

**February 15-16, 2025**  
**Sixth Sunday in Ordinary**



**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)

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR OFFERING**

Feb. 8-9, 2025 Collection

Envelopes	\$	5,679.00
Loose	\$	635.00
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>6,314.00</b>
School Fund	\$	520.00
Catholic Times	\$	48.00
Building Fund	\$	410.00
Church in Latin America	\$	95.00
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>1,073.00</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>7,387.00</b>
<b>January 2025 PushPay Online</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>4,020.00</b>
<b>January 2025 ACH Offertory</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>2,246.00</b>

**St. Thomas Church December Tithe**

December Tithe Income – \$60,411.00

10% Monthly Tithe Given to Diocese - \$6,041.00

**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., February 17, Seven Holy Founders of the Servite Order; President's Day; No School**

**Tues., February 18, Weekday**

**8:00 am** Rosary at St. Mary

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

**Wednesday, February 19, Weekday**

**8:30 am** Class Mass (Int. Wanda Bower)

**9:00 am** Rosary Group

**5:30 pm** Youth Choir

**6:30 pm** PSR at St. Mary/CYO at St. Thomas

**Thursday, February 20, Weekday**

**8:00 am** Rosary

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

**Friday, February 21, St. Peter Damian**

**7:30 am – 8:15 am** Adoration

**8:30 am** All-School Mass (Int. Mike Lustig)

**Sat., February 22, Chair of St. Peter the Apostle**

*Reisner/Paquette Wedding*

**8:00 am -9:00 am** Reconciliation

**9:00 am** Marian Consecration reflection/prayer

**3:30 pm – 4:00 pm** Reconciliation

**4:30 pm** Mass at St. Thomas

(Int. Leonard & Coletta Ochs)

**Sunday, February 23, 7<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**7:00 am** Mass at St. Thomas

(Int. Leo & Mary Jean Brummer)

**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:**

<b>Mon.:</b> Gn 4:1-15,25	Mk 8:11-13
<b>Tues.:</b> Gn 6:5-8; 7:1-5,10	Mk 8:14-21
<b>Weds.:</b> Gn 8:6-13,20-22	Mk 8:22-26
<b>Th.:</b> Gn 9:1-13	Mk 7:24-30
<b>Fri.:</b> Gn 11:1-9	Mk 8:34-9:1
<b>Sat.:</b> 1Pt 5:1-4	Mt 16:13-19
<b>Sun.:</b> 1Sm 26:2,7-9,12-13,22-23	1Cor 15:45-49
Lk 6:27-38	

**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.**

June 1, and October 5 at 8:45 am or by appointment if needed. Classes will be held in the choir area. Contact 618-783-8741 to register or schedule an appointment.

**St. Thomas Parish Ministry Schedule  
Saturday, February 22 @ 4:30 pm**

Lector:

