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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Fr_Leo@stthomas-church.net

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(688-3500); fsjbpeoria@yahoo.com

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

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John Mackoway......699-5213

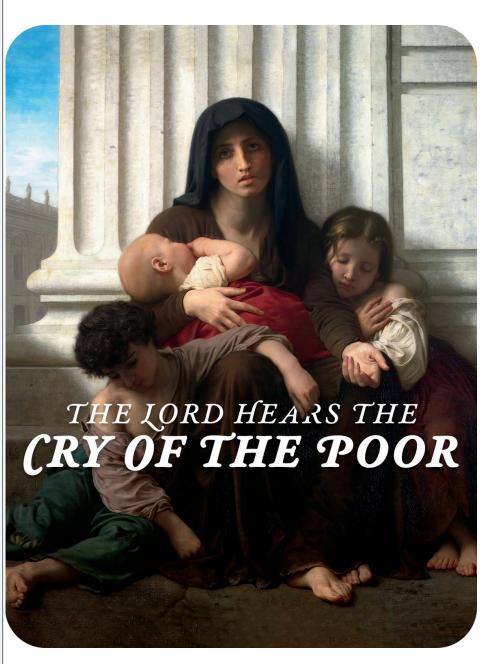
St. Vincent de Paul Society HelpLine.....(309) 264-5815

Stay in Touch

- 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 26, 2025 Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time





From Our Pastor

Last week, I attended the Canon Law Society of America convention. During the convention, I was elected to the Board of Governors of the CLSA. This position adds some responsibilities, but fortunately, most of the work done by the Board is done online and meetings are virtual.

Last Sunday, Bishop Tylka announced the renovation of the Spalding Institute building to feature Fulton Sheen. The Spalding building will be lovingly preserved and given new life as a means of honoring her most famous valedictorian. The Sheen Experience will be more than a museum and will engage the increasing number of visitors who come to Peoria to venerate Archbishop Sheen.

This weekend, Father Leo will make his mission appeal on behalf of his Diocese in Tanzania. This parish has generously supported the various missions in Africa in previous years and we look forward to this opportunity to help those who are in need. The Church in Africa is growing and is in need our help.

This Thursday we will have an extra holy hour at 7:00 p.m. The Diocese of Peoria is honoring her 150th anniversary by sending a monstrance around to each of the schools during this celebration. We will take advantage by using the same monstrance for a parish holy hour.

Finally, All Saints Day falls on Saturday, November 1st, and is not obligatory this year. You are welcome to attend Mass at 8:00 a.m. Next Sunday will be All Souls' Day and will be marked by our prayers for the poor souls in Purgatory.

- -Msgr. Gray





Readings for the Week of October 26, 2025

Sunday Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

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

Monday Romans 8: 12-17; Luke 13: 10-17

Tuesday Sts. Simon & Jude, Apostles

Ephesians 2: 19-22; Luke 6: 12-16

Wednesday Romans 8: 26-30; Luke 13: 22-30

Thursday Romans 8: 31b-39; Luke 13: 31-35

Friday Romans 9: 1-5; Luke 14: 1-6

Saturday All Saints Day

Revelation 7: 2-4, 9-14; 1 John 3: 1-3; Matthew 5: 1-12a

Sunday Commemoration of All The Faithful Departed

(All Souls Day)

Wisdom 3: 1-9; Romans 5: 5-11; John 6: 37-40

Mass Intentions

Monday, October 27, 2025

7:00 a.m. Lydia & William Bergman/Family 8:00 a.m. Michael Quigley/Tom & Becky Frakes

Tuesday, October 28, 2025

7:00 a.m. Dorothy Bertschy/SVdP Seminarian Group

8:00 a.m. Nancy Wilson/Julie Enzenberger

Wednesday, October 29, 2025

7:00 a.m. Mary Kay Kemp/Joe & Sandy Whalen 8:00 a.m. Intentions of Jeremy Snyder/James Snyder

Thursday, October 30, 2025

7:00 a.m. Truyen Nguyen/Tan Tran Sch. Mass Souls in Purgatory

Friday, October 31, 2025

7:00 a.m. Thomas Penn/David & Laurie Williams

8:00 a.m. Marianne Hunt

Saturday, November 1, 2025

8:00 a.m. Norma Martin/The Sarmiento Family

5:00 p.m. For the People

Sunday, November 2, 2025

8:00 a.m. For the Souls in Purgatory/FSJB

10:00 a.m. Deceased Parishioners of St. Thomas/FSJB

5:00 p.m. Deceased Bishops & Priests of the Peoria Diocese/FSJB

Week of October 26

FR. LEO MISSION APPEAL Weekend, October 25/26, All Masses

INCLUSION Monday, October 27, 7:00 p.m., Parish Hall

ROSARY Tuesday, October 28, 10:00 a.m., Chapel

MILLIONS OF MONICAS Tuesday, October 28, 7:00 p.m., Chapel

CCD Wednesday, October 29, 6:00 p.m., School

OCIA Wednesday, October 29, 7:00 p.m., Parish Hall

ST. IGNATIUS BIBLE STUDY Thursday, October 30, 6:00 p.m., Parish Hall

150TH CDOP ADORATION Thursday, October 30, 7:00 p.m., Church

THAT MAN IS YOU Friday, October 31, doors open 6:00, program 6:30 a.m., ends by 7:30 a.m., Parish Hall

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

UPCOMING EVENTS

LifeTeen November 2
Adoration November 7
Progressive Dinner November 8
St. Thomas Holy Hour November 20



In celebration of the 150th anniversary of the founding of the Diocese of Peoria we have Adoration

Thursday, October 30th

At 7:00 p.m. in the Church

Please join us in prayer and thanksgiving for our Diocese

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.



