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

Pastor: Fr. Johndamaseni Zilimu.....(x3)
frjohn@stthomas-church.net

Parochial Vicar: Fr. Patrick DeMeulemeester.....(x1420)
frpat@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)

Faith Formation Coordinator: Kate Crim... (x1310)
katecrim@stthomas-church.net

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maureenbentley@stthomas-school.net

Administrative Assistant: Tracey Deponai. . . . . (x0)
traceydeponai@stthomas-church.net

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Finance Manager: Mary Tsoraides.....(1341)
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CCD Coordinator: Liz Plaskon.....(309)339-4775
ccd@stthomas-church.net

Parish Nurse: Mary Clare Geraghty.....(x1350)

Music Coordinator: Kim Deters.....
kimdeters@stthomas-church.net

Annulment Consultant: John Mackoway .....
(309) 699-5213

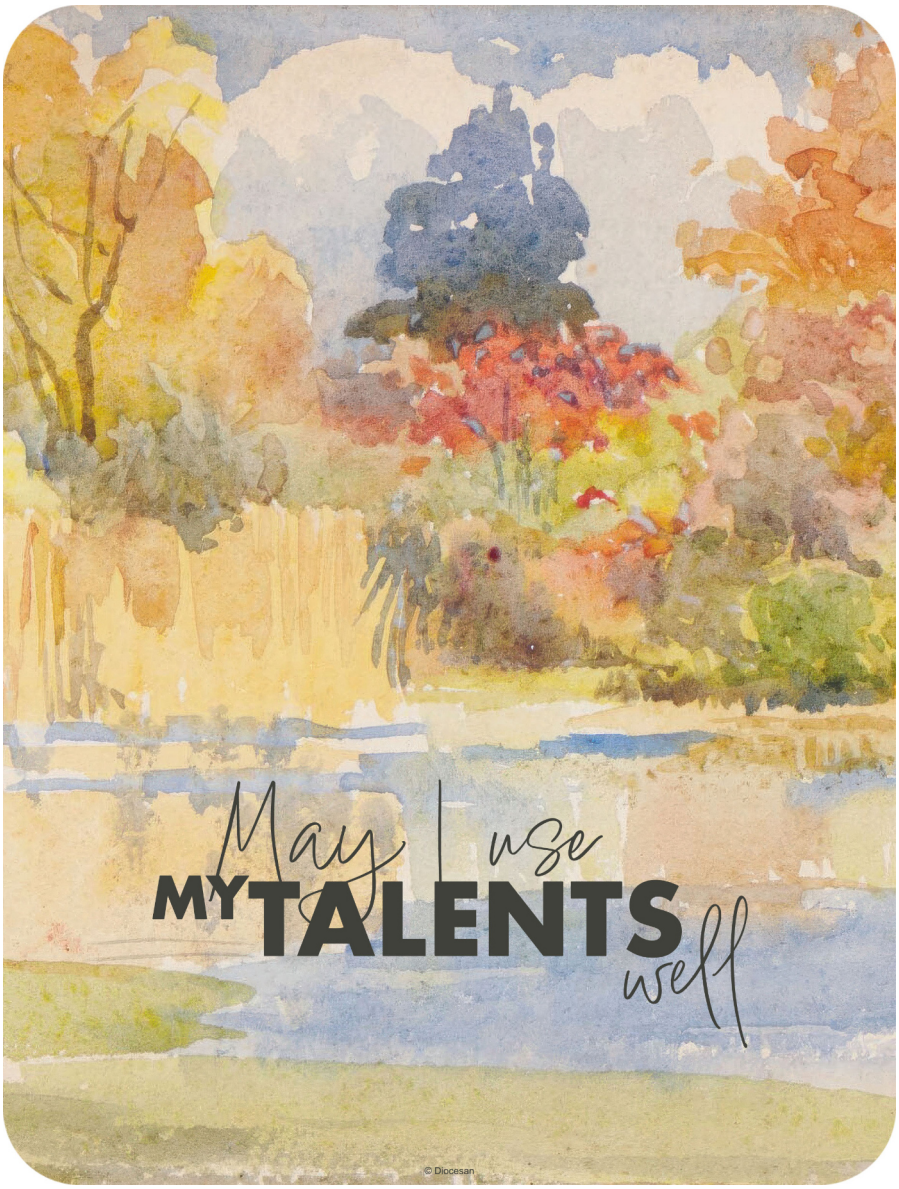
St. Vincent de Paul Society Helpline
(309) 264-5815

