

January 6-7, 2024
The Epiphany of the Lord



St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic Church

404 W. Jourdan, Tel: 618-783-8741
 Newton, Illinois 62448 Fax: 618-783-8742

E-mail: stthomaschurch@psbnewton.com

Website: www.stthomasnewton.net

Pastor: Fr. Paul Luczak

(Email/Text: revpl.stthomas@gmail.com)

Deacon emeritus: Rev. Mr. Larry Miller

Office Manager: Linda M. Hemrich

Annulment Advocate: Debbie Matson

Office Hours: 7:30 -11:30 am & 1:00- 4:00 p.m. M-F

Masses: 4:30 pm Saturday; 7 & 10.00 am Sunday

8:30 am Wednesday and Friday

Reconciliation: 8:00 am- 9:00am (Except for First Saturday at St. Mary) & 3:30-4 pm Saturdays and upon request at reasonable time.

St. Thomas School Office:

St. Thomas School Principal: Jill Bierman

School Secretary: Lori Smith

306 W. Jourdan, PO Box 26 Tel: 618-783-3517
 Newton, Illinois 62448 Fax: 618-783-2224

E-Mail: jillbierman@stthomassaints.com

Website: www.stthomassaints.com

Pre-baptismal 2024 Class Schedule.

February 4, June 2, and October 6 at 8:45 am or by appointment if needed. Classes will be held in the choir area at St. Thomas Church. Contact the parish office at 618-783-8741 to register or schedule an appointment.

St. Thomas Disciples' Stewardship of Treasure

December 30-31, 2023 Collection

Envelopes	\$ 10,640.00
Loose	\$ 65.00
Subtotal	\$ 10,705.00
Christmas	\$ 1,185.00
Building Fund	\$ 255.00
Other	\$ 150.00
School Fund	\$ 280.00
Subtotal	\$ 1,870.00
Grand Total	\$ 12,575.00

St. Thomas Church November Tithe

November Tithe Income – \$35,280.00

10% Monthly Tithe Given to Diocese - \$3,528.00

This Week in Our Parish

Fr. Paul gone this week and returning January 17th.

Monday, Jan. 8, Baptism of the Lord

6:30 pm Angels meeting in church to oil pews with regular meeting immediately following

6:30 pm Oiling pews

Tuesday, Jan. 9, Weekday

8:00 am – Rosary at St. Mary's

8:30 am – Mass at St. Mary's

Wednesday, Jan. 10, Weekday

8:30 am Class Mass (Int: Gerald Hemrich)

9:00 am Rosary Group

5:30 pm No Youth Choir; will resume Jan. 17th

6:30 pm PSR at St. Mary's/St. Thomas CYO

Thursday, Jan. 11, Weekday

8:00 am – Rosary at St. Mary's

8:30 am – Mass at St. Mary's

Friday, Jan. 12, Weekday

8:30 am All-School Mass (Linda Barnes)

Saturday, Jan. 13, St. Hilary

Fr. Dean celebrating Masses this weekend

8:00 am – 9:00 am Confessions

3:30 pm - 4:00 pm Confessions

4:30 pm Mass - (Int: Maurice Nix Family)

Sunday, Jan. 14, 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

7:00 am Mass at St. Thomas (For the Parish)

8:30 am Mass at St. Mary's

10:00 am Mass at St. Thomas (For the Parish)

10:30 am Communion Service at Villas

This Week at St. Thomas School

Mon., Jan. 8 – **6:15 pm** Boys Basketball @ Sigel;
 5th/6th 5:30 pm

Tues., Jan. 9 – **6:00 pm** Boys Basketball, here,
 vs W. Salem with 5/6 grades at 5:15
6:00 pm Volleyball @ Trinity Luth.
 with 5th/6th grade at 5:15 pm

Weds., Jan. 10 - **6:00 pm** School Board;
7:00 pm Trivia Night Mtg

Thurs., Jan. 11 - **6:15 pm** Boys Basketball, here, vs
 Dieterich – 8th Grade Recognition
4:00 pm Volleyball @ Sacred Heart
 (8th grade plays first)

St. Mary of the Assumption Pre-Cana session will be held at the St Mary's Parish Center on March 9th, 2024. For more information contact the St. Mary's parish office at 618-455-3155

Lord, show me ways I can serve.

