St. Thomas the Apostle Parish Staff

Office Hours: M-F 9:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m.

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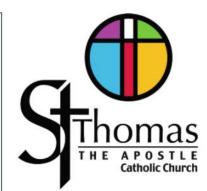
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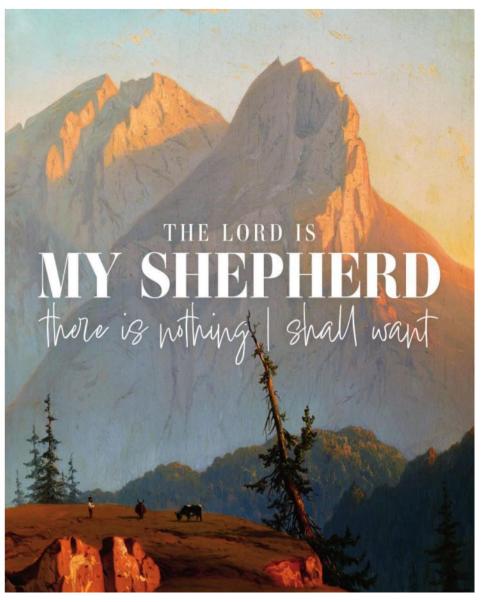
Parish Nurse: Mary Clare Geraghty....(x1350) parishnurse@stthomas-church.net

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
- 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).
- Bookmark the parish webpage (stthomaspeoria.org).



April 30, 2023 Fourth Sunday of Easter





From Our Pastor

The clergy assignments for the Diocese of Peoria were announced last weekend and are printed in the Catholic Post this weekend.

I announced that Fr. Achilleus will be transferring to St. Vincent de Paul Parish. This assignment takes effect on June 14th. While Fr. Achilleus is in the United States, he is also responsible for raising funds for his home diocese in Tanzania. He will make a missionary appeal on the weekend of May 13th and 14th in support of the pastoral needs of the Bukoba Diocese. A little later, as we get closer to his new assignment, we will have a farewell for him on the weekend of June 3rd and 4th. Please join me in wishing him well in this new assignment.

Fr. Marc Nkulu, SMA, will come to St. Thomas as our new parochial vicar. Fr. Marc is a religious priest from the Society of African Missions. Several SMA priests, including Fr. Mike Adrie who was at St. Thomas for a time, have served well in the Diocese of Peoria. Fr. Marc was born in the Democratic Republic of Congo. After he was ordained a priest in 2015, he served in Nigeria and Congo before coming to the United States. He worked as a hospital chaplain in New Jersey for a year before coming to Peoria. We look forward to his arrival. Please offer him a warm welcome.

Finally, I have acquired a new responsibility as the Executive Director of the Fulton Sheen Foundation. I succeed Msgr. Stanley Deptula in this role. The Foundation serves to promote the Cause of the Venerable Archbishop Sheen and to encourage the faithful to know more about his life and to pray for a miracle for his canonization. While we do not yet have a date for beatification, I do not doubt that he will be beatified and canonized in time.

Many of you know that I have additional responsibilities beyond St. Thomas Parish. In addition to the Fulton Sheen Foundation, I am the Judicial Vicar, who is responsible for the operation of the Diocesan Tribunal, as well as the Bishop's representative to the religious of the Diocese. While these other responsibilities are part-time, I do sometimes have diocesan obligations that take me away from St. Thomas from time to time. Thank you for your understanding. For these reasons, I am very grateful to those who so generously work or volunteer at St. Thomas to make our parish successful. Please know how thankful I am.

Venerable Archbishop Sheen, pray for us!

