

## St. Thomas the Apostle Parish Staff

Office Hours: M-F 9:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m.  
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parishoffice@stthomas-church.net

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frjohn@stthomas-church.net

Parochial Vicar: Fr. Patrick  
DeMeulemeester.....(x1430)  
frpat@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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Annulment Consultant:  
John Mackoway.....699-5213

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

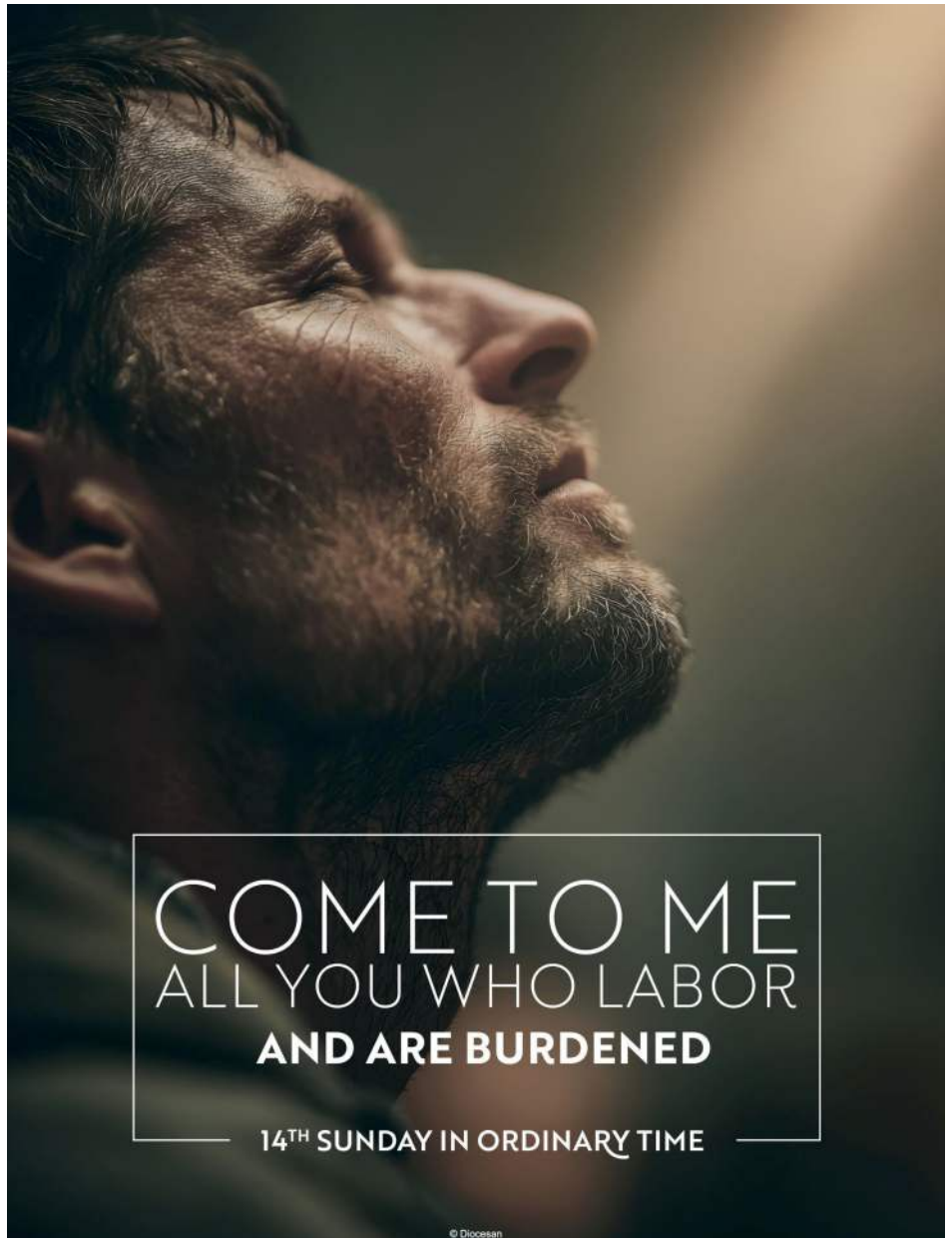
### Stay in Touch

1. Join 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 5, 2026*

*Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time*



COME TO ME  
ALL YOU WHO LABOR  
AND ARE BURDENED

14<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



## Notes from St. Thomas Parish Office

This week, St. Thomas welcomes our new pastor, Fr. John Damaseni Zilimu. He was born in Tanzania where he was ordained in 1995 and has served as a priest for 31 years.

In 2000, he came to the Diocese of Peoria and has served at the Newman Center in Champaign and in Normal. He was incardinated and joined the Presbyterate of the Diocese of Peoria in 2014. Since then, he has served as pastor in Kewanee, Woodhull, Galva, and Cambridge, and most recently at St. Matthew Parish in Champaign.

St. Thomas has received a grant that has allowed the parish and school to upgrade our phone system at no cost. While this is a tremendous benefit, there may be some interruptions as the implementation of the new phone system is rolled out. Please be patient if you experience any difficulties when calling the parish or school.

The email addresses of parish staff are available at <https://stthomaspeoria.org/about-us/directory/>. Over the summer, the school office can be reached at [office@stthomas-school.net](mailto:office@stthomas-school.net).