Weekly Collection

October 19, 2025

		FISCAL YID
Collections needed	\$20,400	\$326,400
Sunday Collections	\$7,406	\$202,447
Electronic Collections	\$1,990	\$81.992
	\$9,396	
		·

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

Kurt Rostetter

David J. Skender, brother of Nancy M. Medendorp

Wedding Congratulations

Payton Leverton & Aaron Hoelscher

Prayers Requested

One of our fellow Parishioners will be assisting with the upcoming Women's Cursillo the weekend of Oct. 23-26. *Shawn Mindock* will be Co-Music Chair. Please pray for her, and the rest of the team.

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

Sponsor of the Week



JIM ROCHFORD ATTORNEY AT LAW

JIM ROCHFORD & ASSOCIATES
309.637.5322 PARISHIONER
101 South West Adams, #700
drochford@rochfordlaw.com





A LIFE NIGHT ON

All High School students are welcome and dinner will be provided!





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.

Members of the Council commit to a three-year term and meet once per month for one hour, generally on the third Tuesday of each month, with breaks for holidays.

Prospective candidates should be practicing Catholics who support St. Thomas and are engaged in the life of the Parish. It is helpful if the candidate brings some familiarity or involvement in the activities of the Parish or the School.

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.

When you go to the poor, you encounter Jesus



How does the St. Vincent de Paul Society differ from a social service agency?

Client Visit from Agency:

Meet, assess need, dispense financial assistance if eligible according to stated rules.

Neighbor Visit from Vincentian:

Meet, listen, "accompany" neighbor with compassion, encouragement, prayer, in kind assistance (such as food, household items, clothing), follow up later if needed.

When you support SVdP, you are not just offering immediate, concrete assistance to others, though that alone is a wonderful gift. You are allowing us privileged Vincentians the opportunity to walk with the poor – even if briefly – and to ease their burden, person to person.

As Pope Leo stated in his Exhortation 'Dilexi Te' (I Have Loved You), issued last week:

No Christian can regard the poor simply as a societal problem...we are asked to devote time to the poor, to give them loving attention, to listen to them with interest, to stand by them in difficult moments...

Next month we will offer you our year end report. Please know that those numbers will reflect quantity, but we strive to make our home visits so much more. In so doing, we continue to be transformed.

THANK YOU!

~ Mary Kay Pilat



MM

Millions of Monicas

Each month we invite all women to join Millions of Monicas in prayer in the Daily Mass Chapel to pray for our loved ones, especially our children, who have fallen

away from our faith. We pray together before the Blessed Sacrament that those we love will again find comfort in the faith and return to the Church

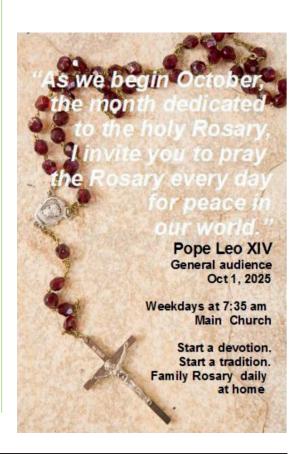
Join with other mothers, grandmothers, step-mothers, aunts, Godmothers, etc., as we pray to grow in holiness and humility, and for our children's faithful return to the Catholic Church.

October 28th at 7:00 p.m. St. Thomas Daily Mass Chapel For more information visit www.millionsofmonicas.com

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!





Seminarian Fund Turkey Sale





BENEFITTING SEMINARIANS FROM THE PEORIA DIOCESE

Price

Frozen Turkey Approximate size 11-13 lbs. \$35

Deep Fried Turkey Approximate size 11-13 lbs. \$65

ORDER ONLINE BY NOVEMBER 11TH

stclementkofc.org/onlineorder.php





Support seminarians of the Diocese of Peoria by ordering your Thanksgiving turkey through the Knights of Columbus, St. Clement Council.

Don't need a turkey, you can buy a frozen turkey which will be donated to the local food bank to help local families in need.

PICK UP DATES

at St. Jude Catholic Church, 10811 N Knoxville Ave - Hettinger Hall Frozen Turkeys distributed after Masses on November 22nd and 23rd. Fried Turkeys available Wednesday, November 26th from 10AM Schedule a time when ordering

> Fried turkeys are prepared by our Knights and come in foil pans with giblets and reheating instructions.



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.

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

New Parishioner	Change of address/phone	
Phone		
City	ZIP	
Address		
Phone		
Email		
First Name(s)	Mr Mrs Ms	
Last Name		
form.		



itoosociety.org

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

The Sisters of the Third Order of St. Francis Annual Fall Bazaar

Friday & Saturday

November 21-22

At the Motherhouse 1175 St. Francis Ln, E. Peoria

Christmas, Craft, Quilts, Baked Goods & MORE!

Holy Hour for the Unborn and their Mothers!

Inspired by the example of our Blessed Mother at the Presentation Feast, may we, like Mary, have the courage to engage in prayer and action for the vulnerable unborn and their mothers. Join Pro-life Prayer Warriors and Knights of Columbus at a Holy Hour for the Rights of the Unborn on Monday, Nov. 3, from 7:00-8:00 pm at St. Mark's Church, 1113 W. Bradley Ave., Peoria. For more information, contact John Wikoff, Knights Life Director, at jpw61552@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. Headina 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 ጲ

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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