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

Rullotin Editor: Paggy Sullivan (v.1301)

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

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

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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:

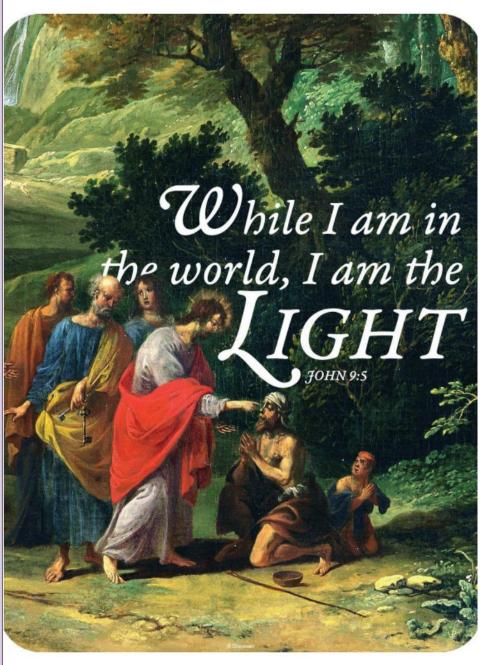
John Mackoway...........699-5213
Parish Nurse: Mary Clare Geraghty...(x1350)
parishnurse@stthomas-church.net

Stay in Touch

- Join Msgr. Gray for OCIA Class. 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).



March 19, 2023 Fourth Sunday of Lent





From Our Pastor

Next weekend we will welcome Michael Gormley to our parish for a Parish Mission. We will begin after the Sunday evening Mass on March 26th at 6 PM in the church. I encourage you to come and to be challenged about living our faith more vigorously. We are called to follow Jesus not just on Sunday. I look forward to this Mission to help us think more intentionally about living as a Catholic. The mission continues the next day on Monday, March 27th.

Please plan to come and encourage your friends to join you. You can help grow our parish family by reaching out to those who might not be coming to Mass. You can be a disciple who calls others to meet Christ. Ask them to come for the first night, and if they are inspired, they will want to continue for the second night.

The following week will begin Holy Week with Palm Sunday. Please consider participating in the special liturgies of the Triduum as we celebrate the Last Supper on Holy Thursday, the Passion on Good Friday, and the reception of new Catholics at the Easter Vigil.

We are looking for musicians to help with our Sunday 5 PM evening Mass beginning in May. If you know someone who might be interested, please encourage them to contact the Parish Office.

- -Msgr. Gray

Sponsor of the Week



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Readings for the Week of March 19, 2023

Sunday Fourth Sunday of Lent

1 Samuel 16: 1b, 6-7, 10-13a; Ephesians 5: 8-14; John 9: 1-41

OR John 9: 1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38

Monday St. Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary

2 Samuel 7: 4-5a, 12-14a, 16; Romans 4: 13, 16-18, 22;

Matthew 1: 16, 18-21, 24a

Tuesday Ezekiel 47: 1-9, 12; John 5: 1-16

Wednesday Isaiah 49: 8-15; John 5: 17-30

Thursday St. Turibius of Mogrovejo, Bishop

Exodus 32: 7-14; John 5: 31-47

Friday Wisdom 2: 1a, 12-22; John 7: 1-2, 10, 25-30

Saturday The Annunciation of the Lord

Isaiah 7: 10-14; 8: 10; Hebrews 10: 4-10: Luke 1: 26-38

Sunday Fifth Sunday of Lent

Ezekiel 37: 12-14; Romans 8: 8-11; John 11: 1-45

OR John 11: 3-7, 17, 20-27, 33b-45

Mass Intentions

Monday, March 20, 2023

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

8:00 a.m. Robert Brammeier/Connie Tonsor

Tuesday, March 21, 2023

7:00 a.m. Libby Robinson/Matt and Beth Salmon 8:00 a.m. Matt Leali/Danny and Kathy Coyle

Wednesday, March 22, 2023

7:00 a.m. Harry Alexander/John & Joan Varda 8:00 a.m. Martha Lang Tran/Cindy Pham

