

November 23-24, 2024

Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe



**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)

**Pastor: Fr. Paul Luczak**

(Email: [revpl.stthomas@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:jillbierman@stthomassaints.com)

Website: [www.stthomassaints.com](http://www.stthomassaints.com)

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR OFFERING**

November 16-17, 2024 Collection

Envelopes	\$	4,335.00
Loose	\$	814.00
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>5,149.00</b>
School Fund	\$	467.00
Building Fund	\$	80.00
Other	\$	145.00
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>692.00</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>5,841.00</b>

**St. Thomas Church September Tithe**

September Tithe Income – \$55,519.00

10% Monthly Tithe Given to Diocese - \$5,552.00

**St. Thomas Online Giving:** Easily tithe with online donations and no longer worry about envelopes. We hope this is convenient for you! Just visit the church’s website and click on the Online Giving link provided under Online Stewardship. Thank you!!

**This Week in Our Parish**

*Monday, November 25, St. Catherine of Alexandria*

*Tuesday, November 26, Weekday*

**8:00 am** Rosary

**8:30 am** Mass at St. Mary’s

**5:30 pm** Knight of Columbus Memorial Mass

*Wednesday, November 27, Weekday; No School*

**8:30 am** **No Mass**

**9:00 am** Rosary Group

**4:30 pm** Weber Anniversary Mass

**5:30 pm** Youth Choir

**5:30 pm** Mass at St. Mary’s

**6:30 pm** CYO meeting before Mass at St. Thomas

**7:00 pm** Thanksgiving Mass (For our Parish)

(Changing of the Missals after Mass)

*Thursday, November 28, Weekday; Thanksgiving; No School*

*Fri., Nov. 29, Weekday; No School; Office Closed*

**No Adoration**

**8:30 am** **NO Mass**

*Saturday, November 30, St. Andrew*

**8:00 am – 9:00 am** Reconciliation

**3:30 pm – 4:00 pm** Reconciliation

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

*Sunday, December 1, First Sunday of Advent*

**7:00 am** Mass at St. Thomas (Dave Worman)

**8:30 am** Mass at St. Mary’s

**10:00 am** Mass at St. Thomas (Barry/Erin Bergbower)

**10:30 am** Communion Service at Villas

**11:00 am** OCIA at St. Thomas

**This Week’s Scripture Readings:**

**Mon.:** Rv 14:1-3, 4b-5 Lk 21:1-4

**Tues.:** Rv 14:14-19 Lk 21:5-11

**Weds.:** Rv 15:1-4 Lk 21:12-19

**Th.:** Rv 18:1-2,21-23;19:1-3,9a Lk 21:20-28

**Fri.:** Rv 20:1-4,11-21:2 Lk 21:29-33

**Sat.:** Rom 10:9-18 Mt 4:18-22

**Sun.:** Jer 33:14-16;1Thes 3:12-4:2;Lk 21:25-28, 34-36

**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 2025 Schedule.**

February 2, June 1, and October 5 at 8:45 am or by appointment if needed. Classes will be held in the choir area. Call 618-783-8741 to register.

**Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (OCIA)** meets every Sunday morning at 11:00 am. Join us if interested in entering into the sacramental life of the Church, please call the St. Thomas **or** St. Mary parish offices.

**St. Thomas Parish Ministry Schedule:  
Saturday, November 30 @ 4:30 pm**

Lector:  
EM: Wanda Kocher, Brad/Kim Ochs, Ramon Kocher  
Servers: Alayna & Eli Ochs  
Gift Bearers: Gerald & Denisse Ochs  
Musicians: Tammy Page & Kaitlyn Ochs  
Greeters/Ushers: Ken Buerster

**Sunday, December 1 @ 7:00 am**

Lector: Nikki Bierman  
EM: Paul/Katie Bierman, Sheryl/Allison Brummer  
Servers: Nathan and Blake Bierman  
Gift Bearers: Craig Hartrich Family  
Musicians: Five for the One  
Greeters/Ushers: Pete Pasero

**Sunday, December 1 @ 10:00 am**

Lector: Brian Bierman  
EM: Dee Bower, Marissa Bower, Renee Gier  
Servers: Audrey Beals & Audrey Earnest  
Gift Bearers: Matt Bower Family  
Musicians: Patsy Leffler & Anne Kuhl  
Greeters/Ushers: John Stone

**BAPTISM: Congratulations, Lincoln Andrew May,** infant son of Will & Jamie (Brummer) May, who was baptized last weekend at St. Thomas. Godparents are Andrew Rensberger & Brenda Kroeger.