EM: Brad/Kim Ochs, Glenda Spiker, Amanda Baltzell

Servers: Eli Ochs & Jackson Baltzell

Gift Bearers: Matt Baltzell Family

Musicians: Tammy Page & Kaitlyn Ochs

Greeters/Ushers: Chris Rauch/Randy Hemrich

**Sunday, February 23 @ 7:00 am**

Lector: Nikki Bierman

EM: Paul/Katie Bierman, Brenda Phillip, Gery Ochs

Servers: Blake Bierman & Caleb Kistner

Gift Bearers: Seth Woods Family

Musicians: Jeff Finley & Lyndsey Spiker

Greeters/Ushers: Chris Bierman

**Sunday, February 23 @ 10:00 am**

Lector: Renee Gier

EM: Brad/Annie Ochs, Dennis Weber, Sara Mette

Servers: Levi Gier & Dominic Ochs

Gift Bearers: Jim & Ginger Robins

Musicians: Vicki Mullen & Debbie Matson

Greeters/Ushers: Bob Bower

**St. Thomas CYO Upcoming Schedule:**

*Meeting on Wednesday evenings at 6:30 pm*

**Feb. 19<sup>th</sup>** – Taking a look at the Bible

**Feb. 26<sup>th</sup>** – Continue discussion on Bible reading plans

**Mar. 5<sup>th</sup>** – Attend Ash Wednesday Mass

**Mar. 12<sup>th</sup>** – Planning Stations of the Cross

**Mar. 19<sup>th</sup>** – Stations of the Cross at 7:00 pm

**Mar. 26<sup>th</sup>** – Planning Stations of the Cross

**April 2<sup>nd</sup>** – Stations of the Cross Rosary at 7:00 pm

**April 9<sup>th</sup>** – Dress Rehearsal for Living Stations

**Sunday, April 13<sup>th</sup> @ 6:30 pm Living Stations**

**April 16<sup>th</sup>** – Attend Living Stations at St. Mary

**April 23<sup>rd</sup>** – Clean Church/Service Night

**April 30<sup>th</sup>** – End of year celebration

**The Angels would like to thank** all those who made our **Wine Tasting Event** a big success: To all those who brought food and/or helped that evening, and those that spent countless hours in preparation before the day arrived. A big thank you to Judy and Randy McClure for their selfless giving, to Greg Parrot - auctioneer, to Danny Frichtl for the wooden crates, to the KC Hall, to Donnewald Distributing, to Rex Vault for the Cardinal tickets, to J & J Venture for the hockey tickets and pickleball set, to Frost Buddy for the many can coolers and tumblers, to Ginger Robins for being our MC, to those who donated wine, and to many others who helped to fill our wooden crates with auction items. We are appreciative of those that supported us. Our total profit was slightly over \$5,000. You are all ANGELS for helping our mission to help others!!

**St. Thomas School Distinguished Graduate Award**

St. Thomas School is now accepting nominations for the ***Distinguished Graduate Award***. This award is a chance to recognize and honor a St. Thomas School graduate for all they have given back to the school community, and/or parish. Nominees for this award must:

Be a graduate of St. Thomas School 10 + years

Have made contributions to society that reflect the values instilled in them while attending

St. Thomas School

**Past honorees** include: Martha Hildebrand, Terry Lidy, Anna McCullough, Father Dan Bergbower, Patsy Leffler, Laurel Kerans, Millie Jansen, Frank Rubsam, Wanda Kocher, Larry Miller, Mark Bolander, Mike Yager, Robert Worcester, Paul Brummer, John Miller, Mary McDonald, Debbie Matson, Phil Benefiel, Peggy Mammoser, Joanie Weber, Shelah Bergbower, Dottie Benefiel, Vicki Mullen, RoseAnn Kerner, Gene Schackmann, Tony Zuber, Tammy Page, Dan Schackmann, Kim Zuber, Sue Sparks

**St. Thomas School Exceptional Service Award 2021**

St. Thomas School is accepting nominations for the ***Exceptional Service Award***. Nominees for this award are those individuals who have tirelessly given of their time, talent and/or treasure to better St. Thomas School and/or St. Thomas Parish. The nominee does not have to be a graduate of St. Thomas school or a member of St. Thomas parish, but an unceasing advocate for our school and/or parish.

**Previous honorees** include: Jewell Bauman, Judy McClure, Mark Hartrich, Sara Frichtl, Charlie Schackmann, Alice Addis, Jack Shedelbower, Dee Bower, Harold Bolander, Verna Bergbower, Lee and Sue Volk, Norma Beavers, Marilyn Rubsam, Wayne Savageau, Rita Kocher, Gary and Joyce Johnson, Denisse Ochs, Sue Dickerson, Pete Pasero, Sarah Hemrich, RoseAnn Kerner, Ruth Kerner, and Tom Brown, Luke Zuber and Linda Mertens

For more info: call the school office at 783-3517.

**First Friday Adoration at St. Thomas**

**March 7, 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. Mother Teresa of Calcutta,  
pray for us.*

# St. Thomas & St. Mary Parishes

WELCOME you and INVITE you.



