

The Baptism of the Lord January 9-10, 2021

Pastor: Fr. R. Dean Probst (email: dprobst@dio.org)
Deacon emeritus: Rev. Mr. Larry Miller
Office Managers: Linda M. Hemrich (St. Thomas)
Denisse Ochs (St. Mary's)
St. Thomas School Principal: Jill Bierman
School Secretary: Lori Smith
PSR Coordinators: Marie Wagner (St. Mary's)
Pete Pasero (St. Thomas)

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

Parish Emergency Number: 217-494-6326
Office Hours: 7:30 -11:30 am & 1:00- 4:00 p.m. M-F
Masses: 4:30 pm Saturday; 7 & 10 am Sunday
5:30 pm Wednesday and 8:30 am Friday
Reconciliation: 8-9 am and 3:30-4 pm Saturdays
4:30 pm -5:00 pm Wednesdays

St. Thomas School Office:

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

St. Mary of the Assumption Catholic Church

112 W. Embarras, PO Box 68 Tel: 618-455-3155
Ste. Marie, Illinois 62459 Fax: 618-455-3665
E-mail: stmaryschurch@psbnewton.com
Website: www.stemariechurch.org

Office Hours: 9 am – 3 pm Tues., Wed., Thurs.
Masses: 8:30 am Sunday, Tuesday & Thursday
Reconciliation: 7:30-8 am Tuesday & Thursday

WELCOME

to the parishes of St. Thomas the Apostle, Newton,
and St. Mary of the Assumption, Sainte Marie.
If you would like to become a member of either parish,
please call the particular parish office.

This Week's Scripture Readings:

Monday: Heb 1:1-6 Mt 1:14-20
Tuesday: Heb 2:5-12 Mk 1:21-28
Wednesday: Heb 2:14-18 Mk 1:29-39
Thursday: Heb 3:7-14 Mk 1:40-45
Friday: Heb 4:1-5,11 Mk 2:1-12
Saturday: Heb 4:12-16 Mk 2:13-17
Sunday: 1 Sm 3:3b-10,19 1 Cor 6:13c-15a,17-20
Jn 1:35-42



Please pray for the Sick, especially Virginia DeGand, Jane Beavers, James Kocher, Wanda Sydor, Jacob Briggerman, Jeff Ward, Mary Jo Walden, Rita Schafer, George Roth, Cletus

Westendorf, and George Dallmier, those undergoing surgery, for police officers and military personnel, for our government, and all those listed in our Parishes' Book of Requests.

If special need for prayers for someone this week, please call the parish office. Names of those listed for past months have been listed in the Book of Requests.

Scheduling a Baptism at St. Thomas or St. Mary's

Parents are to return from baptismal preparation class (or obtain from parish office and fill out) the **Baptismal information sheet, and the Godparent-Sponsor affidavit forms** to the parish office **before scheduling a date** for the baptism of infant. Then call Fr. Dean 217-494-6326 to schedule the date of baptism.

The next pre-baptismal class will be held on Mar. 7th at 9:00 am. Please contact the St. Thomas parish office at 783-8741 to register. Additional classes will be held on the first Sunday of every other month including March, May, July, September, and November.

For **Anointing of the Sick** before surgery or in severe illness, or in danger of death for the **last rites and apostolic pardon**, call Fr. Dean Probst **217-494-6326**.

ST. THOMAS PARISH

This Week in our Parish

Note: + behind name in Mass intention is for deceased

Monday, Jan. 11th: Weekday

Tuesday, Jan. 12th: St. Marguerite Bourgeoys

8:30 am Mass at St. Mary's

11 am – 2 pm Mattoon Deanery Clergy Mtg.- Mattoon

Wednesday, Jan. 13th: St. Hilary

8:30 a.m. All-School Mass – School Only

3:00 pm Rosary

4:30-5:00 pm Sacrament of Penance

5:30 pm Mass (Int: Ralph & Mae Blank)

