

St. Thomas the Apostle Parish Staff

Office Hours: M-F 9:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m.

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Fr. John Twinomujuni.....In Residence

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(688-3500); fsjbpeoria@yahoo.com

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Dcn. Ed Mallow.....360-7735
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Annulment Consultant:

John Mackoway.....699-5213

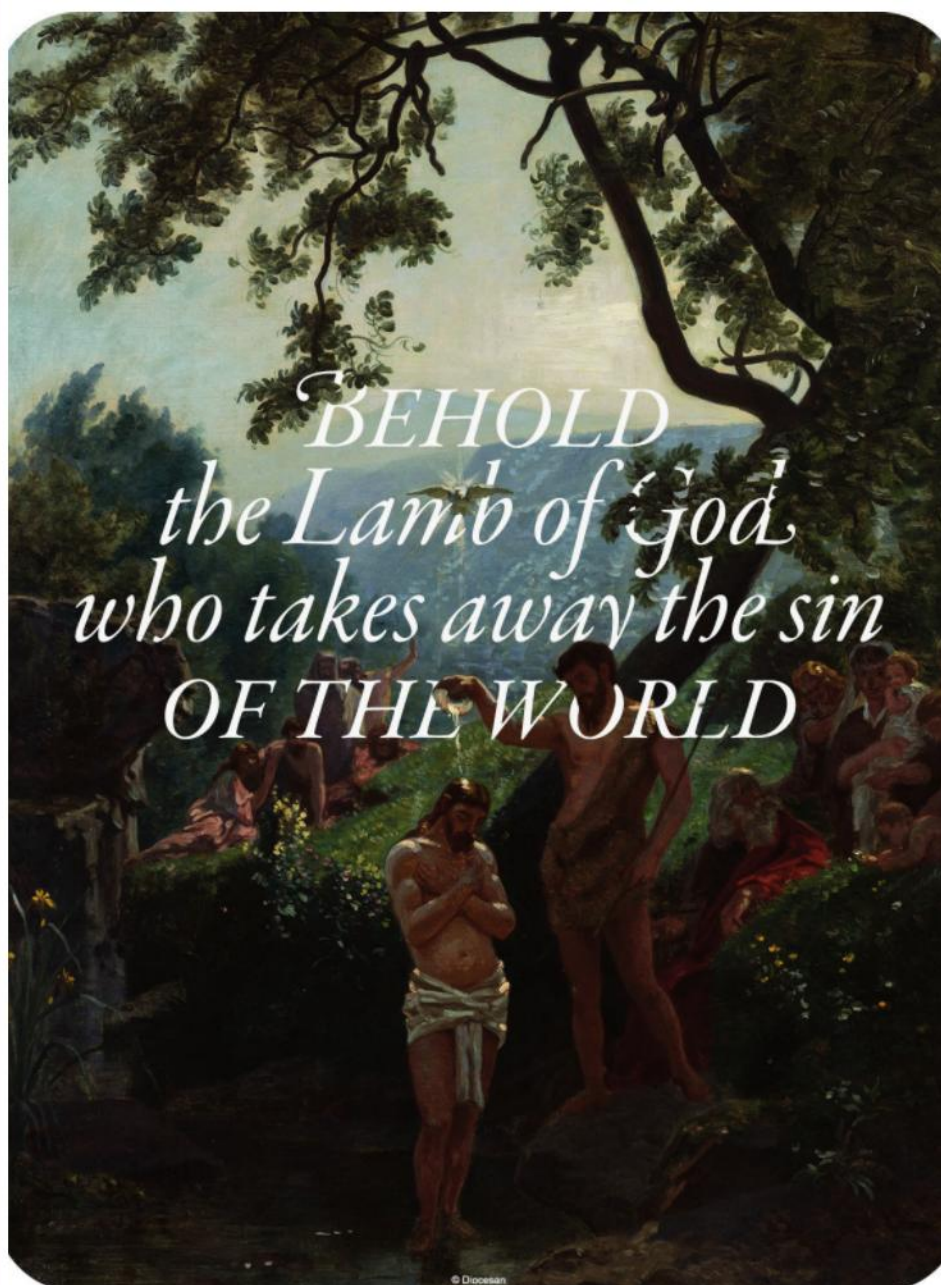
Parish Nurse: Mary Clare Geraghty....(x1350)
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Stay in Touch

1. 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).



