

St. Thomas the Apostle Parish Staff

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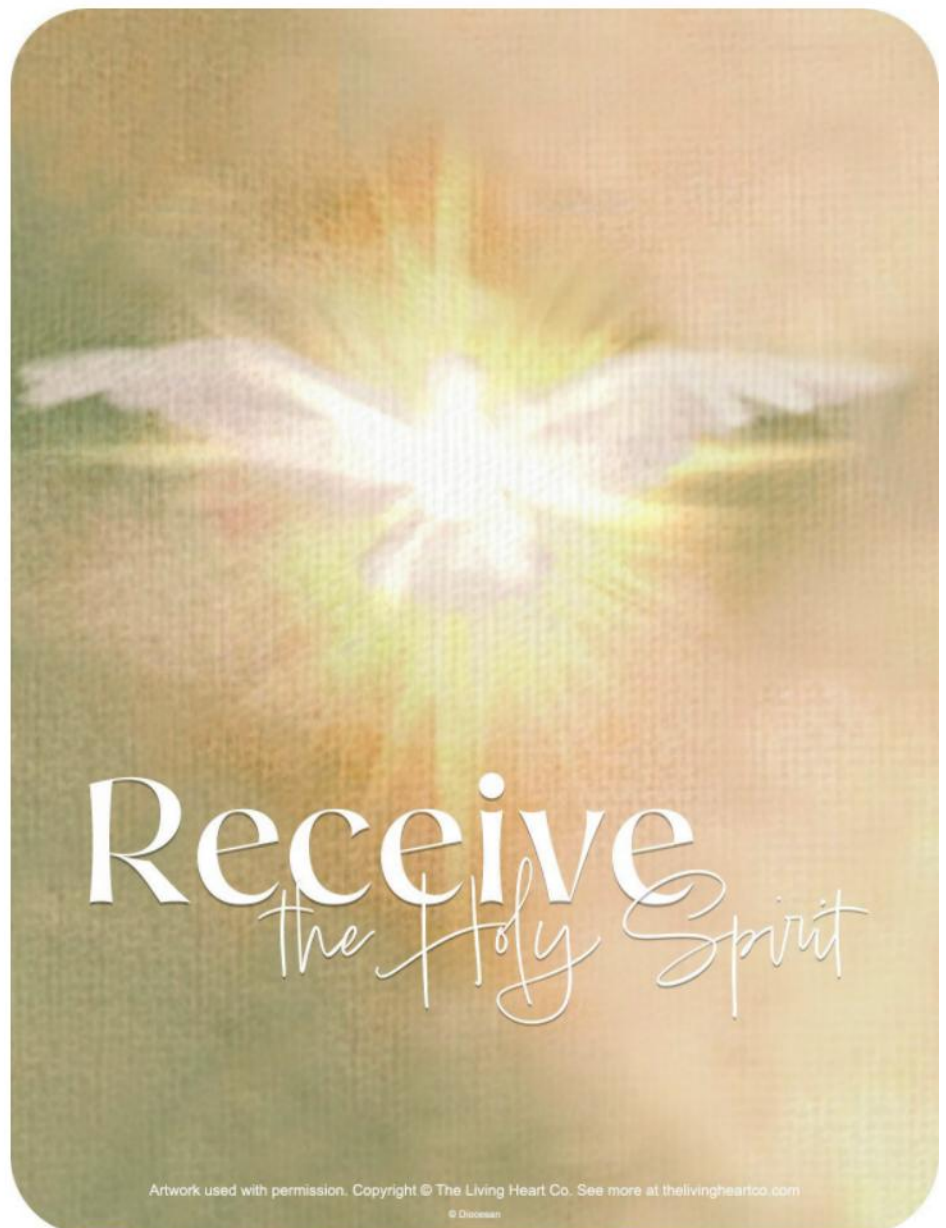
St. Vincent de Paul Society HelpLine..... (309)
264-5815

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).



