

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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parishoffice@stthomas-church.net

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msggray@stthomas-church.net

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Fr_Leo@stthomas-church.net

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(688-3500); fsjbpeoria@yahoo.com

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Dcn. Ed Mallow.....360-7735
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steveharms@stthomas-church.net

Annulment Consultant:
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St. Vincent de Paul Society HelpLine..... (309)
264-5815

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).



May 25, 2025
Sixth Sunday of Easter

Lord, I receive
your peace today

Congratulations Graduates!

Jennifer Almonazi
Jacob Anderson
Jozalynn Arnold
Luke Bare
Matthew Bennett
Emely Cadenas
Audrey Horst
Noah James
River Joesting
Ryan LaBarre
Monce Leon
Ryan Leyva Hernandez
Liam Mohning
Truman Mouro
David Munguia
Harrison Pavelka
Frankie Plaskon
Mason Ramsay
Christian Simmons
Matthew Teran
Chase Ullrich





From Our Pastor

Happy Memorial Day Weekend!

Please pray for the three new priests who have been ordained for the Diocese of Peoria. They will begin their new assignments in July. We pray that their priestly ministry may be blessed.

We have officially completed the school year and enter into the Summer. This is a break for the faculty and the students, but also a time for us to do our Summer work in cleaning the school and making repairs. We had a very successful school year and look forward to a projected increase in enrollment for the fall.

The Easter Season is moving to its conclusion as we celebrate next Sunday the Ascension of Our Lord, and then Pentecost the following Sunday. These events are also remembered in the Glorious Mysteries of the Rosary. The Rosary is a great Marian devotion and an excellent way to enter into prayer. In addition to the daily Rosary recited at 7:35 a.m. each weekday, you are welcome to come at the same time on First Saturdays as part of the five First Saturday devotion called for by Our Lady of Fatima. See the bulletin for more information.

This weekend, we will offer extra confessions after Masses on Sunday. As always, the sacrament of reconciliation allows us to be freed of our sins and renew our Christian commitment as we begin the Summer.

On Memorial Day, we will have one Mass at 9:00 a.m. as is our tradition. Please join us as we pray for those who have served our country and protected our freedoms.

- Msgr. Gray



Readings for the Week of May 25, 2025

Sunday	Sixth Sunday of Easter Acts 15: 1-2, 22-29; Revelation 21: 10-14, 22-23; John 14: 23-29
Monday	St. Philip Neri, Priest Acts 16: 11-15; John 15: 26—16: 4a
Tuesday	St. Augustine of Canterbury, Bishop Acts 16: 22-34; John 16: 5-11
Wednesday	Acts 17: 15, 22—18: 1; John 16: 12-15
Thursday	St. Paul VI, Pope Acts 18: 1-8; John 16: 16-20
Friday	Acts 18: 9-18; John 16: 20-23
Saturday	The Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Zephaniah 3: 14-18a OR Romans 12: 9-16; Luke 1: 39-56
Sunday	The Ascension of the Lord Acts 1: 1-11; Hebrews 9: 24-28; 10: 19-23; Luke 24: 46-53