January 15, 2023





From Our Pastor

I am grateful for some time off this past week. I know that time away is always helpful for regaining a sense of perspective. I look forward to the work we have at St. Thomas ahead of us in January.

This month is a time to focus on Catholic Schools. At the end of the month, we will have our Open House which is a time for our parish to celebrate the blessings that St. Thomas School is to our parish. Make a plan to stop by on January 29th to see the school.

This weekend we also had an event for our potential pre-school and kindergarten children, held between 9 and 11 AM on Saturday, January 14. The gift of a Catholic Education is precious, and we are proud to welcome these young children as they begin their schooling.

If you know of anyone who should consider St. Thomas School, please suggest that they attend one of our events or make contact with the school office.

January is also Respect Life month. Catholics in the United States are asked to do penance on Monday, January 23, to pray for a greater respect for life. Although the Roe v. Wade decision was overturned by Dobbs v. Jackson, the work of promoting life is far from over. The work continues in converting State Legislatures and the hearts and minds of individual citizens. Thank you for the sacrifices you offer on January 23rd.

—Msgr. Gray

OCIA Topics

Wednesdays, 7:00 p.m. Parish Hall

Date	Topic
January 18:	Orders, Religious Life
January 25:	Penance, Anointing, Funerals

Sponsor of the Week



Readings for the Week of January 15, 2022

Sunday	Second Sunday in Ordinary Time Isaiah 49: 3, 5-6; 1 Corinthians 1: 1-3; John 1: 29-34
Monday	Hebrews 5: 1-10; Mark 2: 18-22
Tuesday	St. Anthony, Abbot Hebrews 6: 10-20; Mark 2: 23-28
Wednesday	Hebrews 7: 1-3, 15-17; Mark 3: 1-6
Thursday	Hebrews 7: 25—8: 6; Mark 3: 7-12
Friday	St. Fabian, Pope & Martyr Hebrews 8: 6-13; Mark 3: 13-19
Saturday	St. Agnes, Virgin & Martyr Hebrews 9: 2-3, 11-14; Mark 3: 20-21
Sunday	Third Sunday in Ordinary Time Isaiah 8: 23—9: 3; 1 Corinthians 1: 10-13, 17; Matthew 4: 12-23 OR Matthew 4: 12-17

Mass Intentions

Monday, January 16, 2023	7:00 a.m. Tom Burek/The George Burek Family
Tuesday, January 17, 2023	7:00 a.m. Frances Farragher/Mary Ann Noe
Wednesday, January 18, 2023	7:00 a.m. Claudia Bima/Linda Osika
Thursday, January 19, 2023	7:00 a.m. Bishop Edward W. O'Rourke/Jeanne Whalen 9:15 a.m. Harry Alexander/John & Joan Varda
Friday, January 20, 2023	7:00 a.m. Harriet Cowell/Deb Wenzel
Saturday, January 21, 2023	8:00 a.m. David Andrews Family/Sue Lambert 5:00 p.m. Mike Barra/Tony & Mary Honey Jacob
Sunday, January 22, 2023	8:00 a.m. For the People 10:00 a.m. Mary Ellen Van Buskirk/The Maske Family 5:00 p.m. Gerald & Mary Schwab/Family

Week of January 15

SIGN-UP FOR WALKING WITH PURPOSE After all Masses this weekend

SCHOOL CLOSED Monday, January 16 for MLK Day

ROSARY Tuesday, January 17, 10:00 a.m., Daily Mass Chapel

CHOIR Tuesday, January 17, 6:30 p.m., Music Room

PARISH COUNCIL Tuesday, January 17, 7:00 p.m., Parish Office

CCD Wednesday, January 18, 6:00 p.m., School

RCIA Wednesday, January 18, 7:00 p.m., Parish Hall

MEN'S CLUB Thursday, January 19, 6:30 p.m., Rudy's Cantina

ST. THOMAS HOLY HOUR Thursday, January 19, 7:00 p.m., Church

THAT MAN IS YOU Friday, January 20, doors open at 6:00 a.m., program begins at 6:30 a.m., Parish Hall

UPCOMING EVENTS

Adoration	February 3
Progressive Dinner	February 18



PARISH HOLY HOUR

Thursday, January 19
7:00 p.m. — 8:00 p.m.



