30th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Oct. 24-25, 2026

St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic Church

404 W. Jourdan, Tel: 618-783-8741
Newton, Illinois 62448
E-mail: parishoffice@stthomasnewton.net
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

THANK YOU FOR YOUR OFFERING

October 17-18, 2026, Collection

Envelopes	$	7,295.00
Loose	$	351.00
Subtotal	**$**	**7,646.00**
Annual School Fund	$	300.00
Centennial Campaign	$	85.00
Black/Indian Mission	$	10.00
Prop. of Faith	$	10.00
Catholic Charities	$	20.00
Subtotal	**$**	**425.00**
Grand Total	**$**	**8,071.00**

Pray for Pope Leo!

With the news of Pope Leo's diagnosis of lung cancer, the Pope is asking for prayers. "As you know, I have been unable to be among you during these days," Pope Leo said. "Entrusting each of you to the protection of the Holy Family of Nazareth, I ask you please to pray for me, as I pray for you."

This Week in Our Parish

Mon., October 26, Weekday

Tuesday, October 27, Weekday
8:00 am Rosary
8:30 am Mass at St. Mary

Wednesday, October 28, Sts. Simon and Jude
8:30 am Mass (Int. Paul Hardiek); Adoration following Mass until 5:30 pm for the 40 Days Prayer Campaign for Life
6:00 pm Candlelight Rosary Procession
6:00 pm St. Thomas CYO - Rosary Procession
6:30 pm St. Mary PSR

Thursday, October 29, Weekday
8:00 am Rosary
8:30 am Mass at St. Mary

Friday, October 30, Weekday
7:30 am – 8:15 am Adoration
8:30 am All – School Mass (Int. Joseph Klingler)

Saturday, October 31; Weekday
8:00 – 9:00 Reconciliation
3:30-4:00 pm Reconciliation
4:30 pm Mass at St. Thomas
(Int. Ralph, Rosalie, Dennis and Danny Miller)

Sun., November 1st, All Saints
National Vocation Awareness Week Begins
7:00 am Mass at St. Thomas (Int: For the Parish)
8:30 am Mass at St. Mary's
9:35 am Rosary
10:00 am Mass at St. Thomas (Int. Jim Miller)
OCIA immediately following Mass
10:30 am Communion Service at Villas

This Week's Scripture Readings:

Mon.:	Eph 4:32-5:8		Lk 13:10-17
Tues.:	Eph 5:21-33		Lk 13:18-21
Weds.:	Eph 2:19-22		Lk 6:12-16
Th.:	Eph 6:10-20		Lk 13:31-35
Fri.:	Phil 1:1-11		Lk 14:1-6
Sat.:	Phil 1:18b-26		Lk 14:1,7-11
Sun.:	Rv 7:2-4,9-14	1 Jn 3:1-3	Mt 5:1-12a

OPPORTUNITIES FOR RECONCILIATION

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 **OR** by appointment

St. Thomas Pre-baptismal Class 2026 Schedule.

February 7, June 6, and October 3 at 8:45 am or by appointment if needed.

St. Thomas Parish Ministry Schedule

Saturday, October 31 @ 4:30 pm

Lector: Luke Zuber
EM: Wanda Kocher, Alice Addis, Glenda Spiker, Ramon Kocher
Servers: Hank & Gauge Weber
Gift Bearers: Patti Ochs Family
Musicians: Debbie Matson
Greeters/Ushers: Brad Ochs

Sunday, November 1 @ 7:00 am

Lector: Aaron Volk
EM: Theresa Volk, Alani Bergbower, Becky Shamhart, Brenda Phillips
Servers: Will Hartrich, Kyle Meinhart, Jillian Volk
Gift Bearers: Chris Bierman Family
Musicians: Five for the One
Greeters/Ushers: Mark Vahling

Sunday, November 1 @ 10:00 am

Lector: Ginder Robins
EM: Helen, Leo, Adam Weber, Marissa Bower
Servers: Patrick Bower, Will Mette, Jack Weber
Gift Bearers: Brian Bierman Family
Musicians: Patsy Leffler & Anne Kuhl
Greeters/Ushers: Zach Weber Family

St. Thomas Harvest Picnic Another Great Success

The picnic committee and CYO would like to thank everyone for their support again this year. Thank you for always showing up in a ***BIG*** way whether selling/purchasing raffle tickets, donating baskets for the anticipated basket raffle, enjoying the dinner, bringing desserts or donating prizes for the CYO games. Once all of the expenses have been turned in, we will share the net profit made from this fundraiser that benefits our building fund.

