

April 27-28, 2024  
**Fifth Sunday of Easter**



**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)

**Pre-baptismal 2024 Class Schedule.**

June 2, and Oct. 6 at 8:45am or by appointment if needed. Classes are in the choir area at St. Thomas. Call 618-783-8741 to register/schedule an appointment.

**St. Thomas Disciples' Stewardship of Treasure**

April 20-21, 2024 Collection

Envelopes	\$	6,483.15
Loose	\$	344.00
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>6,827.15</b>
School Fund	\$	995.00
Building Fund	\$	220.00
Catholic Home Missions	\$	20.00
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>1,235.00</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>8,062.15</b>

**St. Thomas Church March Tithe**

March Tithe Income – \$39,791.00

10% Monthly Tithe Given to Diocese - \$3,979.00

**This Week in Our Parish**

**Monday, April 29, St. Catherine of Sienna**

**No School at St. Thomas – Staff Retreat in S-fld**

**Tuesday, April 30, St. Pius V**

**8:00 am – Rosary at St. Mary's**

**8:30 am – Mass at St. Mary's**

**Wednesday, May 1, St. Joseph the Worker**

**8:30 am Class Mass (James Leahy)**

**9:00 am Rosary Group**

**6:00 pm School Board Mtg**

**Thursday, May 2, St. Athanasius; National Day of**

**Prayer; Fr. Paul Home Visits**

**8:00 am – Rosary at St. Mary's**

**8:30 am – Mass at St. Mary's**

**Friday, May 3, Sts. Philip and James; First Friday**

**Fr. Dean is here!**

**8:30 am All-School Mass/May Crowning**

(Dec. Members Ed Kocher Family)

**Adoration Following Mass until Noon**

**Saturday, May 4, Easter Weekday; First Saturday**

**Deacon Charlie Celebrating with us this weekend!**

**4:30 pm Mass at St. Thomas (Maurice Nix Family)**

**Sunday, May 5, 6<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter;**

**7:00 am Mass at St. Thomas (For the Parish)**

**8:30 am Mass at St. Mary's**

**10:00 am Mass at St. Thomas**

(Dec Members of Rita Schafer Family)

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

**This Week at St. Thomas School**

Mon, April 29 – No School – Staff Retreat in S-fld

Weds, May 1- Class Mass

6:00 pm School Board Meeting

Thurs, May 2 - 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Health Rocks

4:30 pm Track meet at Cumberland

Fri, May 3 - **8:30 am** All-School Mass/May

Crowning following Mass

Sat, May 4 - Track Sectionals at Okaw Valley

**This Week's Scripture Readings:**

**Mon.: Acts 14:5-18**

**Jn 14:21-26**

**Tues.: Acts 14:19-28**

**Jn 14:27-31a**

**Weds.: Acts 15:1-6**

**Jn 15:1-8**

**Th.: Acts 15:7-21**

**Jn 15:9-11**

**Fri.: 1 Cor 15:1-8**

**Jn 14:6-14**

**Sat.: Acts 16:1-10**

**Jn 15:18-21**

**Sun.: Acts 10:25-26,34-35,44-48**

**1 Jn 4:7-10**

**Jn 15:9-17**

**St. Thomas Parish Ministry Schedule:**

**Saturday, May 4 @ 4:30 pm**

Lector: Kim Zuber  
EM: Wade Ochs, Lori Rauch, Lori TeVault,  
Mark Bolander  
Servers: Bailey Meinhart & Brooke Farley  
Gift Bearers: Brad Ochs Family  
Musicians: Nichole Mulvey & Kaitlyn Ochs  
Greeters/Ushers: Chris Rauch

**Sunday, May 5 @ 7:00 am**

Lector: Sara Bergbower  
EM: Paul/Katie Bierman, Sheryl/Allison Brummer  
Servers: Alani Bergbower & Jace Bergbower  
Gift Bearers: Seth Woods Family  
Musicians: Five For the One  
Greeters/Ushers: Ben Bierman

**Sunday, May 5 @ 10:00 am**

Lector: Brian Bierman  
EM: Julie/Aleah/Kylie Higgs, Jason Bierman  
Servers: Haley Ochs & Lincoln Probst  
Gift Bearers: John Bower Family  
Musicians: Patsy Leffler & Anne Kuhl  
Greeters/Ushers: Jacob Jahraus

**A Special Thank You to all of our new Eucharistic Ministers and Lectors!!** It is wonderful to add new names to our schedules!!

**Eucharistic Ministers:** Lori Rauch, Wade Ochs, Adam Weber, Lucy Bierman, Kylie Higgs, Aleah Higgs, Gus Bierman, Dylan Gier, Allison Brummer, Katie Bierman, Nick Bierman

**Lectors:** Lori Rauch, Lucy Bierman, Kylie Higgs, Lynn Wilson, Carol Bough, Marissa Bower

**Congratulations, Aleah Higgs,** on being one of four recipients of the Springfield Diocesan Council of Catholic Women's (SDCCW) Excellence in Leadership Scholarship. We are proud of Aleah for all of her accomplishments and know that she will represent the SDCCW and our parish very well!

