

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. Leopold Mushobozi.....

Fr. Fortunatus Rutaihwa.....In Residence

Sacristan: Mother Vaclava Ballon, FSJB
(688-3500); fsjbpeoria@yahoo.com

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

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CCD Coordinator: Liz Plaskon

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

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

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

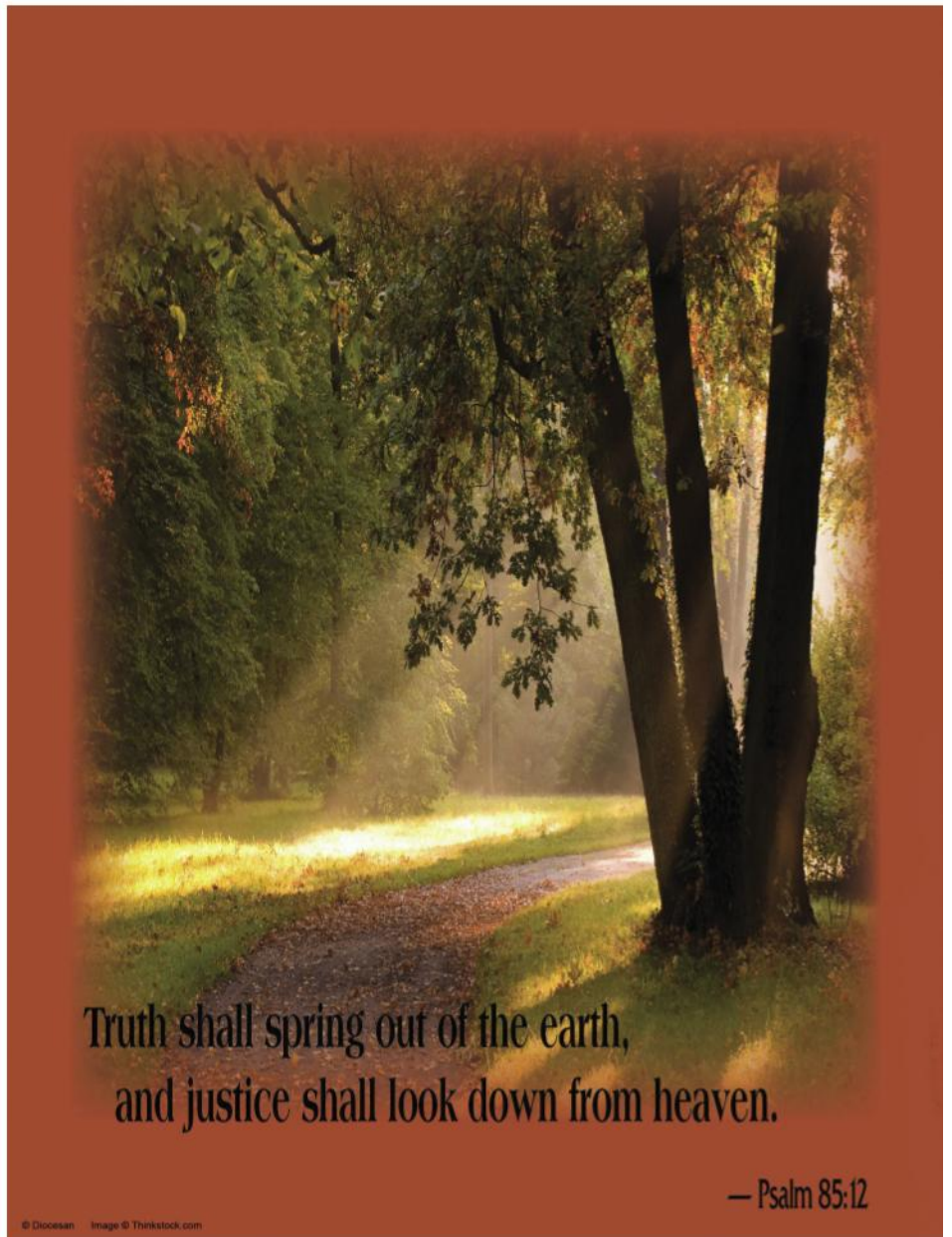
Stay in Touch

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).



July 14, 2024

Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time



Truth shall spring out of the earth,
and justice shall look down from heaven.

