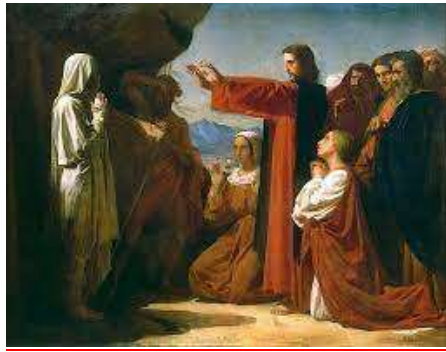


March 25<sup>th</sup>-26<sup>th</sup>, 2023

Fifth 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](mailto: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**

March 18-19, 2023 Collection

Envelopes	\$	5,537.00
Loose	\$	1,098.00
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>6,635.00</b>
Catholic Charities	\$	75.00
Catholic Relief Services	\$	532.00
Building Fund	\$	50.00
School Fund	\$	2,460.00
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>3,117.00</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>9,752.00</b>

### **St. Thomas Church February Tithe**

February Tithe Income – \$52,590.00

10% Monthly Tithe Given to Diocese - \$5,259.00

### **This Week in Our Parish**

#### ***Monday, March 27, Lenten Weekday***

**5:30 pm** Mass (Rita Schafer+)

**6:00 pm** OCIA--Adults

#### ***Tuesday, March 28, Lenten Weekday***

**7:00 am** Mass w/MP (Estelle Kennedy+)

**7:35 am** Adoration until **8:00 am** Benediction

#### ***Wednesday, March 29, Lenten Weekday***

**7:30 am** Adoration w MP until 8 am Benediction

**8:30 am** Mass (Betty Frohning+)

**9:00 am** Rosary Group

**5:30 pm** Youth Choir

**6:30 pm** PSR/CYO

**6:30 pm** Confessions at Sacred Heart, Effingham

#### ***Thursday, March 30, Lenten Weekday***

**12:10 pm** Mass (Carole Schafer+)

**4:00 pm** OCIA: Youth (Church Conference Room)

**5:30 pm** Confessions at St. Elizabeth, Robinson

#### ***Friday, March 31, Lenten Weekday***

**7:30 am** MP w Adoration - Benediction at 7:55am

**8:30 am** All-School Mass (Dorothy Woods+)

**12:10 pm** Mass

**2:30 pm** Stations of the Cross

**4:30 pm** St. Thomas Parish Fish Fry at KC Hall

#### ***Saturday, April 1, 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, April 2, Palm Sunday***

**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

**6:30 pm** CYO presents the Living Stations of the Cross



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

Brianna (Clayton) Ochs,  
Jessica (Trevor) Ochs, and Emma,  
Alexis, Hayden Evans, daughters of  
Guardians Josh & Debra Ochs, at  
the Cathedral of the Immaculate  
Conception in Springfield, IL. At

the Easter Vigil, April 8, they are to be baptized,  
confirmed and share in the Holy Communion

### **St. Thomas Parish Fish Fry – March 31<sup>st</sup>**

**Serving from 4:30 pm – 7:00 pm (or until sold out)**

Parishioners are asked to provide a dessert. If you  
would like to volunteer to help at the fish fry please  
contact the parish office 618-783-8741. Desserts can  
be dropped off at the parish office in morning or the  
KC Hall that afternoon. Thanks for your support!

### St. Thomas Parish Ministry Schedule:

#### **Palm Sunday Vigil: Saturday, April 1 @ 4:30 pm**

Lectors: Beth Ochs, Luke Zuber, Mike Hartrich,  
Karen Buerster

E.M.: Alice Addis, Mark Bolander, Erica Johnson,  
Wanda Kocher

Servers: Brooks/Allie Hermann, Halle Wagner

Gift Bearers: Russell Brewer Family

Musicians: Nichole Mulvey & Kaitlyn Ochs

Greeters/Ushers: Brad & Grant Ochs

#### **Sunday, April 2 @ 7:00 am**

Lectors: Jill Bierman, Becky Shamhart, Sara  
Bergbower, Nikki Bierman

EM: Linda Hemrich, Paul Bierman, Nicholas  
Shamhart, Amy Hartrich

Servers: Caleb Kistner, Alani Bergbower,  
Nathan Bierman

Gift Bearers: Doug & Jan Long

Musicians: Five For the One

Greeters/Ushers: Mark Vahling

#### **Sunday, April 2 @ 10:00 am**

Lectors: Brian Bierman, Ryan Probst, Tracey Bower,  
Renee Gier

EM: Kelly Hemrich, Charlie/Jan Schackmann,  
Jenny Bierman

Servers: Kassie Pitcher, Alaina Urfer, Carlee Finn

Gift Bearers: Jim & Ginger Robins

Musicians: Patsy Leffler & Anne Kuhl

Greeters/Ushers: John Stone

***Please contact the Parish Office or visit the Ministry  
Scheduler App to sign up for Holy Week Lay  
Ministries. Thank you!***

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

Monday: Mass at 5:30 pm

Tuesday: 7:00 am Mass with Morning Prayer  
7:40-8:00 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**

