



Second Sunday of Advent December 5-6, 2020

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:	Is 35:1-10	Lk 5:17-26
Tuesday:	Gn 3:9-15,20	Eph 1:3-6,11-12 Lk 1:26-38
Wednesday:	Is 40:25-31	Mt 11:28-30
Thursday:	Is 41:13-20	Mt 11:11-15
Friday:	Is 48:17-19	Mt 16-19
Saturday:	Zec 2:14-17	Lk 1:26-38
Sunday:	Is 61:1-2a, 10-11	1 Thes 5:16-24 Jn 1:6-8, 19-28



Please pray for the Sick, especially Jeff
Ward, Mark Bolander, Rosetta Bolander, Don
Klingler, Mary Jo Walden, Bernice Bolander,
Rita Schafer, Geneva Barber, Cletus

Westendorf, Lynn Schafer, and George Dallmier,
George Roth, Kevin Schafer, 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.

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**.

[Websites: Be sure to visit your parish's
website for bulletins, ministry schedules,
and much more!](#)

ST. THOMAS PARISH

This Week in our Parish

Note: + behind name in Mass intention is for deceased

Monday, Dec. 7: St. Ambrose

6:30 pm Holy Day Vigil Mass at St. Thomas

Tuesday, Dec. 8: Immaculate Conception

of the Blessed Virgin Mary

8:30 am All-School Mass – School Only

12:00 nn Holy Day Mass (Int: Carolyn Kerner)

5:30 pm Holy Day Mass at St. Mary's

Wednesday, Dec. 9: St. Juan Diego Cuauhtlatotzin

8:30 a.m. Daily Mass (Int.: Vic Ritz+)

1:45 pm Student Reconciliation ONLY

3:00 pm Rosary

3:30-4:30 pm Advent Reconciliation at St. Thomas

No Evening Mass today

6:30 – 7:30 pm Advent Reconciliation at St. Thomas
CYO Meeting on Friday

Thursday, Dec. 10: Advent Weekday

8:30 am Mass at St. Mary's

Friday, Dec. 11: St. Damascus I

8:30 am Mass – (Int: Glen Smithenry Family)

5:00 pm CYO meeting at Floral Hall – Food Boxes

Saturday, Dec. 12: Our Lady of Guadalupe

3:30 – 4:00 pm Reconciliation

4:30 pm Mass (For the Parish)

Sunday, Dec. 13: Third Sunday of Advent

7:00 am Mass (For the Parish)

10:00 am Mass (For the Parish)

Disciples' Stewardship of Time

St. Thomas Lay Minister Schedule Dec. 12th-13th

Saturday, 4:30 p.m.

Lectors: Karen Buerster

E.M.: Glenda Spiker & Wanda Kocher

Server: Morgan Schafer

Musicians: Tammy Page/Ellen Einhorn

Greeters/Ushers: Steve Rubsam

Sunday, 7:00 a.m.

Lectors: Nick Shamhart; Jamie Shamhart

E.M.: Erica Johnson & Eliza Bierman

Server: Michael Shamhart

Musicians: John Johnson/Laney Hemrich

Greeters/Ushers: Ben Bierman

Sunday, 10:00 a.m.

Lectors: Aleah Higgs; Sue Sparks

E.M.: Sara Mette & Dennis Weber

Server: Kylie Higgs

Musician: Vicki Mullen/JoBeth Geier

Greeters/Ushers: Mike Gier

St. Thomas Disciples' Stewardship of Treasure

Nov. 28th – 29th Collection

Envelopes	\$7,497.00
Loose	\$1,431.00
Subtotal	\$8,928.00
School Fund	\$705.00
Special Collections	\$120.00
Holy Days	\$10.00
Thanksgiving	\$1,319.00
Building Fund	\$55.00
Subtotal	\$2,209.00
Grand Total	\$11,137.00

PASTORAL COUNCIL Selection: Teresa Ochs, Kayla Finley and Kevin Vogt were selected for 3-year terms on the St. Thomas Pastoral Council. Todd Ochs's name was drawn but his sister-in-law's name was already drawn so a fourth name was drawn. The policy is for not having two members of same family relationship on council for greater representation of the parish. Thanks to Todd for his willingness to serve, as well thanks to others whose names were not drawn.

SCRIP Cards make holiday shopping easy! Don't forget about the school's **SCRIP card program** for your holiday purchases. The last day to place an order for Christmas will be Dec. 14th.



