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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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).



November 12, 2023 Thirty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time



Come out to meet Him

Matthew 25:6



From Our Pastor

This weekend we will have extra confessions, offering the opportunity to go to reconciliation after all Masses, including on Sunday. When we enter into Advent, additional confession times will also be more frequently available.

I encourage parishioners to recite the Rosary as a way of showing devotion to Mary, the Mother of God. We have a 10 AM Rosary for peace on Tuesday mornings and will plan a special Rosary at noon on December 8 when we celebrate the Immaculate Conception.

We have had various traditions around the recitation of the Rosary between our 7 and 8 AM Masses. If there is interest, I look forward to restarting that tradition. You are invited on weekdays to stay after the 7 AM Mass or come early for 8 AM to pray the Rosary. The Rosary will begin at approximately 7:35 AM.

Earlier in the year, we had a book club to read Archbishop Sheen's autobiography, Treasure in Clay. I would like to continue this book study by reading a short book by Archbishop Sheen, St. Therese: A treasured love story. This book shares Sheen's insights into St. Therese of Lisieux and allows us to appreciate both St. Therese and Archbishop Sheen who are both models of holiness of life.

I plan to start the book study on the Monday before Thanksgiving, giving an opening lecture on November 20th at 6:00 PM in the Parish Hall. I will record the opening presentation for anyone who cannot be present. I will divide the book into six segments for small group discussion. Each discussion group can work out the schedule that works best for them, reading the book between December and early February.

- -Msgr. Gray



Readings for the Week of November 12, 2023

Sunday Thirty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Wisdom 6: 12-16; 1 Thessalonians 4: 13-18 OR 1 Thessalonians 4: 13-14; Matthew 25: 1-13

Monday St. Frances Xavier Cabrini, Virgin

Wisdom, 1:1-7; Luke 17:1-6

Tuesday Wisdom 2:23-3:9; Luke 17:7-10

Wednesday St. Albert the Great, Bishop & Doctor of the Church

Wisdom 6:1-11: Luke 17:11-19

Thursday St. Margaret of Scotland

Wisdom 7:22b-8:1; Luke 17:20-25

Friday St. Elizabeth of Hungary, Religious

Wisdom 13:1-9' Luke 17:26-37

Saturday The Dedication of the Basilica of Sts. Peter & Paul, Apostles

Wisdom 18:14-16,19:6-9

Sunday Thirty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Proverbs 31:10-13,19-20,30-31; 1 Thessalonians 5:1-6;

Matthew 25:14-30

Mass Intentions

Monday, November 13, 2023

7:00 a.m. Nareen Therens/Jeanne Whalen

8:00 a.m. Rosemarie Maloney/John and Kathy Louis

Tuesday, November 14, 2023

7:00 a.m. Melvin & Lucille Noe/Mary Ann Noe

8:00 a.m. Eugene Poignant/Mary Poignant and Family

Wednesday, November 15, 2023

7:00 a.m. Edward Carrigan/Rick & Maureen Pantages 8:00 a.m. Steve Sprenger/Dennis and Pam Goett

Thursday, November 16, 2023

7:00 a.m. Fr. Paul Stark, S.J., 2nd Anniv./Linda Osika **9:15 a.m.** Joanne Shields/The Larry Zarley Family

Friday, November 17, 2023

7:00 a.m. Marita Merkle/Mike & Theresa Haughney 8:00 a.m. Dorothy Paesani/Dorothy Bertschy

Saturday, November 18, 2023

8:00 a.m. Donna Jean Weinstein/Jack & Margaret Weinstein

5:00 p.m. Beverly Grant/Kathy Clary

Sunday, November 19, 2023

8:00 a.m. Betty Kane/Family

10:00 a.m. Jim Becker/Joe & Joan Kelch

5:00 p.m. For the People

Week of November 12

EXTRA CONFESSIONS Sunday, November 12, after all Masses

CHOIR PRACTICE Sunday, November 12, 9:00 a.m., Music Room

MEN'S BASKETBALL Sunday, November 12, 7:00 p.m., School Gym

ROSARY Tuesday, November 14, 10:00 a.m., Daily Mass Chapel

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL Tuesday, November 14, 7:00 p.m., Parish Hall

CCD Wednesday, November 15, 6:00 p.m., School

OCIA Wednesday, November 15, 7:00 p.m., Parish Hall

ST. THOMAS HOLY HOUR Thursday, November 16, 7:00 p.m., Church

TMIY Friday, November 17, doors open at 6:00 a.m., program at 6:30 a.m., Parish Hall

UPCOMING EVENTS

Adoration December 1
Ornament Sale December 2/3
Immaculate Conception December 8



PARISH HOLY HOUR

Thursday, November 16 7:00 p.m. — 8:00 p.m.