**Best Wishes for the Future.** Congratulations *Eugene Birch & Brianne Geier!* They were united in Marriage at St. Thomas Church on November 16, 2024. We wish them a happy married life in faith!

**Many Thanks!**

**Dear Friends and Family,** from the bottom of my heart thank you for making my 100<sup>th</sup> birthday so incredibly special. The love and joy you brought to the day warmed me deeply and reminded me of the memorable life I've been blessed with. Your thoughtful gifts, cards, kind words and wonderful company made this a truly unforgettable milestone. I am so grateful for each and every one of you.

With sincere appreciation, Walter Urfer

**Dottie Benefiel** would also like to thank everyone who helped her celebrate her 95<sup>th</sup> birthday with well wishes and birthday greetings. She really enjoyed hearing from all of you and continues to enjoy all of the cards. Thank you for remembering her on this special day!

**A Special Thank You** to the Ukulele Group that meets weekly at the Newton Public Library for performing for the residents at the Newton Care Center last week. They will be visiting the Villas of Holly Brook next. Several members of this group are St. Thomas parishioners!

**St. Thomas CYO Upcoming Schedule:**

*Meeting on Wednesday evenings at 6:30 pm*

**Nov. 27<sup>th</sup>** – Lead Lay Ministries at Thanksgiving Mass and will meet at 6:30pm in church for 7:00 pm Mass  
**Dec. 4<sup>th</sup>** – St. John Damascene; Precepts of the Church  
**Dec. 7<sup>th</sup>** – Night of Service - 5:00 pm meet at Scott Avenue for Ministerial Alliance's Food Box Project  
**Dec. 11<sup>th</sup>** – NO CYO School Christmas Concert  
**Dec. 18<sup>th</sup>** – Clean Church and Christmas Celebration  
**December 25-January 1** No CYO Christmas Break

***Be MAGNANIMOUS!!***

**First Friday Adoration at St. Thomas  
December 6, 2024**

You are invited to join St. Thomas for 8:30 am Mass followed by Adoration until Noon. It is a sacrificial offering of love to commit to a specific time during Adoration, so we have placed a sign-up sheet in the gathering space. This will ensure that the Blessed Sacrament is never left alone during Eucharistic Adoration.

**The remaining Fridays of the month** Adoration will be held from 7:30 am – 8:15 am.

**PushPay Software Tools You Can Use:**

- Be sure to check out how you can give online by visiting the church's website and clicking on the Online Giving link provided under Online Stewardship.
- E-Mail contribution acknowledgements and access to your contribution statements. This is not a spam e-mail, but an email from the parish confirming your donation and email address.
- The new software will also generate our monthly lay minister schedules and the schedules will have a new look.
- Online parish calendar: visit our website at [www.stthomasnewton.net](http://www.stthomasnewton.net) for the link.
- Online forms for registering as a new parish family and for a baptism available on the church's website.
- An App is also on the way and then you will be able to make contributions, update your profile and see your schedule all at your fingertips!

We are excited about all of the many things this software has to offer!!

**Happy Anniversary, Gary and Mary Blank as they celebrate 50 years!!** They will be married for 50 years on November 28<sup>th</sup> and will be celebrating with an Open House on **November 30<sup>th</sup>** at the Newton KC Hall from 2:00 – 4:00 pm. Family and friends welcome! They look forward to celebrating with you!!

**The St. Thomas bleachers in the parish center** were inspected and re-aligned. It is VERY important to keep kids/adults OFF of the bleachers when they are pushed in! This is what has led to a \$600 bill. The bleacher company emphasized how bad it is for our bleachers to be climbed on/sat on when they are pushed in. ALSO, when we pull the bleachers out or push them back in, it is very bad for them to be done unevenly. If you are helping, please make sure there is equal force on both sides. Thanks to all those who use the parish center for taking care of the bleachers to ensure that they last!

