

## 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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[frmarc@stthomas-church.net](mailto:frmarc@stthomas-church.net)  
Fr. John Twinomujuni.....In Residence

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Annulment Consultant:  
John Mackoway.....699-5213

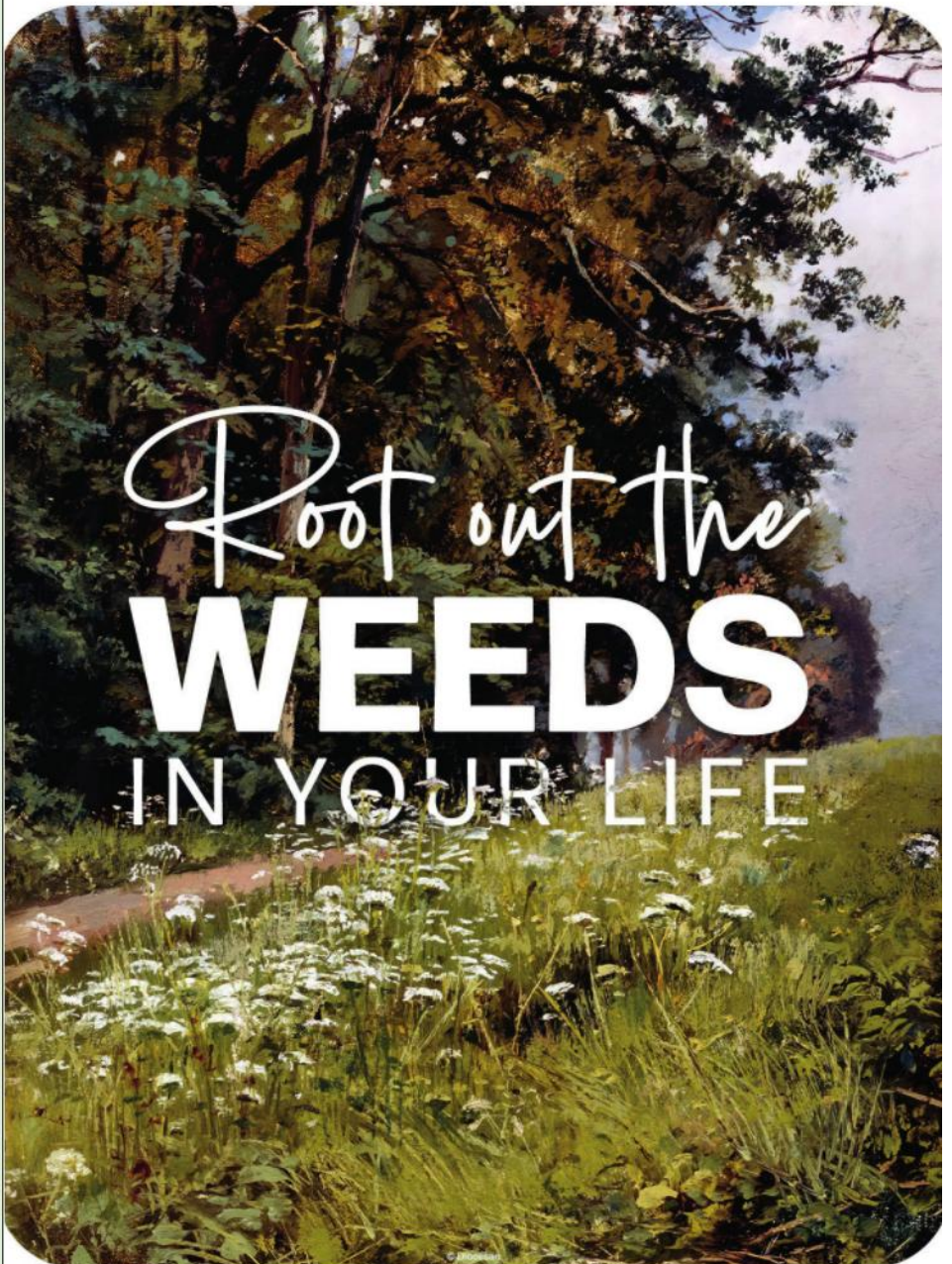
### Stay in Touch

1. Join Msgr. Gray for OCIA Class. Link can be found on the parish website, [stthomaspeoria.org](http://stthomaspeoria.org) or the My Parish App
2. Download My Parish App to receive push notifications (Visit [myparishapp.com/download](http://myparishapp.com/download)).
3. Receive the Bulletin and announcements in weekly emails from the parish. (Email [parishoffice@stthomas-church.net](mailto:parishoffice@stthomas-church.net) to sign up).
4. Bookmark the parish webpage ([stthomaspeoria.org](http://stthomaspeoria.org)).



July 23, 2023

Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time





## From Our Pastor

Our summer preparations at St. Thomas School continue as we are readying our school for students to return in mid-August. We are cleaning the building, waxing floors, and painting classrooms. Before school opens, we will open the building and kick off the school year with a picnic on August 13. Every parishioner should be proud of our school and the excellent Catholic education our students receive. I encourage you to see the school and join with us as we welcome students back at the end-of-summer.

Our book club continues to read *Treasure in Clay*, the autobiography of Fulton Sheen. The participants have been invited to a pilgrimage to the Cathedral to visit Sheen's tomb and to the Pastoral Center to visit the Sheen Museum. Some parishioners who cannot take part in the discussion groups are still participating virtually by reading *Treasure in Clay* on their own.

If you would like to take part in this pilgrimage, please contact the parish office, and we can make arrangements for you to participate in this spiritual event.