- -Msgr. Gray



Readings for the Week of April 30, 2023

Sunday	Fourth Sunday of Easter Acts 2: 14a, 36-41; 1 Peter 2: 20b-25; John 10: 1-10
Monday	St. Joseph the Worker Acts 11: 1-18; John 10: 11-18
Tuesday	St. Athanasius, Bishop & Doctor of the Church Acts 11: 19-26; John 10: 22-30
Wednesday	Sts. Philip & James, Apostles 1 Corinthians 15: 1-8; John 14: 6-14
Thursday	Acts 13: 13-25; John 13: 16-20
Friday	Acts 13: 26-33; John 14: 1-6
Saturday	Acts 13: 44-52; John 14: 7-14
Sunday	Fifth Sunday of Easter Acts 6: 1-7; 1 Peter 2: 4-9; John 14: 1-12

Mass Intentions

Monday, May 1, 2023

7:00 a.m.	Jaycee Curtis & Ruth Curtis/Frank Curtis
8:00 a.m.	Chase Smith/Kitty Bienemann

Tuesday, May 2, 2023

7:00 a.m.	Deceased members of Mallow & Hessling Families/Ed &
	Cathy Mallow
8:00 a.m.	Eugene Poignant/Dianna & Chris Russick

Wednesday, May 3, 2023

7:00 a.m.	Tho Dang/Tony Ghantous
8:00 a.m.	Phil Braet/Christopher Braet

Thursday, May 4, 2023

7:00 a.m.	Jeanne Broussard/Mike & Mary Lou Bartley
9:15 a.m.	Charles W. Bucklar & Bette Grimm/Family

Friday, May 5, 2023

7:00 a.m.	Rosemary & Joe Bartley/Mike & Mary Lou Bartley
8:00 a.m.	Judy Campbell/Dianna Joseph

Saturday, May 6, 2023

8:00 a.m. Melvin Noe 6th Anniv./Mary Ann Noe 5:00 p.m. Jim Becker/Sue Brady

Sunday, May 7, 2023

8:00 a.m.	For the People
10:00 a.m.	Peter Pasquel/Rose Pasquel
5:00 p.m.	Dang Mai Tho/Linh Luong

Week of April 30

SIGN-UP FOR FIRST FRIDAY ADORATION This Weekend after all Masses, narthex

OZANAM SUNDAY Sunday, April 30, Coffee & Donuts with St. Vincent de Paul Society, after morning Masses

MEN'S BASKETBALL Sunday, April 30, 7:00 p.m., School Gym

ROSARY Tuesday, May 2, 10:00 a.m., Daily Mass Chapel

CHOIR Tuesday, May 2, 6:30 p.m., Music Room

CCD Wednesday, May 3, 6:00 p.m., School

CHURCH HISTORY PRESENTATION Wednesday, May 3, 7:00 p.m., Parish Hall

ADORATION Friday, May 5, after 8:00 a.m. Mass until Benediction at 7:00 p.m.

CARMELITES Saturday, May 6, 11:00 a.m., Parish Hall

UPCOMING EVENTS

St. Thomas Holy Hour May 18

Thank You

Our Parish goal for the 2022 Annual Diocesan Appeal was a lofty one. Thanks to the generosity of many we not only met our goal, we exceeded it! As you complete your pledge the money over goal is being returned here to the Parish. Thank You to all who donated.

Amount pledged: \$142,030 Amount paid: \$135,120 Goal: \$133,057

Thank You

Thank you to our parish family for so generously supporting our Bake Sale last weekend. We will pray for you and your intentions specifically as we travel to the Youth Conference in July! -Your St. Thomas Teens

Weekly Collection

April 23, 2023

		Fiscal YTD
Collections needed	\$20,000	\$860,000
Sunday Collections	\$17,262	\$557,562
Electronic Collections	\$2,743	\$180,563
Total Collected	\$20,005	\$738,125
Over/(Short)	\$5	\$(121,875)

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

Phil Braet, father of Christopher Braet

Baptism Congratulations

Arabella Natalia Malana, daughter of Victor & Rhea Malana



Pray with the Pope May 2023

For church movements and groups

We pray that Church movements and groups may rediscover their mission of evangelization each day, placing their own charisms at the service of needs in the world.

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.

I would be happy if St. Thomas Parish



Where to Find Prayers

Have you recently wanted a particular prayer, or one to express a particular intention, but did not know where to find it?

