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

Pastor: Msgr. Jason A. Gray......(x3) msgrgray@stthomas-church.net Parochial Vicar: Fr. Marc Nkulu...... frmarc@stthomas-church.net Fr. John Twinomujuni.....In Residence

Sacristan: Mother Vaclava Ballon, FSJB

(688-3500); fsjbpeoria@yahoo.com

Deacon: Dcn. John Nelson......981-2716

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

School Principal: Maureen Bentley....(x1210) maureenbentley@stthomas-school.net

Administrative Assistant: Terri Moon......(x0) terrimoon@stthomas-church.net

Bulletin Editor: Peggy Sullivan.....(x1301) peggysullivan@stthomas-church.net

Accountant: Julie Streid.....(x1340)

juliestreid@stthomas-church.net

Tuition Coordinator: Pat Wombacher..(x1341) patwombacher@stthomas-school.net

Director of Faith Formation: Mary Cushing.... marycushing@stthomas-school.net

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

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

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
- 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).



August 20, 2023 Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time





From Our Pastor

We are off to a good start for the school year and it's good to have our students back in the classrooms. For our students in public school, grades 1-8, CCD will begin in September on Wednesday evenings.

For the adults, the men of the parish are invited back to *That Man is You* and the women of the parish are invited to take part in *Women of the Word*. The men's group will meet on Friday mornings in September and the women will meet on Thursday evenings beginning in late-August. Please see the bulletin for more information.

Adults who are interested in becoming Catholic or learning more about the Church are invited to OCIA (Order of Christian Initiation of Adults) which will begin on the Wednesday after labor day in the Parish Hall.

Congratulations to all those who completed the reading of *Treasure in Clay*, the autobiography of Archbishop Fulton Sheen. For those who were not able to attend the closing lecture, it has been posted on our parish YouTube page, or visit https://www.jgray.org/Treasure Clay.html.

I have invited all our school parents, our school children, and our teachers to make visits to the Blessed Sacrament. Archbishop Sheen was a strong proponent of adoration before the Blessed Sacrament. Our church is open frequently, including during business hours during the week. Even a five-minute visit to the Blessed Sacrament is a great way of strengthening our relationship with Jesus. I invite everyone in the parish to take up this practice.

- -Msgr. Gray



Readings for the Week of August 20, 2023

Sunday Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Isaiah 56:1, 6-7; Romans 11:13-15, 29-32; Matthew 15:21-28

Monday St. Pius X, Pope

Judges 2: 11-19; Matthew 19: 16-22

Tuesday The Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Judges 6: 11-24a; Matthew 19: 23-30

Wednesday St. Rose of Lima, Virgin

Judges 9: 6-15; Matthew 20: 1-16

Thursday St. Bartholomew, Apostle

Revelation 21: 9b-14; John 1: 45-51

Friday St. Joseph Calasanz, Priest

Ruth 1: 1, 3-6, 14b-16, 22; Matthew 22: 34-40

Saturday Ruth 2: 1-3, 8-11; 4: 13-17; Matthew 23: 1-12

Sunday Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time

Isaiah 22:19-23; Romans 11:33-36; Matthew 16:13-20

Mass Intentions

Monday, August 21, 2023

7:00 a.m. Gordon Jockisch/Jennifer & Jeff Shields 8:00 a.m. Special Intentions of Robert Maushard/Family

Tuesday, August 22, 2023

7:00 a.m. Dr. Patrick Whalen/Family

8:00 a.m. Jose Rosalem & Ires Melody Esmeria/The Pag-ong Family

Wednesday, August 23, 2023

7:00 a.m. Michael Sullivan/James & Joyce Jorgensen 8:00 a.m. Josephine Langenfeld/The Rochford Family

Thursday, August 24, 2023

7:00 a.m. Dr. James N. Kenny, Sr./Family

9:15 a.m. Gloria Palkovic

Friday, August 25, 2023

7:00 a.m. Sr. Marietta Crahan/Kathleen Dotson 8:00 a.m. Walter Arnold/Joan Needham

Saturday, August 26, 2023

8:00 a.m. Pete Pasquel/Joe & Sandy Whalen 5:00 p.m. Walter & Anthony Arnold/Family

Sunday, August 27, 2023

8:00 a.m. For the People

10:00 a.m. Jim & Penny Scherer/Family5:00 p.m. Betty Pegg/The Grawey Family

Week of August 20

WOMEN OF THE WORD Sign-up after all Masses this weekend

ADDITIONAL CONFESSIONS Sunday, August 20, following Masses

MEN'S BASKETBALL Sunday, August 20, 7:00 p.m., School Gym

ROSARY Tuesday, August 22, 10:00 a.m., Daily Mass Chapel

CCD TEACHER MEETING Wednesday, August 23, 5:00 p.m., School Library

SCHOOL MASS Thursday, August 24, 9:15 a.m., Church, no 8:00 a.m. Mass

ST. THOMAS GOLF OUTING Friday, August 25, 11:00 a.m., Weaver Ridge Golf Club

TMIY Sign-up after all weekend Masses August 26 & 27

UPCOMING EVENTS

Adoration September 1
Septemberfest September 9
St. Thomas Holy Hour September 21
Blessing of the Animals October 4

OCIA (RCIA) Order of Christian Initiation of Adults

OCIA classes for any adults wishing to become Catholic will begin on **Wednesday**, **September 6**, **2023**.

