

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

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

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

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parishnurse@stthomas-church.net

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steveharms@stthomas-church.net

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

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

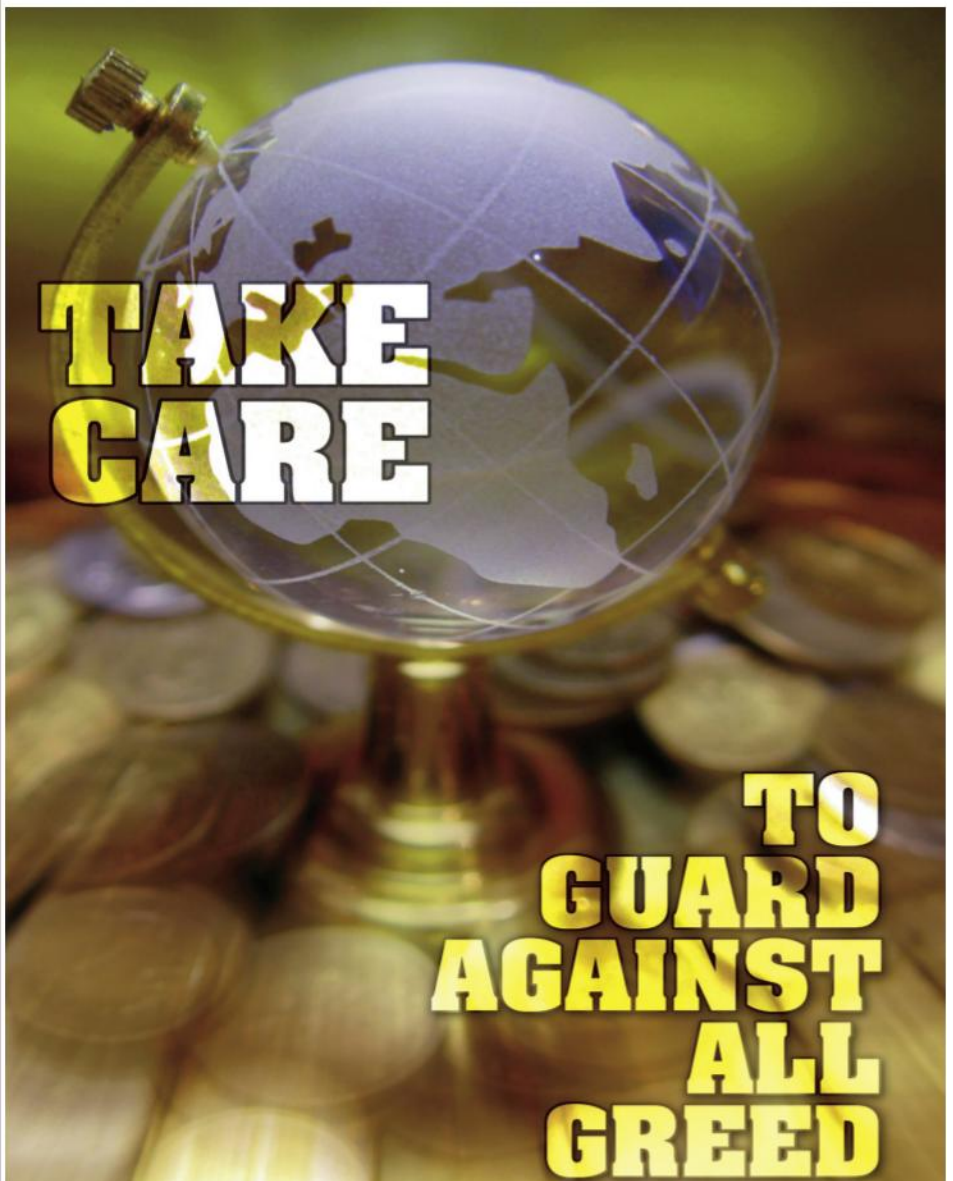
Stay in Touch

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).



August 3, 2025

Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time





From Our Pastor

With August comes back to school activities as we prepare for the beginning of a new year. This included the backpack giveaway that took place yesterday as school children in need of school supplies benefited from the many donations to get them ready to learn.

This Sunday, August 3rd, Life Teen will begin again at 6:00 p.m. at St. Vincent de Paul. Teens are invited and most encouraged to attend. Our new Director of Faith Formation, Kate Crim, is part of the team planning these events. Thank you for your support.