— Psalm 85:12



From Our Pastor

Since our new pews have arrived, we have made quite a bit of progress on our church project.

While the pews were assembled this week, the kneelers will be installed later. Since there are no kneelers, we have the same approach for the Eucharistic Prayer. Those who wish to kneel may do so, especially where you have carpet to kneel on. Without kneelers, the preferred posture is to stand during the Eucharistic Prayer. Those who find it difficult to stand for a long time may certainly be seated. In another week or two, we will have the kneelers installed, and we can return to normal.

Some parishioners prefer to kneel when receiving Communion. A kneeler has been placed in front of the main aisle. You are welcome to approach as normal to receive in the hand or on the tongue. For those who wish to kneel, the kneeler is there for your convenience.

Since we have our new burgundy chairs, we are giving away the old blonde wood / blue fabric chairs. The blue chairs in the chapel will stay as they are. Please do not take the chairs in the chapel.

In a couple of weeks, we will bless the work done in the church. When that happens, I would like to reverse some changes that go back to the Covid pandemic:

- I invite everyone to come into the body of the Church at Mass. Except in necessity, I ask the faithful not to attend Mass from the narthex.
- We will discontinue the practice of bringing Communion to the narthex. I encourage everyone to come into the body of the Church to receive Communion.
- The clergy or extraordinary ministers will bring Communion to the handicapped. If you sit in the front row of pews, you will receive first. If you sit elsewhere, I will ask the ushers to help us identify those who need the Eucharist brought to them at the end of Communion.
- I will ask the ushers to resume their former duties by walking through the church to take up the collection. The ushers may ask you to help bring up the gifts at the offertory. The ushers will greet you before Mass and identify the handicapped who need to be brought Communion.

As you can tell, we will need additional ushers, both men and women, to fulfill these roles. Please be generous when asked to volunteer.

- Msgr. Gray



Readings for the Week of July 14, 2024

- Sunday** **Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time**
Amos 7: 12-15; Ephesians 1: 3-14 OR Ephesians 1: 3-10;
Mark 6: 7-13
- Monday** **St. Bonaventure, Bishop & Doctor of the Church**
Isaiah 1: 10-17; Matthew 10: 34—11: 1
- Tuesday** **Our Lady of Mount Carmel**
Isaiah 7: 1-9; Matthew 11: 20-24
- Wednesday** Isaiah 10: 5-7, 13b-16; Matthew 11: 25-27
- Thursday** **St. Camillus de Lellis, Priest**
Isaiah 26: 7-9, 12, 16-19; Matthew 11: 28-30
- Friday** Isaiah 38: 1-6, 21-22, 7-8; Matthew 12: 1-8
- Saturday** **St. Apollinaris, Bishop & Martyr**
Micah 2: 1-5; Matthew 12: 14-21
- Sunday** **Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time**
Jeremiah 23: 1-6; Ephesians 2: 13-18; Mark 6: 30-34

Mass Intentions

Monday, July 15, 2024

- 7:00 a.m. Bruce Treder/John & Amy Kelly
- 8:00 a.m. Fr. Paul Stark, S.J./Linh Luong

Tuesday, July 16, 2024

- 7:00 a.m. Lois & Nick Frasco/Linda Frasco
- 8:00 a.m. Dorothy Schaer

Wednesday, July 17, 2024

- 7:00 a.m. Jeanne & Joe Broussard/Mike & Mary Lou Bartley
- 8:00 a.m. Shawn Connolly/Cari Connolly

Thursday, July 18, 2024

- 7:00 a.m. Mark Brewer/Linh Luong
- 8:00 a.m. Suzanne Jacobs

Friday, July 19, 2024

- 7:00 a.m. Msgr. William Watson/Linh Luong
- 8:00 a.m. Sr. Diane Marie, OSF

Saturday, July 20, 2024

- 8:00 a.m. Hafner & Smith Families
- 5:00 p.m. Pat McCauley/All The Family

Sunday, July 21, 2024

- 8:00 a.m. For the People
- 10:00 a.m. Klem Osika/Linda Osika
- 5:00 p.m. Tammy Dugo/Michele & Sarah Konecki

Week of July 14

MEN'S BASKETBALL Sunday, July 14, 7:00 p.m., School Gym

ROSARY Tuesday, July 16, 10:00 a.m., Daily Mass Chapel

MEN'S RETREAT MEETING Tuesday, July 16, 6:00 p.m., Parish Hall

IGNATIUS BIBLE STUDY Thursday, July 18, 6:00 p.m., Parish Hall

UPCOMING EVENTS

<i>Millions of Monicas</i>	July 23
<i>Adoration</i>	August 2
<i>Assumption</i>	August 15
<i>St. Thomas Holy Hour</i>	August 15

Fr. Leopold (Leo) Mushobozi

My dear brothers and sisters, peace and God's love!

