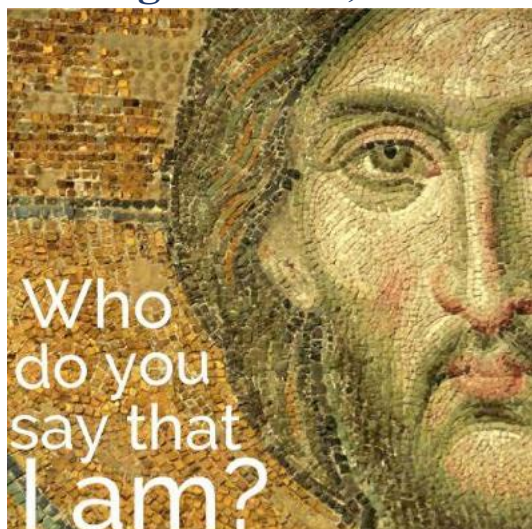


21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

August 22-23, 2026



St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic Church

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

E-mail: parishoffice@stthomasnewton.net

Website: www.stthomasnewton.net

Pastor: Fr. Paul Luczak

(Email: 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

THANK YOU FOR YOUR OFFERING

August 15-16, 2026, Collection

Envelopes	\$	7,718.00
Loose	\$	454.00
Subtotal	\$	8,172.00
Annual School Fund	\$	365.00
Centennial Campaign	\$	170.00
Assumption	\$	820.00
G.I.F.T.	\$	100.00
Subtotal	\$	1,455.00
Grand Total	\$	9,627.00

This Week in Our Parish

Monday, August 24, St. Bartholomew

Tuesday, August 25, St. Louis; St. Joseph Calasanz

8:00 am Rosary

8:30 am Mass at St. Mary

Wednesday, August 26, Weekday

8:30 am Mass (Int. Bill Dhom)

9:00 am Rosary

6:00 pm Booster Club

Thursday, August 27, St. Monica

8:00 am Rosary

8:30 am Mass at St. Mary

Friday, August 28, St. Augustine

7:30 -8:15 am Adoration

8:30 am All-School Mass

(Int. Kenny Koeble & Dave Dhom)

Saturday, August 29; Passion of St. John the Baptist

8:00 - 9:00 am—Reconciliation

3:30-4:00 pm Reconciliation

4:30 pm Mass at St. Thomas (Int. Marilyn Fritchley)

Sun., August 30, 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

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

8:30 am Mass at St. Mary's

9:35 am Rosary

10:00 am Mass at St. Thomas (Int. George Roth)

10:30 am Communion Service at Villas

This Week's Scripture Readings:

Mon.: Rv 21:9b-14	Jn 1:45-51
Tues.: 2Thes 2:1-3a, 14-17	Mt 23:23-26
Weds.: 2Thes 3:6-10, 16-18	Mt 23:27-32
Th.: 1Cor 1:1-9	Mt 24:42-51
Fri.: 1Cor 1:17-25	Mt 25:1-13
Sat.: 1Cor 1:26-31	Mk 6:17-29
Sun.: Jer 20:7-9	Rom 12:1-2
Mt 16:21-27	

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

St. Thomas Pre-baptismal Class 2026 Schedule.

October 4 at 8:45 am or by appointment if needed.

Classes will be held in the choir area. Contact the 618-783-8741 to register or schedule an appointment.

Victim Assistance Contact Information

Diocesan Child Abuse Reporting & Investigation
Call 217-321-1155

The monthly Priest's Deanery meeting was also held at St. Thomas this past week. The priests began their meeting with Adoration and finished with their luncheon meeting in the parish center. Thanks to Barney Ochs for cooking up another tasty meal and to Suzy Thornton and Carol Bough for providing the delicious desserts! What a wonderful way to celebrate the priests of our Deanery and show them our appreciation for all that they do for all those they serve.