June 8, 2025
Pentecost Sunday





From Our Pastor

Today the Easter Season comes to a close with the celebration of Pentecost. Fifty days after Jesus rose from the dead, the gift of the Holy Spirit was poured out on the Apostles to strengthen them for their mission.

We, too, receive the Holy Spirit in the sacrament of Confirmation which gives us the divine assistance necessary for us to fulfill our vocations as well. The Holy Spirit dwells in us in ways that cannot be seen but are nevertheless real. For this reason, we say that the body is a temple for the Holy Spirit within us.

Jesus has won for us the grace of salvation, but even after His resurrection, the disciples were still filled with some fear. The Holy Spirit, who came upon them as He did on the prophets in the Old Testament, gives the interior strength necessary for Peter to make his bold proclamation of the Gospel. May the gifts of the Holy Spirit help each of us in our Christian living.

We also received the sad news that Father Tom Taylor has passed away. He struggled from a battle with cancer over the past months and we pray for him, now that he has passed to the Father. Father Taylor was with us for twelve years, so I know that many in the parish will remember him fondly and pray for him. He will be laid to rest on Monday at St. Vincent de Paul Parish.

I am also happy to receive back the two stained glass windows in the narthex that required repair. There had been some water damage around the frames and repair was needed to make sure we did not lose these precious windows. Thank you for your past donations that provided us with the funds necessary to save these windows.

- Msgr. Gray

FIRST SATURDAY DEVOTION TO THE IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY



WEEK OF JUNE 29

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 July 5*



Readings for the Week of June 8, 2025

Sunday	Pentecost Sunday Acts 2: 1-11; 1 Corinthians 12: 3b-7, 12-13 OR Romans 8: 8-17; John 20: 19-23
Monday	The Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church Genesis 3: 9-15, 20; John 19: 25-34
Tuesday	2 Corinthians 1: 18-22; Matthew 5: 13-16
Wednesday	St. Barnabas, Apostle Acts 11: 21b-26; 13: 1-3; Matthew 5: 17-19
Thursday	2 Corinthians 3: 15—4: 1, 3-6; Matthew 5: 20-26
Friday	St. Anthony of Padua, Priest & Doctor of the Church 2 Corinthians 4: 7-15; Matthew 5: 27-32
Saturday	2 Corinthians 5: 14-21; Matthew 5: 33-37
Sunday	Solemnity of The Most Holy Trinity Proverbs 8: 22-31; Romans 5: 1-5; John 16: 12-15

Mass Intentions

Monday, June 9, 2025

7:00 a.m.	Sr. Bernadette Kouri, FSJB
8:00 a.m.	Adrian & Helen Truitt/John Truitt

Tuesday, June 10, 2025

7:00 a.m.	Intentions of John & Carlie Stodgel & Family/Terry & Eileen Grawey
8:00 a.m.	Dolores Oppe/Warren Oppe

Wednesday, June 11, 2025

7:00 a.m.	Lois Frasco/Linda Osika
8:00 a.m.	Intentions of Deacon Ed & Deacon John/Cheryl Fauth

Thursday, June 12, 2025

7:00 a.m.	Suisi Hill/Tam & Phan Vu
8:00 a.m.	Donna Chance/Ann Horst

Friday, June 13, 2025

7:00 a.m.	Helen Tolentino/The Sarmiento/Tolentino Family
8:00 a.m.	Nancy Wilson/Dayton & Mary Stephens

Saturday, June 14, 2025

8:00 a.m.	Joy Hartnett/Molly Gualandri & Becky Blasek
5:00 p.m.	Jim Becker/Nancy Becker

Sunday, June 15, 2025

8:00 a.m.	Peoria Seminarians & Priestly Vocations
10:00 a.m.	Renae Kathleen Juska/Beth Reed
5:00 p.m.	For the People

Week of June 8

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

ROSARY Tuesday, June 10, 10:00 a.m., Chapel

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL Tuesday, June 10, 6:30 p.m., Parish Hall

