

## 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

Pastor: Msgr. Jason A. Gray.....(x3)  
msggray@stthomas-church.net

Parochial Vicar: Fr. Leopold Mushobozi.. (x4)  
Fr\_Leo@stthomas-church.net

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)

Director of Faith Formation:  
Kate Crim.....(x1310)  
katecrim@stthomas-church.net

School Principal: Maureen Bentley.....(x1210)  
maureenbentley@stthomas-school.net

Administrative Assistant: Tracey Deponai.(x0)  
traceydeponai@stthomas-church.net

Bulletin Editor: Peggy Sullivan.....(x1301)  
peggysullivan@stthomas-church.net

Finance & Tuition: Sheris Catton.....(x1341)  
sheriscatton@stthomas-church.net

CCD Coordinator: Liz Plaskon...(309)339-4775  
ccd@stthomas-church.net

Parish Nurse: Mary Clare Geraghty....(x1350)  
parishnurse@stthomas-church.net

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

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

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

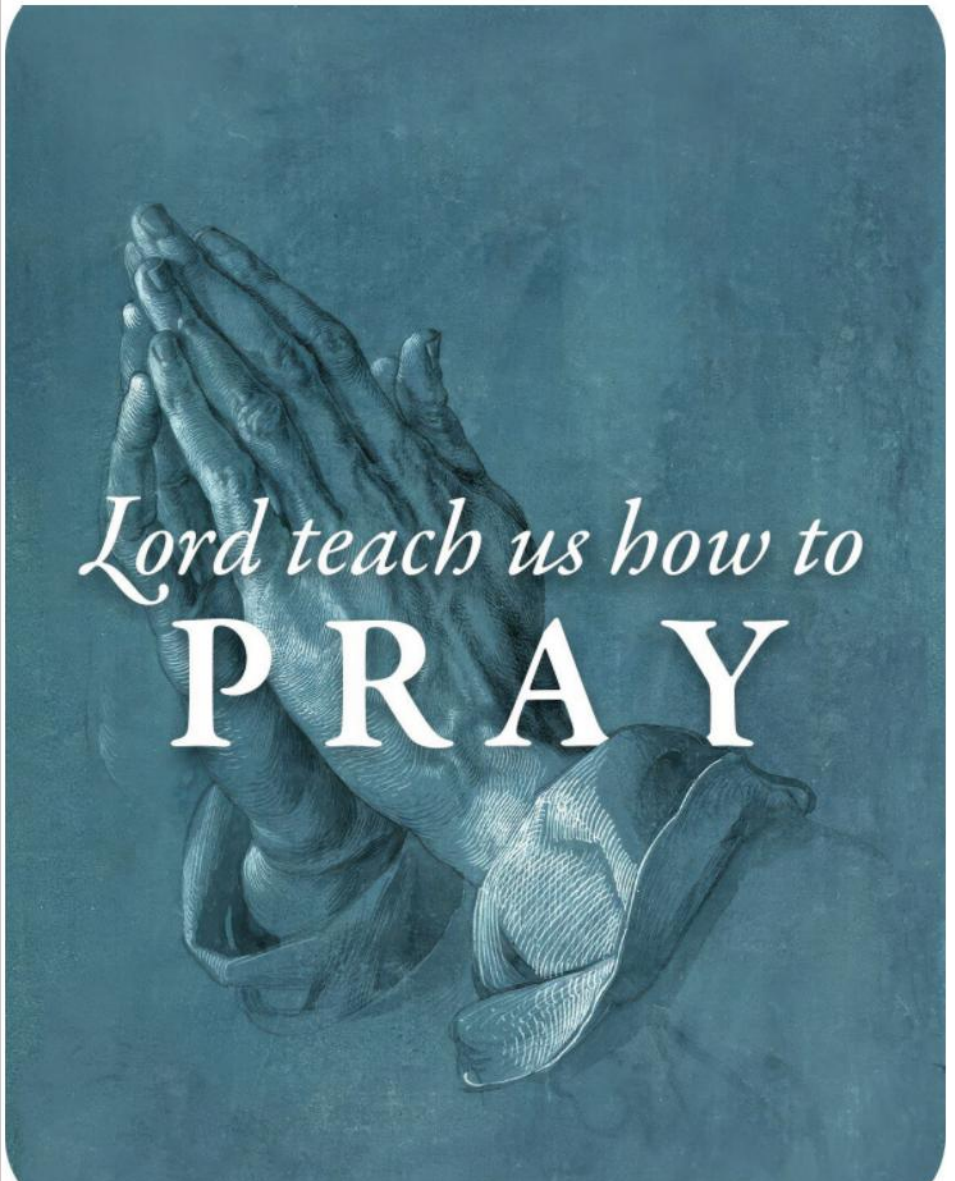
### Stay in Touch

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).



*July 27, 2025*

*Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time*





## From Our Pastor

In a week, we will give away backpacks to students in need in preparation for the next school year. Your help will be greatly appreciated to make this successful. We are still in need of school supplies and especially backpacks. If you would like to make a monetary donation, our volunteers will use these donations to purchase the needed supplies. Please see the description in the bulletin.

This token of generosity is greatly appreciated by many children who are less fortunate and helps them become more excited about getting back into the new school year. Thank you!

OSF St. Francis Medical Center will have a new assistant chaplain, Fr. Edmund. He has recently arrived in the United States from Tanzania and will stay at St. Thomas for a short time while the hospital prepares his quarters in the chaplain's residence near the hospital. You may see Fr. Edmund around before he transfers to the hospital.

