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:

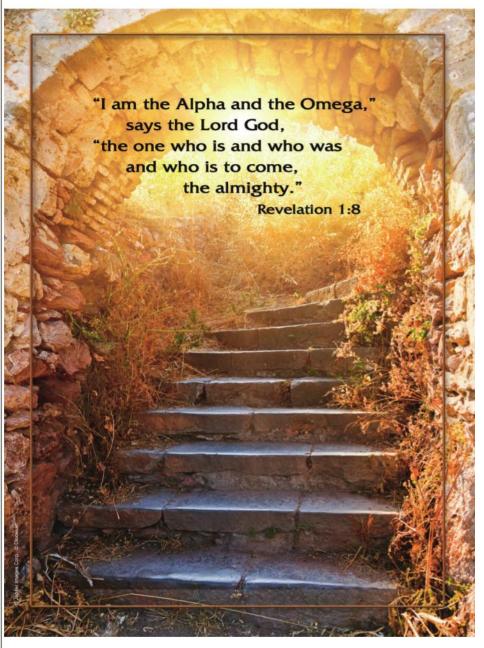
John Mackoway......699-5213

Stay in Touch

- Join Msgr. Gray for OCIA Class. Link can be found on the parish website, stthomaspeoria.org or the My Parish App
- 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).



November 24, 2024 Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe





From Our Pastor

Happy Feast of Christ the King! We bring this liturgical year to a close as we honor Jesus as King of the Universe and we prepare to enter into a new liturgical year with Advent next week.

We also have a shorter week with the celebration of Thanksgiving, which is a good opportunity for us all to give thanks for the blessings we have received. I am particularly thankful for the support and encouragement of all of you as members of the St. Thomas Family. Please join me in giving thanks at 9 AM on Thanksgiving for our Mass that day.

With Advent approaching, I invite you to participate in the Giving Tree by purchasing gifts for families in need this year. Some of the families are from our own parish, and others are in our local community. In each case, a slip with a suggested gift can be picked up in the narthex. Please kindly return your gift soon with the attached slip as we prepare to deliver these gifts to the less fortunate.

I also invite you to make a contribution to our end-of-year appeal to pay for past roof repairs in the narthex and upcoming repairs to the stained-glass windows in the narthex that have suffered water damage to the frames. The generosity of our St. Thomas parish family is well known and greatly appreciated.

Please note that we have an opening for the position of administrative assistant in the parish office. Those who are interested are encouraged to submit their resume to the parish office.

In order to give Ann Horst more time with her family, we are also looking for a musician to take on responsibility for our music program and choir. Those who are interested should also contact the parish office.

- -Msgr. Gray



Readings for the Week of November 24, 2024

Sunday Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

Daniel 7: 13-14; Revelation 1: 5-8; John 18: 33b-37

Monday St. Catherine of Alexandria, Virgin & Martyr

Revelation 14: 1-3, 4b-5; Luke 21: 1-4

Tuesday Revelation 14: 14-19; Luke 21: 5-11

Wednesday Revelation 15: 1-4; Luke 21: 12-19

Thursday Thanksgiving Day

Revelation 18: 1-2, 21-23; 19: 1-3, 9a OR Sirach 50: 22-24; 1 Corinthians 1: 3-9; Luke 21: 20-28 OR Luke 17: 11-19

Friday Revelation 20: 1-4, 11—21: 2; Luke 21: 29-33

Saturday St. Andrew, Apostle

Romans 10: 9-18: Matthew 4: 18-22

Sunday First Sunday of Advent

Jeremiah 33: 14-16; 1 Thessalonians 3: 12-4: 2;

Luke 21: 25-28, 34-36

Mass Intentions

Monday, November 25, 2024

7:00 a.m. Norma Martin/The Sarmiento Family 8:00 a.m. Fe M. Corrales/The Corrales Family

Tuesday, November 26, 2024

7:00 a.m. Marian Morrison/Jack & Margaret Weinstein 2:30 p.m. Mr. & Mrs. Arnold Barkley/The Barkley Family

Wednesday, November 27, 2024

7:00 a.m. Msgr. William Watson/Linh Luong 8:00 a.m. Linda Marcacci/Ed & Cathy Mallow

