

**October 25-26, 2025**  
**Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time**



**St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic Church**

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

**E-mail:** parishoffice@stthomasnewton.net

**Website:** www.stthomasnewton.net

**Pastor: Fr. Paul Luczak**

(Email: revpl.stthomas@gmail.com)

**Parochial Administrator: Fr. Tomy Philip**

(Email: frtomysac@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

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR OFFERING**

**October 18-19, 2025 Collection**

Envelopes	\$	5,351.00
Loose	\$	531.00
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>5,882.00</b>
School Fund	\$	170.00
Centennial Campaign	\$	75.00
Other	\$	70.00
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>315.00</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>6,197.00</b>

**St. Thomas Church August Tithe**

August Tithe Income – \$43,200.00

10% Monthly Tithe Given to Diocese - \$4,320.00

**OPPORTUNITIES FOR RECONCILIATION**

**Regularly:** 8:00-9:00 am Saturdays at St. Thomas (Except for First Saturday at St. Mary's); 3:30-4:00 pm Saturdays at St. Thomas OR by appointment

**This Week in Our Parish**

**Mon., Oct. 27, Weekday**

**Tuesday, October 28, Sts. Simon and Jude**

**8:00 am** Rosary

**8:30 am** Mass at St. Mary's

**Wednesday, October 29, Weekday**

**8:30 am All-School 1<sup>st</sup> Grade Saints Mass**

(Int. For the Parish)

**9:00 am** Rosary Group

**5:30 pm** Youth Choir

**6:30 pm** PSR at St. Mary and CYO Night of Service

**Thursday, October 30, Weekday**

**8:00 am** Rosary

**8:30 am** Mass at St. Mary's

**First Friday, October 31, Weekday**

**8:30 am Mass** (Int. Jonathan Sievers) with Adoration following until Noon

**First Saturday, November 1, All Saints**

*(not a Holy Day of Obligation)*

**7:30 am** Adoration/Reconciliation at St. Mary

**8:30 am** Mass at St. Mary

**3:30 pm – 4:00 pm Reconciliation**

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

**Sunday, November 2, All Souls' Day**

**National Vocations Awareness Week begins**

**7:00 am** Mass at St. Thomas (Int. Virginia Ochs and all our beloved deceased)

**8:30 am** Mass at St. Mary's

**10:00 am** Mass at St. Thomas (Int. Jim Miller and all our beloved deceased)

**10:30 am** Communion Service at Villas

**11:15 am OCIA**

**This Week's Scripture Readings:**

<b>Mon.:</b> Rom 8:12-17	Lk 13:10-17
<b>Tues.:</b> Eph 2:19-22	Lk 6:12-16
<b>Weds.:</b> Rom 8:26-30	Lk 13:22-30
<b>Th.:</b> Rom 8:31b-39	Lk 13:31-35
<b>Fri.:</b> Rom 9:1-5	Lk 14:1-6
<b>Sat.:</b> Rv 7:2-4,9-14	1Jn 3:1-3
<b>Sun.:</b> Selected readings for All Soul's Day	Mt 5:1-12a

**Safe Travels, Fr. Tomy!** Fr. Tomy will be headed home to India. He will be spending time at home October 27<sup>th</sup> - November 24<sup>th</sup>. Fr. Sergio Lizama will be celebrating Masses with us and filling in while Fr. Tomy is away. Let us keep Fr. Tomy in our prayers for a safe trip and safe return. We also pray for Fr. Sergio as he prepares to lead our parishes in Fr. Tomy's absence.

