

## St. Thomas the Apostle Parish Staff

Office Hours: M-F 9:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m.

904 East Lake Avenue,  
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Fr. Fortunatus Rutaiwa.....In Residence

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Dcn. Mark Kelsch (Senior Status)

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

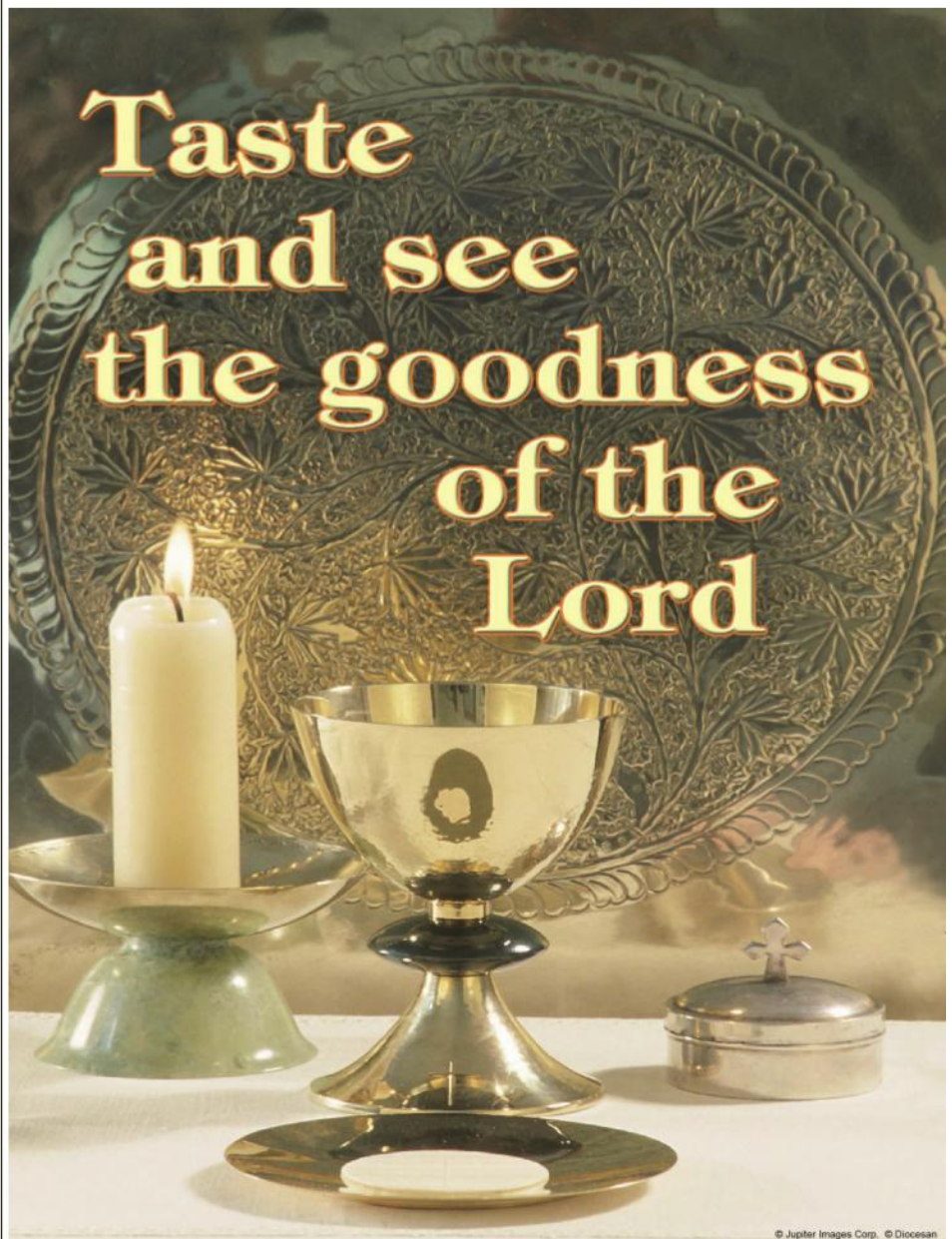
### Stay in Touch

1. Join Msgr. Gray for OCIA Class. Link can be found on the parish website, [stthomaspeoria.org](http://stthomaspeoria.org) or the My Parish App
2. Download My Parish App to receive push notifications (Visit [myparishapp.com/download](http://myparishapp.com/download)).
3. Receive the Bulletin and announcements in weekly emails from the parish. (Email [parishoffice@stthomas-church.net](mailto:parishoffice@stthomas-church.net) to sign up).
4. Bookmark the parish webpage ([stthomaspeoria.org](http://stthomaspeoria.org)).



