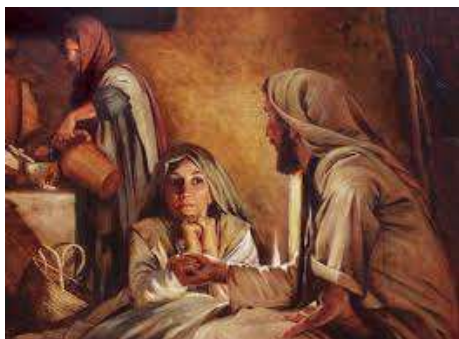


July 19-20, 2025
Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time



St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic Church

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

E-mail: stthomaschurch@psbnewton.com

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

July 12-13, 2025 Collection

Envelopes	\$	6,434.00
Loose	\$	495.00
Subtotal	\$	6,929.00
School Fund	\$	475.00
Centennial Campaign	\$	875.00
Peter's Pence	\$	25.00
Subtotal	\$	1,375.00
Grand Total	\$	8,304.00
Online June PushPay Giving	\$	4,709.10
ACH June Contributions	\$	2,246.00

St. Thomas Church May Tithe

May Tithe Income – \$59,530.00

10% Monthly Tithe Given to Diocese - \$5,953.00

This Week in Our Parish

Mon., July 21, St. Lawrence of Brindisi

Tuesday, July 22, St. Mary Magdalene

8:00 am – 1:00 pm St. Thomas School Registration

8:00 am Rosary

8:30 am Mass at St. Mary's

Wednesday, July 23, St. Bridget

8:30 am Mass (Int. Fred Kessler)

9:00 am Rosary Group

2:00 pm – 6:00 pm St. Thomas School Registration

Thursday, July 24, St. Sharbel Makhluf

8:00 am Rosary

8:30 am Mass at St. Mary's

Friday, July 25, St. James

7:30 am – 8:15 am Adoration

8:30 am Mass (Int. Rosemary Bergbower)

Saturday, July 26, Sts. Joachim and Anne

3:30 pm – 4:00 pm Reconciliation

4:30 pm Mass at St. Thomas (Int. Liv & Dec Rita

Schafer Family)

Webster Baptism following Mass

Sunday, July 27, 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time

7:00 am Mass at St. Thomas (Int. Julie Schackmann)

8:30 am Mass at St. Mary's

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

10:30 am Communion Service at Villas

This Week's Scripture Readings:

Mon.: Ex 14:5-18	Mt 12:38-42
Tues.: Sg 3:1-4b	Jn 20:1-2,11-18
Weds.: Ex 16:1-5,9-15	Mt 13:1-9
Th.: Ex 19:1-2,9-11,16-20b	Mt 13:10-17
Fri.: 2 Cor 4:7-15	Mt 20:20-28
Sat.: Ex 24:3-8	Mt 13:24-30
Sun.: Gn 18:20-32	Col 2:12-14
	Lk 11:1-13

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 2025 Schedule.

October 5 at 8:45 am or by appointment if needed. Classes will be held in the choir area. Contact 618-783-8741 to register or schedule an appointment.



Sts. Joachim and Anne, pray for us.

All holy men and women, pray for us.

St. Thomas Parish Ministry Schedule

Saturday, July 26 @ 4:30 pm

Lector: Lynn Wilson

EM: Gerald Ochs, Matt/Amanda Baltzell,
Glenda Spiker

Servers: Eli Ochs & Brooke Farley

Gift Bearers: Brad & Kimberly Ochs Family

Musicians: Tammy Page & Kaitlyn Ochs

Greeters/Ushers: Chris Rauch

Sunday, July 27 @ 7:00 am

Lector: Becky Shamhart

EM: Paul/Katie Bierman

Servers: Jace Bergbower & Blake Bierman

Gift Bearers: Mark & Janet Vahling

Musicians: Jeff Finley & Lyndsey Spiker

Greeters/Ushers: Chris Bierman

Sunday, July 27 @ 10:00 am

Lector: Pat Mammoser

EM: Ryan/Kristine Probst, Ginger Robins,
Nikki Earnest

Servers: Will Mette & Dominic Ochs

Gift Bearers: Brad & Annie Ochs Family

Musicians: Vicki Mullen & Debbie Matson

Greeters/Ushers: Jacob Jahraus

Centennial Campaign Update:

Campaign Goal: \$88,473.00 over 3 years

Collected to date: \$5,647.42

Thank you to those who are already contributing! If you would like to contribute, please visit the church website, click on the online giving link, select the Centennial Campaign Fund and make a donation. For your convenience you can also contribute using the Building Fund envelope. Funds collected in the Building Fund envelope will go towards the Centennial Campaign goal, too. Together we can achieve great things for the benefit of both our parish and the Diocese!

