# 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); fsjbpeoria@yahoo.com

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

Dcn. Mark Kelsch (Senior Status)

School Principal: Maureen Bentley..(x1210) maureenbentley@stthomas-school.net

Administrative Assistant: Terri Moon.....(x0) terrimoon@stthomas-church.net

Bulletin Editor: Peggy Sullivan......(x1301) peggysullivan@stthomas-church.net

Accountant: Julie Streid.....(x1340)

juliestreid@stthomas-church.net

Tuition Coordinator: Pat Wombacher(x1341) patwombacher@stthomas-school.net

CCD Coordinator: ........ ccd@stthomas-church.net

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

Annulment Consultant:

John Mackoway......699-5213

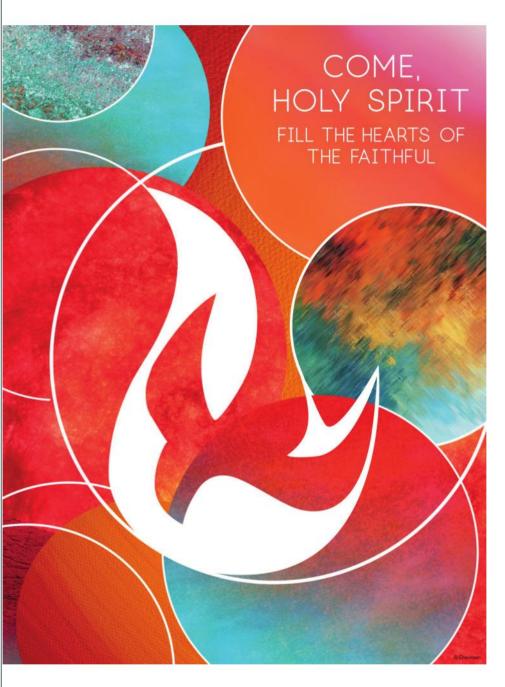
Parish Nurse: Mary Clare Geraghty.(x1350) parishnurse@stthomas-church.net

#### Stay in Touch

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



## June 5, 2022 **Pentecost Sunday**





### From Our Pastor

Happy Pentecost! With the descent of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost, we complete the Easter Season. The end of the Easter Season is the beginning of the Apostles' work of preaching the Gospel, which is also true of us.

In the work of preaching the Gospel, we also pray for vocations to the priesthood, that God may call young men to share in this great mission. Please note that Fr. Chase
Hilgenbrinck will come to St. Thomas next week on June 14 to lead a Vocation Holy Hour at St. Thomas. Fr. Chase is the assistant Vocation Director for the Diocese of Peoria. You may know his story that he left a career as a professional soccer player to become a priest. I will encourage all our servers to take part and to listen to what he has to say. I encourage every member of our parish to take part in this prayer.

I also look forward to the following Sunday, June 19, when we celebrate Corpus Christi. This is the traditional day for veneration of the Blessed Sacrament and a procession with the Holy Eucharist as we have done in past years.

As I look forward to my twenty-fifth anniversary of priesthood in July, I am happy to recommend contributions to our building fund. Two years ago, we undertook the renovation of our church sanctuary, and I would be happy to continue this work by making improvements to our pews and carpet. While some may want to offer me a gift for my anniversary, I would be happy to encourage donations directed to our building fund to continue our work in the church.

-Msgr. Gray

Sponsor of the Week



wyman-group.com | 309.685.8222 114 West Stratford Dr. Suite E | Peoria



### Readings for the Week of June 5, 2022

Sunday Pentecost Sunday

Saturday Vigil: Genesis 11: 1-9; Exodus 19: 3-8a, 16-20b; Ezekiel 37: 1-14; Joel 3: 1-5; Romans 8: 22-27; John 7: 37-39 Sunday: Acts 2: 1-11; 1 Corinthians 12: 3b-7, 12-13 OR