6:30 CYO Meeting in Parish Ctr– Intentional Rosary

Thurs., Jan. 14th: Weekday

8:30 am Mass at St. Mary's

7:00 pm Pastoral Council

Friday, Jan. 15th: Weekday

8:30 am Mass–(Int: Marilyn Fritchley/Roscoe Miller)

Saturday, Jan. 16th: Weekday

3:30 – 4:00 pm Reconciliation

4:30 pm Mass (For the Parish)

Sunday, Jan. 17th: Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

7:00 am Mass (For the Parish)

10:00 am Mass (For the Parish)

Disciples' Stewardship of Time

St. Thomas Lay Minister Schedule Jan. 16th – 17th

Saturday, 4:30 p.m.

Lectors: Kaitlyn Ochs; Emma Rauch

E.M.: Alice Addis & Wanda Kocher

Server: Wade Ochs

Musicians: Five For One

Greeters/Ushers: Ken Buerster

Sunday, 7:00 a.m.

Lectors: Lori TeVault; Mark Vahling

E.M.: Linda Hemrich & Jill Bierman

Server: Kody Bergbower

Musicians: Vicki Mullen/Lily Bierman

Greeters/Ushers: Doug Long

Sunday, 10:00 a.m.

Lectors: Logan Weber; Kevin Parker

E.M.: Dee Bower & Matt Bower

Server: Jackson Baltzell

Musician: Patsy Leffler/Jeff Finley

Greeters/Ushers: Chris Rauch

Local March for Life: Indianapolis, Indiana. Plans have changed. For info: Contact St. Thomas Parish office or Diann Ruholl at 217-663-2056.

St. Thomas Disciples' Stewardship of Treasure

Jan. 2 nd – 3 rd Collection	
Envelopes	\$7,166.00
Loose	\$57.00
Subtotal	\$7,223.00
Christmas	\$2,424.00
Solemnity of Mary	\$1,087.00
School Fund	\$197.00
First Offering	\$256.00
Catholic Children's Home	\$431.00
Building Fund	\$915.00
Subtotal	\$5,310.00
Grand Total	\$12,533.00

St. Thomas 2020 Contribution Statements will be available at the beginning of the new year by request only. Please contact the parish office at 618-783-8741 if you would like to receive a copy. Thank you so much for your generosity in 2020!!

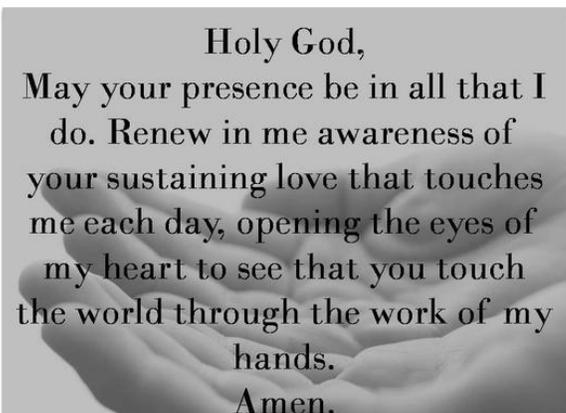
St. Thomas CYO. Mark Your Calendars!

- **Sat., Jan. 9th** – 8:00 am Right to Life Breakfast preparation (cracking eggs and slicing sweet breads) at Teutopolis Grade School
- **Weds., Jan. 13th** – 6:30 pm in parish center - Intentional Rosary

We Make a Great Team! CYO and the Worship Committee joined forces again, but this time to take down the Christmas decorations in church and return them to the basement for another year. Thanks again.

Home Sweet Home! Don Klinger and his family would like to thank Fr. Dean and everyone for their thoughts and prayers during Don's illness. Don says, "Your prayers pulled me through!" Don is now at home and making progress every day!

Please keep in your prayers the members of our parishes who are taking care of loved ones right now that require special care so that they can stay at home and have the support of their family.



Holy God,
May your presence be in all that I
do. Renew in me awareness of
your sustaining love that touches
me each day, opening the eyes of
my heart to see that you touch
the world through the work of my
hands.
Amen.

