

**March 4-5, 2023**  
**Second Sunday of Lent**



**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](mailto:stthomaschurch@psbnewton.com)  
 Website: [www.stthomasnewton.net](http://www.stthomasnewton.net)  
 Emergency Number: 217-494-6326

**Pastor:** Fr. R. Dean Probst (email/text): [dprobst@dio.org](mailto:dprobst@dio.org))

**Parochial Vicar** Fr. Pawel Luczak  
 (Email/Text: revpl.stthomas@gmail.com)

**Deacon emeritus:** Rev. Mr. Larry Miller

**Office Manager:** Linda M. Hemrich

**PSR Coordinator:** Pete Pasero

**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

**Eucharistic Adoration** 7:30-8:00 am

w/Morning Prayer 7:30 am and Benediction 7:55 am

**Reconciliation:** 8:00 - 9:00 am and 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](mailto:jillbierman@stthomassaints.com)

Website: [www.stthomassaints.com](http://www.stthomassaints.com)

**St. Thomas Disciples' Stewardship of Treasure**

Feb. 25-26, 2023 Collection

Envelopes	\$	5,024.00
Loose	\$	764.00
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>5,788.00</b>
Eastern Europe	\$	175.00
Ash Wednesday	\$	668.00
Building Fund	\$	240.00
School Fund	\$	885.00
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>1,968.00</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>7,755.00</b>

**St. Thomas Church January Tithe**

January Tithe Income – \$48,437.00

10% Monthly Tithe Given to Diocese - \$4,844.00

**This Week in Our Parish**

**Monday, March 6, Lenten Weekday**

**5:30 pm** Mass (Coletta Ochs+)  
**6:30 pm** Angels Meeting in parish center

**Tuesday, March 7, Sts. Perpetua & Felicity**

**7:00 am** Mass w/MP (Marcella Strutner+)  
**7:45 am** Adoration until **8:30 am** Benediction

**Wednesday, March 8, St. John of God**

**7:30 am MP/Adoration w/7:55 am Benediction**  
**8:30 am School 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> Mass** (Harold Kocher+)

**9:00 am** Rosary Group  
**2:00 pm** Mass at Newton Helia Care Center

**5:30 pm** Youth Choir  
**6:30 pm** PSR/CYO

**6:30 pm** OCIA at St. Thomas Rectory  
**7:00 pm** Stations of the Cross

**Thursday, March 9, St. Frances of Rome**

**12:10 pm** Mass (Betty Marshall+)  
**4:00 pm** OCIA: Youth (Church Conference Room)

**6:30 pm** 1<sup>st</sup> Reconciliation Parent Meeting

**Friday, March 10, Lenten Weekday**

**7:30 am** MP w Adoration - Benediction at 7:55 am  
**8:30 am All School Mass** (Val/Florence Mertens,  
 Christopher Skates, Virginia Degand+)

**2:30 pm** Stations of the Cross  
**4:30 pm** KC's Fish Fry for the Newman Center

**Saturday, March 11, Lenten Weekday**

**8:00 – 9:00 am** Reconciliation (Confessions)  
**3:30-4:00 pm** Reconciliation (Confessions)

**4:30 pm** Mass at St. Thomas (For the Parish)

**Sunday, March 12, Third Sunday of Lent**

**7:00 am** Mass at St. Thomas (For the Parish)  
**10:00 am** Mass at St. Thomas (For the Parish)  
**10:30 am** Communion Service at Villas



**Our "ELECT" with the Bishop.**

Brianna (Clayton) Ochs, Jessica (Trevor) Ochs, and Emma, Alexis, Hayden Evans, daughters of Guardians Josh & Debra Ochs, attended the Rite of Election at the Diocesan Cathedral of the

Immaculate Conception in Springfield, IL. From testimony of their sponsors, and affidavit of the parish, Bishop Paprocki announced the Catechumens "elected" to receive the Sacraments of Initiation in their home parishes at the Easter Vigil Mass.

Let us pray for them on their journey of faith.

**You're invited to attend an Angels Meeting** on Monday, March 6<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm in the St. Thomas parish center. This is a great opportunity to get involved in the faith life of the parish.

All are welcome!