August 18, 2024

Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time





## From Our Pastor

Thank you to everyone that made our parish and school picnic so successful last Sunday. I can't remember the last time that we had such a full church for our 10:00 a.m. Sunday Mass. It was good to welcome the students back into the building as they dropped off their supplies before school started last Wednesday.

Since we have accomplished so much work in the church, I draw your attention to a few details that are with mentioning:

In the center of the narthex, we have inlaid a marble etching of the letter JMJ in honor of Archbishop Sheen. Many remember the JMJ he inscribed on every chalkboard when he lectured as a reminder of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph. The script of the letters is taken from one of his letters in the Sheen Archive of the Diocese, so we can say that the JMJ is written in the narthex floor in Sheen's own handwriting.

During renovation, we set out a temporary bowl for holy water in the narthex. Since that work is done, we have restored the two angels to the narthex. You will find holy water in the shells in each statute. We don't want to distract from the inlaid mosaic in the narthex floor with the temporary bowl for holy water.

Finally, the kneeler in front of the sanctuary is there for those who prefer to kneel for Holy Communion. For several months, we have had parishioners kneel to receive the Eucharist. In order to make that safer and more convenient, we provided a kneeler. You may continue to receive Communion standing, either in the hand or on the tongue. For those who prefer, the kneeler is available.

Now that we have spent time to improve the external décor of the church, I take this time to consider the internal state of our soul. The holy soul that is beautiful inside is a reflection of the beauty we see manifest in the church building. Don't be comfortable simply with the sacred appearance of our church. Rather, sanctify your heart and soul, so as to make our celebration of the Mass truly beautiful in our church.

Next weekend will be an extra confession weekend as confessions will be heard after all Masses. Take advantage of this opportunity to be reconciled with Our Lord.

- Msgr. Gray



## Readings for the Week of August 18, 2024

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time</b> Proverbs 9: 1-6; Ephesians 5: 15-20; John 6: 51-58
<b>Monday</b>	<b>St. John Eudes, Priest</b> Ezekiel 24: 15-23; Matthew 19: 16-22
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>St. Bernard, Abbot &amp; Doctor of the Church</b> Ezekiel 28: 1-10; Matthew 19: 23-30
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>St. Pius X, Pope</b> Ezekiel 34: 1-11; Matthew 20: 1-16
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>The Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary</b> Ezekiel 36: 23-28; Matthew 22: 1-14
<b>Friday</b>	<b>St. Rose of Lima, Virgin</b> Ezekiel 37: 1-14; Matthew 22: 34-40
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>St. Bartholomew, Apostle</b> Revelation 21: 9b-14; John 1: 45-51
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time</b> Joshua 24: 1-2a, 15-17, 18b; Ephesians 5: 21-32 OR Ephesians 5: 2a, 25-32; John 6: 60-69

## Mass Intentions

### Monday, August 19, 2024

7:00 a.m.	Renae Juska
8:00 a.m.	Donna Abdhour/Steve & Linda Schrader

### Tuesday, August 20, 2024

7:00 a.m.	Benefactors of Franciscan Sisters of St. John the Baptist
8:00 a.m.	Fred Darce/Donna Patrick

### Wednesday, August 21, 2024

7:00 a.m.	Gordon Jockisch/The Jockisch & Shields Families
8:00 a.m.	Judy Campbell/Dianna Joseph

### Thursday, August 22, 2024

7:00 a.m.	Hop Nguyen/Linh Luong
2:30 p.m.	Jim Hagemann/Charles & Clare Tschirn

### Friday, August 23, 2024

7:00 a.m.	Rita Williams/Jeff & Jennifer Shields
8:00 p.m.	Jim Becker/Clarence & Sarah Grebner

### Saturday, August 24, 2024

8:00 a.m.	Intentions of Andrew & Jodi Williams/Jim & Jenny Williams
5:00 p.m.	Pat McCauley/All the Family

### Sunday, August 25, 2024

8:00 a.m.	For the People
10:00 a.m.	Paul Doran/The Wombacher Family
5:00 p.m.	Don Brennan/The Brennan Family