I have recently spoken with Evangelical Catholic about a partnership with St. Thomas. Evangelical Catholic encourages parishes to develop a spirit of discipleship by training parishioners how to more effectively share the Gospel with those around us. Sometimes those who have a desire or an interest in evangelization may lack the comfort level or the know-how to carry out that work. As I explore this relationship with Evangelical Catholic, I look forward to developing these skills in more of our parishioners.

- Msgr. Gray



## Attention, AOL/SI Alumni!

Please register for The Academy of our Lady/Spalding Institute All-Class

Reunion. You is DO NOT want to miss this epic celebration on **October 11, 2025**. Spread the word so that no one misses the excitement.

Visit: [www.aolsi-](http://www.aolsi-peoriaalumni.com)

[peoriaalumni.com](http://www.aolsi-peoriaalumni.com) or call **Marty Couri (309) 265-8881** today for all the important details.



## Readings for the Week of July 27, 2025

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time</b> Genesis 18: 20-32; Colossians 2: 12-14; Luke 11: 1-13
<b>Monday</b>	Exodus 32: 15-24, 30-34; Matthew 13: 31-35
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Sts. Martha, Mary, &amp; Lazarus</b> Exodus 33: 7-11; 34: 5b-9, 28; John 11: 19-27
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>St. Peter Chrysologus, Bishop &amp; Doctor of the Church</b> Exodus 34: 29-35; Matthew 13: 44-46
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>St. Ignatius Loyola, Priest</b> Exodus 40: 16-21, 34-38; Matthew 13: 47-53
<b>Friday</b>	<b>St. Alphonsus Liguori, Bishop &amp; Doctor of the Church</b> Leviticus 23: 1, 4-11, 15-16, 27, 34b-37; Matthew 13: 54-58
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>St. Peter Julian Eymard, Priest</b> Leviticus 25: 1, 8-17; Matthew 14: 1-12
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time</b> Ecclesiastes 1: 2; 2: 21-23; Colossians 3: 1-5, 9-11; Luke 12: 13-21

## Mass Intentions

### Monday, July 28, 2025

7:00 a.m. Renae Juska/The Rolett Family  
8:00 a.m. Mary Truitt/John Truitt

### Tuesday, July 29, 2025

7:00 a.m. Mary "Jean" Hisler/The Catholic Women's League  
8:00 a.m. Rita Williams, 1<sup>st</sup> Anniv./Mallow Family

### Wednesday, July 30, 2025

7:00 a.m. Dr. Patrick Whalen/Joe & Sandy Whalen  
8:00 a.m. Fr. Tom Taylor/Bill & Ann Fulton

