

**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)
msggray@stthomas-church.net

Parochial Vicar: Fr. Leopold Mushobozi.....(x4)
Fr_Leo@stthomas-church.net

Fr. Fortunatus Rutaihwa.....In Residence

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Dcn. Ed Mallow.....360-7735
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Annulment Consultant:
John Mackoway.....699-5213

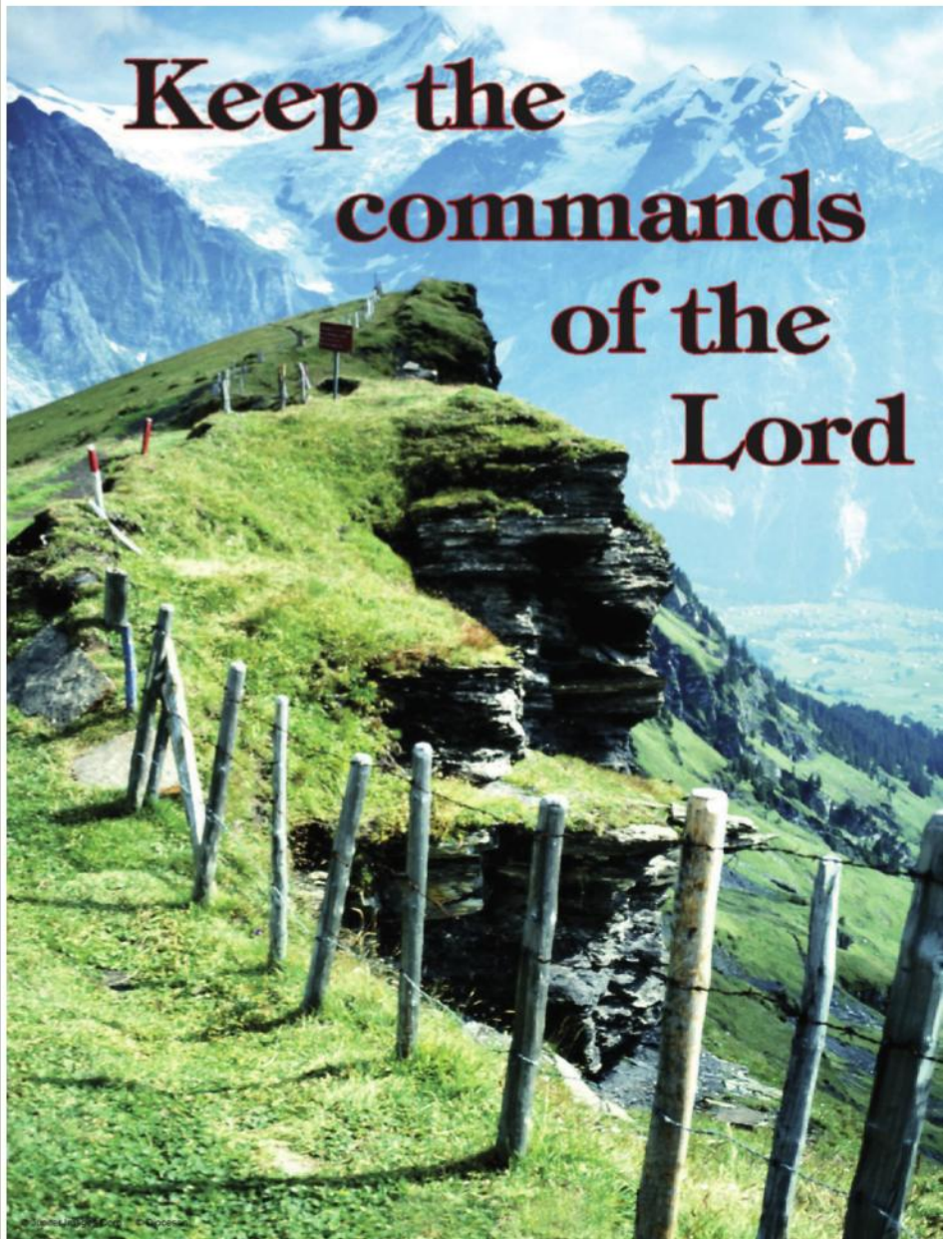
Stay in Touch

1. Join Msgr. Gray for OCIA Class. Link can be found on the parish website, stthomaspeoria.org 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).