St. Thomas & St. Mary Parish Info:

Dear Parishioners,

Let us pray for our country, its leaders and ourselves. May the intercession of our patron, the Immaculate Heart of Mary, lead us to live as followers of her Son, Jesus, in whom we have been baptized. On the feast of the Baptism of our Lord, let us recommit to follow Jesus with charity, kindness, compassion and mercy for all people. May the prayer of St. Francis, make me an instrument of your peace, ... guide us each day. As Abraham Lincoln, our 16th President from Illinois, quoting the words of Jesus, said, "A house divided cannot stand." Differences of opinion with always be present, but violence is not acceptable.

On a personal note, I was overwhelmed with your generosity, kindness and concern through especially your prayers, and food/drink, during my quarantine for covid-19. My refrigerator and freezer are crowded with food which I can't share with anyone because of having eaten some of each donation. The best thing you can do for me is a prayer, a rosary or chaplet, etc. or for anyone who is ill especially someone who is ill with covid-19.

Everyone experiences different aspects and seriousness of the illness. I have been extremely tired and have a cough.

UPDATE to lessen the questions:

I was intent on getting checked out rather than a simple survey of do you have any symptoms without any follow-up of treatment for symptoms.

So last night I drove to the Sarah Bush Lincoln Respiratory Clinic in Mattoon for two purposes:
--To get my lungs and breathing checked: (Didn't want to wait till there was a problem). Both Good.
-- To get some prescription medicine for cough/mucus. I decided I wasn't going with my Blackberry Brandy-coffee concoction and household cough meds that didn't have any effect. A person is permitted to break quarantine to go to the doctor/clinic/hospital.

ALSO, Thanks for the many cards, memorial donations, and gifts regarding the passing of my dad into eternity. My sisters used to give me birthday cards that said I am another year closer to dressing like Dad. I told them their prophecy is fulfilled as I am now wearing some of his clothes!

ALSO, THANKS for the many cards, donations, and gifts during the Season of Christmas. All is appreciated and personal note is necessary, just much delayed with the Covid-19 illness of fatigue. Blessings to you. I remember you in my prayers. Fr.D

PLEASE NOTE: Fr. Richard Chiola, emeritus, will be here Saturday night to **offer the 4:30 pm Mass**. He will consecrate enough hosts for distribution of Holy Communion by Deacon Larry Miller during our **Sunday Celebrations in the Absence of a Priest** at both parishes. I have been advised not to have Masses this weekend due to cough. Although officially as aforementioned, Sunday, at both parishes, there will in common language a Communion Service will be provided.

There are no priests available, many are quarantined, some on vacation, attending conferences, or returned home to various countries for visits, that all emeritus priests are in demand and scheduled. I was surprised with Fr. Chiola's availability for Saturday night and glad that he is willing to make trip from Springfield for that Mass. He is covering elsewhere on Sunday.

Please support the ANNUAL RIGHT TO LIFE BREAKFAST this Sunday, January 10, 2021, from 7:00am until 12:30pm at the **Teutopolis Knights of Columbus Banquet Hall**. PLEASE NOTE: This year the Breakfast will be CARRY-OUT DRIVE -THRU.

Change in scheduling due to my quarantine:

Come join – In Full Communion Session, an introductory gathering for those wishing to become members of the Catholic faith is **postponed till next Saturday, January 16 at 9:30 am in St. Thomas Church**.

Pastoral Council meetings rescheduled for:
Thursday, 7:00 pm January 14: St. Thomas
Tuesday: 6:30 pm January 19: St. Mary's

NOTE: We are discontinuing the sign-up for weekend Masses. Our Churches will be open for seating. When capacity is met according to guidelines, we will invite people to make use of parish center for gathering.

Thursday, Jan. 21st, with Eucharistic Exposition and Adoration on Friday, Jan 22nd. Exposition will be in the chapel after the **Friday 8:00 AM Mass with closing Benediction at 4:30 PM**. The chapel is in the northeast part of the church east of the main altar. Please mark your calendars and we hope to see you there!