St. Thomas & St. Mary Parishes

WELCOME you and INVITE you



Please pray for the Sick

Charles Schafer, Nancy(Alan) Ochs, Jon Webb, Rita (Kuhl) Kocher, Roger Sugrue, Lorraine Yager, Janet Beavers, Steven Bierman, Emma Probst, Dale Harris, Jim Beauchamp, Belinda Kubicki, Norma Kocher, Randy Ochs, Ted/Susie Ochs; those in healthcare facilities/Book of Requests.

R.I.P. William "Bill" Dhomm & Fr. Robert Spriggs

St. Thomas Gigantic Garage Sale

September 3rd & 4th 8:00 am - 6:00 pm

September 5th 8:00 am - 11:00 am

Drop donations off Monday, August 31st, & Tuesday September 1st, 8:00 am - 6:00 pm. *All proceeds go to the St Thomas School's Technology/Improvement Fund.*



OCIA: New Sessions Starting on September 6, 2026, immediately following the 10:00 am Mass at St. Thomas and meeting in the St. Thomas parish center meeting room.

We invite you to look deeper into the Catholic faith. Come meet some of our faithful Catholics who love the Lord and would consider it a privilege to get to know you. Contact our Parish Offices at 618-783-8741 or 618-455-3155 to learn more.

St. Mary's and St. Thomas PSR and St. Thomas CYO Starting Soon

St. Thomas CYO will begin their regular sessions on Wednesday, **September 9th** at 6:30 pm in the St. Thomas Parish Center.

St. Thomas CYO students and families are then invited to a Welcome Back Mass on **Wednesday, September 16th @ 6:30 pm at St. Thomas church.**

PSR will begin on Wednesday, **September 23rd** at 6:30 pm at St. Mary's.

We look forward to getting started and welcoming all the new faces!!

Important Dates to Remember for Upcoming Sacraments for our Parishes:

September 26th – Confirmation & First Communion Retreat at St. Thomas. Starting with Mass at 8:30 am followed by a retreat in the parish center led by Sister Clementia and Fr. Dominic Rankin.

October 3rd – Confirmation & First Communion at the Cathedral, Springfield. More details to follow.

Mattoon Deanery Andrew Dinner

Our world desperately needs priests. Have you ever wondered if God might be calling you to the priesthood? Sometimes a vocation begins simply by being willing to ask questions.

Young men of our parish, high school age and older, are invited to attend the **Mattoon Deanery Andrew Dinner on Sunday, September 20 at 5:00 p.m. at the Newman Catholic Center in Charleston.** This evening is for anyone who has considered the priesthood, feels curious about a possible vocation, or simply wants to learn more about discerning God's call.

The evening will include time for Adoration, dinner, a presentation on the priestly vocation, and an opportunity to ask questions.

There is no commitment—just an opportunity to listen, ask questions, and consider where God may be leading you. This might be the beginning of a priestly vocation—or simply a free meal with the Bishop!

Do not be afraid to ask: "Lord, where are You leading me?" More information at parish office.

Mission Priest, Rev. Michael Githinji, visiting our parishes this weekend!

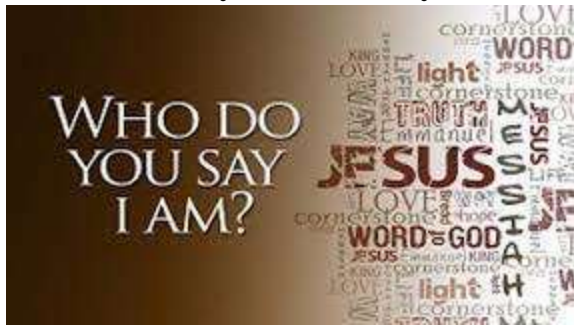
The Catholic Diocese of Nakuru is in Kenya-East Africa. The diocese is composed of two counties: Nakuru and Baringo. East Pokot area in Baringo county is a semi-arid area and experiences perennial droughts due to unfavorable weather conditions. Therefore, hunger and lack of water are rampant. Some sections of Nakuru County are affected by a high rate of poverty.

