

March 2-3, 2024
Third Sunday of Lent



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)

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

Pre-baptismal 2024 Class Schedule.

June 2, and Oct. 6 at 8:45am or by appointment if needed. Classes are in the choir area at St. Thomas. Call 618-783-8741 to register/schedule an appointment.

St. Thomas Disciples' Stewardship of Treasure

February 24-25, 2024 Collection

Envelopes	\$	5,980.00
Loose	\$	295.00
Subtotal	\$	6,275.00
School Fund	\$	2,030.00
Holy Days	\$	410.00
Catholic Charities	\$	1,637.00
Other	\$	310.00
Subtotal	\$	4,387.00
Grand Total	\$	10,662.00

St. Thomas Church January Tithe

January Tithe Income – \$70,274.00

10% Monthly Tithe Given to Diocese - \$7,027.00

This Week in Our Parish

Mon., March 4, St. Casimir

6:30 pm Angels Meeting in parish center

Tuesday, March 5, Lenten Weekday

8:00 am – Rosary at St. Mary's

8:30 am – Mass at St. Mary's

Wednesday, March 6, Lenten Weekday

8:30 am Class Mass (Gerald & Rosella Hemrich)

9:00 am Rosary Group

5:30 pm Youth Choir Practice

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

Thursday, March 7, Sts. Perpetua & Felicity

8:00 am – Rosary at St. Mary's

8:30 am – Mass at St. Mary's

Friday, March 8, St. John of God

7:30 – 8:15 am Adoration

8:30 am All-School Mass (Virginia Ochs)

2:30 pm Stations of the Cross

4:30 pm KC Hall Fish Fry – Shop with a Cop

Saturday, March 9, St. Francis of Rome

Pre-Cana at St. Mary's

7:30 am-10:30 am Newton Family Life Ctr. Brkfst

8:00 am-9:00 am Confessions

3:30 pm - 4:00 pm Confessions

4:30 pm Mass - (Int: Therese Bruemmer)

Sunday, March 10, Fourth Sunday of Lent

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

8:30 am Mass at St. Mary's

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

10:30 am Communion Service at Villas

This Week at St. Thomas School

Mon, Mar. 4 – Track practice begins

Weds, Mar. 6 – **6:00 pm** School Board meeting

7:00 pm Trivia Night meeting

Fri, Mar. 8 - **8:30 am** All-School Mass

2:30 pm Stations of the Cross

End of 3rd Qtr.

St. Mary of the Assumption Pre-Cana

March 9th, 2024.

For more information contact 618-455-3155

This Week's Scripture Readings:

Mon.: 2 Kgs 5:1-15ab

Lk 4:24-30

Tues.: Dn 3:25,34-43

Mt 18:21-35

Weds.:Dt 4:1,5-9

Mt 5:17-19

Th.: Jer 7:23-28

Lk 11:14-23

Fri.: Hos 14:2-10

Mk 12:28-34

Sat.: Hos 6:1-6

Lk 18:9-14

Sun.: 2 Chr 36:14-16,19-23 Eph 2:4-10 Jn 3:14-21

St. Thomas Parish Ministry Schedule:

Saturday, March 9 @ 4:30 pm

Lectors: Nichole Mulvey

EM: Kimberly Ochs, Wanda Kocher, Ramon Kocher,
Glenda Spiker

Servers: Jackson Baltzell & Carter Barthelme

Gift Bearers: Matt Baltzell Family

Musicians: Tammy Page & Mallory Bolander

Greeters/Ushers: Vic Klingler

Sunday, March 10 @ 7:00 am

Lectors: Nikki Bierman

EM: Brenda Phillips, Gery Ochs, Becky Shamhart,
Paul Bierman

Servers: Nathan & Blake Bierman

Gift Bearers: Doug & Jan Long

Musicians: Jeff Finley & Lily Bierman

Greeters/Ushers: Chris Bierman

Sunday, March 10 @ 10:00 am

Lectors:

EM: Brad/Annie Ochs, Charlie/Jan Schackmann

Servers: Oliver Ochs & Avery Geier

Gift Bearers:

Musicians: Vicki Mullen & Margaret Bierman

Greeters/Ushers: Justin Probst

***Ignite a Legacy of Stewardship
Centennial Campaign***

Representatives from the St. Thomas Finance and Pastoral Councils had the opportunity to meet with Monsignor Hoefler from the Diocese this past Thursday evening. Our discussion with Msgr. Hoefler was very insightful and reassuring. He had great input on how our parish can move forward with this campaign knowing that we are not ready to tackle a big project that would require a big campaign. Our councils will continue to work on a plan that will ensure a healthy future for our school and parish. The Diocese is encouraging us to consider what our needs are as a parish and school and focus on a campaign that meets the needs of both our parish and the Diocese. Please keep our parish, school and Diocese in your prayers as we continue to work on finalizing the best plan for a future campaign and its goal.

