St. Thomas the Apostle Parish Staff

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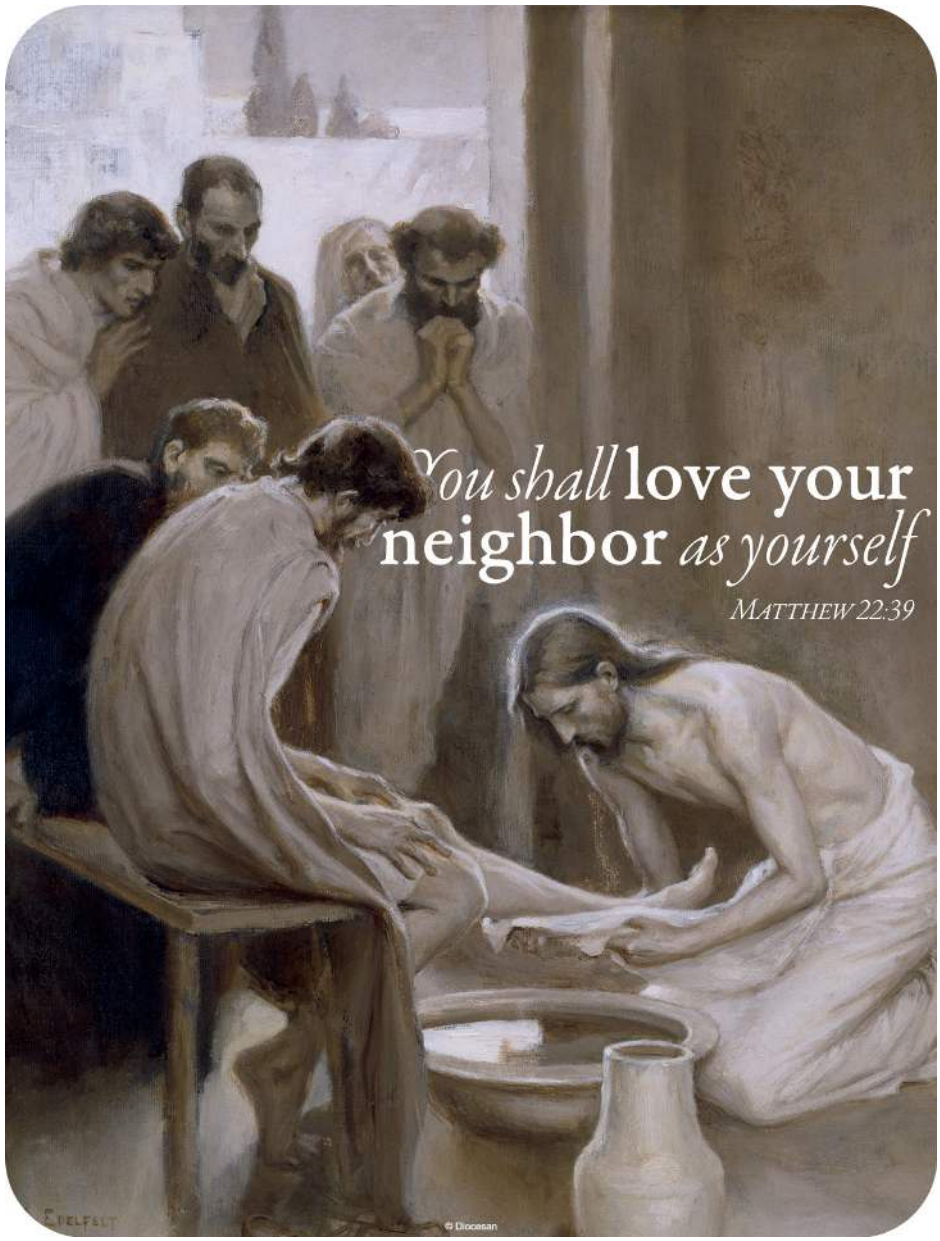
St. Vincent de Paul Society Helpline .....
..... (309) 264-5815

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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 mypari- shapp.com/ download).
3. Receive the Bulletin and announce- ments in weekly emails from the parish. (Email parishoffice@ stthomas-church.net to sign up).
4. Bookmark the parish webpage

St Thomas THE APOSTLE Catholic Church

October 25, 2026
Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time





Pastor's corner

Happy Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time, year A.