**SCRIP for the holidays.** If you are thinking gift cards for the holidays why not make it a SCRIP card! SCRIP Cards are available to popular and local retailers and are used just like a gift card...only the school gets a percentage back. It's a win, win! Contact the school office to purchase your cards. Happy shopping!

## St. Thomas & St. Mary Parishes

WELCOME you and INVITE you.



### Please pray for the Sick:

Vicki Wenthe, Donna Boehl, Linda Mertens, Annie Beverlin, Charles Sroka, Vickie Kocher, Marlene Harris, Susanne Schackmann, Carol Schafer, Jim & Norma Kocher, Brenda Zuber, Randy Ochs, Jessica Andruch, Matt Zumbahlen, Fonda Fear, Whitney Benefiel, Mary Bergbower, Delorse Johnson, Susie Ochs, Ted Ochs, Geneva Barber; and those in healthcare facilities & in our Book of Requests.

### Confirmation/First Holy Communion

Saturday, December 7<sup>th</sup>

Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception Springfield

Fr. Pawel is inviting students to be recognized at the Masses that weekend. This is not mandatory. Fr. Pawel is simply asking that you attend one of the Masses that weekend, and he will be glad to recognize the Confirmandi/First Communicants.

Please also make sure that your child has had the opportunity to make his/her First Reconciliation. Reconciliation times are available at the scheduled times throughout the week or by appointment.

*Please keep the following candidates from our parishes in your prayers as they prepare for these Sacraments:*

Tate Benson, Bryant Beverlin, James Bierman, Kody Bierman, Lydia Bolander, Kayson Borgic, James Bower, Garrett Brummer, Peyton Finley, Adalynn Frichtl, Jace Frichtl, Clay Frohning, Nora Geier, Alivia Hartrich, Duke Herdes, Blake Hermann, Hazel Ochs, Jolene Ochs, Lily Ochs, Gunner Scott, Gavin Semple, Ashlyn Urfer, Lane Vogt, Leah Weber

### Trending on FORMED:

#### Rediscover the Meaning of Advent with *Rooted*

In just 7 minutes a day, you can experience peace and spiritual growth with *Rooted: Rediscover the Jesse Tree*. Dive into Scripture, reflect on Christ's ancestors, and prepare your heart for Christmas. Don't miss this chance to bring the true spirit of Advent into your life!

#### Mary of Nazareth

Mary of Nazareth is an epic motion picture on the life of Mary, Mother of Christ, from her childhood through the Resurrection of Jesus. It was filmed in Europe with outstanding cinematography, a strong cast, and a majestic music score.

The film vividly captures the essence of Mary's profound faith and trust in God, as well as her compassionate humanity and concern for others, and the deep love that she and Jesus shared for one another. The movie underscores her special role in God's plan for our redemption, her unique relationship with Christ, and the tremendous suffering that she endured in union with his Passion and Death, as well as her serene joy at his Resurrection.

This movie is not rated, but was created with an adult audience in mind. It may contain violence indicative of the life and times of the saint or character portrayed. We would recommend Parental Guidance and that parents preview it before watching with children.

*Our parish has a FORMED subscription.*

*Visit [signip.formed.org](http://signip.formed.org) and select our parish name.*



## 11 DAY MAGESTIC GERMANY PILGRIMAGE

FRANFRURT ♦ COLOGNE ♦ HANOVER ♦ POTSDAM ♦ BERLIN ♦ NUREMBERG ♦ ROTTERDAM ♦ MUNICH  
OBERAMMERGAU ♦ LINDAU ♦ LAKE TITISEE ♦ THE BLACK FOREST ♦ HEIDELBERG ♦ MAINZ

APRIL 21 - MAY 1, 2025

Hosted by

**FR. R. DEAN PROBST**

**\$4599 FROM ST. LOUIS**

(Air/land tour price is \$3979 plus \$620 gov't taxes/airline surcharges)

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

Fr. R. Dean Probst

Tel: (217) 494-6326 (cell)

Email: [rdprobst@gmail.com](mailto:rdprobst@gmail.com)



**SPACE IS LIMITED! SIGN UP TODAY!!!**

### SonRise Friday Men's Breakfast – Is Jesus Missing?

Friday, December 6 continues to journey through the Holy Land with the Joyful Mysteries.