St. Thomas Lent/Easter Décor. If you would like to contribute to our annual decor fund in memory of a deceased loved one, please put your name(s) & contribution in an envelope marked "décor." *Please have all names submitted to the Parish Office by noon on March 25th.*

St. Thomas & St. Mary Parishes

WELCOME you and invite you to join our Church families by calling the parish offices of St. Thomas the Apostle, Newton, and St. Mary of the Assumption, Sainte Marie.



Please pray for the Sick:

Marge Thompson, Ava Torma, Mary Ann Bierman, Glenn Frichtl, Norman Kocher, Fonda Fear, Terry Rickman, Naomi Shedlebower, Sam Nelson, Larry Kremer, Marlene Harris, Brian Baker, Whitney Benefiel, Gary Griffith, Mary Bergbower, Mack McCrillis, Delorse Johnson, Mike Lustig, Cleve Bradley, Rhonda Wilson, Dick Worland, Suzi Ochs, Rodney Hatten, Geneva Barber; and those in healthcare facilities & in our Book of Requests.

Rest in peace: Virginia Ochs

LENTEN REGULATIONS:

Abstinence: All the faithful who have reached 14 years of age are required to abstain from meat all the Fridays of Lent.

Fasting: All the faithful between the ages of 18 and 59 inclusive are bound to fast on Ash Wednesday and on Good Friday.

To disregard completely the law of fast and abstinence is seriously sinful. However, health and/or medical needs dispense a person.

St. Thomas CYO: Upcoming Activity Schedule

March 13, 7:00 pm Stations of the Cross Rosary

Sun, Mar. 24, Palm Sunday, 6:30 pm Living Stations

March 27, Living Stations at St. Mary's

All are welcome to join CYO throughout Lent for the various spiritual Ways of the Cross.

Silk Purse Volunteers needed to support Newton's Family Life Center. Any help including sorting clothing, checking batteries, stocking shelves, etc. would be greatly appreciated.

Tuesday is St. Thomas' volunteer day.

9:00 am-7:00 pm; M-F & 10:00 am -6:00 pm; Sat

Attn. St. Thomas Funeral Dinner Volunteers.

Please pick up your funeral dinner dishes as soon as possible. They are available in the church gathering space. Thanks for assisting with the funeral dinners and picking up your dishes in a timely manner!

ST. THOMAS PASTORAL COUNCIL NOMINEES

If you are willing to serve on the Pastoral Council of St. Thomas Church, or would like to nominate someone, please give your name or nominee's name to Fr. Pawel and/or Linda Hemrich by March 22, 2024. Thanks to Teresa Ochs, Kayla Finley and Kevin Vogt, who have completed their 3 year terms, for their willingness to serve.

Holy Week Schedule:

Mar. 24th Palm Sunday: Regular Weekend Schedule

Mar. 28th Holy Thursday:

5:30 pm at St. Mary's Adoration following

7:00 pm at St. Thomas Adoration following

Mar. 29th Good Friday: The Passion of our Lord

3:00 pm at St. Mary's

6:00 pm at St. Thomas

Mar. 30th Holy Saturday: Vigil of Easter

7:30 pm at St. Thomas

Mar. 31st Easter Sunday:

7:00 am Mass at St. Thomas

8:30 am Mass at St. Mary's

10:00 am Mass at St. Thomas

Apr. 1st Easter Monday:

8:30 am Mass at St. Thomas

The Newton Family Life Center will be holding their annual online auction to be launched on March 9th. If your family or business would be willing to donate an item (or cash to go towards an item), please call or text Renee Gier at 217-821-0872. Items need to be submitted by mid-February please. Thank you in advance!

**SAVE THE DATE: Illinois March for Life:
Wednesday, April 17th, 2024.**

Mass at 10:00 am at the Sangamon Auditorium (UIS Campus, 1 University Plaza, Springfield, IL) with a Noon rally in front of the State Capitol. A march around the state capitol complex will follow.

St. Isidore has 2 buses reserved for any 7th grade students – adults that are interested in attending.

Contact Diann Ruholl at 217-663-2056 to reserve your seat by March 16.

**OPPORTUNITIES FOR RECONCILIATION
The Grace of the SACRAMENT of PENANCE**

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

March 12th @ 6:30 pm Parent Meeting for **ALL** second graders preparing for First Reconciliation

March 14th Lent Reconciliation Services

1:45 Student Reconciliation

3:00pm – 5:00 pm St. Thomas Parish

6:00pm – St. Mary's

Jesus said: "There is more joy in heaven over one repentant sinner than 99 others who have no need of repentance." Come share God's joy and mercy.

The Newton KC Hall Fish Fry on Friday, March 1st benefits the Eastern Illinois University Newman Center. *The EIU Newman Center students are providing desserts* as an addition to an already great meal. Thanks for supporting the Newton Knights of Columbus and the EIU Newman Center!

St. Thomas Parish Fish Fry – March 15th

Serving from 4:30 pm – 7:00 pm (or until sold out) Parishioners are asked to provide a dessert. If you would like to volunteer to help at the fish fry please contact the parish office 618-783-8741. Desserts can be dropped off at the parish office in morning or the KC Hall that afternoon. Thanks for your support!

