Third Sunday of Easter

April 18-19, 2026

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

April 11-12, 2026 Collection

Envelopes	$	9,383.72
Loose	$	439.00
Subtotal	**$**	**9,822.72**
Annual School Fund	$	625.00
Centennial Campaign	$	190.00
Seminarians	$	55.00
Good Friday	$	100.00
Other	$	15.00
Subtotal	**$**	**985.00**
Grand Total	**$**	**10,807.72**
Marh Online giving	$	4,786.19
ACH donations	$	2,196.00
Sound System Collection to date	**$**	**10,124.36**

This Week in Our Parish

Monday, April 20, Easter Weekday
Tuesday, April 21, St. Anselm
8:00 am Rosary
8:30 am Mass at St. Mary
Wednesday, April 22, Easter Weekday
8:30 am Class Mass (Int. Liv/Dec of Linda Mertens)
9:00 am Rosary
6:15 pm PSR at St. Mary
6:30 pm CYO Lay Ministry Training (all are welcome)
6:30 pm Lector & Eucharistic Minister Training
Thursday, April 23, St. George & St. Adalbert
8:00 am Rosary
8:30 am Mass at St. Mary
Friday, April 24, St. Fidelis of Sigmaringen
7:30 am – 8:15 am Adoration
8:30 am All-School Mass-St. T.
(Int. "Scotty" & Marianna Scott)
S***aturday, April 25, St. Mark***
Congratulations, Maddi Hemrich & Gavin DeWeese!
8:00 am – 9:00 am *Reconciliation*
3:30 pm – 4:00 pm *Reconciliation*
4:00 pm PROM Mass at St. Thomas
(Int.: For the Parish)
Sunday, April 26, 4th Sunday of Easter
World Day of Prayer for Vocations
7:00 am Mass at St. Thomas (Int: Jacob Ochs)
8:30 am Mass at St. Mary's
9:35 am Rosary
10:00 am Mass at St. Thomas
(Int. Maurice & Isabella Nix)
10:30 am Communion Service at Villas

This Week's Scripture Readings:

Mon.:	Acts 6:8-15		Jn 6:22-29
Tues.:	Acts 7:51-8:1a		Jn 6:30-35
Weds.:	Acts 8:1b-8		Jn 6:35-40
Th.:	Acts 8:26-40		Jn 6:44-51
Fri.:	Acts 9:1-20		Jn 6:52-59
Sat.:	1Pt 5:5b-14		Mk 16:15-20
Sun.:	Acts 2:14a,36-41	1Pt 2:20b-25	Jn 10:1-10

St. Thomas Pre-baptismal Class 2026 Schedule.
June 7, and October 4 at 8:45 am or by appointment if needed. Classes will be held in the choir area. Contact the parish office at 618-783-8741 to register or schedule an appointment.

Mark your calendars for June 28, 2026.
St. Thomas will celebrate the feast day of their Patron Saint,
St. Thomas the Apostle.
More details to follow.

St. Thomas Parish Ministry Schedule
Saturday, April 25 @ 4:00 pm
Prom Mass

Lector: Luke Zuber
EM: Kim Zuber, Mark Bolander, Alice Addis, Ramon Kocher
Servers: 1) Gauge Weber 2)Jack Schumacher
Gift Bearers: Ken and Karen Buerster
Musicians: Tammy Page & Elise Wright
Greeters/Ushers: Vic Klingler

Sunday, April 26 @ 7:00 am

Lector:
EM: Brenda Phillips, Eliza Muska, Theresa Volk, Allison Weber
Servers: Bailey Meinhart, Caleb Kistner, Emily Kistner
Gift Bearers: Craig Shamhart Family
Musicians: Jeff Finley & Lyndsey Spiker
Greeters/Ushers: Brian Brummer

Sunday, April 26 @ 10:00 am

Lector: Pat Mammoser
EM: Jason, Jenny, Nick Bierman, & Matt Bower
Servers: Patrick Bower, Brantley Ochs, Maura Weber
Gift Bearers: Tim Bower Family
Musicians: Vicki Mullen & Debbie Matson
Greeters/Ushers: John Stone

The Adeline Miller family want to thank all those who remembered Adeline and those who sent their condolences at the time of her passing. They also want to thank the St. Thomas Angels group and ladies of the parish for assisting with the funeral dinner, Meyer Funeral Home, Fr. Dean and Fr. Tomy for the beautiful funeral Mass and for their visits and support, and the musicians and servers. The family is grateful for your support and many acts of kindness at this time. Your prayers for Adeline and the family mean so much and will not be forgotten.

St. Thomas CYO Upcoming Schedule:
Meeting on Wednesday evenings at 6:30 pm
April 22nd – Lector and Eucharistic Minister Training (All are welcome!)
April 29th – Last CYO - Celebration

FORMED Subscription

Please consider making a donation to help cover the cost of this faith formation resource. This resource provides our parishioners with videos, movies, audio books, podcasts and shows and has proven to be a valuable resource for our parishioners, school and CYO. Thanks for your support that will allow us to continue to offer this resource for our parishes.