## St. Thomas Parish Ministry Schedule

**Saturday, November 1 @ 4:30 pm**

Lector: Lori Rauch

EM: Matt/Amanda Baltzell, Lori TeVault, Wade Ochs

Servers: Bryar French, Kyle Meinhart, Bailey Meinhart

Gift Bearers: Evan Baltzell

Musicians: Nichole Mulvey & Kaitlyn Ochs

Greeters/Ushers: Chris Rauch

**Sunday, November 2 @ 7:00 am**

Lector: Becky Shamhart

EM: Sherly/Allison Brummer, Brooke Woods,

Linda Hemrich

Servers: Audrey Earnest, Caleb/Emalee Kistner

Gift Bearers: Chris Bierman Family

Musicians: Five for the One

Greeters/Ushers: Brian Brummer

**Sunday, November 2 @ 10:00 am**

Lector: Carol Bough

EM: Kristine Probst, Jason Bierman, Helen Weber,

Dennis Weber

Servers: Ella Probst, Patrick Bower, Pete Weber

Gift Bearers: Tim Bower Family

Musicians: Patsy Leffler & Anne Ochs

Greeters/Ushers: John Stone

## St. Thomas & St. Mary Parishes

WELCOME you and INVITE you

### Soul Food

By Fr. Tomy

#### Vocation Appreciation Sunday

*"Every priest begins with a humble 'Yes' — your prayers and generosity help make that possible."*

This Sunday's Gospel contrasts two men in the temple — a Pharisee who boasts of his goodness and a tax collector who humbly asks for mercy. Jesus tells us that the humble man went home justified. Every true vocation begins with that same humility — not with "I am worthy," but with "Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner." God does not call the perfect; He calls those willing to be formed by His mercy.

Today we celebrate **Vocation Appreciation Sunday**, a day to give thanks for those called to serve as priests and religious, and to renew our own call to pray for and support them. In a world marked by noise, confusion, and division, the priest stands as a sign of Christ's love and truth — bringing tenderness where there is brutality, forgiveness where there is hatred, and beauty where life has grown dull.

St. John Mary Vianney said, *"The priesthood is the love of the heart of Jesus."* He also reminded us that if a town is left without the Holy Mass, sin will soon increase. Without the priest, there is no Eucharist — and without the Eucharist, there is no life for the Church.

Our **diocese currently has 12 seminarians** preparing for priesthood, and my own community, the **Pallottine Fathers**, has **14 seminarians** in India. Each year, the diocese invests about **\$45,000** per seminarian for tuition and formation. Today, I invite you to be part of this sacred mission. Would you consider spiritually adopting a seminarian — praying for him, encouraging him, and perhaps contributing to his formation?

When I was a seminarian, I was spiritually adopted by **Dr. Maria DiDonato** from Philadelphia. Even after 25 years of priesthood, we remain deeply connected. She calls me "her priest," and I remember her in every Mass I celebrate. You can share in such a beautiful bond too.

As you leave Mass this weekend, please stop by the **sign-up tables** for our seminarians. Choose one or two to pray for and support. Your prayer and generosity can help form a priest who will one day baptize your children, anoint your sick, and celebrate your family's most sacred moments.

Truly, *"the priesthood is the love of the heart of Jesus."*

**All Souls Masses** at St. Thomas will be held on Saturday, November 1<sup>st</sup> at 4:30 pm and Sunday, November 2<sup>nd</sup> at 7:00 am and 10:00 am. The annual Memorial Mass for St. Thomas will be held at the 10:00 am Mass. Invitations are in the mail! St. Thomas will also be accepting additional Mass intentions to be said that weekend in memory of all loved ones who have gone before us. Contact the parish office to schedule a Mass intention for your loved one to be remembered that weekend. Scheduled intentions will be named during the petitions. **Special Note:** All Saints Day is not a Holy Day of Obligation this year. Mass will be held at 8:30 am on Saturday, November 1<sup>st</sup> at St. Mary.

#### IMPORTANT!

**St. Thomas CYO youth will meet at the location of your choice of service at 6:30 pm:**

**Silk Purse(ending at 7:00 pm)**—Nikki Bierman leading

**Master's Hands** – Lori TeVault leading

**Villas of Holly Brook**—Linda Hemrich leading

A HUGE thank you to our CYO for volunteering their time to serve our community! Keep up the good work!!

**The Family of Mary Evelyn Dhom** would like to thank Fr. Tomy, Deacon Scott, Meyer Funeral Home, Tammy Page, and Debbie Matson for all that they did during this time. They also want to thank the ladies of the parish for the funeral dinner. We greatly appreciate the many acts of kindness!