We look forward to Fr. John Damaseni Zilimu's first column next week.

### Sheen Book Club

The Fulton Sheen book club will meet on Sunday evening, **July 12<sup>th</sup>, from 6:00-7:30 pm** in the Parish Hall to discuss chapters 1-6 of *Go to Heaven*.

### Mass Readers Needed

We are looking for more volunteers to read at Daily Mass, for both the 7:00 am and 8:00 am Masses. Daily Mass readers are assigned to read for the entire week, and have one assignment approximately every 8-10 weeks. If you are interested in becoming a reader at Daily Mass, please contact George Burek at [georgeburek@yahoo.com](mailto:georgeburek@yahoo.com) before July 1<sup>st</sup>.



## Readings for the Week of July 5, 2026

- Sunday**      **Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
Zechariah 9: 9-10; Romans 8: 9, 11-13; Matthew 11: 25-30
- Monday**      **St. Maria Goretti, Virgin & Martyr**  
Hosea 2: 16, 17c-18, 21-22; Matthew 9: 18-26
- Tuesday**      Hosea 8: 4-7, 11-13; Matthew 9: 32-38
- Wednesday**      Hosea 10: 1-3, 7-8, 12; Matthew 10: 1-7
- Thursday**      **St. Augustine Zhao Rong, Priest, & Companions, Martyrs**  
Hosea 11: 1-4, 8e-9; Matthew 10: 7-15
- Friday**      Hosea 14: 2-10; Matthew 10: 16-23
- Saturday**      **St. Benedict, Abbot**  
Isaiah 6: 1-8; Matthew 10: 24-33
- Sunday**      **Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
Isaiah 55: 10-11; Romans 8: 18-23; Matthew 13: 1-23

## Mass Intentions

### Monday, July 6, 2026

- 7:00 a.m.      Mike Palkovic/The Family  
8:00 a.m.      Intentions of Dr. Gary & Vivette Miller/Kevin Morrissey

### Tuesday, July 7, 2026

- 7:00 a.m.      Kurt Rostetter/Rhonda Bachman  
8:00 a.m.      Hafner & Smith Families/Fred Hafner

### Wednesday, July 8, 2026

- 7:00 a.m.      Kathryn Bartley/Katy Mitchell  
8:00 a.m.      Nham Vu/Phan & Tam Vu

### Thursday, July 9, 2026

- 7:00 a.m.      Fr. Tom Taylor/Loc & Linh Luong  
8:00 a.m.      Deb Majewski/Dianna & Chris Russick

