

## 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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Dcn. Ed Mallow.....360-7735  
Dcn. Mark Kelsch (Senior Status)

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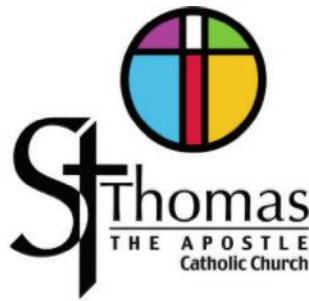
Music Coordinator: Steven Harms.....  
steveharms@stthomas-church.net

Annulment Consultant:  
John Mackoway.....699-5213

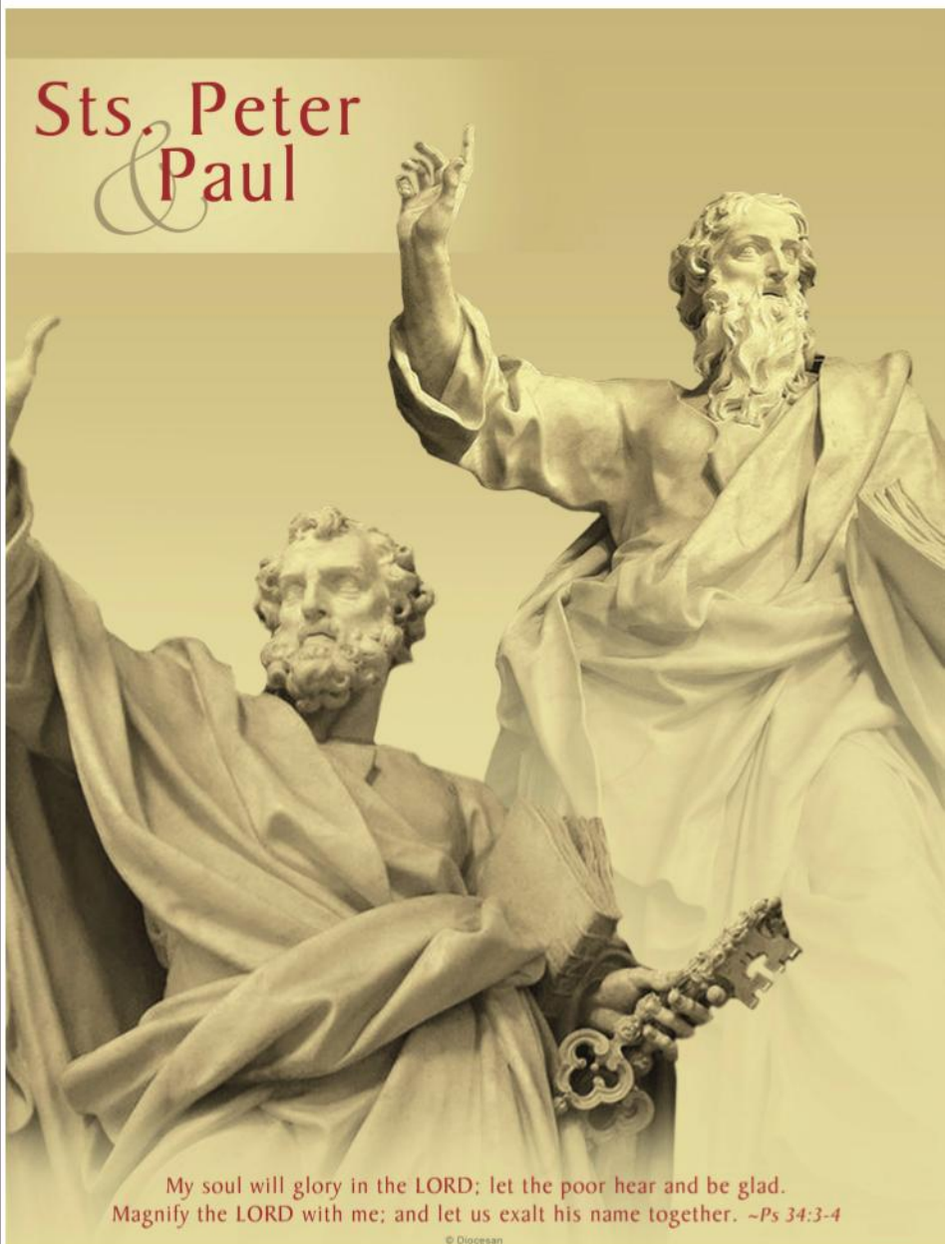
St. Vincent de Paul Society HelpLine..... (309)  
264-5815