### Thursday, July 31, 2025

7:00 a.m. Katherine Bartley/Mary Lou & Mike Bartley  
8:00 a.m. Dave Lang/Ron Eisele

### Friday, August 1, 2025

7:00 a.m. Kasen Kaitharath/Amy & John Kelly  
8:00 a.m. Nancy Wilson/Mike & Cindy Scime

### Saturday, August 2, 2025

8:00 a.m. Intentions of Peggy Hessling/Jackson Family  
5:00 p.m. Paul Doran/The Wombacher Family

### Sunday, August 3, 2025

8:00 a.m. For the People  
10:00 a.m. Peoria Seminarians & Priestly Vocations  
5:00 p.m. St. Thomas Donors to St. Vincent de Paul Ministry to the Poor

## Week of July 27

**SIGN-UP FOR FIRST FRIDAY ADORATION** This Weekend after all Masses, narthex

**ROSARY** Tuesday, July 29, 10:00 a.m., Chapel

**ADORATION** Friday, July 1, after 8:00 a.m. Mass until Benediction at 7:00 p.m.

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

### UPCOMING EVENTS

Adoration	August 1
LifeTeen	August 3
The Assumption	August 15
St. Thomas Holy Hour	August 21
Millions of Monicas	August 26
Msgr. Watson Memorial Golf Outing	September 26

## 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

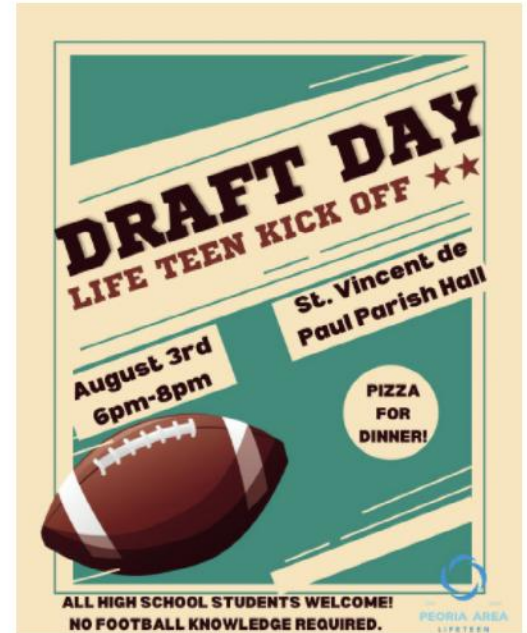
July 20, 2025

		Fiscal YTD
Collections needed.....	\$20,400	\$61,200
Sunday Collections.....	\$8,474	\$32,281
Electronic Collections.....	\$2,790	\$19,400
Total Collected.....	\$11,264	\$51,681
Over/(Short).....	\$(9,136)	\$(9,519)

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.

## Our Sympathy

Please pray for those who have died this week



All 1st-8th grade students not attending a catholic school are invited to CCD. This is also the sacrament preparation for First Communion and Confirmation for students not attending a catholic school.

Scan for more information and registration.

Contact information:  
**Liz Plaskon**, CCD Coordinator  
[CCD@StThomas-Church.net](mailto:CCD@StThomas-Church.net)



Sponsor of the Week





**COMETS** St. Thomas  **St. Thomas**  
**Monsignor Watson Memorial**  
**GOLF OUTING**  
**Friday, September 26th**  
**Mt. Hawley Country Club**

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: SEPTEMBER 19TH

TICKETS! 

DIRECTLY SUPPORTS THE ST. THOMAS SPONSOR A STUDENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

**COMETS** **WE ARE HIRING**

ST. THOMAS SCHOOL IS LOOKING TO FILL AN AFTERCARE SUPPORT POSITION FROM 2:30-5:30 P.M. DAILY MONDAY-FRIDAY.

The position would be great for someone in college or retired and looking for a part time position. This person would be helping our aftercare director. Aftercare supports families that need coverage after school from 3:30-5:30 p.m.

Please contact:  **Maureen Bentley, Principal**  
 maureenbentley@stthomas-school.net

2025-2026 School Year | **#309-685-2533** | Teach Truth, Build Character, and Inspire Service!