Thursday, November 28, 2024

9:00 a.m. Thomas C. Burek/George & Connie Burek

Friday, November 29, 2024

8:00 a.m. Paul, Elaine & Katie Altman/Mary Camp

Saturday, November 30, 2024

8:00 a.m. Joe Lucas/Family

5:00 p.m. Intentions of Abbi Socha/The Taylor Family

Sunday, December 1, 2024

8:00 a.m. For the People

10:00 a.m. Roger Tramel/Lynn Tramel 5:00 p.m. Fr. Paul Stark, S.J./Linh Luong

Week of November 24

EXTRA CONFESSION SUNDAY November 24, After all Masses, Church

MEN'S BASKETBALL Sunday, November 24, 7:00 p.m., School Gym

ROSARY Tuesday, November 19, 10:00 a.m., Daily Mass Chapel

MILLIONS OF MONICAS Tuesday, November 26, 7:00 p.m., Parish Office

THANKSGIVING Mass at 9:00 a.m. only

CHURCH CLEANING Saturday, November 23, 8:30 a.m., Church

HEADING AVE FRANCISCAN SISTERS ROLAN JOHNSON ORNAMENT SALE Following all Masses Nov 30/Dec 1

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS MEMBERSHIP DRIVE Following all Masses Nov 30/ Dec 1

UPCOMING EVENTS

Advent Mission December 2

Adoration December 6

Parish Open House December 7/8

Mass for the Immaculate Conception December 9



Millions of Monicas is a ministry in the Diocese of Peoria for women to pray together for their children who have left the faith. This is not a support group or a self-help group. We simply meet once a month and pray together for each other's loved ones in front of the Blessed Sacrament.

Join with other mothers, grandmothers, step-mothers, aunts, Godmothers, etc., as we pray to grow in holiness and humility, and for our children's faithful return to the Catholic Church.

November 26 at 7:00 p.m. St. Thomas Daily Mass Chapel

For more information visit www.millionsofmonicas.com

Weekly Collection

November 17, 2024

		FISCAL YID
Collections needed	\$20,000	\$400,000
Sunday Collections	-	-
Electronic Collections	\$1,616	\$66,084
Total Collected	\$19,371	\$361,479
Over/(Short)	\$(629)	\$(38,521)

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

Giving Tree



The Giving Tree is an important tradition at St. Thomas. The gift tags will be available soon. We ask you to take one or more of the tags and purchase the requested gift. Please give new gifts only.

RETURN YOUR GIFTS IN GIFT BAGS WITH THE ORIGINAL TAG ATTACHED. You may leave them under the Giving Tree in the Narthex, or deliver to the Parish Office. Your generosity providing gifts under the Giving Tree has been incredibly helpful in the past. Last year we were able to distribute gifts to almost 300 individuals. This includes St. Thomas Families, Foster Children, Catholic Charities, and neighbors in our community.

MONETARY DONATIONS This year a monetary donation might work best for many people. You can make your donation on our website: stthomaspeoria.org. Go to GIVING, then DONATE NOW. As you complete the form please Apply your Donation to The Giving Tree.

Please make your monetary donation as soon as possible so our elves have time to shop before the deadline.

PLEASE RETURN GIFTS BY DECEMBER 12^H. Thank you for your kindness and generosity!

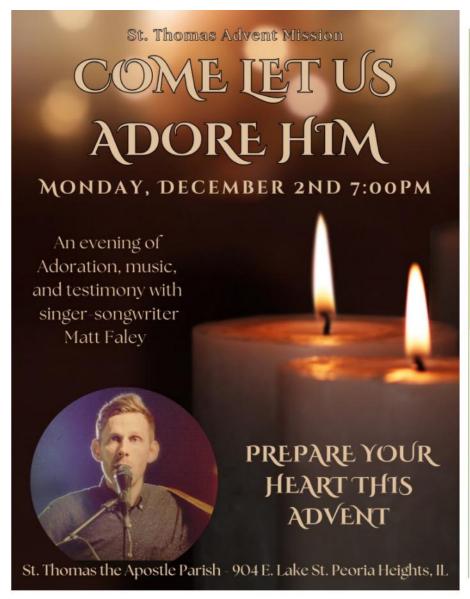
Pray with the Pope

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.

Sponsor of the Week





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.

Job Opening

St. Thomas the Apostle is looking for a full time Administrative Assistant for our Parish Office. Applicants should be detail oriented and have experience with Microsoft Office and data entry. Confidentiality is required.

If interested, send your resume to parishoffice@stthomas-church.net

OCIA Schedule

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

Jan 8: Orders, Religious Life

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 30th and December 1st 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!