I mentioned last weekend that we are privileged to be able to keep our church open for large parts of the day as the church is open on the weekends and during business hours during the week. I encourage everyone to come in to make time for personal prayer before the Blessed Sacrament. As Archbishop Sheen taught, Our Lord only commanded the disciples to do one thing: to watch and pray. Prayer before the Blessed Sacrament is time spent with Jesus and allows us to know our Lord in a more personal way as we listen to him.

A visit before the Blessed Sacrament can be made for a short time. Even five or ten minutes, made regularly, is a blessed encounter in which we spend some time in silence with Jesus. Our lives are filled with so much noise and activity, that a brief pause to be quiet with Our Lord is often a welcome break. Please take advantage of this great privilege.

- Msgr. Gray



## Readings for the Week of July 23, 2023

|                  |  |
|------------------|--|
| <b>Sunday</b>    | <b>Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time</b><br>Wisdom 12: 13, 16-19; Romans 8: 26-27;<br>Matthew 13: 24-43 OR Matthew 13: 24-30 |
| <b>Monday</b>    | <b>St. Sharbel Makhlof, Priest</b><br>Exodus 14: 5-18; Matthew 12: 38-42   |
| <b>Tuesday</b>   | <b>St. James, Apostle</b><br>2 Corinthians 4: 7-15; Matthew 20: 20-28  |
| <b>Wednesday</b> | <b>Sts. Joachim &amp; Anne, Parents of the Blessed Virgin Mary</b><br>Exodus 16: 1-5, 9-15; Matthew 13: 1-9                  |
| <b>Thursday</b>  | Exodus 19: 1-2, 9-11, 16-20b; Matthew 13: 10-17  |
| <b>Friday</b>    | Exodus 20: 1-17; Matthew 13: 18-23   |
| <b>Saturday</b>  | <b>Sts. Martha, Mary, &amp; Lazarus</b><br>Exodus 24: 3-8; John 11: 19-27 OR Luke 10: 38-42                                  |
| <b>Sunday</b>    | <b>Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time</b><br>1 Kings 3: 5, 7-12; Romans 8: 28-30;<br>Matthew 13: 44-52 OR Matthew 13: 44-46 |

