

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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steveharms@stthomas-church.net

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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).



July 6, 2025

Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time





From Our Pastor

Although the summer is a time for vacation, the work at St. Thomas Parish and School continues. In anticipation of the new school year, we are making improvements to the school. This includes the recarpeting of the school library which was paid for by the Progressive Dinner we held earlier this year. Thank you for your support.

We have also given out financial aid for families in need for the coming year. We work hard to make a Catholic education affordable. We are expecting over 300 students this fall and many of their families depend on some support to come to St. Thomas. The Diocese of Peoria has awarded grants of \$44,000 to our students from the John Lancaster Spalding Scholarship Fund. We have also awarded over \$130,000 to our students from the Sponsor-a-Student Fund. These contributions come directly from generous parishioners and are of direct benefit to one or more of our school families. Any additional need is also met through our Msgr. Watson Scholarship Fund.

St. Thomas School and Peoria Notre Dame provide an excellent education for our families that make this choice. Our parishioners can take pride in this important apostolate of our parish. I encourage you to help us continue to make a Catholic education affordable through your generosity.

For those interested in activities related to the Fulton Sheen Foundation, a Sheen Family Day will take place next Saturday from 9:00 a.m. to noon at the Cathedral and Sheen Museum. There will be special activities for the kids.

- Msgr. Gray



Readings for the Week of July 6, 2025

Sunday	Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time Isaiah 66: 10-14c; Galatians 6: 14-18; Luke 10: 1-12, 17-20
Monday	Genesis 28: 10-22a; Matthew 9: 18-26
Tuesday	Genesis 32: 23-33; Matthew 9: 32-38
Wednesday	St. Augustine Zhao Rong, Priest, & Companions, Martyrs Genesis 41: 55-57; 42: 5-7a, 17-24a; Matthew 10: 1-7
Thursday	Genesis 44: 18-21, 23b-29; 45: 1-5; Matthew 10: 7-15
Friday	St. Benedict, Abbot Genesis 46: 1-7, 28-30; Matthew 10: 16-23
Saturday	Genesis 49: 29-32; 50: 15-26a; Matthew 10: 24-33
Sunday	Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time Deuteronomy 30: 10-14; Colossians 1: 15-20; Luke 10: 25-37

Mass Intentions

Monday, July 7, 2025

7:00 a.m.	Adrian & Helen Truitt/John Truitt
8:00 a.m.	Intentions of Robert & Jill Pegg/Terry & Eileen Grawey

Tuesday, July 8, 2025

7:00 a.m.	Debbie & Jim Selevan/Tam & Phan Vu
8:00 a.m.	Phuong Nguyen/Linh Luong

Wednesday, July 9, 2025

7:00 a.m.	Dave Lang/Ron Eisele
8:00 a.m.	Kathryn Oltman/Mary Camp

Thursday, July 10, 2025

7:00 a.m.	John Ryberg/Eileen Grawey
8:00 a.m.	Dolores Oppe/Warren Oppe

Friday, July 11, 2025

7:00 a.m.	Sr. Bernadette Kouri, FSJB
8:00 a.m.	Joseph & Genevieve Stickelmaier/Ann Horst

Saturday, July 12, 2025

8:00 a.m.	Msgr. Jason Gray/FSJB
5:00 p.m.	Roger Tramel/Lynn Tramel

Sunday, July 13, 2025

8:00 a.m.	For the People
10:00 a.m.	Theodore & Marilyn Pilat/Tom & Mary Kay Pilat
5:00 p.m.	Timothy Emerson Smith/cousin, Mary Judith (Rians) Gschwend



UNIFORM EXCHANGE

Sunday, July 13th

Directly following 10am Mass

STS Gym/Cafeteria

- \$2 school shirts
- \$5 shorts or pants
- \$10 plaid
- \$5 spirit wear tshirts
- \$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!

Week of July 6

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL & PANTRY COLLECTIONS This weekend after all Masses

LIFETEEN Sunday, July 6, 6:00 p.m., St. Vincent de Paul

PDCCW MEETING Monday, July 7, 10:00 a.m., Parish Hall

LIGHT OF THE WORLD Monday, July 7, 6:00 p.m., Parish Hall

ROSARY Tuesday, July 8, 10:00 a.m., Chapel

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL MEETING Tuesday, July 8, 6:30 p.m., Parish Hall

ST. IGNATIUS BIBLE STUDY Thursday, July 10, 6:00 p.m., Parish Hall

MEN'S CLUB Thursday, July 10, 6:30 p.m., Sullivan's in the Heights

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

CARMELITES Saturday, July 12, 11:00 a.m., Parish Hall

UPCOMING EVENTS

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

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.



