# 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

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

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

Annulment Consultant:

John Mackoway......699-5213

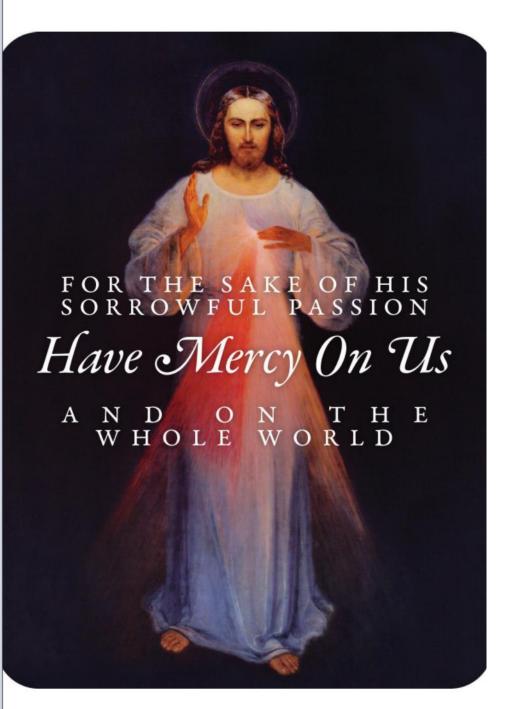
Parish Nurse: Mary Clare Geraghty.(x1350) parishnurse@stthomas-church.net

### Stay in Touch

- 1. 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).



# Apríl 24, 2022 Sunday of Divine Mercy





### From Our Pastor

The Octave of Easter ends today with Divine Mercy Sunday. Today is the conclusion of the Divine Mercy devotion for those who have been making the novena. The image of Divine Mercy is very popular, with the heart of Christ radiating his merciful love for us in the red and white rays representing the blood and water coming from the Heart of Christ. These two gifts, the Eucharist, and Baptism, are signs of the Lord's mercy poured out upon us and the Church.

On Divine Mercy Sunday, we will have devotions in the afternoon with the opportunity for Confessions at 2:00 p.m. and Adoration and the Chaplet at 3:00 p.m. I am also grateful for recent donations that have provided a worthy image of Divine Mercy as well as Our Lady of Guadalupe that can be permanently displayed in the Chapel. Our Lady of Guadalupe is the Patroness of the Americas. We previously had a statue of Our Lady of Guadalupe in the Church before our renovation, so it is a blessing to have the image return to our Church where it will be placed in the Chapel.

Please remember our second grade students in your prayers as they prepare next weekend to make their First Communion. For them, this is an important moment in their life of faith. May it be a blessing for them and their families.

We will also have our monthly Holy Hour this week on April 28 at 7 PM. Please join us as we honor the Eucharist and the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

Finally, a special salute to our scouts who have attained the rank of *Eagle Scout* and will be recognized at their Court of Honor: Aidan Anderson, Ryan Bender, Logan Fricke, and Brennan Messmer. Congratulations!

-Msgr. Gray



### Readings for the Week of April 24, 2022

Sunday Sunday of Divine Mercy

Acts 5: 12-16; Revelation 1: 9-11a, 12-13, 17-19;