Romans 8: 8-17; John 20: 19-23

Monday The Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church

Genesis 3: 9-15, 20 OR Acts 1: 12-14; John 19: 25-34

**Tuesday** 1 Kings 17: 7-16; Matthew 5: 13-16

**Wednesday** 1 Kings 18: 20-39; Matthew 5: 17-19

Thursday St. Ephrem, Deacon & Doctor of the Church

1 Kings 18: 41-46; Matthew 5: 20-26

**Friday** 1 Kings 19: 9a, 11-16; Matthew 5: 27-32

Saturday St. Barnabas, Apostle

Acts 11: 21b-26; 13: 1-13; Matthew 5: 33-37

Sunday The Most Holy Trinity

Proverbs 8: 22-31; Romans 5: 1-5; John 16: 12-15

#### **Mass Intentions**

Monday, June 6, 2022

9:00 a.m. Jeri Callahan/John Callahan

Tuesday, June 7, 2022

7:00 a.m. Dr. James N. Kenny, Sr./Family

Wednesday, June 8, 2022

7:00 a.m. Fr. Paul Stark, S.J./The Barkley Family

Thursday, June 9, 2022

7:00 a.m. Jodi Hessling/Chris & Dianna Russick

Friday, June 10, 2022

7:00 a.m. Homer Jacquin/Family

Saturday, June 11, 2022

8:00 a.m. Joan Adler/Kitty Bienemann 5:00 p.m. Ralph Barnett/Tom & Bonnie Stroot

Sunday, June 12, 2022

8:00 a.m. Sr. Bernadette Kouri, FSJB 10:00 a.m. Kevin & Ed Harmon 5:00 p.m. For the People

#### Week of June 5

#### ST VINCENT DE PAUL AND FOOD PANTRY COLLECTIONS this weekend

ROSARY Tuesday, June 7, 10:00 a.m., Daily Mass Chapel

CARMELITES Saturday, June 11, 11:00 a.m., Parish Hall

#### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

Holy Hour for Vocations
St. Thomas Holy Hour
Parish Picnic
Men's Club Golf Outing
June 23
August 14
September 23

### Msgr. Gray's Silver Jubilee



Msgr. Gray was ordained a priest on July 12, 1997 and will celebrate 25 years of priesthood this summer.

#### Save the date...

Saturday, July 9 - Sunday, July 10: Everyone is invited to a reception after weekend Masses.

Monday, July 11: Vigil of Anniversary Holy Hour

Tuesday, July 12: Anniversary Mass of Ordination, 7:00 a.m.

In August: a celebration Run/Walk for the parish and school, hosted by school families

Friday, August 26: A Night in Rome celebration dinner at Connected.

**Friday, September 16:** A Trivia Night with Msgr. Gray More to come...

## **Weekly Collection**

	May 29, 2022	Fiscal YTD
Collections needed	\$20,000	\$960,000
Sunday Collections	\$9,439	\$688,322
Electronic Collections	\$3,188	\$153,446
Total Collected		·
Over/(Short)	\$(7.373)	\$(118,232)

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



Emmaus Days is a vocations awareness program sponsored by the Diocese of Peoria. By providing a spiritual, fun environment for young men, we help make them more aware of God's presence in their lives and get them excited about living their faith. It is a mixture of spiritual activities and summer fun. We promise that, after this summer of fun and faith, you will walk away with the confidence to pray each and every day the Emmaus Days prayer: Lord, help me to want to be what you want me to be.

Session I

June 10-12, 2022 Working and College Men St. John's Catholic Newman Center, Champaign

Session II

June 24-27, 2022 High School Juniors &

Seniors

St. John's Catholic Newman

Center, Champaign

Session III

July 17-20, 2022 High School Freshmen &

Sophomores Peoria Notre Dame

Session IV

July 20-22, 2022 Seventh & Eighth Graders

Peoria Notre Dame

More information and registration can be found online at:

Cdop.weshareonline.org/emmausdays2022

## Pray with the Pope

June 2022 For families

We pray for Christian families around the world; may they embody and experience unconditional love and advance in holiness in their daily lives.

## Together We Play Accessible Playground Update and Vote Request

The St. Thomas RoboComets Together We Play team, comprised of St. Thomas School RoboComets team members and alumni (now at PND), have been working since the beginning of 2020 to raise funds to build an accessible playground in Tower Park.

With the help of many generous donations, the playground fund is now nearing its inflation adjusted goal of \$125K. However, we could use your help.... (1) The Gilmore Foundation has provided \$16,000 matching funds to get us to our goal, please consider a donation to take advantage of this match. (2) To go beyond our goal and further enhance the engagement of children of all abilities, we have also submitted a proposal and have been selected as a finalist for the *Build Peoria* 2022-2023 project.

**Please vote** for the Together We Play Accessible Playground Project <a href="https://www.buildpeoria.org/vote">https://www.buildpeoria.org/vote</a> and encourage others to vote for our project.

