St. Thomas the Apostle Parish Staff

Office Hours: M-F 9:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m.

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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

Deacon: Dcn. John Nelson......981-2716

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

- 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).
- 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).



November 16, 2025 Thirty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time





From Our Pastor

Thank you to everyone who took part in the Progressive Dinner on November 8th. We raised a remarkable \$143,000 to pay for security updates at the school and chairs in the parish hall. Not only was our fundraising successful, but we also had a record number of families participating, both from the parish and school. Everyone seemed to enjoy themselves and this fun evening was a great community building event for our St. Thomas family.

Since Bishop Tylka has announced the upcoming renovation of the Spalding Institute and the creation of the new Sheen Experience, there has been renewed excitement in the Cause of the Venerable Servant of God. You may not have seen the variety of news stories and interviews. They have been collected at https://www.celebratesheen.com/media. It is remarkable to see the growing interest in Archbishop Sheen.

We continue to pray for the dead throughout the month of November. You may continue to add the names of the faithful departed in the Book of the Dead in the narthex and we will continue to pray for all those whose names are inscribed. Offering Masses for the faithful departed is another great act of charity. Your Mass offering and intention can be sent to the office, or you can contact the office to request a specific day and time for the Mass for your loved ones.

At the end of the year, we send out our Annual Giving letter to invite people to consider a yearend contribution to the parish. Last year we paid for repairs to the roof above the narthex (which has not leaked since those repairs) and new frames for the stained-glass windows in the narthex. This year, we will raise funds to maintain our school counselor who helps so many students at St. Thomas School. We will also begin to set aside funds for a church roof repair. Although we have lost a few shingles on the church roof, I have been advised that we should plan to replace the roof in approximately five (5) years. By building up a building and roof fund, we will be prepared when the time comes.

- -Msgr. Gray



Readings for the Week of November 16, 2025

Sunday Thirty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Malachi 3: 19-20a; 2 Thessalonians 3: 7-12; Luke 21: 5-19

Monday St. Elizabeth of Hungary, Religious

1 Maccabees 1: 10-15, 41-43, 54-57, 62-63; Luke 18: 35-43

Tuesday The Dedication of the Basilicas of Sts. Peter & Paul, Apostles

2 Maccabees 6: 18-31; Luke 19: 1-10

Wednesday 2 Maccabees 7: 1, 20-31; Luke 19: 11-28

Thursday 1 Maccabees 2: 15-29; Luke 19: 41-44

Friday The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

1 Maccabees 4: 36-37, 52-59; Luke 19: 45-48

Saturday St. Cecilia, Virgin & Martyr

1 Maccabees 6: 1-13; Luke 20: 27-40

Sunday Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

2 Samuel 5: 1-3; Colossians 1: 12-20; Luke 23: 35-43

Mass Intentions

Monday, November 17, 2025

7:00 a.m. Sr. Bernadette Kouri, FSJB 8:00 a.m. Fr. Paul Stark, S.J./Linh Luong

Tuesday, November 18, 2025

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

8:00 a.m. Hop Hguyen/Linh Luong

Wednesday, November 19, 2025

7:00 a.m. Deceased Members of the Bartlev Family/Mary Lou &

Michael Bartley

8:00 a.m. Adrian & Helen Truitt/John Truitt

Thursday, November 20, 2025

7:00 a.m. Janice Marie Kennedy/Amy & John Kelly

Sch. Mass Intentions of Julianna Cowger/St. Thomas School

Friday, November 21, 2025

7:00 a.m. Dr. James & Margaret Snyder/James Snyder

8:00 a.m. Dave Lang/Marylee Bales

Saturday, November 22, 2025

8:00 a.m. Fr. Tom Taylor/Gertrude Morton 5:00 p.m. Thomas Penn/David & Laurie Williams

