

December 28 – December 29, 2024
The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph



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

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

December 21-22, 2024 & Christmas Collection

Envelopes	\$	9,125.00
Loose	\$	1,408.00
Subtotal	\$	10,533.00
School Fund	\$	310.00
Building Fund	\$	55.00
Immaculate Conception	\$	120.00
Christmas	\$	8,898.00
Cath Children's home	\$	990.00
Retired Religious	\$	10.00
Subtotal	\$	10,383.00
Grand Total	\$	20,916.00

St. Thomas Church November Tithe

November Tithe Income – \$47,435.00

10% Monthly Tithe Given to Diocese - \$4,744.00

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

Mon., Dec. 30, 6th Day w/in Octave of Christmas

Tues., Dec. 31, St. Sylvester I

6:00 pm Mass at St. Thomas (Int. For the Parish)

Wednesday, January 1, Solemnity of Mary;

World Day of Prayer for Peace

8:30 am Mass at St. Mary

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

No PSR/CYO – Will resume on January 8

Thursday, January 2, Sts. Basil the Great &

Gregory Nazianzen

Fr. Pawel – Home Visits at St. Mary

8:00 am Rosary

8:30 am Mass at St. Mary's

Friday, January 3, St. John; Fr. Pawel Home Visits;

First Friday

8:30 am Mass (Int. Gerald & Rosella Hemrich)

Adoration following Mass until Noon

Saturday, January 4, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton;

First Saturday at St. Mary

3:30 pm – 4:00 pm Reconciliation

4:30 pm Mass at St. Thomas (Int. Marilyn Fritchley)

Sunday, January 5, Epiphany of the Lord

7:00 am Mass at St. Thomas (Betty Marshall)

8:30 am Mass at St. Mary's

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

10:30 am Communion Service at Villas

11:00 am OCIA at St. Thomas

This Week's Scripture Readings:

Mon.:	1 Jn 2:12-17	Lk 2:36-40
Tues.:	1 Jn 2:18-21	Jn 1:1-18
Weds.:	Nm 6:22-27	Gal 4:4-7
		Lk 2:16-21
Th.:	1 Jn 2:22-28	Jn 1:19-28
Fri.:	1 Jn 2:29-3:6	Jn 1:29-34
Sat.:	1 Jn 3:7-10	Jn 1:35-42
Sun.:	Is 60:1-6;	Eph 3:2-3a,5-6;
		Mt 2:1-12

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. Contact the parish office at 618-783-8741 to register or schedule an appointment.

Happy New Year!

**St. Thomas Parish Ministry Schedules
Solemnity and Weekend:**

Tuesday, December 31 @ 6:00 pm

Lector: Jill Bierman
EM: Linda Hemrich, Ginger Robins, Lori TeVault
Servers:
Gift Bearers:
Musicians: Debbie Matson
Greeters/Ushers: Ben Bierman

Wednesday, January 1 @ 10:00 am

Lector:
EM: Dee Bower
Servers:
Gift Bearers:
Musicians: Julie French
Greeters/Ushers:

Saturday, January 4 @ 4:30 pm

Lector: Luke Zuber
EM: Kim Zuber, Kimberly Ochs, Emma Rauch,
Lori Rauch
Servers: Allie Hermann & Brooks Hermann
Gift Bearers: Ronnie & Patti Ochs
Musicians: Nichole Mulvey & Kaitlyn Ochs
Greeters/Ushers: Vic Klingler

Sunday, January 5 @ 7:00 am

Lector: Aubrey Bergbower
EM: Lori TeVault, Pam Francis, Theresa Volk,
Becky Shamhart
Servers: Isaiah Bergbower & Curtis Weber
Gift Bearers: Craig Shamhart Family
Musicians: Five for the One
Greeters/Ushers: Brian Brummer

Sunday, January 5 @ 10:00 am

Lector: Ginger Robins
EM: Brad/Annie Ochs, Jason/Nick Bierman
Servers: Lane Zumbahlen & Avery Geier
Gift Bearers: Garrett Finn Family
Musicians: Patsy Leffler & Anne Kuhl
Greeters/Ushers: Jacob Jahraus

***Please sign up for Solemnity of Mary Masses online
at MSP or contact the parish office. Thanks!!***



**The St. Thomas Parish
Advent Giving Tree**

Thank you for supporting **The Jasper County Home Front** and **The Jasper County Cancer Support Group**. So far, we have raised \$695.00 for the Jasper County Home Front to assist with postage and many requested items were donated for the Jasper County Cancer Support Group including \$275.00 in gift cards. Your generosity at this time of year is greatly appreciated and helps so many!!