I am happy to inform you that our parish ministries are doing well. I have been meeting and training/retraining members of different ministries such as Altar servers and Extra Eucharistic Ministers of Communion. I had good time with the Grandparents on Monday October 12th, 2026, and the Senior Citizens on Thursday October 22nd, 2026. I shared a little bit about my background and my ministries for 31 years of my priesthood. My plan is to meet all the ministries in our parish and answer some questions they might have. I am pleased that we are doing well in God's plantation at St. Thomas the Apostle Parish and School.

I just received the first 2026 ADA (Annual Diocesan Appeal) report of pledges/payments for St. Thomas the Apostle parish, our great parish. As of September 30, 2026, the pledges and payments received in the Diocesan office of ADA total $109,845 from 104 donors. My sincere gratitude to all the 104 families and individuals who have already made their pledges/payments. I know the Diocesan ADA office is still receiving new pledges and contributions daily; however, I am writing to you to let you know where we stand right now. I ask for 100 percent participation from this great parish. We have more than 104 families, and if all the families and individuals participate in the 2026 ADA, we shall go beyond our goal. Any amount you can give is received with gratitude. Any amount beyond our goal will come back to us to help our parish expenses. We are called to support our diocese and our parish in their efforts to serve the people of God through their ministries. I kindly ask you, if you have not pledged yet to send your pledge/payment to the diocese or bring it to our office and we shall send your donation to the office of ADA.

We had another successful Octoberfest on Saturday October 17th, 2026, despite the cold weather. Thank you to the Men's Club and to all who helped to plan, set up and tear down tables and chairs, sell the tickets, and serve the food and drinks. May God reward you for using your time and talents to serve the people of God.

May the Lord bless our efforts in continuing His mission of growing disciples in our Diocese.



Readings for the Week of October 25

Sunday	**Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time** Exodus 22: 20-26; 1 Thessalonians 1: 5c-10; Matthew 22: 34-40
Monday	Ephesians 4: 32---5: 8; Luke 13: 10-17
Tuesday	Ephesians 5: 21-33; Luke 13: 18-21
Wednesday	**Sts. Simon & Jude, Apostles** Ephesians 2: 19-22; Luke 6: 12-16
Thursday	Ephesians 6: 10-20; Luke 13: 31-35
Friday	Philippians 1: 1-11; Luke 14: 1-6
Saturday	Philippians 1: 18b-26; Luke 14: 1, 7-11
Sunday	**Solemnity of All Saints** Revelation 7: 2-4, 9-14; 1 John 3: 1-3; Matthew 5: 1-12a

Mass Intentions

Monday, October 26, 2026
7:00 a.m. Pat Hagemann/Paul & Mary Moore

Tuesday, October 27, 2026
7:00 a.m. Jeanne Broussard/Mary Lou & Mike Bartley

Wednesday, October 28, 2026
7:00 a.m. Jim & Angela Kenny/Rich & Colleen Lavin & Family
8:00 a.m. Rosalie Shealy/Ann Marie Walker

Thursday, October 29, 2026
7:00 a.m. Sally Heinz/Ushers at 10:00 a.m. Mass
Schl Mass George Jacob/The Cain Family

Friday, October 30, 2026
7:00 a.m. Annie Holland-Morrissey/Kevin Morrissey
8:00 a.m. Paul Carroll/Dennis & Pam Goett

Saturday, October 31, 2026
8:00 a.m. Angela Cassidy/The Barkley Family
5:00 p.m. Angie Cassidy/Stoney & Liz Jockish

Sunday, November 1, 2026
8:00 a.m. For the People
10:00 a.m. Intentions of Peoria Seminarians & Priestly Vocations/FSJB
5:00 p.m. James Snyder/Jane & Mark Golowski

View this bulletin online at www.DiscoverMass.com

Week of October 25

ROSARY Tuesday, October 27, 10:00 a.m., Chapel

MILLIONS OF MONICAS Tuesday, October 27, 7:00 p.m., Chapel

CCD Wednesday, October 28, 6:00 p.m., School

OCIA Wednesday, October 28, 6:30 p.m., Church

PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCES Thursday/Friday, October 29/30, School

TMIY Friday, October 30, 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

Adoration	*November 6*
LifeTeen	*November 8*
Grandparenting & The Failth	*November 9*
Veterans' Day Prayer Service	*November 11*
Progressive Dinner	*November 14*
Holy Hour	*November 19*



Pray with the Pope



October 2026
For Mental Health Ministry

Let us pray that the mental health ministrybe established throughout the Church, helping to overcome the stigma anddiscrimination of persons with mental illnesses.