### 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 29, 2025*  
*Saints Peter & Paul*





### From Our Pastor

Last Tuesday was the feast of the Birth of St. John the Baptist. This was an important day for the Franciscan Sisters of John the Baptist as they celebrated one of their patrons. I take this opportunity to thank them for their dedicated work at St. Thomas and the many ways they add to the beauty and the spirit of our liturgies.

I am also very grateful for the many parishioners who took part in our Corpus Christi procession. This devotion honored the Blessed Sacrament and was all the more special by the many people who participated. The number was significantly greater than last year. Check Facebook if you would like to see pictures from the day.

This week we will celebrate our patron, St. Thomas, whose feast day is July 3<sup>rd</sup>. Our celebration will take place on Wednesday evening, July 2<sup>nd</sup>, beginning with Mass at 5:30 p.m. and following with a taste of foods from different countries as represented by our many parishioners. Please join us for this celebration. See the bulletin for more details.

Finally, we also pray for our country as we celebrate Independence Day. We will have one Mass at 9 am on the Fourth of July. May God bless and protect our country.

- Msgr. Gray



### Pray with the Pope

July 2025

#### For formation in discernment

Let us pray that we might again learn how to discern, to know how to choose paths of life, and reject everything that leads us away from Christ and the Gospel.



## Readings for the Week of June 29, 2025

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Sts. Peter &amp; Paul, Apostles</b> Vigil: Acts 3: 1-10; Galatians 1: 11-20; John 21: 15-19 Sunday: Acts 12: 1-11; 2 Timothy 4: 6-8, 17-18; Matthew 16: 13-19
<b>Monday</b>	<b>The First Martyrs of the Holy Roman Church</b> Genesis 18: 16-33; Matthew 8: 18-22
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>St. Junipero Serra, Priest</b> Genesis 19: 15-29; Matthew 8: 23-27
<b>Wednesday</b>	Genesis 21: 5, 8-20a; Matthew 8:28-34
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>St. Thomas, Apostle</b> Ephesians 2: 19-22; John 20: 24-29
<b>Friday</b>	Genesis 23: 1-4, 19; 24: 1-8, 62-67 OR 1 Kings 3: 11-14 OR Isaiah 9: 1-6; James 3: 13-18 OR Colossians 3: 12-15; Matthew 9:9-13 OR Matthew 22:15-21 OR John 20:19-23
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>St. Elizabeth of Portugal</b> Genesis 27: 1-5, 15-29; Matthew 9: 14-17
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time</b> Isaiah 66: 10-14c; Galatians 6: 14-18; Luke 10: 1-12, 17-20

## Mass Intentions

### Monday, June 30, 2025

7:00 a.m. Melissa Chase/David & Rose Chase  
8:00 a.m. Neceisio & Mary Mihtante

### Tuesday, July 1, 2025

7:00 a.m. Nancy Wilson/Margaret Thomas  
8:00 a.m. Michael T. Doyle/The Michael T. Doyle Family

### Wednesday, July 2, 2025

7:00 a.m. Mary Truitt/John Truitt  
8:00 a.m. Marian Stahl/Nancy Becker  
5:30 p.m. Mary Kay Kemp/Carolyn Mitchell

### Thursday, July 3, 2025

7:00 a.m. St. Thomas Parishioners/FSJB  
8:00 a.m. Intentions of Edward Pegg/Terry & Eileen Grawey

### Friday, July 4, 2025

9:00 a.m. Fr. Tom Taylor/Jerry & Deborah Heinz

### Saturday, July 5, 2025

8:00 a.m. Women of the Word Leaders  
5:00 p.m. Raymond Horst/Ann Horst

### Sunday, July 6, 2025

8:00 a.m. Thomas Penn/David & Laurie Williams  
10:00 a.m. Peoria Seminarians & Priestly Vocations  
5:00 p.m. For the People

