# 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

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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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John Mackoway......699-5213

### Stay in Touch

- 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).



# May 28, 2023 Pentecost Sunday

# Send forth your Spirit & renew the face of the Earth

# **CONGRATULATIONS CLASS OF 2023**

Lucas Behm Callaway Byrkit Augustus Callaway **Noah Corrales Audrey Edwards Barrett Gangloff** Mitchell Goddard Patrick Graham Sean Graham Kailynn Hightower Matthew Kilian Colin Kohout Genevieve Koszuta Alexa Leon Elizabeth Leustek Lauren Leustek Kendra Mendez Avery Myszkowski **Avery Potter** Parker Sarff Lillian Schendl Maxwell Schmidt Cydney Simmons Noah Tockes Shaila Trujillo Taylor Ullrich Elleanor Zec





# From Our Pastor

We celebrated the end of a successful school year at St. Thomas. Congratulations to all our school families and our faculty and staff. A special thanks also to our parishioners since your support helps us strive for excellence at St. Thomas School.

Congratulations to the men who were ordained as priests for our Diocese this weekend. Please keep them in your prayers.

On Memorial Day, please join us as we pray for our country and remember those who gave their lives defending it. There will be one Mass at 9 AM.

Fr. Achilleus will take up his new assignment on June 14, but his last weekend with us will be June 3-4. We will have refreshments and a reception after all Masses. Please come downstairs after Mass next weekend to wish him well.

On June 11th we will celebrate Corpus Christi as we honor the Body and Blood of Christ. You are invited to take part in our Eucharistic Procession after the 10 AM Mass. Please join us to honor the Blessed Sacrament.

On Father's Day weekend, we will recognize all our dads. Please see the bulletin for the special celebration we will have after the Saturday 5 PM Mass on our parking lot.

I have shared all the responses to the open response, "I would be happy if St. Thomas...," with our parish council and parish leaders. I look forward to implementing some of these suggestions in the coming months.

- -Msgr. Gray

Sponsor of the Week





# Readings for the Week of May 28, 2023

Sunday Pentecost Sunday

Acts 2: 1-11; 1 Corinthians 12: 3b-7, 12-13;

John 20: 19-23

Monday The Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church

Genesis 3: 9-15, 20 OR Acts 1: 12-14; John 19: 25-34

**Tuesday** Sirach 35: 1-12; Mark 10: 28-31

Wednesday The Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Zephaniah 3: 14-18a OR Romans 12: 9-16; Luke 1: 39-56

Thursday St. Justin, Martyr

Sirach 42: 15-25; Mark 10: 46-52

Friday St. Marcellinus & Peter, Martyrs

Sirach 44: 1, 9-13; Mark 11: 11-26

Saturday St. Charles Lwanga, And Companions, Martyrs

Sirach 51: 12cd-20; Mark 11: 27-33

Sunday The Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity

Exodus 34: 4b-6, 8-9; 2 Corinthians 13: 11-13;

John 3: 16-18

# **Mass Intentions**

Monday, May 29, 2023

9:00 a.m. Elizabeth Bienemann/Kitty Bienemann

Tuesday, May 30, 2023

7:00 a.m. Dang Mai Tho/Sara Stickelmaier 8:00 a.m. Hylee Kemp/The Barkley Family

Wednesday, May 31, 2023

7:00 a.m. Ralph Barnett/John, Kay, & Rick Rossi 8:00 a.m. Mike Powers/Kitty Bienemann

Thursday, June 1, 2023

7:00 a.m. Vivienne Burek/George & Connie Burek 8:00 a.m. Michael Sullivan/James & Jeanne Jorgenson

