

**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)**

Parish Emergency Number: 217-494-6326

Pastor: Fr. R. Dean Probst (email: [dprobst@dio.org](mailto:dprobst@dio.org))

Deacon emeritus: Rev. Mr. Larry Miller

Office Manager: Linda M. Hemrich

PSR Coordinator: Pete Pasero

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:**

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)

**This Week in our Parish**

Note: + behind name in Mass intention is for deceased

***Week of Prayer for Christian Unity Begins***

***Monday, Jan. 18<sup>th</sup>: Weekday;***

***No School Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday***

***Tuesday, Jan. 19<sup>th</sup>: Weekday***

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

***Wednesday, Jan. 20<sup>th</sup>: St. Fabian; St. Sebastian***

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

**3:00 pm** Rosary

**4:30-5:00 pm** Sacrament of Penance

**5:30 pm** Mass (Int: Leonard Ochs)

**6:30** CYO Meeting in Parish Ctr

***Thurs., Jan. 21<sup>st</sup>: St. Agnes***

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

***Friday, Jan. 22<sup>nd</sup>: Day of Prayer for the Legal***

***Protection of Unborn Children***

**8:30 am** Mass-(Int: Oliver Emmerich)

**Exposition of Blessed Sacrament:** 9:30 am - 4: p.m.

Rosary at 3:30 p.m. **Benediction at 4:00 p.m.**

***Saturday, Jan. 23<sup>rd</sup>: St. Marianne Cope; St. Vincent***

**3:30 – 4:00 pm Reconciliation**

**4:30 pm** Mass (For the Parish)

***Sunday, Jan. 24<sup>th</sup>: Third Sunday in Ordinary Time***

**7:00 am** Mass (For the Parish)

**10:00 am** Mass (For the Parish)

**Disciples' Stewardship of Time**  
**St. Thomas Lay Minister Schedule Jan. 23<sup>rd</sup>– 24<sup>th</sup>**

**Saturday, 4:30 p.m.**

**Lectors:** Madison Phillips; Karen Buerster

**E.M.:** Lora Phillips & Chuck Einhorn

**Server:** Cole Phillips

**Musicians:** Tammy Page/Ellen Einhorn

**Greeters/Ushers:** Ken Buerster

**Sunday, 7:00 a.m.**

**Lectors:** Amy Hartrich; Jill Bierman

**E.M.:** Theresa Volk & Dena Rauch

**Server:** Katie Bierman

**Musicians:** John Johnson/Lucy Bierman

**Greeters/Ushers:** Doug Long

**Sunday, 10:00 a.m.**

**Lectors:** Sue Sparks; Ginger Robins

**E.M.:** Gery Ochs & Tony Sparks

**Server:** Haley Ochs

**Musician:** Vicki Mullen/Debbie Matson

**Greeters/Ushers:** Bob Bower

**St. Thomas CYO. Keep up the good work!** Thanks to William Fritchley, Laney & Madeline Hemrich, Kaitlyn Ochs, and Madison Phillips for helping slice and package all of the delicious sweet breads that were donated for the Effingham Area Right to Life breakfast last weekend. It was great to see the Holy Cross, Wendelin youth helping out, too! A big thanks to all of our youth for their commitment to their faith formation. We always look forward to seeing you, and we will meet again on **Weds., Jan. 20<sup>th</sup>** – 4:00 pm for a March for Life walk and prayer service. Stay safe and healthy!

**Exposition of Blessed Sacrament &  
Benediction**

**Friday, January 22, 2021**

Please sign up for half hour prayer before the Blessed Sacrament in reparation for the nation's sin of abortion and prayer for the sanctity of all human life.

Exposition will begin following the 8:30 a.m. Mass continue to Benediction at 4:00 p.m. Friday.

**The Pastoral Council met Tuesday at the rectory:** Members are Tony Weber (Chairman), Amanda Baltzell (Secretary) Bob Bower, Paul Bierman, Kelly Hinterscher, Melany Bierman, Teresa Ochs, Kayla Finley and Kevin Vogt, and Pastor, Fr. Dean Probst. They recommended the guidelines continue to be followed regarding use of facilities and that finance council look to updating windows/doors for rectory.