**March 29<sup>th</sup>**, 6:30 pm – Living Stations rehearsal

**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.

### **St. Thomas School Distinguished Graduate Award**

St. Thomas School is now accepting nominations for  
the *Distinguished Graduate Award*. This award is a  
chance to recognize and honor a St. Thomas School  
graduate for all they have given back to the school  
community, and/or parish. Nominees for this award  
must: Be a graduate of St. Thomas School 10 + years  
Have made contributions to society that reflect  
the values instilled in them  
while attending St. Thomas School

### **St. Thomas School Exceptional Service Award 2021**

St. Thomas School is accepting nominations for the  
*Exceptional Service Award*. Nominees for this award  
are those individuals who have tirelessly given of their  
time, talent and/or treasure to better St. Thomas School  
and/or St. Thomas Parish. The nominee does not have  
to be a graduate of St. Thomas school or a member of  
St. Thomas parish, but an unceasing advocate for our  
school and/or parish.

For more info: call the school office at 783-3517.  
Nominations will be accepted for both awards till  
April 8, in the school or church office.



The **Illinois March for Life**  
was held this past Tuesday in  
Springfield. Thank you to all of  
our parishioners and St.

Thomas School students: Curtis  
and Jack Weber, Oliver Ochs, Nathan Bierman, Anna,  
Margaret, and James Bierman who attended. Fr. Dean  
also attended. Illinois is an important place to continue  
the abortion battle, as abortion is still legal. Thanks for  
representing the pro-life movement in our state!

### **The NCHS musical “Mamma Mia” is March 30-**

**April 2.** It will be performed by the NCHS Chorus  
including several of our St. Thomas alumni. If you  
need tickets, contact the St. Thomas School or NCHS  
offices. It's going to be a great show as always!

**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

### **The Newton Family Life Center auction is LIVE!!!**

Over \$12,000 of items for auction! Please consider  
supporting the Family Life Center in Newton by bidding  
on these awesome items.

<https://www.bidschmid.com/.../5925-Family-Life-Center-in...>

## 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, Peggy Mulvey, Cleve Bradley, Shirley Woodard, Steve Ochs, Rhonda Wilson, Suzi Ochs, Dick Worland, RoseAnn Kerner, Doug Frichtl, Randy Hatten, Lynn Schafer, Vicky Yager, 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:** Rita Schafer

### This Week's Scripture Readings:

<b>Monday:</b>	<b>Dn 13:1-9,15-17,19-30,33-62</b>	<b>Jn 8:1-11</b>
<b>Tues.:</b>	<b>Nm 21:4-9</b>	<b>Jn 8:21-30</b>
<b>Weds.:</b>	<b>Dn 3:14-20,91-92,95</b>	<b>Jn 8:31-42</b>
<b>Thurs.:</b>	<b>Gn 17:3-9</b>	<b>Jn 8:51-59</b>
<b>Fri:</b>	<b>Jer 20:10-13</b>	<b>Jn 10:31-42</b>
<b>Sat.:</b>	<b>Ez 37:21-28</b>	<b>Jn 11:45-56</b>
<b>Sun.:</b>		<b>Mt 21:1-11</b>
	<b>Is 50:4-7 Phil 2:6-11 Mt 26:14-27:66</b>	

### OPPORTUNITIES FOR RECONCILIATION The Grace of the SACRAMENT of PENANCE

Regularly: 8:00-9:00 am Saturdays at St. Thomas  
3:30-4:00 pm Saturdays at St. Thomas  
**March 30: 5:30 pm** at St. Elizabeth Church, Robinson

**Sacrament of Penance: Rite of Reconciliation for 2<sup>nd</sup> Graders and their parents:** Parents are to receive the Sacrament prior to their son or daughter receiving First opportunity for Penance.

Jesus said: "There is more joy in heaven over one repentant sinner than 99 others who have no need of repentance." Come share God's joy and mercy.

### Holy Week Schedule:

**Palm Sunday: Regular Weekend Schedule**  
**Holy Thursday: Mass of the Lord's Last Supper**  
5:30 pm at St. Mary's Adoration following  
7:00 pm at St. Thomas Adoration following  
**Good Friday: The Passion of our Lord**  
3:00 pm at St. Mary's  
7:00 pm at St. Thomas  
**Holy Saturday: Vigil of Easter**  
8:00 pm at St. Thomas  
**Easter Sunday:**  
7:00 am Mass at St. Thomas  
8:30 am Mass at St. Mary's  
10:00 am Mass at St. Thomas

### Confirmation/First Communion DATE change!

Emails have been sent to each family with a 2<sup>nd</sup> grader prepared for 1<sup>st</sup> Reconciliation. The original date for this group of students to receive Confirmation/First Communion was set for October 21, 2023. Fr. Dean will be in the Holy Land on that day and the U of I has its major band contest also on that day, so Fr. Dean has arranged for an earlier date of June 3 for the 28 families of St. Thomas Parish and June 17 for the 5 families of St. Mary parish. This is due to the Bishop limiting the number of candidates for any one Mass at 80. There were 30 spaces left for June 3 and 6 spaces left for July 17. **St. Thomas School Families please respond to Principal Jill Bierman and PSR families to Fr. Dean regarding any complication of new schedule for your family.** If there is a conflict, we will make arrangements for your son or daughter to be confirmed & receive First Communion on another day.

