## 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 Parochial Vicar: Fr. Achilleus Tegamaisho.. frachilleus@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

Director of Faith Formation: Mary Cushing.... marycushing@stthomas-school.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
- 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).



## November 6, 2022 Thirty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

## Vocation Awareness Week November 6—12, 2022



Seminarian, J.P. Stedwill STS Class of 2012



Last week I shared a link to a video that could help encourage people to get back to Mass. Some had a difficult time finding the video, so the link is repeated here:

#### https://youtu.be/O4LHz2f-lls

At the end of October, the Wall Street Journal hailed the progress of Catholic Schools in our country. Catholic schools are largely mission driven and not constrained by modern cultural ideology. Therefore, we focus on the most critical aspects of educating children: challenging them to effectively learn in a safe and disciplined environment of faith.

The WSJ article discovered one of our greatest strengths: we focus on the child and want every child to achieve his or her potential. We promote a Catholic environment, welcoming Catholic and non-Catholic families to attend. As the article noted, Catholic Schools are not elite private schools for the wealthy. Our Catholic Schools serve the poor and disadvantaged as well as those who are self-supporting. We have a community of students from different backgrounds and social classes, including white, black, Asian and Hispanic students. All of them are called to excellence.

Too many statistics can become complicated, but the results are clear: Catholic School students score 1-2 grade levels ahead of public schools as a national average. Remarkably, Catholic Schools accomplish this with about one-third of the money that states spend on public schools.

We will recognize our eighth-grade students and our student athletes this weekend. I offer special thanks to all those who support our Catholic School. Please join us for coffee and donuts after Mass this weekend.

-Msgr. Gray

Sponsor of the Week





## Readings for the Week of November 6, 2022

Sunday Thirty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

2 Maccabees 7: 1-2, 9-14; 2 Thessalonians 2: 16—3: 5;

Luke 20: 27-38

**Monday** Titus 1: 1-9; Luke 17: 1-6

**Tuesday** Titus 2: 1-8, 11-14; Luke 17: 7-10

Wednesday The Dedication of the Lateran Basilica

Ezekiel 47: 1-2, 8-9, 12; 1 Corinthians 3: 9c-11, 16-17;

John 2: 13-22

Thursday St. Leo the Great, Pope & Doctor of the Church

Philemon 7-20; Luke 17: 20-25

Friday St. Martin of Tours, Bishop

2 John 4-9; Luke 17: 26-37

Saturday St. Josaphat, Bishop & Martyr

3 John 5-8; Luke 18: 1-8

Sunday Thirty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Malachi 3: 19-20a; 2 Thessalonians 3: 7-12;

Luke 21: 5-19

## **Mass Intentions**

Monday, November 7, 2022

7:00 a.m. Betty Little/John & Amy Kelly

Tuesday, November 8, 2022

7:00 a.m. Hafner & Smith Families

Wednesday, November 9, 2022

7:00 a.m. Jay & Lois Streid/John & Jan Galbreath

Thursday, November 10, 2022

7:00 a.m. Tessa Casten/John & Amy Kelly

9:15 a.m. Intentions of Ben West/Ed & Cathy Mallow

Friday, November 11, 2022

7:00 a.m. Deceased Members Sweeney/Conlon Families & Francis

Farraher

Saturday, November 12, 2022

8:00 a.m. Dr. James Snyder, Jr/Dad

5:00 p.m. Ed Carrigan/Rick & Maureen Pantages

Sunday, November 13, 2022

8:00 a.m. For the People

10:00 a.m. Sr. Bernadette Kouri, FSJB

5:00 p.m. Paul Hop Nguyen/Wife & Children

## Week of November 6

ST VINCENT DE PAUL AND FOOD PANTRY COLLECTIONS this weekend

**COFFEE & DONUTS** after Sunday morning Masses, Parish Hall

MEN'S BASKETBALL Sunday, November 6, 7:00 p.m., School Gym

ROSARY Tuesday, November 8, 10:00 a.m., Daily Mass Chapel

**CHOIR** Tuesday, November 8, 6:15 p.m., Music Room

ST VINCENT DE PAUL Tuesday, November 8, 7:00 p.m., Parish Hall

CCD Wednesday, November 9, 6:00 p.m., School

OCIA/RCIA Wednesday, November 9, 7:00 p.m., Parish Hall

WALKING WITH PURPOSE Thursday, November 10, 6:30 p.m., Parish Hall

**TMIY** Friday, November 11, Doors open 6:00 a.m., program begins 6:30 a.m., Parish Hall

MOMSGIVING Saturday, November 12, 6:00 p.m., Parish Hall

#### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

St. Thomas Holy Hour November 17
Adoration December 2
Advent Market December 3



## Pray with the Pope

November 2022

For children who suffer

We pray for children who are suffering, especially those who are homeless, orphans, and victims of war; may they be guaranteed access to education and the opportunity to experience family affection.

