

March 9-10, 2024
Fourth 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

March 2-3, 2024 Collection

Envelopes	\$	8,797.00
Loose	\$	1,035.00
Subtotal	\$	6,275.00
School Fund	\$	752.00
Building Fund	\$	547.00
Catholic Charities	\$	230.00
Other	\$	116.00
Subtotal	\$	1,645.00
Grand Total	\$	11,477.00

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 11, Lenten Weekday

Tuesday, March 12, Lenten Weekday

8:00 am – Rosary at St. Mary's

8:30 am – Mass at St. Mary's

6:30 pm – First Reconciliation Parent Mtg at

St. Thomas for **ALL** Second Graders

Wednesday, March 13, Lenten Weekday

8:30 am Class Mass (Ray Kautz)

9:00 am Rosary Group

5:30 pm Youth Choir Practice

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

7:00 pm CYO Stations of the Cross Rosary

Thursday, March 14, Lenten Weekday

8:00 am – Rosary at St. Mary's

8:30 am – Mass at St. Mary's

1:45 Student Reconciliation Service at St. Thomas

3:00–5:00 pm St. Thomas Reconciliation Service

6:00 pm – St. Mary's Reconciliation Service

Friday, March 15, Lenten Weekday; No School

7:30 – 8:15 am Adoration

8:30 am Mass (Lloyd/Judy Newberry)

4:30 pm St. Thomas Parish Fish Fry at KC Hall

Saturday, March 16, Lenten Weekday

8:00 am-9:00 am Confessions

3:30 pm - 4:00 pm Confessions

4:30 pm Mass - (Int: For the Parish)

Sunday, March 17, Fifth Sunday of Lent

7:00 am Mass at St. Thomas (MaryAnn Kocher)

8:30 am Mass at St. Mary's

10:00 am Mass at St. Thomas (Doug Frichtl)

10:30 am Communion Service at Villas

This Week at St. Thomas School

Mon, Mar. 11 – 3rd Qtr AR Party

Tues, Mar. 12 – Grade Cards go home;

6:30pm 1st Recon. Parent Mtg for 2nd Grade parents

Weds, Mar. 13 – **8:30 am** Class Mass

Thurs, Mar. 14 – **12:30 pm** Pi Day Celebration

1:45 pm – Student Reconciliation

Fri, Mar. 15 - No School – Teacher's Institute

This Week's Scripture Readings:

Mon.: Is 65:17-21

Jn 4:43-54

Tues.: Ez 47:1-9,12

Jn 5:1-16

Weds.: Is 59:8-15

Jn 5:17-30

Th.: Ex 32:7-14

Jn 5:31-47

Fri.: Wis 2:1a,12-22

Jn 7:1-2,10,25-30

Sat.: Jer 11:18-20

Jn 7:40-53

Sun.: Jer 31:31-34

Heb 5:7-9

Jn 12:20-33

St. Thomas Parish Ministry Schedule:

Saturday, March 16 @ 4:30 pm

Lectors: Nichole Mulvey

EM: Alice Addis, Amanda Baltzell, Lori TeVault,
Linda Hemrich

Servers: Brooke Farley & Halle Wagner

Gift Bearers: Randy Hemrich Family

Musicians: Five For the One

Greeters/Ushers: Vic Klingler

Sunday, March 17 @ 7:00 am

Lectors: Katie Shamhart

EM: Pam Francis, Mark/Janet Vahling, Sarah Hemrich

Servers: Brady Francis & Aaron Volk

Gift Bearers: Steve Volk Family

Musicians: Jeff Finley & Kinsley Kerner

Greeters/Ushers: Chris Bierman

Sunday, March 17 @ 10:00 am

Lectors: Aleah Higgs

EM: Julie Higgs, Sara Mette, Marge Horton,
Jason Bierman

Servers: Alivia & Adria Bierman

Gift Bearers: Jenny Bierman Family

Musicians: Patsy Leffler & Jeff Finley

Greeters/Ushers: Justin Probst

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

Representatives from the St. Thomas Finance and Pastoral Councils recently had the opportunity to meet with Monsignor Hoefler from the Diocese. 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:

Connie Brooks, Matt Zumbahlen, Marge Thompson, Ava Torma, Mary Ann Bierman, Glenn Fichtl, 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.