## Week of June 29

**ROSARY** Tuesday, July 1, 10:00 a.m., Chapel

**PARISH SOLEMNITY VIGIL MASS** Wednesday, July 2, 5:30 p.m., Church

**TASTE OF ST. THOMAS** Wednesday, July 2, following Mass, Parish Hall

**ST. THOMAS PARISH SOLEMNITY** Thursday, July 3, morning Masses, Church

**4TH OF JULY MASS** Friday, July 4, 9:00 a.m., Church

**PARISH OFFICE CLOSED** Friday, July 4

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

### UPCOMING EVENTS

<i>LifeTeen @ St. Vincent</i>	July 6
<i>St. Thomas Holy Hour</i>	July 17
<i>Adoration</i>	August 1
<i>The Assumption</i>	August 15
<i>Msgr. Watson Memorial Golf Outing</i>	September 26

Dear St. Thomas Community,

It has been my privilege to serve the Lord alongside you in our parish and school these past eleven years. No one can walk the Christian life alone. Your prayers, volunteerism, and witness make everything we do here possible. Thank you for your well wishes as I move on to a new position in July. I hope to see many of you at our feast day Mass and celebration on July 2<sup>nd</sup>!

God Bless,  
Mary Cushing

## Our Sympathy

Diane Switzer

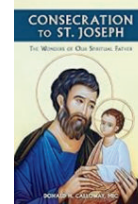
## Baptism Congratulations

Adeline Long, daughter of  
Maggie & William Long

Alfonzo Octavio Leyva, son of  
Alise & Javier Leyva

Evelyn Cecilia Leyva, daughter of  
Evelyn & Oscar Leyva

## St. Thomas Light of the World Small Group Invites You...



Please join us as we will begin a 33 day *Consecration to St. Joseph* according to the method given by Father Donald Calloway, in his book *Consecration to St. Joseph: The Wonders of Our Spiritual Father*. Anyone interested may join us during this period. You can purchase the book on Amazon as a physical book, Kindle Book, or audiobook.

We will be meeting **July 7 at 6:00 p.m.** in the Parish Hall for anyone interested. At that time we will go over the start and end dates. For more information please contact Scott Maurer at [semaurer@gmail.com](mailto:semaurer@gmail.com). Thank you and may God Bless us all on this journey.

## Weekly Collection

June 15, 2025

		Fiscal YTD
Collections needed.....	\$20,000	\$1,000,000
Sunday Collections.....	\$9,962	\$737,256
Electronic Collections.....	\$4,370	\$217,998
Total Collected.....	\$14,332	\$955,254
Over/(Short).....	\$(5,668)	\$(44,746)

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](http://stthomaspeoria.org). Thank you for your support.

## 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.



Sponsor of the Week

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## When you go to the poor, you encounter Jesus



*God give us the grace to soften our hearts toward the poor and to consider that in helping them, we do*

*justice and not mercy. – St. Vincent de Paul*  
St. Vincent de Paul spent his life providing relief to the poor, sick, and imprisoned. He helped change the education of the clergy to include a focus on helping the poor, hoping that they would, in turn, inspire all Christians to help the poor. Members of the St. Vincent de Paul Society today pray that Jesus will give us eyes and a heart directed toward the poor.

The needs of the poor are greater now than ever, especially when prices continue to climb and financial futures are so uncertain. With that need comes stress, anxiety, depression, social isolation and stigma, in addition to an abundance of physical challenges. Our society's mission is to serve those in need with respect and love in defense of social justice, to promote the dignity of those in need through personal contact and to find joy in serving others with humility and empathy.

We challenge you to join us in our mission!

- Donate at the St. Vincent de Paul Society collections after masses on the first weekend of every month. No donation is too small, and every donation is gratefully received.
- Join the St. Thomas St. Vincent de Paul Society in our quest to spread the love of Christ to those most vulnerable by providing relief and restoring dignity.
- Pray that God will grant our St. Vincent de Paul Society members the strength, wisdom, and means to continue helping the poor.

Your contribution to our mission changes lives. Thank you so much for your continued dedication and generosity to our less fortunate neighbors!