Sunday, November 23, 2025

8:00 a.m. Intentions of Ed & Cathy Mallow's Godchildren

10:00 a.m. For the People 5:00 p.m. Benefactors of FSJB

Week of November 16

LIFETEEN Sunday, November 16, 6:00 p.m., Parish Hall

ROSARY Tuesday, November 18, 10:00 a.m., Chapel

CCD Wednesday, November 19, 6:00 p.m., School

CONFIRMATION MEETING Wednesday, November 19, 6:00 p.m., School

OCIA Wednesday, November 19, 7:00 p.m., Parish Hall

ST IGNTIUS BIBLE STUDY Thursday, November 20, 6:00 p.m., Parish Hall

ST. THOMAS HOLY HOUR Thursday, November 20, 7:00 p.m., Churhc

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

UPCOMING EVENTS

Millions of Monicas
Extra Confession Sunday
Adoration
The Immaculate Conception

November 25
November 30
December 5
December 8

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.

November 25th at 7:00 p.m. St. Thomas Daily Mass Chapel For more information visit www.millionsofmonicas.com

Weekly Collection

November 9, 2025

		Fiscal YTD
Collections needed	\$20,400	\$387,600
Sunday Collections	\$12,916	\$249,013
Electronic Collections	\$7,605	\$95,951
Total Collected	\$20,521	\$344,964
Over/(Short)	\$121	\$(42,636)

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

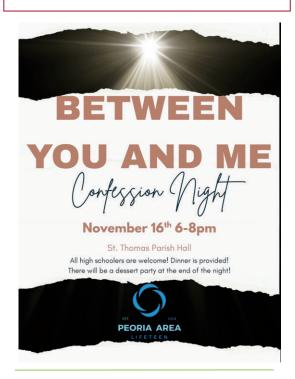
Debbie Jeffries

Baptism Congratulations

Ava & Ella Gruhn, daughters of Heidi & Michael Gruhn

Aurelius & Thaddeus Shirk, children of Aleigha Welty

Whitaker Schmillen, son of Eva & Adam Schmillen



Pray with the Pope

November 2025 For the prevention of suicide

Let us pray that those who are struggling with suicidal thoughts might find the support, care, and love they need in their community, and be open to the beauty of life.



Sponsor of the Week





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!

St. Mary of Lourds
Men's Club - Sausage Sale

Sunday – December 14th
7:00 am – 12:00 noon

The Price is \$4.00 per Pound (Bulk or Link)

Please contact Bill Kessling @ 309-645-7795 Last day to Pre-Order sausage is December 7th

Sausage orders must be picked up on Sunday – December 14th 7:00 am – 12:00 noon

St. Mary of Lourdes Parish Center 424 Lourdes Church Road Metamora, IL. 61548

Food Pantry Family Advent Calendar of Giving

In the spirit of the preparation of our hearts for the coming of our Savior, here is a meaningful way to share our treasures with neighbors who are struggling with food insufficiency. Place one food item in a box each day from December 1st through December 24th. When the box is complete, bring it to the church as a donation to the food pantry. The items below are representative of the Canned goods each food pantry family receives each month.

Merry Christmas to you and yours from the Food Pantry!

Mac and Cheese 12/13 Dry Pasta 12/1 12/2 Mac and Cheese 12/14 Can of Soup 12/3 Bag of Rice 12/15 Can of Soup 12/4 Boxed Side Dish 12/16 Can of Veggies 12/5 Box of Cereal 12/17 Can of Veggies 12/6 Box of Saltines 12/18 Can of Veggies Can of Meat 12/7 12/19 Can of Veggies 12/8 Pasta Sauce 12/20 Can of Veggies Can of Fruit 12/21 Bag of Dried Beans 12/9 12/10 Can of Fruit 12/22 Jelly 12/11 Peanut Butter 12/23 Can of Chili or Stew 12/12 Skillet Dinner Kit 12/24 Box of Cereal Bars

Respect Life ~ Prayer & Action

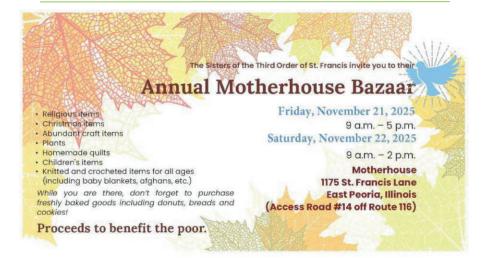
Pray

Our Father, 3 Hail Marys, Glory Be

To those who care for the sick, the scene of the Cross provides a way of understanding that even when it seems that there is nothing more to do there remains much to do, because "remaining" by the side of the sick is a sign of love and of the hope that it contains. Healed by Jesus, we become men and women called to proclaim his healing power and provide care for our neighbors, until the very end.