Mass Intentions

Monday, May 26, 2025

9:00 a.m. Mary Truitt/John Truitt

Tuesday, May 27, 2025

7:00 a.m. Nancy Wilson/Julie Enzenberger

8:00 a.m. Souls in Purgatory/Angela Kenny

Wednesday, May 28, 2025

7:00 a.m. Dave Lang/Mary at Goldwater Nursing Home

8:00 a.m. Intentions of Tim & Courtney Arnett Family/Terry & Eileen Grawey

Thursday, May 29, 2025

7:00 a.m. Jeanne & Joe Broussard/Mary Lou & Michael Bartley

8:00 a.m. Mary Kay Kemp/Michael & Kathleen Pabon

Friday, May 30, 2025

7:00 a.m. Intentions of Dan & Rhonda Bachman

8:00 a.m. Intentions of Pat Dawnard & Pam Kelch/Judy Bell

Saturday, May 31, 2025

8:00 a.m. Joy Hartnett/Molly Gialandri & Becky Blasek

5:00 p.m. Patricia McCauley, 1st Anniv./The McCauley Family

Sunday, June 1, 2025

8:00 a.m. For the People

10:00 a.m. Edie Zeller/Mary Kenney

5:00 p.m. Thomas Penn/David & Laurie Williams

Pray with the Pope

May 2025

For working conditions

Let us pray that through work, each person might find fulfillment, families might be sustained in dignity, and that society might be humanized.



Week of May 25

EXTRA CONFESSIONS Sunday, May 25, after all Masses, Church

CHOIR PRACTICE Sundays, 9:00 a.m., Music Room

PARISH OFFICE CLOSED Monday, May 26, Memorial Day

MEMORIAL DAY MASS Monday, May 26, 9:00 a.m., Church

ROSARY Tuesday, May 27, 10:00 a.m., Chapel

MILLIONS OF MONICAS Tuesday, May 27, 7:00 p.m., Chapel

CHURCH CLEANING Saturday following 8:00 a.m. Mass, Church

UPCOMING EVENTS

LifeTeen	June 1
Adoration	June 6
St. Thomas Holy Hour	June 19

Our Sympathy

Please pray for those who have died this week

Baptism Congratulations

Maje Francine Badilla, daughter of
Jessa & Maximino Badilla



May is the Month of Mary and of Mothers

In this Month of Mothers we invite all women to join *Millions of Monicas* in prayer May 27th in the Daily Mass Chapel to pray for our loved ones, especially our children, who have fallen away from our faith. We pray together before the Blessed Sacrament that those we love will again find comfort in the faith and return to the Church.

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.

May 27th at 7:00 p.m. St. Thomas Daily Mass Chapel

For more information visit www.millionsofmonicas.com

FIRST SATURDAY DEVOTION TO THE IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY



WEEK OF JUNE 1

DAILY ROSARY at 7:35 am, Church

Please join us once a month in prayer to honor our Blessed Mother and to make reparation for the sins against her Immaculate Heart. Rosary begins at 7:35 am. Mass at 8:00 am. Confession schedule as posted in the bulletin.

Save the date.

Bring your spouse, children, grandkids, and friends.

FIRST SATURDAY DEVOTION, Saturday June 7

Weekly Collection

May 18, 2025

		Fiscal YTD
Collections needed.....	\$20,000	\$920,000
Sunday Collections.....	\$10,196	\$694,910
Electronic Collections.....	\$4,000	\$184,759
Total Collected.....	\$14,196	\$879,669
Over/(Short).....	\$(5,804)	\$(40,331)

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.

Sponsor of the Week

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Hello STS Families,

As the school-year comes to a close, and you are preparing for your summer plans, please remember **STS Soccer**. Registration is open now through July 2nd.



When you go to the poor, you encounter Jesus

Alleluia! Happy Easter Season!

As we reflect on this time between Easter and Pentecost the Mass readings tell many of the stories of the early church. From the first weeks after the resurrection until the formation of many new Christian communities, we read about miracles, the work of the Holy Spirit, the lives that are changed, and the support of the community members. Recalling these experiences of the early church helps us to know better our own journey and discern the path we should follow. Perhaps the most obvious lesson learned is that the early church was on a mission. They were following Jesus' charge to *go to the ends of the earth and baptize . . .*

The members of the St. Vincent de Paul Society know well the call of Jesus in the Gospels, and they are led by the lessons and example of our founder, Blessed Frederic Ozanam. We go to the poor, to those who have called for our help. We bring them our presence, our hope, our prayer, and some of the resources you have shared with us.

Due to many factors, we have had an above average number of calls since Easter. Some callers have asked for help with utility bills and rent, but some have been homeless with their children staying in shelters or motels. No two calls are the same. Each of these individual challenges are met with creativity, empathy and openness. We are blessed to be called for help each time.