"Do nothing out of selfishness or out of vainglory; rather, humbly regard others as more important than yourselves, each looking out not for his own interests, but also for those of others." -- Philippians 2: 3-4

**St. Thomas Parish Ministry Schedule:
Saturday, January 13 @ 4:30 pm**

Lectors: Nichole Mulvey
EM: Brad, Kimberly, Kaitlyn Ochs, Kim Zuber
Servers: Alayna & Eli Ochs
Gift Bearers: Jason Meyer Family
Musicians: Tammy Page & Mallory Bolander
Greeters/Ushers: Chris Rauch

Sunday, January 14 @ 7:00 am

Lectors: Sara Bergbower
EM: Theresa Volk, Paul Bierman, Lori TeVault,
Becky Shamhart

Servers: Alani & Jace Bergbower

Gift Bearers: Steve Volk Family

Musicians: Jeff Finley & Lucy Bierman

Greeters/Ushers: Mark Vahling

Sunday, January 14 @ 10:00 am

Lectors: Elley Bennett

EM: Sara Mette, Charlie Schackmann, Brad/Annie Ochs

Servers: Beau Bennett & Oliver Ochs

Gift Bearers: Tim Bower Family

Musicians: Vicki Mullen & Jennelle Hinterscher

Greeters/Ushers: Jim Robins

**Attention St. Thomas Ushers:
Starting January 1st 2024,**

St. Thomas will resume passing the collection basket in the pews during the offertory. We will again need 4 ushers as we have in the past. If you are listed as the usher for the month, please find 3 other ushers to assist you. The finance and pastoral councils agreed that this is an important part of our Liturgy and something that they would like for our parish to begin doing again.

Collection of Gifts

Once the Universal Prayers/Mass Petitions are read, this is the signal for the ushers to proceed down each aisle in unison to the front pews of the Church with reverence to the altar and bow/genuflect. When everyone has been seated, the ushers, with the collection baskets in hand will start the collection by passing the baskets through the pews moving towards the back of the Church. The Ushers will then combine the collection into the large basket provided in the Usher's room and take the collection up with the Gift Bearers. The collection will be handed to the Priest and he will place it on a step in front of the altar until after Mass. At the end of Mass, the Ushers will take the collection back to the Usher's room, secure it in the bags and place in the safe.

Gift Bearers please wait on the ushers to combine the collection into one basket and then bring up the gifts together with the usher presenting the collection when ready.

Thank you for helping us make this a smooth transition!

Oiling the Pews. The January Cleaning Crew and Angels Group will be oiling pews on **Monday, January 8 at 6:30 pm**. Anyone interested in helping is welcome to come and help! Thanks for helping us take care of and maintain our church!! *Angels will have their regular meeting immediately following.*

St. Thomas Church Cleaning Meeting. All monthly cleaning captains need to meet after the 10:00 am Mass on Sunday, January 21, 2024 for instructions on new vacuums, cleaning supplies, etc. Thank you!

ST. THOMAS SCHOOL

INFORMATIONAL/PRE-REGISTRATION

St. Thomas School in Newton will be holding a kindergarten and new student informational pre-registration night on Wednesday, January 24th, 2024. The evening will begin with a parent meeting at 5:30 in the school cafeteria. Prospective kindergarten students are welcomed. A tour of the building will conclude the night. There is a pre-registration form on the school website, www.stthomassaints.com that can be filled out and brought that evening, or you can contact the school for a copy. Forms will also be available that evening. No commitment is expected.

This is for all families interested in the school. Please be aware that class size has reached its maximum at some of our grade levels. If you have any questions, please contact Mrs. Bierman at 618-783-3517 or by email at jillbierman@stthomassaints.com.

Thank you, St. Thomas CYO!