### St. Thomas Parish Ministry Schedule:

**Saturday, March 11 @ 4:30 pm**

Lectors: Nichole Mulvey; Kim Zuber

E.M.: Gerald/Denisse Ochs, Erica Johnson,  
Lori TeVault

Servers: Allie & Brooks Hermann

Gift Bearers: Matt Baltzell Family

Musicians: Tammy Page & Mallory Bolander

Greeters/Ushers: Vic Klingler

**Sunday, March 12 @ 7:00 am**

Lectors: Jill Bierman; Sara Bergbower

EM: Eliza Bierman, Paul Bierman, Linda/Laney

Servers: Bailey Meinhart & Alani Bergbower

Gift Bearers: Mark & Janet Vahling

Musicians: John Johnson & Lucy Bierman

Greeters/Ushers: Brian Brummer

**Sunday, March 12 @ 10:00 am**

Lectors: Kelly Iffert; Sadie Iffert

EM: Helen/Leo Weber, Renee Gier, Kelly Hemrich

Servers: Lincoln Probst & Lauren Gier

Gift Bearers: Mike Gier Family

Musicians: Vicki Mullen & Jennelle Hinterscher

Greeters/Ushers: Bob Bower

### The Lenten Liturgy Weekday Schedule At St. Thomas, Newton

Monday: Mass at 5:30 pm

Tuesday: 7:00 am Mass with Morning Prayer  
7:45-8:30 Adoration w Benediction

Weds.: 7:30 am Adoration w Benediction 8 am  
8:30 am Mass  
9:00 am Rosary  
7:00 pm Stations of Cross/Rosary

Thursday: 12:10 pm Mass

Friday: 7:30 am Adoration w Benediction 8 am  
8:30 am Mass  
2:30 pm Stations of the Cross

Come share in the Prayer Opportunities this Lent!

### St. Thomas CYO: Upcoming Schedule

Thanks to all of the CYO youth that worked the fish fry this past Friday night. What a great turnout!!

**Beginning March 1<sup>st</sup>, CYO will meet in parish center @ 6:30 pm to prepare for Stations of the Cross.**

**March 8<sup>th</sup>** 7:00 pm Stations of the Cross for Kids

**March 15<sup>th</sup>** 7:00 pm Stations of the Cross Rosary

**March 22<sup>nd</sup>** 7:00 pm Stations: St Francis of Assisi

**Sunday, April 2, Palm Sunday,**

6:30 pm – The Living Stations

All are welcome to join CYO throughout Lent for the various spiritual Ways of the Cross.

**NOTE: There are 10 spaces left for the Holy Land Trip if you are interested in going. Sign up now!**

## St. Thomas & St. Mary Parishes

**WELCOME** You and invites you to join our Church families by calling the parish office.  
The parishes of St. Thomas the Apostle, Newton, and St. Mary of the Assumption, Sainte Marie.

**Please pray for the Sick**, especially, Cleve Bradley,



Tim Ferguson, Shirley Woodard, Steve Ochs, Rhonda Wilson, Suzi Ochs, Dick Worland, RoseAnn Kerner, Doug Frichtl, Randy Hatten, Lynn Schafer, Vicky Yager, Bob Helregel, Rodney Hatten, Matilda Hemrich, George Roth, Gary Griffith, Mary Bergbower, Karen Shamhart, Geneva Barber, Seth Weber; and those in healthcare facilities & in our Book of Requests.

**Rest in Peace:** Marcella Strutner

### This Week's Scripture Readings:

<b>Monday:</b>	<b>Dn 9:4b-10</b>	<b>Lk 6:36-38</b>
<b>Tues.:</b>	<b>Is 1:10,16-20</b>	<b>Mt 23:1-12</b>
<b>Weds.:</b>	<b>Jer 18:18-20</b>	<b>Mt 20:17-28</b>
<b>Thurs.:</b>	<b>Jer 17:5-10</b>	<b>Lk 16:19-31</b>
<b>Fri:</b>	<b>Gn 37:3-4,12-13a,17b-28a</b>	<b>Mt 21:33-43,45-46</b>
<b>Sat.:</b>	<b>Mi 7:14-15,18-20</b>	<b>Lk 15:1-3,11-32</b>
<b>Sun.:</b>	<b>Ex 17:3-7</b>	<b>Rom 5:1-2,5-8</b> <b>Jn 4:5-42</b>

**St. Thomas School is looking for someone to teach 5th grade OR 5th-8th Language Arts.** Catholic individuals are preferred, but not a requirement. Do you know someone who would like to **teach in our awesome school**? If someone is interested please refer them to the school office or call 618-783-3517.