Our members carry the grace of compassion, understanding, and patience when visiting with our Neighbors. Because of your generosity we have not depleted our resources or our perseverance. We thank God each day for the opportunity to share Jesus. And we pray for you, who are so generous. Thank you.

~ T. Pilat

Register soon to secure your spot on the team.

Register here: <https://payit.nelnet.net/form/4LodUoHb>

*Congratulations Graduates!
Onward to do Great Things!*



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!



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KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS SPALDING COUNCIL #427 PLANT SALE

THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS SPALDING COUNCIL #427 IS TEAMING UP WITH SHERIDAN NURSERY. WE INVITE YOU TO PARTICIPATE IN OUR PLANT SALE FUND RAISING EVENT HELD MAY 1 – MAY 31, 2025.

LOCATION'S OF THE PLANT SALE – SHERIDAN NURSERY
3823 N SHERIDAN ROAD &
PEORIA, IL

SHERIDAN NURSERY
3012 W ALTA LANE
PEORIA, IL

HOURS OF OPERATION MON – FRI 8:00 – 8:00
SAT 8:00 – 7:00
SUN 8:00 – 5:00

SHOW THIS FLYER AT THE TIME OF PURCHASE AND SHERIDAN NURSERY WILL MAKE A 10% DONATION OF YOUR PURCHASE ON FLOWERS, POTS, SHRUBS, TREES, GIFT CERTIFICATES AND MORE TO THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS SPALDING COUNCIL #427. (EXCLUDES LANDSCAPE SERVICES AS WELL AS LABOR AND DELIVERY COSTS.)

THIS FLYER CANNOT BE COMBINED WITH ANY OTHER SALES/PROMOTIONS.

FLYER MUST BE PRESENTED AT THE TIME OF PURCHASE.

FUNDS RAISED WILL BENEFIT THE NEWMAN FOUNDATION AND BE USED TO PURCHASE NEW APRONS FOR THE TOOTSIE ROLL DRIVE CONDUCTED EACH FALL. THE TOOTSIE ROLL DRIVE RAISES FUNDS TO SUPPORT EPIC AND CWTC.

Name: _____ Total amount of sale: _____

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS SPALDING COUNCIL #427

THIS OFFER IS GOOD FROM MAY 1 – MAY 31, 2025

For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in. – Matthew 25: 35



The St. Thomas Food Pantry offers an excellent opportunity for students needing service hours! On Monday and Thursday mornings, federal holidays excepted, the pantry distributes groceries to neighbors in need in the Peoria Heights area. Packing groceries, registering pantry guests, restocking shelves, repackaging food, and helping guests to their vehicles are tasks that students will perform while under adult supervision. An additional service opportunity occurs one Thursday afternoon per month when we receive a truckload of food products from Midwest Food Bank. On these days, students help adult volunteers unload the truck, repack food, rotate stock, and stock shelves. Students interested in earning service hours at the food pantry this summer should **contact Diana Janda at dianajanda1964@gmail.com by Friday, May 16th.**

2025 Opportunities Available:

Mondays & Thursdays – 8:30 am - 11:30 am
June 2nd through August 14th



Women of Faith Celebration with Bishop Tylka – June 7, 2025

All women of the Peoria Diocese are invited to a special day of prayer, honor, and celebration with Bishop Louis Tylka on **Saturday, June 7, 2025**, at the **Cathedral of Saint Mary of the Immaculate Conception** in Peoria.

The day includes:

- ✚ Rosary, beautiful music, Marian Procession Mass with Bishop Tylka
- ✚ Special Blessing for Women
- ✚ Rose & Outstanding Volunteer Awards
- ✚ Post-Mass Celebration with lunch, music, raffles, vendors, and more!