## Please pray for the Sick:

Carson French, Matilda Hemrich, Annie Beverlin, Brenda Zuber, Charles Sroka, John Probst, Donna Boehl, Vickie Kocher, Carol Schafer, Jim and Norma Kocher, Randy Ochs, Jessica Andruch, Whitney Benefiel, Mary Bergbower, Delorse Johnson, Ted and Susie Ochs; those in healthcare facilities/Book of Requests.

**Rest in Peace: Wanda Bower**, Bob Bower's mom, **Mike Lustig**, Dorothy Klingler's brother, & **Thomas Martens**, Sr. Lois Martens' brother

## Coming Soon to FORMED:

**Foretold:** Sign up to receive these videos during Lent at <https://daily.formed.org/lent>.

Our world is full of noise. When was the last time you heard something good on the news? Because of the constant intake of "bad news," many people no longer believe in the Providence of God, nor trust that he has a plan for us.

Maybe this is you. Perhaps you think God doesn't have a plan for you and your family. What was promised in the biblical story came to pass through Jesus, his apostles, and the Church. Ultimately, this biblical history is your history. Just as the prophecies of the Old Testament were fulfilled, you can trust that Jesus will care for you and your story. Encounter this profound mystery and reality for yourself in Foretold.

**How to Lent:** Sign up to receive these prior to Lent at <https://daily.formed.org/lent>.

Sometimes, it feels like Lent is just about giving up chocolate. But deep down, we all desire to do something more for Lent—we just don't know how to do it.

How to Lent is a new series from the Augustine Institute that aims to equip Catholics with the tools to understand and practice the pillars of Lent: prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. Heed the call of St. John the Baptist by preparing for the Lord, using How to Lent to transform your spiritual life this Lenten season.

**Zack and Yalla:** Enter into the exciting world of Zack and Yalla! Join Zack and his playful sheep, Yalla, as they embark on an incredible journey in Formed's newest kids show! With a mix of heartwarming moments and delightful escapades, this show promises to captivate young hearts. Don't miss the joyous adventures that await in this charming new series on Formed!

*Our parish has a FORMED subscription.*

*Visit [signup.formed.org](https://signup.formed.org) and select our parish name.*



**Consecration to Jesus Through Mary.** Join St. Thomas, St. Mary and area parishioners as we prepare for Marian Consecration. If you are interested in joining them on this spiritual journey, join in **this Saturday morning**, Feb. 15<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 am. The reflection and prayer will be held in the St. Thomas Church. Call 618-783-8741 to learn more.

**Join us for the annual Illinois March for Life** in Springfield on **March 25, 2025**. A bus is rented for your convenience to leave Effingham Events Center (KC hall) at 7:30am and return at 4:30pm. This includes Holy Mass with Bishop Paprocki, the Rally at the Capitol at 12noon and the March at 1pm. Bring a sack lunch. Open to Jr Hi thru Adults. Pray, kneel, sit, and **STAND UP AND MARCH FOR LIFE**. Cost \$20. Deadline for registration is March 1. For information contact Diann Ruholl at 217-663-2056.

## Mark Your Calendars - All are welcome!

April 25, 2025 - St. Thomas Church - 7:00 pm  
Ultreya Mass celebrating the DeColores Community  
Confessions 6:30 pm; Reception following Mass

**The Newton Family Life Center will be holding their annual online auction** to be launched on March 15<sup>th</sup> at their annual breakfast – St. Thomas Parish Center. If your family or business would be willing to donate, please call or text Renee Gier at 217-821-0872. Please submit items soon. Thank you in advance!

## SAVE THE DATE! Saturday March 15<sup>th</sup>, 2025 Newton Family Life Center Breakfast/Bake Sale

Sausage, Pancakes and Scrambled Eggs!

Serving: 7:30am-10:30am

Location: St. Thomas Parish Center

Please contact Brian Bierman (217-821-1217) if you would like to help cover the cost of hog processing.

**Interested...Communion Service and Rosary at Villas of Holly Brook.** Please contact the offices of St. Thomas (618)783-8741 or St. Mary (618)455-3155 if you would be interested.