**ST. THOMAS PASTORAL COUNCIL MEMBERS**

**Congratulations to *Brian Bierman, Mike Geier, Craig Hartrich and Stephenie Kuhl*** for accepting their nominations and then being selected as new members of the St. Thomas Pastoral Council. They were selected at the 4:30 pm Mass this past Saturday. Thank you to everyone who accepted the nomination and for your willingness to serve! May the Holy Spirit continue to guide our pastoral council and its members during their time of service.

**THANK YOU, Sue Dickerson, Alice Addis, and David Sydor** for your many hours of service at the Villas of Holly Brook. We welcome **Kristen Probst** as a new volunteer to help with the Rosary at the Villas. **THANK YOU, Kristen!** We also want to thank **Linda Mertens** who visits, prays the Rosary and takes Holy Communion to the residents of the Newton Care Center. **We would not be able to continue this very important ministry without their help!!**

**We would STILL like to add to our list of volunteers to help with the Rosary and Communion Services at the Villas of Holly Brook.** Contact St. Thomas or St. Mary's parish offices to learn more about how you can help serve the elderly of our parishes.

**CARD SHOWER**

**Matilda Hemrich** will be celebrating her 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday on April 28<sup>th</sup>. Please help her celebrate by sending Birthday wishes to: 104 N Church St, Newton, IL 62448

**OPEN HOUSE**

**Inis (Kistner) Probst** turns 90 on May 1<sup>st</sup>! Birthday wishes can be sent to: 101 S. Walnut St., Newton, IL 62448; An open house will be held on May 11 at the Newton KC Hall from 6:00 -8:00pm.

**St. Thomas CYO** came to a close this past Wednesday evening. We celebrated our successful year with bowling and pizza. We are always so proud of our CYO youth and can't believe how quickly our time with them goes! We wish nothing but the best for our seniors, and we hope you know how much you will be missed.



We will keep all of you in our prayers!  
**-Linda, Jenny and Lori**

**St. Thomas Youth Choir Spotlight**



**Getting to Know Our Youth Choir Members**

**Name:** Carissa Barthelme  
**Parents:** Craig and Sarah  
**How long have you been in choir?** 3 years

**Why do you like being in choir?** I like to sing.  
**What is your favorite season?** Christmas  
**What is your favorite song to sing?** 10,000 Reasons  
**Have you done anything special with your music?**  
A solo.

## St. Thomas & St. Mary Parishes

**WELCOME you and invite you to join our Church families by calling the parish offices of St. Thomas the Apostle, Newton, and St. Mary of the Assumption, Sainte Marie.**



### **Please pray for the Sick:**

Jessica Andruch, Cathy Dasenbrock, Matt Zumbahlen, Marge Thompson, Ava Torma, Mary Ann Bierman, Glenn Frichtl, Norman Kocher, Fonda Fear, Naomi Shedlebower, Sam Nelson, Marlene Harris, Brian Baker, Whitney Benefiel, Mary Bergbower, Mack McCrillis, Delorse Johnson, Mike Lustig, Rhonda Wilson, Dick Worland, Suzi Ochs, Geneva Barber; and those in healthcare facilities & in our Book of Requests.

### **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

**Holy Land Olive Wood Handcrafted Items Available this weekend - April 27-28.** Due to declining tourism in the Holy Land, many Catholic artisans face economic hardship. Our mission is to support these skilled craftspeople by providing a marketplace for their beautiful, hand-carved works in the United States. When you purchase one of these unique art pieces, you directly support Catholic families in Bethlehem and the surrounding region. This helps preserve a vital Christian presence in the birthplace of Jesus Christ, ensuring the future of holy sites like the Nativity Church. To learn more and view our products, please visit [www.theholylands.org](http://www.theholylands.org)

**FORMED/AMEN App. It is time to renew our subscription.** If you are currently using this resource, please consider making a donation to help St. Thomas cover the cost of the subscription. Just drop your donation in an envelope marked "FORMED" in the collection basket. You can also just drop it off at the church office or in the drop box located outside by the main entrance doors of church. Thanks so much for helping us with the cost of this resource, so that we can continue to offer it to the parishioners of our parishes.

**Don't forget about the St. Thomas School SCRIP program.** They have some local gift cards as well as gift cards that can be used in Effingham. Amazon cards are available, too! They make great gifts and can be used for regular personal shopping.

**Attend the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage coming to cities in our diocese –** You are invited to an once-in-a-lifetime experience being called "our national Emmaus moment," after the biblical passage in which Jesus walked with two of his disciples along the road to Emmaus. The National Eucharistic Pilgrimage is an unprecedented pilgrimage in which Catholics will pray and publicly follow Jesus in their cities through Eucharistic processions. The Diocese of Springfield in Illinois is excited to be included in one of the national routes July 8-12. Cities include Collinsville, Alton, Quincy, Girard, Springfield, Effingham, and Teutopolis. Go to [dio.org/procession](http://dio.org/procession) to learn more and register!