Congratulations to our raffle winners:

Josh Bierman	$500.00
Katelyn Bierman	$1,000.00
Eileen Smithenry	$15,000.00
Olivia Rice	Snowflake Quilt
Amanda Richey	Cross Quilt

A special thank you to Dee Bower and Karen Long for taking care of the quilts for us this year. Our thank you's continue to Ochs St. Smoked Meats for preparing a delicious meal, the Jasper Columbian Home and parishioners for cooking the chicken, the Jasper County Fairgrounds for letting us borrow their stage and picnic tables, to SOCO for the fun entertainment and to all of the volunteers that make this fundraiser possible each year! THANK YOU!!

40 Days of Prayer Campaign for Life

Join people of faith across our nation to pray, fast, and serve to protect all life. **Wednesday, Oct. 28** Adoration at St. Thomas. Adoration will begin immediately following the 8:30am Mass and will close with Benediction at 5:30pm. **A sign-up sheet is available in the church gathering space.**

Then join us for our Candlelight Rosary Procession beginning at 6:00pm.

St. Thomas CYO - #saintsintraining

Meeting weekly on Wednesdays at 6:30 pm

Oct. 28 @ 6:00 pm Celebrating Our Lady of the Rosary – Candlelight Rosary Procession
Nov. 4 – Biblical Snacks – Food for the Saints
Nov. 11 – Veteran's Day – Open Church Night
Nov. 18 –"Good Deeds" Advent Ornaments for Parish Advent Giving Tree
Nov. 25 – Thanksgiving Mass – leading ministries
Dec. 2 – Confession Presentation – Mike Geier
Dec. 4 – Jasper County Ministerial Alliance Food Basket Night of Service
Dec. 9 – NO CYO – St. T. School Christmas Concert
Dec. 16 – Clean Church/Christmas Party
Dec. 23-Jan. 5 – NO CYO – Christmas Break

St. Thomas & St. Mary Parishes

WELCOME you and INVITE you

Please pray for the Sick

Mark Carlson, Gordon & Denise McClure, Deacon Larry Miller, Harold Einhorn, Gery Ochs, Charles Schafer, Nancy(Alan) Ochs, Jon Webb, Roger Sugrue, Lorraine Yager, Janet Beavers, Emma Probst, Belinda Kubicki, Norma Kocher, Ted/Susie Ochs; those in healthcare facilities/Book of Requests.

Rest in Peace: Margaret "Margie" Flood

The Kairos Retreat is coming to the Effingham area/Mattoon Deanery! Kairos is a Catholic overnight retreat of prayer and reflection for high school students. Sophomores, juniors, and seniors are invited to join us Friday, November 13 through Sunday, November 15 for the weekend at Camp Walter Scott. Cost is $200 to cover two-night housing and all meals. You can register through https://forms.gle/HaACcmzsWvwRhf4u7 or email effinghamkairos@gmail.com" before Nov. 1.

St. Thomas CYO Interviews the Saints

Dee Bower: St. Anne
Marissa Bower: St. Gianna Beretta Molla
Tim Bower: St. Timothy
Pam Francis: St. Elizabeth Ann Seton
Julie French: St. Catherine of Sienna
Rose Gangloff: St. Margaret of Cortona
(w/the help of Jenny Fritchley 😊)
Mike Geier: St. Benedict
Fr. Pawel Luczak: St. John Vianney
Debbie Matson: St. Photini
Diann Ruholl: St. Hildegard of Bingen
Suzy Thornton: St. Mary Magdalene
Tony/Allison Weber: Sts. Mary and Joseph

Some of Our Favorite Questions and Answers:

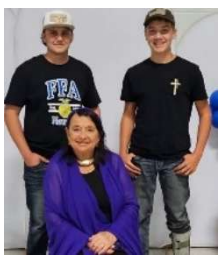
When asked "If you had to give us one reason to pray to you, what would it be?" **St. Margaret of Cortona** replied, "I'm good to pray to when you feel like you've made mistakes. I know what it's like to come back to Jesus. It's never too late to turn towards God."

She was also asked "If you were a Saint living in today's world what would your social media post say?" "God gives you second chances; it doesn't matter your past. God's mercy is bigger than your mistakes. Don't worry about being perfect, you can't be, but you can serve others through God."

When **St. Gianna Beretta Molla** was asked "How did you become a Saint?" She replied, "by devoting my life to preserving the life of children by using my medical knowledge."

She was also asked "what miracles have you performed?" She answered that she has performed two miracles and both involved pregnancy complications that resulted in two healthy babies. One miracle involved a woman in serious condition after pregnancy. A nurse prayed to St. Gianna and that woman was miraculously healed.

She was then asked, "Where have you been for the last 60 years?" She responded, "Hopefully in Heaven, at least for the past 22 years." She was Canonized on May 16, 2004.



St. Mary Magdalene was asked "What advice would you give me today?" She replied, "Do not underestimate the power of redemption and loyalty. Your past does not define your future."

