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

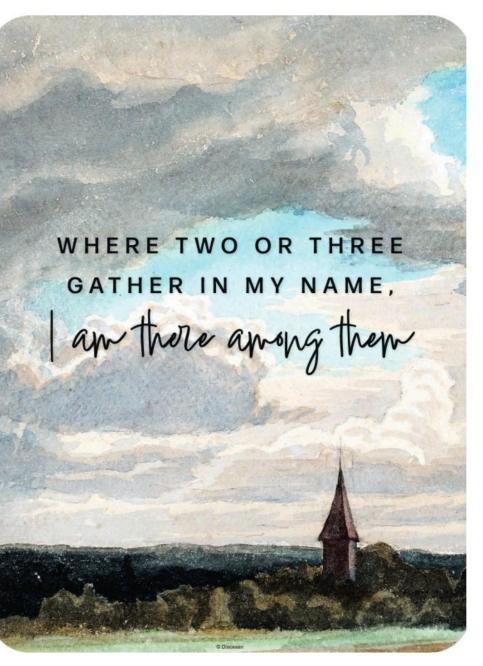
Parish Nurse: Mary Clare Geraghty....(x1350) parishnurse@stthomas-church.net

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
- 2. Download My Parish App to receive push notifications (Visit mypari-shapp.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
- 4. Bookmark the parish webpage (stthomaspeoria.org).



September 10, 2023 Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time





This weekend we return to our regular traditions during the school year, including Donut Sunday. Each month some of our grade school students help with our 10:00 a.m. Mass. Let us look forward to be more closely united as a St. Thomas Family, both our parish and school. Donuts will be served after Sunday morning Masses.

This weekend we also invite you to pledge to support our Diocese through the Annual Diocesan Appeal. The video for this year's ADA is found online: https://cdop.org/offices/ development-stewardship/ada/. I will reflect on the programs supported by this diocesan collection during the homily. If you've contributed in the past, you should have received information about contributing in the mail. Pledge cards for the Annual Diocesan Appeal will also be available at Mass. Online contributions can also be made at the link above.

Last year we exceeded our goal and received a rebate of approximately \$10,000 from the ADA. Thank you for your past support and your generosity.

Since I was appointed as Executive Director of the *Fulton Sheen Foundation*, I have accepted invitations to speak on Archbishop Sheen. In addition to the talks I gave as part of our St. Thomas Book Club, I was grateful to appear on Raymond Arroyo's program on EWTN and Drew Mariani's program on Relevant Radio. This Thursday, September 14, I have been invited by the El Paso Historical Society to speak at St. Mary Parish, El Paso, at 7:00 p.m. on Archbishop Sheen's lasting legacy. Anyone is welcome to attend.

Since we restored daily Masses at both 7:00 and 8:00 a.m., we have extra openings for Mass intentions. If you would like Masses offered for loved ones, living or deceased, please contact the parish office to make your request.

As part of our Eucharistic Devotion, we will continue to recite the Anima Christi prayer. For your convenience, it has been inserted in the back of the Music Issue, or you can read it on page 3.

- -Msgr. Gray

Readings for the Week of September 10, 2023

Sunday	Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time Ezekiel 33: 7-9 ; Romans 13: 8-10; Matthew 18: 15-20	
Monday	Colossians 1: 24-2: 3; Luke 6: 6-11	
Tuesday	The Most Holy Name of Mary Colossians 2: 6-15; Luke 6: 12-19	
Wednesday	St. John Chrysostom, Bishop & Doctor of the Church Colossians 3: 1-11; Luke 6: 20-26	
Thursday	Exaltation of the Holy Cross Numbers 21: 4b-9; Philippians 2: 6-11; John 3: 13-17	
Friday	Our Lady of Sorrows 1 Timothy 1: 1-2, 12-14; John 19: 25-27	
Saturday	y Sts. Cornelius, Pope & Cyprian, Bishop, Martyrs 1 Timothy 1: 15-17; Luke 43-49	
Sunday	Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time Sirach 27: 30—28: 7; Romans 14: 7-9; Matthew 18: 21-35	

Mass Intentions

Monday, September 11, 2023

7:00 a.m. Chip Chan/Family8:00 a.m. Arlene Crawford/The Jockisch Family

Tuesday, September 12, 2023

7:00 a.m.	Fr. Paul Stark, S.J./Joe & Sandy Whalen
8:00 a.m.	Walter Arnold/Joan Needham