**Attend the National Eucharistic Congress in Indianapolis July 17-21 –** You will make history as part of the first National Eucharistic Congress in nearly 100 years. **Discounted tickets available through the Diocese of Springfield at <https://go.dio.org/60v>.**  
**Register at [eucharisticcongress.org](http://eucharisticcongress.org).**

**Day of Prayer for Life – Save the Date!** Please mark your calendars for the upcoming 50<sup>th</sup> annual Day of Prayer for Life to be held **Wednesday, June 19th**, at St Francis Church in Teutopolis. Eucharistic Exposition and Adoration will be held throughout the day. The Most Reverend Thomas John Paprocki, Bishop of the Springfield Diocese, will be our honored celebrant and homilist at the 7:30 PM closing Mass.

**Congratulations, Deacon Charlie Delano on your recent Transitional Diaconate Ordination.** We are excited to have Charlie with us next weekend as he will celebrate Mass with Fr. Paul.



*One thing I have learned in my discernment.*

"Once you start asking God how to serve Him, you never know where

He will take you. My time in seminary has been beyond anything I could have imagined or desired." –  
Deacon Charlie

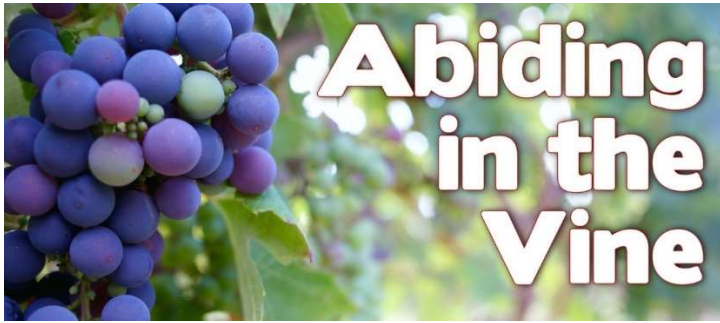
**Retreats for married couples offered –** Worldwide Marriage Encounter presents weekend experiences for married couples. Sign-up now! For more information or to apply, go to [wwme.org](http://wwme.org) or call Terry & Eric Engholm at 314-649-7317. Next ones:

- 8/2/2024 – 8/4/2024, St. Peters, MO
- 9/27/2024 – 9/29/2024, St. Peters, MO
- 10/11/2024 – 10/13/2024, Springfield, IL



April 27-28, 2024  
Fifth Sunday of Easter

**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**

**7:30 am – 8:15 am 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, April 29<sup>th</sup>, St Catherine of Siena**

**Tuesday, April 30<sup>th</sup>, St Pius V**

8:00 a.m. – Rosary

8:30 a.m. – Mass (Int: Joe Zuber+)

**Wednesday, May 1<sup>st</sup>, St Joseph the Worker**

**Thursday, May 2<sup>nd</sup>, St Athansius**

8:00 a.m. – Rosary

8:30 a.m. – Mass (Int: Bernard & Marcella  
Menke+)

**Home Visits by Fr Pawel**

**Friday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>, Saints Philip, and James**

**Saturday, May 4<sup>th</sup>, Easter Weekday**

**First Saturday**

**7:15 a.m – 8:15 a.m. – Adoration &**

**Reconciliation**

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

**Sunday, May 5<sup>th</sup>, Sixth Sunday of Easter**

8:30 a.m. – Mass (Int: Ron Kirts+)

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

**Ushers:** Marvin Zwilling, Bob Barthelme,  
Tony Strutner

**Servers:** Chase Kistner/Blake Frohning

**Lectors:** Claire Griffith/Becca Ochs

**Gift Bearers:** Tony & Janet Hartrich

**Eucharistic Ministers:** Rose Gangloff,  
Lora Semple, Ben Ochs

**Victim Assistance Contact Information:**

Diocesan Child Abuse Reporting & Investigation  
Call 217-321-1155

**St Mary's Disciples' Stewardship of Treasures  
Collection for the week of April 21, 2024**

Envelopes \$ 2935.00

Loose 263.00

**Sub Total \$ 3198.00**

Haiti 85.00

**Total \$ 3283.00**

**St Mary's Church Tithe**

**March Tithe Income - \$30,950.00**

**10% Monthly Tithe Given to Diocese - \$3,095.00**

**St. Mary's Family Life**

**Graduation Breakfast**

**June 2, 2024 after Mass**

Graduation is getting close and we would like to honor all graduates, Those graduating from 8<sup>th</sup> grade, High School, College, Trade School and any other graduates. Please call the parish office and give us the names of graduates to be listed in the bulletin.

If your family will be attending the breakfast, please let us know the number attending.

**PSR**

The final class of PSR for this year was Wednesday evening.

It was an exciting evening with students competing with trivia questions on topics covered in classes this year. There were six groups and the winning team was the Archangels. A big thanks to all the religion teachers – Beth Hartrich, Donna Boehl, Kayla Semple, Nancy Ochs, Kelly Iffert, Becca Ochs, Marie Wagner, and Sarah Boehl. Thank you to the Family Life committee for providing refreshments.

**PICNIC RAFFLE** –Work is beginning on the raffle for this year's picnic. If you any individual or business would like to donate to the picnic raffle this year's please call the parish office or Elaine (618) 843-0800 by May 24<sup>th</sup>. If you donated last year, you will be contacted soon.