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

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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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Annulment Consultant:

John Mackoway......699-5213

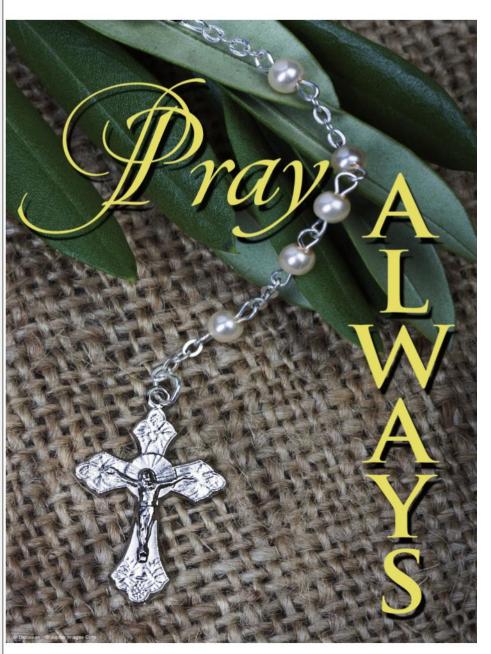
St. Vincent de Paul Society HelpLine.....(309) 264-5815

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
- 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).



October 19, 2025 Twenty-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time





From Our Pastor

I spent this past week at the Canon Law Society of America convention. This meeting of canonists is a very beneficial gathering to stay up to date on canonical issues including subjects such as marriage and annulments. Canon Law also deals with other issues of Church discipline. Recently, I wrote a chapter of a new Clergy Procedural Handbook published by the Canon Law Society of America.

On Monday we will have the first gathering of a Grandparents Group at 9 AM. The purpose of this group is to help grandparents be a positive influence to strengthen the faith of their grandchildren. Grandparents may want to strengthen their grandchildren's faith but may not know how. This group may help give support, inspiration and strength.

If you want to recommend anyone for Parish Council, please make your nominations known to me or to the parish office this week in preparation for the election of new members in November.

Fulton Sheen was the head of the Society of the Propagation of the Faith which promoted the Missions. The head of the Missions Society will be reciting the Sheen Mission Rosary during the month of October at 2 PM each day. You can participate online at https://shorturl.at/ehMut. I will lead the Rosary from the Sheen Museum on October 24th. Bishop Tylka will lead the Rosary on October 30th.

Finally, next weekend, we will conduct a mission appeal to benefit Father Leo's Diocese in Tanzania. Every parish is asked to take up a collection for the missions each year. It is good that we focus our efforts this year on the Church where Father Leo serves in his home country.

- -Msgr. Gray



Readings for the Week of October 19, 2025

Sunday Twenty-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Exodus 17: 8-13; 2 Timothy 3: 14—4: 2; Luke 18: 1-8

Monday St. Paul of the Cross, Priest

Romans 4: 20-25; Luke 12: 13-21

Tuesday Romans 5: 12, 15b, 17-19, 20b-21; Luke 12: 35-38

Wednesday St. John Paul II, Pope

Romans 6: 12-18; Luke 12: 39-48

Thursday St. John of Capistrano, Priest

Romans 6: 19-23; Luke 12: 49-53

Friday St. Anthony Mary Claret, Bishop

Romans 7: 18-25a; Luke 12: 54-59

Saturday Romans 8: 1-11; Luke 13: 1-9

Sunday Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sirach 35: 12-14, 16-18; 2 Timothy 4: 6-8, 16-18; Luke 18: 9-14

Mass Intentions

Monday, October 20, 2025

7:00 a.m. Nancy Wilson/Julie Enzenberger 8:00 a.m. Patrick Adlington/Joe & Sandy Whalen

Tuesday, October 21, 2025

7:00 a.m. Adrian & Helen Truitt/John Truitt 8:00 a.m. Sam & Eleanor Becker/Nancy Becker

Wednesday, October 22, 2025

7:00 a.m. Souls in Purgatory/Angela Kenny

Sch. Mass Christine Pilat/Family

Thursday, October 23, 2025

7:00 a.m. Vernell Cox/The Sarmiento & Tolentino Families

8:00 a.m. Thomas Penn/David & Laurie Williams

Friday, October 24, 2025

7:00 a.m. For FSJB

8:00 a.m. Wade Richrath/Cathleen Schisler

Saturday, October 25, 2025

8:00 a.m. Dave Lang/Charlie & Pam Eppel 5:00 p.m. Intentions of James Barnes

Sunday, October 26, 2025

8:00 a.m. For the People

10:00 a.m. Bonnie Strieder/Ed & Cathy Mallow 5:00 p.m. Mary Ambrosch/Tom Ambrosch