## Week of August 18

**REGISTRATION FOR TMIY & WOW** After all Masses this weekend

**MEN'S BASKETBALL** Sunday, August 18, 7:00 p.m., School Gym

**ROSARY** Tuesday, August 20, 10:00 a.m., Daily Mass Chapel

**BACK-TO-SCHOOL NIGHT** Tuesday, August 20, Grade 1-4 Parents, 6:30 p.m., School

**PARISH COUNCIL** Tuesday, August 20, 7:00 p.m., Parish Office

**IGNATIUS BIBLE STUDY**, Thursday, August 22, 6:30 p.m., Parish Hall  
**UPCOMING EVENTS**

Millions of Monicas	August 27
First Reconciliation Family Meeting	August 28
OCIA & CCD begin	September 4
Adoration	September 6
Women of the Word begins	September 12
Life Teen Kick-Off	September 18
TMIY begins	September 13
Golf outing	September 20
Oktoberfest	October 5



**That Man Is You** will be back at St. Thomas this Fall, **starting Friday, September 13, 2024**. We have a tremendous lineup of speakers, all centered around the theme of *Worthy of the Call*. *That Man Is You* has been at St. Thomas for 10 years, and many men find it to be not only spiritually enriching, but a great way to meet other men from the parish. Our sessions will run on Friday mornings, with doors opening at 6:00 am for breakfast and fellowship. The Video Program with the Presenter will start at 6:30 and we will conclude by 7:30 am. There is no charge to participate in *That Man Is You*.

All men of the Parish are encouraged to participate and to invite other men.

**Registration** will take place after all Masses on **August 17 and August 18**. You can also register by sending an email to **George Burek** at [georgeburek@yahoo.com](mailto:georgeburek@yahoo.com) and include: Name, address, phone, email address, age, marital status, and parish. We're looking forward to another excellent year of *That Man Is You*!

## Weekly Collection

August 11, 2024

		Fiscal YTD
Collections needed.....	\$20,000.....	\$120,000
Sunday Collections.....	\$11,970.....	\$82,452
Electronic Collections.....	\$6,035.....	\$21,656
Total Collected.....	\$18,005.....	\$104,108
Over/(Short).....	\$(1,995).....	\$(15,892)

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](http://stthomaspeoria.org). Thank you for your support.

## Our Sympathy

Please pray for those who have died this week

## Baptism Congratulations

Elle Andrew Parker, daughter of  
Kim & Robert Parker

## Pray with the Pope

August 2024  
For Political Leaders



Let us pray that political leaders be at the service of their own people, working for integral human development and the common good, taking care of those who have lost their jobs and giving priority to the poor.

## WOMEN OF THE WORD

**2 THURSDAYS PER MONTH, STARTING SEPT. 12**  
**ST. THOMAS PARISH HALL 6:30PM -8:00PM**

OUR PURPOSE IS TO HELP EVERY WOMAN GROW IN RELATIONSHIP WITH JESUS WITHIN A SUPPORTIVE COMMUNITY. OUR PROGRAM WELCOMES ALL WOMEN AND CONSISTS OF VIDEO BASED TALKS, SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION, PRAYER AND FELLOWSHIP. CHILDCARE IS PROVIDED. THIS YEAR'S STUDY IS SHE SHALL BE CALLED WOMAN.

COMING SOON TO OUR PARISH!



REGISTER TODAY OR AFTER MASSES AUG. 17/18!

A PROGRAM FOR ALL WOMEN BY  
**PARADISUS DEI**

MARYCUSHING@STTHOMAS-CHURCH.NET  
309-688-3446 EX. 1310



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).

- Tuition:
- 1 Student \$90.00 (\$125 w/ sacrament)
  - 2 Students \$135.00 (\$170 w/ sacrament)
  - 3+ Students \$165.00 (\$200 w/ sacrament)

Contact information:

Liz Plaskon, CCD Coordinator [CCD@StThomas-Church.net](mailto:CCD@StThomas-Church.net) (309) 339-4775

EST. 2024  
**PEORIA AREA LIFETEEN**

THIS MONTH IS HOSTED BY ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE

**KICKOFF NIGHT**  
9/8/24  
6:00PM-8:00PM

FELLOWSHIP - PIZZA - FAITH - FUN

Scan to join our email list

FOLLOW US! : PEORIA LIFE TEEN @PEORIALIFETEEN

Sophia Showalter's Eagle Scout Project

### Collection for Women's Care Center

The Women's Care Center provides crucial support to pregnant women and mothers facing challenging circumstances. This project's initiative is to gather essential items such as diapers, baby wipes, formula, clothing, and other items which will be distributed to mothers in need who visit the center.