The **My Parish** app is a great resource for a variety of prayers such as Angelus, Magnificat, several Litanies, and more. Download the app from your app store to your phone or tablet, or go to our webpage: **stthomaspeoria.org** and click on the **Download our Parish App** and follow the directions.

History of the Catholic Church

During the classes for new Catholics (OCIA), we weren't able to have the last class on *The 2000 Year History of the Catholic Church*. However, this presentation has been rescheduled in two presentations. Anyone is invited to come.

Trace the history of the Church from Pentecost and the first preaching of the Apostles down to Pope Francis. The two one-hour presentations will be offered in the Parish Hall on **Wednesday**, **May 3 and May 10**, at **7:00 p.m.**. Please join us.



Women and Girls of All Ages In the month of our Mother Mary Join us Saturday, May 13 9:00-11:30 am for a Morning of **Prayer, Honor, and Blessings** Cathedral of St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception, Peoria

As we immerse ourselves in beautiful music, song, and liturgy, surrounded by the beauty of the Mother Church of our diocese, we will honor Mary and **all** women of our diocese. "Blessed are you among women; blessed in turn all women, too."

We will recognize mothers of priests and seminarians with special seating in pews with ribbons.

The morning will include:

Recitation of the Most Holy Rosary with prayer and song Procession bringing flowers to Mary's altar Holy Mass- Fr. Chase Hilgenbrinck officiating Honoring of all Graduates and Rose Award Scholarships presented

*The Rose Award Scholarships encourage young women who actively live their Catholic faith to continue their participation and grow in leadership, spirituality, and service throughout their lives. For, in the words of Saint John Paul II, "the liberating message of the Gospel of Life has been put into your hands, and the mission of proclaiming it to the ends of the earth is now passing to your generation."

We invite you to bring flowers from your yard to be placed on Mary's altar during the procession.

No registration is required.

Sponsored by the Peoria Diocesan Council of Catholic Women (PDCCW) and Women Connect Ministry *If you have not heard of the PDCCW Rose Award, ask your parish priest about it. Nomination and essay information was sent in an email to all parishes of the diocese in March. Questions: contact April Adams at 309-369-5110

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 quests, restocking shelves, repackaging food and assisting quests 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 dianaianda1964@amail.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

Cursillo Ultreya

Please join us for the **May Ultreya** on **Saturday**, **May 6, 7:00 p.m.** at St. Mark Lutheran Church in Washington. The speaker is David Hullinger who will share on the theme We Are Companions on the Journey.

The lay talk, spiritual message, music, and social time will begin at 7:00pm.

(Please note this is not a Mass for Catholics and communion will not be served).

Families and guests are welcome and encouraged!



St. Thomas the Apostle Church

View this bulletin online at www.DiscoverMass.com

May Rosary and Social

Wednesday, May 10th at 10:00 a.m. Holy Family Church 3720 N. Sterling Ave. Peoria, IL 61615

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, spaghetti sauce, canned corn, Hamburger Helper.

Thank you for your generous support!

Holy Hour for Rights of the Unborn

May 1, 2023, 7:00 p.m. St. Mark Church, 1113 W. Bradley Avenue, Peoria

Holy Hour consists of Benediction, the Rosary, and other prayers. Please join us in prayer for the protection of these innocent lives and the restoration of their Constitutional rights.

Please join the

Martha Group

This is a group of dedicated parishioners who serve their fellow parishioners in time of grief and loss. They serve through the preparation and serving of the luncheon following a funeral.

There are no meetings. Your time commitment is as you are able to contribute.

Some contribute a side dish for the funeral luncheon, such as a potato or vegetable side. Others are here to set-up, help serve, and cleanup after.

If you think you can be as Martha was to Jesus please call or email the Parish Office and your name will be added to the volunteer list. Then, when there is a funeral you will receive an email asking for your help.





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 14**th and end at 1:00 p.m. on **Sunday**, **September 17**th.

An **informational meeting** and opportunity to register for the retreat will be held on **Thursday**, **April 20**th, **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.

Ozanam Sunday



The members of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul invite you to celebrate this special day with a *donut Sunday*. We will be available to share our mission with you and answer your questions.

