Richard Guingrich

Meredith Hislope

Kathy Joseph

Lea Ann Juska

John Colin Kohout

James Caleb Kohout

Heather Kohout

Morgan Kumer

Nadia LaFond

Dylan Langhoff



## Weekly Collection

	April 10, 2022	Fiscal YTD
Collections needed.....	\$20,000.....	\$820,000
Sunday Collections.....	\$18,516.....	\$599,849
Electronic Collections .....	\$3,188.....	\$131,130
Total Collected.....	\$21,704.....	\$730,979
Over/(Short) .....	\$1,704.....	\$(89,021)

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.

## 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.





## The Novena to the Divine Mercy



In preparation for the Feast of Divine Mercy, let us pray together *Saint Faustina's Novena to the Divine Mercy*, especially pleading for relief from the coronavirus that afflicts the world. Jesus instructed Saint Faustina that praying this Novena would bring souls strength and refreshment and the graces they need in the hardships of life, and especially at the hour of death. Jesus also promised that the very depths of His Mercy would be opened on the Feast of Divine Mercy, pouring out an ocean of graces upon those who approach the Fount of His Mercy on that day. Resolved to turn away from our sins, let us, then, look with great trust to Jesus, Whose open Heart flows with abundant mercies for us in this time of crisis.

### Intentions for the 9 days:

1. Mercy for all Mankind
2. Mercy for Priests & Religious
3. Mercy for the Devout and Faithful
4. Mercy for Those Who Do Not Believe in God and Do Not Know Christ
5. Mercy for Those Who Have Separated Themselves from the Church
6. Mercy for the Meek and Humble and for Little Children
7. Mercy for Those Most Devoted to Christ's Mercy
8. Mercy for the Souls in Purgatory
9. Mercy for Souls Who Have Become Lukewarm

The Novena begins on Good Friday and continues through Easter Saturday and may be found at: [divine-mercy-novena-pandemic.pdf \(ewfn.com\)](https://www.ewfn.com/divine-mercy-novena-pandemic.pdf)

### It's Tax Time

Just a reminder as you complete your income tax returns for 2021 that making a donation to the *Invest in Kids Program* through *Empower Illinois* offers a significant opportunity to help the students at St. Thomas with financial assistance while generating a 75% tax credit on your Illinois income tax return.

A donation of \$1,000 to the *Invest in Kids Program* will give you a Illinois state income tax credit of \$750.00. A donation of \$5,000 will give you a credit of \$3,750.00.

If you have donated in the past we encourage you to donate again. All donations will be distributed to our St. Thomas students for the upcoming school year. To date, in 2022, we have 7 students who have received awards through *Empower Illinois*. We still have 33 students on our waiting list so our need is great. If you have not donated to the *Invest in Kids Program* but would like to learn more about it or would like assistance in making a donation please contact Pat in the parish office.

## Divine Mercy Sunday ~ How to Recite the Chaplet

Divine Mercy Sunday is April 24<sup>th</sup>. The Chaplet of Mercy is recited using ordinary Rosary beads of five decades.

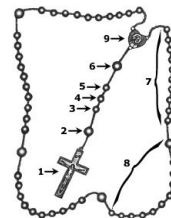
### 1. Make the Sign of the Cross

### 2. Optional Opening Prayers:

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.

Repeat three times:

O Blood and Water, which gushed forth from the Heart of Jesus as a fountain of Mercy for us, I trust in You!



### 3. Our Father

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Amen

### 4. Hail Mary

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with you; blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

### 5. The Apostle's Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried; he descended into hell; on the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty; from there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. Amen.

### 7, 8. For each of the five decades

#### On each "Our Father" bead of the rosary, pray:

Eternal Father, I offer you the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Your Dearly Beloved Son, Our Lord, Jesus Christ, in atonement for our sins and those of the whole world.

#### On each of the 10 "Hail Mary" beads, pray:

For the sake of His sorrowful Passion, have mercy on us and on the whole world.

### 9. Concluding prayer (repeat three times)

Holy God, Holy Mighty One, Holy Immortal One, have mercy on us and on the whole world.

### Optional Closing Prayer

Optional Closing Prayer Eternal God, in whom mercy is endless and the treasury of compassion inexhaustible, look kindly upon us and increase Your mercy in us, that in difficult moments we might not despair nor become despondent, but with great confidence submit ourselves to Your holy will, which is Love and Mercy itself.

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# PEORIA SISTER CITIES INTERNATIONAL NIGHT



Friday, April 29 - doors open 5pm

Ito Hall - Farmington Road, Peoria

Food Samplings | Cultural Music | Raffles

Entry Fee - \$5 | \$1 Food Tickets Available

[sistercitiesofpeoria.org](http://sistercitiesofpeoria.org)

## Student Summer Service Hours Available

The St. Thomas Food Pantry offers an excellent opportunity for students who need service hours! Summers offer two days each week for four students to gain service hours.