To learn more about the project or see how you can donate, please go to <a href="http://advocatesforaccess.com/together-we-play">http://advocatesforaccess.com/together-we-play</a>. You can also leave a check, made out to "Together We Play", in the school office.

The Secular Order of the Discalced Carmelite Community of Mary, Mother of the Blessed Sacrament -Ceremony, Saturday, May 21, 2022



The Secular Order of Discalced Carmelite Community of Mary, Mother of the Blessed Sacrament meets the second Saturday of every month at 11:00 am., here at St. Thomas.

Members come from across the diocese. All are welcome to attend. The day begins with Mass, followed by lunch and social time, and closes with formation.

For more information call *Mary Ann Noe*, President of the Community at **309-686-6433** or *Michelle Palmer*, Formation Director at **309-253-7968**.

Vicki Walsh, Stephanie Towery and Irma Robbins took their Definitive Promises.

Pictured L-R: Deacon Bob Hermes, Vicki Walsh, Stephanie Towery, Irma Robbins & Msgr. Gray



#### 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



The ceremony had one Right of Admission and Clothing -Susan Bolliger with Msgr Gray



### 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

## **Teaching Position Available**

St. Thomas School is seeking to fill a full time middle school science or social studies teacher opening. Applicants must hold a teaching certificate from the State of Illinois. Please send a letter of interest and resume to Mrs. Maureen Bentley, principal at: maureenbentley@stthomas-school.net

### **Parish Mission Appeal**



The Annual Mission Appeal at St. Thomas will be held at all Masses on **June 18-19** for Building Hope in Kids – Uganda.

Their primary school is helping to break the cycle of generational poverty for over 800 children!

## 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 sdianda 1@comcast.net.

#### **Opportunities Available:**

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



## When you go to the poor, you encounter Jesus



In recent weeks, we are asking for new volunteers to join the ministry of the St. Vincent de Paul Society. Pope Francis has called us to become more aware of the poor and marginalized in our midst and to serve them with the love of Christ. In Matthew 25:40, Jesus says, As you did to the

least of these you did unto me. Personal home visits to those requesting help are the essence of the Society's ministry. By listening to their stories, we discern how best to help them. We make every effort to be a hand up rather than a handout.

Each month in this space we have shared stories of people we have recently assisted with your generous financial support. We try to reflect their humanity and suffering, and we hope you empathize and pray for them with us. We encourage them to pray and find a home church. Many have a strong faith, while others are adrift. The gift of patient listening, guidance and encouragement distinguishes us from government funded agencies. We strive to avoid judgement or blame during our calls.

As government assistance, related to Covid has subsided, calls to our Helpline have increased, and we need more volunteers. We worry we may have to turn callers away. Please prayerfully consider joining us. St. Vincent said; Go to the poor: You will find God. Those of us in the Society can attest that through serving the poor, we come to a more tangible and personal understanding of Jesus' ministry, and we deepen our relationship with God. As members, we support one another through difficult cases and share our joy over the hopeful ones.

Turning now to address common questions. Our group at St. Thomas is a conference of the Society that has been active for 12 years, so our procedures are well established and tested. Many who are new to this ministry feel nervous initially, but for most that feeling passes quickly. We visit in pairs during daylight hours. New members start as support persons going out with experienced leaders. Most visits going forward will be in person at the home or another location unless a particular team prefers a phone visit for a particular reason. There is no specific time commitment. You can go on as few or as many visits as you choose each month. You don't need any special skills – just a concern for people.

\*If you would like to join or learn more about the St. Vincent de Paul Society, contact **Nancy Medendorp** at **309-678-4504** or **skendermed@gmail.com** 

Please continue to pray for us and bless this ministry by donating what you can to distribute to those in need. Thank you!

~ Edie Brereton



With your support, the Peoria Notre Dame "Kitchen" (aka the gym) will undergo a major renovation this summer featuring a redesigned gym floor. The project will include sanding, coating, and adding the current logo

and crest. Based on the funds raised, the project will also include new rubber flooring in the gym area hall and new gym wall pads. For more information and to view a video about the project, visit https://www.pndhs.org/gym/.

## **Holy Hour for Vocations**

Tuesday, June 14th, 6:30 p.m. Here at St. Thomas



Pray with Fr. Chase Hilgenbrinck for vocations in our diocese.

