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

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

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

Annulment Consultant:

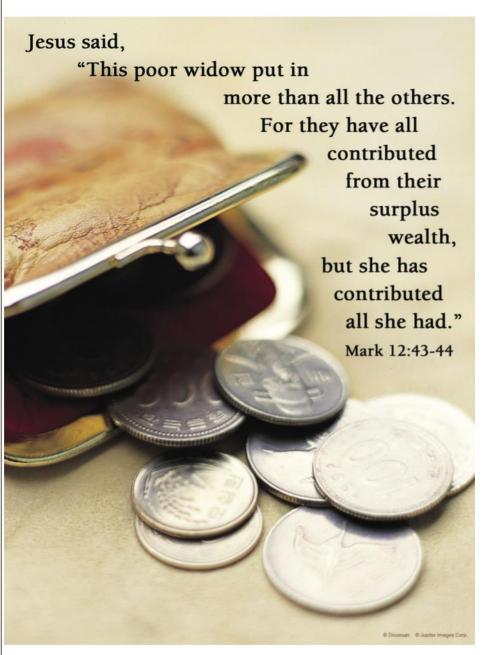
John Mackoway......699-5213

#### Stay in Touch

- 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 10, 2024 Thirty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time





### From Our Pastor

I issued a challenge last weekend to become an apostle to bring people to Church or back to Church. I encourage everyone to take up this invitation to share your faith and to invite people to Mass, especially those whom you know who might have stopped coming to Mass.

Each of us can be welcoming and encouraging of those who come to St. Thomas, especially by offering to help anyone who may be new or inviting parishioners to join in an upcoming parish or school activity. Don't underestimate the benefit of simply thanking someone for coming to Church, showing appreciation that they were here.

The Sheen Foundation continues to promote the Cause of Archbishop Fulton Sheen. The Foundation will be distributing our fall newsletter shortly. If you haven't signed up to receive the newsletter, you are encouraged to do so. I have an article in this newsletter explaining why Fulton Sheen's Beatification is inevitable! For more information, visit the Cathedral or the museum downtown, or visit www.celebratesheen.com.

During the month of November, we have the Book of the Dead in the narthex and will pray for all the faithful departed whose names are written in the book. Please add the names of your deceased loved ones.

Fr. Leo will be returning for a home visit to Tanzania beginning next week. He will be gone for about five weeks, so pray for his safety in travel. In the meantime, I am grateful for the help of so many of our staff and volunteers who keep St. Thomas running so well. I count on your support to keep St. Thomas strong.

In working with Daprato Rigali Studios, we will be addressing repairs to two stained glass windows in the narthex that will need new frames. The windows of the south transept of the original church will be reframed and releaded. I will mention this in the Annual giving letter that comes out shortly. These windows are an irreplaceable treasure and I want to make sure we care for them so they will augment the beauty of our original church and narthex for years to come.

- -Msgr. Gray



### Readings for the Week of November 10, 2024

Sunday Thirty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

1 Kings 17: 10-16; Hebrews 9: 24-28; Mark 12: 38-44 OR

Mark 12: 41-44

Monday St. Martin of Tours, Bishop

Titus 1: 1-9; Luke 17: 1-6

Tuesday St. Josaphat, Bishop & Martyr

Titus 2: 1-8, 11-14; Luke 17: 7-10

Wednesday St. Frances Xavier Cabrini, Virgin

Titus 3: 1-7; Luke 17: 11-19

**Thursday** Philemon 7-20; Luke 17: 20-25

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

2 John 4-9; Luke 17: 26-37

Saturday St. Margaret of Scotland

3 John 5-8: Luke 18: 1-8

Sunday Thirty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Daniel 12: 1-3; Hebrews 10: 11-14, 18; Mark 13: 24-32

### **Mass Intentions**

### Monday, November 11, 2024

7:00 a.m. Dr. James N. Kenny, Sr./Family

8:00 a.m. John Michael Jackson/Ed & Cathy Mallow

### Tuesday, November 12, 2024

7:00 a.m. Tessa Casten/John & Amy Kelly

8:00 a.m. Ron Richardson/The Richardson Family

### Wednesday, November 13, 2024

7:00 a.m. Donna J. Weinstein/Family

8:00 a.m. Hop Nguyen

### Thursday, November 14, 2024

7:00 a.m. The James Family

**2:30 p.m.** Steven Aeschliman/Mike & Donna Palkovic

#### Friday, November 15, 2024

7:00 a.m. Donna Abdnour/Mark & Theresa Debonis 8:00 a.m. Edward Carrigan/Rick & Maureen Pantages

### Saturday, November 16, 2024

8:00 a.m. Fred Darche/John & Kathy Lewis 5:00 p.m. Fr. Paul Stark, S.J. 3<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary

#### Sunday, November 17, 2024

8:00 a.m. Marita Merkle/Mike & Theresa Haughney 10:00 a.m. Gene Griswold/Mike & Mary Lou Bartley