9 Days for Life (January 21-29, 2020) is a novena for the protection of human life. Participants can receive novena prayers each day by downloading the free 9 Days for Life app, or by subscribing to daily emails or text messages at: <https://pro-life-activities.lpages.co/9-days-for-life-2020/>. Each day there is an intention accompanied by a short reflection and suggested action to help build a culture of life.

St. Mary's Parish News

Sacraments:

Masses: 8:30 a.m. – Sunday, Tuesday and Thursday

Reconciliation: 7:30 am – Tuesday and Thursday

Or as scheduled or by request

Available at St. Thomas Church 8-9 am Saturdays

4:30 – 5:00 pm Wednesdays

This Week in our Parish

Monday, January 11th, Weekday

Tuesday, January 12th, Weekday

8:00 a.m.- Rosary

8:30 a.m.- Mass: (Int: Marie Spitzer+)

11 am-2 pm Mattoon Deanery Clergy in Mattoon.

Wednesday, January 13th, Saint Hilary

Thursday, January 14th, Weekday

8:00 a.m. – Rosary

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

Friday, January 15th, Weekday

Saturday, January 16th, Weekday

Sunday, January 17th, 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:30 a.m. – Mass (Int: For the Parish+)

THANK YOU: To all who helped in any way with the Christmas Masses. Especially those who helped to make the environment beautiful, for the volunteers that participated in the ministries and to all who participated in any way to help make the Christmas celebration beautiful!!

Ministers for 8:30 am , January 17, 2021

Ushers: Nicholas Zwilling, Richard Ochs

Server: Owen Ochs

Lector: Lora Ochs/Ron Zwilling

Eucharistic Minister: Norman Boehl

Finance Council:

Kate Kaufmann Richard Ochs Aaron Ochs
Maynard Kaufmann Bruce Boehl Fr. Dean Probst

Pastoral Council:

1-year term: David Ochs, Lora Ochs, Lora Semple
2-years: Tim Keller, Angie Kocher, Maria Zumbahlen
3-years: Nancy Zwilling, Jeff Ochs, Sarah Boehl
Fr. Dean Probst, Maynard Kaufmann, Richard Ochs

PSR: Your December lesson sheets are due. Please make it a priority to get them turned in. Please drop them off in the collection basket marked PSR or in the drop box on the front door of the parish office.

St. Mary's Disciples' Stewardship of Treasure

Collection for the week of
January 1 – 3 ,2021

Envelopes	\$	4115.00
Loose		73.00
Sub Total	\$	4188.00
Special Collections		292.00
Solemnity of Mary		185.00
Grand Total		4665.00

CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS: The 2020 contributions statement will be ready next week. If you would like to receive one, please contact the office at 618-455-3155 and it will be mailed to you. Thank you for your generous donations in 2020!!

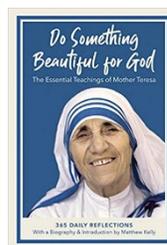
TO GIVE AWAY: There are two old style televisions in the garage of the parish office as well as the old sink out of the sacristy. They are *free* for the taking. Please contact the office at 455-3155 if you are interested.

The Baptism of the Lord, Feast.

God Shows No Partiality. Saint Peter speaks the truth. God is impartial. For everyone who acts uprightly is acceptable. Everyone. Politics may be partisan at times, but Christians can never be. Indeed, Baptism makes us all alike – with differing gifts and charisms – but all in the image of Christ whose name we bear. God says to us as well: “I am well pleased.”

- Because of Baptism, how will I cherish even those not like me?
- What will I do today to bear the image of Christ?

To whom will I say, because of this _____ , I am well pleased?



Do Something Beautiful for God: The Essential Teachings of Mother

Teresa. Be sure to stop in the church gathering space to pick up a copy of this book that includes inspiring daily devotions. Start your new year by accepting Mother Teresa's “enduring invitation and challenge to the world” to do something beautiful for God.