✚ Cost: \$30 (includes lunch)

✚ Register by: June 1, 2025

✚ Invite your priest, family, and friends to join this joyful celebration of women living their faith!

Come. Be Inspired. Be blessed. Celebrate and be celebrated as women of God.

Register online using the QR code or by mail. Send check to April Adams, 928 County Rd. 1500 N., Metamora, IL 16548. For details, contact April Adams, PDCCW President at 309-369-5110.

Scan to Donate

To make donating to St. Thomas Parish easy we now have a QR Code. Just scan this code from wherever you are, whenever you want to donate.



Memorial Day Salute Pins —
Honoring those who died while
serving, also active military and
veterans who served.

Memorial Day Mass
MONDAY, May 26, 9:30 am
Fr. Achilleus, Presider

*St. Joseph of
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Resurrection Mausoleum*
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St. Thomas Gym Level 1 - Pay Back

Costs Incurred Before Fundraising

Insurance Deductible	\$3,000
Relocate Hoops & Lights	\$11,487
Replace Broken Covers	\$2,000 (est.)
Paint Gym Walls	\$7,400
Electrical	\$2,000 (est.)
Gym Floor Upgrades	\$10,425
<small>(Two Tone, Logo, Border, Pickleball Lines)</small>	
Full Length Wall Safety Pads	\$11,875
V-Ball Floor Inserts	\$1,700*

Please Help
Pay Back



St. Thomas Gym Level 2 & 3 - Pay Forward

Wall Décor over Bleachers	\$4,000 (est.)
Signage above Locker Rooms	\$2,000 (est.)
Gym Door Outdoor Awnings	\$10,000 (est.)
<small>(Prevents water damage found by doors)</small>	
Floor Covers	\$10,000 (est.)
Volleyball System	\$9,175
<small>(lighter poles, pole pads, net, winch, judge stand)</small>	
2 Ball Carts (1 boys & 1 girls)	\$800
Signage Score Table & Board	\$2,000 (est.)
Hallway Ceiling Tiles	\$5,000 (est.)
Banners	\$5,000 (est.)
V-Ball Net Winder & Transport	\$1576

Help Pay Forward



Electronic Donation: <https://stthomaspeoria.org/giving/donate-now/>
 Select - Apply my Gift to: School Gym Upgrades 2025



Apply my gift to *

-- Please Select --
 -- Please Select --
 Sunday/Holy Day Contributions
 School Gym Upgrades 2025
 St. Thomas School
 Msgr. Watson Scholarship Endowment
 Sponsor-a-Student Tuition Assistance Fund
 Annual Giving Building Fund
 Other (please specify below)

Checks: Please make checks out to "St. Thomas School" with memo "School Gym Upgrades". Route to Front Office.

Caterpillar Foundation 1:1 Matching Gifts:

1. Click on **Matching Link** or CAT Icon Button.
2. Select St. Thomas Elementary School
3. Request full match
4. Email kellyascholz@gmail.com and/or sheriscatton@stthomas-church.net the amount CAT will match for our tracking purposes.



ST THOMAS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
 ST THOMAS THE APOSTLE SCHOOL

Select

Respect Life Prayer & Action

When a woman finds herself unexpectedly pregnant, the news can come as a shock and bring overwhelming feelings of fear, shame, anxiety, and doubt. Without a strong support system, what should be joyful news, can instead be experienced as a crisis. Often, a woman facing an unexpected pregnancy may not know where she can turn for help and assistance. *Pregnancy Help Centers* respond to this urgent need every day, embracing expectant mothers with empathy and love.

Act (choose one):

Offer this [Prayer for Radical Solidarity | Respect Life](#) in thanksgiving for all pregnancy center staff and volunteers.

Skip your morning coffee from your favorite café or a lunch outing this week. Donate what you would usually spend on these small treats to your local pregnancy center instead.

Offer some other sacrifice or prayer that you feel called to do for this month's intention.

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 _____



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 - Tracey - 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*



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