### Friday, July 10, 2026

- 7:00 a.m.      Dcn. Bill & Anna Meyer & Bob/Dcn. Ed & Cathy Mallow  
8:00 a.m.      Angela Kenny/Karen Metzinger

### Saturday, July 11, 2026

- 8:00 a.m.      Sr. Bernadette Kouri/FSJB  
5:00 p.m.      Patricia McCauley/David McCauley

### Sunday, July 12, 2026

- 8:00 a.m.      Intentions of Msgr. Gray/FSJB  
10:00 a.m.      For the People  
5:00 p.m.      Theodore & Marilyn Pilat/The Pilat Family

## Week of July 5

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

**ROSARY** Tuesday, July 7, 10:00 a.m., Chapel

**WOMEN'S READ ALONG GROUP** Thursday, July 9, 6:30 p.m., Parish Hall

**MEN'S CLUB** Thursday, July 9, 6:30 p.m.

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

**CARMELITES** Saturday, July 11, 11:00 a.m., Parish Hall

### UPCOMING EVENTS

Rosary Making	July 12
Sheen Book Club	July 12
St. Thomas Holy Hour	July 16
Parish Picnic	August 16
Memorial Golf Outing	October 2
Progressive Dinner	November 14

## Pray with the Pope

July 2026

### For Respect For Human Life

Let us pray for the respect and protection of human life in all its stages, recognizing it as a gift from God.



## FIRST SATURDAY DEVOTION TO THE IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY

as requested by Our Lady 100 years ago The Vatican has declared a Jubilee year from 10 Dec 2025 until 10 Dec 2026

Rosary 7:35 am; Mass 8:00 am  
Confessions available after Mass

Meditation for 15 minutes on the Mysteries of the Rosary (self-guided)

\*part of Our Lady of Fatima's PEACE plan – (1) penance & reparation, (2) daily rosary, (3) Five First Saturday devotion, and (4) consecration to her Immaculate Heart.

Blessed rosaries are available in the narthex at no cost.  
Rosary restoration and rescue are offered as part of the Rosary Project.

## Weekly Collection

June 28, 2026

	Fiscal YTD
Collections needed.....	\$20,400 .....\$1,040,400
Sunday Collections.....	\$21,385 .....\$741,115
Electronic Collections.....	\$840.....\$315,532
Total Collected.....	\$22,225.....\$1,056,647
Over/(Short).....	\$1,825.....\$16,247

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

## Wedding Congratulations

Kayla Nicole Guerra and Keegan John Glatz

## Holy Hour for the Unborn and their Mothers!

This month, we celebrate the feast day of Saints Anne and Joachim on July 26. They became the parents of the Blessed Virgin Mary and honored God by forming their daughter in the faith. Join Pro-life Prayer Warriors and Knights of Columbus as we find strength in prayer and in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament to promote LIFE at a **Holy Hour for the Rights of the Unborn on Monday, July 6, from 7:00-8:00 pm at St. Mark's Church, 1113 W. Bradley Ave., Peoria.**



Need a rosary repaired and returned?

Do you have new or old rosaries, blessed rosaries with broken chains, parts or missing beads to donate and be rescued and restored back to praying hands?

You can drop them in the boxes found in the narthex or by the table at the lower entrance. If you want to learn how to make cord rosaries and spread the devotion to Our Blessed Mother by helping to make mission rosaries, please contact **Mets Ginoli at 773-517-7851** or [m\\_ravago@yahoo.com](mailto:m_ravago@yahoo.com)

Sponsor of the Week

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(309) 688-5114

## St. Thomas Project Backpack 2026



Please help get some of our Peoria Heights K - 8<sup>th</sup> grade students ready to go back to school! Please fill a backpack with the above school supplies to be given to a Peoria Heights student who is in need. Please provide school supplies that can be used for both boys and girls. The backpacks themselves 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 by Sunday, July 19th.

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 2026-2027 school year!