September 1, 2024

Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time





From Our Pastor

Although school is back in session, it doesn't really seem that summer has turned to fall until Labor Day. On Monday, we will have one Mass at 9:00 a.m. Everyone is welcome to attend.

The First Friday of September will be this week. Please sign up for adoration on September 6th to spend time before the Blessed Sacrament.

Catechism for students and adults will begin this week. CCD for grade school students who are not enrolled in a Catholic school will start Wednesday, September 4th at 6:00 p.m. For adults, anyone interested in learning about the Catholic Faith or becoming Catholic is also invited on Wednesday for OCIA classes at 7:00 p.m. The *Order of Christian Initiation of Adults* (OCIA) will run through Easter when new Catholics will be brought into the Church.

High school teens are invited to a new program next Sunday. On September 8th, we will start *Lifeteen* in conjunction with St. Vincent de Paul and St. Ann Parishes. The opening session will be here at St. Thomas.

We are preparing for the Annual Diocesan Appeal which will be held next weekend, September 7-8. Last year, we exceeded our goal by \$10,000 and received a rebate in that amount. I am very grateful for the participation of so many parishioners and for your generosity. With your help, we will be able to meet our goal this year as well. More information will be shared next weekend. Please also watch for an informational brochure from the Diocese in the mail.

Finally, we welcome Sheris Catton in the parish office. She will begin assuming the bookkeeping duties in the parish office. During this transition, she will be working with Julie Streid and Pat Wombacher. Please welcome her if you come by the parish office.

- Msgr. Gray



Readings for the Week of September 1, 2024

Sunday	Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time Deuteronomy 4: 1-2, 6-8; James 1: 17-18, 21b-22, 27; Mark 7: 1-8, 14-15, 21-23
Monday	1 Corinthians 2: 1-5; Luke 4: 16-30
Tuesday	St. Gregory the Great, Pope & Doctor of the Church 1 Corinthians 2: 10b-16; Luke 4: 31-37
Wednesday	1 Corinthians 3: 1-9; Luke 4: 38-44
Thursday	St. Teresa of Calcutta, Virgin 1 Corinthians 3: 18-23; Luke 5: 1-11
Friday	1 Corinthians 4: 1-5; Luke 5: 33-39
Saturday	1 Corinthians 4: 6b-15; Luke 6: 1-5
Sunday	Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time Isaiah 35: 4-7a; James 2: 1-5; Mark 7: 31-37

Mass Intentions

Monday, September 2, 2024

9:00 a.m. Mary Carrigan/Rick & Maureen Pantages

Tuesday, September 3, 2024

7:00 a.m. Rita Williams/Mike Phelan & Kim Jaegle

8:00 a.m. Mary & Joe Basler/Mary Ann Noe

Wednesday, September 4, 2024

7:00 a.m. Jim Zogby/Sharon Zogby

8:00 a.m. Fr. Paul Stark, S.J./Linh Luong

Thursday, September 5, 2024

7:00 a.m. Karen Helton/John & Sonia Nelson

2:30 p.m. Judy & Al Campbell/Lisa & Kedric Curtis

Friday, September 6, 2024

7:00 a.m. John Mueller/The Messmer Family

8:00 p.m. Michael Desyllas/The Sarmiento Family

Saturday, September 7, 2024

8:00 a.m. Sue McWhirter

5:00 p.m. Kevin Myszkowski/Family

Sunday, September 8, 2024

8:00 a.m. Edward Lulay/His Wife & The Lulay Family

10:00 a.m. Deceased members of the Vonnahme Family/The Barkley Family

5:00 p.m. For the People

Week of September 1

- ST. VINCENT DE PAUL AND PANTRY COLLECTIONS** This weekend
- SIGN UP FOR FIRST FRIDAY ADORATION** following Mass, narthex
- MEN'S BASKETBALL** Sunday, September 1, 7:00 p.m., School Gym
- LABOR DAY MASS** Monday, September 2, 9:00 a.m. only, Church
- LABOR DAY** Monday, September 2, Parish Office & School Closed
- ROSARY** Tuesday, September 3, 10:00 a.m., Daily Mass Chapel
- CCD MASS** Wednesday, September 4, 6:00 p.m., Church
- OCIA** Wednesday, September 4, 7:00 p.m., Parish Hall
- IGNATIUS BIBLE STUDY**, Thursday, September 5, 6:30 p.m., Parish Hall
- ADORATION** Friday, September 6, following 8:00 a.m. Mass until Benediction at 7:00 p.m.

