

St. Thomas the Apostle Parish Staff

Office Hours: M-F 9:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m.

904 East Lake Avenue,
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parishoffice@stthomas-church.net

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msggray@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

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Dcn. Ed Mallow.....360-7735
Dcn. Mark Kelsch (Senior Status)

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CCD Coordinator: Liz Plaskon

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marycushing@stthomas-school.net

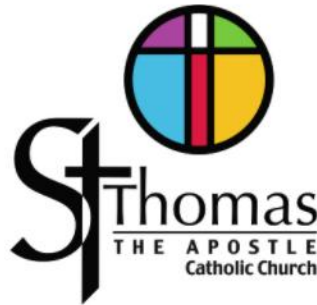
Music Coordinator: Ann Horst..... 682-5507
Annulment Consultant:

John Mackoway.....699-5213

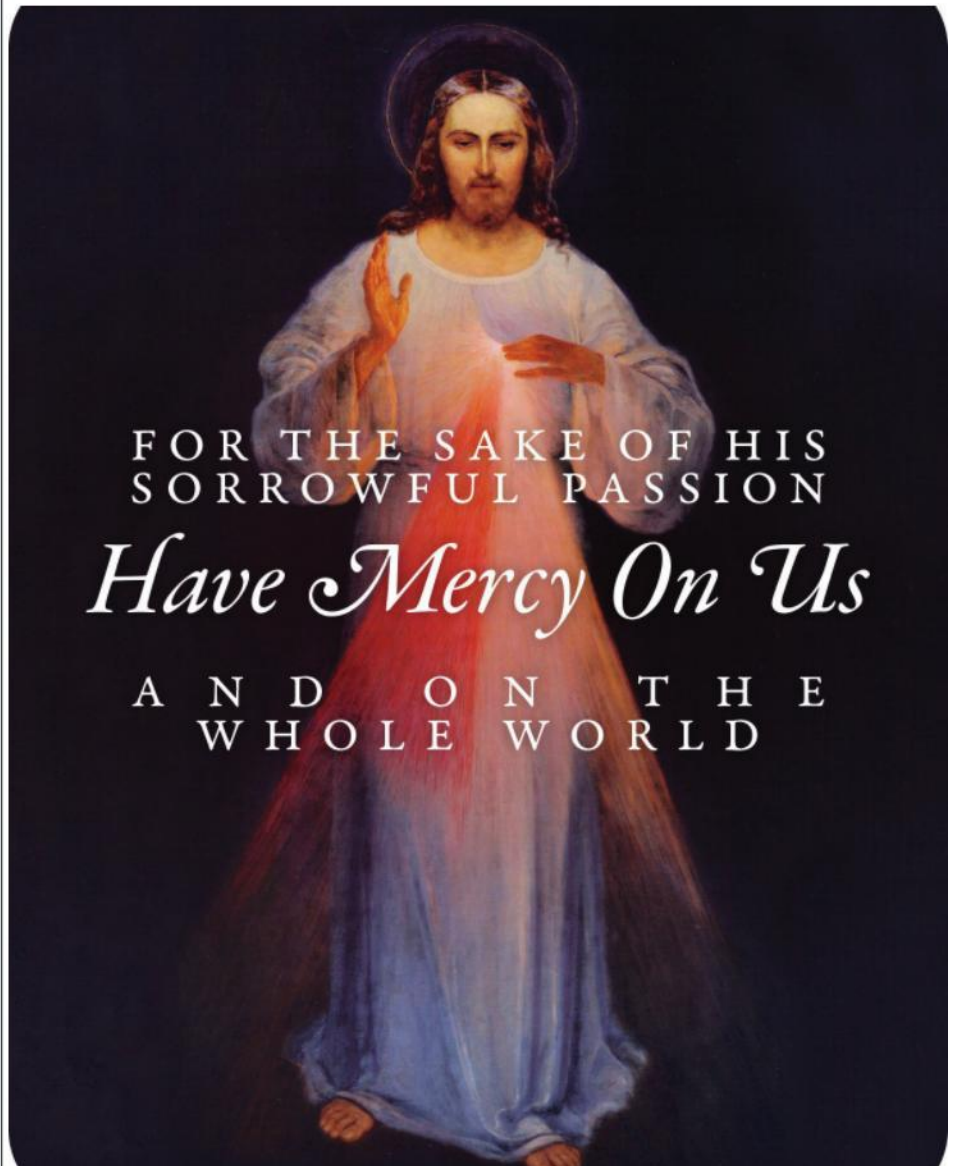
Parish Nurse: Mary Clare Geraghty....(x1350)
parishnurse@stthomas-church.net