Weekly Collection

June 29, 2025

		Fiscal YTD
Collections needed.....	\$20,000	\$1,040,000
Sunday Collections	\$9,455	\$766,617
Electronic Collections.....	\$1,740	\$225,859
Total Collected.....	\$11,195	\$992,473
Over/(Short).....	\$(8,805)	\$(47,527)

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

Wedding Congratulations

Melissa VanVienen & Jacob Bednar

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. Thank you and may God Bless us all on this journey.

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.



Reminder - No Life Teen in July

We will resume in August—check the bulletin for more information coming.

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!



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



St. Thomas Project Back Pack

Please help get some of our Peoria Heights K - 8th grade students ready to go back to school!
Please fill each new backpack with the following items by
Friday, August 1st

- | | |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| 1 8X5 Plastic Pencil Box | 1 Wide-Ruled Composition Book |
| 3 1-Subject Wide-Ruled Spiral Notebooks | 3 Plastic 2-Pocket Folders |
| 24 #2 Yellow Pencils (not mechanical) | 2 Large Pink Pearl Erasers |
| 1 10-Pack of Wide Tip Crayola Classic Markers | 1 Pair 5" Pointed School Scissors |
| 2 24-Pack Crayola Crayons | 1 12-Pack Crayola Colored Pencils |
| 1 Large Elmer's Liquid School Glue (7.6 oz.) | 1 Pack of 100 Lined 3X5 Index Cards |
| 3 Jumbo Elmer's Glue Sticks OR | 6 Small Elmer's |
| Disappearing Purple Glue Sticks | |

Please provide school supplies that could be used for both boys and girls. Backpacks may be geared towards either boys or girls. Backpacks may be left in the collection tubs in the narthex or dropped off at the parish office. Donations of empty backpacks or any of the above school supplies are also appreciated. If you would rather provide a monetary donation, we will do the shopping for you! Please put your donation in an envelope marked "Backpacks" and place it in the Sunday collection plate or drop it off at the parish office.

Please contact Diana Janda at dianajanda1964@gmail.com with any questions. Thank you for helping area students get off to a great start for the 2025-2026 school year!



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

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

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 \$ _____



WHAT IS AP?

Advanced Placement (AP) courses are not only honors courses, but they also allow students to earn college credit while still in high school. After completing an AP course, students have the opportunity to take a College Board AP test in that subject; a score of 3 or higher (out of 5) will allow them to earn college credit at most universities.

PND STUDENTS EXCEL

The percentage of PND scoring a 3 or higher on AP exams exceeds the average of public high schools in the state and nation.



22 AP COURSES OFFERED



ADDITIONAL HONORS COURSES

PND offers 29 additional Honors courses across all grade levels and subjects



COLLEGE READINESS

AP Exam scores are a strong indicator of college success and degree completion



LONG-TERM INVESTMENT

Students who earn credit through AP exams tend to take more, not fewer, college courses. They are also more likely to graduate on time, thereby reducing student debt.



SKILL DEVELOPMENT

AP students who earn a 3 or higher on an AP exam perform as well as or better than students who take the college's introductory course.

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,

July 12th 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>



Peanut Butter and Jelly Rally for Sophia's Kitchen!

As we mark 15 years of serving those in need, let's celebrate by holding a Peanut Butter & Jelly Rally! Our goal is \$10,000 and 5,000 jars each of peanut butter and jars of jelly. That's enough to supply the Friday pantry for a year. Spread the Love!

Church Challenge How many jars can your church collect? The church that donates the most jars of peanut butter & jelly **by August 15 wins** the Golden Peanut Award! Follow us on Facebook to see who is in the lead!

Make it a Meal - Add a loaf of whole wheat bread and a healthy side like applesauce or carrots to be part of our "Full Sandwich Set".

Art - Design your own label! What do you think a jar of jelly should look like? Calling artists of all ages to make peanut themed art to be included in our lunch sacks! Add an inspiring message.

You've been Jammed! Invite your friends and neighbors into the game by making them a "Jammed" bag. Put a jar of peanut butter in it to start the game, and a few sweet treats like M & M's or Skittles to thank them for playing. Visit [Sophia's Kitchen | Serving Peoria's community | Heart of Peoria Catholic Community](#) or email soupkitchen2010@gmail.com to print your copies of our Jammed flyer, which explains how to play the game and make donations to Sophia's Kitchen PB & J Rally. Encourage your whole neighborhood to join the fun and help those in need.

All donations can be dropped off at 105 N Richard Pryor Place, Peoria, IL 61605 from 8 AM to 3 PM Monday through Friday. Thank you for your kindness as you help your neighbors in need!



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 if financial assistance is needed

Season Starts 7/21/25

Register at NDJFL.com

Questions please email pndjfl@gmail.com or

Contact Coach Mullens at 309-253-5452/jmsta66@yahoo.com



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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