Mark Your Calendars
Wednesday, October 28th @ 6:00 pm

Our Lady of the Rosary Candlelight Procession and Devotion starting in the St. Thomas Church and concluding at St. Thomas Church

Everyone welcome!

Be sure to bring a candle/light and any special Marian items to carry with you during the procession as we honor Mary. A table will be available in church for you to place Marian items to be blessed.

More information to follow

Note: Adoration will be available at St. Thomas for the 40 Day Prayer Campaign for Life starting after the 8:30am Mass and ending with Benediction at 5:30pm.

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Memorial and Thanksgiving Mass Schedule

All Souls Memorial Masses, Monday, November 2nd

- 5:00 pm at St. Thomas
- 6:30 pm at St. Mary

K of C Remembrance Mass, Tues., November 24th

- 5:30 pm at St. Thomas

Thanksgiving Mass, Wednesday, November 25th

- 6:30 pm at St. Thomas – CYO Leading Ministries (All are invited to stick around after Mass to help change out the Missals)

Thanksgiving Mass, Thursday, November 26th

- 8:30 am at St. Mary

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The Effingham Catholic Young Adults invite anyone 21-35 to join for a Holy Hour, Happy Hour on Tuesday, November 10th. The Holy Hour will be at St. Anthony Church in Effingham at 7PM, followed by a Happy Hour on the 3rd floor of The Village Wine Shop.

Consider using the St. Thomas School **SCRIP** program to buy gift cards for regular shopping…Walmart, Amazon, etc. **SCRIP** cards available in School Office.

Thank you to the Creadore family and Equip-It! for helping us out with a lift to **replace/fix lights** in the gym. We will be ready for basketball season to begin!

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Oct. 24-25, 2026

St. Mary of the Assumption

112 W. Embarras Street,
P.O. Box 68 Ste. Marie, Illinois 62459
Tel: 618-455-3155
E-mail: stmaryschurch@stemariechurch.org
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
7:30-8:15 am Eucharistic Adoration/Reconciliation
8:30 am – Holy Mass
Reconciliation: As Scheduled by request

This Week in our Parish

Monday, October 26th, Weekday
Tuesday, October 27th, Weekday
8:00 a.m. – Rosary
8:30 a.m. – Mass (Int: Fr Alread Cody+)
Wednesday, October 28th, Sts Simon & Jude
6:30 p.m. – PSR/Rosary
Thursday, October 29th, Weekday
8:00 a.m. – Rosary
8:30 a.m. – Mass (Int: Steve & Melva Rose Ochs+)
Friday, October 30th, Weekday
9:15am – 10:00 am – Prayer for Life Campaign Adoration
10:00 a.m. – Closing Benediction
Saturday, October 31st, Weekday
Sunday, November 1st, All Saints Day
8:30 a.m. – Mass (Int: Deceased of the Parish+)

Area Events

October 28, - Rosary Candlelight Procession – St Thomas Church – 6:00 pm

St Mary's Disciples' Stewardship of Treasures
Collection for the weeks of October 18, 2026

Envelopes/Online	$ 1,095.00
Loose	267.00
Total	**$ 1,362.00**

Ministers for 8:30 a.m. – November 1,2026
Ushers: Kelby Ochs, Ethan Matson, Jacob Kaufmann
Servers: Elanor Roberts/Halle & Wade Schackmann
Lectors: Ethan Zwilling/Lora Ochs
Gift Bearers: Anita Griffith Family
Eucharistic Ministers: Norman Boehl, Tony & Janet Hartrich

Thank You

Rich & Joyce Ochs would like to thank everyone for the cards, texts and the one-on-one well wishes on our 65th anniversary. We are so blessed and love you all. Special thanks to Fr Pawel for his blessing and prayers at Mass.

All Soul's Mass
November 2, 2026 @ 6:30 p.m.

We will be having a mass honoring those from our parish who passed away, in the last year. Families will be invited to come and participate in memory of their loved one.

40 Days of Prayer Campaign for Life

We will be joining people of faith across our nation to pray, fast and serve to end abortion and physician assisted suicide during the "Prayer Campaign for Life", 40 days focused on building a pro-life culture. This will take place from Sept 23 to Nov 7. Please consider participating in parts of this pro-life campaign

Part 1 - Adoration and prayer on **October 30th**, beginning at **9:15am with closing at 10:00 am**. **St Mary's Church**

Part 2 – Commit to fast for an end to abortion and physician assisted suicide.

Part 3 – Choose an hour or more to volunteer at the Silk Purse Store.

Prayer is the best weapon we have;
It is the key to God's heart.

Youth Group Leader – St Mary's Youth Group is looking for someone who would be willing to step into the leadership position.

If you feel like this is something God may be calling you to do, or to learn more about what the role involves, please reach out to Sarah Boehl at 618-562-8745.