Stay in Touch

1. Join Msgr. Gray for OCIA Class. 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).



April 16, 2023



FOR THE SAKE OF HIS
SORROWFUL PASSION

Have Mercy On Us

A N D O N T H E
W H O L E W O R L D



From Our Pastor

On this Octave of Easter, we joyfully celebrate Divine Mercy Sunday. The Divine Mercy Novena concludes today. We will have devotions on Sunday afternoon from 3 to 4 PM with confessions and adoration.

I was especially grateful for the participation of so many in Liturgies of Holy Week and Easter. I am particularly thankful for Denise Tascher's help with the 10 members of our OCIA class who entered the Catholic Church at the Easter Vigil. Also, we owe special recognition to the Franciscan Sisters of John the Baptist for their dedicated work in decorating and caring for the sanctuary during these holy days.

After receiving feedback from various parishioners, we will continue both our 7 AM and 8 AM daily Masses beyond the Lenten season. At the same time, I need to be aware of the number of Masses we have each day, especially when we have to add Masses for our school, a funeral, or one of our nursing homes. Extra Masses are complicated especially when one of the priests is away. With this in mind, our daily Mass schedule will be:

7 AM on Monday-Friday

8 AM on Monday-Saturday (moved to 9:15 AM on school Mass days)

Please know that you are welcome to attend any of our 9:15 AM school Masses.

In the next weeks, I will ask all of our parishioners to consider a contribution to help us reach our target for the next phase of our church project including carpet, pews, and kneelers. You may notice the poster in the narthex showing our progress.

At the same time, I encourage all our parishioners to consider your regular weekly or monthly contributions in our ordinary parish collections. If you don't give consistently, I encourage you to regularly support St. Thomas Parish. If your contributions are electronic and on auto-pilot, I urge you to consider an increase to meet our expenses.

- Msgr. Gray

Sponsor of the Week



Readings for the Week of April 16, 2023

Sunday	Sunday of Divine Mercy Acts 2: 42-47; 1 Peter 1: 3-9; John 20: 19-31
Monday	Acts 4: 23-31; John 3: 1-8
Tuesday	Acts 4: 32-37; John 3: 7b-15
Wednesday	Acts 5: 17-26; John 3: 16-21
Thursday	Acts 5: 27-33; John 3: 31-36
Friday	Acts 5: 34-42; John 6: 1-15
Saturday	Acts 6: 1-7; John 6: 16-21
Sunday	Third Sunday of Easter Acts 2: 14, 22-33; 1 Peter 1: 17-21; Luke 24: 13-35

Mass Intentions

Monday, April 17, 2023

7:00 a.m. Benefactors of Franciscan Sisters of St. John the Baptist
8:00 a.m. Blanche Sherman/Laura Sherman

Tuesday, April 18, 2023

7:00 a.m. Geri Callahan/John Callahan
8:00 a.m. Richard Kube, Sr./The Watts Family

Wednesday, April 19, 2023

7:00 a.m. Ellen Roberts/Friend
8:00 a.m. Lou Phelan/Robert Spears

Thursday, April 20, 2023

7:00 a.m. Melvin & Lucille Noe/Mary Ann Noe
9:15 a.m. Pat Regan/Jerry & Caroline Joplin

Friday, April 21, 2023

7:00 a.m. Intentions of George Burek/Friends
8:00 a.m. Sr. Bernadette Eaton/Eileen McDonough

Saturday, April 22, 2023

8:00 a.m. Gordon Jockisch/David & Sharon Joseph
5:00 p.m. Jason Rutherford/Family

Sunday, April 23, 2023

8:00 a.m. Ward, Nyla, & Needra Bell/Jack & Margaret Weinstein
10:00 a.m. Fred Darche/Betty Droege
5:00 p.m. For the People