#### Full time custodian needed

St. Thomas School seeks a full-time custodian to begin this summer. The custodian is responsible for cleaning all aspects of the school building. Hours are 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. during the school year Aug. -May, summer hours adjust, but are still full time. This person is eligible for medical insurance.

If interested, please contact the school principal, Mrs. Maureen Bentley at (309)685-2533 or by email at maureenbentley@stthomas-school.net



Registration is now open for the PND Summer Athletic Camps. The camps include girls and boys basketball, cheerleading, dance, girls golf, boys and girls soccer, volleyball, and wrestling. Each camp is open to incoming K-8th graders. Registration information for all camps can be found on our website at pndhs.org/athletics.



## Holy Hour for the Rights of the Unborn

Saint Mark's Church. 1113 W. Bradley Ave., Peoria 7:00 p.m., June 6th, 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.

## **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 Address City\_\_\_ Phone Change of address/phone \_\_\_



New Parishioner \_\_\_\_\_

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.



REFINANCING • HOME EQUITY LOANS • PURCHASING • CONSULTING

PEORIA EAR, NOSE & THROAT GROUP

7301 N KNOXVILLE AVE. • 309-589-5900

– Parishioner –

JAMES A. GERAGHTY, M.D.

\* PBELL

campbellappraisals.com Lise: 309-645-0406 Parishioner

BANKER 5

The Real Estate

Group

DISCOVER

1208



Become a weekly business presence within your parish community

Call Don Roe 616.340.8580 droe@diocesan.com



## Aging Care Management, LLC

48 Years Experience Working With The Aged

Sandi Kistner, MSW, C-ASWSM
• Consultation • Recommendation • Direct Care e in Filing Long Term Care Insurance Claims 309-231-0318



500 School St. Washington, IL

**BILL McCARTHY** 

REALTOR® - PARISHIONER

Cell: 360-0012

MLS

309-745-3300 storage@zosky.com ezstoragellc.com



Attorneys at Law PARISHIONER: ARY E. SCHMIDT

676-1381 ksswf.com

WOOD FRONT





OM SMITH PLUMBING CO. ILLINOIS LICENSE 055-004303

Plumbing • Heating • Sewering • COMMERCIAL & RESIDENTIAL

Том Ѕмітн tsptom@mtco.com www.tomsmithplumbing.com

429 E. Sciota Peoria Heights, IL (309) 688-5114

309-495-0179

1209 W. Main Street

Peoria, IL 61606

DISCOVER SCHERER, YOU'LL LOVE IT HERE.

#### **SCHERER** MAZDA

Keri Thierer, mother of Aberdeen in St. Thomas graduating class of 2026

2300 W Pioneer Pkwy 309.691.0300 SchererAuto.com

LINCOLN



Parishioner Steve Jackson, President 309-699-9517

PRAIRIE HOME ALLIANCE

203 EASTGATE DRIVE Washingtion, IL prairiehomealliance.com





obrientoyotaofpeoria.com



obrienlexusofpeoria.com

Scherer Lincoln Volvo 2200 W Pioneer Pkwy 309.691.9880



SchererAuto.com

DISCOVER SCHERER, YOU'LL LOVE IT HERE.



Real Estate Tax Appeals

Commercial • Industrial • Residential 309-256-6700 Mobile • 309-693-2600 Office • 309-693-6200 Fax Email: bob@mcquellon.com • www.mcquellon.com



Minimally invasive spine surgery Physical therapy on site

7620 N University St. Parishioner Office: 309-691-7774

www.prairiespine.com



wyman-group.com | 309.685.8222 114 West Stratford Dr. Suite E | Peoria

"We've Got You Covered Since 1910" 1025 N Sheridan Road ENDORMO

our New Home for School Uniforms! 309-671-4543 www.sharrisuniforms.com



Chase Bank Building • 411 Hamilton Blvd., Peoria IL 61602 www.HealthInsuranceExchangeCl.com 309-740-9850



JIM ROCHFORD & ASSOCIATES 309.637.5322 PARISHIONER 101 South West Adams, #700 drochford@rochfordlaw.com



### KRUMHOLZ BROTHERS LANDSCAPE CONTRACTORS Landscape • Excavating • Erosion Control

www.krumholzbros.com DAVE & RICHARD KRUMHOLZ



**Precision Machining & Assembly of** Casting, Forging & Steel Products



INSURANCE I