#### Specific Items Needed

- 4-7 diapers Pull-ups, any size
- Clothes (new) - newborn to 5T Wipes



Any other Baby supplies/necessities are also encouraged  
More information: (309)264-3724 or [chrishowalter70@gmail.com](mailto:chrishowalter70@gmail.com)

Drop off August 17 & 18 at Church,  
Please Mark For: Women's Care Center

**TAKE ME OUT TO THE BALL GAME**

SUNDAY, AUGUST 25TH  
@ 2:05 PM

ALL STS FAMILIES, PARISH MEMBERS & FRIENDS WELCOME TO ATTEND!

PURCHASE TICKETS USING THE QR CODE \$12

QUESTIONS? EMAIL: [STSCOMETSPTO@GMAIL.COM](mailto:STSCOMETSPTO@GMAIL.COM)

### 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](mailto:maureenbentley@stthomas-school.net) or call 309-688-3446, Ex. 1210.

**WE'RE HIRING!!!**  
**PART-TIME BAND TEACHER**

WE ARE SEEKING A TEACHER APPLICANT THAT HAS A BACKGROUND IN MUSIC AND BAND. TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THIS POSITION, PLEASE CONTACT MRS. MAUREEN BENTLEY AT [MAUREENBENTLEY@STTHOMAS-SCHOOL.NET](mailto:MAUREENBENTLEY@STTHOMAS-SCHOOL.NET)

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# 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 \$ \_\_\_\_\_



## The Catholic Women's League invites all women to Matt Faley's Presentation:

### The Lord Can Still Use Me, but how?

**Date:** Wednesday, August 21, 2024

**Place:** St. Philomena Church (1000 W. Albany)

**Time:** 1:00 – 2:30 pm

(Please park on the North Side of the Parish Center as School is in Session)

Light Refreshments will be served

### St. Thomas - Food Pantry Critical Needs

The food pantry has reached a critical shortage of food and funds, but the community need remains at an all-time high. Please consider donating one or more of the following foods (or funds) soon to help us continue to serve our brothers and sisters in need. Thank you so much for your consideration!

Rice, Boxed pasta, stuffing & potato side dishes, Mac and Cheese, Cereal, Crackers, Pasta Sauce & Dry Pasta Canned Meat, Peanut Butter & Jelly, Canned Fruit and Vegetables, Pancake Mix, Syrup, Canned Soup, Canned or Dry Beans (Legumes), Hamburger/Chicken/Tuna Helper

*Thank you for your generous support!*

### 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](http://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 \_\_\_\_\_

## Giving Thanks to God

Holy Family Parish's 2024 Dinner and Auction

**Saturday, September 21, 2024**

**5:30 pm at the Spalding Pastoral Center**

*Special Guest: Bishop Louis Tylka*

Join us for a fun evening of fellowship, feasting, and fundraising!

- **Tickets \$75/person** - RSVP by 9/9/24
- Event includes **dinner** as well as **silent and live auctions**
- **Online auction** running from 9/14 - 9/25, open to all



Scan the QR code to:

- ✦ visit our website for more info
- ✦ purchase tickets
- ✦ participate in the online auction

or go to:

<https://holyfamilyparish.schoolauction.net/givingthankstogod24/>

Get in touch with us:

- Email [HolyFamilyParishAuction@gmail.com](mailto:HolyFamilyParishAuction@gmail.com), or
- Call the parish office at (309) 688-3427, ext. 4



### Can you help put Sophia's Kitchen Floor Fund over the top?

We're making great progress on our Floor Fundraiser! We're over 60% there, with more pledges coming in. Thank you to everyone who has helped make new flooring a reality. Our aging floor is in great disrepair due to the heavy traffic it receives and age. Your donations, marked FLOOR FUND, will put Sophia's Kitchen back on firm footing so we can continue to serve those in need in Peoria. Donations can be made at [www.CatholicPeoria.org](http://www.CatholicPeoria.org) or **Sophia's Kitchen, 105 N Richard Pryor Place, Peoria, IL 61605**. Be sure to designate your donation to the FLOOR FUND. God bless you!

### TEC Weekends

Girls TEC 377—October 12-14, 2024

More info and registration: [peoriatec.org](http://peoriatec.org)

### Cursillo Weekends

Next Men's weekend: Aug. 22-25, 2024

Next Women's Weekend: Oct. 24-27, 2024

Weekends held at St. Anthony Catholic Church in Bartonville

For more information, call (309) 676-5587 or visit [peoriacursillo.org](http://peoriacursillo.org).



**How to Submit Bulletin Information**  
Send information for the bulletin to [parishoffice@stthomas-church.net](mailto: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
- 1310 - Mary-Faith Formation

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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