St. Thomas & St. Mary Parishes

WELCOME you and INVITE you

Please pray for the Sick: Roger Sugrue, Lorraine Yager, Janet Beavers, Steven Bierman, Chase Zumbahlen, Emma Probst, Dale Harris, Jim Beauchamp, Naomi Shedlebower, Belinda Kubicki, Carol Schafer, Jim/Norma Kocher, Randy Ochs, Ted/Susie Ochs; those in healthcare facilities/Book of Requests. **RIP:** Mark Schuch

Porkburger Fundraiser
Catholic Heart Work Camp
St. Thomas Church Drive Thru
Friday, April 17th Serving from 11:00 am-1:00 pm
Price: $4.00 for a Porkburger
$6 for a meal (burger, chips & drink)
For delivery or pre-order call: (618) 843-4234
Pre-orders welcome from now until serving time.

Catholic Heart Work Camp
Kansas City, KS
July 5-11, 2026

Participants: Jackson Baltzell, Audrey Beals, Alani Bergbower, Adria Bierman, Alivia Bierman, Blake Bierman, Griffin Bierman, Lucy Bierman, Nathan Bierman, Abby Davis(Oblong), Ava Earnest, Dylan Earnest, Brooke Farley, Lauren Gier, Levi Gier, Will Hartrich, Allie Hermann, Kylie Higgs, Nora Kistner(Wendelin), Alayna Ochs, Ashtyn Ochs(Ste. Marie), Avery Ochs(Ste. Marie), Eli Ochs, Lexi Ochs, Oliver Ochs, Hannah Phillips, Claire Probst (Island Grove), Kendall Probst(Island Grove), Addison Shamhart, Tyler Spiker, Josie Vogt

Chaperones: Jill Bierman, Jason Bierman, Nikki Bierman, Jeff Phillips, Craig Hartrich

These campers will be hosting a **bake sale the weekend of May 2nd-3rd** to raise funds to help cover the cost of this trip. Please show your support by picking up your favorite baked goods for a good cause! You can also show your support by making a donation to help cover the cost of the trip. Donations can be dropped off at the parish offices any time. Thanks to the Angels group for their generous donation! Your support allows these youth to have a faith filled experience of a lifetime that they will never forget! Thank you!

St. Thomas Prom Mass

Saturday, April 25
4:00 pm

Soul Food by Fr. Tomy

My dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

Today's Gospel, the journey to Emmaus, is not only the story of two disciples long ago; it is our story too. At some point, all of us walk the road of disappointment, confusion, and pain. Like those disciples, we may feel burdened by unanswered prayers, sickness, broken relationships, or shattered hopes.

Yet the great consolation of Easter is this: Jesus comes near precisely when we feel most lost. Even before the disciples recognized Him, He was already walking beside them. So too in our lives, the Risen Lord walks with us in grief, fear, and uncertainty. Even in our darkest moments, He never abandons us.

The heart of today's Gospel is the moment at the table: He took bread, blessed it, broke it, and gave it to them. These are the very actions of the Eucharist. It was in the breaking of the bread that the disciples recognized Jesus. Every Mass is our Emmaus experience: first, Jesus speaks to us through the Scriptures; then He reveals Himself in the Eucharist.

At Mass, Jesus does not merely give advice—He gives Himself. In the Holy Eucharist, He is truly, really, and substantially present. He remains with us because love seeks union with the beloved. He continues to answer our prayer: "Stay with us, Lord."

Let me offer three practical ways to live this Gospel:

1. Bring your daily burdens consciously to the altar Every Mass, bring one real burden in your heart—a worry, grief, fear, or struggle. Place it spiritually on the altar and say, "Lord, walk with me in this." Let every Mass become your Emmaus Road.

2. Spend five extra minutes with Jesus after Mass After Holy Communion, remain with Jesus for just five minutes in silence. No phone, no distractions. Simply pray: "Stay with me, Lord, and help me stay with You." Those few moments can transform your entire day.

3. Become Eucharist for others through your presence The Eucharist sends us on mission. This week, be Christ's presence for someone who is lonely, grieving, or discouraged. Visit, call, listen, and encourage. Sometimes Jesus walks with people today through us.

My dear friends, the question remains: Does our heart still burn for Jesus? Do we come to Mass expecting to meet Him? Today Jesus gently says, "Stay with Me." Not only on Sunday, but throughout the day.

May the Eucharist become the center of our life, the source of our strength, and the fire of our hope. "Stay with us, Lord." Amen.

A Note from Fr. Pawel

Dear Parishioners,

Hello from Spain. I am trying to learn Spanish despite my resistance. Even from afar, you are in my prayers and in my heart. I am counting the days for my return, and I wish everyone many blessings for this Easter time!

May the Risen Lord bless you all!