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

March 20, 6:30 pm dress rehearsal for Living Stations
(plan on staying later than our normal 7:30 pm)

Sun, Mar. 24, Palm Sunday, 6:30 pm Living Stations
(meeting at church at 5:30 pm)

March 27, Living Stations 7:00 pm at St. Mary's

There are not enough words to fully express our heartfelt thanks for the sympathy, love and support you have extended to our family during the loss of our mother, Virginia Ochs. Thanks to Fr Pawel for the beautiful Mass and to those who helped us celebrate her in song & music. Also, thanks to the ladies of the parish for the wonderful desserts and to those who helped serve the meal. We are sincerely grateful for each of you!

The Family of Virginia Ochs

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!

Diocese's Lenten webpage – Check out webpage dio.org/lent where you can find inspiration, resources, and support for your Lenten journey, especially in seeking out the sacrament of confession.

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

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.

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!

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

Come share God's joy and mercy.

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.

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.

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.

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

4th Sunday of Lent Reflection

"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son..." – John 3:16

Of all the wonderful gifts that God has given to us, the gift of His own Son is truly the greatest. How can we ever thank God for a gift like that? God does not ask us to sacrifice our own precious firstborn, but He does ask that we are grateful and generous with our God-given gifts. That we nurture and develop our gifts, and in gratitude, generously give back with increase our time in prayer, our talent in charitable works and our treasure to support the mission and ministry of our parish and greater Church.

After punching the numbers, it looks like the 5th annual **Trivia Night** brought in \$55,000! Thanks so much to our committee and all who worked to make it a huge success. We have a wonderful community and surrounding communities who have been very generous to our school!

March 9-10, 2024

Fourth 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.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 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 11th, Lenten Weekday

Tuesday, March 12th Lenten Weekday

8:00 a.m. - Rosary

8:30 a.m. – Mass (Int: Anna & Joe Schwitters)

6:30 p.m. - Confirmation/First Communion

Meeting at St Thomas for all 2nd graders

Wednesday, March 13th, Lenten Weekday

6:15 p.m. – Stations of the Cross/PSR

Thursday, March 14th, Lenten Weekday

8:00 a.m. - Rosary

8:30 a.m. – Mass (Int: Coletta Ochs+)

6:00 p.m. – Reconciliation Service

Friday, March 15th, Lenten Weekday

Saturday, March 16th, Lenten Weekday

8:30 a.m. - Precana

Sunday, March 17th, Fifth Sunday of Lent

8:30 a.m. – Mass: (Int: Ephrem & Lelia Rennie+)

Rest in Peace – John Barthelme may he be enjoying
the eternal reward of heaven.

The **Joseph Zuber** family would like to thank the ladies of St Mary's church for all the delicious foods and to Hartrich Meats for the dinner. All was greatly appreciated. - *Bernard & Brenda Zuber, Gertrude Murphy, Carol & Fred Bugle, Carolyn Zuber*

**St Mary's Disciples' Stewardship of Treasure
Collection for the week of March 3, 2024**

Envelopes	\$ 2368.00
Loose	<u>252.00</u>
Total	\$ 2620.00

St Mary's Church Tithe

January Tithe Income – \$11,355.00

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

Ministers for 8:30 a.m. – March 17, 2024

Ushers: Kelby Ochs, John Uebinger, Roger Hemrich

Servers: Avery Ochs/Henry Zumbahlen

Lectors: Becca Ochs/ Ashtyn Ochs

Gift Bearers: Second Grade PSR

Eucharistic Ministers: Lisa Ochs, Elfrieda Kaufmann, Lora Semple

Holy Week Schedule

Sunday March 24th – Palm Sunday – 8:30 a.m.

Wednesday, March 27th – Living Stations - 7:00 p.m.

Thursday – Holy Thursday Services - 5:30 p.m.

Friday – Good Friday services – 3:00 p.m.

Easter Sunday Mass – March 31st – 8:30 a.m.

We will need ministers for the Holy Days, if you can help, please call the office or send an e-mail.

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, also the much loved 4th of July celebrations in Sainte Marie.

BRUNCH UPDATE

Thanks to all who helped to make the brunch a great success. It was estimated that about 400 people attended. Thanks to all the workers, for the monetary donations, and to those who donated hogs, to Maynard, Elfrieda, Paul & Kate Kaufmann for donating the milk, and juice. To Ron & Nancy Zwilling & George & Lora Semple for donating the biscuit mix. To ones who baked the delicious sweets. God has blessed this parish with so many great people!