

December 31-January 1, 2023



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

Emergency Number: 217-494-6326

Pastor: Fr. R. Dean Probst (email: dprobst@dio.org)

Parochial Vicar Fr. Pawel Luczak

Email: 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

Website: www.stthomassaints.com

St. Thomas Disciples' Stewardship of Treasure

Dec. 24-25, 2022 Collection

Envelopes	\$	7,786.00
Loose	\$	115.00
Subtotal	\$	7,901.00
Christmas	\$	6,465.00
Catholic Children's Home	\$	1,295.00
Other	\$	20.00
School Fund	\$	140.00
Subtotal	\$	7,920.00
Grand Total	\$	15,821.00

St. Thomas Church November Tithe

November Tithe Income – \$37,924.00

10% Monthly Tithe Given to Diocese - \$3,792.00

This Week in Our Parish

Monday, January 2nd, Sts Basil & Gregory Nazianzen

5:30 pm Mass (Dec. of John & Edith Miller Family+)

6:30 pm Angels Meeting in parish center

Tuesday, January 3, The Most Holy Name of Jesus

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

8:30 am Mass (Rose Dewhirst+)

6:00 pm OCIA Adults at St. Thomas Rectory

Wednesday, January 4, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

School Resumes

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

8:30 am Mass (LeRoy Schackmann+)

9:00 am Rosary Group

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

NO Youth Choir

6:00 pm St. Thomas School Board

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

Thursday, January 5, St. John Neumann

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

8:30 am Mass (Oliver Emmerich+)

Friday, January 6, St Andre Bessette

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

8:30am All School Mass (Alfonsina Schmidt+)

10:30am-2 pm Homebound Pastoral Visits

Saturday, January 7, St. Raymond of Penafort

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

Baptism for Wayne Bierman

Sunday, January 8, Epiphany of the Lord

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

8:45 pm Pre-baptismal Class – meet in choir area

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

10:30 am Communion Service at Villas

St. Thomas Parish Christmas Masses

A special ***thank you*** to all who participated in our Christmas Masses!! Thanks to Fr. Dean, Fr. Pawel and Deacon Larry for leading us during the Christmas season and throughout the year!! Thanks to all of the lay ministers who helped so that Mass could go smoothly...we could not do all that we do without you! Thanks to our musicians for adding to the Christmas environment by sharing your talents with us! Thanks to the Knights of Columbus, dressed in their regalia, for their involvement. Thanks to the CYO for their help in getting church ready by cleaning and assisting our Worship Committee. Thanks to the Worship Committee for creating a Christmas environment in our church that always makes everyone feel at home and welcome!

Mark Your Calendars:

St. Thomas Annual Wine Tasting is Saturday, Jan. 21st, 2023 at Newton Knights of Columbus Hall.

St. Thomas Parish Ministry Schedule:

Saturday, January 7 @ 4:30 pm

Lectors: Beth Ochs; Kim Zuber
E.M.: Brad/Kim Ochs & Matt/Amanda Baltzell
Servers: Eli Ochs & Alayna Ochs
Gift Bearers: Ronnie & Patti Ochs
Musicians: Nichole Mulvey & Kaitlyn Ochs
Greeters/Ushers: Steve Rubsam

Sunday, January 8 @ 7:00 am

Lectors: Laney Hemrich; Nikki Bierman
EM: Gery Ochs, Theresa Volk, Lori TeVault,
Erica Johnson
Servers: Aaron Volk & Addison Shamhart
Gift Bearers: Paul Bierman Family
Musicians: Five For the One
Greeters/Ushers: Randy Hemrich & Nick Hemrich

Sunday, January 8 @ 10:00 am

Lectors: Elley Bennett & Aleah Higgs
EM: Charlie/Jan Schackmann, Julie Higgs, Dee Bower
Servers: Drew Iffert & Beau Bennett
Gift Bearers: Jason Bierman Family
Musicians: Patsy Leffler & Anne Kuhl
Greeters/Ushers: Doug Iffert

The next **pre-baptismal class** will be held this **Sunday, January 8 at 8:45 am** at St. Thomas Church. To register, please call the St. Thomas or St. Mary's parish office. **Baptisms are scheduled during Mass** so that the child/person can be welcomed into the Church, the family of God.

St. Thomas School 4th Annual Trivia Night & Live Auction

Cash Prizes ~ Silent Auction ~ 50/50 ~ Heads/Tails ~ Food ~ Wine Pull

Saturday, February 11, 2023 @ 6:30 pm
~ **Doors open at 5:00 pm** ~ Space is Limited!
Cost to play: \$160/ team of 8 adults over 21
(Must be on a team to play)

Pulled Pork & Chips available for a free-will donation. Beverages available for purchase.