**Please pray for the Sick:** Steven Bierman, Chase Zumbahlen, Emma Rose Probst, Dale Harris, Jim Beauchamp, Naomi Shedlebower, Belinda Kubicki, Carson French, Matilda Hemrich, Brenda Zuber, Carol Schafer, Jim/Norma Kocher, Randy Ochs, Jessica Andruch, Whitney Benefiel, Ted/Susie Ochs; those in healthcare facilities/Book of Requests.

**Rest in Peace:** Jonathan Sievers

## Apostolic Prayer for Vocations

### Celebrating National Vocations Awareness Week

#### Eternal Father,

it is Your will that all should be saved. Great is Your mercy. Your Son, Jesus Christ died for all.

**Teach all people** to recognize You and love You.

**With deep faith** in Christ's death and resurrection we pray: "Send Forth, O Lord, laborers into Your vineyard and spare Your people."

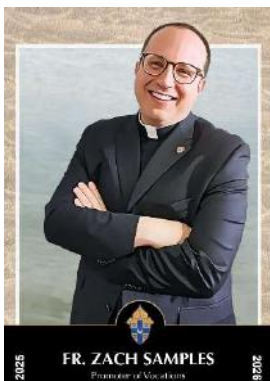
**Eternal Word**, Redeemer of all creation, convert all souls to You. You have been obedient for all, even to death on the cross.

**Look upon the merits** of Your Mother and of all the angels and saints who intercede for us. Send forth, O Lord, laborers into Your vineyard and spare Your people.

**O Holy Spirit**, through the infinite merits of our Lord, Jesus Christ, enkindle in all hearts Your ardent love that can do all things, that all may be one-fold and one Shepherd, and that all may arrive in heaven to sing Your Divine mercy.

**Queen of Apostles** and all the angels and saints, pray to the Lord of the harvest: Send forth, O Lord, labourers into Your vineyard and spare your people, that united with you, and the Father and the Holy Spirit, we may all rejoice forever.

**Amen.**



### National Vocation Awareness

This weekend, be sure to learn more about the Seminarians preparing for the Priesthood in our Diocese and in Fr. Tomy's Order. If you would like to spiritually support a seminarian, please take home the provided informational sheet with you for prayer. There are many ways to support our Seminarians, and Fr.

Tomy is share more information in this weekend's Homily.

## St. Thomas and St. Mary



### Rosary Procession and Devotion



This past week our parishes were led by Fr. Tomy and Fr. Dean in a beautiful display of our Catholic faith. With approximately 310 faithful in attendance, the rosary was prayed during a candlelit procession that included all ages. Our parishes welcomed many from area parishes that also joined us in this prayerful devotion to our Mother Mary during the month of October, the month of the Rosary.



So many were instrumental in the planning of our first annual Rosary procession. Our parishes are blessed with faith-filled parishioners who serve on our parish councils and in various other ministries that made the evening that much more special. Thank you to our musicians and youth choir, PSR & CYO, and all those who worked behind the scenes. Thanks to all including those who attended for making this incredibly special event happen. A special thank you to Fr. Tomy for his joy filled inspiration and encouragement that resulted in a night that we will not soon forget!



### **Bibles and Brews (For ages 21 – 35)**

**Date:** Tuesday, October 28th, 2025

**Time:** Social starting at 6:30pm - Event at 7:00pm

**Location:** HV's Food and Spirits  
317 S West St. Olney, IL 62450

Everyone is responsible for their own food and drinks

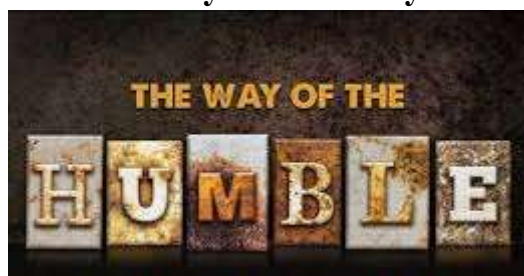
Questions? Contact Tyler Timm

- [timmm@stjoeolney.com](mailto:timmm@stjoeolney.com) or 507-530-2911

*Hosted by Holy Cross, Wendelin, and partnering parishes of the Belleville Diocese*