Thursday, March 23, 2023

7:00 a.m. Mary Nelson/The Nelson Family 8:00 a.m. Patrick Regan/Kathleen Ray

9:15 a.m. Jim Becker/Clarence & Sarah Grebner

Friday, March 24, 2023

7:00 a.m. Mary Ellen Van Buskirk/Tom and Phyllis Duncan

8:00 a.m. Larry Zarley/Michelle Konecki

Saturday, March 25, 2023

8:00 a.m. Judy Campbell/Jim and Pat Hagemann 5:00 p.m. Ralph Barnett/Tom & Bonnie Stroot

Sunday, March 26, 2023

8:00 a.m. For the People

10:00 a.m. Fred Darche/Rigo & Maria Diaz

5:00 p.m. Patricia Messmer

Week of March 19

FISH FRY TICKETS available after all Masses

MEN'S BASKETBALL Sunday, March 19, 7:00 p.m., School Gym

ROSARY Tuesday, March 21, 10:00 a.m., Daily Mass Chapel

CHOIR Tuesday, March 21, 5:00 p.m., Music Room

PARISH COUNCIL Tuesday, March 21, 7:00 p.m., Parish Office

CCD Wednesday, March 22, 6:00 p.m., School

OCIA Wednesday, March 22, 7:00 p.m., Parish Hall

WALKING WITH PURPOSE Thursday, March 23, 6:30 p.m., Parish Hall

THAT MAN IS YOU Friday, March 24, doors open at 6:00 a.m., program begins at 6:30 a.m., Parish Hall

MEN'S CLUB FISH FRY Friday, March 24, 5:00 p.m., School Cafeteria

CONFESSIONS Friday, March 24, 6:00 p.m., Church

STATIONS OF THE CROSS Friday, March 24, 7:00 p.m., Church

PARISH MISSION Sunday-Monday, March 26-27, 6:00 p.m., Church

UPCOMING EVENTS

Pancake Breakfast April 2

Holy Hour April 20

Adoration May 5

Our Sympathy

Ava Victoria Malana

Lenten Devotions

Daily Masses 7:00 am & 8:00 am Monday-Friday; 8:00 am Saturday

Confessions:

6 pm – 7 pm Fridays 4 pm – 4:45 pm and after the 5 pm Mass on Saturdays Immediately after the 8 am, 10 am and 5 pm Masses on Sunday

Fridays during Lent

6:00 pm Adoration and Confession 7:00 pm Benediction, Stations of the Cross

Pray with the Pope

March 2023

For victims of abuse

We pray for those who have suffered harm from members of the Church; may they find within the Church herself a concrete response to their pain and suffering.

Musician(s) Needed

Beginning May 2023 St. Thomas will need one, or more, musicians for the 5:00 p.m. Sunday Mass. If you, or someone you know, play an instrument and are interested in this important ministry for the Parish please contact the Parish Office.

Weekly Collection

March 12, 2023

		113Cai 11D
Collections needed	\$20,000	\$740,000
Sunday Collections	\$13,900	\$491,828
Electronic Collections	\$9,633	\$139,197
Total Collected		
Over/(Short)		
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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.

OCIA Topics

Wednesdays, 7:00 p.m. Parish Hall

Date

March 22: Commandments 6, 9, 10

March 29: History of the Church, Preparation

for confession

April 5: Penance Service, Practice April 8: Easter Vigil (Saturday)

April 19: Mystagogia

Fiscal YTD

St Thomas Mission

You work hard to invest in your children's future. Why not invest in their Eternal Future as well?



PARISH MISSION





Notes to Parishioners

Do you, or another parishioner you know of, have a special occasion coming up? Something like a milestone birthday or anniversary? Is anyone dealing with an illness of any kind, or just need a pick-me-up? If the answer is yes to any of these questions please let us know who you are! Call or email the Parish Office and give us your name and address. We have a lovely group of ladies who want to send a card, or note, so you would just need to watch your mail.

St. Thomas - Food Pantry

The pantry accepts any shelf-stable food items, but these items are needed most at the present time: pancake mix, syrup, jelly, crackers, spaghetti sauce, canned soup.

Thank you for your generous support!

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 five students to gain service hours. On Monday and Thursday mornings, federal holidays excepted, the pantry distributes groceries to neighbors in need. Packing groceries, registering pantry guests, restocking shelves, repackaging food and assisting guests to their vehicles are tasks that students will perform while under adult supervision. An additional service opportunity occurs one Thursday per month when we receive a truckload of food products from Midwest Food Bank. On these days, five 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 dianajanda1964@gmail.com.