Congratulations! **Jacob & Katlin Lidy!**

Jacob Lidy is the son of Joseph & Karen Lidy and Katlin is the daughter of Chris & Lori Rauch. They were recently married at St. Thomas on November 28! May they live a happily married life in faith!

St. Thomas Advent/Christmas Décor. If you would like to contribute to our annual decor fund in memory of a deceased loved one, please put your name(s) & contribution in an envelope marked "décor." We will publish a list of names to use as a prayer sheet during this Christmas Season. ***Please have all names submitted to the Parish Office by noon on Dec. 21.*** This year donations will be used to purchase two new artificial Christmas trees.

St. Thomas CYO. Mark Your Calendars!

- **Weds., Dec. 9th** – NO CYO. Invited to participate in Parish Advent Reconciliation.
- **Fri., Dec. 11th** - 5:00 pm JCMA Food Box Project at the Floral Hall at the Fairgrounds
- **Weds., Dec. 16th** – 6:30 pm Parish Center Mtg.
- **Weds., Dec. 23rd** – 6:30 pm Assist with decorating/cleaning church for Christmas.

St. Thomas Parish Giving Tree. Thank you to all of the parish families who have already selected envelopes off of the parish Christmas tree. Know that your prayers are hard at work in the lives of those that you are praying for. Many envelopes are still available, so be sure to stop by and pick one up if you haven't had an opportunity to do so yet.

Jasper County Ministerial Association(JCMA) Christmas Food Basket Project will look different this year. They are asking for monetary donations only...no food items. Donations can be mailed to: PO Box 213, Newton, IL 62448. St. Thomas Parish collected \$425.00 over the Thanksgiving holiday, and it will be used to purchase food items for the boxes that will be distributed to families in need December 12th. Thanks for your generosity during this challenging time. The JCMA appreciates your help and efforts to make sure that this very beneficial service for our community can still happen! Together we can accomplish great things!

St. Thomas & St. Mary Parish Info:

Personal Note from your pastor:

As many know, my dad is approaching eternity, although like all of us relating to the Gospels, "you do not know the day or hour." There are church and funeral home scheduling issues when someone does die. Tuesday is a Holy Day and Wednesday we have Reconciliation scheduled with priests coming to assist particularly during the afternoon. Wednesday evenings are difficult for getting assistance as many priests have their parish obligations. The Chaplain of the Hospital is ill with Covid and the pastor of the place where he resides is quarantined, making again less coverage. We have 5 priests available to assist with the School Reconciliation Wednesday and then from 3:30-4:30 but only 2 available for the 6:30-7:30 pm. There is no prayer service, simply priests available at various stations, and you can come during the times provided, except the school time is for school students and faculty. Individual reconciliation times at St. Mary and St. Thomas will be added in week leading to Christmas. I will be helping at St. Anthony in Effingham on December 15 and St. Mary's in Shumway on December 17. Both of those begin at 6:30 pm and go until last penitent is finished.

Advent Reconciliation Services

Wednesday, December 9, 2020 at St. Thomas

1:30 pm – 3 pm School Reconciliation only

3:30 - 4:30 pm Available for Anyone

6:30 – 7:30 pm Available for Anyone

5 Priests from the area will be available for individual confessions during the afternoon but presently only two for the evening time slot.

Welcome Jayke White, returning back to our parishes this weekend. The seminarians are on semester break.

CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE:

Christmas Eve Vigil:

4:00 pm @ St. Mary's (Vigil Mass Lectionary/Missal)

5:30 pm @ St. Thomas (Vigil Mass Lectionary/Missal)

First Mass of Christmas:

11:00 pm @ St. Thomas (Mass of Night)

Christmas Day

8:00 am @ St. Mary's (Mass of Day)

9:30 am @ St. Thomas (Mass of Day)

PLEASE NOTE:

5 Masses have been scheduled for Christmas:

Sign-up is now available through December 24. At present only **150 max.** is permitted in our churches. The overflow crowd at any Mass will gather in the parish centers and have Mass livestreamed and then Holy Communion distributed to them. There is **no guarantee of being in the Church except by being one of the first 150 people present for the Mass.** It is possible that 300 people may want to attend a particular Mass, thus the overflow into the parish center. **No saving of spaces in the Church.**

Please note that Signup after 5 days is:

4:00 pm at St. Mary's:	108
5:30 pm at St. Thomas:	150
11:00 pm at St. Thomas:	128
8:00 am at St. Mary's:	14
9:30 am at St. Thomas:	29

CORRECTION!!!