John 20: 19-31

Monday St. Mark, Evangelist

1 Peter 5: 5b-14; Mark 16: 15-20

**Tuesday** Acts 4: 32-37; John 3: 7b-15

**Wednesday** Acts 5: 17-26; John 3: 16-21

Thursday St. Louis Grignion de Montfort, Priest

Acts 5: 27-33; John 3: 31-36

Friday St. Catherine of Siena Virgin & Doctor of the Church

Acts 5:34-42; John 6: 1-15

Saturday St. Pius V, Pope

Acts 6: 1-7; John 6: 16-21

Sunday Third Sunday of Easter

Acts 5: 27-32, 40b-41; Revelation 5: 11-14

John 21: 1-19

### **Mass Intentions**

Monday, April 25, 2022

7:00 a.m. Thomas S. & Winnifred A. Farraher/Frances Farraher

Tuesday, April 26, 2022

7:00 a.m. Nancy Kelly/John & Amy Kelly

Wednesday, April 27, 2022

7:00 a.m. Msgr. William Watson/Terri Moon 5:30 p.m. Msgr. Watson Memorial Mass

Thursday, April 28, 2022

7:00 a.m. Gene & Mary Leinenseder/Dave & Rose Chase

9:15 a.m. Jolene Straw/Jeanne & Jamaria Smith

Friday, April 29, 2022

7:00 a.m. Ward, Nyla, & Nedra Bell/Jack & Margaret Weinstein

Saturday, April 30, 2022

8:00 a.m. Laurie Pearson

11:00 a.m. Barbara Marcus & Joanne Heinzmann/Terry & Marty Best

5:00 p.m. John & Marge McNally/Ed & Cathy Mallow

Sunday, May 1, 2022

8:00 a.m. Laurice Joseph/Eileen Gasper

10:00 a.m. For the People

5:00 p.m. Joan Adler/Ed & Cathy Mallow

## Week of April 24

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

ROSARY Tuesday, April 26, 10:00 a.m., Daily Mass Chapel

MSGR. WATSON MEMORIAL MASS Wednesday, April 27, 5:30 p.m., Church

CCD Wednesday, April 27, 6:00 p.m., School

ST. THOMAS HOLY HOUR Thursday, April 28, 7:00 p.m., Church

**THAT MAN IS YOU** Friday, April 29, doors open 6:00 a.m., program 6:30 a.m., Parish Hall

FIRST EUCHARIST Saturday, April 30, 11:00 a.m., Church

#### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

Adoration

May 6



### PARISH HOLY HOUR

Thursday, April 28 7:00 p.m. — 8:00 p.m.

# 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.

# Weekly Collection

	April 17, 2022	Fiscal YTD
Collections needed	\$20,000	\$840,000
Sunday Collections	\$8,104	\$607,953
Electronic Collections	\$3,188	\$134,318
Total Collected	\$11,292	\$742,271
Over/(Short)	\$(8,708)	\$(97,729)

Easter.....\$7,648

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**

Please pray for those who have died this week

### **Baptism Congratulations**

Samuel Guingrich, son of Wendy & Shaun Guingrich

St. Thomas Parish Proudly Announces

Eagle Scout Court of Honor

> Aidan Anderson Ryan Bender Logan Fricke Brennan Messmer

Sunday, April 24



## Holy Hour for the Rights of the Unborn

Saint Mark's Church, 1113 W. Bradley Ave. 7:00 P.M., May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2022.

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

Masks are optional.

Sponsor of the Week



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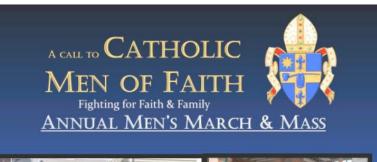
## **Tuition Assistance for the** 2022/2023 School Year

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





# 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.

### Invest in Kids Program ~ Help Our Students & Receive a Tax Credit

Just a reminder, now that you have completed 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 vour 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.

### 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



St. Thomas Men's Club will host the Msgr. William Watson Memorial Golf Outing September 23, 2022

Mt. Hawley Country Club More details and sponsorship opportunities will be in future bulletins.

Proceeds will benefit St. Thomas Tuition Assistance

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

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

• May 10th, St. Vincent, Peoria



RSVP: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/ e/1FAIpQLSf6VgCmH7CdFsg4h5J\_pcklguvedJC o3-47-wOtV Si1BFasQ/viewform

# 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, repackage food, rotate stock and stock shelves.

Students interested in earning service hours at the food pantry this summer should email Diana Janda at <a href="mailto:sdianda1@comcast.net">sdianda1@comcast.net</a>.