Pray with the Pope

November 2023 For the Pope

We pray for the Holy Father; as he fulfills his mission, may he continue to accompany the flock entrusted to him, with the help of the Holy Spirit.

Weekly Collection

November 5, 2023

Eige al VID

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\$20,000	\$380,000
\$19,169	\$244,818
\$ 2,980	\$71,118
\$22,149	\$315.936
\$2,149	\$(64,064)
	\$19,169 \$ 2,980 \$22,149

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

Please pray for those who have died this week

Sue McWhirter



Giving Tree

The Giving Tree is an important tradition at St. Thomas. The gift tags will be available soon. We ask you to take one or more of the tags and purchase the requested gift. Please give new gifts only.

RETURN YOUR GIFTS IN GIFT BAGS WITH THE ORIGINAL TAG ATTACHED. You may leave them under the Giving Tree in the Narthex, or deliver to the Parish Office. Your generosity providing gifts under the Giving Tree has been incredibly helpful in the past. Last year we were able to distribute gifts to almost 300 individuals. This includes St. Thomas Families, Foster Children, Catholic Charities, and neighbors in our community.

MONETARY DONATIONS This year a monetary donation might work best for many people. You can make your donation on our website: stthomaspeoria.org. Go to GIVING, then DONATE NOW. As you complete the form please Apply your Donation to The Giving Tree.

Please make your monetary donation as soon as possible so our elves have time to shop before the deadline.

If your requested gift is a **gift card** you may purchase through Comet Cash after Mass or email **Allison Buckardt** at

aebuckardt@gmail.com or call 309-231-0449.

PLEASE RETURN GIFTS BY DECEMBER 15TH. Thank you for your kindness and generosity!

Sponsor of the Week



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.



Catholic Women's League of Peoria, Illinois

You Are Invited to a Christmas Tea Fundraiser

Grandmothers, Mothers, Daughters, Granddaughters, & Friends All Are Welcome

Date: Sunday, December 10, 2023

Time: 2:00 PM -- 4:15 PM

Place: St. Philomena Parish Hall

1000 W. Albany Avenue, Peoria IL 61604

AGENDA

2:00 PM Welcome & Prayer;

2:15 PM Tea-Time, Menu ~ Scones and Clotted

Cream, Finger Sandwiches, Dessert

3:45 PM Entertainment;

4:15 PM Closing Prayer

RSVP BY December 1, 2023

to Ann Gerardo, 3415 N. Sheridan Road, Peoria IL 61604.

If you have questions, call Ann Gerardo at 630-464-8474.
Adult \$30/Teen \$20/Child \$10

Catechism Questions for OCIA Class November 15 Topic: Baptism, Confirmation

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

Catechism Questions for OCIA Class November 15

Topic: Baptism, Confirmation

The washing of sins with water is prefigured in the Old Testament. Give an example (CCC 1218-1222).

The baptism of Jesus signaled the beginning of what important event (CCC 1223)?

What is the formula for baptism (CCC 1240)?

When was the Holy Spirit poured out upon the apostles (CCC 1287)? What oil is used in the sacrament of Confirmation (CCC 1297)? Who is the typical minister of Confirmation in the Western Catholic and Eastern Catholic Churches (CCC 1312-1313)?

Rosary for Peace

We are peace warriors and the Rosary is our weapon. The Rosary is the most secret of secret weapons.

Come on December 8 at Noon to join forces with each other to answer the cchallenge we face today finding world peace.

Venerable Fulton Sheen said, "the power of the rosary is beyond description."

On December 8th at noon we will ask our Mother, Mary, for her intercession in these troubled times.



Community Festival of Nativities Features Live Nativity to Celebrate 800th Anniversary

The 8th Annual Peoria Area Community Festival of Nativities, *O Holy Night*, will be held Thursday through Sunday, **November 30 to December 3, 2023**, at 3700 West Reservoir Blvd., in Peoria. In celebration of the 800th anniversary of the first nativity held in Greccio, Italy, the festival will feature a live nativity outside on Thursday, November 30, from 4:30-6:30 PM, along with the 4-day indoor display of hundreds of nativities from around the world.

The complete schedule for the event is as follows: Thursday, November 30, 3pm-9pm Live Nativity 4:30pm-6:30pm; Fri. & Sat., December 1-2, 10am-9pm

Admission is free, and everyone is welcome to this multi-denominational event. Further details can be found at communityfestivalofnativities.com or on the festival's Facebook page.