I am writing to introduce myself. Some of you may have already met me and even spoken to me, but that does not necessarily mean that you know much about me. Also, it is possible some of you did not have a chance to speak to me at all. I am Fr. Leopold (Leo) Mushobozi and, since on July 1, 2024, I began my assignment at St. Thomas the Apostle as the parochial vicar. I was born and grew up in Tanzania (East Africa). I am the eldest of four, a sister and two brothers. I did my Seminary formation in Tanzania and was ordained on July 20, 2008, and incardinate in the diocese of Rulenge-Ngara, Tanzania. After ordination, I joined Boston College in Massachusetts for a master's degree in pastoral ministry (2008 – 2010). Then for about a year I served at the Church of the Blessed Sacrament in Walpole, MA and was a part time chaplain at St. Elizabeth's Medical Center, Brighton, MA. In 2011 I returned to my diocese, Tanzania where I was given different assignments. Then in Summer 2021, I came to Peoria Diocese and was assigned at Holy Cross Parish, Champaign. Thanks for a warmly welcome and I am glad to be part of St. Thomas the Apostle community - I am looking forward to serving you as your spiritual father especially in all matters related to our faith. May God who is always good bless you.



Our Sympathy

Robin Snyder

Pray with the Pope

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.

Men's Retreat Meeting

All those planning to attend the Men's Retreat at *White House Jesuit Retreat* in September are urged to attend the meeting **Tuesday, July 16 at 6:00 p.m.** in the Parish Hall.

If you are not registered, but would like to participate in the retreat come to the meeting!

For more information email George Burek at georgeburek@yahoo.com.

Mission Appeal

In June Fr. Deus-Dedit Byabato was here for the annual Mission Appeal in our parish. The mission collection was for the building of a new church in the village of Father's home town in Holy Cross Parish, in the Diocese of Bukoba, Tanzania, East Africa.

Amount Collected: \$28,471

Thank you for your generosity

Sponsor of the Week



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Weekly Collection

July 7, 2024

		Fiscal YTD
Collections needed.....	\$20,000	\$20,000
Sunday Collections.....	\$23,587	\$23,587
Electronic Collections.....	\$	\$
Total Collected.....	\$23,587	\$23,587
Over/(Short).....	\$3,587	\$3,587

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.

St. Thomas Project Backpack

Please help get area K - 8th grade students ready to go back to school by filling a new backpack(s) with the following items:

- 4 1-Subject Wide-Ruled Spiral Notebook
- 36 #2 Lead Pencils (not mechanical)
- 1 10-Pack of Wide Tip Crayola Markers
- 2 24-Pack Crayola Crayons Pencils
- 2 4-oz. Bottles Elmer's School Glue
- 4 Plastic 2-Pocket Folder
- 2 Pink Pearl Erasers
- 1 Pair Pointed School Scissors
- 1 12-Pack Crayola Colored Pencils
- 6 Elmer's School Glue Sticks



Backpacks may be left in the collection tubs in the narthex or dropped off at the Parish Office **by Sunday, August 4th**. 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 **Diana Janda** at dianajanda1964@gmail.com with any questions. Thank you for helping area students get off to a great start for the 2024-2025 school year!

Diocesan 25th & 50th Wedding Anniversary Celebration



On **September 22, 2024 at 4:00 pm** Bishop Tyka will celebrate a Mass at the Cathedral of St. Mary for couples who are celebrating either their 25th or 50th wedding anniversary in 2024.

Please call, email, or stop in the Parish Office **by July 30th** to let us know if you are celebrating this year! We will add your names to the list and forward to the Diocese. You will then receive a personal invitation from the Bishop.

Congratulations!

PEORIA NOTRE DAME

Celebrating our World Language Department!

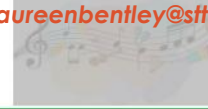
- 24 Global Seals of Bilingualism
- 9 Illinois Seals of Bilingualism
- 3 awardees in the national writing contest "Le Grand Concours"

Congratulations!