## **Weekly Collection**

	October 30, 2022	Fiscal YTD
Collections needed	\$20,000	\$360,000
Sunday Collections	\$13,135	\$208,030
Electronic Collections	\$3,769	\$49,481
Total Collected	\$16,904	\$257,511
Over/(Short)	\$(3,096)	\$(102,489)

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**

Gene Jeffries

## **Prayer for Vocations**

Father in heaven, you sent us your only Son to redeem us and to build your kingdom on earth. Please give us the wisdom and strength we need to follow His call. Grant to the faithful a spirit of generosity, that Church vocations may flourish. Bless our priests with holiness and courage, that they may lead your people to Christ. Help all sisters and brothers to fulfill their sacred promises and so be effective signs of your kingdom. Lord, invite more men and women to your service. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

From: Prayers for Vocations | USCCB

## Holy Hour for the Unborn

Saint Mark Church 1113 W. Bradley Avenue, Peoria 7:00 p.m., November 7, 2022

## RCIA/OCIA

Wednesdays, 7:00 p.m. Parish Hall

Date

Topic

November 9: Holy Catholic Church

November 16: Forgiveness of sins, Resurrection

of body, Judgement, Eternal Life,

Liturgy, Sacraments

November 23: No Class

November 30: Baptism, Confirmation

December 7: Blessed Virgin Mary, Rosary

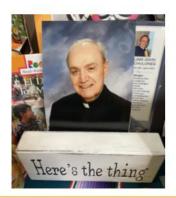
December 14: Eucharist December 21: NO Class December 28: NO Class



Our school celebrated *El Dia de Los Muertos* (the Day of the Dead), during which we remember and pray for our deceased loved ones.

Monsignor Watson and Fr. Stark were among the honored.





## **Parish Council**

**Seeking Nominations for the Council** 

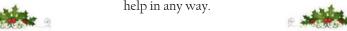
We invite parishioners to recommend members of the parish to serve on our Parish Council. Term of service starts in January. The Parish Council is composed of nine elected members who each serve for a three-year term, and one member who is a liaison from the Parish Finance Committee.

The Parish Council advises regarding all aspects of parish life, including the spiritual, educational, social, and financial concerns of the Parish. The Parish Council is assisted in studying the financial health of the parish by the Parish Finance Council.

You may present nominations to the Parish Office in writing or via email. Include the name of the person making the nomination, the person being nominated, and a short comment about the qualities that make the candidate a good nominee to the Parish Council. Each nominee will be asked if he or she will accept the nomination. Please consider nominating a fellow parishioner who can contribute to building our parish.

## Help Wanted

The Parish *Christmas Open House* will be here before we know it. Please start thinking about how you might be able to assist in making this event the best one ever. Please call, or email, the Parish Office if you are able to belo in any way.







## Annual Diocesan Appeal as of October 21, 2022

St. Thomas Parish Goal\$	133,057
Total Pledged\$	82,945
Total Paid\$	66,900
Balance Due\$	50,112

For your convenience in making your ADA pledge a link is provided so that you may pledge, and make your payment(s), on-lline:

### Give online to ADA 2022

Or pick up an ADA envelope from one of the tables in the narthex



Ham, all the thanksgiving sides, dessert, wine and specialty cocktails!

Contact Sarah Pennell if you have any questions: (309) 678-6752 or saraherochford@yahoo.com



### Joy to the World

The Official 2022 Rolan Johnson Christmas Ornament is Now Available! The Sisters will be selling ornament November 12-13 at masses This year's ornament is \$36.00 All proceeds go to the Sisters Retirement Fund.

# Yearend Tax Planning-Invest in Kids Program through Empower Illinois

As 2022 winds down it is not too late to take advantage of the 75% state tax credit associated with a donation to the Invest in Kids Scholarship program through Empower Illinois. All donations pledged and paid for by November 30, 2022 will be awarded to eligible St. Thomas students for the current school year.

Through your generous donations 30 students have already received scholarship awards from Empower Illinois. We still have 17 students on our waiting list who are eligible to receive scholarship awards if we receive additional contributions. Any donations pledged and paid from Dec. 1- Dec 31, 2022 will still give you the 75% state tax credit for 2022 but the funds will be awarded to students during the 2023/2024 school year. Caterpillar will match donations made through the *Invest in Kids Act*.