5:00 p.m. For the People

### **Week of November 10**

MEN'S BASKETBALL Sunday, November 10, 7:00 p.m., School Gym

ROSARY Tuesday, November 12, 10:00 a.m., Daily Mass Chapel

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL Tuesday, November 12, 7:00 p.m., Parish Hall

CCD Wednesday, November 13, 6:00 p.m., School

OCIA Wednesday, November 13, 7:00 p.m., Parish Hall

WOMEN OF THE WORD Thursday, November 14, 6:30 p.m., Parish Hall

MEN'S CLUB Thursday, November 14, 6:30 p.m., Sullivan's in the Heights

**TMIY** Friday, November 15, doors open 6:00, program 6:30 a.m., ends by 7:30 a.m., Parish Hall

#### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

St. Thomas Holy Hour Extra Confession Sunday Advent Mission Parish Open House November 21 November 24 December 2 December 7/8



## Pray with the Pope

November 2024 For Those Who Have Lost A Child

Let us pray that all parents who mourn the loss of a son or daughter find support in their community, and may receive peace of heart from the Spirit of Consolation.

## **Weekly Collection**

November 3, 2024

		Fiscal YTD
Collections needed	\$20,000	\$364,000
Sunday Collections	\$17,567	\$257,369
Electronic Collections	\$820	\$57,323
Holy Day Collections		
Total Collected		
Over/(Short)		
, ,	•	

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**

Elaine Suau

## **Baptism Congratulations**

Eleanor Clare Robinson, daughter of Christina & Zachary Robinson

# **Parish Council Openings**

The Parish Council is a group of nine individuals who were selected to represent the Parish by advising and assisting the pastor in the following ways:

- by promoting the Catholic faith in the Parish and in the community;
- by developing a pastoral plan and facilitating the participation of parishioners;
- by monitoring Parish activities for effectiveness;
- by coordinating charitable works for those in need in the Parish and community.

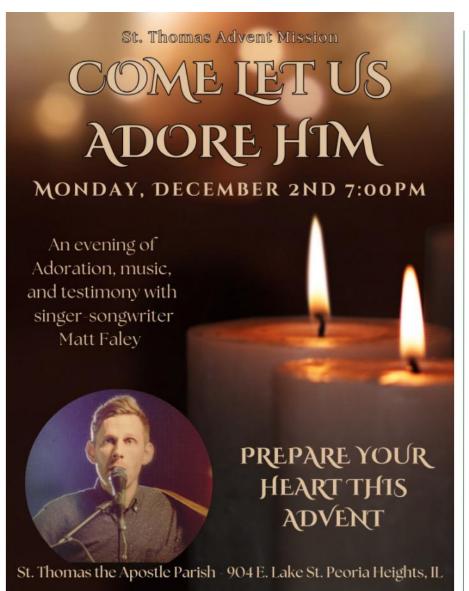
Members of the Council commit to a three-year term and meet once per month for one hour, generally on the third Tuesday of each month, with breaks for holidays.

Prospective candidates should be practicing Catholics who support St. Thomas and are engaged in the life of the Parish. It is helpful if the candidate brings some familiarity or involvement in the activities of the Parish or the School

If you would like to be considered for an open position on the Parish Council, or if you would like to nominate someone to be considered, please contact the parish office.

Sponsor of the Week





# Evangelization-Recruitment Drive

# Knights of Columbus - Spalding Council #427



The Spalding Council of the Knights of Columbus serves our Parish, St. Thomas the Apostle, as well as four other Peoria Parishes.

We are Catholic men who lead, serve, protect, and defend. Together, we empower Catholic men to be better husbands, fathers, and neighbors. We live a life of Catholic faith in action. Join the two million Catholic men on a mission for God to save souls and better our communities.

Spalding Council K of C will host a Membership Drive the weekend of **November 30**th and **December 1**st following all Masses. If you are a Catholic gentleman at least 18 years of age who is interested in joining the Knights of Columbus please see a member after Mass for more information and/or to apply for membership!

### OCIA Schedule

Nov 13: Baptism, Confirmation

Nov 20: Eucharist

Nov 27: No Class, Thanksgiving

**Dec 4:** Blessed Virgin Mary, Rosary **Dec 11:** Penance, Anointing, Funerals

Dec 18: Marriage Dec 25: NO Class

Jan 1: NO Class

### Winter Coat Drive



St. Thomas Parish will once again be participating in a Winter Coat Drive, to benefit the Salvation Army Coats for Kids program, serving those less fortunate in our community.

Barrels for donations are located at the top and bottom of the church staircase. Please bring in any new or like-new Winter Coats, gloves, hats, scarfs and drop them in the barrels. The **coat drive** 

will run through Sunday, November 10<sup>th</sup>.

Thank you for your support of this program.