WeeklyCollection

October 18, 2026

		Fiscal YTD
Collections Needed	$20,500	$
SundayCollections	$10,750	$
Electronic Collections	$570	$
Total Collected	$11,320	$
Over/(Short)	$(9,180)	$

Your Suport 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 website: *stthomaspeoria.org*. Thank you for your suppport.

Our Sympathy

Please pray for those who have died this week

Baptism Congratulations

Clark David Knapp, son of
Morgan & Curtis Knapp

Join *Millions of Monicas* to pray together for their children who have left the faith. We meet once a month and pray together for each other's loved ones in front of the Blessed Sacrament.

October 27th at 7:00 p.m.
St. Thomas Daily Mass Chapel

For more information visit ***www.millionsofmonicas.com***

Please continue to pray for the good health and full recovery for our Holy Father, Pope Leo



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Help Support St. Thomas Pantry with Your Thrift Shopping!

Support the St. Thomas Food Pantry by shopping at the Helping Hands Thrift Store ***during the week of October 27 - 31***. Proceeds from sales during that week will benefit our food pantry and the people it serves! Helping Hands Thrift Store is located at 921 E. War Memorial Drive in Peoria Heights.



Adult Choir

St. Augustine says that "Qui cantat, bis orat," literally "He who sings, prays twice!". With that being said: ***IT'S CHOIR TIME!*** I would like to invite you to join our Adult Choir. Having the ability to read music is not necessary, but having a love for music and a willingness to share your voice and talent is essential! Choir ***rehearsals will begin Tuesday, Oct 13, 6:30-7:30pm in the Music Room***. Hope to see you there!

All Interested in Helping Catholic Education

Illinois has a huge opportunity to help schools through the Federal Tax Scholarship Program! We need Governor Pritzker on board. Please use this link to learn more and consider sending him a quick e-mail!

https://www.ilcatholic.org/take-action/action-center/



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 minutesor free to leave early
All parishioners and friends welcome

St. Thomas Food Pantry

While all donations are greatly appreciated, of particular need at this time are: peanut butter, saltines, and pasta sauce.

Thank you!

View this bulletin online at www.DiscoverMass.com

When you go to the poor, you encounter Jesus

Thank you for reading our monthly messages! We St. Thomas Vincentians take turns writing them and hope they provide a glimpse of our activity. Soon we will be sharing our annual report, but I wanted to update you on our financial status.

You may have heard our priests recently say that we had "run out of money". Indeed we had, as we experienced several unusually busy months during which we shared financial resources with a large number of families. We were blessed with help from several other Peoria parishes and from the diocesan SVdP Council, and we also were fortunate to receive YOUR donations in early October. THANK YOU!

All of this has allowed us to "keep our doors open".

We are now operating week by week and hope that we will not have to (even temporarily) stop our visits and assistance. We have reduced the amount of monetary assistance per family, but we always visit, provide other community resource information and pray with our friends in need.

John Berry, the National SVdP President, recently wrote to us saying that the Vincentian question is not only "What can we provide?" It is also "Whom has Christ placed before us, and how is Christ inviting us to receive this person?" Pope Francis spoke about getting "involved by word and deed in people's daily lives" as a demanding standard for Christian charity.

It is not getting easier for those living in poverty to afford $900-$1000 in rent, pay inflated prices and also survive cuts in food benefits. We know that you generously support our parish and perhaps many other worthy organizations. We ask that, as the year comes to a close, and you consider end-of-year donations, please keep our SVdP conference in mind.

In deep gratitude for your help and prayers,

America 250 Highlights Blessed Sheen

Archbishop Fulton Sheen Servant to All

Watch *Servant to All* | Wednesday, November 4, 2026

Giant Screen Theater at the Peoria Riverfront Museum

5:30 pm | Conversation and Q&A with Bishop Tylka and Monsignor Gray

6:30 p.m. | "Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen: Servant to All" documentary screening

Join Bishop Louis Tylka and Monsignor Jason Gray for a short presentation on Sheen's life and enduring legacy, followed by a question-and-answer portion to share and educate on the process of sainthood. This presentation will be followed by a short one-hour documentary exploring Sheen's Midwestern roots, pioneering work in television, and his enduring spiritual impact that led to his candidacy for sainthood.

