

**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)

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(309)339-4775 ..ccd@stthomas-church.net

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parishnurse@stthomas-church.net

Music Coordinator: Ann Horst..(309)208-4862

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 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).



June 30, 2024

Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

*You changed my mourning
into dancing;*

*O Lord, my God,
forever will I give you thanks.*

— Psalm 30:13



From Our Pastor

This is Fr. Marc Nkulu's last weekend with us. Please join us after Masses for a reception and farewell.

Congratulations to Sister Elizabeth of the Franciscan Sisters of John the Baptist on her profession of first vows. As a novice, she wore a white veil. Now, as a professed religious, she wears a black veil. This is an important milestone on her way to final vows.

I have asked all our servers to volunteer at least three times over the summer. From past experience, servers who do not assist for several months lose their skill and confidence. Please encourage the servers and thank them for what they do.

As we prepare for the installation of new pews, I will ask the ushers to resume some of their previous duties. In particular, I would like to return to the regular collection baskets during the offertory time at the beginning of the Liturgy of the Eucharist. To do this, I will need at least four ushers at each Mass. When the time comes, I will ask for volunteers to assist, either men or women. Please be ready to volunteer.

I encourage you to purchase tickets for our *All American Comets* fundraiser at Haven on the Farm on July 13th. This event is for all adults and kids. Proceeds will provide for our school counselor, but I encourage parish families to take part. Our parish and school is part of one St. Thomas family.

Finally, please note our 9:00 a.m. Mass on the Fourth of July this week. Even more importantly, we celebrate the feast of St. Thomas the Apostle on July 3rd. Join us for Mass at 7:00 or 8:00 a.m.

- Msgr. Gray



Readings for the Week of June 30, 2024

Sunday	Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time Wisdom 1: 13-15; 2: 23-24; 2 Corinthians 8: 7, 9, 13-15; Mark 5: 21-43 OR Mark 5: 21-24, 35b-43
Monday	St. Junipero Sierra, Priest Amos 2: 6-10, 13-16; Matthew 8: 18-22
Tuesday	Amos 3: 1-8; 4: 11-12; Matthew 8: 23-27
Wednesday	St. Thomas the Apostle Ephesians 2: 19-22; John 20: 24-29
Thursday	Amos 7:10-17 OR Isaiah 32:15-18 OR Isaiah 9:1-6; James 3:13-18 OR Philippians 4:6-9; Matthew 9:1-8 OR Matthew 5:1-12a OR Matthew 5:38-48
Friday	St. Elizabeth of Portugal Amos 8: 4-6, 9-12; Matthew 9: 9-13
Saturday	St. Maria Goretti, Virgin & Martyr Amos 9: 11-15; Mathew 9: 14-17
Sunday	Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time Ezekiel 2: 2-5; 2 Corinthians 12: 7-10; Mark 6: 1-6

Mass Intentions

Monday, July 1, 2024	7:00 a.m. Donna J. Weinstein/Jack & Margaret Weinstein 8:00 a.m. Jim & Deb Rochford 45 th Wedding Anniversary
Tuesday, July 2, 2024	7:00 a.m. Lisa Bartley/Mike & Mary Lou Bartley 8:00 a.m. Tho Dang/Linh Luong
Wednesday, July 3, 2024	7:00 a.m. Judy Campbell/Dianna Joseph 8:00 a.m. Mary Ann Klouda/Eileen McDonough
Thursday, July 4, 2024	9:00 a.m. Jim Zogby/Dennis & Pam Goett
Friday, July 5, 2024	7:00 a.m. Joseph P. Kelly/John & Amy Kelly 8:00 a.m. Winifred Haughney/Mike & Theresa Haughney
Saturday, July 6, 2024	8:00 a.m. Fred Darche/The Phelan Family 5:00 p.m. Jim Zogby/Judy & Tom Keller
Sunday, July 7, 2024	8:00 a.m. Stanley & Irene Sikorski/Dennis & Carol Harn 10:00 a.m. Jim & Penny Scherer/Barbara Turner 5:00 p.m. For the People

Week of June 30

- RECEPTION FOR FR MARC** Following all Masses this Weekend
- SIGN-UP FOR FIRST FRIDAY ADORATION** this Weekend after all Masses, narthex
- MEN'S BASKETBALL** Sunday, June 30, 7:00 p.m., School Gym
- ROSARY** Tuesday, July 2, 10:00 a.m., Daily Mass Chapel
- PARISH SOLEMNITY** Wednesday, July 3, 7:00 & 8:00 Morning Masses
- 4TH OF JULY** Mass at 9:00 a.m., Church
- PARISH OFFICE CLOSED** Thursday, July 4
- ADORATION** Friday, July 5, after 8:00 a.m. Mass until Benediction at 7:00 p.m.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Ignatius Bible Study	July 11
St. Thomas Holy Hour	July 18
Millions of Monicas	July 23

A Note From Fr. Marc

Saint Thomas has been my first place of assignment in the Diocese of Peoria and it remains so dear to me. It has been a good place to be, marked by lovely people, friendly kids/students, lively liturgical celebrations and a beautiful environment until I came to realize that it was only a moment of transition for me. I hereby express my gratitude to Msgr. Gray, Franciscan Sisters of Saint John the Baptist, the Parish and school staff, all the parishioners for the good time spent here, for millions of smiles, generosity and different kinds of support, encouragement and prayers. You will be missed. May the good Lord bless you all.