Wednesday, September 13, 2023

7:00 a.m.Elizabeth & Robert Lehnhausen/J. P. Harney8:00 a.m.Bud & Mary Janke/Cindy & Susan

Thursday, September 14, 2023

7:00 a.m. Bob Dysard/Dave & Pat McCauley 9:15 a.m. Glen Morton/Paul & Ann Horst

Friday, September 15, 2023

7:00 a.m. Celestino Gochco & Manolito & Marianita Cabucos 8:00 a.m. John Pusey/Tom Hildner

Saturday, September 16, 2023

8:00 a.m. Joe Kelly/Seminarian Support Group 5:00 p.m. Jim Becker/James & Evelyn Stahl

Sunday, September 17, 2023

8:00 a.m.	The Adam & Elizabeth Weinstein Family/Jack & Margaret
	Weinstein
10:00 a.m.	Melvin & Lucille Noe/Mary Ann Noe
5:00 p.m.	For the People

Week of September 10

SEPTOBERFEST Saturday, September 9, 5:30 p.m., Back Parking Lot

ANNUAL DIOCESAN APPEAL This weekend

COFFEE & DONUTS after Sunday morning Masses this weekend

CHOIR PRACTICE Sunday, September 10, 9:00 a.m., Music Room

MEN'S BASKETBALL Sunday, September 10, 7:00 p.m., School Gym

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL Tuesday, September 12, 7:00 p.m., Parish Hall

ROSARY Tuesday, September 12, 10:00 a.m., Daily Mass Chapel

CCD Wednesday, September 13, 6:00 p.m., School

OCIA Wednesday, September 13, 7:00 p.m., Parish Hall

WOMEN OF THE WORD Thursday, September 14, 6:30 p.m., Parish Hall

MEN'S CLUB Thursday, September 14, 6:30 p.m., Rudy's Cantina

TMIY Friday, September 15, doors open at 6:00 a.m., program at 6:30 a.m., Parish Hall

UPCOMING EVENTS

Extra Confessions St. Thomas Holy Hour Blessing of the Animals Adoration September 17 September 21 October 4 October 6



Pray with the Pope September 2023 For people living on the margins

We pray for those persons living on the margins of society, in inhumane life conditions; may they not be overlooked by institutions and never considered of lesser importance.

Weekly Collection

September 3, 2023

Fiscal YTD
\$200,000
\$121,152
\$31,615
\$152,767
\$(47,233)

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.

Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time Page 3

Our Sympathy

Don Brennan

Ron Shipp, Jr

Mildred Forhan

Hannah Rainey

Sue Connor

Baptism Congratulations

Nova Raelynn Moreno, daughter of Amy & Branson Moreno



St. Thomas Progressive Dinner: Let There Be Light!

> January 20th 2024 Details coming soon!

OCIA/RCIA Schedule

DATE	TOPIC
Sept. 13:	Apostolic tradition, Sacred Scripture,
	Revelation, Faith
Sept. 20:	Biblical History, Bible Timeline
Sept. 27:	Trinity, God is Three, God is One



- General Construction
- * Design Build

Commercial & Residential
Construction Management

* Pre Engineered Structures

DESIGNERS & CONTRACTORS

Dennis Bishop, Parishioner 243-5599

2800 W Alta Rd.

Why do we bring gifts up during the Offertory?

The parts of the Mass often have both a historical and a theological meaning. **Historically**, early Christians would bring bread and wine from home to be consecrated at mass. They were offering the work of human hands back to the Father. This symbolized cooperation between God and humans in the creation of the bread and wine.

Theologically, we are offering ourselves on the altar, united with the sacrifice of Jesus. Why? The short answer is sin. We've all damaged our relationship with God and the Mass is the process of Christ reuniting us with the Father. St. Paul tells us that, For our sake he made him to be sin who did not know sin, so that we might become the righteousness of God in him. (2 Corinthians 5:21) Jesus sacrificed himself, opening the gates of heaven to us by his death and resurrection. We remember this by offering ourselves and our prayers to God the Father at Mass.

We would like to invite our parishioners and school families to begin bringing the gifts at the 10:00 am Sunday Masses this month! Please scan the QR code to sign up or call the parish office.