Week of October 19

LIFETEEN Sunday, October 19, 6:00 p.m., St. Vincent Parish Hall

GRANDPARENTING & THE FAITH Monday, October 20, 9:00 a.m., Parish Hall

INCLUSION Monday, October 20, 7:00 p.m., Parish Hall

ROSARY Tuesday, October 21, 10:00 a.m., Chapel

PARISH COUNCIL Tuesday, October 21, 7:00 p.m., Parish Office

CCD Wednesday, October 22, 6:00 p.m., School

OCIA Wednesday, October 22, 7:00 p.m., Parish Hall

K OF C GENERAL COUNCIL MEETING Thursday, October 23, 6:00 p.m., STS Conference Room

WOMEN OF THE WORD Thursday, October 23, 6:30 p.m., Parish Hall

THAT MAN IS YOU Friday, October 24, doors open 6:00, program 6:30 a.m., ends by 7:30 a.m., Parish Hall

TRUNK OR TREAT Friday, October 24, 6:00 p.m., Back Parking Lot

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

MISSION APPEAL Sunday, October 25/26, at all Masses

UPCOMING EVENTS

150th CDOP Adoration @ St. Thomas October 30 Adoration November 7 Progressive Dinner November 8

Our Sympathy

Betty Vonachen

GRANDPARENTING & THE FAITH

MONDAY, OCTOBER 20TH 9-10AM
ST THOMAS PARISH HALL



PLEASE JOIN OTHER GRANDPARENTS AND MONSIGNOR
FOR A DISCUSSION ON HOW WE CAN HELP GROW THE
FAITH OF OUR YOUNGEST FAMILY MEMBERS
COFFEE & MUFFINS PROVIDED

October – Respect Life Month/ Peoria Diocesan Council of Catholic Women

Every life is precious, every person a gift. Life is sacred from conception to natural death. Teach children that every person—born or unborn, elderly or disabled—deserves love and protection.

Tip: Pray a decade of the Rosary this month for life. Attend a local Life Chain or pro-life event together.

Weekly Collection

October 5, 2025

		FISCAL YID
Collections needed	\$20,400	\$285,600
Sunday Collections	\$14,518	\$171,693
Electronic Collections	\$3,255	\$74,397
Total Collected	\$17,773	\$246,090
Over/(Short)	\$(2,627)	\$(39,510)

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.

Pray with the Pope

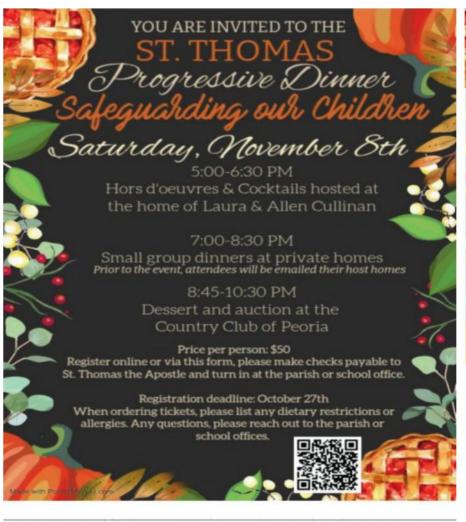
October 2025
For collaboration between different religious traditions

Let us pray that believers in different religious traditions might work together to defend and promote peace, justice, and human fraternity.