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 Parishor 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



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Does your rosary need repair?

Place it inside the envelope with your name and phone number. Leave it in the red repair/ donation bin on the table at the right side of the narthex, or contact Mets Ginoli at 773- 517- 7851. You can your collect repaired rosary in a week.

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Still accepting broken, old, or new rosaries and rosary parts (beads, centers, and crucifixes) to be rescued and donated.

Communion Ministers Needed

Please consider joining our team of volunteer Extraordinary Ministers at OSF HealthCare Saint Francis Medical Center. Join us in the hospital's Gandhi meeting room for an informational meeting on Tuesday October 27th at 6:00 p.m. and training session on Tuesday November 3rd at 6:00 p.m. These volunteers perform a great service to the Church, by distributing Holy Communion to God's people on those occasions where they are hospitalized.

If you are interested in learning about this ministry to the sick, please scan to register

Contact information
John R. Phillips, Administrative Secretary,
Pastoral Care Department john.r.phillips@osfhealthcare.org
(309) 655-2084

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 _____

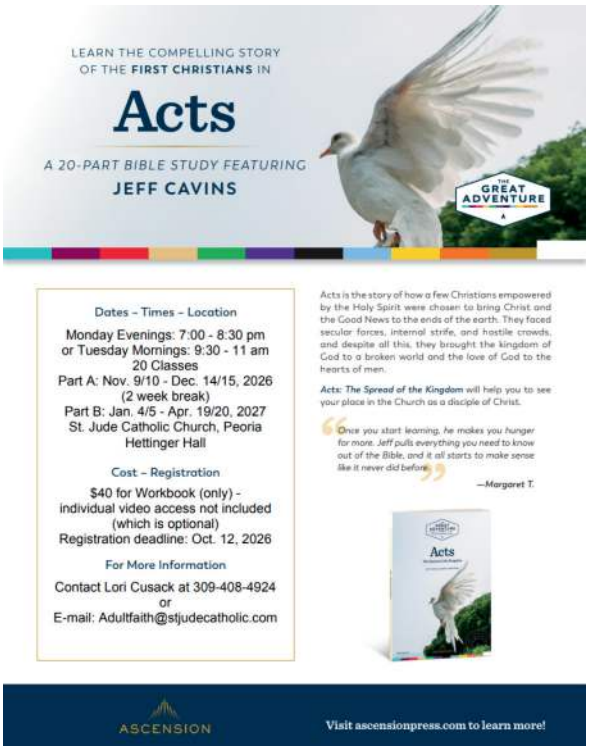
Address _____

City _____ ZIP _____

Phone _____

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

New Parishioner _____ Change of address/ phone _____



October is Respect Life Month

During the month of October, we are especially called to recognize, cherish, and defend the God-given dignity of every human life, from conception to natural death.

The Peoria Diocesan Council of Catholic Women (PDCCW) invites the faithful throughout our parishes to join us in prayer for the protection of human life, for the strengthening of families, and for our legislators and leaders who are entrusted with decisions that affect the dignity and protection of every person.

Prayer for the Sanctity and Protection of Human Life

God, our loving Father, Creator and Lover of all life, You fashioned every human person in Your own image and likeness.

Give us the strength and courage to defend and protect human life from conception to natural death. Help us to serve actively in upholding the sanctity and dignity of every human life.

We pray that our legislators and leaders may be guided by the grace of the Holy Spirit to act courageously and responsibly in defense of human life.

Strengthen our families and help us to follow the loving example of the Blessed Virgin Mary and the faithful witness of St. Joseph. We make our prayer through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Our Lady of Guadalupe, pray for us.
St. Rose of Lima, pray for us.
St. Maximilian Kolbe, pray for us.

Peoria Diocesan Council of Catholic Women (PDCCW)
Respeect For Life Commission; Joan Blindt

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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 asattachments.

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. Email Kate Crim at kate-crim@stthomas-church.net to schedule the class.

Confessions

Saturday 8:30 a.m. and 4:00-4:45pm.

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 - Mary -- Finance Manager
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.

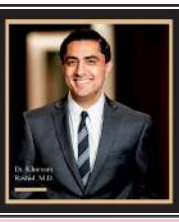
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