Act (Choose One)

- Prayerfully reflect on the Parable of the Good Samaritan (Lk 10:29-37)
 and what the Lord reveals about caring for the sick through it.
- Sacrifice snacking today. Enjoy three small, simple meals but refrain from eating in between.
- Offer some other sacrifice or prayer that you feel called to do for this month's intention.



Prayers for the Souls in Purgatory for the month of November

(include after blessing before meals)

V. Eternal rest grant unto (name)/them, O Lord. R. And let the perpetual light shine upon them.

May the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen. Each day in November, remember a departed loved one. Also, pray for all those who do not have anyone to pray for them.

PRAY IT FORWARD.





Schedule Reminder

There will be **no TMIY** on Friday **November 21**st or

Friday November 28th.

TMIY will resume with two more sessions on **December 5**th and **12**th.

OCIA Schedule

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





All women and girls - all ages welcome! Come share in friendship, faith, and community. Bring your friends, family or a guets everyone's welcome!

FRIENDSGIVING POTLUCK

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 23

12:00 NOON

ST. MARY'S LOURDES HALL 424 LOURDES CHURCH RD. GERMANTOWN HILLS, IL

The turkey will be provided, so we invite guests to bring a side dish, salad, or dessert to share.

If possible, please RSVP to Mary Jo Grebner (309-360-4876) or April Adams (309-369-5110) with how many will be attending and what you plan to bring—this will help us be sure there's plenty of food and a nice variety for everyone. Seating is limited-RSVP soon to save your spot!

Some ideas include stuffing, potato dishes, casseroles, rolls, green beans, corn, cranberry relish, tossed salad, pies, crisps, or cookies.

Thank you for helping make our meal a true feast!



Hosted by: Peoria Diocesan Council of Catholic Women Women Connect Ministry



COCOA & KINDNESS

POP-UP EVENT

Come enjoy sweet treats and festive shopping while supporting Sophia's Kitchen's mission to feed and care for our neighbors.

- · Buy homemade cookies and holiday treats at our festive bake sale
- Take home a cocoa & mug gift set filled with our signature cocoa mix
- · Sip a hot cup of cocoa while you shop and mingle
- Shop limited-edition ornaments, including rare vintage pieces from the Sisters of St. Francis





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 _______

Parish Registration

Thanksgiving at Sophia's Kitchen

Sophia's Kitchen will be closed November 26, 27, & 28 for the Thanksgiving holiday. Thank you to all who have made this month of Thanks so special!

We invite you to fill our Little Free Pantry while we are closed. This cabinet hangs on the outside of the building at 105 N Richard Pryor Place to allow 24 access to food. Nonperishable canned goods are always welcome. Soups, canned meats, individual pudding cups, nuts and beef jerky are favorites. Pop top cans are easy for the homeless to open.



12 DAYS OF CHRISTMAS

CASH AND CAR RAFFLE



Peoria Notre Dame High School is teaming up with Scherer Mazda of Peoria for the 8th annual 12 Days of Christmas Cash and Car Raffle! Cash prizes will be drawn daily, beginning Monday, December 1 through Thursday, December II. The Grand Prize of a 2025 Mazda CX-50 (MSRP S31,990) will be drawn at II:45 am on Friday, December 12, 2025.

Tickets may be purchased online at www.pndhs.org/12days, or from a staff member or student of PND.



Yes, p	lease send	(# of tickets) to:
Name:			
Address:			
City:			
State:	Zip:		_
Phone:		Ticke	et Seller:
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OR check pa		Sherida	n Rd. Peoria, IL 61614
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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 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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