**October 25-26, 2025**  
**30th Sunday in Ordinary Time**



**St. Mary of the Assumption**

112 W. Embarras Street, P.O. Box 68  
 Ste. Marie, Illinois 62459  
 Tel: 618-455-3155

E-mail: [stmaryschurch@stemariechurch.org](mailto:stmaryschurch@stemariechurch.org)

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

**Pastor:** Fr. Paul Luczak

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

**Parochial Administrator:** Fr. Tomy Philip

(Email: [frtomysac@gmail.com](mailto:frtomysac@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

**This Week in our Parish**

**Monday, October 27<sup>th</sup>, Weekday**

**Tuesday, October 28<sup>th</sup>, Sts Simon & Jude**

8:00 a.m. – Rosary

8:30a.m. – Mass (Int: Don & Betty Ochs+)

**Wednesday, October 29<sup>th</sup>, Weekday**

**6:30 p.m. - PSR**

**Thursday, October 30<sup>th</sup>, Weekday**

8:00 a.m. – Rosary

8:30 a.m. - Mass (Int: Judy Wagner+)

**Friday, October 31<sup>st</sup>, Weekday**

**Saturday, November 1<sup>st</sup>, All Saints Day**

**7:30 a.m. – 8:15 a.m. – Adoration/Reconciliation**

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

**Sunday, November 2<sup>nd</sup>, All Soul's Day**

8:30 a.m. – Mass (Int: Beloved Deceased of the Parish+)

**Save the Date** – Family Life will be serving breakfast after mass on November 9<sup>th</sup>. All are welcome to come and enjoy food and great fellowship! More details later.

**St Mary's Disciples' Stewardship of Treasures**  
**Collection for the week of October 19, 2025**

Envelopes/Online giving	\$	722.00
Loose		281.00
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>1,003.00</b>
Haiti		130.00
World Mission		35.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>1,168.00</b>

**All Soul's Mass** – November 2<sup>nd</sup> during the 8:30 am mass, we will honor the loved ones who have passed away in the last year, invitations have been sent to their families. **We can take several intentions for that morning mass, if you would like to honor your loved ones with a special intention, please let Denisse in the office know by October 28<sup>th</sup>.**

**Ministers for 8:30 a.m. – November 2, 2025**

**Ushers:** Ethan Griffith, Lance Zumbahlen, Roger Hemrich

**Servers:** Reed Kistner/Henry Zumbahlen/Max Ochs

**Lectors:** Becca Ochs/Nancy Ochs

**Gift Bearers:** Anita Griffith Family

**E Ms** Amy Frohning/Rose Gangloff, Janet Hartrich

**Thank You** Taylor Zwilling for graciously taking the position of kindergarten PSR teacher. Also, to Beth Hartrich for her years of service to our PSR program. You are both greatly appreciated for sharing your time.

**Pastoral Council** council needs one more member for a 2-year term. Meetings are every other month. Please consider becoming a member of the council. If interested, please contact the parish office or Janet Hartrich.

**Happy Birthday** - Please join us in wishing Jerome Kocher a Happy 90<sup>th</sup> birthday on November 2<sup>nd</sup>. Cards may be sent to – Jerome Kocher, 15624 E 850<sup>th</sup> Ave, Newton, IL 62448

**Centennial Campaign Update:** The diocese assessed each parish a Centennial Campaign tithe, which is to be used for the renovation of the outside of the cathedral in Springfield. St Mary's was assessed \$34,805.00. Due to a generous trust left to St Mary's it was agreed upon by the pastoral and finance council to use the interest money received from the trust to pay the assessment. Therefore, St Mary's was not required to do a fundraiser campaign to pay this amount. That interest was received and the tithe to the Diocese was paid this week.

**Events**

**October 26<sup>th</sup> – Tri-Parish CYM pancake breakfast** at Stringtown Parish Center - 8:00 – 10:30 am.