That Man Is You will start the spring semester on
Friday, January 20th.
All men of the parish are invited to participate.

Doors open at 6:00 am for coffee and continental breakfast. The program begins at 6:30 with a video presentation, followed by small group discussions. The program ends at 7:30 am.

All men currently participating are encouraged to invite others. You can register by coming to the church basement and register in person on January 20th at 6:00 am, or by sending an email to George Burek at georgeburek@yahoo.com

Weekly Collection

January 8, 2023

		Fiscal YTD
Collections needed.....	\$20,000	\$560,000
Sunday Collections.....	\$20,431	\$369,967
Electronic Collections.....	\$4,860	\$99,084
Total Collected.....	\$25,291	\$469,051
Over/(Short)	\$5,291	\$(90,949)

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

Gerald Flaherty



Pray with the Pope

January 2023

For educators

We pray that educators may be credible witnesses, teaching fraternity rather than competition and helping the youngest and most vulnerable above all.

walking with purpose
SO MUCH MORE THAN A BIBLE STUDY

Join us for a 6-part
Catholic Women's
Bible study based
on the book of
Ephesians.



Thursdays 6:30-8:00pm

Beginning Feb. 2nd

Pick up a flyer in the narthex or scan
for more details!



Eagle Scouts

We are proud to announce that

Matthew Gray
Jude Isada
Sean Magner



Of Troop 28 have completed all the requirements to achieve Eagle Scout status.
Congratulations!

"THE PROGRESSIVE DINNER EVENT OF THE YEAR"

SAINT THOMAS RED CARPET

PREMIERES SATURDAY FEBRUARY 18, 2023

REGISTER HERE:



OR AT www.stthomaspeoria.org

**We are rolling out the Red Carpet
For our Progressive Dinner, Live Auction, Raise the Paddle and Raffle**

**Tickets \$50 per person
Reservations due no later than February 3, 2023**

**The evening begins at 5:00 pm with cocktails and hors d'oeuvres
At the Country Club of Peoria**

You will enjoy a small group dinner in a parish home at 6:30 pm.

**All will gather at St. Thomas at 8:30 pm for dessert,
Live Auction, Raise the Paddle and Raffle**


**Questions? Karoline Seitz-Goddard (309) 265-7700
Maggie Jackson (309) 256-1810**

St. Thomas - Food Pantry

The pantry accepts any shelf-stable food items, but these items are needed most: pancake mix, syrup, cereal, crackers, spaghetti sauce, canned fruit, peanut butter, meal helper, dry pasta, canned veggies, canned soup.

Thank you for your generous support!

You're invited to a
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Join us at Portillo's for a fundraiser to support:
St. Thomas School

When:
January 18, 2023
5:00 PM - 8:00 PM

at the Portillo's located at:
4412 N. Rockwood Drive
Peoria, IL

20% of sales will benefit your organization. Order online or in app for pickup using code **PORTILLOS55** before checkout in the "Apply Offer" field, or show this flyer or a digital version to cashier when ordering at the restaurant. Valid on drive thru, pickup, curbside, and in restaurant orders.

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For online/app orders to qualify for the fundraiser, orders must be placed for pickup only, from the participating restaurant, on the fundraiser date and during the listed fundraiser hours. Gift card purchases, delivery orders, and orders placed on the third party websites are excluded from the fundraiser. Online ordering subject to availability. \$200 minimum fundraising sales required for the organization to receive donation. Cannot be combined with other offer codes.

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CALLING ALL 7TH-12TH GRADE MEN



JANUARY 15, FEBRUARY 5, MARCH 19,
APRIL 16, MAY 7
4:30-6:30 PM
2327 W. HEADING AVE.
PEORIA, IL
PRAYER, PIZZA, PING PONG
VISIT WWW.COMEANDFOLLOWME.ORG FOR MORE DETAILS

USE THIS CODE &  SCAN TO REGISTER

Empower Illinois Scholarship Applications for 2023/2024 School Year

The application process for an Empower Illinois Scholarship for the 2023/2024 school year will begin **Wednesday, January 18, 2023, at 7:00 p.m.**

The application is a two-step process: first, reserve your place in line through the Empower Illinois website, www.empowerillinois.org, January 18th beginning at 7:00 p.m. After you reserve your spot, Empower Illinois will contact you to complete the second part of the application.