### **Opportunities Available:**

Monday and Thursday mornings – 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 p.m. Monthly Truck – 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. – Dates are June 16th, July 14th and August 11th



Welcome! New Catholics





# When you go to the poor, you encounter Jesus

St. Vincent De Paul fills a niche in the community support system by stepping in to help when no government agency or program is set up for that need. As a volunteer for this remarkable aroup, I have purchased and delivered bus tickets, helped choose and arrange for delivery of secondhand furniture, pots and pans and refrigerators, provided funds for building materials to repair a home after it had been vandalized, helped with a deposit on a new and better place to live, and paid a dental bill for a person in pain. Each situation requires contemplation, prayer, and collaborative problem solving with the person who calls us for help, and I find I meet Jesus somehow in each one of them. Rent and utility assistance are more common needs, but when we are assigned a call, we must expect that when we try to understand the circumstances of the person, compassion may require extra legwork. A wonderful friend in the aroup could tell tales of strapping a donated mattress on the roof of her car. Affordable mattresses in good condition are not easy to find, so they were really going the extra mile, as is often the case. This week, my assignment was a person who needed help with her rent this month because she had funeral expenses for a family member.

We take on each case with the goal of helping the person understand, maximize, and pursue the resources available to them. We encounter situations that we may find difficult to understand, and hope, thankfully, and by the Grace of God, would not anticipate finding ourselves. It is indeed good to be needed, and we need and are grateful for our parish financial support, but just as important are the boots on the ground. Please consider joining us!

Chris Clemons

On behalf of the St. Vincent DePaul Society of St. Thomas Parish

Upcoming Events @ Spalding Renewal Center:

Monday Night Mass - April 25, 7:00 pm

Presider: Msgr. Jerry Ward Speaker: Dcn. Rick Miller

Theme: Reflections on the Spalding Renewal Center

nononal come.

Monday Service - May 2, 7:00 pm

Presiders: Deacons of our Community

Speaker: Dave Templin

Theme: The Future of Cursillo

May Ultreya - Saturday, May 7, 7:00 pm

Presider: Msgr. Jerry Ward

Speaker: Ken Zika

Theme: In God's Time with reflections on the Cursillo program and Project Holy Ground

Also watch for a TEC event to be announced soon.

Note: Cursillo Events in Our New Home will be announced soon.







### 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 <u>Graceland Center for Purposeful Aging</u> plans to offer for adults ages 50 +

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



Registration appreciated BEFORE the event. Registrations OK after April 15th.

WALK INs will be accepted if there is room for more people.

COVID rules will be followed. You are welcome to wear a mask but with updated COVID
rules, masks are NOT required to attend. We will do our best to observe social distancing as
indicated.

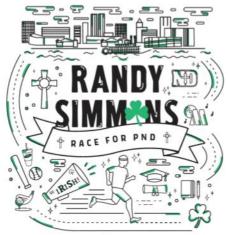
- Cost is \$5 per person, CASH ONLY.
- No one will be turned away due to inability to pay. Note on the registration form if you have a need for a scholarship, access accommodations, or food allergies.
- Register at https://forms.gle/5Bbc6p18pzHnbtyA8 OR
- Call 833.503.7773 to leave a message; we will return your call promptly to help you register.

Please browse our website at: <a href="www.Gracelandcenter.com">www.Gracelandcenter.com</a>
Or email us at: <a href="gracelandcenterpurposefulaging@gmail.com">gracelandcenterpurposefulaging@gmail.com</a>
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. 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	
form.	



# Save the Date!

August 20, 2022 • 6pm start

Scan the QR Code to sign up today!



shorturl.at/muPU



# ON A MISSION TO HELP FUND TUITION

### MUSICAL:

Don't miss Peoria Notre Dame's production of High School Musical starring parishioners Maggie Guingrich, Chris Chiou, Logan Fricke, Johanna Bauers, Carmela Pag-Ong, Olivia Stuart, Ellie King and Christian Pag-Ong! The musical will be held **May** 6<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 pm and **May** 7<sup>th</sup>, 2:00 pm & 7:00 pm.

Middle school **6-8 grade students** can join the cast for opening night by learning a dance to perform during the show! The **rehearsal** for the dance will be held **April 29 from 4:30-6:00**. Sign up using the QR code or email Annie Carroll.

For more details, email director Annie Carroll at **a.carroll@pndhs.org**, and come help us Bop to the Top!



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 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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