

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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Parochial Vicar: Fr. Marc Nkulu.....
frmarc@stthomas-church.net
Fr. John Twinomujuni.....In Residence

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(688-3500); fsjbpeoria@yahoo.com

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

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parishnurse@stthomas-church.net

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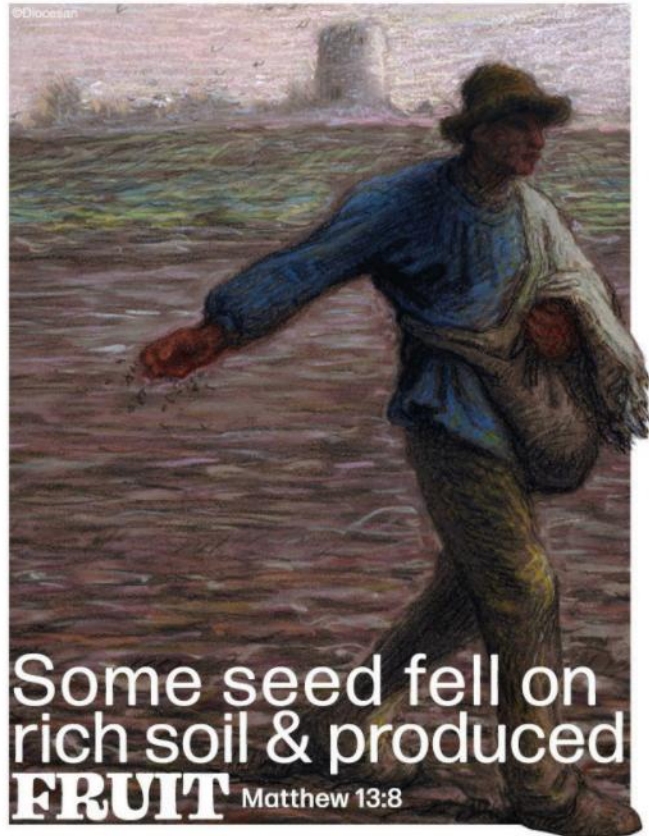
Stay in Touch

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).



July 16, 2023

Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time





From Our Pastor

Our study continues of *Treasure in Clay*, the autobiography of Archbishop Fulton Sheen. Those who have signed up as part of our book club have received an invitation to a Mass at the Cathedral and a visit to the Sheen Museum on Friday, August 11. If you haven't signed up, but are still interested in reading *Treasure in Clay* and participating in this pilgrimage, please contact the parish office.

Fulton Sheen was known for spending time before the Blessed Sacrament in prayer every day. The Church in the United States has talked a lot about a Eucharistic revival and fostering devotion to the Blessed Sacrament. We can talk about our faith in the Eucharist to other Catholics and non-Catholics, but I wonder if prayer isn't really the best way for us to grow devotion to the Eucharist.

This Thursday at 7 PM is our monthly Holy Hour. Especially if you haven't attended before, please join us for this time in quiet prayer before the exposed Blessed Sacrament. Spend this time with Jesus and let us be reminded of the love of the Sacred Heart of Christ for us.

Many of our parishioners have read in the *Catholic Post* about Deacon John Nelson and the request for a kidney transplant. Organ transplant donations can be a remarkable sign of charity and I join in this prayer for those affected by kidney disease and other illnesses.

Another way of saving lives can also be through blood donations. During the pandemic, I discovered that I tested positive for the covid antibodies and that I could donate plasma that could treat infected patients. While most people may be familiar with whole blood donations, I have continued since 2020 to donate platelets and/or plasma. Platelets are especially needed by patients battling cancer. If you are interested, you can visit redcrossblood.org to find out more about how to donate.

- Msgr. Gray



Readings for the Week of July 16, 2023

Sunday	Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time Isaiah 55: 10-11; Romans 8: 18-23; Matthew 13: 1-23 OR Matthew 13: 1-9
Monday	Exodus 1: 8-14, 22; Matthew 10: 34—11: 1
Tuesday	St. Camillus de Lellis, Priest Exodus 2: 1-15a; Matthew 11: 20-24
Wednesday	Exodus 3: 1-6, 9-12; Matthew 11: 25-27
Thursday	St. Apollinaris, Bishop & Martyr Exodus 3: 13-20; Matthew 11: 28-30
Friday	St. Lawrence of Brindisi, Priest & Doctor of the Church Exodus 11: 10—12: 14; Matthew 12: 1-8
Saturday	St. Mary Magdalene Song of Songs 3: 1-4b OR 2 Corinthians 5: 14-17; John 20: 1-2, 11-18
Sunday	Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time Wisdom 12: 13, 16-19; Romans 8: 26-27; Matthew 13: 24-43 OR Matthew 13: 24-30

Mass Intentions

Monday, July 17, 2023

7:00 a.m.	Melvin & Lucille Noe/Mary Ann Noe
8:00 a.m.	John & Gloria Palkovic/The Streitmatter Family