PARISH COUNCIL Tuesday, June 10, 7:00 p.m., Parish Office

MEN'S CLUB Thursday, June 12, 6:30 p.m., Sullivan's in the Heights

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS INSTILLATION Saturday, June 14, 8:30 a.m., Chapel

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

CARMELITES Saturday, June 14, 11:00 a.m., Parish Hall

UPCOMING EVENTS

St. Thomas Holy Hour	June 19
Millions of Monicas	June 24
Parish Solemnity & Celebration	July 2
St. Thomas Parish Solemnity	July 3
LifeTeen @ St. Vincent	July 6
Adoration	August 1
The Assumption	August 15



Service for Fr. Taylor

The Mass of Christian Burial for **Fr. Thomas Taylor** will be held at **11:00 a.m.** on **Monday, June 9, 2025**, at St. Vincent de Paul Church in Peoria. Visitation is Sunday, June 8th, 2:00-5:00 p.m. at St. Vincent de Paul. Luncheon after Mass on Monday. Fr. Taylor served as assistant here at St. Thomas from 2004-2016. He was well-loved and will be missed.

Eternal rest grant unto him, oh Lord.

Pray with the Pope

June 2025

That the world might grow in compassion

Let us pray that each one of us might find consolation in a personal relationship with Jesus, and from his Heart, learn to have compassion on the world.



Weekly Collection

June 1, 2025

		Fiscal YTD
Collections needed.....	\$20,000.....	\$960,000
Sunday Collections.....	\$14,977.....	\$718,172
Electronic Collections.....	\$7,765.....	\$204,328
Total Collected.....	\$22,442.....	\$922,500
Over/(Short).....	\$2,442.....	\$(37,500)

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

Fr. Thomas Taylor

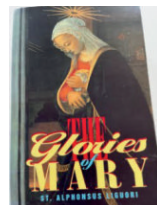
Marjorie DuBois

Wedding Congratulations

Ashley Guingrich & Zach Heinzman

How Important is the Rosary?

Learn together from the Perspective of History & Recent Marian Apparitions
Summer Study The Glories of Mary
By Saint Alphonsus Ligouri



Tuesdays
June 3—Aug 19
9:15-11:00 a.m.
St. Jude Catholic Church—St. Clements Room

Sponsor of the Week

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Proud mother of Aberdeen

(St. Thomas class of 2026)



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.



The **Season begins the week of July 28th** with practices. Games begin on August 14th. Teams meet 2 to 3 times per week with the season running through the months of August and September. This is a great way to begin the school year and reconnect with your St. Thomas family. Registration is open to all families of St. Thomas Parish and School for children entering 1st through 8th grade. This league is focused on building teamwork, soccer skills, and the values of Christian sportsmanship, and there are rules in place to ensure equal playing time. All registrations are completed online. Cost is \$60/player. Each player will receive a new t-shirt/uniform. Be sure to indicate your shirt size. Volunteer coaches are also needed and much appreciated. Please indicate your desire to coach on your child's registration...No experience necessary – we will train you, and you are welcome to team-up with another parent. However, coaches must complete the school volunteer certification requirements to ensure child safety. (cmgconnect.org)

Register soon to secure your spot on the team.

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

Start practicing now!
And get your foursome together for
**The Annual Msgr. Watson Memorial
Golf Outing!**



September 26,
2025

All are welcome!



St. Thomas - Food Pantry

Items needed at this time are: Rice, Mac and Cheese, Crackers, Pasta Sauce, Cereal, Canned Meat, Peanut Butter & Jelly, Canned Fruit and Vegetables, Pancake Mix, Syrup, Canned or Dry Beans (Legumes), Hamburger/Chicken/Tuna Helper

Thank you for your generous support!

ST. THOMAS FEAST DAY CELEBRATION

The apostle Thomas is credited with bringing Christianity to India and the far east. In honor of our missionary patron, let's celebrate the various cultures and backgrounds of our parish and school community!