Volunteers needed to help with Rosary and Communion Services at the Villas of Holly Brook. Both St. Thomas and St. Mary's parishioners are invited to help with this very important ministry. Contact St. Thomas or St. Mary's parish offices to learn more about how you can help serve the elderly of our parishes.

Have you checked out FORMED for Lent? Don't miss this **free resource** of valuable Catholic Christian materials for **movies, books, and other educational programs, etc.** To gain access:

Go to <http://signup.formed.org/>

Enter 62448 (St. Thomas' parish zip code)

Enter your name and your email address.

SAVE THE DATE! Saturday March 9th, 2024

**Annual Newton Family Life Center
Breakfast/Bake Sale**

Sausage, Pancakes and Scrambled Eggs!

Serving: 7:30am-10:30am

Location: St. Thomas Parish Center: Newton, IL

Please contact Brian Bierman (217-821-1217) to work

Bake sale sign up sheet will be in the back of church

Attend the National Eucharistic Congress in Indianapolis July 17-21 – This summer, join tens of thousands of passionate Catholics who will travel from every corner of the U.S. to experience the healing power of Jesus Christ, present in the holy Eucharist at the National Eucharistic Congress in Indianapolis. You will make history as part of the first National Eucharistic Congress in nearly 100 years. This is the beginning of a new chapter of faith in America. **Discounted tickets available through the Diocese of Springfield at <https://go.dio.org/60v>.**

Register at eucharisticcongress.org.

Thanks to our St. Thomas Trivia Night committee, our pretzel makers, our workers, set-up and clean-up committees, MC's, Barney Ochs, Gary and Joyce Johnson, etc....What a fun way to fundraise!

March 2-3, 2024
Third Sunday of Lent



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

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 am – 8:15 am Eucharistic Adoration
& Reconciliation**

8:30 am – Holy Mass

**Reconciliation: As Scheduled by request and
Available at St. Thomas Church 8-9 am Saturday**

This Week in our Parish

Monday, March 4th, Saint Casimir

Tuesday, March 5th, Lenten Weekday

9:30 am – 11:30 am Visitation for Melvarose

12:00 p.m. – Funeral Mass for Melvarose Ochs

Wednesday, March 6th, Lenten Weekday

6:15 p.m. – Stations of the Cross/PSR

Thursday, March 7th, Saints Perpetua & Felicity

8:00 a.m. - Rosary

8:30 a.m. – No Mass

Friday, March 8th, St John of God

Bowling @ Parklanes – 5-8pm

Saturday, March 9th, St Frances of Rome

Sunday, March 10th, Fourth Sunday of Lent

8:30 a.m. – Mass: (Int: Ric Zimmerman+)

**Rest in Peace – Angela Geltz & MelvaRose Ochs may
they be enjoying the eternal reward of heaven.**

Save The Date

March 3 – Annual St Mary's Brunch

March 8 – St Mary's Bowling Night – 5-8pm

March 9 – PreCana Session at St Mary's

St Mary's Family Life – Please join the **St Mary's Family Life Committee** for an evening of bowling, fun and fellowship. We will be having a bowling party on **Friday, March 8th at Parklanes in Newton**, we will pay for one game of bowling for St Mary's parishioners. **You can bowl anytime between 5-8pm.** Feel free to bowl more than one game, but the next games will be on you. Food will also be available. You can order off the menu, but it will also be on your own. Hope you can join us for a fun evening!!

St Mary's Disciples' Stewardship of Treasure
Collection for the week of February 25, 2024

Envelopes	\$ 2025.00
Loose	167.00
Sub Total	\$ 2192.00
Haiti	90.00
Total	\$ 2282.00

St Mary's Church Tithe

January Tithe Income – \$11,355.00

10% Monthly Tithe Given to Diocese - \$ 1,136.00

Minsters for 8:30 a.m. – March 10, 2024

Ushers: Kelby Ochs, John Uebinger, Roger Hemrich

Servers: Chase Kistner/Max Ochs

Lectors: Claire Griffith/Nicholas Zwilling

Gift Bearers: Second Grade PSR

Eucharistic Ministers: Elaine Zwilling, Bridget Matson, Jeanne Johnson

Blood Drive: Thanks to all who came and gave at the blood drive on February 19th. Thanks also to Hartrich Meats and Prairie Farms for the refreshments. Next Blood Drive is **April 22, 2024**

Big Celebrations in a small community

Sunday, March 17, 2024

9:30 am – 2 pm

Sainte Marie Foundation House

This display pertains to centennials throughout the years, church picnics at St Mary's and the Bend, the Bicentennial in 1976 and also the much loved 4th of July celebrations in Sainte Marie.

BRUNCH UPDATE

St Mary's Brunch

Sunday, March 3, 2024 8 a.m. – Noon

Menu: Sausage Links & Ham

Scrambled Eggs, Biscuits & Sausage Gravy

Breads & Fruit - Juice, Milk & Coffee

Hope to see you there!!