All Men are welcomed. Gather at the St. Anthony Parish Center for delicious hot **Breakfast ready after 6:10 AM, VIDEO program at 6:30AM**, and concluding at 7:30. More info: contact the parish office or Dan Woods [danwoodsface@gmail.com](mailto:danwoodsface@gmail.com).

November 23-24, 2024



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

Website: [www.stmariechurch.org](http://www.stmariechurch.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

7:30am–8:15am 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, November 25<sup>th</sup>, Weekday**

**Tuesday, November 26<sup>th</sup>, Weekday**

8:00 a.m. - Rosary

8:30 a.m. – Mass (Int: Herman & Ethel Zwilling+)

**Wednesday, November 27<sup>th</sup>, Weekday**

**5:30 p.m. – Thanksgiving Mass – (Int: Vocations)**

**NO PSR – please come to mass**

**Thursday, November 28<sup>th</sup>, Thanksgiving Day**

**No Mass**

**Friday, November 29<sup>th</sup>, Weekday**

**Saturday, November 30<sup>th</sup>, St Andrew**

**Sunday, December 1<sup>st</sup>, First Sunday of Advent**

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

#### **St Mary's Disciples' Stewardship of Treasures Collection for the week of November 17, 2024**

Envelopes \$ 2,492.00

Loose 323.00

**Sub Total \$ 2,815.00**

All Saints 200.00

Haiti 110.00

**Total \$ 3,125.0**

**St Mary's Church Tithe**  
**October Tithe Income \$9,315.00**  
**10% Monthly Tithe to Diocese - \$932.00**

**Card Shower -** Jeannette Kocher will be celebrating her 86<sup>th</sup> birthday on November 27<sup>th</sup>, card may be mailed to her – **Jeannette Kocher – Rm 329**

**Extended Care Facility, Carle RMH**  
**800 E Locust St**  
**Olney, IL 62450**

#### Ministers for 8:30 a.m. – December 1, 2024

**Ushers:** John Uebinger, Ethan Griffith, Kelby Ochs

**Servers:** Daniel Uebinger/Wade Schackmann

**Lectors:** Ashtyn Ochs/ Nancy Ochs

**Gift Bearer:** Marvin & Elaine Zwilling

**Eucharistic Ministers:** Rose Gangloff,  
Tony & Janet Hartrich

#### **Ministers for Thanksgiving Mass**

**November 27, 2024 – 5:30 p.m.**

**Ushers:** Tony Strutner, Phil Ochs, Jacob Kaufmann

**Servers:** Ellie Ochs/Charlee Ochs

**Lectors:** Rose Gangloff/Becca Ochs

**Gift Bearers:** Ron & Nancy Zwilling

**Eucharistic Ministers:** Norman Boehl, Maynard  
Kaufman, Janet Hartrich

#### **Prayers**

There are four of our youth who are preparing for Confirmation and receiving their First Holy Communion. Let us keep them in our prayers as they prepare to receive these sacraments, on December 7<sup>th</sup>.

**Alivia Hartrich**

**Gavin Semple**

**Clay Frohning**

**Jolene Ochs**

#### **Upcoming Mass Schedule and Events**

**11/27/24 – Mass for Thanksgiving – 5:30 p.m.**

**11/30/24 – Whoville – Sainte Marie Community Club**

**12/12/24 – Reconciliation – 6:30 p.m. St Mary's  
3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. – St Thomas**

**12/24/24 – Christmas Eve Mass Times –  
7:00 p.m. – St Mary's Church  
5:00/11:00 p.m. – St Thomas Church**

**12/25/24 – Christmas Day Mass –  
8:30 a.m. – St Thomas Church**