Fr. Pawel

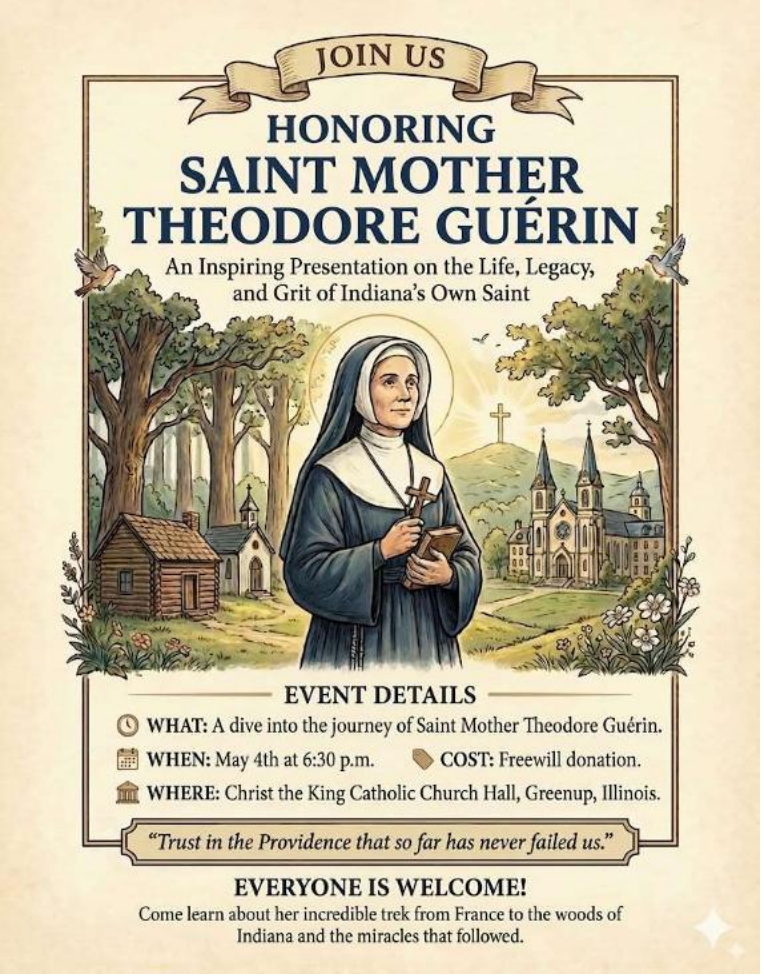
Pizza Man Building Update:

The air conditioning unit on the roof of Pizza Man will be for sale. It has not been appraised yet, but please let the school or parish office know if you might be interested.

St. Thomas is seeking bids for the demolition of the Pizza Man building. Bids will be accepted until May 1st.

SCRIP gift cards make great graduation gifts!

Don't forget about the St. Thomas School's SCRIP program. You can order gift cards for stores you shop at regularly, benefitting our school and earning fair share for school families! Thanks for your support!



April 18-19, 2026
Third Sunday of Easter

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)
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, April 20th, Easter Weekday
2pm – 6pm – Blood Drive – St Mary Parish Ctr
Tuesday, April 21st, St Anselm
8:00 a.m. – Rosary
8:30 a.m. – Mass (Int: Roy Woolheather+)
Wednesday, April 22nd, Easter Weekday
6:30 p.m. – PSR
Thursday, April 23rd, St George
8:00 a.m. – Rosary
8:30 a.m. – Mass (Int: Tom & Donette O'Malley+)
Friday, April 24th, St Fedelis
Saturday, April 25th, St Mark
4:00 p.m. – Prom Mass at St Thomas
Sunday, April 26th, Fourth Sunday of Easter
8:30 a.m. – Mass (Int: Janet Kistner+)

St Mary's Disciples' Stewardship of Treasures
Collection for the week of April 12, 2026

Envelopes/Easter Collection	$	1,630.00
Loose		212.00
SubTotal	**$**	**1,842.00**
Seminary		30.00
Rice Bowl		54.00
Total	**$**	**1,926.00**

Ministers for 8:30 a.m. – April 26, 2026

Ushers: Ethan Griffith, Roger Hemrich, Phil Ochs

Servers: Gavin Semple/Jackson Zumbahlen/ Daniel Uebinger

Lectors: Becca Ochs/Nicholas Zwilling

Gift Bearers: Kevin & Teresa Ochs

Eucharistic Ministers: Elaine Zwilling, ,Bridget Matson, Rose Gangloff

American Red Cross Blood Drive – St Mary's will be hosting the blood drive on Monday, April 20, 2026 – from 2pm – 6pm in the parish center. Please come and give the gift of life!

Rest in Peace – Ken Helregel – may his family find peace and comfort in our prayers.

Many Thanks

To Fr Tomy and Fr Dean for the beautiful Holy Week services, to the Worship committee for all their work preparing the church for Holy Week. To the musicians for the beautiful praise in music & song, for all the ministers who volunteered to help in any way. To all those all who came to worship our risen Lord and Savior. Thank you for sharing of your time and talent.

PSR – Last class for the year will be on April 29th.