Friday, June 2, 2023

7:00 a.m. Fred Darche 1st Anniv./Dennis & Pam Goett

8:00 a.m. Tho Dang/Linh Luong

Saturday, June 3, 2023

8:00 a.m. Sonny King/Mike Phelan

5:00 p.m. Msgr. William Watson/Cherie Fauth

Sunday, June 4, 2023

8:00 a.m. Intentions of Bella Axelson/Michael & Whitney Axelson

10:00 a.m. Peggy McConnell/Tom & Laura Knoblauch

5:00 p.m. For the People

# Week of May 28

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

MEN'S BASKETBALL Sunday, May 28, 7:00 p.m., School Gym

PARISH OFFICE CLOSED Monday, May 29, for Memorial Day

MEMORIAL DAY MASS Monday, May 29, 9:00 a.m., Church

ROSARY Tuesday, May 30, 10:00 a.m., Daily Mass Chapel

**ADORATION** Friday, June 2, after 8:00 a.m. Mass until Benediction at 7:00 p.m.

**RECEPTION** for Fr. Achilleus, June 3-4, following all Masses

### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

St. Thomas Holy Hour June 15 Father's Day Celebration June 16

# **Our Sympathy**

Please pray for those who have died this week

# **Wedding Congratulations**

Weston Pyle and Lindsay Treber

# 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.

# Pray with the Pope

For the abolition of torture

We pray that the international community may commit in a concrete way to ensuring the abolition of torture and guarantee support to victims and their families.

# Are You Interested?

Are you interested in volunteering for our funeral luncheons or for our other annual activities? Are you interested in Bible studies or other study groups? If you didn't fill out an interest slip, please pick one up on the tables in the narthex and drop it in the collection basket or at the Parish Office.

# **Weekly Collection**

May 21, 2023

		riscai i ib
Collections needed	\$20,000	\$940,000
Sunday Collections	\$15,597	\$607,608
Electronic Collections	\$2,311	\$194,313
Total Collected	\$17,908	\$801,921
Over/(Short)	\$(2,092)	\$(138,079)

Your support of St. Thomas Parish is important to sustain our Please remember to contribute regularly 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.

I would	be	happy	if S	St.	Thon	nas
Parish						


Fiscal VTD



Congratulations on Your First Communion!

# When you go to the poor, you encounter Jesus



If a brother or sister has nothing to wear and no food for the day, and you say to him or her, 'Good-bye and good luck! Keep warm and well-fed,' but do not meet their bodily needs, what good is that? (James 2: 15-16)

Indeed, what good is that? What is a Church without compassionate <u>action</u>? As a relatively new member of the St. Vincent de Paul Society here at St. Thomas, I have observed by fellow Vincentians in multiple acts of compassionate action towards our neighbors in need and, of course, that action also includes prayer and words of encouragement. But Vincentians know that words are not enough. Often, my partner has gone above and beyond for a neighbor: visiting a neighbor in the hospital, purchasing clothing out of his/her own funds, checking on a neighbor by phone for many weeks beyond financial aid.

On home visits, I have observed the challenges and sufferings in multiple ways: the single mom who has just lost her job; the father who can no longer work due to serious health issues; the young man working multiple low-paying jobs just to get by; the young lady who needs help with tuition for her nursing classes at ICC. And more than once I have heard a neighbor's story in a room with no furniture or maybe one chair. People need to be understood with all their problems, sufferings, and contradictions. On our visits, I see my partners with their warm hearts and helping hands, and yes, their heartfelt prayer.

And, you, our Church brothers and sisters, may not be able to join our society, but it is your generous action of giving that makes our compassionate actions possible. Prayer and understanding are essential. Yet it is your dollars that often ease desperate circumstances for our neighbors in need. Your next opportunity to contribute to our outreach is at the weekend Masses of June 3 and 4. Of course, you may consider joining us if your life situation would allow it. Please know that our St. Vincent de Paul Society is so grateful for your generosity, and you remain in our prayers!

~ Marlynn Kelsch

# 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 <a href="mailto:dianajanda1964@gmail.com">dianajanda1964@gmail.com</a>.

### **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

# Musician(s) Needed

St. Thomas needs one, or more, musicians for the 5:00 p.m. Sunday Mass. We would be happy to have several musicians share and play only 1 or 2 times/month. You will not need to cantor.

If you, or someone you know, plays organ, piano, or guitar and are interested in this important ministry for the Parish, please contact the Parish Office.

# 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!

# Summer at Newman

The St. Joseph Newman Center (located next to St. Mark Church-Peoria) is hosting summer Small Groups for incoming college freshmen. The groups are open to any 2023 high school graduates, regardless of plans for next year. They do not need to be planning to attend Bradley or ICC in the fall! The idea is to build community among these students and encourage them to pursue a life of faith and virtue in college.