St. Thomas - Food Pantry

Items needed at this time are: Rice, Boxed pasta, stuffing & potato side dishes, Mac and Cheese, 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!

November 2024



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Our diocese will soon take up the national collection for the *Catholic Campaign for Human Development*. Your support for this collection brings change to communities across the country and empowers those living in poverty to transform their communities into reflections of the Kingdom of God. One of the principles that has made CCHD successful at reaching people on the margins for 50+ years is its support for community-based solutions rather than uniform, top-down programs that do not account for local needs or include local voices.

In Oregon, the Northwest Hub is a group that was created to address the unique needs of local citizens. The Northwest Hub began in 2013 to help individuals who are newly released from incarceration in state correctional facilities or from treatment in the state psychiatric hospital, transitional living, and treatment facilities. The Northwest Hub began in a church basement with a vision of making bicycle transportation accessible to anyone and of providing training in skills that empower community members. By providing community members with free access to bicycles, locks, and parts, as well as vocational training in bicycle mechanics, the Northwest Hub equips them with job skills and affordable means of transportation so they can pursue new opportunities.

Your support for CCHD helps local community groups like the Northwest Hub reach and empower people in ways best suited to the communities they serve. All CCHD national grants are approved by the bishop in the diocese where the funded groups operate. When you give to CCHD, 25% of your contribution stays in our diocese to help your own community continue CCHD's successful work of reaching those on the margins.

Please prayerfully consider how you can help CCHD this year.

Thank you for joining us to work on the margins and break the cycle of poverty.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

◆Most Reverend Louis Tylka Bishop of Peoria

FOR THIS I WAS BORN AND FOR THIS
I (AME INTO THE WORLD

Christ the King Sunday

Catholic Women's League of Peoria

The 2nd Annual Christmas Tea Fundraiser Grandmothers, Mothers, Daughters, Granddaughters, & Friends are All Welcome

> Sunday, December 15 2:00 p.m.—4:00 p.m. St. Philomena Parish Center

Agenda:

2:00 Welcome & Prayer
2:15 Tea-Time Menu
Scones, Finger Sandwiches
Dessert



3:15 Entertainment 3:45 Closing Prayer

RSVP BY November 30, 2024—Seating is Limited

Mail reservations including Name(s), phone number, email, and check (payable to Catholic Women's League) to: Ann Gerardo, 3415 N. Sheridan Rd., Peoria IL 61604.

Cost: Adult \$35.00; Teen (13-18) \$20.00; Child (5-12) \$10.00; Reserved Table of 6 \$200.00







ADVENT HARP CONCERT

Join us for an evening of music to enter more deeply into the spirit of the Advent season. Lydia Olson will play a set of traditional Advent hymns on her Celtic harp for all to enjoy. Monday, **December 9, 2024, 6:30-7:30pm**. St. Philomena Catholic Church, 1000 W Albany, Peoria.

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.

New Parishioner	Change of address/phone	
Phone		
City	ZIP	
Address		
Phone		
Email		
First Name(s)	Mr Mrs Ms	
Last Name		
About open the New form.	Parishioner Registration, complete and submit th	





12 Days of Christmas

CASH & CAR RAFFLE

Early Bird winner of \$500 will be drawn November 21. Daily cash prizes will be awarded from December 9 through December 19 with the Grand Prize drawing for a 2025 Mazda CX-5 (MSRP \$31,485) on December 20. Tickets can be purchased from PND students or employees, by calling 309-691-8741, or online at www.pndhs.org/12days. Ticket orders can be credited to PND students or staff for incentives.

Only 3,000 tickets will be sold. The cost is S75 per ticket, 3 for S200, 5 for S300, 10 for S550, and 12 for S600. Official rules, details, and online purchasing can also be found at www.pndhs.org/12days.

Please gather with us this sacred season for

Advent Prayer Services

Hosted by Peoria Cursillo at Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church Morton, Illinois

Beginning at 7:00 p.m. on Mondays December 2, 9, & 16



The Advent Services bring an opportunity for peace, stillness, and time to reflect on Mary's Yes, Joseph's Yes, and Our Yes, through prayer, Scripture, and music (including an Immaculate Conception Parish Mass on Dec. 9)



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.



Diocesan is proud to be printing St. Thomas the Apostle's Sunday Bulletin

You are invited to help support our Parish! For opportunities to advertise, please call 800-783-1623





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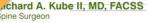
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