Opportunities Available:

Monday and Thursday mornings – 8:30 AM to 11:30 AM – June 1st through August 10th Monthly Food Delivery – 1:30 PM to 3:30 PM – Dates are June 15th, July 13th and August 17th



Children's Choice: Fish or Grilled Cheese Drive-Thru (Enter the Back Parking Lot)

Adult Meal: 2 pieces of Fish, French Fries, Cole Slaw and Bread Children's Meal: 1 Fish or Grilled Cheese, French Fries, Cole Slaw and Bread

Cookies provided by the Women of St. Thomas



904 East Lake Avenue Peoria Heights, IL

Proceeds will benefit Refurbish/Repair/Replace St. Thomas School cafeteria equipment

Here is the sign up for volunteers for the fish fry. Sign up now: https://signup.com/go/fxnSMva

Thank You

We want to extend a tremendous thank you to Mrs. Donna Selling for her incredible service to our school as our 5/6 math and resource/gifted teacher over the last 13 years. Mrs. Selling has decided to retire at the end of this school year. We wish her nothing but health and happiness as she and Mr. Selling start this new exciting adventure, one sure to be filled with frequent visits to see their grand baby. We will be sure to celebrate and thank Mrs. Selling over the next few months.

Please help me by spreading the word of our upcoming opening to your teacher friends, neighbors and family.

Teacher Position

St. Thomas School seeks to fill a full time **resource/gifted teacher** opening for the 23-24 school year. This individual works with our middle school students and oversees student accommodation plans. It would be beneficial for this teacher to hold a special education teaching license and have experience supporting students with a minor learning disability, autism, or ADHD. This teacher also works with our enrichment program. Please send a letter of interest and resume to Mrs. Maureen Bentley, principal at **maureenbentley@stthomas-school.net**







Rachel's Vineyard Retreat

The wound of abortion is real. So is healing. Rachel's Vineyard Retreat offers healing for those who struggle with the emotional and spiritual pain of a past abortion. This retreat is for singles or married couples, mothers, fathers, grandparents, siblings, or anyone impacted by an abortion experience.

Register for the March 24-26, 2023 retreat by calling 309-264-1489 or emailing ryrpeoria@gmail.com. All communications are strictly confidential.

For more information please visit www.cdop.org/rachelsvineyard or www.rachelsvineyard.org.

We invite teens, ages 16-18, to embark on an 8 day Summer Institute full of fun, friendship, recreation, prayer, and study. Our retreat will be on the monastery grounds of the Community of St. John in Princeville, IL, led by Brothers and Sisters of St. John. The classes, along with Mass, the Divine Office, and a Holy Hour each day, give teens the opportunity to grow closer to Christ and be formed in the truths of the faith. Campfires, sports, and recreation offer a chance to form deep friendships with other teens dedicated to growing in holiness. Delicious meals, lodging, recreation fees, and study materials, as well as travel and expenses for the team of religious are included in the registration fee of \$405* (Checks to be made out to Eagle Eye Ministries).

Details and registration at https:// www.eagleeyeministries.org/summer-institutes/



Yard Clean-Up for Vets

The Illinois Valley Fuller Center for Housing is offering FREE spring yard cleanups for Veterans and widows of Veterans. Volunteers will provide a maximum of 2 hours of service during the month of April. To sign up for this service or to volunteer call 309-678-9552.

Parish Registration

Complete this form and drop it in the collection basket, **or** mail to the Parish Office or Reaister on our website at stthomaspeoria.org. Under mit the

New Parishioner Change of address/phone	
Phone	
City	ZIP
Address	
Phone	
Email	
First Name(s)	
Last Name	
	ioner Registration, complete and sub

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.

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.

Fish Fry

THE ST. BERNARD MEN'S CLUB will have a fish fry on April 7th, from 5:30-7:00 p.m. in the school gym, 512 E. Kansas, Peoria.

Dine in or carry out. \$15.00 for catfish or a

baked cod dinner, and \$10.00 for shrimp or fried cod dinners, which includes cole slaw, choice of potato and bread. Children's meals of corndogs, fried cod, or shrimp - \$5.00.

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 Office is open Monday-Friday from

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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