Advent/Christmas Décor. Thanks to all those who graciously donated to the St. Thomas Advent/Christmas décor fund. Please include

Gloria Ochs *George & Mary Hippler*
Larry Hippler *Richard & Donna Hippler*
Dean Bond *Bradley & Joe Bergbower*
Clara & Clem Kapper *John Bergbower*
Clara & Cornelius Bergbower

to your prayer list this Christmas season. Please continue to pray for all those listed and their families, that the Lord born at Bethlehem will fill the families who survive with faith and hope and continue to bless the Deceased with eternal life in the joy of Heaven.

St. Thomas CYO Upcoming Schedule:

Meeting on Wednesday evenings at 6:30 pm

We are excited to have everyone back to start off the New Year! A shout out to all of the CYO youth for their many acts of service in 2024!

Jan. 8th – St. Raymond Penafort; Gifts of the Holy Spirit

Jan. 15th – St. Hilary; Symbols for the Church

Jan. 22nd – Prayer for Life Intentional Rosary

Jan. 29th – Night of Service – Meeting at Silk Purse & Master's Hands

Feb. 5th – Hey, Father! with special guest Fr. Jayke

**First Friday Adoration at St. Thomas
January 3, 2025**

You are invited to join St. Thomas for 8:30 am Mass followed by Adoration until Noon. 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.

St. Thomas Parish Christmas Masses

A special ***thank you*** to all who participated in our Christmas Masses!! Thanks to Fr. Pawel for leading us during the Christmas season and throughout the year!! Thanks to all of the lay ministers who helped ...we could not do all that we do without you! Thanks to our musicians for adding to the Christmas Masses by sharing your talents with us! We are so blessed to have as many musicians as we do that cover all of our Masses!! Thanks to the Knights of Columbus, dressed in their regalia, for their involvement. Thanks to the CYO for their help in getting church ready by cleaning and assisting our Worship Committee. Thanks to the Worship Committee for creating a Christmas environment in our church that always makes everyone feel at home and welcome! Thanks for your example of Stewardship!

St. Thomas & St. Mary Parishes

WELCOME you and INVITE you.



Please pray for the Sick:

John Probst, Donna Boehl, Annie Beverlin, Vickie Kocher, Susanne Schackmann, Carol Schafer, Jim & Norma Kocher, Randy Ochs, Jessica Andruch, Whitney Benefiel, Mary Bergbower, Delorse Johnson, Susie Ochs, Ted Ochs, Geneva Barber; and those in healthcare facilities & in our Book of Requests.

Trending on FORMED: Bible Study

Daily Bread: Discover the Eucharist in Scripture

explores the biblical roots of the Eucharist and how the earliest Christians understood it as the fulfillment of many Old Testament promises. Based on Dr. Brant Pitre's book Jesus and the Jewish Roots of the Eucharist, these daily Lenten reflection videos will radically transform your love for the Blessed Sacrament. Sign up to receive these daily during Lent at <https://daily.formed.org/lent> Get a closer look at the artwork Bread: https://leaders.formed.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/04/DailyBread_ArtCredits.pdf

The Bible Project: A collection of content from the Bible Project, which aims to help people see the Bible as a unified story that leads to Jesus.

The Word Conference: Join more than 70 of the most impactful and gifted presenters of Scripture who will show how to confidently and quickly approach the Bible for answers, hope, and peace in our day-to-day challenges and struggles as Catholics.

A Bible Study on the Annunciation

Dr. Ben Akers, associate professor of theology at the Augustine Institute Graduate School, leads us through a brief reflection on the scene of the Annunciation in Luke 1:26-38. He engages the scripture verses line by line highlighting some of the key Old Testament passages evoked by the angel Gabriel's words. The reflection concludes with some thoughts on how we can imitate Mary's "yes" to the Lord in our own life, especially in this time of suffering.

Our parish has a FORMED subscription.

Visit signup.formed.org and select our parish name.

New Year's Mass Schedule

New Year's Eve, Tuesday, December 31

6:00 pm Mass @ St. Thomas

New Year's Day, Wednesday, January 1

8:30 am Mass @ St. Mary

10:00 am Mass @ St. Thomas

Please sign up for St. Thomas Ministries online at MSP or contact the parish office. Thanks!!

A New Year's Message from Fr. Pawel

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

As we enter this New Year, my prayer for you is that God blesses you with abundant grace, good health, and peace. May His light shine brightly in your life, guiding your steps and fill your hearts with His love. Let us embrace the New Year and each day with faith and love that God is giving us. Together, let us continue to build our community on the foundation of Christ - living word who dwells among us.

Happy New Year to you all!
Fr Paul



Men and women! FREE Video Series – Strengthen and grow in your faith for your families with five short videos produced by the *Knights of Columbus* called the “**Mission of The Family.**” The videos

can be found on the *Knights of Columbus* website for free! Here is the link and QR Code to find the videos: kofc.org/en/campaigns/into-the-breach.html The videos are less than 14 minutes.