Join us for Coffee and Donuts after morning Mass this weekend

Sheen Presentation

On August 16, Msgr. Gray presented a closing lecture to the reading of Treasure in Clay, the autobiography of Archbishop Fulton Sheen. If you want to listen to the recording of this presentation, you can find it here: https:// youtu.be/9nxPtNHlp4E

The Fulton Sheen Foundation periodically sends out a newsletter to those who are interested in the Sheen Cause. If you would like to receive this newsletter, send your name and mailing address to **info@celebratesheen.com** or call the Sheen Foundation at **309-671-1550**.

Ready to Bring the Love of Jesus 2023 ANNUAL DIOCESAN APPEAL

Did you know that ADA supports Evangelization?

In 22 parishes of our Diocese, over 1,600 young people were learning about their faith while having a lot of fun this summer. Totus Tuus summer program helped them to understand and grow in their faith in Jesus Christ through catechesis, evangelization, Christian witness and Eucharistic worship. This program, which is coordinated through the Office of Vocations, is made available to your parish with the support of ADA.

Give online at www.cdop.org/ada.



Anima Christi

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, hide me. Let me never be separated from you. From the evil enemy, defend me. In the hour of my death, call me, And bid me come to you, That with your saints I may praise you Forever and ever. Amen.

Women of the Word

All women of the Parish are invited to join **Women of the Word** which 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. Meetings are every other Thursday 6:30-8:00 p.m. Next meeting **September 14**.

If you missed the sign-up you can still register - See parish website or contact **marycushing@stthomas-school.net** for more information



Walk with Jesus in the Eucharist alongside hundreds of faithful in a beautiful procession just as on the first road to Emmaus.

- O 6:30 7:30 Park at Our Lady of Lourdes, Bettendorf. Shuttles will be available to Moline.
- Q 8am Mass at Sacred Heart Moline
- 9am Begin Eucharistic Procession with stops at St Mary, Moline and along the route. Cross the I-74 bridge and end at Our Lady of Lourdes. Route is about 3.75 miles.
- O 12pm (Estimated) Benediction

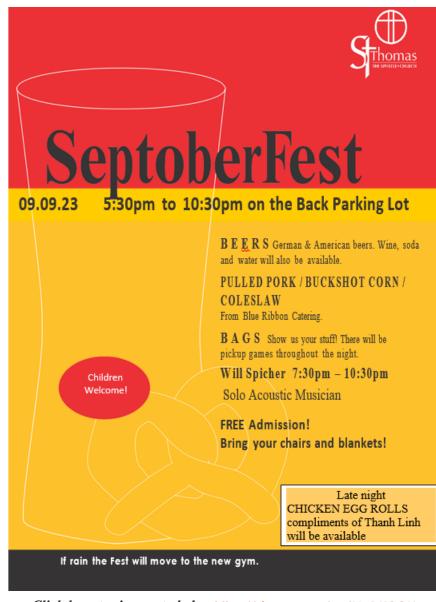


For more details and updates, go to EmmausQC.com or find us on Facebook and Instagram

Catechism Questions for OCIA Class September 13 Topic: Apostolic tradition, Sacred Scripture, Revelation, Faith

- Divine revelation is transmitted orally and in writing. What do we call these two modes of the transmission of divine revelation (CCC 81)?
- The Church authentically interprets the Word of God handed on in writing or orally. What is this teaching office of the Church called (CCC 85-86)?
- Who protects the sensus fidei (i.e. the sense of the faith by the whole body of the faithful that cannot err in matters of faith) by guiding us to all truth (CCC 91)?
- What is another name for Jesus Christ, found in John 1:1 (CCC 102)?
- Who is the author of Sacred Scripture (CCC 105 and 106)?
- Who is our Father in faith and the Old Testament model of obedience to God? Who is the most perfect embodiment of faith and obedience in the New Testament (CCC 144)?
- What are the first two words of the Apostles' Creed? What are the first two words of the Nicene Creed (CCC 167)?

Answers are in the indicated paragraph numbers of the Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC).