We will begin meeting in early June, but students can join at any time.

For more information or to register please contact: Sara Petty, Campus Minister at stjosephnewman@gmail.com or Conor Walsh, President at cwalsh@mail.bradley.edu.

# **Emmaus Days 2023**

Sessions 1 and 2 will be held at St. John's Catholic Newman Center in Champaign, Illinois. Participants deepen their faith and focus on discerning God's will through prayer and the sacraments. By listening to and spending time with priests and seminarians, participants get a glimpse into their lives. Session 1 is for those who are in college, as well as single men in their 20s and 30s who are discerning their vocation. **REGISTRATION FOR 2023** IS ONLINE AT

Session 1 June 9-11, 2023

College Age & Young Adult St. John Catholic Newman Center Champaign, IL

WWW.COMEANDFOLLOWME.ORG

Session 2 June 23-26,2023

High School Juniors & Seniors St. John Catholic Newman Center Champaign, IL

Sessions 3 and 4 will be held at Peoria Notre Dame High School (this is an update as of April 2023). Led by seminarians, participants hear God's call to become real Christian men. The experience includes prayer, talks and activities like basketball, soccer, ultimate frisbee and card games.

Session 3 July 16-19, 2023

High School Freshmen & Sophomores Peoria Notre Dame High School

Session 4 July 19-21, 2023

Seventh & Eighth Graders
Peoria Notre Dame High School





# TOTUS TUUS

# SUMMER CATECHETICAL

THE TOTUS TUUS SUMMER CATECHETICAL PROGRAM IS A WEEK-LONG PARISH MISSION FOR CATHOLIC YOUTH IN GRADES 1ST-12TH. IT IS DEDICATED TO SHARING THE GOSPEL AND PROMOTING THE CATHOLIC FAITH THROUGH EVANGELIZATION. CATECHESIS, CHRISTIAN WITNESS, AND EUCHARISTIC WORSHIP.

GRADES 1-6: MONDAY-FRIDAY, 9 AM - 3 PM GRADES 7-12: SUNDAY-THURSDAY, 6:30-8:15 PM

# St. Vincent de Paul Pairsh June 18-23

**Contact: Taylor Huber** Email thuber@svdpvikings.com Phone 691-3602 ext.252 Registration forms can be picked up at the parish or sent via email by request

Cost: Teens - \$10 1 Child \$30 2 Children \$50 3 or more \$70

# Joshua Camp 2023

Saturday, June 10, 2023 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Pro-Life Education Day Free for High School Students Free T-shirt, food, and fun, too! Call 309-360-9687 to register Bonus: \$50 Camp T-shirt design contest

Sponsored by Central Illinois Right to Life

# LIFE & FREEDOM RALLY

Saturday, June 24, 2023 RALLY GATHERING · 7:00 P.M.

> Spalding Pastoral Center 419 NE Madison Avenue, Peoria, IL



# FEATURING ELAINE RIDDICK

### \*\*\* SAVE THE DATE \*\*\* ORDER YOUR TICKET TODAY!

**CUBS** at **CARDINALS** 

Thursday, July 27 - 6:45 pm

- \*\*Round trip bus transportation

   Drop-off at Busch Stadium

   Ticket to the game Seating 6
- Ticket to the game, Section 237
- . Drinks, snacks, and FUN provided onboard the bus

Contact Adolph Arnold ASAP! 309-264-7221

All proceeds to St. Patrick School in Uganda

# **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 I form.

Last Name \_\_\_\_\_ First Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address

New Parishioner \_\_\_\_\_ Change of address/phone \_\_\_

### Memorial Mass

You're invited to come and pray.

St. Joseph of Arimathea Chapel Resurrection Mausoleum 7519 N Allen Rd. Peoria, IL

Memorial Day - Sat, May 27 at 9:30 am with Color Guard and Salute

# Salute at Veterans Memorials



American Legion Peoria Post #2

Sunday, May 28, 11 am St. Mary's Cemetery

Sunday, May 28, 12:15 pm St. Joseph's Cemetery

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

ጲ 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-Accountina

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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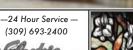




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