- 1 8X5 Plastic Pencil Box **OR** 1 Pencil Pouch
- 2 24-Packs Crayola Crayons
- 4 1-Subject Wide-Ruled Spiral Notebooks
- 4 Plastic 2-Pocket Folders
- 24 #2 Yellow Pencils (*not mechanical*)
- 2 Large Pink Pearl Erasers
- 1 Pair Pointed School Scissors (5")
- 1 12-Pack Crayola Colored Pencils
- 6 Jumbo Elmer's Glue Sticks **OR** 12 Small Elmer's Disappearing Purple Glue Sticks
- 1 Large Elmer's Liquid School Glue (7.6 oz.) **OR** 2 Small Elmer's School Glue (4 oz.)
- 1 10-Pack of Wide Tip Crayola Classic Color Markers

*Grazie Mille,  
Monsignor Gray  
A Night of Memories & Gratitude*

TICKETS




**FRIDAY AUGUST 21ST, 2026  
6:30 PM - CONNECTED EVENT CENTER**

PROCEEDS WILL SUPPORT THE  
BLESSED FULTON J SHEEN MOSAIC  
IN HONOR OF MONSIGNOR JASON GRAY

**FOUR COURSE MENU - \$100 PER TICKET**

Please return with payment by July 31st to: St Thomas, 904E Lake Ave. Peoria Heights, IL 61616

Payee: \_\_\_\_\_ Tickets @ \$100 - \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Tables @ \$800/Table of 8 - \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ If you would like to make a request to be seated with someone, or if you have dietary restrictions, please list those on the back.

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

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## When you go to the poor, you encounter Jesus



I love making visits with the St. Vincent dePaul Society. I love it when things go well and I feel as if we have done something good, something positive. But I also love the times when the problems seem overwhelming and we can't possibly address all of the friend's needs. Because I understand that just showing up and listening can make a huge difference to someone who is feeling overwhelmed. Visits usually end with hands held together as we pray - often followed by tears of gratitude on the part of our friend...and of my own tears of gratitude. I wish you could all come on these amazing encounters. Your generous donations make all of this possible and I am so very grateful. Thank you!

Colleen Matarelli



**WE ARE HIRING**

STS is seeking **TWO FULL TIME TEACHER AIDES**  
Monday-Friday 8:15-3:45 pm  
These individuals will work to support student learning, monitor student behavior and assist teachers with additional tasks, as needed.

STS is also seeking a **PART TIME AFTERCARE WORKER**  
Monday-Friday 3:30-5:30 pm  
This would be ideal for a retired individual, a high school (junior/senior) or college student. This individual will work with our aftercare team to monitor behavior and help support student interactions and play.

Please send us your letter of interest & resume to:  
Maureen Bentley, Principal  
maureenbentley@stthomas-school.net

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AT THE COUNTRY CLUB OF PEORIA.

NOVEMBER 14TH  
SATURDAY 5:30 PM

*An evening of delicious food, dancing, silent & live auctions.*



# ST. THOMAS MONSIGNOR WATSON = MEMORIAL = GOLF OUTING



FRIDAY, OCTOBER 2, 2026



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 **\$500** scholarships for St. Thomas families. Your support of the golf outing is greatly appreciated!



## GOLF REGISTRATION **\$140/Person**

Golf Registration includes: Green fees, Cart, Range Balls, and Food + Drinks in the Club House after the event.

**Registration Deadline Friday, September 25th**

Late registration after September 25th, \$150 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: \$300 / Logo on Sign at beverage stations + company logo sign at Tee Box
- Reception Sponsor - \$300 / Logo on Reception Tables + company logo sign at Tee Box



### TEE SPONSOR \$150 / 36 Sponsors

Placement of company logo sign at the Tee Box.



### 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 25th



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 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

## Calling all Rosary Makers!



The Rosary Project at St.

Thomas will be hosting **2 Rosary Making Sessions** on **July 12<sup>th</sup> & July 26<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall** in response to the World Mission Rosary Drive.