On Monday and Thursday mornings, holidays excepted, the pantry distributes groceries to clients. Packing groceries, registering clients, restocking shelves, repackaging food, helping clients with food selection and assisting clients to their vehicles are activities students will perform while under adult supervision. An additional service opportunity occurs on one Thursday per month when we receive a truckload of food products from Midwest Food Bank. On these days, six students help adult volunteers unload the truck, repack food, rotate stock and stock shelves.

Students interested in earning service hours at the food pantry this summer should email Diana Janda at [sdjanda1@comcast.net](mailto:sdjanda1@comcast.net).

### Opportunities Available:

Monday and Thursday mornings - 8:30 AM to 11:30 AM

Monthly Truck - 1:30 PM to 3:30 PM - Dates are June 16th, July 14th and August 11th



Sponsor of the Week



## 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](http://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](http://www.cdop.org)





alzheimer's  
association

## Going for the Gold(en) Years

Saturday, April 30, 2022

10:00 am until 1:30 pm

Proctor Center 309 S. DuSable St. Peoria, IL 61605

Explore what Graceland Center for Purposeful Aging  
plans to offer for adults ages 50 +

10:00 am	Check in	Coffee and snacks, visit vendors
10:30 am –	<u>Welcome</u>	<u>Opening</u>
10:45am	Peggy Jacques Founder and Executive Director of Graceland Center	Dr. Joseph Babione UnityPoint Peoria UnityPlace
11:00 am –	<u>Healthy Living for your</u>	Daryl Carlson
11:30 am	<u>Brain</u>	Alzheimer's Association II Chapter
11:45 am –	<u>Feisty Physical Fun for the</u>	Christine Clemons
12:15 pm	<u>50's and Beyond!</u>	CTRS
12:30 pm –	<u>Holding Back the Years</u>	Tahari N. Allen, MA, LPC
12:45 pm		OSF Strive-Trauma Recovery Center
12:45 pm –	<u>Box Lunch Included with</u>	Recap
1:30 pm	<u>registration</u> Visit Vendors and Door Prize Give Aways	Q & A Graceland Center's Purpose Gathering Community Input

- Registration is DUE by APRIL 15th, 2022!
- Registration MUST be completed BEFORE the event. Registrations after April 15th will be accepted only if there is room for more people. Walk ins will not be able to be accommodated due to COVID precautions.
- COVID rules will be followed. Be prepared to wear a mask to attend and to observe social distancing as indicated.
- Cost is \$5 per person, CASH ONLY.
- No one will be turned away due to inability to pay. Note on the registration form if you have a need for a scholarship, access accommodations, or food allergies.
- Register at <https://forms.gle/5Bhc6p18pzHnbtvA8> OR
- Call 833.503.7773 to leave a message; we will return your call promptly to help you register.

Please browse our website at: [www.Gracelandcenter.com](http://www.Gracelandcenter.com)

Or email us at: [gracelandcenterpurposefulaging@gmail.com](mailto:gracelandcenterpurposefulaging@gmail.com)

We welcome your questions, insight, and enthusiasm for this project for ALL older adults in the Peoria area!

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

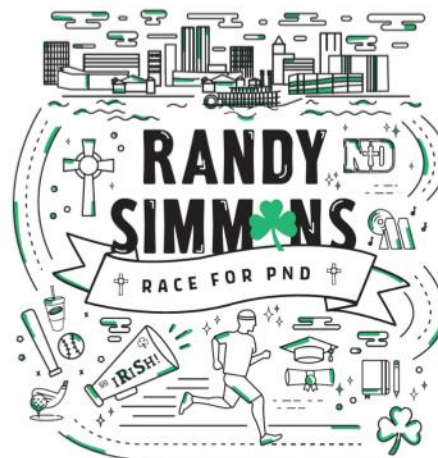
Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

New Parishioner \_\_\_\_\_ Change of address/phone \_\_\_\_\_



## Save the Date!

August 20, 2022 • 6pm start

Scan the QR Code to sign up today!



[shorturl.at/muPUY](http://shorturl.at/muPUY)

**IRISH**

ON A MISSION TO  
HELP FUND TUITION

## 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 Hour for Vocations with Fr. Chase.

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

- May 10<sup>th</sup>, St. Vincent, Peoria



Join us on **May 7, 2022**

The Nun Run for Cancer is a 5k run/walk in Downtown Peoria, Illinois.

All proceeds will benefit the OSF HealthCare Cancer Institute. This event is focused around healthy habits and lifestyles for our

families and community. We can't do this without YOU!

<https://raceroster.com/events/2022/56600/nun-run-for-cancer>

**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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Aberdeen in St. Thomas  
graduating class of 2026.

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