Classes continue every Wednesday, with breaks for Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Years, culminating at the Easter Vigil Mass in the spring.

If you, or someone you know, is interested in becoming Catholic please contact the Parish Office at **309-688-3446** or **parishoffice@stthomas-church.net** to register, or you may just come to the first class.

Anyone who is already Catholic who would like to refresh your knowledge, or deepen your faith, is welcome to attend any, or all of the classes.

Weekly Collection

August 13, 2023

Г	scal HD
\$20,000	\$140,000
\$9,448	\$89,721
.\$4,718	.\$27,241
\$14,166	
\$(5,834)	(23,038)
	\$20,000 \$9,448 \$4,718. \$14,166

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

Dorothy Paesani

Kevin McCauley

Bob Dysard

Baptism Congratulations

Jessely Rodriguez & Isidro Rodriguez III, children of Elizabeth & Isidro Rodriguez Jr

Gabriel Matthew Hulteen, son of Rachel and Matthew Hulteen

Egan Blackburn, son of Lee & Coleen Blackburn



Pray with the Pope

August 2023
For World Youth Day

We pray the World Youth Day in Lisbon will help young people to live and witness the Gospel in their own lives.

OCIA/RCIA Schedule

DATE TOPIC

Sept. 6: Intro, Belief in God

Sept. 13: Apostolic tradition, Sacred Scripture,

Revelation, Faith

Sept. 20: Biblical History, Bible Timeline

Sept. 27: Trinity, God is Three, God is One

Oct. 4: God the Father, Creator of Heaven

and Earth

Oct. 11: God the Son

Oct. 18: God the Son; God the Holy Spirit;

Saints

Oct. 25: Holy Catholic Church

Nov. 1: NO CLASS; All Saints

Sponsor of the Week



Eigeal VID



If you have a 1st-8th grade student not attending a Catholic school we would be grateful to have her/him join us for CCD. Please scan to register.

To pay electronically please use link at the end of the registration form. Tuition can also be paid via check or cash. Make checks payable to St. Thomas CCD (may be dropped at church office or in marked envelope in collection basket at church).

CCD Teachers Needed

Are you or someone you know interested in sharing Jesus with our school age students? Please contact Liz Plaskon CCD@StThomas-Church.net. 6th grade needed (men of the Parish are welcome to volunteer!) Curriculum and supports are provided.

Women of the Word



Women of the Word welcomes all women, incorporates Scripture study, small group discussion, and video based talks on relevant study material. This year we will be reading Twelve Women of the Bible: Life-Changing Stories for Women Today by Lysa Terkeurst.

We will meet every other Thursday 6:30pm-8:00pm, beginning August 31st. Childcare is provided.

Registration: after all Masses August 19th and 20th, or in the Parish Office.



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!

Backpack Success!

A big thank you to all for a very successful backpack giveaway! Thanks to your generosity, 130 filled backpacks were given away to area students in need. Fun was had by all, and these students and families can look forward to a great start to the school year!



Backpacks & volunteers ready for the students!



Peoria Heights Police & Fire were there with information for the families.

A mom & her student ready for the coming year as other families are busy collecting information.



Secular Franciscan Order

The Secular Franciscan Order of the Catholic Church was started by St. Francis himself over 800 years ago to allow single and married men and women to follow the Franciscan way of life. We are a branch of the Franciscan Order, and our purpose is to bring the gospel to life where we live and where we work. Our Order is obedient to the Catholic Church, and we strive to live the gospel daily by following Jesus Christ in the spirit of St. Francis.

We focus on continued spiritual growth and are involved in various apostolic ministries. The Sacred Heart Fraternity is the Peoria fraternity of the Secular Franciscan Order and meets the first Saturday of every month at Holy Family Parish on Sterling Ave.

If you feel a calling to a Franciscan vocation or would just like to know more about the Secular Franciscan Order, please contact **Bob Polizzi**, **OSF** at **309-634-9958** or at

SacredHeartOSF@gmail.com. You can also read about our

Order at

secularfranciscanusa.org

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
- 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

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).

