



# HAPPY 4<sup>TH</sup> OF JULY

## Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time July 4<sup>th</sup>-5<sup>th</sup>, 2020

Pastor: Fr. R. Dean Probst (email: [dprobst@dio.org](mailto:dprobst@dio.org))  
Deacon: 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)  
RCIA Coordinator: Jan Schackmann  
Summer Seminarians: Paul Lesupati and Jayke White

### 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](mailto:stthomaschurch@psbnewton.com)  
Website: [www.stthomasnewton.net](http://www.stthomasnewton.net)  
Parish Emergency Number: 217-494-6326  
Office Hours: 7:30 -11:30 am & 1:00- 4:00 p.m. M-F

### 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](mailto:jillbierman@stthomassaints.com)  
Website: [www.stthomassaints.com](http://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](mailto:stmaryschurch@psbnewton.com)  
Website: [www.stmariechurch.org](http://www.stmariechurch.org)  
Office Hours: 9 am – 3 pm Tues., Wed., Thurs.

### 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.

### ST. THOMAS AND ST. MARY PARISHES

**PLEASE NOTE:** The Tuesday and Wednesday  
Masses will be offered at 5:30 pm (Tuesday at St.  
Mary's and Wednesday at St. Thomas) during the  
summer months.

### This Week in our Parishes & School

Note: + behind name in Mass intention is for deceased

#### *Monday, July 6: St. Maria Goretti*

8:30 am Mass: (Int: Margaret McMillan+)

#### *Tuesday, July 7: Weekday (St. Mary's)*

4:00 pm – 5:00 pm Sacrament of Reconciliation

5:00 pm - Rosary

5:30 pm Mass (Int: Florence Kocher+)

#### *Wednesday, July 8: Weekday (St. Thomas)*

3:00 pm Rosary

4:00 pm – 5:00 pm Reconciliation

5:30 pm Mass: (Int: Dean Bond+)

#### *Thursday, July 9: Weekday (St. Mary's)*

8:00 am Rosary

8:30 am Mass (Bill Schwartz+)

10:00 am Confirmation Preparation Session (St. Mary's)

6:30 pm Confirmation Preparation Session (St. Thomas)

#### *Friday, July 10: Weekday (St. Thomas)*

8:30 am (Int: Mary Ann Kocher)

#### *Saturday, July 11: St. Benedict*

8:00 am – 9:00 am Reconciliation (at St. Thomas)

10:30 a.m. – Blank Baptisms @ St. Mary's

3:30 – 4:00 pm Reconciliation (at St. Thomas)

4:30 pm Mass (For the Parish) at St. Thomas

#### *Sunday, July 12: 15<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time*

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

8:30 am Mass (For the Parish at St. Mary's)

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

### WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday: 4:30 pm at St. Thomas Church

Sunday: 7:00 am at St. Thomas Church

8:30 am at St. Mary's Church

10:00 am at St. Thomas Church

### Sacrament of PENANCE: Rite of Reconciliation

4 – 5 pm Tuesday at St. Mary's

4 – 5 pm Wednesday at St. Thomas

8 – 9 am Saturday at St. Thomas

3:30 – 4:00 pm Saturday at St. Thomas

## School Resumes August 12<sup>th</sup>.

St. Thomas students will be happily returning to school Aug. 12th. If any parishioners are making masks and want to donate some for our students to wear, that would be great!

Also, be sure to check out the **school wish list on Amazon** that includes many items the school is probably going to need in August. If you would like to donate, please visit the following link:

[https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/2KNUCM38OWVY1?ref\\_=wl\\_share](https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/2KNUCM38OWVY1?ref_=wl_share)

Several of each item will be necessary in order to implement the guidelines that the school is expected to follow. Thank you in advance for your donation.



### **Congratulations to Kessler Norbert Ochs, baptized on June 27<sup>th</sup> in St.**

Thomas Church. Kessler is the son of Lyle and Michaela Ochs. Godparents: Clayton Ochs and Christine Hall

**PREPARING FOR FULL INITIATION** into the Catholic faith: Twelve of our parish families with youth in the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade have opted to be prepared for First Reconciliation and Confirmation with First Holy Communion this summer. The parents having attended one of the Sacrament of Reconciliation sessions and will prepare their son/daughter for the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Various opportunities for this Sacrament are available as noted on the preceding page. However, a Penance Service will be held on **Saturday, July 18 at 10 am** with several priests available to administer the grace of our Lord's mercy in Reconciliation.

**The second session** of the full initiation into the Church preparation will be on the Sacrament of Confirmation will be this **Thursday, July 9.**

*10:00 am at St. Mary's  
and 6:30 pm at St. Thomas.*

**The third session** on the Sacrament of Eucharist will be **Wednesday 10 am and 6:30 pm at St. Thomas.** Upon completion of the three sessions, the parents of each child can schedule a weekday or Sunday Mass for the reception of Confirmation/First Communion for their child.