Week of April 16

DIVINE MERCY DEVOTIONS Sunday, April 16, 3:00 p.m., Adoration & Confessions, Church

MEN'S BASKETBALL Sunday, April 16, 7:00 p.m., School Gym

ROSARY Tuesday, April 18, 10:00 a.m., Daily Mass Chapel

CHOIR Tuesday, April 18, 6:30 p.m., Music Room

PARISH COUNCIL Tuesday, April 18, 7:00 p.m., Parish Office

CCD Wednesday, April 19, 6:00 p.m., School

OCIA Wednesday, April 19, 7:00 p.m., Parish Hall

MEN'S RETREAT MEETING Thursday, April 20, 6:30 p.m., Parish Hall

ST THOMAS HOLY HOUR Thursday, April 20, 7:00 p.m., Church

THAT MAN IS YOU Friday, April 21, doors open at 6:00 a.m., program begins at 6:30 a.m., Parish Hall

UPCOMING EVENTS

Msgr. Watson Memorial Mass	April 26
Adoration	May 5

Msgr. Watson Memorial Mass



Each year we gather as a community to pray for the faithful departed who have died in the past year. This Mass is also for all who have lost a loved one at any time. Everyone is invited to participate in this Mass.

Msgr. Watson Memorial Mass
Wednesday, April 26th at 5:30 p.m.
St. Thomas Church

Weekly Collection

April 9, 2023

	Fiscal YTD
Collections needed.....	\$20,000.....\$820,000
Sunday Collections.....	\$7,944.....\$530,302
Electronic Collections.....	\$21,240.....\$176,269
Total Collected.....	\$29,184.....\$706,571
Over/(Short)	\$9,184.....\$(113,429)
Easter Collection.....	\$7730

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

Lillian McCadden, aunt of Cori Schmidt

Kenny Potter, husband of Diana Potter, father of Eric Hackett

Eric Lang, son of Jeanne Lang



Pray with the Pope

April 2023

For a culture of peace and non-violence

We pray for the spread of peace and non-violence, by decreasing the use of weapons by States and citizens.



MEN'S RETREAT

The men from St. Thomas Parish are invited once again to participate in a three day Men's Retreat at *White House Retreat* in St. Louis. This year's retreat will begin on **Thursday** evening, **September 14th** and end at 1:00 p.m. on **Sunday, September 17th**.

An **informational meeting** and opportunity to register for the retreat will be held on **Thursday, April 20th, at 6:30 p.m.** in the Parish Hall. More information about White House Retreat can be found at: <https://whitehouseretreat.org/>

If you would like to register or have questions, please contact George Burek via email at georgeburek@yahoo.com. These retreats offer an excellent opportunity to step away from your day to day workaday life, and deepen your spiritual life.

I would be happy if St. Thomas Parish

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, repack 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 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. – June 1st through August 10th

Monthly Food Delivery – 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. – Dates are June 15th, July 13th and August 17th

~ Diana Janda



HELP FR. JULIUS TO CONTINUE CREATING HIS SCHOOL AND ENJOY AN EVENING OF BASEBALL AT DOZER PARK IN PEORIA
SUNDAY MAY 28TH @ 6:30PM

Great Lakes Loons VS Peoria Chiefs
There will be a fireworks show after the game

Tickets: \$15.00 each
\$7.00 of each ticket will go to the
St. Patrick Boarding Primary School

After the game, before the fireworks, there will be a
tennis ball toss onto the field for prizes
We will be selling tennis balls **inside the gate** and throughout the
game when you come to the ballpark.

The Chiefs will donate 50% of all money earned from the
tennis ball toss to

FR. JULIUS' ST. PATRICK BOARDING PRIMARY SCHOOL

Please make checks for the game out to:
ADOLPH ARNOLD
111 REGENT CT.
EAST PEORIA IL.61611

**YOU NEED TO BUY THE TICKETS THROUGH ADOLPH AND NOT THE CHIEFS TO
GET THE DISCOUNT FROM THE CHIEFS**

Any questions call: **309-264-7221** OR
E-mail: adolph.arnold@comcast.net
PLEASE HELP US MAKE THIS A SUCCESFULL EVENING

If you can't go to the game, you can still make a donation to:
BUILDING HOPE IN KIDS-UGANDA
PO BOX 612
WASHINGTON 61571

ALL MONEY EARNED WILL GO TO: **BUILDING HOPE IN KIDS-UGANDA**
THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

Update for Masses & Confessions Schedule

Weekend Masses

Saturday 5:00 p.m. (vigil)
Sunday 8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m., 5:00 p.m.