The **last Sunday in April, April 30th**, this celebration is particular to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, commemorating the Society's founding on April 23, Ozanam's birthday, also on April 23, and Vincent's birth on April 24.

Bl. Frédéric Ozanam (1813 – 1853) a layman, husband, father, and college professor, was a widely known voice for the poor who founded the Society of St. Vincent de Paul when he was 20 years old.

Two centuries after St. Vincent de Paul's time, a young man named Frédéric Ozanam arrived in Paris to study at the Sorbonne. He soon joined a discussion group, the Conference of History, where students debated a wide variety of issues. One week, during a heated debate, Frédéric and his Catholic friends were challenged by other students who believed the Church's time had come and gone, and that the problems in society were best dealt with by modern, scientific methods.

What is the good of the Church in the world today?

A brilliant debater, Frédéric Ozanam could no doubt have offered a withering reply, but he responded instead with humility, considering whether he really was doing enough to live his faith. On April 23, 1833, Frédéric's 20th birthday, he and five other students gathered in the newspaper office of Emmanuel Bailly. With Ozanam's words, the Society of St. Vincent de Paul was born: "We must do what is agreeable to God. Therefore, we must do what our Lord Jesus Christ did when preaching the gospel. Let us go to the poor!"

In 1845 the first meeting of the Society in the United States was held in St. Louis at the Old Cathedral. The national council headquarters was established there in 1957. Presently there are over 100,000 members in the U.S.

For more information: https://members.ssvpusa.org/our-heritage/ history-of-the-society/

~ Tom Pilat





SUNDAY MAY 28™ @ 6:30PM Great Lakes Loons VS Peoria Chiefs

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

Please make checks for the game out to: ADOLPH ARNOLD: 111 REGENT CT.: E. 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

Principal Needed

St. Patrick Church in Washington, Illinois is seeking applicants for the **position of principal** of its parish elementary school for the **2023-24** school year. The school has grades Pre-K through 8 with an enrollment of 180. A principal application package outlining qualifications and procedures is available at https://cdop.org/ careers/ or by calling the Office of Catholic Schools at (309) 671-1550. A review of applications will start in late April.

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	
Phone	
 New Parishioner	Change of address/phone

WE'RE HIRING SCHOOL PRINCIPAL 2023-24

QUALIFICATIONS:

- PRACTICING CATHOLIC COMMITTED TO CATHOLIC
- EDUCATION
 MASTER'S DEGREE OR HIGHER IN EDUCATIONAL ADMINISTRATION
- OR SCHOOL LEADERSHIP; ILLINOIS SCHOOL ADMINISTRATIVE CREDENTIAL (OR ELIGIBILITY); TENL VEDS TACHING AND CONSCIOUS ADMINISTRATOR
- TEN+ YEARS TEACHING AND/OR SCHOOL ADMINISTRATOR EXPERIENCE;
- PASSION AND DEDICATION TO STUDENTS, FACULTY, AND PARENTS;
- EXCELLENT COMMUNICATION SKILLS;





Do You Wish to Make or Renew Your Consecration to Our Lady?

The Militia of the Immaculata will host a fourpart preparation for consecration to the Blessed Virgin Mary in the spirit of St. Maximilian Kolbe.

Wednesdays, May 3, 10, 17 and 24 5:00 to 6:00 p.m. Little Garden of the Immaculata 2106 W. Heading Avenue, West Peoria.

The program includes talks, video presentations, Q&A periods. Printed materials will be provided. Participants will have an opportunity to make or renew their consecration on Wednesday, May 31, the Feast of the Visitation.

There is no cost to attend, but registration is required. Please call or text **Antonella Di Piazza**, **FKMI**, at (331) 223-5564 or email **MINational@MissionImmaculata.com**

P.S. Watch the film about the MI! <u>CLICK</u> <u>HERE</u> and please tell others about it! Now also on the MI YouTube channel (<u>click here</u>). Please subscribe to the MI YouTube channel and "like" our film and videos!

Peoria Heights, IL

St. Thomas the Apostle Church

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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