Our goal is to make 300 Rosaries for the Beatification of Archbishop Fulton Sheen in September. All materials will be provided. Extra hands are needed to thread the beads. If you have questions or interested in joining the Project, please contact **Mets Ginoli at 773-517-7851** or [m\\_ravago@yahoo.com](mailto:m_ravago@yahoo.com)

## Rosary for Peace



Every Tuesday at 10:00 a.m.

Where: Small Chapel—St. Thomas Church

Where two or three gather in My name, I am there among them. Matthew 18:20

Prayers offered: Rosary, Chaplet of Mercy, and a Few Spontaneous Intercessory Prayers

Duration: 30 minutes or free to leave early All parishioners and friends welcome



**Peoria County TRIAD**

WORKING TOGETHER FOR A SAFER COMMUNITY

# Celebrating Seniors

*Celebrating National Senior Citizens Day!*

Join Peoria County TRIAD for a morning of safety, health, resources, great food, prizes, and community connection!

**FRIDAY AUGUST 21, 2026** | **9:00 A.M. TO NOON** | **RABERS Farmington Road Peoria, IL** | **FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

CONNECT WITH RESOURCES	PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS	IMPORTANT SERVICES
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Meet local vendors and learn about services available in Peoria County.</li> <li>Free giveaways including a Peoria County TRIAD tote bag!</li> <li>Enjoy a FREE lunch and beverages.</li> <li>Win great prizes donated by local partners and purchase raffle tickets for a chance to win a Rabers Meat Bundle!</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Welcome Remarks</b> Sheriff Chris Watkins Peoria County Sheriff's Office</li> <li><b>Keynote Speaker</b> Lindsey Nance Tazewood Community Services</li> </ul> <p>Lindsey will share valuable resources for seniors including assistance with LIHEAP, water bills, car support, yard support, and more.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Safely dispose of unused or outdated medications with the Peoria County Sheriff's Office prescription drug disposal bin.</li> <li>Old used cell phones will also be accepted and disposed of by the Sheriff's Office.</li> </ul>

**FIRST 100 GUESTS RECEIVE A TRIAD TOTE BAG!**

**BRING YOUR FRIENDS, FAMILY, AND NEIGHBORS!**  
\*This event is a great opportunity for seniors to connect with helpful services, learn ways to stay safe, and enjoy time with others in the community.\*  
— Peoria County TRIAD Organizers

**QUESTIONS?**  
triadpeoria@gmail.com  
www.triadpeoria.com

**TOGETHER. WE CAN BUILD A SAFER. STRONGER COMMUNITY.**



**Join Our Mission!**  
**Male Campus Minister**

The St. Joseph Newman Center on the campus of Bradley University is seeking a full-time male Campus Minister.

Duties include: student mentorship, development/alumni relations, retreat prep, & administrative support

Scan here for more details:



## Beatification Bus

The bus is now full



## Rosary

Weekdays 7:35 am  
First Saturdays 7:35 am  
Main Church

## St. Thomas - Food Pantry

While all donations are greatly appreciated, of particular need at this time are: jelly, peanut butter, green beans, corn and cereal. *Thank you!*

## Santo Niño de Cebu

**28<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Enthronement at St. Joseph Church**

Come and join the celebration!

Saturday, July 18th at 5:30PM  
Holy Mass at St. Joseph Catholic Church  
(103 S. Richard Pryor Place)



All Santo Niño statues will be blessed during the Mass.

A potluck reception at Spalding Pastoral Center (419 NE Madison Avenue-Peoria) will follow immediately after Mass. Please come and join the prayerful celebration.

Novena Prayers in preparation for the 28th Anniversary Celebration will be held at St. Mark Church (1113 W. Bradley Avenue) on Thursday, July 9th through Friday, July 17th. The Novena starts at 6:00PM.

For more information, please call Lucy Bender at 309-258-6501 or Fannie Black at 309-453-6032

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

Would you like to be contacted by the New Parishioner Welcoming Committee? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

**New Parishioner** \_\_\_\_\_ **Change of address/phone** \_\_\_\_\_



**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 8:30 a.m. and 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 - Fr. John
- 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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