Applications are considered on the basis of the date and time this first step is completed, as well as prior receipt of an Empower Illinois Scholarship, so it is important to complete step one as soon as possible once the process begins. The reservation page will open at 6:30 p.m. to provide families time to complete the form before submission at 7:00 p.m.

If you would like help applying for the Empower Illinois Scholarship, please contact Pat at patwombacher@stthomas-school.net, or 688-3446, ext. 1341, by Monday, January 16th. We will make sure step one of your application is completed on January 18th.

Please remember: even if you received an Empower Illinois Scholarship for the 2022/2023 school year, you need to **reapply** for the next year.

The Peoria Area Catholic Young Adults Group

A group for those in their 20s and 30s which has been revamped to meet at a different area location at least monthly for a faith-based activity followed by fellowship. Please don't feel nervous to come if you are new as we have many new attendees each month. This could be a great New Year's resolution! For more info or to be added to the email list, contact peoriacatholicadults@gmail.com.

Upcoming events:

Saturday, Feb. 4: 6:00 Fr. Derick Tryphon Mwesiga speaking on the Church in Tanzania at Jalapeños in the Metro Centre followed by a social hour
Thursday, Feb. 16: 6:00 Adoration at St. Jude & 6:45 dinner at Avanti's (N. Knoxville)

Principal Needed

Peoria Notre Dame High School is seeking a Principal for the 2023-2024 academic year. The new principal must be enthusiastic about the Catholic mission of the school – developing students in spirit, mind, and body. The preferred candidate for the position will have experience in administration, enthusiasm for youth, and the desire to work in a faith-based environment. The principal will report directly to the Office of Catholic Schools superintendent and will supervise the assistant principal, dean of students, athletic director, campus ministry, counselors, student services, and teachers.

For a full job description, qualifications, and requirements, please review the description sheet at <https://5il.co/1lxvy>. Download a Principal Application Packet from the Catholic Diocese of Peoria at <https://cdop.org/careers>.

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 _____

New Parishioner _____ **Change of address/phone** _____

Catholic Women's League Mass for Deceased Members

Wednesday, January 18th, 10:00 a.m.

St. Vincent de Paul Church
6001 N. University St.
Peoria, IL 61614

Kelly Needham Memorial Blood Drive

Feb. 25, 2023, 8:00 am-12:00 pm

St. Philomena School Gym,
1000 W Albany, Peoria

Whole blood donors who donated on or before Dec. 31 are eligible to give again on Feb. 25.

Since the first drive in memory of Kelly in 2013, we have collected 573 units of blood. Help us get to 600 units this year. Please sign up to give. Go to www.redcrossblood.org/ and search code **STPHILS** in the red box that says **Find a Blood Drive**.

Blood Drive

PND Commons
5105 N Sheridan, Peoria
Saturday, January 28, 2023
9:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m.

For an appointment call **1-800-Red Cross (1-800-733-2767)** or visit RedCrossBlood.org

Respect Life

Dear Parish Family,

As you know, January 22 is the anniversary of the Roe v Wade decision, the day that all attempts to provide legal protections for children before they are born were declared unconstitutional. Though this decision was overturned, returning some power to protect the unborn to the individual states, no such protections are likely here in Illinois.

As awful as it is to declare a "right" to end the life of a baby before it is born, the sad truth is that most mothers who take this action do it out of desperation. Regardless of the political situation, fewer abortions take place in conditions when pregnant mothers are treated with dignity and have their physical and social needs met.

Please pray especially for the lives of babies yet to be born, and the meeting of the needs of their mothers that will keep them safe. Please pray also for the success of organizations like the Women's Care Center who are working so hard to meet these needs.



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 sched-
ule 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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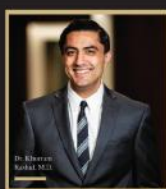
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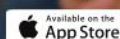
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