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

School Principal: Maureen Bentley(x1210)
maureenbentley@stthomas-school.net

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

Bulletin Editor: Peggy Sullivan..... (x1301)
peggysullivan@stthomas-church.net

Finance Manager: Mary Tsoraides.....(1341)
marytsoraides@stthomas-church.net

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 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 (https://stthomaspeoria.org/)

St Thomas THE APOSTLE Catholic Church

November 22, 2026
Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe





Pastor's Corner

Happy Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe. Saturday 11/28/2026 is the end of this Liturgical Year (Year A) and Sunday 11/29/2026 is the beginning of the New Liturgical Year (Year B), and it is also the First Sunday of Advent.

We shall offer more opportunities for spiritual practices during Advent season such as more times for Confessions and Holy Hours. We shall have Holy Hours every Friday of the Advent season between 7:00pm – 8:00pm, and during this time our two priests will hear confessions. Please join us for this important time to pray as a community of St. Thomas the Apostle Parish. We shall be closing our Holy Hours with Benediction at 8:00pm.

In the Catholic Church we have many traditions, gestures, and practices. We shall try to keep them as much as we can. Today I would like to talk about "Genuflection and Bowing" in the church. When we enter the Church, we genuflect and if we can't genuflect for health reasons we bow. What do we normally genuflect or bow towards? At the entrance, we use the Holy Water to make the sign of the cross as a reminder of our own baptism. If you enter the church for any reason different from celebrating mass, we genuflect or bow towards the "Tabernacle" before proceeding to the pew. If we enter the church to celebrate mass, we genuflect or bow towards the "Crucifix" to remind ourselves that we are here to offer sacrifice of Jesus who offered it on the Cross. At the beginning of the Mass, the priest kisses the "Altar" to remind all of us that now the focus is on the Altar throughout the mass. All the gestures during mass including genuflection and bowing are towards the "Altar" Before you enter the sanctuary or when you cross from one side of the sanctuary to the other make an intentional genuflection or bow to the Altar.

We shall keep our tradition of praying "Anima Christi prayer" after communion but before the closing prayer. This is our prayer as a community of Catholics at St. Thomas the Apostle church. Beginning with the Monday of the First Week of Advent at the weekday masses and not at the weekend or Holy Days of Obligation masses, we shall be praying two prayers for Vocations to priesthood and religious life in our Diocese. These prayers are: "St. Michael the Archangel and Hail Mary." These prayers will be prayed as the priest, deacon and servers (if they are present) are processing out. If there is Music (closing song) on that day, then these prayers will be omitted. They will be used instead of closing song since there is no music at daily masses. We shall also use them on Sundays at the 8:00am mass.

Peace and Joy Fr. Johndamaseni Zilimu



Readings for the Week of November 22

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
Monday	**St. Clement I, Pope & Martyr** Revelation 14: 1-3, 4b-5; Luke 21: 1-4
Tuesday	**St. Andrew Dung Lac, Priest, & Companions, Martyrs** Revelation 14: 14-19; Luke 21: 5-11
Wednesday	**St. Catherine of Alexandria, Virgin & Martyr** Revelation 15: 1-4; Luke 21: 12-19
Thursday	**Thanksgiving Day** Revelation 18: 1-2, 21-23; 19: 1-3, 9a; Luke 21: 20-28
Friday	Revelation 20: 1-4, 11---21: 2; Luke 21: 29-33
Saturday	Revelation 22: 1-7; Luke 21: 34-36
Sunday	**First Sunday of Advent** Isaiah 63: 16b-17, 19b; 64: 2-7; 1 Corinthians 1: 3-9; Mark 13: 33-37

Mass Intentions

Monday, November 23, 2026
7:00 a.m. George Jacob/Dave & Becky Shealy

Tuesday, November 24, 2026
7:00 a.m. Vivienne Burek/George & Connie Burek

Wednesday, November 25, 2026
7:00 a.m. Intentions of Marie Zarley & Family/Mary Ann Noe
8:00 a.m. Pat Hagemann/Dave & Kelly LaHood

Thursday, November 26, 2026
7:00 a.m. Donald Tascher/Dcn. John & Sonia Nelson

Friday, November 27, 2026
7:00 a.m. Deceased Bishops & Priests of the Diocese of Peoria/FSJB
8:00 a.m. Annie Holland-Morrissey/Kevin Morrissey

Saturday, November 28, 2026
8:00 a.m. Thomas Burek/George & Connie Burek
5:00 p.m. Cindy Jenkins/Sue Ardis

Sunday, November 29, 2026
8:00 a.m. James Snyder/a Friend of the Family
10:00 a.m. Bennett Bare/The Tribunal Office of the Diocese of Peoria
5:00 p.m. For the People

View this bulletin online at www.DiscoverMass.com

Week of November 22

STS CLOSED FOR THANKSGIVING BREAK November 23-27

ROSARY Tuesday, November 24, 10:00 a.m., Chapel

MILLIONS OF MONICAS Tuesday, November 24, 7:00 p.m., Chapel

CCD Wednesday, November 25, 6:00 p.m., School

OCIA Wednesday, November 25, 6:30 p.m., Church

PARISH OFFICE CLOSED From Noon Wednesday, November 25, through November 27. Office will reopen Monday, November 30

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

Upcoming Events

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

Millions of Monicas

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.

November 24 at 7:00 p.m.
St. Thomas Daily Mass Chapel

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



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.

WeeklyCollection

November 15, 2026

		Fiscal YTD
Collections Needed	$20,500	$
Sunday Collection	$12,742	$
Electronic Collections	$3,414	$
Total Collected	$16,156	$
Over/(Short)	$(4,344)	$

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.

Our Sympathy

Please pray for those who have died this week

Wedding Congratulations

Analisa Pallardy and Luke Smith

Laura Bachman and Peter Klepec

TMIY

There will be **no *That Man is You* on Friday November 27th**. We return for 2 more sessions, December 4th and 11th



Sponsor of the Week
McQuellon Consulting

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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***





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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!



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.

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 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!

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 _____



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.



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

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

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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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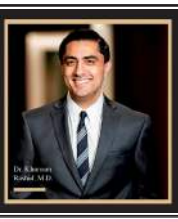
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