CYO cleaned church this past Wednesday evening and donated several needed items to the Silk Purse.



**Who you gonna call??
"Gus Busters!"**

CYO... Wednesday, January 10th, **Boys** will meet in church to help take down Christmas decorations and **Girls** will meet at Silk Purse. It will probably be a short night... meeting 6:30 pm to approximately 7:00 pm. THANKS!!!

St. Thomas & St. Mary Parishes

WELCOME you and invite you to join our Church families by calling the parish offices of St. Thomas the Apostle, Newton, and St. Mary of the Assumption, Sainte Marie.



Please pray for the Sick:

Sam Nelson, Alex Koebele, Larry Kremer, Marlene Harris, Vinnie Zuber, Ray Kautz, Harold Deimel, Connie Griffith, Brian Baker, Whitney Benefiel, Betty Ochs, Doug Frichtl, Gary Griffith, Mary Bergbower, Mack McCrillis, Delorse Johnson, Mike Lustig, Cleve Bradley, Rhonda Wilson, Dick Worland, Suzi Ochs, Randy Hatten, Rodney Hatten, Geneva Barber; and those in healthcare facilities & in our Book of Requests.

This Week's Scripture Readings:

Mon.:	Is 55:1-11	Mk 1:7-11
Tues.:	1 Sm 1:9-20	Mk 1:21-28
Weds.:	1 Sm 3:1-10, 19-20	Mk 1:29-39
Th.:	1 Sm 4:1-11	Mk 1:40-45
Fri.:	1 Sm 8:4-7, 10-22a	Mk 2:1-12
Sat.:	1 Sm 9:1-4, 17-19; 10:1	Mk 2:13-17
Sun.:	1 Sm 3:3b-10, 19	1 Cor 6:13c-15a, 17-20
	Jn 1:35-4	

SAVE THE DATE

ANNUAL PRO-LIFE BREAKFAST

JANUARY 21

2024

7AM - 12:00PM

Hosted by
Effingham Area
Right to Life

Please Join Us!

Whole Hog Sausage & Egg Breakfast

Sunday, January 21
from 7am-12:00pm

Teutopolis Banquet Hall
210 S. Pearl Street

- Free-Will Donation
- Dine In or Carry Out
- 50/50 Drawing
- Raffle Baskets for All Ages

To volunteer (or if you have questions),
please call or text Susan at 217.663.2084



Effingham Area Right to Life



Donations of cinnamon rolls, sweet breads, and muffins would be greatly appreciated. Thank you!

SAVE THE DATE: **Illinois March for Life:** Wednesday, April 17, 2024. Mass, 10:00 am, Sangamon Auditorium, on the UIS Campus, 1 University Plaza, Springfield. Noon, rally in front of the State Capitol, followed by a march around the State Capitol complex. The Mass, rally and march are intended for 7th-12th graders, college students, and adults.

Prayer Service For Illinois Legislative Session

Our lawmakers need our prayers! Join us on **Tuesday, January 16th** as we pray for laws that uphold Catholic Values. This is the first day of the 2024 legislative session in Springfield. We will be praying at St. Anthony of Padua Church from 5:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. Light refreshments immediately after.

A top concern this year is the push to legalize assisted suicide. This sweeping legislation would make doctor prescribed suicide available to patients in a wide variety of situations, in direct opposition to the 5th commandment.

January 16, 2024 | 5:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.

St. Anthony Of Padua Church

Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children

– St. Francis Church in Teutopolis will host a pro-life Mass at 6:30 PM on **Monday, January 22**. The U.S. Bishops ask that this be a day of prayer for the full restoration of the legal guarantee of the right to life and of penance for violations to the dignity of the human person committed through acts of abortion. Eucharistic Adoration, which begins at 1:00 PM in the chapel, will pause and the Holy Eucharist will be reposed at 6:00 PM. A pro-life Rosary will begin at 6:00 PM prior to Mass. Eucharistic Exposition and Adoration in the chapel will resume immediately following Mass. Also after Mass, the Mattoon Deanery pro-life meeting will be held in St. Clare Hall adjoining the church. Please mark your calendars and plan to attend the Rosary, Mass, Adoration and/or pro-life meeting.

