



Third Sunday of Advent December 12-13, 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: Nm 24:2-7,15-17a Mt 21:23-27
Tuesday: Zep 3:1-2,9-13 Mt 21:28-32
Wednesday: Is 45:6b-8, 18, 21c-25 Lk 7:18b-23
Thursday: Gn 49:2, 8-10 Mt 1:1-17
Friday: Jer 23:5-8 Mt 1:18-25
Saturday: Jgs 13:2-7,24-25a Lk 1:5-25
Sunday: 2Sm 7:1-5,8b-12,14a,16 1 Rom 16:25-27
Lk 1:26-38



Please pray for the Sick, especially Andrew Skates, Jacob Briggerman, Jeff Ward, Don Klingler, Mary Jo Walden, Bernice Bolander, Rita Schafer, Geneva Barber, George Roth, Cletus Westendorf, and George Dallmier, those undegoing 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.

The next pre-baptismal class will be held on Jan. 3rd at 9:00 am. Please contact the St. Thomas parish office at 783-8741 to register. Additional classes will be held on the first Sunday of every other month including March, May, July, September, and November.

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**.

ST. THOMAS PARISH

This Week in our Parish

Note: + behind name in Mass intention is for deceased

Monday, Dec. 14: St. John of the Cross

Tuesday, Dec. 15: Advent Weekday

8:30 am Mass at St. Mary's

10:30 am Funeral Mass for Steven Leister

1:00 pm Tribunal Court

6:30 pm Reconciliation Opportunity at St. Anthony's

Wednesday, Dec. 16: Advent Weekday

8:30 a.m. All-School Mass – School Only

3:00 pm Rosary

4:00-5:00 pm Sacrament of Penance

5:30 pm Mass (Int: Paul Brummer)

6:30 CYO Meeting

Thursday, Dec. 17: Late Advent Weekday

8:30 am Mass at St. Mary's

6:30 pm Reconciliation at St. Mary's Shumway

Friday, Dec. 18: Late Advent Weekday

8:30 am Mass – (Int: Harold Kocher)

Saturday, Dec. 19: Late Advent Weekday

3:00 – 4:00 pm Reconciliation

4:30 pm Mass (For the Parish)

Sunday, Dec. 20: Fourth 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. 19th-20th

Saturday, 4:30 p.m.

Lectors: Kaitlyn Ochs

E.M.: Ramon Kocher & Mark Bolander

Server: Avery Mulvey

Musicians: Five For One

Greeters/Ushers: Steve Rubsam

Sunday, 7:00 a.m.

Lectors: John Johnson; Amy Hartrich

E.M.: Linda Hemrich & Becky Shamhart

Server: Caroline Frohning

Musicians: Patsy Leffler/Lily Bierman

Greeters/Ushers: Ben Bierman

Sunday, 10:00 a.m.

Lectors: Ginger Robins

E.M.: Dee Bower & Matt Bower

Server: Laura Kuhl

Musician: Patsy Leffler/Jeff Finley

Greeters/Ushers: Mike Gier

Rest In Peace

Prayers for Repose of Souls:

Raymond "Bud" Probst, Fr. Dean's Dad & Pat Way and Steve Leister, Bonnie French's brother

St. Thomas Disciples' Stewardship of Treasure

Dec. 5th-6th Collection

Envelopes	\$8,202.00
Loose	\$63.00
Subtotal	\$8,265.00
School Fund	\$435.00
Special Collections	\$530.00
Building Fund	\$510.00
Subtotal	\$1,475.00
Grand Total	\$9,740.00

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.

Sacraments of Confirmation and First Communion.



Congratulations to Silas Tabrizi who was Confirmed by Fr. Dean and received his First Holy Communion this past Sunday on December 6th. His confirmation patronal saint name is Francis and his sponsor is grandmother Jan Schackmann.

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!

- **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.



Congratulations to the following St. Thomas Students who had the opportunity to participate in the Sacrament of Penance.