## Second Sunday in Ordinary Time January 16-17, 2021



### St. Thomas & St. Mary Parish Info:

#### 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.

welcome

**Come join – In Full Communion Session**  
an introductory gathering for those wishing to become  
members of the Catholic faith is **this Saturday,**  
**January 16 at 9:30 am in St. Thomas Church.**

#### This Week's Scripture Readings:

|                   |   |                                     |
|-------------------|---|-------------------------------------|
| <b>Monday:</b>    | <b>Heb 5:1-10</b>   | <b>Mk 2:18-22</b>                   |
| <b>Tuesday:</b>   | <b>Heb 6:10-20</b>  | <b>Mk 2:23-28</b>                   |
| <b>Wednesday:</b> | <b>Heb 7:1-3,15-17</b>  | <b>Mk 3:1-6</b>                     |
| <b>Thursday:</b>  | <b>Heb 7:25-8:6</b>   | <b>Mk 3:7-12</b>                    |
| <b>Friday:</b>    | <b>Lectionary for Ritual Mass; Vol. IV<br/>"Mass for Peace and Justice"</b> |                                     |
| <b>Saturday:</b>  | <b>Heb 9:2-3,11-14</b>  | <b>Mk 3:20-21</b>                   |
| <b>Sunday:</b>    | <b>Jon 3:1-5,10</b>   | <b>1 Cor 7:29-31<br/>Mk 1:14-20</b> |

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**.

**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 Mar.7<sup>th</sup>  
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 May, July, September, and November.



**Please pray for** the Sick, especially Debbie  
Granby, Virginia DeGand, James Kocher,  
Wanda Sydor, Jacob Briggerman, Jeff Ward,  
Mary Jo Walden, Rita Schafer, George Roth,  
Cletus Westendorf, and George Dallmier, 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.



**Rest in Peace.** Please pray for the repose  
of the souls of **Agnes Brummer,**  
**Myrtle Radke and**  
**Christina Gibbons McReynolds Wolf.**

**Please keep in your prayers the members of our  
parishes** who are taking care of loved ones right now  
that require special care so that they can stay at home  
and have the support of their family.

*"Whatever you did for one of the least of these  
brothers of Mine, you did it for Me."*

-- Matthew 25:40

**Effingham Area Right to Life would like to thank**  
everyone for attending the annual Pro-Life Breakfast.  
Our first ever *drive-thru* breakfast was a big success!  
God bless the numerous wonderful volunteers who  
make this event happen each year. Our thanks and  
God's blessings... keep praying for **LIFE**.

**NOTE: We are discontinuing the sign-up for  
weekend Masses.** Our Churches will be open for  
seating. When capacity is met according to guidelines,  
we will invite people to make use of parish center for  
gathering.

**Thanks to Deacon Larry Miller** for offering the Sunday Celebration in the Absence of a Priest last Sunday. I am grateful that Fr. Richard Chiola was able to come and offer the Saturday night Mass and consecrate enough hosts for the Communion Services on Sunday.

**In appreciation: Jayke White and Paul Lesaputi wish to thank the parishes** for the many cards received during the Christmas Season. They are both back at St. Meinrad Seminary beginning another semester of studies. Please note that Paul hopefully will be ordained to the transitional diaconate following this semester of studies. **Please keep them and all our seminarians in your prayers.**

**January 22 Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children** - St. Francis Church will have a special **vigil pro-life Mass at 7:00 PM on Thursday, Jan. 21<sup>st</sup>, with Eucharistic Exposition and Adoration on Friday, Jan 22<sup>nd</sup>.** Exposition will be in the chapel after the Friday 8:00 AM Children's Prayer Service with closing Benediction at 4:30 PM. Please mark your calendars.

**9 Days for Life (January 21-29, 2020)** is a novena for the protection of human life. Participants can receive novena prayers each day by downloading the free 9 Days for Life app, or by subscribing to daily emails or text messages: <https://pro-life-activities.lpages.co/9-days-for-life-2020/>. Each day there is an intention accompanied by a short reflection and suggested action to help build a culture of life.

**Second Sunday in Ordinary Time Listening, Discerning and Watching, Coming, Seeing, Finding.** These words ending in *-ing* (technically "gerunds") in the first and gospel readings indicate some continuing action. They point out good Christian behaviors as we start this winter time between the seasons of Christmas and Lent. Like Samuel, we want to be always listening for God's voice, even while needing the help of another for discerning it. Like the Baptist, we want to be watching for Jesus moving among us, looking for his activity in surprising ways in our midst and, perhaps, the surprising people around us.

- How am I coming closer to Jesus day by day, week by week?
- How am I seeing Jesus active in our world?
- How am I finding myself following Jesus without question?

## **Decree by Bishop Paprocki on Communion Procession Instruction**, effective January 1, 2021.

**1.** Normally those who will not receive Holy Communion at a given Mass should not join in the Communion procession. This procession is for those who will eat and drink the Body and Blood of Christ. However, infants may be carried by their parents and children who have not yet received First Eucharist may accompany their parents in the Communion procession. **2.** Should some who will not receive Holy Communion choose to join in the Communion procession, they present themselves with their arms crossed over their chests and make the same reverence as those who will receive Communion, that is, they stop and make a slight bow of the head both to the Body of Christ and to the Blood of Christ while passing in procession. The priest, deacon or extraordinary minister of Holy Communion makes a slight head bow towards the person and says, "Receive Christ in your heart." **3.** No blessing is to be given at this time whether by the priest, deacon or extraordinary minister of Holy Communion. **4.** No ordinary minister (Bishop, Priest, or Deacon) or extraordinary minister (lay person) of Holy Communion shall extend a hand or touch the head or make a sign of the cross on or over someone in the Communion procession.