# Catholic Women's League Annual Membership Meeting

Monday, November 11, 2024 9:30 am Social — 10:00 am Meetina

Light Refreshments

at Buehler Home - Gathering Center 3415 N. Sheridan Road, Peoria 61604

# Considering an Alternative to Traditional Burial For a Loved One?

Have you considered burial options other than the traditional casket in the cemetery plot? One such option is Human Composting. This is currently not legal in Illinois and based on the USCCB Guidance, the Catholic Church does not promote or endorse the use of Human Composting, clearly stating that the process fails to show due respect to the bodily remains of the deceased in a way that gives visible witness to our faith and hope in the resurrection of the body.

From: c17d3445-02f6-4790-8571-b790547d0447.pdf

### 2024 Annual Diocesan Appeal

September 7-8, 2024

# Do everything for the Glory of God

Thanks to the generosity of a small percent of parish families, we have

met our goal of \$130,063. Each gift is important to the mission of the diocese. If you have not yet had the opportunity, please return a pledge card with your response today. There are cards on the tables in the back of church. Your gift helps support the central ministries of our diocese including religious education of our young people, faith formation of adults, training of our future priests, Newman Centers on our college campuses and much more. Every dollar raised over our goal will return here to St. Thomas.

To those who have pledged, thank you!



# Donations needed for Sophia's Kitchen Food Pantry

Healthy grains: oatmeal, brown rice, barley.

Canned fruits: low sugar

Vegetables: collard greens, carrots, green beans, peas, beans. Low sodium.

Tomato products: paste, sauce, diced.

Spaghetti sauce

Spices: cinnamon, oregano, basil, pepper

Personal care items: tampons, pads, toothbrush, toothpaste, floss, band aids, shaving cream.

Toilet Paper

Cleaning supplies: Comet, SOS pads, laundry soap, Spic and Span

Treats: nail polish, chocolate syrup, coffee creamer

Soap: bar or liquid

Cereal and cereal bars

Meat: canned chicken, tuna fish, Spam

Soups: Healthy request/ low sodium/low fat

When donating, think nutritionally dense. Many of our guests suffer from high blood pressure and diabetes, or this might be the only nutrition they eat today. Please be mindful of sodium and sugar.

No glass or expired foods.

Donations accepted Monday through Friday from 8 AM to 3 PM 105 N Richard Pryor Place, Peoria, IL 61605 Ring bell at door to the far right next to the orange sign



# Immediate Opening at St. Thomas School

1. Teacher's aide/aftercare support worker Hours: 1:30-5:30 p.m. daily

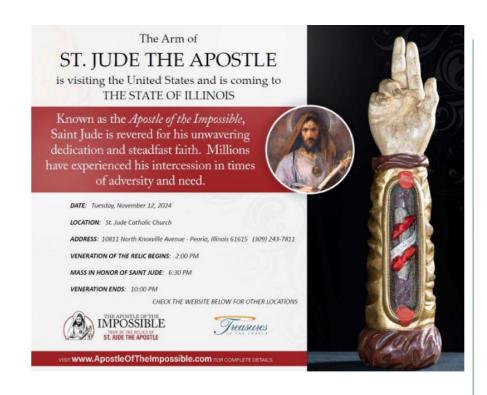
If you are interested in either position please contact Mrs. Maureen Bentley, Principal, at **MaureenBentley@stthomasschool.net** 

# 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!





# Sophia's Kitchen Thanksgiving

Sophia's Kitchen celebrates Thanksgiving with our guests a week early, on Thursday, November 21st. We expect to feed 500 to 600 sit down meals that day. A generous donor has purchased all our pies this year, but it's always nice to have an extra couple to feed our crowd! If you'd like to donate one, or funds for the rest of our meal, they may be dropped off at 105 N Richard Pryor Place Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Donations can be mailed to the kitchen, or visit CatholicPeoria.org to make an online donation. Sorry, no homemade pies - Health Department regulations ask for only commercially prepared foods.

# **Parish Registration**

Complete this form and drop it in the collection basket, or mail to the

New Parishioner Change of address/phone	
Phone	
City	ZIP
Address	
Phone	
Email	
First Name(s)	Mr Mrs Ms
Last Name	
	our website at stthomaspeoria.org. Under nioner Registration, complete and submit the

Heavenly Father, thank you for the precious gift of life.

Help us to cherish and protect this gift, even in the midst of fear, pain, and suffering.

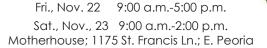
Give us love for all people, especially the most vulnerable, and help us bear witness to the truth that every life is worth living.

Grant us the humility to accept help when we are in need, and teach us to be merciful to all.

Through our words and actions, may others encounter the outstretched hands of Your mercy.

We ask this through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

### Annual Motherhouse Bazaai



Christmas, Children's & Craft items, Plants, quilts, Knitted & Crocheted items Baked goods: donuts, breads, & cookies



Catholic Campus Ministry for Bradley University

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.
- 1341 Sheris—Finance & 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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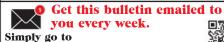
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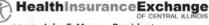
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