



Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time July 11th-12th, 2020

Pastor: Fr. R. Dean Probst (email: 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
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

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.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

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

This Week in our Parishes & School

Note: + behind name in Mass intention is for deceased

Tuesday, July 14: St. Kateri Tekakwitha (St. Mary's)

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

5:00 pm - Rosary

5:30 pm Mass (Int.: Paul & Rosemary Mullinax+)

Wednesday, July 15: St. Bonaventure (St. Thomas)

3:00 pm Rosary

4:00 pm – 5:00 pm Reconciliation

5:30 pm Mass: (Int.: Loren Schackmann+)

Thursday, July 16: Our Lady of Mt. Carmel (St. Mary's)

8:00 am Rosary

8:30 am Mass (Int.: John Lybarger+)

7:00 pm St. Thomas Finance Council

Friday, July 17: Weekday (St. Thomas)

8:30 am (Int.: Marilyn Rubsam)

Saturday, July 18: St. Camillus de Lellis

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

9:00 am – 2nd Confirmation Prep. Session (St. Thomas)

10:00 a.m. – Penance Service for those preparing
for Full Initiation into the Church

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

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

Sunday, July 19: 16th 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

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



Congratulations and welcome into the Church of God:

Grace Anne & Evelyn Sue Weber!

Grace Anne Weber is the daughter of
Tony & Allison (Meinhart) Weber, &
Evelyn Sue Weber is the daughter of

Dennis and Laura (Thoele) Weber. Both infant girls
were baptized at 10:00 am Mass on July 5th, 2020 in
St. Thomas Church.

School Resumes August 12th.

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

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.

We are thankful to the Maxine Spitler Foundation

for accepting our application and funding our request. The lab of MS Streams (like Chromebooks/laptops) that will be in our new and improved multi-media room, will be purchased with this generous donation. Maxine Spitler has given St. Thomas School so much throughout the past years. Please keep her in your prayers as she is enjoying her heavenly home yet still touching so many lives!

ST. THOMAS SCHOOL GRADUATION:

On Sunday, July 26, a graduation Mass will be held at 11:30 a.m. (following the 7:00 am and 10:00 am Masses at St. Thomas and the 8:30 am at St. Mary's). Fr. John Burnette, recent pastor emeritus of Sts. James and Patrick Church, Decatur, has agreed to offer the 10:00 am Mass that Sunday so that I can offer the graduation Mass.

Each graduate will be permitted to have his/her immediate family (parents and siblings) attend the graduation mass/ceremony. **NOTE:** Unfortunately, this Mass will not be open to any others, except School staff (Administration and Teachers). It will be streamed live for grandparents, relatives and anyone else to view.

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

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

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.

Holy Week's Scripture Readings:

Monday: Is 1:10-17	Mt 10:34-11:1
Tuesday: Is 7:1-9	Mt 11:20-24
Wednesday: Is 10:5-7,13b-16	Mt 11:25-27
Thursday: Is 26:7-9,12,16-19	Mt 11:28-30
Friday: Is 38:1-6,21-22,7-8	Mt 12:1-8
Saturday: Mi 2:1-5	Mt 12:14-21
Sunday: Wis 12:13,16-19	Rom 8:26-27 Mt 13:24-43

PREPARING FOR FULL INITIATION into the Catholic faith:

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 final session on the Sacrament of Eucharist will be **Wednesday July 22, 10 am and 6:30 pm at St. Thomas.**

Call Fr. Dean 217-494-6326 or email dprobst@dio.org to schedule date for Confirmation/First Communion.

PENANCE SERVICE

Saturday, July 18 at 10 am. Several priests will be available to assist with the Sacrament of Penance, the Rite of Reconciliation. Primarily scheduled for the youth (and their families preparing for their First Reconciliation and Confirmation and First Holy Communion, others are okay to attend.

Welcome to **St. Thomas Church, Doug and Kelly Iffert** along with their children, **Sadie and Drew**. Doug is employed at Nucor/Skyline and Kelly is a Paraprofessional with Jasper County-Newton School District. Sadie will be in 7th grade and Drew in 4th grade at St. Thomas School.

Jasper County Honey Do Ministries – Thanks so much to the parishioners that made monetary donations as well as donated food items for the Honey Do Ministry's Breakfast that was held last Wednesday. We were able to contribute excess monetary donations in the amount of \$100.00 to this ministry that is so beneficial to our community. Thanks for giving back and for making this breakfast a success again this year!

For Holy Communion or visitation by Jayke White and/or Paul Lesupati, Seminarians, please contact the parish offices. Paul and Jayke have been making home visits, especially to our senior parishioners.

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.

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.

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 for more information. Applications in the parish office. The deadline seemingly is extended to August 1, 2020.