UPCOMING EVENTS

<i>Life Teen Kick-Off</i>	<i>September 18</i>
<i>Msgr. Watson Memorial Golf</i>	<i>September 20</i>
<i>Light of the World Retreat</i>	<i>September 20-23</i>
<i>Oktoberfest</i>	<i>October 5</i>



2024 Annual Diocesan Appeal September 7-8, 2024

Do everything for the *Glory of God*

Next weekend, September 7-8, we will begin our Annual Diocesan Appeal, which is an opportunity to help the Catholic Diocese of Peoria raise necessary funds for many ministries and apostolates that we as a single parish cannot offer. **This week, parishioners throughout the Diocese will receive a mailing asking for a pledge to support the Appeal. The mailing will include a pledge card and a return envelope addressed directly to the Diocese. You can make a one time gift or make a pledge over eight months.** We will also have pledge cards available in the pews next weekend. Thank you for your continuing support of our parish, diocese, and the work of the Church throughout the world.

Our Parish Goal for 2024 is \$130,063

Weekly Collection

August 25, 2024

		Fiscal YTD
Collections needed.....	\$20,000.....	\$160,000
Sunday Collections.....	\$7,451.....	\$108,198
Electronic Collections.....	\$4,306.....	\$27,325
Total Collected.....	\$11,757.....	\$135,532
Over/(Short).....	\$(8,243).....	\$(24,477)

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

Baptism Congratulations

Clarissa Barajas, daughter of
Jacqueline & Demerico Barajas

**JOIN US FOR
O.C.I.A.**
ORDER OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS

WEDNESDAYS
Beginning Sept. 4th
7:00-8:00PM

TAUGHT BY MSGR. JASON GRAY

Are you interested in becoming Catholic?

Want to better understand Church teaching?

parishoffice@stthomas-church.net 309.688.3446



That Man Is You fall semester begins on Friday, September 13th. Doors open at 6:00 am for fellowship and breakfast. The video

portion of the program will start at 6:30 am followed by small group discussion at our tables. The session will adjourn by 7:30 a.m.

Our theme for this year is *Worthy of the Call*. The lineup of speakers include Dr. John Bergsma, Fr. John Burns, Michael Gormley, Navy Seal Sam Blair and Deacon Harold Burke-Sivers just to name a few. It promises to be an incredible year of TMiY.

If you would like to attend, but haven't registered yet, you can come at 6:00 am on September 13th and register in person, or you can send an email to George Burek at georgeburek@yahoo.com

Sponsor of the Week



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Join-the-Choir Night

Who: Anyone (singer or instrumentalist) who is interested in being a part of the choir that provides inspiration and musical prayer for the congregation at liturgies.



When: Tuesday, September 10th at 6:30 p.m.

Where: In the music room that is located to the right of the elevator on the level you enter off the playground parking lot.

Why: To experience a brief rehearsal with refreshments and answers to any questions. There is no commitment required.

What: The choir sings at the 10:00 a.m. Mass on Sundays and at other special liturgies. Choir rehearsals are three Tuesday nights a month at 6:30 p.m.



When you go to the poor, you encounter Jesus

The Peoria Police Department used to have a *Ride with a Cop* program that was suspended by COVID. Participating people understood more clearly what the police do and the environment they work in and became more supportive of the police department. How would you like to *Ride with a Team* to understand and appreciate how your contributions to St. Vincent de Paul are invested?

Sorry, our St. Vincent de Paul conference will not invite anyone to ride with a team; confidentiality is too important. We would never jeopardize that aspect of our relationship with the people who call on us for help.