Our *Community of Mary, Mother of the Blessed Sacrament*, Carmelites had our Ceremony of the Right of Clothing and Making First Promises during the Celebration of the Eucharist on Saturday, June 14, 2025. Jon Scrivner was Clothed in the Scapular and Fr. Matt Deptula made his First Promises.

PLEASE JOIN US FOR OUR ANNUAL  
**ST. THOMAS PARISH & SCHOOL**  
**MEET & GREET**  
 and  
**PICNIC**   
**AUGUST 10th**

**Meet N Greet your new teacher in your classroom!**  
**10:45-11:45 am**  
**STAY AND ENJOY our Parish/School Picnic**  
**11:00-1:00 pm**

**DJ4U** **PHOTO BOOTH** **KONA ICE FOR SALE**  
**MEN'S CLUB GRILLING** **YARD GAMES**



### St. Thomas Project Back Pack

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

- |   |                                     |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| 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 <b>OR</b> 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!



# 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 \$ \_\_\_\_\_



## NOTICE: CHANGE of DATE!!

Due to unforeseen circumstances, the date has changed:

### 8th ANNUAL GOLF OUTING to Benefit Building Hope In Kids - Uganda

**SUNDAY, SEPT. 21, 2025**

#### QUAIL MEADOWS GOLF COURSE

50-50  
Fun!

4 PLAYER  
SCRAMBLE

MULLIGANS 😊

(Donations to  
BHIKU  
gladly  
accepted even  
if you're not  
interested in  
golfing.)

#### \$100/PLAYER

Includes Greens fee, cart, &  
awards dinner afterwards  
at Dining Room & Bar at  
Quail Meadows, catered by  
Barracks Catering. \*\*

Reserve your spot TODAY  
with check payable to:

**Adolph Arnold**  
111 Regent Ct.  
East Peoria, 61611

(Adolph is the BHIKU Board's  
Fundraising Chair)

Will  
you  
help?



12 Noon  
Shotgun  
Start

MINIMUM  
\$100 TO  
SPONSOR  
A HOLE.  
For more  
details,  
**CALL Arnie**  
309-264-7221



\*\*Dinner Menu: Fire-roasted pulled chicken, au gratin potatoes,  
green beans w/ bacon & onions, salad, and dinner roll.

**DEADLINE TO REGISTER: SEPT. 14th**

### 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 \_\_\_\_\_

### 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!

### ITALIAN AMERICAN SOCIETY

#### 94TH FESTA

Aug 10 ♦ 12-5pm ♦ Hickory Grove Park

FOOD • BAR, ENTERTAINMENT,  
KIDS' ACTIVITIES, VENDOR FAIR,  
MERCH, BOCCIE BALL TOURNAMENT,  
SPAGHETTI EATING CONTEST  
(KIDS • ADULTS)



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\$3 ENTRY, CASH OR VENMO

[ITALIANAMERICANSOCIETY.COM](http://ITALIANAMERICANSOCIETY.COM)

#### 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.



*Come with Me  
Into the fields*

The next Cursillo Weekend is  
Men's #1245 on Aug 21- 24  
Rector Jeff Matheson

Scan the QR code to register or visit  
<https://peoriacursillo.org/join-us>  
For more information call (309) 676-5587

#### Holy Hour for the Rights of the Unborn

Let's honor St Maximilian Kolbe, the patron saint of the Pro-Life movement, whose feast day is Aug. 14, by engaging in prayer and action for vulnerable unborn children and their mothers! Join the St. Clement Council Knights of Columbus and other Pro-life Warriors for a **Holy Hour for the Rights of the Unborn** on **Monday, Aug. 4, 7:00-8:00 pm** at St. Mark's Church, 1113 W. Bradley Ave., Peoria. The Holy Hour includes: Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, the rosary, adoration, and benediction. For more information, contact John Wikoff, St. Clement Council Life Director, at [jpw61552@gmail.com](mailto:jpw61552@gmail.com).



### 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 - Kate—Faith Formation
- 1301 - Peggy—Bulletin

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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