LE GRAND CONCOURS THE NATIONAL FRENCH CONTEST

Band & Music Teacher

Band & Music teacher needed at St. Thomas **beginning Fall 2024**. Applicant must hold a music background, teacher certification is preferred, but not mandatory. For more information, or to apply, contact: Mrs. Maureen Bentley at maureenbentley@stthomas-school.net.



NEW!

MEAL TRAIN MINISTRY

OUR PURPOSE IS TO SUPPORT ST. THOMAS FAMILIES BY PROVIDING HOME COOKED OR CARRY OUT MEALS IN TIMES OF NEED SUCH AS THE BIRTH OF A NEW BABY OR A MISCARRIAGE

JOIN OUR TEAM! VOLUNTEERS WILL RECEIVE AN EMAIL WHEN A NEED ARISES, INVITING THEM TO SIGN UP FOR A DAY TO BRING A MEAL

CONTACT GABRIELA JUVINAL TO BE ADDED TO THE EMAIL LIST OR TO ALERT US TO A FAMILY WHO MAY NEED SUPPORT

pantoja188@gmail.com 773-524-8319

Care for Creation

A Weekly Tip on Caring for Our Common Home

If possible, opt to pay your bills online. It is convenient and reduces paper use. Choosing to receive bills, bank statements and the like electronically can save a huge number of trees, and in that way, can help to mitigate greenhouse gas emissions.

~ DCCW of the Peoria Diocese

SUPPORT OUR Music Programs

THE REGION 1 GRADE SCHOOLS & PND ARE PARTNERING TOGETHER FOR A SHARED INSTRUMENT REPOSITORY TO SUPPORT OUR BAND STUDENTS.

PLEASE DROP OFF DONATIONS OF **GENTLY USED INSTRUMENTS** TO PND'S FRONT OFFICE AT 5105 N. SHERIDAN RD. PEORIA, IL 61614.

SUMMER OFFICE HOURS ARE MON-THURS, 8 AM - 2PM.



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!

Please come join us for the Feast of St. Sharbel



July 20th & July 21st, 2024
St. Sharbel Church
2914 W. Scenic Drive
Peoria, IL 61615

Saturday, July 20th, 2024

- 5:00pm - Mass
- 6:00pm - Procession
- 6:30pm - Dinner (Meat Pie, MANKOUSH/THYME PIE, LABNEH/LEBANESE YOGURT, CHEESE, OLIVES, CUCUMBER, & TOMATOES)
- 8 - 11pm - Lebanese music/dance

Sunday, July 21st, 2024

- 8:00am - Arabic Mass
- 10:00am - English Mass
- 11:00am - Procession
- 12:00pm - Lunch (Shish-Ta-Wook & Kafta sandwiches, Hamburger, Hotdog & Fries)
- 1:00-4:00pm - Lebanese music/dance

For more information, call: St. Sharbel Office (309) 688-5555 or (309) 688-0398

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 _____

FREE School Physicals

Do you know a child needing a back to school physical? OSF Faith Community Nursing is providing FREE school physicals for all school-aged children at two different locations in the month of July:

- **Wednesday, July 24** from 2 pm to 5pm at St. Ann's Catholic Church Peoria
- **Saturday, July 27** from 9 am to 12 pm at Dream Center Peoria

Children are seen on a first come, first serve basis. A parent or guardian must be present for a child to be seen. No health insurance required.

PND Employment Opportunities

JOIN OUR FACULTY & STAFF

OPEN POSITIONS FOR

Cafeteria Workers

Part-Time Benefits

50% off tuition <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Rich tradition & strong mission <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Opportunities for spiritual development <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Welcoming & safe environment <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Experienced faculty & staff <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

Questions? Email Beth Fleming at b.fleming@pndhs.org

PND Employment Opportunities

JOIN OUR FACULTY & STAFF

OPEN POSITIONS FOR

Math Teacher	Special Education Teacher
Science Teacher	

Full-Time Benefits

50% off tuition <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Rich tradition & strong mission <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Opportunities for spiritual development <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Welcoming & safe environment <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Health & Dental Benefits <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	403b Match Program <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Experienced faculty & staff <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Competitive salary <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Engaged students who are ready to learn <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

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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