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

St Thomas THE APOSTLE Catholic Church

November 15, 2026
Thirty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time



Lectors Needed

Have you been looking for a way to serve your parish? Consider becoming a Lector

Lectors Needed for 7:00 and 8:00 a.m. Weekday Masses

You sign up for one full week at a time so M-F 7:00 a.m. and W, F, Sat 8:00 a.m.

Giving Tree



The Giving Tree is an important tradition at St. Thomas. The gift tags can be found in the baskets in the narthex. We ask you to take one or more of the tags and purchase the requested gift. Please give new gifts only.

RETURN YOUR GIFTS IN GIFT BAGS WITH THE ORIGINAL TAG ATTACHED. You may leave them under the Giving Tree in the Narthex, or deliver to the Parish Office. Your generosity providing gifts under the Giving Tree has been incredibly helpful in the past. Last year we were able to distribute gifts to almost 300 individuals. This includes St. Thomas Families, Foster Children, Catholic Charities, and neighbors in our community.

MONETARY DONATIONS This year a monetary donation might work best for many people. You can make your donation on our website: stthomaspeoria.org. Go to GIVING, then DONATE NOW. As you complete the form please Apply your Donation to The Giving Tree.

Please make your monetary donation as soon as possible so our elves have time to shop before the deadline.

PLEASE RETURN GIFTS BY DECEMBER 8TH. Thank you for your kindness and generosity!

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.

St Thomas Rosary Project rescue, restoration, devotion and mission

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



Readings for the Week of November 15

Sunday	**Thirty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time** Proverbs 31: 10-13, 19-20, 30-31; 1 Thessalonians 5: 1-6; Matthew 25:14-30
Monday	**St. Margaret of Scotland** Revelation 1: 1-4; 2: 1-5; Luke 18: 35-43
Tuesday	**St. Elizabeth of Hungary, Religious** Revelation 3: 1-6, 14-22; Luke 19: 1-10
Wednesday	**St. Rose Philippine Duchesne, Virgin** Revelation 4: 1-11; Luke 19: 11-28
Thursday	Revelation 5: 1-10; Luke 19: 41-44
Friday	Revelation 10: 8-11; Luke 19: 45-48
Saturday	**The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary** Revelation 11: 4-12; Luke 20: 27-40
Sunday	**Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe** Ezekiel 34: 11-12, 15-17; 1 Corinthians 15: 20-26, 28; Matthew 25: 31-46

Mass Intentions

Monday, November 16, 2026
7:00 a.m. Intentions of Laura Bachman & Peter Klepec/Dan & Rhonda Bachman

Tuesday, November 17, 2026
7:00 a.m. Benefactors of the Franciscan Sisters of John the Baptist

Wednesday, November 18, 2026
7:00 a.m. Donna J. Weinstein/Jack & Margaret Weinstein
8:00 a.m. Mike Palkovic/Loc & Linh Luong

Thursday, November 19, 2026
7:00 a.m. Janice Marie Kennedy/John & Amy Kelly
Schl Mass Jose & Marianita Mendoza/Sarmiento & Tolentino Families

Friday, November 20, 2026
7:00 a.m. Jim & Angela Kenny/Rich & Coleen Lavin & Family
8:00 a.m. Annie Holland-Morrissey/Kevin Morrissey

Saturday, November 21, 2026
8:00 a.m. Dcn. Bill Meyer/Dcn. Ed & Cathy Mallow
5:00 p.m. Melvin & Lucille Noe/Mary Ann Noe

Sunday, November 22, 2026
8:00 a.m. For the People
10:00 a.m. Intentions of Dan & Maria Whitson
Wedding Anniversary/ Rick & Melanie Picl
5:00 p.m. Intentions of Antoinette Gulotta/Brereton Family