### **Mission Trip 2021: Cumberland, Maryland**

June 12-18, 2021.

Anyone interested in attending the Catholic Heart Workcamp this summer is asked to submit their registration form. At present we need an adult male and female chaperone to accompany the group. Fr. Dean Probst and Principal Jill Bierman are signed up as two adults; we will need at least one more male and female adult for the group to be able to go. There are still a few spaces for youth if interested. Contact Linda or Denisse at the parish offices.

### **Effingham Catholic Charities is offering a free tax assistance program.**

Tax assistance is available Tuesday through Thursday from 9 AM to 3 PM between January 29 – April 1.

\*\*This program is available to anyone with an income of \$60,000 or less.

If you would like additional information please call 217-857-1458.

*\*VITA/TCE Partner*

**We want to share your great photos!** – Got a great photo? Whether it's of school life, parish life, or home life, the Diocese of Springfield in Illinois is wanting to promote Catholic life in action. Through *Catholic Times*, social media, videos, or marketing materials, the Diocese of Springfield in Illinois wants to share your great photo to spread the joy diocesan-wide. Submit your photo or photos by going to [www.dio.org/submitphoto](http://www.dio.org/submitphoto).

**Second Sunday in Ordinary Time  
January 16-17, 2021**

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

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

Office Hours: 9 am – 3 pm Tues., Wed., Thurs.

Parish Emergency Number: 217-494-6326

Pastor: Fr. R. Dean Probst (email: [dprobst@dio.org](mailto:dprobst@dio.org))

Deacon emeritus: Rev. Mr. Larry Miller

Office Manager: Denisse Ochs

PSR Coordinator: Marie Wagner

**St Mary's Disciples' Stewardship  
of Treasure**

Collection for the week of  
January 10, 2021

|                     |           |                |
|---------------------|-----------|----------------|
| Envelopes           | \$        | 1040.00        |
| Loose               |           | 100.00         |
| <b>Sub Total</b>    | <b>\$</b> | <b>1140.00</b> |
| Special Collections |           | 156.00         |
| Solemnity of Mary   |           | 20.00          |
| <b>Grand Total</b>  |           | <b>1316.00</b> |

**CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS:** The 2020 contributions statement will be ready next week, if you would like to receive one, please contact the office at 618-455-3155 and it will be mailed to you. Thank you for your generous donations for 2020!!

**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

**Exposition of Blessed Sacrament &  
Benediction**

Please sign up for half hour prayer before the Blessed Sacrament in reparation for the nation's sin of abortion and prayer for the sanctity of all human life.

Exposition will begin at 12:00 Noon and continue to Benediction at 5:00 p.m. Friday, January 22, 2021.

**This Week in our Parish**

***Monday, January 18<sup>th</sup>, Weekday***

***Tuesday, January 19<sup>th</sup>, Weekday***

8:00 a.m.- Rosary

8:30 a.m.- Mass: (Int: Joe & Marjorie Barthelme+)

6:30 pm Pastoral Council Meeting

***Wednesday, January 20<sup>th</sup>, St Fabian, St Sebastian***

***Thursday, January 21<sup>st</sup>, St Agnes***

8:00 a.m. – Rosary

8:30 a.m. – Mass: (Int: Frances & Maude Wagner+)

***Friday, January 22<sup>nd</sup>, Day of Prayer for the Legal  
Protection for Unborn Children***

***Noon: Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament***

***5:00 p.m. Benediction***

***Saturday, January 23<sup>rd</sup>, St Vincent***

***Sunday, January 24<sup>th</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time***

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

**Ministers for 8:30 am , January 24, 2021**

**Ushers:** Nicholas Zwilling, Richard Ochs

**Server:** Ethan Griffith

**Lector:** Becca Ochs/Ethan Zwilling

**Eucharistic Minister:** Jeanne Johnson

**PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING:**

The meeting for the new pastoral council has been rescheduled for this Tuesday, 6:30 p.m. January 19, 2021. We will meet in the parish center.

**The Pastoral Council members are:**

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

**THANK YOU:** Freda Keller would like to thank the family life group for the Christmas gift bag. It was greatly appreciated!

**TO GIVE AWAY:** There are two old style televisions in the garage of the parish office, also the old sink out of the sacristy. They are free for the taking, contact the office if you are interested. These will be hauled away next weekend.

**PSR:** Your December lesson sheets are due. Please make it a priority to get them turned in. Please drop them off in the collection basket marked PSR or in the drop box on the front door of the parish office.