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:

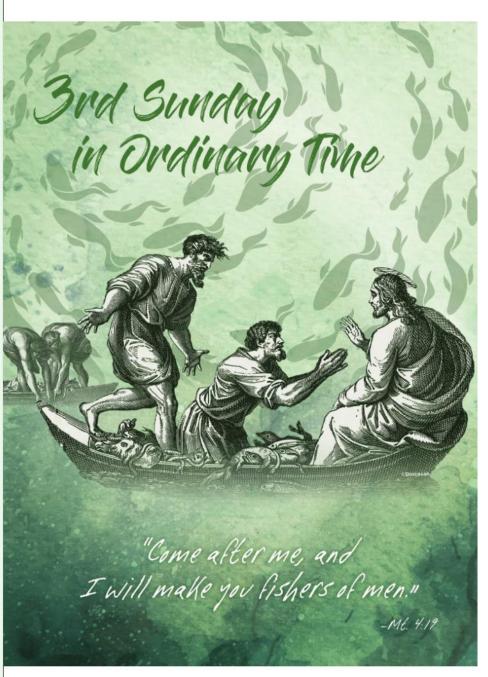
John Mackoway...........699-5213
Parish Nurse: Mary Clare Geraghty....(x1350)
parishnurse@stthomas-church.net

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).



January 22, 2023





From Our Pastor

Fifty years ago on January 22nd, the Supreme Court issued the Roe v. Wade decision legalizing abortion. Although this decision was overturned last year, the debate about the protection of human life continues, especially in Congress and in the various State legislatures in our country. I am grateful that we have courageous leaders who support the sanctity of life in the crisis pregnancy centers in our own area where women in need are served.

Monday, January 23rd is a day of penance in this country for the protection of the unborn. Many people support the dignity of human life by volunteering or donating to the pro-life cause. However, we can all make a difference through our prayers and sacrifices. Let us observe this day of penance on Monday as a way to unite ourselves with those who are most vulnerable.

Next week is Catholic School's Week. We look forward to the open house that will be held at St. Thomas School next Sunday.

It is a service to the Catholic community when a service is available at one of the parishes in our area. I note that St. Vincent de Paul Parish will have a grief support group starting on January 26. Anyone who is interested can take advantage of this program.

Finally, special congratulations to Jennifer Willems, from our own parish, who has assumed the responsibilities of the Editor of the Catholic Post. If you are not a subscriber to the Catholic Post, please consider this as a valuable source of information about the Catholic Church in our diocese.

-Msgr. Gray

Sponsor of the Week





Readings for the Week of January 22, 2022

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

Monday St. Marianne Cope, Virgin

Hebrews 9: 15, 24-28; Mark 3: 22-30

Tuesday St. Francis de Sales, Bishop & Doctor of the Church

Hebrews 10: 1-10; Mark 3: 31-35

Wednesday The Conversion of St. Paul the Apostle

Acts 22: 3-16 OR Acts 9: 1-22; Mark 16: 15-18

Thursday Sts. Timothy & Titus, Bishops

2 Timothy 1: 1-8 OR Titus 1: 1-5; Mark 4: 21-25

Friday St. Angela Merici, Virgin

Hebrews 10: 32-39; Mark 4: 26-34

Saturday St. Thomas Aguinas, Priest & Doctor of the Church

Hebrews 11: 1-2, 8-19; Mark 4: 35-41

Sunday Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Zephaniah 2: 3; 3: 12-13; 1 Corinthians 1: 26-31;

Matthew 5: 1-12a

Mass Intentions

Monday, January 23, 2023

7:00 a.m. Claudia Bima/Mike & Mary Lou Bartley

Tuesday, January 24, 2023

7:00 a.m. Marita Merkle/Mike & Theresa Haughney

Wednesday, January 25, 2023

7:00 a.m. Joseph & Florence Whalen/Jeanne Whalen

Thursday, January 26, 2023

7:00 a.m. Pam Paulson/Mike & Mary Lou Bartley 9:15 a.m. Ray & Viola Horst/Paul & Ann Horst

Friday, January 27, 2023

7:00 a.m. Ruben Bosquez/Maria & Rigo Diaz

Saturday, January 28, 2023

8:00 a.m. Ralph Barnett/Tom & Bonnie Stroot 5:00 p.m. Harry Alexander/Dennis & Carol Doyle

Sunday, January 29, 2023

8:00 a.m. For the People

10:00 a.m. Judy Campbell/Jim & Pat Hagemann

5:00 p.m. Jose Rosalem/Rexy Legaspi

Week of January 22

ROSARY Tuesday, January 24, 10:00 a.m., Daily Mass Chapel

CHOIR Tuesday, January 24, 6:30 p.m., Music Room

CCD Wednesday, January 25, 6:00 p.m., School

OCIA Wednesday, January 25, 7:00 p.m., Parish Hall

THAT MAN IS YOU Friday, January 27, 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
Moms & Mimosas March 4

Day of Prayer

Monday, January 23, is a day of prayer for the legal protection of Unborn Children.