For more information please contact:

Terri Moon (309) 688-3446 Email: terrimoon@stthomas-church.net

Please Submit Payment with Registration

EGI					

Contact Person:	Phone:	
Address:		
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 \$_____

Register online: 2023 St. Thomas Golf Scramble (stthomaspeoria.org)

Pilgrimage to the

National Shrine & Museum of St. Therese of Lisieux, Society of the Little Flower

805 Bailey Rd. Darien, IL **Monday, September 25**th, **2023**

Depart: Spalding Pastoral Center, 7:00am The day will include: talk by staff, walk through the stations of the cross, video of the life of St. Theresa, Mass, and more. Lunch extra.

Cost per person \$90.00. Please make checks payable to the **PDCCW** and **mail to** Spalding Pastoral Center, 419 NE Madison Ave., Peoria, Il 61603 and **call MaryAnn Hughes 217-597-1021**. **Deadline to sign up is August 25**th.

Save the Dates!



We will be hosting our very first Light of the World Retreat

October 20-23, 2023

This is an immersive weekend retreat experience where participants personally encounter Christ through the presentation of the *kerygma* - the basic gospel message. This retreat is meant for any adult who wishes to move ahead in their journey of faith.

Go to **www.lotwem.org/retreat** to learn more and watch the bulletin for registration information!

1/4 BEEF RAFFLE

Grass fed / Corn finished

NAME Mixed quarter, front and rear, (approx. 200 lbs. of meat) Includes processing fee (approx. value \$1,000.00) PHONE



EMAIL

SOLD BY_____

\$20.00 per ticket

Drawing October 21, 2023 Winner need not be present to win

Proceeds to benefit Peoria Diocesan Council of Catholic Women **Women Connect Ministry**

Contact April Adams for more information 309-369-5110

Send the completed ticket and a check for \$20 for each ticket to the attention of April Adams, Spalding Pastoral Center; 419 N.E. Madison Avenue; Peoria, IL 61603

Direct questions to Mary Ann Hughes, PDCCW President hug13@aol.com

Tolton: From Slave to Priest

PND High School is proud to offer a live production of Tolton: From Slave to Priest, the story of Venerable Augustus Tolton, American's first Black priest whose cause is progressing towards canonization. Tolton tells the dramatic story of Father Augustus Tolton, who escaped slavery and defied racial prejudice to become America's first Black priest, bringing a message of hope and healing for the wounds that plague our culture. The show will be held in the **PND auditorium on** Saturday, September 9th at 7 p.m. Seats will be available on a firstcome first-serve basis, and the show is free of charge. We invite you and those you know to join us for this wonderful event!!

Women's Care Center is Hiring

We are seeking counselors, nurses, and sonographers at this time. Training is provided. Full-time positions are available. Bilingual applicants desired. If you have a passion for helping pregnant women choose life, we would love to talk to you. Please send your resume to Joyce at wccjoyce10@gmail.com.

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.

First Name(s)			
1131 1 131110 (3)	 	 	

Address _____ City_____ ZIP____

New Parishioner _____ Change of address/phone __

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!

Celebrate Irish Fest with the St. Mark Men's Club and enjoy Ireland on The Illinois River

Friday to Sunday, August 25th-27th Peoria Riverfront

The Men's Club is assisting the Ancient Order of Hibernians with the Holy Mass on the CEFCU Stage on Sunday, August 27th at 10:30am. Bishop Lou Tylka will celebrate the Mass.

St. Mark Men's Club is a sponsor of this year's Irish Fest - and Peoria Irish Fest will sponsor the St. Brigid Fest at St. Mark on February 3rd, 2024

Communicating With Legislators

Calling all Catholic school parents and anyone who is interested in our Catholic schools! Empower Illinois is hosting a training session on

Wed., August 23, 6-8 pm at St. Mark School 711 N. Underhill, Peoria

on how to communicate with our local state legislators in their districts about making the Invest in Kids program permanent (removing sunset.)

The Invest in Kids Act, which has provided scholarships for almost 3,000 children in the Peoria Diocese, is due to expire at the end of 2023. Please join us at this meeting to learn how we can talk with legislators about continuing this vitally important program. For more information, please contact Maria Carroll at 309-472-7522 or mcarroll@saint-mark.net or Bobby Sylvester at bobby@empowerillinois.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 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.

catholicmatch[®] Illinois



CatholicMatch.com/golL



Green For Life

Your full-service waste and recycling services provider.

309.688.0760 | gflenv.com





EAST PEORIA 698-8404 www.tazwellcountyasphalt.com SPECIALIZING IN ASPHALT PAVING • ASPHALT SEALING

Buseybank

busey.com Member FDIC



- General Construction Design Build
- Commercial & Residential
- Construction Management Pre Engineered Structures
- **DESIGNERS & CONTRACTORS**

Dennis Bishop, Parishioner

243-5599 2800 W Alta Rd.