Week of November 15

ROSARY Tuesday, November 17, 10:00 a.m., Chapel

CCD Wednesday, November 18, 6:00 p.m., School

FAMILY CATECHESIS (8TH GRADE) Wednesday, November 18, 6:00 p.m., Various

OCIA Wednesday, November 18, 6:30 p.m., Church

HOLY HOUR Thursday, November 19, 7:00 p.m., Church

TMIY Friday, November 20, 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

Millions of Monicas	*November 24*
Adoration	*December 4*
LifeTeen	*December 6*
Feast of the Immaculate Conception	*December 8*
Parish Open House	*December 12-13*

Our Sympathy

Cherie Fauth





Pray with the Pope

November 2026

For The Proper Use of Wealth

Let us pray for the proper use of wealth, that not succumbing to the temptation of selfishness, it may always be at the service of the common good and in solidarity with those who have less.

Sponsor of the Week
Prairie Home Alliance

WeeklyCollection

November 8, 2026

		Fiscal YTD
Collections Needed	$20,500	$
Sunday Collection	$15,891	$
Electronic Collections	$2,493	$
Total Collected	$18,384	$
Over/(Short)	$(2,116)	$

Your Suport of St. Thomas Parish is important to sustain our missio n 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.

JOIN US FOR A ONE DAY

WOMEN'S Advent Retreat

SAT. DEC 5TH 2026
9:00 AM- 2PM

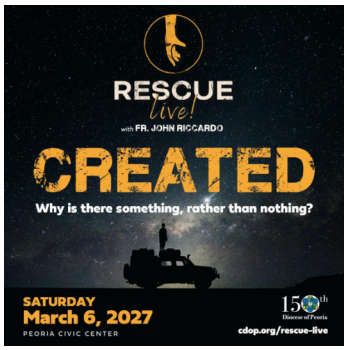
Join us for a day of reflection, sacrament, and preparation

SCAN THE QR CODE BELOW TO REGISTER
$30 REGISTRATION FEE
***PLEASE NOTE DIETARY NEEDS**

Or Register: *https://giving.myparishsoft.io/App/Form/2a3a32b3-6c0d-4f7a-b0fd-6d580ac7ab52*

Sacre Coeur Retreat Center
8503 Country Road 100 n.
Magnolia Il 61336





As we celebrate 150 years of the Diocese of Peoria, Bishop Lou Tylka invites you to Rescue Live, a powerful, one- day experience of the Gospel with internationally known Catholic evangelist, Fr. John Riccardo, his team from ACTS XXIX, and musicians from The Vigil Project.

Be renewed in the great adventure that is following Jesus and continuing His mission of rescuing this world.

- ***Saturday, March 6, 2027***
  8:30am-5:30pm (doors open at 7:30am) Peoria Civic Center Ballroom
  Cost $40.00 per person
  Coffee, light breakfast, and lunch provided

Questions? Contact 309-671-1550 or missionsupport@cdop.org

Registration is on the Diocesan website: ***https://giving.myparishsoft.io/App/ Form/78d96377-8c6c-4585-9719-0eae2201ad74***

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

Prayersoffered: Rosary, Chaplet of Mercy, and a F ew 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!