Questions: Contact Jill Bierman or Lori Smith at St. Thomas School 618-783-3517

St. Thomas Pictorial Directory. We are in the final stages of wrapping up our parish directory, so that we can get it sent off to the printers. We would like to include as many families as possible, so if you were not able to schedule a photo session **please submit a photo by email (stthomaschurch@psbnewton.com) or drop one off at the parish office by January 8.** This is a great resource for our parish, and we want everyone to be included!! Call 618-783-8741 if you have any questions!

St. Thomas & St. Mary Parishes

WELCOME...

to the parishes of St. Thomas the Apostle, Newton, and St. Mary of the Assumption, Sainte Marie. If you would like to become a member of either parish, please call the particular parish office.

Please pray for the Sick, especially, Amanda Tomm,



Steve Ochs, Steve Stiles, Mike Yager, 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.

This Week's Scripture Readings:

Monday:	1 Jn 2:22-28	Jn 1:19-28
Tues.:	1 Jn 2:29-3:6	Jn 1:29-34
Weds.:	1 Jn 3:7-10	Jn 1:35-42
Thursday:	1 Jn 3:11-21	Jn 1:43-51
Friday:	1 Jn 5:5-13	Mk 1:7-11
Saturday:	1 Jn 5:14-21	Jn 2:1-11
Sunday:	Is 60:1-6 Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6	Mt 2:1-12

ANNUAL PRO-LIFE BREAKFAST

JANUARY 15

7AM - 12PM

TEUTOPOLIS BANQUET HALL

Whole Hog Sausage & Egg Breakfast

**Sunday, January 15
7:00am-12:00pm**

**Teutopolis Banquet Hall
210 S. Pearl Street**

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



**Effingham Area
Right to Life**



March for Life, Washington, D.C.–Jan. 18-22, 2023

Those attending from St. Thomas include:

Adults: Paul Bierman, Jenny Fritchley, Linda Hemrich, Beth Ochs

Youth: Katie Bierman, Allison Brummer, Cameron Davis, Caroline Frohning, Will Fritchley, Alex Gier, Laney Hemrich, Lexi Ochs, Mallory Ochs, Wade Ochs, Wyatt Ochs, Emma Rauch, Adam Weber

Letter from our Bishop

My dear Friends in Christ,

Catholic Times has always been a key communication tool for our diocese. Whether it is important announcements, teaching the faith, or inspirational stories, the magazine provides tremendous value to readers.

That was most apparent in the Nov. 27 special edition of *Catholic Times* that focused on the Eucharist, our Year of the Eucharist, and previewing the diocesan celebration of the See transfer from Alton to Springfield.

That edition proved that not only do a lot of people read the magazine, but it is positively impacting people. Here are just two stories that prove the point: One is from Jerseyville where a reader told us that one of his friends, who is going through the RCIA process now, read the magazine "cover to cover" and "loved it" and now "understands" the Eucharist. In Springfield, a reader told us that he knew a gentleman who comes to Mass often and approached him. "He had a copy of the Eucharistic miracles article from the recent special issue of *Catholic Times*. He told me he had been one of the 70 percent who thought the Eucharist was a symbol, but that after reading the article, and I assume the other articles in the special issue, he was now among the 30 percent who believed in the Real Presence." What God moments! We heard other stories of positive impact as well and received many requests for more copies of the special edition so readers could hand them to family, friends, and people searching for the Truth.

In 2022, *Catholic Times* won eight national awards at the annual Catholic Media Association Awards; the most the magazine has ever won during a single year. Moreover, the team at *Catholic Times* continues to try new things to engage readers. For example, this entire next year will feature eucharistic miracle stories, saint stories, and monstrosities from across the diocese. The magazine will also continue its emphasis on catechesis of the Catholic faith such as their Hey, Father! Series, navigating the difficult world of bioethics, and explaining the sacraments. Of course, feature reporting is a major part of the magazine, highlighting the stories of people, parishes, and schools that are building up the Kingdom of God in our diocese. The magazine's commitment to local coverage means when each edition is opened, readers will see stories that are important to their lives and read stories written by people and priests they know.

My column, "Lex Cordis Caritas," is on page 4 of each issue. It is one of the best ways that I can speak about the issues that we face as Catholics in Central Illinois and update readers on important decisions I make that impact the faithful. As bishop of this diocese, it is important for me to be an active participant in Catholic media.

It is all these reasons why I believe that *Catholic Times* should be available to every household in our diocese, either online (ct.dio.org), by email, or by mail. I invite you to support this important communication tool in our diocese. **During the weekend of Jan. 7-8**, you will have the opportunity to respond gratefully and ensure the *Catholic Times* remains an inexpensive source of information on the vital issues I have noted.

Sincerely yours in Christ,
Most Reverend Thomas John Paprocki
Bishop of Springfield in Illinois
Publisher, Catholic Times



**Catholic Heart Workcamp 2023
is planned for July 9-14, in Huntingburg, Indiana.**

Those signed up include:

Adults: Jason Bierman, Ted Weber, Jill Bierman & Rose Gangloff

Youth: Jackson Baltzell, Lucy Bierman, Nick Bierman, Alex Gier, Kylie Higgs, Aleah Higgs, Alayna Ochs, Ashtyn Ochs, Kelby Ochs, Mallory Ochs, Wade Ochs, Wyatt Ochs, Adam Weber, Elias Weber.