### First Reconciliation Parent Meeting

**2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Parents of St. Thomas School and PSR** are to attend the **1st Reconciliation meeting** March 9<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm in St. Thomas Church. At least one parent must attend the meetings.

**SCAMS:** Please delete any texts or emails or calls regarding suggesting a priest is in a meeting and needs you to do something like pass over money or gift cards unless you want to donate to a criminal fraudulently using someone else's name to deceive you.

### Support Life in Illinois-1 day march



**Springfield March for Life** will be March 21 beginning with 10AM Mass at Sangamon

Auditorium celebrated by Bishop Paprocki. The Rally and Speakers at the Capitol building will begin at 12-noon. Seats on a Bales bus are limited so text Dianne Ruholl @ 217-663-2056 **now**. Deadline March 6!

## A Letter From the Bishop

My Dear Friends in Christ,

God calls each of us to a loving relationship with him. During Lent, we focus in an intentional way on turning away from sin and toward God to grow in this love. The Lenten pillars of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving help us do this. **CRS Rice Bowl** Catholic Relief Services' Lenten faith-in-action program-invites us to practice these pillars while reflecting on the needs of our sisters and brothers and how we can respond in love to support them.

This year, journey with CRS to Honduras, the Philippines and Kenya to learn about the root causes of hunger and how families-with the support of faith communities like yours- are making sure they have nutritious food to thrive. Through stories, videos and lesson plans, your community will learn about our Gospel call to care for our common home so we can respond to global issues such as hunger and malnutrition and push back on climate change.

**CRS Rice Bowl** provides resources to bring Lenten spirituality to life for families, parishes and school communities while continuing to connect Catholics in our diocese with our global human family. These **free** materials are available in English and Spanish. You may also visit [crsricebowl.org](http://crsricebowl.org) or [crsplatodearroz.org](http://crsplatodearroz.org) to find additional resources, including:

- Devotions, like the Stations of the Cross, and prayers.
- Lesson plans, videos and activity sheets for Catholic school teachers and religious educators.
- Ideas for in-person or virtual community gatherings and simple Lenten meal events.

Together, we can respond to Christ's call to help those in need and ensure everyone reaches his or her God-given potential.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Thomas John Paprocki

**J&J Gaming is sponsoring Effingham Catholic Charities Trivia Night** on March 4, 2023 at the Effingham Event Center in Effingham, Illinois. Doors open at 6 PM and trivia will begin at 6:30. Tickets are \$360 for a team of 8 or individual tickets are \$50 each. Persons purchasing an individual ticket will be placed with others to make a team of 8. Tickets will be sold on Facebook at Effingham Catholic Charities Events Page, on [cc.dio.org](http://cc.dio.org), or at the door. This is a beach themed event, so feel free to wear your favorite tropical attire. Food will be provided for a free will donation and drinks are available to purchase.

**SAVE THE DATE!** Saturday March 18th, 2023  
**Newton Family Life Center Breakfast/Bake Sale**

Serving: 7:30am-10:30am

Location: St. Thomas Parish Center

Please contact Brian Bierman (217-821-1217)

To volunteer your service or to provide a baked good.

**Silk Purse Volunteers needed** to support Newton's Family Life Center. Any help including sorting clothing, checking batteries, stocking shelves, etc. would be greatly appreciated. Volunteers can work any day, any hours.

**Tuesday is St. Thomas' volunteer day.**

9:00 am-7:00 pm; M-F

10:00 am -6:00 pm; Sat

Fantastic Resale Shop & Great Bargains!

## LENTEN REGULATIONS :

**Abstinence:** All the faithful who have reached 14 years of age are required to abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday and all the Fridays of Lent.

**Fasting:** All the faithful between the ages of 18 and 59 inclusive are bound to fast on Ash Wednesday and on Good Friday.

To disregard completely the law of fast and abstinence is seriously sinful. However, health and/or medical needs dispense a person.

## Introducing the area's newest pro-life ministry!



El Shaddai Homes is a long-term residential home for pregnant women and their babies opening soon in Effingham. This Christian ministry will provide live-in support, parenting education, life skills, counseling, post-birth after care and resource referrals. An existing 19 bedroom living facility is currently being renovated to house 10-12 women along with "house parents" that will live on-site 24/7. To learn more about the ministry and how you can help financially please visit our Facebook page El Shaddai or scan the QR Code.