**NOTE:** As mentioned in the past month bulletins, the Bishop granted the pastor of his parish the faculty to administer the Sacrament of Confirmation and Holy Communion to his parishioners who would receive these sacraments this year. The next opportunity for preparation for other parishioners will be in October.

### **Holy Week's Scripture Readings:**

Monday: Hos 2:16,17b-18,21-22	Mt 9:18-26
Tuesday: Hos 8:4-7,11-13	Mt 9:32-38
Wednesday: Hos 10:1-3,7-8,12	Mt 10:1-7
Thursday: Hos 11:1-4,8c-9	Mt 10:7-15
Friday: Hos 14:2-10	Mt 10:16-23
Saturday: Is 6:1-8	Mt 10:24-33
Sunday: Is 55:10-11	Rom 8:18-23 Mt 13:1-23

### **Returning to Church/Mass**

You assume your own risk of health in attending any social gathering including the celebration of Mass. **Please note that there is no obligation to attend Mass (the Bishop has dispensed the obligation).**

**IF you are ill, make sure you or your family stays home!** We do not want illness passed on to others. It would be sinful to knowingly contaminate others by negligence to follow this instruction.

**Register to attend Sunday/Saturday Vigil Masses by going to Signupgenius.com.** Note: You may attend a weekday Mass without registering as the numbers generally do not reach the maximum capacity.

You can call or drop by the parish offices also to sign up for the Sunday Masses.

### **SERVER, LECTOR, USHERS & EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS:**

Due to the mass time change, we are updating our list for the ministries. If you would like to become part of the lay ministry team, please contact: St. Mary's office at 618-455-3155 or

[stmaryschurch@psbnewton.com](mailto:stmaryschurch@psbnewton.com)

St. Thomas parish office at 618-783-8741 or

[stthomaschurch@psbnewton.com](mailto:stthomaschurch@psbnewton.com)

Thanks for giving of your time and talent!!

Note: While the seminarians are available to assist, they are not to take away the ministries of parishioners. If no one is scheduled, they will fill in.

For **Anointing of the Sick** before surgery or in severe illness call priest **217-494-6326** or in the danger of death for the last rites with apostolic pardon call priest.

For **Holy Communion or visitation** by the Seminarians, please contact the parish offices. Paul and Jayke have begun making home visits.

## Jasper County Honey Do Ministries - July 6<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup>.

St. Thomas and St. Mary's Parishes will be hosting the Honey Do Workers breakfast on Weds., July 8<sup>th</sup>.

Please have food items dropped off at the Grace United Methodist Church by 7:00 a.m. Please see the below list for requested items:

- Monetary Donation to buy pre-packaged breakfast sandwiches (can be dropped off at parish offices)
- Fruit (Apples and Bananas)
- Muffins/Cookies
- Juice/Milk

Easy to eat/prepackaged items would be greatly appreciated due to breakfast being served outside during this time. We will keep you posted if anything changes. Please take advantage of the breakfast sign-up list from Sign-Up Genius to sign up for items that you would like to donate. Thank you!!

**Protecting God's Children.** In an effort to stay in compliance with the safety audit that is conducted each year by the Diocese and required by the USCCB, we want to make sure that our parishes are up-to-date and current on the information that we have on file for our volunteers. It is a requirement that all volunteers attend a Protecting God's Children (PGC) training to assist in parish and school ministries. **A PGC training will be held Thursday, July 30th at 6:00 pm** in the St. Thomas Parish Center for all those that still need to attend or are new families to our school and parishes. Please contact the school office(783-3517) or the parish offices to register(St. Thomas: 783-8741; St Mary: 455-3155).

**Background Checks.** Please also remember to turn in your background check form. It is a requirement for parish staff and all volunteers to have updated background checks on file, and they must be renewed every 5 years. If you need a copy of the form just let us know, and we can get one to you. Your continued dedication and volunteer efforts are greatly appreciated. Children are the most precious gifts from God and Christ calls upon each of His followers to protect them. Let's continue to work together and create a safe environment.

**Knights of Columbus Scholarship Application is available.** Student must be entering their Sophomore, Junior, or Senior year in an accredited college or trade school for the upcoming school year, a practicing and registered Catholic, and a member, child of a member, or grandchild of a member. Please contact Scott Bierman at 618-553-3877 or [scott@psreal.com](mailto:scott@psreal.com) for more information. Applications in the parish office. The deadline seemingly is extended to August 1, 2020.

## **St. Thomas the Apostle Elementary School is currently accepting applications for a kindergarten paraprofessional.**

\$12.00/hr. with Benefits.

An application can be found on our school web site, [stthomassaints.com](http://stthomassaints.com). Interested individuals should submit their application, resume, and any references by July 10<sup>th</sup>, 2020, to Mrs. Jill Bierman via mail, 306 W. Jourdan St. Newton, IL 62448 or by email, [jillbierman@stthomassaints.com](mailto:jillbierman@stthomassaints.com).