WEDNESDAY JULY 2, 2025

5:30pm Vigil Mass for the Feast of St. Thomas the Apostle (Main Church)

6:30pm Sample international cuisine from our St. Thomas family! (Parish Hall)

Want to share a favorite dish from your heritage?
Scan QR code or contact parishoffice@stthomas-church.net 309.688.3446

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.



Thank you to the St. Thomas Men's Club for grilling up a delicious meal for the 40 high schoolers who attended Life Teen last week!

Notes from our Parish Nurse
What is Alzheimer's Disease?

Alzheimer's disease is a type of dementia that affects memory, thinking and behavior. Symptoms eventually grow severe enough to interfere with daily tasks.

Alzheimer's is the most common cause of dementia, a general term for memory loss and other cognitive abilities serious enough to interfere with daily life. Alzheimer's disease accounts for 60-80% of dementia cases.

Alzheimer's is not a normal part of aging. The greatest known risk factor is increasing age, and the majority of people with Alzheimer's are 65 and older. Alzheimer's disease is considered to be younger-onset Alzheimer's if it affects a person under 65. Younger-onset can also be referred to as early-onset Alzheimer's. People with younger-onset Alzheimer's can be in the early, middle or late stage of the disease.

Learn more: Younger/Early-Onset Alzheimer's: <https://www.alz.org/alzheimers-dementia/what-is-alzheimers/younger-early-onset>
Causes and Risk Factors: <https://www.alz.org/alzheimers-dementia/what-is-alzheimers/causes-and-risk-factors>

Alzheimer's worsens over time. Alzheimer's is a progressive disease, where dementia symptoms gradually worsen over a number of years. In its early stages, memory loss is mild, but with late-stage Alzheimer's, individuals lose the ability to carry on a conversation and respond to their environment. On average, a person with Alzheimer's lives four to eight years after diagnosis but can live as long as 20 years, depending on other factors.

Learn more: 10 Warning Signs: https://www.alz.org/alzheimers-dementia/10_signs
Stages of Alzheimer's Disease: <https://www.alz.org/alzheimer-s-dementia/stages>

Alzheimer's has no cure, but new treatments demonstrate that removing beta-amyloid, one of the hallmarks of Alzheimer's disease, from the brain reduces cognitive and functional decline in people living with early Alzheimer's. Other treatments can temporarily slow the worsening of dementia symptoms and improve quality of life for those with living Alzheimer's and their caregivers. Today, there is a worldwide effort underway to find better ways to treat the disease, delay its onset and prevent it from developing.

Learn more: Treatments: <https://www.alz.org/alzheimer-s-dementia/treatments>
Treatment Horizon: <https://www.alz.org/help-support/i-have-alz/treatments-research>
Prevention: https://www.alz.org/alzheimers-dementia/research_progress/prevention
Clinical Trials: https://www.alz.org/alzheimer-s-dementia/research_progress/clinical-trials



CORPUS CHRISTI

Eucharistic Procession

SUNDAY JUNE 22, 2025

following 10:00am Mass

A Eucharistic procession is a beautiful tradition of the Church that brings Jesus, truly present into the world that he loves. Please join us as the Blessed Sacrament is placed in a monstrance and reverently carried through the neighborhood around St. Thomas, stopping for prayer, song, and Benediction. Refreshments will be offered in the parish hall afterward.

**First Communicants are especially invited to wear their First Communion outfits to Mass and take a special place in the procession*



Photo credit: Photography by Nick Suydam

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

Monthly Food Delivery – 1:30 PM to 3:30 PM
Thursdays June 12th, July 17th, and August 14th

PLEASE SUPPORT ST. THOMAS GYM UPGRADES

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- ~ 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



St. Vincent de Paul Helpline
309-264-5815

*If you, or someone you know, needs assistance
 please call this number.*

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 _____

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.



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.



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