~ Fr. Marc NKULU, SMA



Once each month we pause to spend time before our Lord during the hours of Adoration.

Please consider signing up to spend some time in quiet prayer with our Lord. **Friday, July 5th**, Beginning after 8:00 a.m. Mass and continuing throughout the day, until Benediction at 7 p.m.

Weekly Collection

June 23, 2024

	Fiscal YTD
Collections needed.....	\$20,000.....\$1,040,000
Sunday Collections.....	\$11,883.....\$697,816
Electronic Collections.....	\$4,218.....\$212,889
Total Collected.....	\$16,101.....\$910,705
Over/(Short).....	\$(3,899).....\$(129,295)

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

Bernard Gilles, father of Karen Gilles

Wedding Congratulations

Lakin Suzanne Smith & Carson Ray Cuevas

Fr. Marc Farewell

We are having a reception for Fr. Mark
Following all Masses
Weekend of June 29-30

Please join us to thank and wish Fr. Marc well in his new assignment

Annual Diocesan Appeal (ADA)

We exceeded our Parish Goal!

Goal: \$153,016

Received to date: \$160,372.05

The amount over goal is returned to St. Thomas
Thank You for Your Generosity!

Pray with the Pope

June 2024

For Those Fleeing Their Own Countries

Let us pray that migrants fleeing from war or hunger, forced to undertake journeys fraught with danger and violence, may find welcome and new living opportunities in their host countries.



July 2024

For The Pastoral Care of The Sick

Let us pray that the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick, bestows the Lord's strength to those who receive it and to their loved ones, and that it may become for everyone an ever more visible sign of compassion and hope.

Sponsor of the Week



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When you go to the poor, you encounter Jesus



Dear Parishioners of St. Thomas the Apostle Parish,

I felt compelled to give a few details on how The Society of St. Vincent de Paul came to be. The Society was founded in 1833 to help impoverished people living in the slums of Paris, France. The primary figure behind the Society's founding was Blessed Frederic Ozanam, a French lawyer, author, and professor in the Sorbonne. Frederic collaborated with Emmanuel Bailly, editor of the Tribune Catholique, in reviving a student organization which had been suspended during the revolutionary activity of July 1830. Ozanam was twenty(20) years old when he founded the Society. He was beatified by Pope John Paul II in 1997. Emmanuel Bailly was chosen as the first President. The Society took Saint Vincent de Paul as its patron under the influence of Sister Rosalie Rendu, DC. Sister Rosalie, beatified in November 1999 by Pope John Paul II, was a member of the Daughters of Charity of St. Vincent de Paul, earlier known for her work with people in the slums of Paris. She guided Frederic and his companions in their approach towards those in need. The Society gradually expanded outside of Paris in the mid-19th century.

The Society's first conference in the US was established in 1845 in St. Louis, Mo. At the Basilica of St. Louis King of France or *Old Cathedral*. Fr. John Timon, CM, had learned of the Society while visiting with his Vincentian superiors in Paris. From Dublin, Ireland, he brought to St. Louis copies of the SVdP Rule. On November 16, 1845, Bishop Peter Kenrick dedicated the new St. Vincent de Paul Church on South Eighth Street and invited Fr. Timon to preach. Fr. Timon discussed the Society in his sermon, in the presence of prominent St. Louis laymen who took hold of the idea and held an organizational meeting on November 20, 1845. The conference included Moses Linton, founder of the St. Louis Medical and Surgical Journal, and as chair Judge Bryan Mullanphy, who would become Mayor of St. Louis. Bishop Kenrick appointed Fr. Ambrose Helm as spiritual advisor to the Conference.

The national headquarters for the St. Vincent de Paul Society was established in St. Louis and membership has grown to over 100,000 in over 4400 US communities. Expenditures to "Friends in Need" in 2020 were over \$600M. Programs include visits to homes, prisons, and hospitals and provide funding for housing assistance, utilities, disaster relief, job training, food pantries, dining halls, clothing, furniture, transportation, care for the elderly, daycare assistance and medicine. Revenue is raised through parish laity donations and a large network of thrift stores.

In preparing this message to you and going back over some of my SVdP training materials I was struck by the power of the Holy Spirit in assembling the Society of St. Vincent de Paul. The Holy Spirit worked through all the groups associated with the Church: Clergy, Religious and the Laity. So, my message to you is *you can make a difference if You take the time to listen to His Voice!* Don't be afraid to act on what you hear. Christ is calling you. Get involved somewhere and sometime. Time waits for no man or woman. We, as Christians, are not given an indefinite amount of time, here on earth, to show our love and compassion for the poor. When we do show our love for the poor we show that love to Christ as well.