Tuesday, July 18, 2023

7:00 a.m.	Sr. Bernadette Kouri, FSJB
8:00 a.m.	Dolores Oppe/Warren Oppe

Wednesday, July 19, 2023

7:00 a.m.	Bette Grimm & Gordon Jockisch/Family
8:00 a.m.	Tim Speck/The Dillons & Donnellys

Thursday, July 20, 2023

7:00 a.m.	Arlene Crawford/Family
8:00 a.m.	Don Oberle/Ed & Cathy Mallow

Friday, July 21, 2023

7:00 a.m.	Klem Osika/Linda Osika
8:00 a.m.	Hylee Kemp/Paul Horst

Saturday, July 22, 2023

8:00 a.m.	Lou Phelan/Joe & Sandy Whalen
5:00 p.m.	Jim Konitzer/Rick & Maureen Pantages

Sunday, July 23, 2023

8:00 a.m.	Betty Kane/Family
10:00 a.m.	Jackie McNamara/The Messmer Family
5:00 p.m.	For the People

Week of July 16

EXTRA CONFESSIONS Sunday, July 16, following all Masses

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

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

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

UPCOMING EVENTS

Adoration	August 4
St. Thomas Golf Outing	August 25



That Man Is You will begin again on **Friday, September 8th**. Registration will take place **after all Masses the weekend of August 26 & 27, 2023**.

Alternatively, you can register by sending an email to George Burek at georgeburek@yahoo.com

The new theme for *TMiy* Sessions this year is *The Light of Men*, featuring 9 dynamic speakers.

All men from the parish are invited to participate, and to invite others to join us. Wherever you are in your spiritual life, God wants to meet you right there, and take you farther, so add *That Man Is You* to your Friday mornings!

Weekly Collection

July 9, 2023

		Fiscal YTD
Collections needed.....	\$20,000	\$40,000
Sunday Collections.....	\$11,985	\$25,673
Electronic Collections.....	\$7,785	\$7,885
Total Collected.....	\$19,770	\$33,558
Over/(Short)	\$(230)	\$(6,442)

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

Gloria Palkovic, mother of Mike Palkovic

Wedding Congratulations

Miranda Dobson & Daniel Ferlmann

As we continue to focus on the Eucharist and respond to the Bishops' call for a Eucharistic Revival

Pray

The Anima Christi

(meaning Soul of Christ)

*Soul of Christ, sanctify me.
 Body of Christ, save me.
 Blood of Christ, inebriate me.
 Water from the side of Christ, wash me.
 Passion of Christ, strengthen me.
 O good Jesus, hear me.
 Within your wounds, conceal me.
 Do not permit me to be parted from you.
 From the evil foe, protect me.
 At the hour of my death, call me.
 And bid me come to you,
 to praise you with all your saints
 for ever and ever. Amen.*



Pray with the Pope

July 2023

For a Eucharistic life

We pray that Catholics may place the celebration of the Eucharist at the heart of their lives, transforming human relationships in a very deep way and opening to the encounter with God and all their brothers and sisters.

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Ice Cream Social & CCD Registration

Saturday, August 5 – After 5:00 Mass
in the Parish Hall

All families with 1st-8th grade students, not attending Catholic school (including those wanting to make first sacraments)



Please join the other CCD families for some fellowship and ice cream!

CCD Teachers Needed

Are you or someone you know interested in sharing Jesus with our school aged students? Please contact Liz Plaskon (CCD@StThomas-Church.net). Curriculum and supports are provided.

St. Thomas - Food Pantry

Help Desperately Needed!

The food pantry is seeing an increase in the number of families seeking food assistance over the past few months. As a result, we are critically low on shelf-stable items that we routinely offer our visitors on a monthly basis. Items needed are: macaroni and cheese, rice, cereal, crackers, boxed potato/pasta sides, pasta sauce and dried pasta, canned meats, peanut butter and jelly, canned fruits and vegetables, canned soups, Hamburger Helper, pancake mix and syrup and canned beans. Please consider providing some of these items for our neighbors in need. If you are unable to shop, just give a donation, and we will do the shopping.

Any help you can give is greatly appreciated...thank you so much!

Thank you for your generous support!

Project Backpack

Let's help get area 1st - 8th grade students ready to go back to school!
Please donate a new backpack(s) filled with the following items by **Sunday, July 30th**:

- | | |
|---|------------------------------------|
| 3 1-Subject Wide-Ruled Spiral Notebooks | 3 2-Pocket Plastic Folders |
| 1 Pack of Wide-Ruled Loose Leaf Paper | 36 #2 Lead Pencils |
| 1 8-Pack Black or Blue Pens | 2 Pink Pearl Erasers |
| 1 Metric/English Ruler | 1 10-Pack of Large Crayola Markers |
| 1 24-Pack Crayola Crayons | 1 12-Pack Crayola Colored Pencils |
| 2 4-oz. Bottle Elmer's School Glue | 3 Elmer's Glue Sticks |
| 1 Pair Pointed School Scissors | 1 Pencil Pouch |

Backpacks may be left in the collection tubs in the narthex or dropped off at the St. Thomas Food Pantry (M and Th, 8:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.). Donations of any of the above school supplies are also appreciated.