## **Stewardship of Time & Treasure:**



**Please pray for** Natalie Helregel, Ross Probst, Jerry Friesner, Bernice Bolander, Ron Woods, Gary Schmidt, Freida Keller, Carrie Weiss, Jessica Spiker Eunice Schackmann, Michelle Iffert, James Leahy, Randy Hatten, Patty McCreery, John Millsap, Renee Ochs, David E. Ochs, Karen Shamhart, Michael Lustig, John W. Bergbower, Theresa Hartrich, Judy Wagner, Laura Songer, and those in our Parishes' Book of Requests.

**The Family of Gina Strelka Westray** would like to thank all of you for your prayers, cards, and money donated to St. Thomas School in memory of Gina. Thank you, Father Dean, for your support, guidance and celebrating the Mass of Christian burial. Also, we would like to thank Jason and Lisa Meyer and all the staff at Meyer's Funeral for their support and help during this difficult time. Last, we want to thank all the other caring individuals of this community that helped in serving at the mass, at the cemetery, flowers, beautician, city police, and all the other services supporting us during this sad time. It meant a lot to all of us, and it was much appreciated.

*Maria Reis Family and Janet McDaniel Family*

## **St. Thomas Disciples' Stewardship of Treasure**

June 27<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup> Collection

Envelopes	\$5,805.00
Loose	\$495.00
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$6,300.00</b>
Other Collections	\$1,775.00
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$1,775.00</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$8,075.00</b>

## **St Mary's Disciples' Stewardship of Treasure**

Collection for Week of June 28, 2020

Envelopes	\$ 1,895.00
Loose	75.00
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>\$ 1,970.00</b>
Other Collections	\$155.00
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$ 2,125.00</b>



**St. Thomas Parish would like to thank all who donated at the Red Cross blood drive** on June 6. A total of 51 units were collected with 2 being first time donors ☺. A special thanks to Alice, Theresa and Ginger!! Upcoming blood drives are scheduled for July 30 and Aug. 6 at the Newton KC Hall from 1pm - 6pm. Please make an appointment at REDCROSS.ORG

**ST. MARY'S PICNIC UPDATE:** Due to the guidelines we are under at this time, a decision has been made to only have a dinner serving Ste Marie Style Chicken with sides on **SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 5<sup>TH</sup>**, from 4 pm to 7 pm. We will **not** have any games or other events, but are planning on selling 50/50 tickets. We will have picnic tables set up if people would like to eat on the grounds. Look for future updates in the bulletin and sign-up sheets for workers. Thanks to the picnic committee for making choices that accommodate the times we are in right now!!

**THANK YOU!!!!:** The St Mary's cemetery committee wishes to Thank **Wayne's Tree Service** for the generous donation of their time when cleaning up St Mary's Cemetery following the recent storms. All the work was completed without charge. Once again Thank you for your generosity!

### **Paul Lesupati's Vocation Journey - Part 1**



My vocation journey began when I was an altar server. It had been my heart's desire to become a priest, but I never knew where God was calling me to go and serve. After completing high school, I went to visit my sister in

Nairobi and one Sunday I attended Mass there at Consolata Church. While there, I met a Franciscan Priest and I asked him about their procedure for joining their congregation. After this, I discerned with the them for a couple years. After a period of time. I saw that God was not calling me to religious life.

After completing my university studies in 2015, I went to work with Jesuit Refugees Services which is a Catholic Organization run by the Society of Jesus (Jesuit Fathers). I enjoyed working with the refugees and those who had been displaced from

their countries because of war, by serving them as a social worker. I was responsible for doing supervision, assessing different cases, and working with different agencies. I focused on refugees who needed someone to listen and understand their issues. The mission of Jesuit Refugees Services is To Serve, To Accompany and To Advocate. As a social worker, I took the vulnerable client or beneficiaries to the service provider. I was working under the counseling department which covers individual counseling, family therapy, group counseling and a peer group for drug and substance abuse. Under the counseling department, I offered different trainings for conditions such as PTSD, loss and grief, and drugs and substance abuse.

During this time, I felt a strong desire to serve God more closely and discern my vocation. Multiple priests strongly influenced me in my prayer life. The first was the elderly priest who I met in my life among the Franciscans. Additionally, the Diocesan priests (such as my own parish priest) played an important role in my vocational journey. The final push came from Fr. Jeff Grant from the Springfield Diocese in Illinois whom I met at Kakuma Refugee. His life of prayer and emphasis on pastoral care influenced me to be more prayerful and to discern joining the Diocese of Springfield in Illinois.

Next week, we'll explore my journey from Africa to the United States.



<https://secure.acceptiva.com/?cst=04d531>

What should I do?  
What is God's will?  
What's my life about?

### **Prayer for Vocations**

O Holy Spirit, Spirit of wisdom and divine love, impart Your knowledge, understanding, and counsel to youth that they may know the vocation wherein they can best serve God. Give them courage and strength to follow God's holy will. Guide their uncertain steps, strengthen their resolutions, shield their chastity, fashion their minds, conquer their hearts, and lead them to the vineyards where they will labor in God's holy service.  
Amen.