Next Sunday, August 10th, we will have a back-to-school Parish and School picnic. As we have done in the past, we encourage parish families and school families to attend. The picnic will take place after the 10:00 a.m. Mass on the parking lot. The school and parish support one another, so it is important that everyone is invited. Every parishioner is a part of the support of our school's mission, whether through your contributions, your volunteering, or your prayers.

To every school family, you are also part of the St. Thomas Parish community. Having your families and especially your children with us at Mass is always a joy. We look forward to all the events this year when the parish and school will come together.

The school will be open on August 10th as students drop off their school supplies. Parishioners are welcome to walk through the school as well. You might drop by the school library, in particular, as your donations from the Progressive Dinner paid for the re-carpeting and refurbishment of the library.

- Msgr. Gray



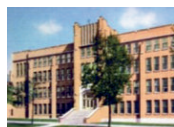
Attention, AOL/SI Alumni!

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

Reunion. You are 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 August 3, 2025

Sunday	Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time Ecclesiastes 1: 2; 2: 21-23; Colossians 3: 1-5, 9-11; Luke 12: 13-21
Monday	St. John Vianney, Priest Numbers 11: 4b-15; Matthew 14: 13-21
Tuesday	The Dedication of the Basilica of St. Mary Major Numbers 12: 1-13; Matthew 14: 22-36
Wednesday	The Transfiguration of the Lord Daniel 7: 9-10, 13-14; 2 Peter 1: 16-19; Luke 9: 28b-36
Thursday	St. Cajetan, Priest Numbers 20: 1-13; Matthew 16: 13-23
Friday	St. Dominic, Priest Deuteronomy 4: 32-40; Matthew 16: 24-28
Saturday	St. Teresa Benedicta of the Cross, Virgin & Martyr Deuteronomy 6: 4-13; Matthew 17: 14-20
Sunday	Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time Wisdom 18: 6-9; Hebrews 11: 1-2, 8-19; Luke 12: 32-48

Mass Intentions

Monday, August 4, 2025

7:00 a.m. John Ryberg/Eileen Grawey
8:00 a.m. Fr. Paul Stark, S.J.

Tuesday, August 5, 2025

7:00 a.m. Ray & Phyllis Noe/Mary Ann Noe
8:00 a.m. Fr. Thomas Taylor/Tony & Honey Jacob

Wednesday, August 6, 2025

7:00 a.m. Souls in Purgatory/Tam & Phan Vu
8:00 a.m. Mary Truitt/John Truitt

Thursday, August 7, 2025

7:00 a.m. Mary Kay Kemp/Mary Slevin
8:00 a.m. Josefina Ventura

Friday, August 8, 2025

7:00 a.m. Betty Pegg/Eileen Grawey
8:00 a.m. Thomas Penn/David & Laurie Williams

Saturday, August 9, 2025

8:00 a.m. Dave Lang/Mary Ann Noe
5:00 p.m. Joseph Tesar/The Schafer Family

Sunday, August 10, 2025

8:00 a.m. For the People
10:00 a.m. Dave Ryon/Family
5:00 p.m. Phillip Braet/Chris Braet & Family

Week of August 3

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

LIFETEEN Sunday, August 3, 6:00 p.m., St. Vincent de Paul

PDCCW MEETING Monday, August 4, 10:00 a.m., Parish Hall

LIGHT OF THE WORLD Monday, August 4, 6:00 p.m., Parish Hall

ROSARY Tuesday, August 5, 10:00 a.m., Chapel

BACK TO SCHOOL PRE3/PK/K Wednesday, August 6, 6:00 p.m., School, Parents only

ST. IGNATIUS BIBLE STUDY Thursday, August 7, 6:00 p.m., Parish Hall

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

CARMELITES Saturday, August 9, 11:00 a.m., Parish Hall

UPCOMING EVENTS

<i>The Assumption</i>	August 15
<i>St. Thomas Holy Hour</i>	August 21
<i>Extra Confession Sunday</i>	August 24
<i>Millions of Monicas</i>	August 26
<i>Adoration</i>	September 5
<i>Msgr. Watson Memorial Golf Outing</i>	September 26

Pray with the Pope

August 2025
For mutual coexistence

Let us pray that societies where coexistence seems more difficult might not succumb to the temptation of confrontation for ethnic, political, religious, or ideological reasons.



Weekly Collection

July 27, 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. Thank you for your support.