2025 Mission Appeal – July 26-27, 2025

Fr. Jacob Zulu will be visiting our parishes next weekend and is a Priest of the Diocese of Chipata in Zambia, Africa but currently works as an Extern Priest in the Archdiocese of Louisville in Kentucky, USA. He is coming to participate in the 2025 Mission Appeal on behalf of his Diocese in Africa (Diocese of Chipata). Thanks in advance for supporting this Mission Appeal for the training of Seminarians and on-going formation for priests for the Diocese of Chipata in Zambia.

Catholic Heart Work Camp

Bowling Green, KY; June 29-July 5

Thank you to all those who participated for your example of service and for representing our parishes with joyful hearts!



St. Thomas School Presents Our 13th Annual DUCK RACE 2025

Sunday, August 17th

11:00 a.m. at the Newton Aquatic Center

Free swimming following until noon for those who have a duck in the race.

Ducks can be purchased for \$5.00 at:
St. Thomas School or Church & Peoples State Bank
Ducks will be sold after each St. Thomas Mass!!

1st place duck: \$600.00

2nd place duck: \$250.00

3rd place duck: \$100.00

***ONLY 500 DUCKS SOLD!**

**BRING A LAWNCHAIR & A FRIEND!
DOOR PRIZES! (MUST BE PRESENT)**

**ALL PROCEEDS BENEFITS
ST. THOMAS SCHOOL**

For more info call St. Thomas School @ 783-3517

****Choose the right number and be the LUCKY DUCK to win a \$25 gift certificate to a local business.****

The St. Thomas G.I.F.T. (Giving in Faith Together)

Collection is here! This important annual collection for our parish will help cover the cost of Altar and Ministry supplies that include hosts, wine and candles that we use at every Mass. *The total collected so far is \$5,090.00!* Thanks for your support!

ST. THOMAS CHURCH CELEBRATING 15 YEARS!

All parishioners are invited to attend Sunday brunch in the parish center on **July 20th after the 10:00 am Mass** celebrating our church building's 15th anniversary! Sausage, scrambled eggs and hash brown casserole will be served along with sweets provided by our Angels group. Free will donations are being accepted. *A sign-up sheet is available in the gathering space for parishioners and eighth graders who would like to help out that morning.* Thanks for helping us celebrate!

The Kids' Bulletin is now available in the St. Thomas Gathering Space. Be sure to pick one up for each of your kiddos!!

Upcoming Men's and Women's Fall DeColores Weekends

Men's Weekend: October 16-19; Lay Leader: Tim Hodge. Call or Text him at 217-821-0113

Women's Weekend: October 23-26; Lay Leader: Sandy Deters. Call or Text her at 217-259-2417

St. Thomas & St. Mary Parishes

WELCOME you and INVITE you.



Please pray for the Sick:

Jim Beauchamp, Naomi Shedlebower, Belinda Kubicki, Carson French, Matilda Hemrich, Brenda Zuber, John Probst, Carol Schafer, Jim and Norma Kocher, Randy Ochs, Jessica Andruch, Whitney Benefiel, Ted/Susie Ochs; those in healthcare facilities/Book of Requests.

Rest in Peace: Walter Urfer and Carl Kocher of Olney, brother of Rita Kocher and Mary L. Ochs

Jasper County Honey Do Ministries. Thank you to all of the parishioners who brought breakfast items: casseroles, sweet breads, sausage patties, hard boiled eggs, etc. Fr. Tomy followed up the breakfast with Scripture and prayer. He left the volunteers with an important message about the joy of service. It was a great way to start the morning! Thanks again!!

Order of Christian Initiation of Adults



Information sessions for Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (OCIA) begin on **Sunday, September 15, at 11:15 am following 10:00 am Mass at**

St. Thomas. Please call the parish offices (618/783-8741 or 618/455-3155) or Debbie Matson (618/553-1472) if interested in attending.

The Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (OCIA) is the process through which interested adults and children (age 7 or above) are gradually introduced to the Roman Catholic faith and way of life. For those who join an OCIA process, it is a period of reflection, prayer, instruction, discernment, and formation. Those who enter the process attend Holy Mass on a Sunday, attend a weekly OCIA session, and become increasingly more involved in the activities of their local parish. Please contact the parish office at 783-8741 to learn more about this process and how to become a full participant in the Catholic Church.

Parishioners interested in teaching OCIA may contact the same number.

Glimpses of Rome from Fr. Pawel



A Message from Fr. Pawel



Dear Parishioners,

I recently had the incredible opportunity to spend some time in Rome — truly an unforgettable experience. It all began early Monday morning, July 7th, when I arrived in the Eternal City. After checking into our hotel, my friend and I couldn't

wait to start exploring. Before we stepped out, he gave me a quick but serious warning: "Keep an eye on your waist pouch where you keep your wallet and phone — pickpockets are common on public transportation." I nodded, fully aware and ready to stay vigilant.