Catholic Heart Workcamp. Mark Your Calendars!

The Catholic Heart Workcamp will be held:

June 20-26, 2021 in Nashville, Tennessee

Sorry for the change, but the Louisville camp was eliminated from the list and Fr. Dean made the choice. Please return Registration forms but make adjustment to revised schedule. Please return ASAP in order to **ensure your space** as we have to apply for spaces that are available for the entire camp! This camp has only 30+ spaces remaining.

HOLY COMMUNION VISITS:

If you would like Holy Communion brought to you at home this week, please call the parish office to leave your name or contact Fr. Dean at 217-494-6326 to quickly set up day and time.

Note: Due to the large number of people refraining from going anywhere, including church, I need to space the times and days accordingly for visits.

Addresses for Christmas Cards:

Fr. Allen Kemme
800 Stevenson Drive,
Springfield, IL 62703

Fr. Joe Molloy
2400 S. Franklin
Decatur, IL 62521

Fr. Robert Spriggs
50 Starfish Drive #104
Hilton Head Island, SC 29928

Sr. Phyllis Shenk, O.P.
300 Missouri Avenue
Carterville, Illinois 62918

Sr. Ancilla Caulfield, OP
Sacred Heart Motherhouse
1237 W. Monroe Street
Springfield, Illinois 62704

Jayke White
School of Theology
200 Hill Drive
St. Meinrad, IN 47577

Paul Lesupati
School of Theology
200 Hill Drive
St. Meinrad, IN 47577

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, December 7th, St Ambrose

6:30 pm Mass Vigil of Holy Day at St. Thomas

Tues, Dec. 8th, Immac. Conception of Bl. Virgin Mary

Noon Mass at St. Thomas

5:30 a.m.- Mass: (Int: Chris Kistner+)

Wednesday, December 9th, Advent Weekday

Priests available for Reconciliation at St. Thomas

3:30 4:30 pm and 6:30- 7:30 pm

Thursday, December 10th, Advent Weekday

8:00 a.m. – Rosary

8:30 a.m. – Mass:(Int: Catherine Kocher+)

Friday, December 11th, Advent Weekday

Saturday, December 12th, Our Lady of Guadalupe

Sunday, December 13th, 3rd Sunday of Advent

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

HAPPY 90TH BIRTHDAY MELVINA; Melvina Bahl will be celebrating her 90th birthday on December 13th, the family is hosting a card shower and invite you to share in this special day by sending cards to

Melvina Bahl

3432 N. 1800th ST, West Liberty, IL 62475

CONTRIBUTION ENVELOPES: This year the envelopes are being mailed to your homes bi-monthly, if you do not receive them sometime during the month of December, please call the office.

CATHOLIC HEART WORKCAMP

Registration has begun for **June 20-26, 2021**, CHWC in Nashville, Tennessee. If you are interested, please pick up an application at church or parish office. **See joint parish info.** First-come first served until workcamp space is filled.

Christmas Décor: If you would like to contribute to the Christmas Décor fund in memory of your loved one, please use the envelope in your packet, or put in any envelope and mark it décor fund. A list of names will be put in the bulletin.

St Mary's Disciples' Stewardship of Treasure

Collection for the week of November 29, 2020

Envelopes \$ 1345.00

Loose 96.00

Sub Total \$ 1441.00

Thanksgiving 260.00

Haiti 25.00

Grand Total \$ 1726.00

Ministers for 5:30 pm December 8, 2020

Ushers: Maynard Kaufmann, Jacob Kaufmann

Server: Ashtyn Ochs

Lector: Miranda Ochs

Eucharistic Minister: Elfreida Kaufmann

Ministers for 8:30 am December 13, 2020

Ushers: Randy Reis, Bob Barthelme, George Semple

Server: Owen Ochs

Lector: Claire Griffith/Ron Zwilling

Eucharistic Minister: Lisa Ochs

Pastoral Council:

The new 3-year term members were selected on December 1 at Mass by Lott.

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

Pastor: Fr. Dean Probst,

Ex-officio: Maynard Kaufmann, Richard Ochs

PSR STUDENTS: In trying to capture the spirit of Christmas we would like students to make and send Christmas cards with a Christmas message to the shut-ins of our parish. In the back of church is a Christmas tree with names and addresses of parishioners on it. Please take one or two names and make the card and mail it to them.