OCIA/RCIA Schedule

DATE TOPIC

Nov. 15: Baptism, Confirmation Nov. 22: NO CLASS: Thanksgiving

Nov. 29: Eucharist

Dec. 6: Blessed Virgin Mary, Rosary Dec. 13: Penance, Anointing, Funerals

Dec. 20: Marriage Dec. 27: No Class

Jan. 3: No Class

Jan. 10: Liturgical year, Church tour, Mass

practice

Jan. 17: Orders, Religious Life

Jan. 24: Individual aspects of the Moral Life Jan. 31: Prayer, Universal Call to Holiness

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!

2023 Rolan Johnson Christmas Ornament

The 29th annual limited edition Christmas ornament is inspired by Rolan Johnson's 1977 Christmas card

And the Love was for All

Sisters of St. Francis of the Immaculate Conception will be selling the ornaments after Masses Dec. 2-3.



Ornaments are \$38 each and benefits the Sisters' retirement Fund

Catholic Women's League of Peoria, Illinois

Annual Membership Meeting Tuesday, November 14, 2023 at 9:30 am Buehler Home, 3415 N. Sheridan Road Peoria, IL 61604

Meeting & Light Refreshments



Parish Christmas Open House

Thank you for your generous support all year long

Saturday, December 16 Sunday, December 17 After all Masses

Please join us in the Parish Hall

Volunteers are needed to assist with set-up and serving.

If you are able to help please call the Parish Office

or Denise Tascher @693-8633.

Do You Wish to Make or Renew Your Consecration to Our Lady?

The Militia of the Immaculata will host a Day of Preparation for consecration to the Blessed Virgin Mary in the spirit of St. Maximilian Kolbe on **Saturday**, **December 2nd** from **9:30 am to 3:00 pm** at the Little Garden of the Immaculata in West Peoria.

The program includes talks, video presentations, and Q&A periods.

Please bring your sack lunch. Drinks and printed materials will be provided.

Participants will have an opportunity to make or renew their consecration on December 8th, the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception.

There is no cost to attend, but registration is required. Please call or text **Antonella Di Piazza, FKMI**, at **(331) 223-5564** or write to **MINational@MissionImmaculata.com**

St. Anthony Camerata Chorale Ecumenical Festival Choir

Presents

Be Thou My Vision

Sunday—November 12, 2023 at 3:00 p.m. St. Mark Catholic Church—1113 W. Bradley Ave., Peoria

Admission: Non-perishable food & toiletry items for Sophia's Kitchen

Please join Peoria Cursillo for our November Ultreya!!! St. Mark Catholic Church, Peoria 2023 Theme: "We are Companions on the Journey" Guests are Encouraged and Welcome! Families are Welcome! on Saturday, Nov. 11;

beginning with the parish Mass at 4:30pm

Reservation forms will be available for Men's weekend #1231 which takes place Feb. 22-25, 2024 & Women's weekend #1232 which takes place May 30-June 2, 2024; Both at St. Anthony in Bartonville!

Join us for Mass, talk and social time! Speaker: Nichelle Ritterhoff Hosts: Deacon Tom and Peggy Dwyer

Social Time in the parish school after Mass & talk

You can contact the Cursillo Office at 309/676-5587;

cursillopeoria@gmail.com for more information.

St. Mark Catholic Church, 1113 W. Bradley Ave., Peoria, 61606



Annual Motherhouse Bazaar

Friday, Nov. 17, 9 am-5 pm Saturday, Nov 18, 9 am-2 pm

At the Motherhouse 1175 St. Francis Lane, East Peoria

Religious and gift items for sale along with fresh baked donuts, breads, and cookies

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.

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11 21 1	Name(s) _			
	() -			

Email _____

Phone_____

Address _____

City_____ ZIP____

Phone _____

New Parishioner _____ Change of address/phone __





Peoria Notre Dame High School is teaming up with Scherer Mazda of Peoria for the 6th annual I2 Days of Christmas Cash and Car Raffle! An Early Bird drawing of S500 will be held November 16. Cash prizes will be drawn daily, beginning Monday, December 4 through Thursday, December 14. The Grand Prize of a 2024 Mazda CX-5 (MSRP SSI,000) will be drawn at 12:10 pm on Friday, December 15, 2023. Tickets may be purchased online at pndlis.org/IZdays, or from a staff member or student of PND.

/ly Name:	Ticket Seller:						
A didence:							
Address:							
City:			State:	Zip:			
Phone:	En	nail:					
Visa MasterCard							
		CVC#	Exp				
Signature							

Last Name

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-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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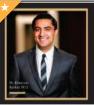
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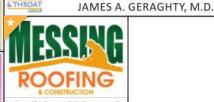




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