In all the Dioceses of the United States of America, January 22 (or January 23, when January 22 falls on a Sunday) shall be observed as a particular day of prayer for the full restoration of the legal guarantee of the right to life and of penance for violations to the dignity of the human person committed through acts of abortion.

 \sim The General Instruction of the Roman Missal, no. 373



Pray with the Pope

For educators

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

Weekly Collection

January 15, 2023

		Fiscal YTD
Collections needed	\$20,000	\$580,000
Sunday Collections	\$9,404	\$379,371
Electronic Collections	\$ \$	\$99,084
Total Collected	\$9,404	\$478,455
Over/(Short)	\$(10,596)	\$(101,545)

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

Dolores Tarkowski

Tho Dang

Catholic Schools Week

Join us for an Open House

Check out St. Thomas Catholic School on **Sunday, January 29**th from 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Come see and hear ALL that St. Thomas has to offer!

Meet with teachers and staff to learn about Pre-K & Kindergarten, Academics, Religion, Activities, & Community



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

Date

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



OCIA Topics

Wednesdays, 7:00 p.m. Parish Hall **Topic**

January 25: Penance, Anointing, Funerals

February 1: Individual aspects of the Moral Life February 8: Prayer, Universal Call to Holiness February 15: Our Father, Hail Mary, other prayers, prepare for Lent



February Ultreya

Saturday, Feb. 4th, 4:30pm beginning with the parish Mass St. Anthony Catholic Church 2525 S. Skyway Rd., Bartonville, 61607 Join us for a Mass, talk, and social time! Social Time with beverages and snacks. Guests & families are encouraged & welcome!

9 Days For Life

PRAY TO PROTECT HUMAN LIFE! JANUARY 19-27, 2023

9 Days for Life is a novena for the protection of human life. Each day's intention is accompanied by a short reflection and suggested actions to help build a culture of life.

To find the novena: 9 Days for Life Novena | USCCB

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!



MEN'S RETREAT

St. Thomas Parish will again have a Men's Retreat this year at White House Retreat in St. Louis.

This year's retreat starts with check-in on Thursday, September 14th at 4:30 pm and concludes on **Sunday**, **September 17th** at 1:00

An informational meeting about the retreat will be scheduled after Easter. More information about White House can be found at: https:// whitehouseretreat.org/ If you are interested in learning more or would like to register, please email George Burek at georgeburek@yahoo.com

When you go to the poor, you encounter Jesus



Pay attention! Be vigilant to notice that God is present in our daily lives. The truth is that God is present in our daily work, in a chance encounter, in the face of someone in need," Pope Francis said. By reaching out to those in need we grow closer to Him.

What we are called to do in this life is to take care of each other, to make our community better, and grow closer to God. As the Bible says love your neighbor as yourself.

We thank you for your compassion and generosity. You are helping our struggling neighbors in a powerful way by empowering our Vincentian volunteers. Not only do they provide material help (rent, utilities, food, etc.), but they offer friendship, understanding, and prayers to help people break free from obstacles with which they struggle.

Remember, God is hidden in our daily lives. Have you seen Christ lately? Stay alert!

God bless you for sharing your blessings with us.

If you are interested in knowing more about St. Vincent de Paul Society, please call the Parish Office at 688-3446 and you will be connected with someone who can help.

~ Cindy Hall



CDOP Open Position

The Catholic Diocese of Peoria is seeking a **Director of Development.**

The FULL-TIME position involves instituting the Annual Diocesan Appeal along with assisting the parishes, schools and institutions across the 26 counties of Central Illinois with Stewardship needs. Full Benefits available along with Salary commensurate with experience.

Forward by email a Letter of

Introduction and Resume to: humanresources@cdop.org



A St. Vincent de Paul Parish Ministry 6001 N. University, Peoria IL 61614

SVdP is hosting a Grief Support Ministry that is called Grief Wounded Healers. All are welcome in the community.

Our first meeting will be on January 26 from 7:00-8:00 pm, at the St. Vincent de Paul School in the Library. Come through the main entrance and our team will be there to welcome you.

Talk to your local parish for Regestration forms and scheudle. For Questions email Taylor Huber Director of Evangelization at St. Vincent de Paul Parish thuber@svdpvikings.com

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 faithbased 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 it the

Phone Change of addr	ess/phone
D	
City ZI	P
Address	
Phone	
Email	
First Name(s)	
Last Name	
Parish Office or Register on our website at sttl About open the New Parishioner Registration form.	

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

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.

Maggie Bertram Foundation Irish Fest 2023

Kick off the St. Patrick's Day celebrations at the Maggie Bertram Foundation for the Fine Arts' IRISH FEST & FISH FRY. Friday, March 10th, Holy Family School from 4-8pm. This family fun event includes live music, Irish Dancing and the best fish fry in town. Admission is free. All proceeds benefit the Maggie Bertram Foundation's fine arts education grant program. We are currently seeking donations to the silent auction, as well as financial/sponsorship donations. Please contact Tim Campbell at 309-303-1155 or Denise Conner at 309-210-3997.

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 schedule the class.

ConfessionsSaturday 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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