Weekday Masses

7:00 a.m. Monday through Friday
8:00 a.m. Monday through Saturday (**moved to
9:15 am for school Masses**)

Confessions

Saturdays, 4:00 - 4:45 p.m. and
6:00 p.m. (until the last confession is heard)

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!

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.

St. Thomas
THE APOSTLE
CHURCH

BAKE SALE

Help defray the cost of our High Schoolers' trip to the Steubenville Catholic Youth Conference this summer!

SUNDAY APRIL 23RD

AFTER ALL MASSES

Gratefully accepting cash or checks made out to
St. Thomas Church

OCIA Catechumens and Candidates

Catechumens

Dennis Merkley
Nicholas Pitts

Baptism

Giselle Pitts
Rush Pitts



Candidates

Douglas Juvinall
Beth Rohman
William Schisler
Nick Suydam
Ryan Tamburro
Samantha Sergott

Congratulations!

Thank you to all our sponsors of the Pancake Breakfast



Thank You!

Our Church and Chapel always look so nice, and this Holy Week and Easter season are no exception. Thank you to the Franciscan Sisters of St. John the Baptist for all their hard work!

The Chapel on Holy Thursday

Garage Sale

Wednesday, April 19 8 a.m. to 7p.m.

Thursday, April 20 * 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Friday, April 21 ** 8 a.m. to Noon

* Thursday, 1/2 Off Day (Unless marked "Firm")

** Friday, Bag Day (excludes jewelry) and 1/2 Off Large Items

St. Anthony Catholic Church

2525 S Skyway Rd, Bartonville

Access from Airport Rd or Smithville - Look for Signs!



The Eucharist
OUR SOURCE & SUMMIT

April 29, 2023
A day with Scott Hahn & John Bergsma

Presented by
Drs Scott Hahn & John Bergsma

Holy Trinity Catholic Church
Bloomington, Illinois
Saturday, April 29, 2023

Register by scanning the code to the right or by visiting:
<https://stpaulcenter.com/bloomington2023/>

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 _____

Did you Know?

Your child can attend a Catholic School Financial Assistance Is Available

Tuition assistance scholarship grants from the endowment fund established as a result of the Diocese of Peoria ROOTED IN FAITH Campaign and named in honor of Archbishop Spalding, the first Bishop of Peoria, will be available for the 2023-2024 school year for students enrolled in or intending to enroll in grades Kindergarten through 12 in any Catholic school located in the Diocese of Peoria whose families are active members of a Catholic parish in the diocese. All grants will be based on financial need objectively assessed.

Information about the grants and application materials may be obtained from any Catholic elementary or secondary school in the Diocese of Peoria or on the Diocesan website www.cdop.org under **Catholic Education** and then under **Financial Assistance**. Consult the detailed protocols and procedures and checklist for all requirements necessary to be eligible for an award.

Parents must apply online at: online.factsmgt.com/aid. Families of students currently receiving grants are reminded that all grants are for one year only, and anyone seeking to renew a grant for the 2023-2024 school year must reapply.

Deadline date for the completed application is **April 28, 2023**. Notification of grant awards will be made in June of 2023.

Another funding opportunity is also available due to the Invest in Kids Act legislation in Illinois. Students may be eligible for up to 100% of tuition and fees under a program for tax credit scholarships (TCS). Details on how to apply and who qualifies are available on the Empower Illinois website at www.empowerillinois.org. Students who receive a TCS are ineligible to receive a Spalding award.

PEORIA SISTER CITIES INTERNATIONAL NIGHT

FRIDAY, APRIL 28

doors open at 4:30PM

Itoo Hall - Farmington Rd., Peoria



Germany



China



Lebanon



Ireland

food tastings | cultural entertainment | raffles
entry fee - \$5 | \$1 food tickets available

sistercitiesofpeoria.org



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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