Click here to sign up to help: <u>https://signup.com/go/MpDXQON</u>

Catholic Women's League

Panera Box Luncheon and Spiritual Reflection September 14, 2023; St Thomas Parish Hall, Peoria Heights

11:30 Luncheon; 12:30 Reflection Program

Lunch \$15.00 Call Sandy Gasparovich 309-264-4847 to order lunch

RSVP by September 6, 2023

St. Thomas - Food Pantry

Items most needed at this time are: pasta sauce, hamburger helper, peanut butter, pancake mix, syrup, and canned vegetables.

Thank you for your generous support!

September 10, 2023

NAMI Tri-County

National Alliance on Mental Illness

September focus: Saving Lives with 988: Crisis Intervention and Suicide Prevention Line

Monthly In-Person Support Groups meet 3rd Thursday of each month: Sept. 21, 7:00 p.m., ICC Peoria, Poplar Hall

- Connection Recovery Support Group—for anyone living in recovery of any mental health condition, meets in Rm 127
- Family Support Group—for family members or significant others involved in the lives of anyone dealing with a mental health condition, meets in Rm 132

NAMI Tri-County Illinois is offering **NAMI's** <u>Family to Family Class</u> again this Fall. This is an 8-week class for family members of individuals 18 and over who have mental health conditions. It begins Thursday, September 21 at 6:30 p.m. at Illinois Central College East Peoria Campus and ends on November 16. There is no fee for this course. **Registration is required.** Please call instructor Gay at 309 360-6972 or our NAMI information line at 309 693-0541 for information or to be placed on a waiting list.

For more information: Website: <u>www.namitri-countyillinois.com</u>

Facebook: Nami Tri-County IL; Telephone information line: 309-693-0541

40 Days for Life The Beginning of the End of Abortion <u>Kick Off Rally</u>

The Ground Zero Tour is Just the Beginning At the Ground Zero Tour you'll hear from Mary Kate Zander, Executive Director of Illinois Right to Life

When: Sunday, September 10th, 6:30 p.m.

Where: Spalding Pastoral Center—Conference Room

No RSVP needed, ALL welcome.

For information: Anthony Berlinger—anthonyberlinger@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.

Last Name	
First Name(s)	
Email	
Phone	
Address	
City	ZIP
Phone	
New Parishioner	Change of address/phone

Pilgrimage to the National Shrine & Museum of St. Therese of Lisieux, Society of the Little Flower 805 Bailey Rd. Darien, IL Monday, September 25th, 2023 Hosted by the Peoria Diocesan Council of Catholic Women

You will see the largest collection of Little Flower relics and memorabilia outside of Lisieux, France. During the time of our visit, the Reliquaries of St. Therese and her parents will be at the National Shrine.

As part of this pilgrimage, we would like to ask everyone to join us in praying a novena to St. Therese, the patroness of vocations, for an increase in vocations in our diocese, and offer prayers of thanksgiving for the priest who have served, and are now serving the church in our diocese.

We will offer two departure points; 1. Spalding Pastoral Center, Peoria, IL at 7:00am, arrive home 5:00 pm 2. Home Depot, Champaign, IL at 7:00am, arrive home approx. 5:00pm

The day will include a talk with a member of the staff, a walk through the statues and stations of the cross, a short video on the life of St. Therese, and visiting relics and artifacts. Mass will be offered at 11:30 am in the National Shrine. After mass we will eat lunch at a nearby restaurant, and then return to the Shrine and Museum, where you will be able to enjoy free prayer time in the Meditation Garden and shopping in the Carmelite Gift Shop. There will be a be a special program lasting approximately 45 minutes beginning at 2:00. We will board the bus at 3:00 pm and leave at 3:30 pm and return to the return destination you have chosen.

Your reservation will include bus transportation by Peoria Charter Coach, breakfast snack on the bus, all Shrine exhibits, Mass and amenities on the campus. The cost of your lunch, which you will order at the restaurant, is not included. Everyone is invited to join us on the pilgrimage.

Cost per person \$90.00. Please make checks payable to the PDCCW and mail to Spalding Pastoral Center, 419 NE Madison Ave., Peoria, II 61603 and call **MaryAnn Hughes 217-597-1021**. Deadline to sign up is now **September 15**th. Limited seating, sign up now!

Name	Phone
Email	Emergency Contact
	Phone

Please indicate which departure point you will leave and return to: Spalding Pastoral Center, or Home Depot, Champaign, II 61820 off I-74

St. Thomas the Apostle Church

View Our Parish Supporters at www.DiscoverMass.com

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.