Catholic Charities and Premier Broadcasting are sponsoring a Pack the Bus/School Supply Event that will take place on Friday, July 17 from 8am – 5pm at 206 South Willow in Effingham. Listen to thexradio.com or kjcountr.com to learn more.

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.

Stewardship of Time & Treasure:



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

St. Thomas Disciples' Stewardship of Treasure

July 4th-5th Collection

Envelopes	\$6,576.00
Loose	\$855.00
Subtotal	\$7,431.00
Other Collections	\$865.48
Subtotal	\$865.48
Grand Total	\$8,296.48

St Mary's Disciples' Stewardship of Treasure

Collection for Week of July 5, 2020

Envelopes	\$ 3515.00
Loose	110.00
Sub Total	\$ 3625.00
Peter Pence	50.00
Priest Retirement	40.00
Grand Total	\$ 3715.00

OFFICE HOURS: The St Mary's office will be closed the week of **July 13th – 17th**, if you need to be signed up for mass, or need assistance please contact Linda at St Thomas office – 618-783-8471 or Fr. Dean 217-494-6326.

WELCOME to **Ethan Matson**, our newest member of St Mary's Church. Please extend a warm welcome.

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 5TH**, from 4 pm to 7 pm. We will **not** have any games or other events, but will sell 50/50 tickets. We will have picnic tables set up if people would like to eat outside. Look for future updates in the bulletin and sign-up sheets for workers. Thanks to the picnic committee for making these tough choices.

All Lives Matter regardless of race, creed, religion, gender, capability, age, occupation or profession including police officers, soldiers, health care workers, teachers, first responders and all those who work in service. This also includes the lives of those that are homeless and unemployed.

Seminarian Paul Lesupati



Vocation Journey part II.

My journey to the priesthood from Africa to the United States began in 2016 when, in Kenya, I met the pastor for Blessed Sacrament Parish, Rev. Jeff Grant. He came to Kenya for his sabbatical. He came down to Kenya, and he ended up being at the refugee camp, which is run by Jesuit Refugee Service. During that time, I was also there. I was working as a social worker. I was asked by my project director to help Fr. Jeff Grant because he was new. He needed somebody who could take him around the camp and introduce him to different areas and groups. I said, 'Well, I am ready to help Father'. My work as a social worker was to visit different groups collecting data, doing assessments, familiarizing myself with their problems, and determining means of helping them. I was working under the counseling department, and they were dealing with trauma and stress disorder.

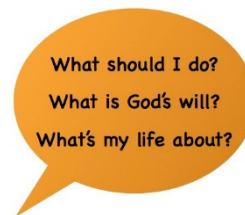
I was assigned to an area where there were new arrivals, fresh from fleeing from their countries. I took Fr. Jeff Grant and we went from tent to tent, asking how the refugees were doing, discovering their needs, and finding ways to assist them. I do remember Father Jeff Grant just looked at me. He asked me one question: 'Paul, have you been a priest before?' I responded, 'No, Father', then Father told me that the way I was talking, listening, and handling the refugees with compassion was more than what could be expected of a social worker.

After this conversation, I shared my experience with Fr. Jeff Grant that day. He encouraged me to tell him about my vocation journey and my desire for discerning priesthood. I was working with Father Jeff Grant as a pastoral coordinator. I started developing an interest and sharing with him about my desire to become a priest, which was already there. Before speaking with Fr. Jeff, I already felt called to be a diocesan priest. Still, I did not know which Diocese to join. It was after talking with Father Grant that I came to know about the Springfield Diocese in Illinois. I asked him about the requirements and procedures for joining this diocese. He gave me the contacts of the Vocation Director, Fr. Brian Alford. I kept in touch with him through email

until he requested that I visit the Diocese in 2017 and 2018. I was accepted as a seminarian for the Springfield Diocese in Illinois by Most Reverend Bishop Thomas John Paprocki. Please pray for me as I continue in my journey towards priesthood. For more information about my journey from Africa to the United States of America visit this website: <https://www.sj-r.com/news/20191102/priests-seminarians-follow-gods-calling-to-joyful-life>



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



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.

Pray for Peace

"Blessed are the peacemakers," the Lord taught us in The Sermon on the Mount, "for they will be called children of God."
And so, seeking to grow in faithfulness to the Lord, we set about making peace, working for its fruition in every dark corner of the world.
And as in all our work for the Kingdom, we begin with prayer, praying that God's peace may touch all places where violence seeks a foothold, and if it be His will, may our hands have a part in bringing about peace.



Pray for the intercession of Our Lady of Guadalupe that justice and peace will reign throughout the world.



Pray that we may be instruments of Christ's peace in the world.