We invite you on a *Virtual Reality* ride instead:

Come along—You will meet people who are anxious about living from paycheck to paycheck. You'll witness people who are discouraged and confused by the regulations and red tape of the many service agencies. Who are overwhelmed by the daily demands of keeping their family safe and fed. Who are hungry. You'll also witness tears and prayers and hope, and glimpses of deep faith and amazing perseverance. You will discover the many forms that our assistance comes in; financial aid and food; reference information and listening and encouragement and prayers.

Your *Virtual Reality* ride will help you appreciate how St. Vincent de Paul is reaching out to aid your neighbors. Yes, the people in need that we help are your East Bluff and Peoria Heights neighbors; your *Neighbors in Need* as we call them. Please continue to help us help your neighbors with your generous contributions.

~ Don Smith



Registration is open for our next **Light of the World Retreat**

on **September 20-23, 2024!**

This is an immersive weekend experience where participants personally encounter Christ through the presentation of the kerygma - the basic Gospel message. This retreat is meant for any adult who wishes to move ahead in their journey of faith.

The retreat takes place at St. Thomas and participants go home to sleep each night. For more details and to register, **see the parish website or pick up a brochure in the narthex!**

Pray with the Pope

September 2024

For The Cry Of The Earth



Let us pray that each of us listens with our hearts to the cry of the Earth and of the victims of environmental disasters and the climate crisis, making a personal commitment to care for the world we inhabit.

September Ultreya



You Are Invited!
Cursillo Community
September Ultreya

Theme: *God is with us and is working miracles*
Speakers: Steve and April Wagner

Families and Guests are welcome!

St. Patrick Catholic Church, Washington
Saturday, September 7 beginning with Mass
at 4:30pm; Mass, Lay Talk, Social Time

Contact the Cursillo Office at 309-676-5587; cursillopeoria@gmail.com for more information.

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 \$ _____



Join St. Vincent de Paul's

Young Adult Group

We welcome all in their 20s and 30s! No matter your stage in life we want you there. Join us and get to know other young adults.

Starting on September 5th & 3rd Thursday after from 6-8 p.m.!

St. Vincent de Paul Parish Hall (next to the school, across the lot from the Church)

Missionaries of Charity

Dear St. Thomas Parish,

We thank you for your prayers and support so that we are able to continue to touch Jesus in His distressing disguise of the Poorest of the Poor. We would also like to invite you for two special occasions:

1. Please join us for the Feast of St. Teresa of Calcutta on Thursday, Sept. 5 for Holy Mass at the Cathedral at 6:00 p.m. with Bishop Tylka as the main celebrant.
2. You are also invited for a day of thanksgiving for the anniversary of our Congregation on the Feast of the Holy Rosary on Monday, Oct. 7. We will begin with Holy Mass at 7:00 a.m., immediately followed with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament all day until 6:00 p.m. We will pray the Rosary sporadically throughout the day. Feel free to drop in at any time of the day for any length of time—either for a few minutes just to say hello to Jesus and thank Him together with us, for a Rosary, or longer. The door will be open

Thank you and God bless you,
Sr. Maria Neema MC
Local Superior

St. Thomas - Food Pantry

Items needed at this time are: 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. 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, or
- Call the parish office at (309) 688-3427, ext. 4

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.

SPOONFUL

A PAINT PARTY FUNDRAISER TO BENEFIT SOPHIA'S KITCHEN

Choose One:

SEPTEMBER 14	SEPTEMBER 18
9 to 11 am	1 to 3 pm

Sophia's Kitchen | 105 N. Richard Pryor Place, Peoria

Join our guest artist Molly as you paint two bowls for \$30. Includes studio time, paint and blank bowls. Keep one for yourself and donate the other to Sophia's Kitchen to be sold at our Spoonful Fundraiser on October 27. Be a special angel and donate both bowls!

Painting will be done at Sophia's Kitchen. Paint and tour the kitchen! This event is sponsored by Fired Up Pottery.

Sign up for your shift at <https://bit.ly/SKPaint24>

SAVE THE DATE: OCTOBER 27

It's time for soup! Our volunteer cooks will create delicious soup for your home. Frozen soups, bakery goods, these creative bowls and more will be for sale. Watch for more information!

ALL PROCEEDS SUPPORT YOUR NEIGHBORS IN NEED.

LEARN MORE AT: FACEBOOK.COM/SOPHIAKITCHEN



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
- 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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