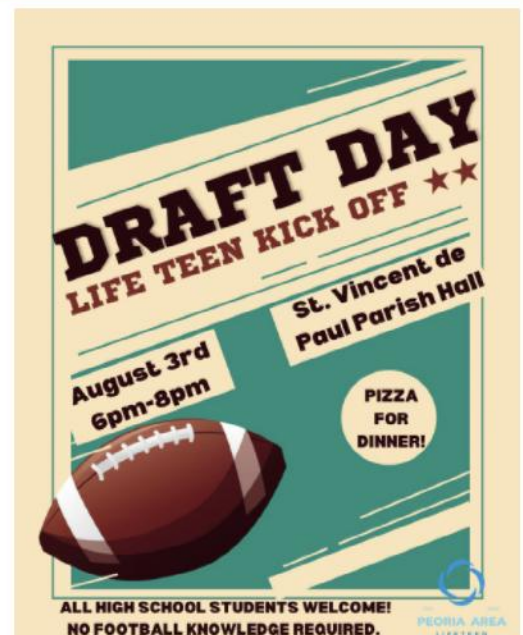
Our Sympathy

Please pray for those who have died this week

Baptism Congratulations

Theodore Matthew Eckhart, son of
Anne & Sean Eckhart

Letti Marie Leach, daughter of
Amanda & Nathan Leach



Religious Education

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



Richard A. Kube II, MD, FACSS
Spine Surgeon

Sponsor
of the Week



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Parishioner
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Office: 309-691-7774
www.prairiespine.com

When you go to the poor, you encounter Jesus



I absolutely love working with the St. Vincent de Paul Society! Let me explain a bit why. I have often felt overwhelmed with the problems of others and at a loss as to how I could help. I firmly believe that Jesus told us to love and care for each other. But how can I do that?

And then I joined SVP work. People in need call in for help and we respond. We work in teams of two so I always have a partner. We make a visit to listen to the people making the request. Our purpose is not only to help them, but also to let them feel heard and know they are not alone. We CARE!

In some cases, we are unable to provide any financial aide until they secure some level of consistent income. HOWEVER, I have been uplifted to realize how much information we can give them that can lead to them becoming self-sufficient. And all the while, the goal is to share God's love by letting them know our parish community CARES!

Doing this work has made my faith come alive. To quote Mother Teresa, we can do no great things, only small things with great love.

~ Colleen

Feasting for the Feast of St. Thomas



Wonderful food
And fellowship for all
who participated



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.



The proud man counts his newspaper clippings; the humble, his blessings.



~ Fulton Sheen

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!

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
KONICA FOR SALE
MEN'S CLUB GRILLING YARD GAMES

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

Join us for

The ShamROCK

INTRODUCING PEORIA NOTRE DAME'S FALL SPORTS TEAMS

Friday Aug. 22 2025 5 - 10 p.m.

Location
PND Athletic Fields, upper parking lot

Food
Alwan and Sons Meat Company
grilled sandwiches, chips, & sodas

Entertainment
Live band: 3 and a Half Men

Beverages
Brewers Distributing Co.
beer and seltzer tent

Kids Activities
Balloon animals, face painting, tinsel hair, and caricatures

Scan for tickets!

<https://pndhs.ejoinme.org/PNDShamROCK2025>

PEORIA NOTRE DAME
Community Faith Knowledge Service

To help our students develop personal relationships with God, Peoria Notre Dame offers daily Mass, all-day Adoration twice a week, and Confession twice a week!

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 \$ _____

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 😊

\$100/PLAYER

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

12 Noon
Shotgun
Start

Reserve your spot TODAY
with check payable to:

Adolph Arnold
111 Regent Ct.
East Peoria, 61611

(Adolph is the BHIKU Board's
Fundraising Chair)

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

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

Will
you
help?



**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. 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!

Get Jammed!

Help Sophia's Kitchen collect 5000 jars of peanut butter and jelly!

Sophia's Kitchen is holding a rally to collect enough peanut butter and jelly to supply our Friday pantry for an entire year! You can help! Here's what you can do:

- ✓ Collect jars of peanut butter and jelly. Any flavor of jelly will do. Plastic jars are best!
- ✓ Tell your friends and family and ask them to collect too.
- ✓ Bring your jars to your collection point:
- ✓ Online donations can be made at www.CatholicPeoria.org

Donations may be dropped off at 105 N Richard Pryor Place, Peoria, IL 61605, Monday through Friday from 8 AM to 3 PM.

Help us reach a goal of 5000 jars by September 15!

SOPHIA'S KITCHEN

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.

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 - 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*



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