DENTURES PAR EXCELLENCE

"Excellence in Removable Prosthodontics" Richard P. June, DDS richardjunedds.com

Parishioner

309-693-7200

Trumpeter



2400 S.W. Adams

www.kellyglass.com • (309) 676-3573



WWW.HEDIGERANDMEYERS.COM 309.691.5001
COLLINS VOORHEES JAKE VOORHEES WILLIAM VOORHEES

RASHID

804 W. Trailcreek Dr. Peoria, IL

Call: 309-670-0700

Text: 309-328-3248

www.rashidps.com



Get your business headed in the right direction. **Contact Don Roe** 616.340.8580 or droe@diocesan.com



Simply go to www.DM.CHURCH/1208





DISCOVERMASS

IG-COOLING-REFRIGERATION RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL









(309)633-1313 www.dmiheatingandair.com 24 HOUR EMERGENCY SERVICE
"FREE ESTIMATES ON NEW
EQUIPMENT INSTALLATION"



REFINANCING • HOME EQUITY LOANS • PURCHASING • CONSULTING

PEORIA EAR, NOSE & THROAT GROUP 7301 N KNOXVILLE AVE. • 309-589-5900

- Parishioner -

JAMES A. GERAGHTY, M.D.

APBELL





309-495-0179 1209 W. Main Street Peoria, IL 61606

AainaCare anagement, LLC

48 Years Experience Working With The Aged Sandii Mistmer, MISW, G-aswen Assessment • Consultation • Care Management Assistance with Long Term Care Insurance Claims 2009-2351-03513 Partishioner 309-251-0518



campbellappraisals.com Lise: 309-645-0406 Parishioner

Family Owned & Operated for Over 40 Years

309-686-1870



Mcomm Group, Inc. **Channel Marketing** Alumnus/Parishioner







HEYL.... ROYSTER

GARY E. SCHMIDT

Attorney at Law 309.322.8315 **PARISHIONER**

OM SMITH PLUMBING CO. 7 ILLINOIS LICENSE 055-004303

Plumbing • Heating • Sewering • COMMERCIAL & RESIDENTIAL

Том Ѕмітн tsptom@mtco.com www.tomsmithplumbing.com

Peoria Heights, IL (309) 688-5114

429 E. Sciota

Every Detail Remembered

WOOD FRONT

Davison-Fulton Woolsey-Wilton Funeral Home

2408 W Willow Knolls Dr. Peoria, IL (309) 691-3456

PRAIRIE HOME ALLIANCE

CUSTOM BATH

Davison-Fulton Woodland Chapel 2021 N. University St. Peoria, IL (309) 688-5700

DISCOVER SCHERER, YOU'LL LOVE IT HERE.

SCHERER MAZDA

Keri Thierer

Sales Consultant

SchererMazda.com 2300 W Pioneer Pkwy

Peoria, IL 61615 309.691.0300







"We think of them as our trees,



wyman-group.com | 309.685.8222

114 West Stratford Dr. Suite E | Peoria



"We've Got You Covered Since 1910" 1025 N Sheridan Road Your New Home for School Uniforms! 309-671-4543 • sharrisuniforms.com 10% OFF Bring in this Bulletin!

HealthInsuranceExchange

John E. Moore - President Focusing on the health insurance needs of small businesses & individuals

Chase Bank Building • 411 Hamilton Blvd., Peoria IL 61602 www.HealthInsuranceExchangeCl.com 309-740-9850

JIM ROCHFORD ATTORNEY AT LAW

JIM ROCHFORD & ASSOCIATES 309.637.5322 PARISHIONER 101 South West Adams, #700 drochford@rochfordlaw.com

Precision Machining & Assembly of Casting, Forging & Steel Products



peoriatovota.com



lexusofpeoria.com



SUNROOMS

YEP, WE DO

THAT TOO

MCOUELLON CONSULTING, INC

Robert W. McQuellon, MBA President / CEO and Parishioner

Real Estate Tax Appeals

Parishioner Steve Jackson, President Showroom Hours: M-F 9-5; Sat. 10-3 309-699-9517 203 EASTGATE DRIVE Washingtion, IL prairiehomealliance.com

Commercial • Industrial • Residential 309-256-6700 Mobile • 309-693-2600 Office • 309-693-6200 Fax Email: bob@mcquellon.com • www.mcquellon.com

nchard A. Kube II, MD, FACSS



Minimally invasive spine surgery

Physical therapy on site

Parishioner

7620 N University St. Office: 309-691-7774

www.prairiespine.com



KRUMHOLZ BROTHERS

LANDSCAPE CONTRACTORS
Landscape • Excavating • Erosion Control www.krumholzbros.com

DAVE & RICHARD KRUMHOLZ



Transferred to Digital

Preserve Your Family Memories Today! Contact Kevin West

309-264-3717 • www.media-house.bi