This has led to abandonment of the newly born. Besides babies, parents, as a result of their inability to take care of their children, just vanish and leave them, leading them to being taken to orphanages/children's homes. As a diocese, we run these orphanages.

Adding to the injury is the high cost of living caused by lack of political goodwill in the country. We meet some social/humanitarian challenges that are: **1.** Feeding the starving community, as well as providing water for drinking and for other domestic use-by sinking wells. **2.** Helping the children in both circumstances with food, clothing, medical care, spiritual care and providing means for their education among other efforts to support them.

In summary: We wish to share our mission experience and seek your support, so that we can help those in need. Thank you in advance for your generosity!

August 22-23, 2026
21st 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
Website: www.stemariechurch.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

7:30-8:15 am Eucharistic Adoration/Reconciliation
8:30 am – Holy Mass
Reconciliation: As Scheduled by request

This Week in our Parish

Parish Office closed on August 24-27

Monday, August 24th, St Bartholomew
Tues., Aug. 25th, St Louis & St Joseph Calasanz
8:00 a.m. – Rosary
8:30 a.m. – Mass (Int: Peggy Prophetor+)
Wednesday, August 26th, Weekday
Thursday, August 27th, St Monica
8:00 a.m. – Rosary
8:30 a.m. – Mass (Int: Jim Kocher+)
Friday, August 28th, St Augustine
Saturday, August 29th, The Passion of John the Baptist
Sunday, August 30 22nd Sunday in Ord Time
8:30 a.m. – Mass (Int: George & Hilda Dallmier
Margie Townsend+)

Rest in Peace – Dale Ready, father of Rhonda Keller,
and **Fr. Robert Spriggs**, former pastor of St Mary's,
eternal rest grant unto them O Lord.

St Mary's Disciples' Stewardship of Treasures
Collection for the week of August 16, 2026

Envelopes/online collection	\$ 820.00
Loose	281.00
Sub Total	\$ 1,101.00
Haiti	132.00
Assumption	380.00
Total	\$ 1,613.00

Thank You to everyone that remembered us on our anniversary with cards, greetings and attending our open house. Thank you, Fr. Pawel, for blessing our 50 years of marriage.
Ron & Nancy Zwilling

Ministers for 8:30 a.m. – August 30, 2026

Ushers: Bob Barthelme, George Semple, Jake Semple
Servers: Daniel & Logan Uebinger, Henry Zumbahlen
Lectors: Brianna Zwilling/Nicholas Zwilling
Gift Bearers: Anita Griffith Family
E Ms: Lisa Ochs, Tony Hartrich, Rose Gangloff

PSR

The first session will be on **September 23rd at 6:30pm.** All parents should attend Mass. Registration is under way. The registration forms can be found on our website at www.stemariechurch.org The forms are also available in the back of church.

The registration fee this year is \$5.00. Please fill them out and return to the office by September 15th, so that we can be prepared for the first class. Forms can be put in the collection, or dropped off at the office. There is also drop box on the front door of the office.

We need a couple of volunteers. Please consider teaching kindergarten or 1st grade. You can contact the office or Marie Wagner if you would like to help!

Picnic Update

Join us for the 189th Annual St Mary's Church Picnic on Sunday, September 6th. Enjoy delicious food, games, raffles, live music by SOCO, Homewood Grill ice cream, and fun for the whole family!

Basket Stand is made possible entirely through donated baskets and items. We invite individuals, families, friends, or organizations to donate a gift basket or other item. Don't want to put one together on your own? Join forces with family or friends to create a basket together. Thank you for helping make our Basket Stand a success! Please contact Becca Ochs with any questions.

Cake Stand, pans and cake boxes are available in the church, we encourage each family to provide 2 cakes and also dessert for the dinner.

Dime Toss – Glasses can be dropped off at the parish office/ or call Kayla Kocher- 618-804-9318 for pick up.