# 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); fsibpeoria@yahoo.com

Deacon: Dcn. John Nelson.......981-2716
Dcn. Ed Mallow......360-7735
Dcn. Mark Kelsch (Senior Status)

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

Annulment Consultant:

John Mackoway......699-5213

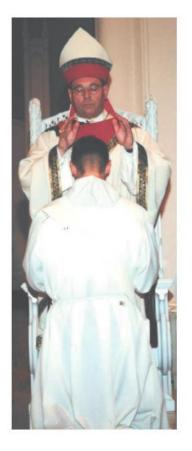
Parish Nurse: Mary Clare Geraghty.(x1350) parishnurse@stthomas-church.net

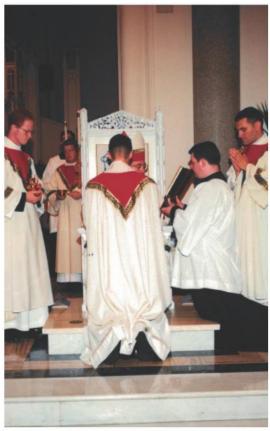
#### Stay in Touch

- Join Msgr. Gray for Mass. Link can be found on the parish website, stthomaspeoria.org or the My Parish App
- Download My Parish App to receive push notifications (Visit myparishapp.com/download).
- 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).



# July 10, 2022 Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time







Monsignor Gray Celebrates his Silver Jubilee



#### From Our Pastor

Thank you for your words of congratulation as I celebrate 25 years of priesthood. I am especially thankful to many parishioners who have volunteered to plan and coordinate the different events this weekend and over the summer to mark this anniversary.

I believe that the celebration of a priesthood anniversary is not just an occasion for the priest alone, but also a celebration for the parish. I say this because a priest is very much united with Jesus Christ in his relationship with the Church. Just as Jesus is intimately bound to the Church as a bridegroom to his bride, so also a priest is called to enter into this mystical relationship when he stands in the place of Jesus Christ to lead the Church in prayer and worship.

And so, a priest is called to give to his parish. A priest is called to serve his parishioners and to love them with the Heart of Christ, which is admittedly an impossibility if it weren't for the help of God's grace. A priest gives of himself through preaching, the celebration of the sacraments, and in other works of service.

However, a priest also receives from his parish. In twenty-five years, I am more acutely aware of the importance of this relationship and the blessings that a priest receives from his parishioners. As Jesus delights in our signs of love for him, so I am grateful for your prayers, your encouragement, and your support. I believe that every priest needs these expressions of love and kindness to help him live out his vocation. So, let us mark this anniversary as a blessing both for myself personally, but also for St. Thomas the Apostle Parish.

For young men who may be called to the priesthood, it is important for them to know that there are not only great demands and challenges in this vocation, but also great blessings and rewards experienced in the loving care and concern of those who they will serve.

-Msgr. Gray



# Readings for the Week of July 10, 2022

Sunday Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Deuteronomy 30: 10-14; Colossians 1: 15-20; Luke 10: 25-37

Monday St. Benedict, Abbot

Isaiah 1: 10-17: Matthew 10: 34—11: 1

**Tuesday** Isaiah 7: 1-9; Matthew 11: 20-24

Wednesday St. Henry

Isaiah 10: 5-7, 13b-16; Matthew 11: 25-27

Thursday St. Kateri Tekakwitha, Virgin

Isaiah 26: 7-9, 12, 16-19; Matthew 11: 28-30

Friday St. Boneventure, Bishop & Doctor of the Church

Isaiah 38: 1-6, 21-22,7-8; Matthew 12: 1-8

Saturday Our Lady of Mount Carmel

Micah 2: 1-5; Matthew 12: 14-21

Sunday Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Genesis 18: 1-10a; Colossians 1: 24-28; Luke 10: 38-42

#### **Mass Intentions**

Monday, July 11, 2022

7:00 a.m. Sr. Bernadette Kouri, FSJB

Tuesday, July 12, 2022

7:00 a.m. Msgr. Jason Gray 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Ordination

Wednesday, July 13, 2022

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

Thursday, July 14, 2022

7:00 a.m. Intentions of Daniel Owens/Ed & Cathy Mallow

Friday, July 15, 2022

7:00 a.m. Hafner & Smith Families

Saturday, July 16, 2022

8:00 a.m. Pete Pasquel/The Barkley Family

5:00 p.m. Jean & George Best/Terry & Marty Best

Sunday, July 17, 2022

8:00 a.m. Benefactors of Franciscan Sisters of St. John the Baptist 10:00 a.m. Special Intentions of Kyle & Gabrielle Haste/Michael &

Whitney Axelson

5:00 p.m. For the People

#### Week of July 10

MSGR. GRAY RECEPTION This Weekend after all Masses, Parish Hall

**VIGIL OF ANNIVERSARY HOLY HOUR** Monday, July 11, 6:00 p.m., Reception following in the Parish Hall

**ANNIVERSARY MASS OF ORDINATION**, Tuesday, July 12, 7:00 a.m., Reception following in the Parish Hall

ROSARY Tuesday, July 512 10:00 a.m., Daily Mass Chapel

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL Tuesday, July 12, 7:00 p.m., Parish Hall

#### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

St. Thomas Holy Hour Parish Picnic Men's Club Golf Outing

July 21 August 14 September 23

#### **Our Sympathy**

Mary Ellen Clancy

Mary Ellen Van Buskirk

Harold L. Alexander, Jr

#### **Baptism Congratulations**

Beau Unkovich son of Alison & Matthew Unkovich

Josephine Ailani Leyva daughter of Evelyn Leyva & Oscar Antonio Leyva Hernandez

# Please Come Downstairs for Msgr. Gray's Reception after Saturday evening & All Sunday Masses

ALL NEW ST. THOMAS

Women's Ministry

...COMING THIS FALL!