Our first stop was the legendary Colosseum. Standing there, surrounded by those ancient walls, I was struck by the weight of history — this was the very place where early Christians had suffered for their faith, a powerful reminder of courage and sacrifice.

Next, we visited the Basilica of St. John Lateran, often called the Lateran Basilica or Saint John Lateran. This is not just any church — it's the Catholic cathedral of the Diocese of Rome and the official seat of the Bishop of Rome, the Pope himself. As I stepped inside, I was immediately overwhelmed by the breathtaking beauty and majestic atmosphere. The ceiling was a masterpiece of artistry, gleaming with intricate detail. When I saw the statue of Saint Andreas, I thought, "I wish I were that jacked!" Then, glancing to my right, I spotted the statue of Saint James and thought, "I wish I had that much hair on my head!" All the statues were magnificent, almost bringing the saints to life right before my eyes. The craftsmanship, the scale, every detail spoke volumes about perfection and centuries of devotion and reverence.

Our journey continued to the Basilica of St. Mary Major, one of the four major basilicas in Rome. The very first thing that greeted me at the entrance was a sign: **"Entry allowed only with appropriate clothing."** This was a common rule at most churches we visited. Women who wore revealing clothes were often asked to cover up out of respect for the sacred space. So, just so you know, my choice to dress properly for church isn't some personal whim — it's both a requirement and a courtesy in these holy places.

As the day drew to a close, we made our way to the world-famous St. Peter's Square. Evening was settling the perfect way to end a day full of wonder and spiritual reflection.

The day ended, but the adventure was far from over... To be continued.

July 19-20, 2025
Sixteenth 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@psbnewton.com

Website: www.stemariechurch.org

Pastor: Fr. Paul Luczak

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

Parochial Administrator: Fr. Tomy Philip

(Email: 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, July 21st, St Lawrence of Brindisi

Tuesday, July 22nd, St Mary Magdalene

8:00 a.m. – Rosary

8:30 a.m. – Mass (Fr Pascal Bigirimang+)

Fr Tomy – office hours 9:30 - noon

Wednesday, July 23rd, St Bridget

6:30 p.m. – Finance Council meeting

Thursday, July 24th, St Sharbel Makhluf

8:00 a.m. – Rosary

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

Friday, July 25th, St James

Saturday, July 26th, St Joachim and Anne

Sunday, July 27th, Seventeenth Sunday Ord. Time

8:30 a.m. – Mass (Int: Paul Goebel+)

Thank you – Freda Keller would like to thank everyone who sent a card, for the many well wishes she received. It was greatly appreciated.

Events

7/20/2025 – Stringtown Picnic – 11am – 6pm

7/27/25 – Bluegrass in the Bend 3pm – 5pm

8/3/25 – Holy Cross Picnic – Wendelin

PSR- An e-mail was sent to you this week, if you would get the registration forms in by August 5th, it would be greatly appreciated. If you did not receive an e-mail the forms can be found on our website. They can be e-mailed back, dropped in the collection baskets, or put in the drop box on the front door of the office. This will help us to prepare for the approaching PSR session.

Office Hours – Beginning Tuesday, July 22nd, Fr Tomy will have office hours at St Mary's after mass until Noon. Feel free to stop in and see him.

**St Mary's Disciples' Stewardship of Treasures
 Collection for the week of July 13, 2025**

Envelopes	\$ 2,297.00
Loose	162.00
Sub Total	\$ 2,459.00
Haiti	20.00
Total	\$ 2,479.00

St Mary's Church Tithe

May Tithe Income \$7,946.00

10% Tithe to Springfield - \$795.00

Ministers for 8:30 a.m. – July 27 2025

Ushers: Paul Kaufmann, Nicholas Zwilling,
 George Semple

Servers: Ellie Ochs/ Gavin Semple

Lectors: Nancy Ochs/ Brianna Zwilling

Gift Bearers: Ben & Nancy Ochs

Eucharistic Ministers: Norman Boehl, Elaine
 Zwilling, Rose Gangloff

2025 Pre Labor Day Picnic

2025 Picnic prep is underway! As we gear up for our annual picnic, several stands are seeking donation to ensure everything runs smoothly.

Donations requested:

Baskets for the basket stand (minimum \$50 value) If you would like to donate a themed basket, gift certificate, or other items for the basket stand, please contact Becca at 618-554-4999 or reach out to the parish office.

Glassware – clean glassware for the dime pitch. Glasses can be dropped off on the front porch of the parish office or call Elaine at 618-843-0800 for pickup. Please no mugs or plastic cups.

POP TOSS– 12 packs of name brand soda for the pop toss. Pop can be dropped off on the front porch of the parish office or call Jeannie at 618-562-5047 for pick up.

Please let us know by August 10th if you would be able to contribute.

Thank you in advance for your generosity and support!