Your continued support of Catholic education through the Invest in Kids Program as well as our St. Thomas Sponsor a Student Program is deeply appreciated. Our students and their parents are exceptionally grateful for the support provide by our very generous parishioners.

If you have any questions please contact Pat in the Parish Office.

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

Let us come before Him with thanksgiving... --Psalm 95:2

Recently we had the opportunity to visit with our two college freshman grandchildren for the first time since they left for college. How grateful we were to see them--safe, happy, and so much more "grown-up" than they had been but a few short months ago.

When I was a sometimes frustrated neophyte volunteer for St. Vincent de Paul, I was reminded by our leader, Edie, that many of our neighbors in need did not have the same bringing up that we had. Many come from struggling families where there is no time to teach things like responsibility, budgeting, planning, etc. The parents I've visited seem to love their children very much, but struggle to provide more than just the basics. Sending a child away to college, or to the local community college is not even considered. Thus, at St. Vincent de Paul, we strive to assist the whole person and family in need, not just by giving out money to get them over a crisis, but by offering paths to develop skills through other sources also.

Be assured we are careful with the money you donate. However, as I write this we are having difficulty fulfilling the many requests we are receiving and have even stopped helping with rent. Please consider this as you make your contribution to St. Vincent de Paul during this month of thanksgiving. Our poor troubled families appreciate your help, and we do too!

~ Bettsey Barhorst



Be sure to set your clocks back 1 hour when you go to bed Saturday night, November  $5^{\rm th}$ .

## 2022 Annual Diocesan Appeal Follow Up



As you know, 2022 ADA is underway in our parishes. Thank you to all who have already contributed! With your help, we are getting closer to reaching our parish goal.

If you have not received a pledge card in the mail or misplaced it, the Diocese of Peoria will be mailing a follow up letter at the beginning of November. It will include another pledge card and a self addressed envelope. Please consider supporting our diocesan ministries.

If you have already contributed and receive this letter in the mail, please disregard it, as pledges are often received and processed after a letter is assembled and mailed.



Lagron-Miller is hosting Emanuele Fontanini, fourth generation Fontanini from Italy, at a tour event signing. Available to purchase will be an exclusive tour piece, Elisha, Shepherdess, as well as the 2022 Event Ornament which can be signed by Mr. Fontanini during these two hours. (You may also bring up to 2 pieces of your own previously purchased items and he will sign them as well.) If you are interested in purchasing an event piece but will not be available to attend the signing, you can also purchase ahead of time (in person, online or by phone.) We will have it signed for you at the event and afterwards it can be picked up or even shipped if you prefer. If you have any questions, please call Lagron-Miller Company 309-681-9171.

## Catholic Women's League

Catholic Women's League Annual Meeting Tuesday, November 15th, 2022

Place: Buehler Home at the Gathering Space Registry - 9:30 am (Social with Light Refreshments)

Rosary at 10 am with Business Meeting to Follow

## **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

New Parishioner	Change of address/phone
Phone	
City	ZIP
Address	
Phone	
Email	
First Name(s)	
Last Name	
form.	

## **PND Enrollment**



Enrollment at Peoria Notre Dame for the 2023-2024 school year is now open! Current 8th grade students and their parents are

encouraged to visit the campus, discover PND's rigorous course offerings, and discuss tuition payment options with the finance staff. PARENTS, don't let finances get in the way of providing a quality Catholic education for your teen. Scholarships and financial aid are available, and an amazing 90% of applicants receive assistance. Become a part of the PND family!

## International Exhibition The Eucharistic Miracles Of the World

Saturday, November 19, 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. Spalding Pastoral Center, 419 NE Madison

11 a.m. Guest Speaker Fr. Luke Spannagel Jesus in the Eucharist: How Miracles Support Our Faith



12 DAYS OF CHRIST MAS

Peoria Notre Dame is teaming up with Scherer for the 5th annual 12 Days of Christmas Cash and Car Raffle!

An Early Bird winner of \$500 will be drawn on November 17. Cash prizes will be drawn daily, beginning Monday, December 5 through Thursday, December 15.

The grand prize of a 2023 Mazda CX5 (MSRP \$28,075) will be drawn at 12:10 pm on Friday, December 16, 2022.

Tickets may be purchased online at Peoria-NotreDame.com/12days, or from a staff member or student of PND.

The Sisters of the Third Order of St. Francis invite you to their

### Annual Motherhouse Bazaar

Friday, Nov. 18, 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 19, 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

At: Motherhouse, 1175 St. Francis Ln., E. Peoria

For sale will be religious items, Christmas items, craft items, plants, handmade quilts, and more. In addition there will be freshly baked goods: donuts, breads, & cookies!

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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