## Mass Intentions

### Monday, July 24, 2023

|           |   |
|-----------|---|
| 7:00 a.m. | Benefactors of Franciscan Sisters of John the Baptist |
| 8:00 a.m. | Lillian McCadden/Roy & Ellen McRae                    |

### Tuesday, July 25, 2023

|           |                                 |
|-----------|---------------------------------|
| 7:00 a.m. | Dang Mai Tho/Joe & Sandy Whalen |
| 8:00 a.m. | Betty Oberle/Don                |

### Wednesday, July 26, 2023

|           |                               |
|-----------|-------------------------------|
| 7:00 a.m. | Bruce Treder/John & Amy Kelly |
| 8:00 a.m. | Anna Sunderlage/Liz Plaskon   |

### Thursday, July 27, 2023

|           |                              |
|-----------|------------------------------|
| 7:00 a.m. | Hafner & Smith Families      |
| 8:00 a.m. | Ed Maubach/Ed & Cathy Mallow |

### Friday, July 28, 2023

|           |  |
|-----------|--|
| 7:00 a.m. | Intentions of Benjamin Axelson/Michael & Whitney Axelson |
| 8:00 a.m. | Klem Osika/Linda Osika                                   |

### Saturday, July 29, 2023

|           |                                      |
|-----------|--------------------------------------|
| 8:00 a.m. | Lou Phelan/Gary & Theresa Doll       |
| 5:00 p.m. | Jim Konitzer/Rick & Maureen Pantages |

### Sunday, July 30, 2023

|            |                               |
|------------|-------------------------------|
| 8:00 a.m.  | Betty Pegg/The Calabro Family |
| 10:00 a.m. | Jim Becker/Ed & Cathy Mallow  |
| 5:00 p.m.  | For the People                |

## Week of July 23

**MEN'S BASKETBALL** Sunday, July 23, 7:00 p.m., School Gym

**ROSARY** Tuesday, July 25, 10:00 a.m., Daily Mass Chapel

### UPCOMING EVENTS

|                        |           |
|------------------------|-----------|
| Adoration              | August 4  |
| Parish/School Picnic   | August 13 |
| St. Thomas Holy Hour   | August 17 |
| St. Thomas Golf Outing | August 25 |

## Sheen Museum Visit

We have reserved the Cathedral and Sheen Museum for a visit on **Friday evening, August 11<sup>th</sup>**. This date will be after each of our groups have completed the discussion of *Treasure in Clay* and will be a fitting time to sum up the insights into the life of Archbishop Sheen.

Anyone is welcome to attend, but an RSVP and a donation of \$10 is requested for a boxed dinner. Contact Rhonda Bachman to RSVP: [rhondabachman1@gmail.com](mailto:rhondabachman1@gmail.com)

During dinner, I will lead a group question and answer discussion of the book. The final lecture will take place the following week and will discuss the application of Sheen to the Church today.

The schedule is as follows:

Friday, August 11

5:00 p.m. - Mass in the Cathedral

5:30 p.m. - Cathedral Tour

6:00 p.m. - Box Dinner, Spalding Pastoral Center with Q&A and discussion led by Msgr. Gray

7:00 p.m. - Museum tours and gift shop open

Depart by 7:30 p.m. or 8:00 p.m.

Please mark your calendars. **Please send in an RSVP if you plan to be present for dinner.**

God love you!

~ Msgr. Gray

## Weekly Collection

July 16, 2023

|                             | Fiscal YTD               |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------|
| Collections needed.....     | \$20,000.....\$60,000    |
| Sunday Collections.....     | \$11,028.....\$36,701    |
| Electronic Collections..... | \$1,084.....\$8,969      |
| Total Collected.....        | \$12,112.....\$33,558    |
| Over/(Short).....           | \$(7,888).....\$(14,330) |

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](http://stthomaspeoria.org). Thank you for your support.