If you would rather provide a monetary donation, we will do the shopping for you! Please put your donation in an envelope marked *Backpacks* and place it in the Sunday collection plate or drop it off at the parish office. Please contact **Liam** at LJanda2024@gmail.com with any questions.

Anyone who is interested in helping on the backpack committee, please contact **Liam Janda** at LJanda2024@gmail.com.

Thank you for helping area students get off to a great start for the 2023-2024 school year!



Thank you to our parish family for supporting our bake sale and the St. Thomas Men's Club for your donation toward the charter bus so that we could attend the Steubenville Youth Conference!

-Parker, Mic, Andy, Aidan, Lauren, Elizabeth, Martha, Susie, Anna, Ellie, Audrey and Ella

St. Thomas Monsignor Watson Memorial Golf Outing

In support of the St. Thomas Sponsor a Student Assistance Fund

Friday, August 25, 2023 • Weaver Ridge Country Club

All golf outing proceeds will be used in the support of the St. Thomas Sponsor a Student Tuition Assistance program. The net proceeds from the outing will again fund scholarships for students at St. Thomas. The goal of the Men's Club is to fund 20 scholarships for St. Thomas families. Your support of the golf outing is greatly appreciated!

GOLF REGISTRATION \$125/Person

Golf Registration includes: Green fees, Cart, Range Balls, and Food + Drinks in the Club House after the event.

Registration Deadline Friday, August 18 th

Late registration after August 18th, \$135 Per Person

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

TITLE SPONSORSHIP \$2,500 / Sponsorship

Placement of company logo at all sponsorship levels. Logo as title sponsor on welcoming banner. Logo on all printed materials.

HOT SPOT SPONSOR

- Golf Beverage Sponsors: \$250 / Logo on Sign at beverage stations
- Reception Sponsor - \$250 / Logo on Reception Tables

TEE SPONSOR \$125 / 36 Sponsors

Placement of company logo sign at the Tee Box or at the Hole.

BE A PRIZE OR RAFFLE SPONSOR

Feature your business by donating a raffle or prize item. Please drop off prize or raffle item to Macro Wealth Management at 6915 N. Knoxville Ave, Peoria IL 61614 Include donor information and value (optional).

- **Registration/Check-in 11:00am-11:45am**
- **Shotgun Starts at Noon (Be at your hole by Noon)**
- **Followed by Food & Drinks in the Club House**
- Registration Deadline Friday, August 18th
- Late Registration \$135 Per Person

For more information please contact:

Terri Moon (309) 688-3446

Email: terrimoon@stthomas-church.net

Please Submit Payment with Registration

REGISTRATION FORM

Contact Person: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Golfers

Player 1: _____ Phone: _____ Amount \$ _____

Player 2: _____ Phone: _____ Amount \$ _____

Player 3: _____ Phone: _____ Amount \$ _____

Player 4: _____ Phone: _____ Amount \$ _____

Sponsorship

Sponsorship Category : _____ Amount \$ _____

Make Checks Payable to: **St. Thomas Men's Club**

Mail registration along with payment to:

Terri Moon / Golf • 904 E. Lake Ave. • Peoria Heights, IL 61616

Total Enclosed \$ _____



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SUNDAY JULY 23, 2023

Come celebrate all the fruit that TEC has brought to our diocese.

*We will start with Mass at 6:15 in the
Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception.
Celebrated by Bishop Louis Tylka*

*Following the mass, we will move to the Spalding Pastoral Center
for our TEC 372 hoot/celebration*

**2023 Teens Encounter Christ (TEC)
Weekends**

The Teens Encounter Christ (TEC) experience has been in the Diocese of Peoria since 1973 and has benefited thousands of teens as they seek to grow in their personal relationship with God. TEC is a youth outreach community of the Roman Catholic tradition; however, teens of other traditions are welcome and have found TEC to be an experience which helps them develop a stronger commitment to their own church. There are many things you give to your children, but only two things have immeasurable value ... your love and your faith. We believe TEC helps the teenager see these gifts in a new light at a most crucial time in their development.

Boys TEC 372 will be held at Peoria Notre Dame High School **July 22-24, 2023** and **Girls TEC 373** will be held on **October 7-9, 2023**, also at PND. Please complete your application to join us today at PeoriaTEC.org.

Emmaus Days 2023

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

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3rd Prize—\$1,000 4th Prize—\$500

Tickets \$25 each/5 for \$100/ 10 for \$200

Drawing - September 23, 2023

Early Bird Drawing for \$500—
Monday, August 28, 2023

Proceeds go toward Sister's Ministries

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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 _____



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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