I leave you with a quote from St. Vincent de Paul himself and wish all of you a sincere *Sign of Peace*.

So, our vocation is to go, not just to one parish, not just to one diocese, but all over the world; and do what? To set people's hearts on fire, to do what the Son of God did. He came to set the world on fire in order to inflame it with His love.

Brian Barkley

St. Jude Summer Basketball Camp

Jim Carlson will be conducting a basketball camp for St. Jude Hospital.

St. Vincent de Paul Gym; July 8-11;
Boys & Girls gr 1-8

Applications passed out at school
Questions? Call Jim at 309-621-7586



Reservations Due by July 5!

ST. THOMAS COMMUNITY & FRIENDS
YOU ARE INVITED TO

ALL American COMETS
Saturday, July 13th
4:00 PM \$35/ADULT, \$10/CHILD
(2 AND UNDER FREE)

FOOD CATERED BY DAC'S - CASH BAR
CHECKS FOR TICKETS MAY BE DROPPED OFF
AT THE PARISH OFFICE OR
PURCHASE TICKETS USING THE QR CODE BELOW

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Holy Hour for the Rights of the Unborn

Monday, July 1, 2024, 7:00 p.m.

Saint Mark Church ,

1113 W. Bradley Avenue, Peoria

Holy Hour consists of Benediction, the Rosary, and other prayers. Please join us in prayer for the protection of these innocent lives and the restoration of their Constitutional rights.

Randy Simmons Memorial 5K

Calling all runners and walkers! This year's Randy Simmons Memorial 5K is coming up on **August 17th**. Randy Simmons was a long time educator, and coach, in the schools of Peoria. He was often known for being seen running around town, or working with kids in the school buildings. One of his dreams was for all kids to have an opportunity for a Catholic education, which is the purpose of this run. All proceeds will go toward a Tuition Assistance Fund at Peoria Notre Dame to help keep Randy's dream alive.

This scholarship is near and dear to St. Thomas as the recipients the last two years were St. Thomas graduates. Sign up here: **2024 — Randy Simmons Memorial 5K Run — Race Roster — Registration, Marketing, Fundraising** for race day fun!

Chess Club Coach Needed

The **STS Chess Club** needs a new



coach **beginning in the Fall!** If you have a passion for the game and can meet with students on Tuesday mornings before school starts, 7:45-8:15 a.m., you could be that coach!

If interested please contact Principal Maureen Bentley at maureenbentley@stthomas-school.net or call 309-688-3446, Ex. 1210.

1:1 Aide Needed

St. Thomas School seeks to help one of our Comet families in hiring a 1:1 aide for their child. This individual would be working closely with the school staff and family to support the child's academic and social/emotional needs while here at school.

The position is Monday-Friday 8:15 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Start date August 14, 2024. To learn more about this position, please contact **Mrs. Maureen Bentley**, school principal at maureenbentley@stthomas-school.net



St. Thomas Monsignor Watson Memorial Golf Outing

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

Friday, September 20, 2024 • MT. Hawley 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 \$130/Person

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

Registration Deadline Friday, September 13th

Late registration after September 13th, \$140 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 \$150 / 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, September 13th
- Late Registration \$140 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

Items most needed at this time are: pasta sauce, Hamburger Helper, pancake mix, syrup, jelly, crackers, mac and cheese, and rice/potato/pasta side dish mixes .

Thank you for your generous support!

Last Sunday in June

Itoo
Shish-Ka-Bob
& Lebanese Cuisine

itoosociety.org

Sunday, June 30 (11am-6pm)
ITOO HALL (Farmington Rd | Peoria)



Facebook
Event

Preorder
Online



Beef/Chicken Kabobs - Cabbage Rolls - Lebanese Salad
Drive-Thru/Carry-Outs Available

Live Music & Kids' Activities in the Outdoor Pavilion

Visit the website: [Shish-Ka-Bob - Itoo Society, Inc.](http://Shish-Ka-Bob - Itoo Society, Inc)

SCHOOL UNIFORM



Lagron-Miller Uniform Sale
August 1st-10th

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) _____ Mr ___ Mrs ___ Ms ___

Email _____

Phone _____

Address _____

City _____ ZIP _____

Phone _____

New Parishioner _____ Change of address/phone _____



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For the benefit of the Nativity Display we erect each year during the East Peoria Festival of Lights we are selling tickets to the...

Thursday



4TH JULY



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Run for Life

Central II Right to Life, Inc.
5K Run/Walk
Saturday, July 13, 2024
Metamora Fields Golf Course

Events: 5K Run & 5K Non-competitive Walk
Start Time: 7:30 am (Check in 6:30-7:10 am)
Location: Metamora Fields Golf Course, Metamora

Register on-line and more information:
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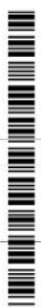
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Questions? Email Jacqueline Kelly at j.kelly@pndhs.org



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 & 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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St. Thomas the Apostle's Sunday Bulletin
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The Big Corner

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