**St. Thomas School Bingo cancelled!** Upon the recommendation of the School Board, Father Pawel, and Father Dean, it has been decided to cancel Bingo for the rest of this school year. We are definitely leaning towards giving up our Bingo license for good. Bingo has not returned to its glory since COVID, and we are not making any money on it while struggling to find people to work at it. Thanks for your support throughout the years!



March 4-5, 2023



**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](mailto:stmaryschurch@psbnewton.com)

Website: [www.stmariechurch.org](http://www.stmariechurch.org)

Parish Emergency Number: 217-494-6326

**Pastor:** Fr. R. Dean Probst (email: [dprobst@dio.org](mailto:dprobst@dio.org))

**Parochial Vicar** Fr. Pawel (Paul) Luczak  
(email/text: [revpl.stthomas@gmail.com](mailto: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**

and 8:30 am Tuesday and Thursday

8:30 am First Saturday of the Month.

**Rosary:** 8:00 am Tuesday and Thursday

**Penance:** 8:00 am First Saturday of Month

At St. Thomas Church 8-9 am & 3:30-4 pm Saturdays

**This Week in our Parish**

**Monday, March 6<sup>th</sup>, Lenten Weekday**

**Tuesday, February 7<sup>th</sup>, Sts Perpetua & Felicity**

8:00 a.m. – Rosary

8:30 a.m. – Mass: (Int: Mary Harris+)

**Wednesday, March 8<sup>th</sup>, St John of God**

6:15 p.m. – Stations of the Cross

6:30 p.m. – PSR

**Thursday, March 9<sup>th</sup>, St Francis of Rome**

8:00 a.m. – Rosary

8:30 a.m. – Mass (Int: Orville Schmidt+)

**Friday, March 10<sup>th</sup>, Lenten Weekday**

**Saturday, March 11<sup>th</sup>, Lenten Weekday**

8:30 a.m. – 3 p.m. Pre-Cana in parish hall.

**Sunday, March 12<sup>th</sup> Third Sunday of Lent**

8:30 a.m. – Mass: (Int: For the Parish+)

**Remember the Catholic Charities Collection this weekend. Please be generous!**

**ST MARY'S BRUNCH**

**SUNDAY, MARCH 5<sup>TH</sup>**

**8AM – NOON**

**MENU:** Sausage Links & Ham  
Scrambled Egg, Biscuits & Sausage Gravy  
Breads & Fruit Juice, Milk & Coffee  
**Adults \$8.00; Children (4-10) \$4.00**  
**Children (3 & Under) Free**

**Bake Sale sponsored by Youth Group**

**Needed – Fruit and Baked goods for the breakfast!!**  
Parish Center open Saturday, March 4<sup>th</sup> 10 am – Noon  
for delivery of fruit and baked goods.

**Ministers for 8:30 a.m. – March 12, 2023**

**Ushers:** Ben Ochs, Lance Zumbahlen,  
Marvin Zwilling

**Servers:** Brianna Zwilling/ Chase Kistner

**Lectors:** Nicholas Zwilling/ Lora Ochs

**Gift Bearers:** Tony & Martha Strutner

**Eucharistic Ministers:** Amy Frohning,  
Jeanne Johnson, Bridget Matson

**PSR: All Wednesdays during Lent classes will begin  
at 6:15 pm in church with Stations of the Cross.  
Parents are encouraged to attend.**

**St Mary's Disciples' Stewardship of Treasure**

**Collection for the week of February 26, 2023**  
**Will be reported in next week's bulletin**

**St Mary's Church January Tithe**

**January Tithe Income – 45510.00**

**(Includes farm income**

**10% Monthly Tithe Given to Diocese - \$4551.00**

**The Family of Coletta Ochs** wishes to express their heartfelt thanks to Father Dean for all his visits, prayers, and the beautiful Mass. To Jane Ochs and Julie Warfel for the beautiful music and to Avery Ochs and Ellie Ochs for assisting at the Mass as Altar servers. Thanks to Hartrich Meats Catering and the parish ladies for the wonderful meal.

May God Bless you all.

**Brunch update:** Thanks so much to the brunch committee for all their hard work, to the people who donated items or money for the brunch, to the bakers who provided sweets and fruit. To all the workers, you all are so appreciated!! Will have a report in the bulletin next week.