### LENTEN REGULATIONS :

**Abstinence:** All the faithful who have reached 14 years of age are required to abstain from meat 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.

### Clergy Overnight Gathering with the Bishop

At the meeting we listened to the proposals regarding Catholic School Education. The pastors of the Springfield Catholic Schools have decided to implement a set base tuition for all families. The pastor will meet with his parish families to encourage the family to attend Mass at his/her home parish and if attending 51% of the weekends, a scholarship would be provided the student. Families from other parishes attending the school could receive the same from their parish. This may be the model for the future of all Catholic Schools in the Diocese for as the Bishop stated, the Catholic School, in fact all Catholic education, is to promote Catholic Disciples of Jesus.

**On October 28, 2023, the Diocese will celebrate the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary** of the transfer of Diocese from Alton to Springfield with a Mass at the Convention Center in Springfield. No parish masses, no weddings, funerals will be scheduled on that Saturday.

**This Friday's Knights of Columbus Fish Fry to support the Newton Family Life Center.** Serving 4:30 – until sold out. Be sure to check out the baked goods and the raffle for \$250 meat bundle. Thank you!



March 25<sup>th</sup>-26<sup>th</sup>, 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 27<sup>th</sup>, Lenten Weekday**

**Tuesday, March 28<sup>th</sup>, Lenten Weekday**

8:00 a.m. – Rosary

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

7:00 p.m. – Picnic Meeting

**Wednesday, March 29<sup>th</sup>, Lenten Weekday**

6:15 p.m. – Stations of the Cross

6:30 p.m. – PSR

**Thursday, March 30<sup>th</sup>, Lenten Weekday**

8:00 a.m. – Rosary

8:30 a.m. – Mass (Int: George & Hilda Dallmier+)

**Friday, March 31<sup>st</sup>, Lenten Weekday**

**Saturday, April 1<sup>st</sup>, Lenten Weekday**

8:00 a.m. – Sacrament of Penance

8:30 a.m. – Mass: First Saturday Fatima Devotion

**Sunday, April 2<sup>nd</sup>, Palm Sunday**

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

**Living Stations of the Cross** will be presented by the youth group of the parish at 7 pm Wednesday, April 5. Come pray this powerful drama of the Lord's passion! All are welcome!

**April Ministers' list** and the list for Holy Week will be available at the church entrances this weekend.

**Picnic Meeting** – There will be a picnic planning meeting on Tuesday, March 28<sup>th</sup> at 7pm in the parish center. All are welcome to come and share ideas!!

**St. Mary's Church Family Life's** monthly raffle on Sunday, April 2<sup>nd</sup>, the prize will be homemade cookies and a \$10 gift certificate to Town Talk. Thank you to Taylor Zwilling for donating the prize.

The St. Mary's Church Family Life will also be having a **Rural Life Sunday** on **April 16<sup>th</sup>**, bring your tractors, farm equipment, farm animals' seed, or whatever you want Father to give a special blessing. Refreshments will be served after mass.

#### **Ministers for 8:30 a.m. – April 2, 2023**

**Ushers:** Paul, Alex & Maynard Kaufmann

**Servers:** Ashtyn Ochs, Charlee Hartrich, Ellie Ochs

**Lectors:** Nancy Ochs, Claire Griffith, Becca Ochs, Lora Ochs

**Gift Bearers:** Dan & Beth Hartrich Family

**Eucharistic Ministers:** Amy Frohning,

Bridget Matson, Jeanne Johnson

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

##### **Collection for the week of March 19, 2023**

Envelopes \$ 895.00

Loose 127.00

**Subtotal \$ 1,022.00**

Catholic Charities 330.00

Catholic Relief Fund 130.00

Haiti 80.00

**Total \$ 1,562.00**

##### **St Mary's Church February Tithe**

**February Tithe Income – \$12,984.00**

**10% Monthly Tithe Given to Diocese - \$1,298.00**

**The Ste. Marie Foundation is putting together a new exhibit and they would like your help.** The Foundation is looking pictures, slides, memorabilia, and relics from the following: **125<sup>th</sup> Celebration (1962); The Bicentennial (1976); 150<sup>th</sup> Celebration (1987).** They would also appreciate any pictures or items from the old church picnic that was held beside the Old White Church Hall. Examples: dolls from doll stand, pictures from dances and dining room dinner. Old Bend picnic photos/items wanted too. Contact Mike Hartrich at 618-562-8678 to learn more.

**You are invited** to celebrate the 90th birthdays of Ralph and Georgianna (Bolander) Weber. An open house will be held on Saturday, April 15<sup>th</sup> from 1- 4pm at the Holy Cross Parish Center, Wendelin.