Scan here to learn more and watch the bulletin for details.



# **Weekly Collection**

	July 3, 2022	Fiscal YTD
Collections needed	\$20,000	\$20,000
Sunday Collections	\$18,446	\$18,446
Electronic Collections	\$1,875	\$1,875
Total Collected	\$20,321	\$20,321
Over/(Short)	\$321	\$321

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.



# 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: Celebration of 25 years of priesthood at weekend Masses. A reception will follow each Mass in the Parish Hall.

Monday, July 11: Vigil of Anniversary Holy Hour, 6:00 p.m. Pizza will be offered to the servers who attend after the Holy Hour.

**Tuesday**, **July 12**: Anniversary Mass of Ordination, 7:00 a.m. Refreshments will be served after Mass.

**Wednesday, July 27:** Jubilee Fun Run/Walk, Donovan Park 6:30-8:30 p.m. As a tribute to a healthy lifestyle, join Msgr. Gray for this fun evenina.

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

Friday, September 16: A Trivia Night with Msgr. Gray. The questions will not be about Msgr. Gray, but he will choose the topics based on his areas of interest. Test your knowledge of mathematics, theology, Rome and Italy, health and nutrition, 80s movies, and skiing.



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 III

July 17-20, 2022 High School Freshmen &

Sophomores Peoria Notre Dame

Session IV July 20-22, 2022

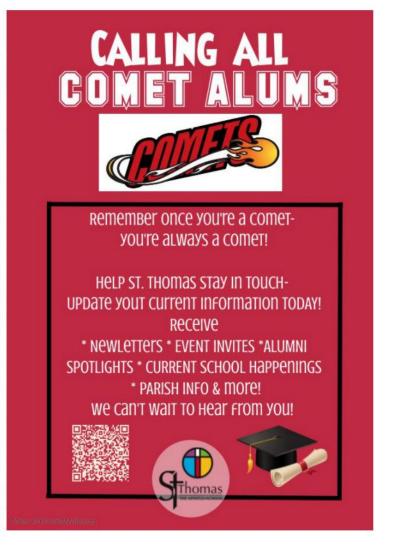
Seventh & Eighth Graders Peoria Notre Dame

More information and registration can be found online at: Cdop.weshareonline.org/ emmausdays2022



Fr. Gray Became Msgr. Gray ~ Congratulations on Your Silver Jubilee Msgr.!







# Save the Date

# Monsignor Gray's Jubilee Fun Run/Walk

July 27th 6:30-8:30pm Donovan Park Cross Country Course

Open to all ages and abilities.

Details to come on registration and commemorative t-shirts.

Please contact Melissa Bare (309-643-4433) for any questions.

#### **CCD Teacher Needed**

We have an opening for a CCD teacher to help with religious instruction on Wednesday evenings during the school year. All teaching materials are provided. If you are interested, please contact Liz Plaskon at ccd@stthomas-church.net.



#### Pray with the Pope July 2022

July 2022 For the elderly

We pray for the elderly, who represent the roots and memory of a people; may their experience and wisdom help young people to look towards the future with hope and responsibility.

Sponsor of the Week

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— Parishioner —
JAMES A. GERAGHTY, M.D.



"Our postulant Jena entered novitiate and will be known as Sister Elizabeth"

Please join our us in congratulating our beloved teacher, Sister Elizabeth! God bless her and all the Franciscan Sisters of St. John the Baptist!



# Save the Date



# A Night in Rome

A dinner to celebrate Monsignor Gray's 25th Anniversary of the Priesthood.

**AUGUST 26TH** Connected Restaurant Monsignor to this celebration and the building fund, please contact Stephanie Schachtrup Coad

STEPH.COAD@GMAIL.COM

309.253.3315

# **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	

Change of address/phone

# St. Thomas - Food Pantry

We accept any shelf-stable food items, but the most needed items are: canned corn, canned or dried beans, pasta, pasta sauce, pancake mix, syrup, mac and cheese, pasta or rice side dishes, meal helper, peanut butter and canned chicken.

Thank you for your generosity

# 25th and 50th **Wedding Anniversaries**

On September 25, 2022, Bishop Tylka will celebrate a Mass at the Cathedral of St. Mary for couples who are celebrating their 25th or 50th wedding anniversary in 2022.

If you are celebrating your 25th or 50th this year please contact the parish office by July 1 and give us your names and the date of your wedding. We will forward your names to the Diocese and you will receive a personal invitation to attend this celebration. 309-688-3446 or parishoffice@stthomas-church.net



#### Part-Time Helper Needed to Clean the Church & Parish Hall

We have an opening for a part-time paid position for someone who can help vacuum and help with other light cleaning in the church. The position is five to ten hours per week. The schedule is flexible and can fit your needs. If you are interested, please contact the parish office.

Peoria Notre Dame is now enrolling incoming 9-12 grade students for the 2022-2023 school year! Become a part of

the Irish family built upon 160 years of Catholic education and tradition. With 50 honors classes to choose from, your teen has the opportunity to be challenged with college level work throughout high school. And our outstanding Student Services team provides just the right help for students who need additional learning assistance.

For more information about how your child can go further at Peoria Notre Dame, call Admissions Director Matt Blackford at 309-691-**8741** today!

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.

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