## Our Sympathy

Cinda Zant

Sr. Marietta Crahan, sister of Kathleen Dotson

Robert Singleton, brother of Pat Singleton

## Wedding Congratulations

Anna Marie Guilandri ~ Jacob Leo Sullivan

## Ice Cream Social & CCD Registration

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

For 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](mailto:CCD@StThomas-Church.net)). Curriculum and supports are provided.

## 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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## Tips to Stay Safe in the Sun: From Sunscreen to Sunglasses

Sun safety is always in season. It's important to protect your skin from sun damage throughout the year, no matter the weather. Why? Sun exposure can cause sunburn, skin aging (such as skin spots, wrinkles, or "leathery skin"), eye damage, and skin cancer, the most common form of cancer in the U.S.

You can reduce your risk by:

Limiting your time in the sun, especially between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m., when the sun's rays are most intense.

Wearing clothing to cover skin exposed to the sun, such as long-sleeve shirts, pants, sunglasses, and broad-brim hats.

Using broad spectrum sunscreens, which offer protection against both UVA and UVB rays, with an SPF value of 15 or higher regularly and as directed.

Apply sunscreen liberally to all uncovered skin, especially your nose, ears, neck, hands, feet, and lips.

Reapply at least every two hours. Apply more often if you're swimming or sweating.

Consulting a health care professional before applying sunscreen to infants younger than 6 months.

If you don't have much hair, apply sunscreen to the top of your head or wear a hat.

Protect Your Eyes With Sunglasses

Sunlight reflecting off sand, water, or even snow further increases exposure to UV radiation and increases your risk of developing eye problems. Certain sunglasses can help protect your eyes.

Choose sunglasses with a UV400 rating or 100% UV protection on the label.

Be aware that children should wear sunglasses that indicate the UV protection level. Toy sunglasses may not have UV protection.

Even when you wear sunglasses, wearing a wide-brim hat and sunscreen can help further protect you from sun exposure.

<https://www.fda.gov/consumers/consumer-updates/tips-stay-safe-sun-sunscreen-sunglasses>

## Calling All Beauticians & Barbers

The backpack committee seeks **beauticians** and **barbers** who are willing to do free hair cuts at our backpack giveaway on **August 5<sup>th</sup>** between 9:00 a.m. and noon.

Please contact **Diana Janda** at [dianajanda1964@gmail.com](mailto:dianajanda1964@gmail.com) if you can help!



The final segment of the 5 Foundations videos, featuring, Msgr. Gray, is now live! Msgr. and Katie Bogner discuss the life of Venerable Archbishop Fulton Sheen, his first recorded miracle, and the many ways he modeled how we can pursue our lives as disciples. The video can be seen here at <https://www.facebook.com/PeoriaDiocese/videos/815758083185803>

## Project Backpack

Let's help get area 1<sup>st</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> grade students ready to go back to school!

Please donate a new backpack(s) filled with the following items by **Sunday, July 30<sup>th</sup>**:

- |   |                                    |
|---|------------------------------------|
| 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](mailto:LJanda2024@gmail.com) with any questions.



Anyone who is interested in helping on the backpack committee, please contact **Liam Janda** at [LJanda2024@gmail.com](mailto:LJanda2024@gmail.com).

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



*That Man Is You* will begin again on **Friday, September 8<sup>th</sup>**. 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](mailto: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!

# 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 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

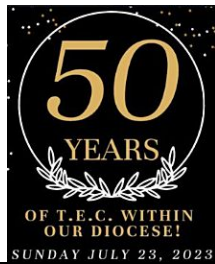
## St. Thomas - Food Pantry

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!*



*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*

## Parish Registration

Complete this form and drop it in the collection basket, **or** mail to the Parish Office **or** Register on our website at [sthomaspeoria.org](http://sthomaspeoria.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 \_\_\_\_\_



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.*

## 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



**How to Submit Bulletin Information**

Send information for the bulletin to [parishoffice@stthomas-church.net](mailto: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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