**Attention 2025 Catholic female high school graduates! Apply for SDCCW \$2,000 scholarship now!** – The SDCCW (Springfield Diocesan Council of Catholic Women) is pleased to give \$2,000 for education beyond high school to four 2025 female high school graduates from the Diocese of Springfield who exemplify the SDCCW's mission. Contact your parish office to learn more about how to apply and for paperwork.

**February 15-16, 2025**  
**Sixth Sunday in Ordinary**



**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**

**7:30am–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, February 17<sup>th</sup>, The Seven Holy Founders  
of the Servite Order**

**Tuesday, February 18<sup>th</sup>, Weekday**

8:00 a.m. – Rosary

8:30 a.m. – Mass (Int: Eugene & Maxine Hartrich+)

**Wednesday, February 19<sup>th</sup>, Weekday**

**6:30 p.m. – PSR**

**Thursday, February 20<sup>th</sup>, Weekday**

8:00 a.m. – Rosary

8:30 a.m. – Mass (Int: Angela Geltz+)

**Friday, February 21<sup>st</sup>, St Peter Damian**

**Saturday, February 22<sup>nd</sup>, The Chair of St Peter the  
Apostle**

**Sunday, February 23<sup>rd</sup>, 7th Sunday of Ord. Time**

8:30 a.m. – Mass (Int: Leonard & Coletta Ochs+)

Boehl Baptism

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

**Collection for the week of February 9, 2025**

Envelopes \$1,915.00

Loose 192.00

**Total \$ 2,107.00**

**St Mary's Church Tithe**

**December Tithe Income \$6,646.00**

**10% Tithe to Springfield - \$664.00**

**Parish Office** – The office hours for next week will be  
Monday, February 17<sup>th</sup> – 8am – 3pm.

Tuesday, February 18<sup>th</sup> – 8am – 3pm

Thursday, February 20<sup>th</sup> – 8am – 3pm

**Ministers for 8:30 a.m. – February 23, 2025**

**Ushers:** Geoge Semple, Maynard Kaufmann,  
Nicholas Zwilling

**Servers:** Daniel Uebinger, Ellie Ochs, Alivia Hartrich

**Lectors:** Becca Ochs/ Brianna Zwilling

**Gift Bearers:** Bruce Boehl Family

**Eucharistic Ministers:** Amy Frohning,  
Tony Hartrich, Norman Boehl

**St Mary's Brunch**

Sunday March 2, 2025

8am – Noon

The Annual brunch is fast approaching! Worker's list  
are available in church. Donations are needed for  
biscuit mix, coffee, fruit and baked goods, or money to  
purchase the above items.

Thanks to Taylor & Ethan Zwilling for donating the  
cost of the ham for the Brunch.

To donate you can contact the parish office or any of  
the following committee members –

Bridget Matson - 618-783-1547,

Kate Kaufmann - 618-843-2358

Maria Zumbahlen - 618-554-2093

Amber Frohning - 618-783-1033

**Celebration** – On February 22, 2025 the Family Life  
Committee would like to celebrate all couples of St

Mary's Parish who have been married **40 years or  
more**. We invite those who will celebrate a **40+ year**

anniversary in 2025 to enjoy a meal and fellowship at  
the parish center. **Please RSVP by February 18<sup>th</sup> - to**

**the parish office 618-455-3155, or by e-mail to the**

**church, or Martha Kirts at 618-562-6278.**

**Blood Drive** – St Mary's will be hosting a blood drive  
on **Monday, February 17<sup>th</sup> at the parish center from**

**2pm – 6pm.** Come out and give the gift of life!

**Events**

**2/16/2025 – Ste Marie American Legion** – walking  
tacos serving 5pm – 7pm.

**2/17/2025 – Red Cross Blood Drive 2pm – 6pm**

**2/22/2025 – 40 + year Wedding Anniversary**

Celebration/ St Mary Parish Center 6:00 p.m.

**3/2/2025 – St Mary's Annual Brunch 8am – Noon**

**3/8/2025 – PreCana Session – St Mary's Parish Center**

– 8:30 a.m. – 3pm - Registration due by February 20,

2025