St Thomas THE APOSTLE Catholic Church

Christmas Open House

A THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS SUPPORT ALL YEAR LONG

SATURDAY DECEMBER 12
SUNDAY DECEMBER 13
AFTER ALL MASSES

PLEASE JOIN US IN THE LOWER LEVEL OF THE CHURCH

VOLUNTEER SIGN UP



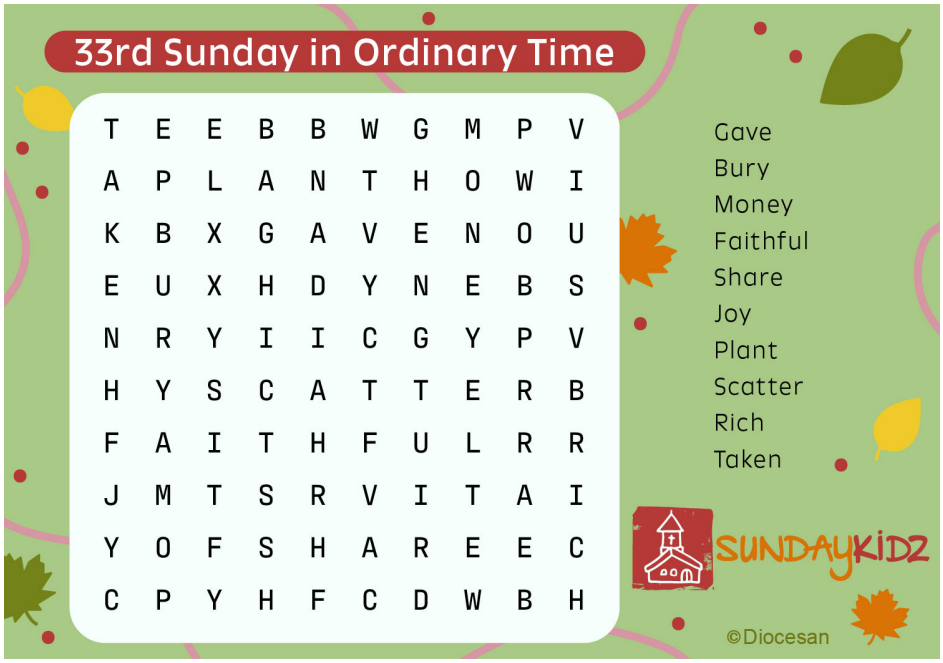




Prison Cursillo Celebrates 40th Anniversary

Prison Cursillo is celebrating its 40th Anniversary. Please join us at the ***November 7th Ultreya*** *at* ***Holy Family Church*** (Peoria), ***beginning with the 4:00 p.m. Mass.***

Dinner will follow, and several guest speakers will present an interesting overview, history, and celebration of Prison Cursillo.





Friendsgiving POTLUCK

Sunday, November 15, 2026
St. Mary of Lourdes Hall
Germantown Hills
12 Noon
Women and Girls, all ages welcome!

Meat, dressing, gravy, table service, and drinks provided.
Bring your favorite dish to share:
Potato, vegetables, salad, or dessert.

Our Guest Speaker
Jenny Witt
Office of Mission Support

Gathering at the Table: The Family Holy Hour

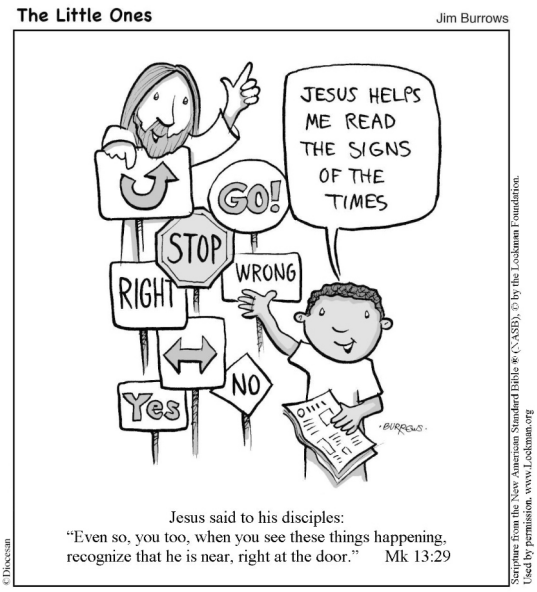
Please RSVP
Mary Jo Grebner 309-360-4876 or April Adams 309-369-5110
With the number attending and what dish you plan to bring.
Seating is limited!

Enjoy wonderful fellowship and raffle baskets (6 tickets for $5.00)!

Come share in friendship, faith and community.

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





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 _____

Bingo Event

Catholic Women's League of Peoria, Illinois Hosts - Bingo Event w/ brief Annual Membership Meeting
When: Thursday, November 19
Where: St Philomena's Parish Center. 1000 W Albany, Peoria
Time: 1:00 -3:30 pm
Light Refreshments Served
Please park on the right side and back of the church near Parish Hall. School will be in session that day.

Lourdes Men's Club Sausage SALE:

Sunday December 13th
7:00 a.m. to 12 Noon
Please call or text Bill Kessling @ 309-645- 7795 if you wish to pre-order sausage $4.00 per pound (Bulk or Link)
Last day to pre-order sausage is Sunday, December 6th

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.