Worldwide Marriage Encounter presents weekend

experiences for married couples. For more information or to apply, go to [wwme.org](https://www.me.org) or call Terry & Eric Engholm at 314-649-7317. Next ones: **St. Peters, MO** 1/31/2025–2/2/2025 & 4/4/2025 – 4/6/2025

Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

“See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are.” (1 John 3:1) During this season of giving, let us remember a beautiful gift that we have received – being children of God! Tell your spouse, children, other family members and friends that you love them, every day! Also, pray for those people that are different than you, those that you may not like or those that go out of their way to annoy you. Your prayers may be the start of a new friendship.

Looking for a good way to enhance your Lenten Season?

2025 Catholic Women's Prayer Breakfast

Guest Speaker: BISHOP THOMAS JOHN PAPROCKI

Saturday, March 22, 2025

at St. Paul Catholic Church, Highland

1411 Main Street | Highland, IL 62249

8:00 AM - noon (Adoration - 7am, Rosary - 7:30am, Mass - 8am)

Mass | Catered Breakfast | Speaker



Most Rev. Thomas John Paprocki
Bishop of Diocese of Springfield

Please send
Registration form
and \$30 fee to:
Laurie Scott
1411 Main Street
Highland, IL 62249
or, drop off at St. Paul.
Make checks payable to
St. Paul Church

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____ Parish _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Location _____

Email _____

Enclosed is my check to reserve my seat for the breakfast and speaker (\$30) (one form per registrant)

Additional donation for Seminarians \$ _____

Total enclosed \$ _____ made payable to "St. Paul Church".

Pre-Registration is Required for breakfast meal *

Download form or Register online at www.stpaulhighland.org Scan QR Code to access online form.

For more information, email: womensbreakfast2025@gmail.com or text Rose Wascher at 847-274-3916

Space is limited!

Register before March 1, 2025, to reserve your spot and meal ticket.

December 28 – December 29, 2024
The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph



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

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

7:30am–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, December 30th, Sixth Day within Octave
Of the Nativity of the Lord**

**Tuesday, December 31st, 7th Day within the Octave
Of the Nativity of the Lord**

No Mass

Wednesday, January 1st Solemnity of Mary

8:30 a.m. – Mass (Int: Clarence Keller+)

**Thursday, January 2nd, Saints Basil the Great &
Gregory**

8:00 a.m. – Rosary

8:30 a.m. – Mass (Int: Richard Worland+)

Home Visits with Fr Pawel

Friday, January 3rd, Christmas Weekday

Saturday, January 4th, Sainte Elizabeth Ann Seton

7:30 a.m. – 8:15 a.m. – Adoration &

Reconciliation

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

Sunday, January 5th, Epiphany of the Lord

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

**St Mary's Disciples' Stewardship of Treasures
Collection for the week of December 22, 2024**

Envelopes \$ 2,763.32

Loose 220.00

Sub Total \$ 2,983.32

Immaculate Conception 10.00

Haiti 55.00

Christmas Offering 20.00

Total \$ 3,068.32

St Mary's Church Tithe

November Tithe Income \$9,923.00

10% Monthly Tithe to Diocese - \$992.00

**Parish Office – The office will be closed the week of
December 30th – January 3rd. Please contact St
Thomas Church if any questions.**

Ministers for 8:30 a.m. January 1, 2024

**Ushers: Paul Kaufmann, Marvin Zwilling, Roger
Hemrich**

Servers: Avery Ochs/ Charlee Hartrich

Lectors: Nancy Ochs/ Rose Gangloff

Gift Bearers: Marvin & Elaine Zwilling Family

E Ms: Janet & Tony Hartrich, Maynard Kaufmann

Ministers for 8:30 a.m. – January 5, 2024

**Ushers: Paul Kaufmann, Marvin Zwilling, Roger
Hemrich**

Servers: Wade Schackmann/Chase Kistner

Lectors: Lora Ochs/ Claire Griffith

Gift Bearer: Tony & Janet Hartrich

**E Ms: Bridget Matson, Elfrieda Kaufmann, Rose
Gangloff**

**Rest In Peace: Richard "Dick" Worland, a St Mary's
parishioner of passed away on December 22nd. Please
keep his family in your prayers during this holiday
season. A celebration of life mass will be scheduled at
a later day.**

**Thank You - To all who donated to the Décor Fund in
memory of your loved ones, to make the church a place
of beauty for the season. To those who volunteered to
be ministers for the Christmas Eve mass, it is greatly
appreciated. To all who participated in the decorating
of the church to make our worship environment so
beautiful. You are all good stewards for our Lord and
the community! Wishing you a Blessed New Year!**

Events.

12/31/2024 – 6:00 p.m. Mass – St Thomas Church

**1/1/2024 — 8:30 a.m. Solemnity of Mary Mass –
St Mary's**

1/1/2025 – 10:00 a.m. – Mass – St Thomas Church