Diana Janda

### 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](mailto:parishoffice@stthomas-church.net) 309.688.3446



*Cursillo is Celebrating  
60 Years in the Peoria Diocese*

*Join us for a Diocesan Wide*

***Ultreya***

*Saturday, July 19 at 5:00 p.m.*

*Cathedral of St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception  
Peoria, IL*

*Mass to be Celebrated by Bishop Tylka*

*Following the Mass join us for food and fellowship  
Spalding Pastoral Center  
419 NE Madison Ave., Peoria*

## UNIFORM EXCHANGE

**Sunday, July 13th**  
**Directly following 10am Mass**  
**STS Gym/Cafeteria**

- \$2 school shirts
- \$5 shorts or pants
- \$10 plaids
- \$5 spirit wear t-shirts
- \$10 sweatshirts or sweaters
- \$1 misc items: bows, socks, etc

**Even item for item exchange!**

*Make sure to check out the uniform guidelines before shopping!*

# St. Thomas Monsignor Watson Memorial Golf Outing

In support of the St. Thomas Sponsor a Student Assistance Fund

**Friday, September 26, 2025 • 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 \$135/Person

Golf Registration includes: Green fees, Cart, Range Balls, and Food + Drinks in the Club House after the event.

**Registration Deadline Friday, September 19th**

*Late registration after September 19th, \$145 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 19th**
- **Late Registration \$145 Per Person**

**For more information please contact:**

Tracey Deponai (309) 688-3446

Email: [parishoffice@stthomas-church.net](mailto:parishoffice@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:

Tracey Deponai / Golf • 904 E. Lake Ave. • Peoria Heights, IL 61616

Total Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_



## FIRST EVER COMMUNITY COOKOUT

Come enjoy a fun and relaxing day with great food, cold drinks, and plenty of community resources! Local vendors will be on-site sharing helpful information and support services for individuals and families.



**03** JULY THURSDAY



**10** AM ONWARDS



**615 NE Jefferson St**

GENEROUSLY SPONSORED BY THE  
KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS:



## Holy Hour for the Rights of the Unborn

Monday, July 7, 2025, 7:00 p.m.

Saint Mark Church,

1113 W. Bradley Avenue, Peoria

Holy Hour consists of Benediction, the Rosary, and other prayers. Please join us in prayer for the protection of these innocent lives and the restoration of their Constitutional rights.



## 5K Run/Walk for Life

Annual 5K Run/Walk sponsored by

Central Illinois Right to Life, Inc.

July 12<sup>th</sup> at Metamora Fields Golf Course in Metamora  
start: 7:30 a.m.

Medals are awarded to male and female winners in several age divisions.

Contributions are needed to help purchase the medals for the run. Call Greg at 208-1121 for info.

Registration at <https://raceroster.com/events/2025/92350/run-for-life-5k> and flyer at <https://illinoislife.blogspot.com/2025/06/2025-run-for-life-registration-and.html>



## PND JFL & CHEER

Registration is open!

Cost: Flag-\$100; Cheer-\$100; Tackle-\$200

There will be an additional \$25 charge for anyone who registers after 7/18

Contact [pndjfl@gmail.com](mailto:pndjfl@gmail.com) if financial assistance is needed

Season Starts 7/21/25

Register at [NDJFL.com](http://NDJFL.com)

Questions please email [pndjfl@gmail.com](mailto:pndjfl@gmail.com) or

Contact Coach Mullens at [309-253-5452/jmsta66@yahoo.com](mailto:309-253-5452/jmsta66@yahoo.com)



## Santo Niño de Cebu

27th Anniversary of Enthronement at  
St. Joseph Church

Come and join the celebration!

Saturday, July 19th at 5:30PM

Holy Mass at St. Joseph Catholic Church  
(103 S. Richard Pryor Place-Peoria)

All Santo Niño statues will be blessed during the Mass.

A potluck reception at St. Mark School Gym (711 N. Underhill-Peoria) will follow immediately after Mass. Please come and join the prayerful celebration.

Novena Prayers in preparation for the 27th Anniversary Celebration will be held at St. Mark Church (1113 W. Bradley Avenue) on Thursday, July 10th through Friday, July 18th. The Novena starts at 6:00PM.

For more information, please call Lucy Bender at 309-258-6501 or Nohmie Cuizon at 309-868-0417

## 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](http://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](mailto: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*



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

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Parishioners/STS parents of Monce, Nick & Sophia Leon

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