Sponsor of the Week





Please return to the parish or school office with cash or check. PROGRESSIVE DINNER

Names of attendees:

Email address:

Phone Number:

Dictary restrictions/allergies:



OCIA Schedule

Oct 29: Liturgy, Sacraments; and Saints

Nov 5: Baptism, Confirmation

Nov 12: Eucharist

Nov 19: Penance, Anointing, Funerals

Nov 26: No Class ~ Thanksgiving

Dec 3: Blessed Virgin Mary, Rosary

Dec 10: Orders, Religious Life

Dec 17: Marriage Dec 24: No Class Dec 31: No Class

Jan 7: Liturgical year, Church tour, Mass practice



St. Thomas - Food Pantry

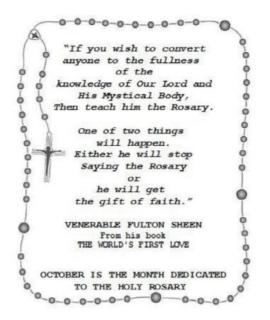
Items needed at this time are: Rice, Mac and Cheese, Crackers, Pasta Sauce, Cereal, Canned Meat, Peanut Butter & Jelly, Canned Fruit and Vegetables, Pancake Mix, Syrup, Canned or Dry Beans (Legumes), Hamburger/Chicken/Tuna Helper

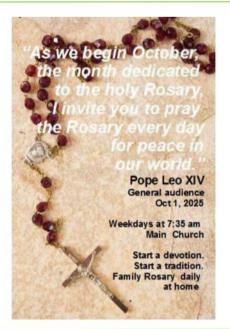
Thank you!

Parish Council Openings

The Parish Council is a group of nine individuals who were selected to represent the Parish by advising and assisting the pastor.

If you would like to be considered for an open position on the Parish Council, or if you would like to nominate someone to be considered, please contact the parish office.







Why Safety Matters in Our School

This year monies earned from the *Progressive Dinner* (Saturday, November 8^{th}) will be used for safety measures for our STS students. ALL members of the Parish are invited to participate in this fun evening that benefits our School and Parish. Are you still undecided about attending? Maybe this video can help you make up your mind.

Click here: https://youtu.be/CFwBjilfOMc

We hope to see many of you at the Dinner!!



40 Days for Life September 24 - November 2, between 7 a.m. and 7 p.m. Come to the sidewalk at Planned Parenthood, 2709 N Knoxville Ave, Peoria, and pray with other prayer volunteers. People are encouraged to sign up at **www.40daysforlife.com/peoria** and to see when others plan to be there too. If you have not

signed up before or need a refresher, a YouTube video is linked at *illinoislife.blogspot.com*.



2025 Annual Diocesan Appeal

Proclaiming Christ yesterday, today, forever.

Thanks to the generosity of a number of parish families, we are well on our way towards our goal of \$110,554. Each gift is important to the mission of the diocese. If you have not yet had the opportunity, please return a pleage card with your response today. There are cards on the tables in the back of church. Your gift helps support the central ministries of our diocese including religious education of our young people, faith formation of adults, training of our future priests, Newman Centers on our college campuses and much more. Every dollar raised over our goal will be kept in the parish to help us with future needs. To those who have contributed, we are most grateful.



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 Phone___ City______ ZIP____ New Parishioner _____ Change of address/phone _____



itoosociety.ora

for additional event info and to preorder for Saturday's drive-thru

ITOO HALL FARMINGTON RD

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 1 (3PM-6PM)

preorder/drive-thru only (all orders prepaid) orders due by Friday, October 31 no orders taken on site Saturday

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 2 (11AM-6PM)

dine-in seating / buffet serving carry-outs available bake sale

Meal includes: cabbage rolls, baked kibbeh, green beans, chicken & rice, salad, pita bread \$20 / MEAL

Spiritual Warfare & Discernment of Spirits

Are you anxious about many things? Have you ever thought about the thoughts/voices in your head? Not all of them are your own! Join us for a small group on Spiritual Warfare & Discernment of Spirits. Study the wisdom of St. Ignatius of Loyola with Dan Burke in a video series and learn to push back the darkness by taking every thought captive to live in the peace of Christ that surpasses all understand-

Sessions will held on Tuesdays at 4 pm starting on October 14th in the Sacred Heart Church Hall. The series will run for 6 weeks (until November 18th) and each session will last about an hour and a half. Each session will include prayer, a video lesson, individual reflection and group discussion. If you are interested in attending and haven't signed up yet, please contact Kelly Ramirez at 217-620-3743 or by email at KelRamirez82@gmail.com.

Emmaus Knights

For young men grades 7-12

Nov 9 From 4:30 pm-6:30 pm

Join Fr. Chase for a Sunday night of faith, fraternity, and formation at the Emmaus House 2327 W. Heading Ave., W. Peoria

Scan the QR code to let us know you are coming and to have your parent fill out the digital permission form.



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.







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