The Regular Weekend Mass Schedule returns on January 7/8. Fr. Dean will be filling in two weekends for Fr. Sunder Ery at Neoga, Sigel and Lillyville January 14/15 and 22/23; and he and Fr. Pawel will trade on Friday mornings during January at Sacred Heart, Effingham and Fr. Pawel will substitute for Fr. Beagles in Robinson and Oblong the first weekend of February.

October 17-26, 2023 Trip to Holy Land with Fr. Dean is being prepared by NAWAS Catholic Agency. Dorothy of Oz stated: "There is no place like home!" The Holy Land is our home as Christians. Visit the sites of Jesus birth, preaching and healing, suffering, death and resurrection. Brochures are available in the foyers of each parish Church. Cost: \$4,179.

Fr. Michael Rosa, Pastor of Sacred Heart Parish, Effingham is leading a pilgrimage tour of Poland, his homeland before being ordained a priest for our Diocese. Brochures are available in the foyer. The trip May 21-June 2 is at a cost of \$4,100.

World Marriage Day – Save the Date!
On Sunday, February 12, 2023, at 2:30 pm., Auxiliary Bishop Mark S. Rivituso will celebrate a Mass for World Marriage Day at the Cathedral Basilica of St. Louis, 4431 Lindell Blvd. St. Louis, MO. A reception will follow in Boland Hall. All married couples are invited to attend. World Marriage Day honors husband and wife as the foundation of the family – the basic unit of society. It emphasizes the faithfulness, sacrifice and joy of daily married life.

December 31-January 1, 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

Website: www.stmariechurch.org

Parish Emergency Number: 217-494-6326

Pastor: Fr. R. Dean Probst (email: dprobst@dio.org)

Parochial Vicar Fr. Pawel (Paul) Luczak
(email: 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

Rosary: 8:00 am Tuesday and Thursday

Reconciliation: requested with a priest.

Also available at St. Thomas Church 8-9 am Saturdays

This Week in our Parish

Monday, Jan. 2nd, Sts Basil & Gregory Nazianzen

Tuesday, January 3rd, Christmas Weekday

8:00 a.m. – Rosary

8:30 a.m. – Mass: (Int: Sam & Linda Zuber+)

Wednesday, January 4th, St Elizabeth Ann Seton

6:30 pm - PSR

7:15 pm – Youth Group

Thursday, January 5th. St John Neumann

8:00 a.m. – Rosary

8:30 a.m. – Mass (Int: Dick & John Helregel+)

Friday, January 6th, St Andre Bessette

10:00 am – Noon Homebound Pastoral Visits

Saturday, January 7th, St Raymond Penafort

Sunday, January 8th, The Epiphany of the Lord

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

Ministers for 8:30 a.m. – January 8, 2023

Ushers: Phil Ochs, Kelby Ochs, Jacob Kaufmann

Servers: Ellie Ochs/Chase Kistner

Lectors: Ethan Zwilling/Ron Zwilling

Gift Bearers: Roger & Sherrie Hemrich

Eucharistic Ministers: Bridget Matson, Ben Ochs
Elaine Zwilling,

Masses: Intentions for masses for this year are being scheduled now. Please do so at your earliest convenience. Day of Death/Anniversary, Etc have priority. Requests taken until January 15 and then scheduled.



St Mary's Pictorial Directory Update:
Don't forget to make those appointments, pictures start next Sunday!!!

Photo session dates are:

Sunday, January 8th - 10am – 6pm

Monday, January 9th -1pm – 9pm.

The second session for pictures is:

Sunday, February 5th - 10 am – 6pm

Monday, February 6th - 1pm – 6pm.

Appointments will be scheduled every 15 minutes.

You should have received an e-mail invite to sign up genius, or you can call the office to schedule your photo session. If you would be interested in helping with the development of the directory, please call the parish office.

St Mary's Disciples' Stewardship of Treasure Collection for the week of December 25,2022

Envelopes	\$ 4525.00
Loose	344.00
Sub Total	\$ 4869.00
Christmas Offering	1075.00
Children's Home	475.00
Retired Religious	25.00
Haiti	206.00
Total	\$ 6650.00

St Mary's Church November Tithe

November Tithe Income – 10957.00

10% Monthly Tithe Given to Diocese - \$1096.00

PreCana to be held at St Mary's Parish Center on Saturday, March 11, 2023. Registration needs to be turned in by March 3,2023. This is limited to 20 couples, so please register early. You can find the registration form on our website -stmariechurch.org, or by calling the parish office. – 618-455-3155.

Happy New Year!!