Welcome!

WELCOME Fr. Juan Carlos Ruiz from St. Francis in Teutopolis who will be joining our parishes this Sunday morning at the 8:30 am (St. Mary's) & 10:00 am (St. Thomas) Masses and Fr. Dean Probst who be joining us next week and weekend! They will be filling in for Fr. Paul while he is on his ski trip. We are fortunate to have them in our Deanery to help provide coverage when needed! Thank you both for celebrating Mass with us!

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St. Mary of the Assumption Church

112 W. Embarras Street, P.O. Box 68
Ste. Marie, Illinois 62459 Tel: 618-455-3155
E-mail: stmaryschurch@psbnewton.com

Website: www.stmariechurch.org

Pastor: Fr. Paul Luczak

(email/text: revpl.stthomas@gmail.com)

Deacon emeritus: Rev. Mr. Larry Miller

Office Manager: Denisse Ochs

PSR Coordinator: Marie Wagner

Tribunal Annulment Advocate: Debbie Matson

Office Hours: 8:00 a.m. – 3 p.m. Tues-Wed.-Thurs.

Masses: 8:30 am Sunday

First Saturday of the Month

**7:30 am – 8:15 am Eucharistic Adoration
& Reconciliation**

8:30 am – Holy Mass

**Reconciliation: As Scheduled by request and
Available at St. Thomas Church 8-9 am Saturday**

This Week in our Parish

Monday, January 8th, The Baptism of the Lord

Tuesday, January 9th, Weekday

8:00 a.m. – Rosary

8:30 a.m. – Mass (Int: Dory & Dolly Koelker+)

Wednesday, January 10th, Weekday

6:30 a.m. – PSR

Thursday, January 11th, Weekday

8:00 a.m. - Rosary

8:30 a.m. – Mass (Int: Eugene & Maxine Hartrich+)

Friday, January 12th, Weekday

Saturday, January 13th, St Hilary

**Sunday, January 14th, Second Sunday of Ordinary
Time**

8:30 a.m. – Mass: (Int: Jeff Kirts+)

St Mary's Disciples' Stewardship of Treasure
Collection for the week of December 31 & Jan 1st

Envelopes \$ 1450.00

Loose _____ 854.00

Sub Total \$ 2304.00

Christmas Offering 145.00

Solemnity of Mary 195.00

Children's Home 20.00

1st Offering _____ 60.00

Total \$ 2724.00

St Mary's Church November Tithe

November Tithe Income – \$11,147.00

10% Monthly Tithe Given to Diocese - \$ 1,115.00

Ministers for 8:30 a.m. – January 14, 2024

Ushers: Owen Ochs, Lance Zumbahlen, Phil Ochs

Servers: Charlee Hartrich/Max Ochs

Lectors: Lora Ochs/ Rose Gangloff

Gift Bearers: Kevin & Theresa Ochs

**Eucharistic Ministers: Norman Boehl, Maynard
Kaufmann, Elfrieda Kaufmann**

Pre-Cana session will be held at St Mary's Parish Center on March 9th, 2024. For more information contact the parish office.

PSR – As winter begins, please remember that if the weather is bad and there is no school, PSR will also be cancelled.

Masses – We are scheduling masses for this coming year. If you have special dates that you want, please call in and book that date. We can schedule masses for Sunday masses.

First grade PSR would like to say Thank You to all those who helped in their project to provide needed items to the Silk Purse in Newton. Your generosity was greatly appreciated.

Thank You to all who participated in the Christmas masses, to the high school PSR for their help to the worship committee, who made the church beautiful for the celebration of the birth of our Lord. To those who volunteered for the ministries, to the youth choir for the beautiful music. To those who donated in memory of loved ones for the beautiful flowers. To Fr Pawel for the beautiful mass!
To all who had a part in the celebration, thank you for sharing of your time and talent!