Natascha Alblinger	Carissa Barthelme
Jace Bergbower	Margaret Bierman
Rowdy Bierman	Adalyn Borgic
Jase Cochran	Audrey Earnest
Brady Francis	Emrey Frichtl
Sam Frohning	Ariannah Gagliano
Jack Geier	Audrey Ginder
Malcolm Glusak	Kelby Iffert
Alex Keller	Kinsley Kerner
Drayden Ochs	Lena Patterson
Wyatt Pitcher	Waylon Probst
Claire Schackmann	Avery Shamhart
Lyndsey Spiker	Austun Urfer
Logan Vogt	Jack Weber

St. Thomas & St. Mary Parish Info:

Personal Note from your pastor:



Thanks for the many acts of kindness, prayers and cards, offered for my dad and family as we commended him back to the Lord, this past Thursday.



The flowered cross was received from St. Thomas parish/school and the wreath from St. Mary's parish.

RECONCILIATION: Thanks to the many people who participated in the Sacrament of Penance: Individual Rite of Reconciliation last Wednesday. I will be assisting this Tuesday at St. Anthony Church in Effingham and Thursday at St. Mary's in Shumway. Both opportunities begin at 6:30 pm. I will be available on Wednesday evening at 6:30 pm at St. Mary's, Ste. Marie, until last penitent has opportunity to receive the Sacrament. The sacrament is also available at St. Thomas on Wednesday from 4:00 pm – 5:00 pm and Saturdays 8:00-9:00 am & 3:00-4:00 pm.

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.

Thank you, Seminarian Paul Lesupati, for sharing some of your time during your semester break with us! It was great having you back!

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 at the end of the week is:

4:00 pm at St. Mary's:	128
5:30 pm at St. Thomas:	150 (+)
11:00 pm at St. Thomas:	150 (+)
8:00 am at St. Mary's:	35
9:30 am at St. Thomas:	73

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!

Reflection on Stewardship

“All power in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, until the end of the age.” Matthew 28: 19-20

How can I be a disciple of Jesus in my community?
How do I encourage others to be disciples of Jesus?

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
110 Jamie Lynn Drive
Glen Carbon, IL 62034

Paul Lesupati
1725 S. Walnut
Springfield, IL 62704

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 14th, St John of the Cross

Tuesday, December 15th, Advent Weekday
5:30 a.m.- Mass: (Int: Clarence Keller
Dick & John Helregel+)

Wednesday, December 16th, Advent Weekday
6:30 pm Individual Reconciliation Opportunity

Thursday, December 17th, Advent Weekday
8:00 a.m. – Rosary
8:30 a.m. – Mass:(Int: John A. Ochs+)

Friday, December 18th, Advent Weekday

Saturday, December 19th, Advent Weekday

Sunday, December 20th, 4th Sunday of Advent
8:30 a.m. – Mass (Int: For the Parish+)

CONTRIBUTION ENVELOPES: You should be receiving your January & February envelopes in the next couple of weeks, if you do not receive them by the end of the year, please call the office and let Denisse know.

St Mary's Disciples' Stewardship of Treasure

Collection for the week of December 6, 2020

Envelopes	\$ 1760.00
Loose	145.00
Sub Total	\$ 1905.00
Thanksgiving	10.00
Other Special Collections	100.00
Immaculate Conception	50.00
Grand Total	\$ 2065.00

DECORATE CHURCH: After mass on Sunday, December 20th, we will begin decorating the church for Christmas, anyone is welcome to stay and help with putting up the décor.

Ministers for 8:30 am December 20, 2020

Ushers: Randy Reis, Bob Barthelme, George Semple

Server: Kelby Ochs

Lector: Lora Ochs/Rose Gangloff

Eucharistic Minister: Amy Frohning

Finance Council:

Kate Kaufmann Richard Ochs Aaron Ochs
Maynard Kaufmann Bruce Boehl Fr. Dean Probst

Pastoral Council:

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
Fr. Dean Probst, Maynard Kaufmann, Richard Ochs

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.

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.

CHRISTMAS MINISTERS: Please sign up for the ministries this weekend. Signup sheets are located in the back of church or you can call the office. They will be published in the next bulletin, and you will be receiving an e-mail reminder. Thanks for sharing of your time and talent.