

March 15-16, 2025
Second Sunday of Lent



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

March 8-9, 2025 Collection

Envelopes	\$	6,464.00
Loose	\$	849.00
Subtotal	\$	7,313.00
School Fund	\$	1,400.00
Building Fund	\$	360.00
Ash Wednesday	\$	1,135.00
Special Collections	\$	385.00
Subtotal	\$	3,280.00
Grand Total	\$	10,593.00

St. Thomas Church January Tithe

January Tithe Income – \$34,260.00

10% Monthly Tithe Given to Diocese - \$3,426.00

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

Monday, March 17, St. Patrick

Tuesday, March 18, St. Cyril of Jerusalem

8:00 am Rosary

8:30 am Mass at St. Mary's

Wednesday, March 19, St. Joseph, Spouse of Blessed Virgin Mary

8:30 am No Mass (Fr. Pawel on Spring Retreat)

9:00 am Rosary Group

5:30 pm Youth Choir

6:00 pm CYO Movie Night at St. Thomas

6:30 pm PSR at St. Mary

Thursday, March 20, Lenten Weekday

8:00 am Rosary

8:30 am Mass at St. Mary's

Friday, March 21, Lenten Weekday

St. Thomas School Staff Retreat – No School

7:30 am – 8:15 am Adoration

8:30 am Mass (Int. Douglas Frichtl)

4:30 pm KC's Fish Fry

Sat., March 22, Lenten Weekday

8:00 am -9:00 am Reconciliation

9:00 am I Thirst: Lent Book Discussion – meeting in St. Thomas parish center

3:30 pm – 4:00 pm Reconciliation

4:30 pm Mass at St. Thomas (Int. Charles E. Dhom)

Sunday, March 23, Third Sunday of Lent

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

8:30 am Mass at St. Mary's

10:00 am Mass at St. Thomas (Int. Larry Hardiek)

10:30 am Communion Service at Villas

This Week's Scripture Readings:

Mon.: Dn 9:4b-10	Lk 6:36-38
Tues.: Is 1:10,16-20	Mt 23:1-12
Weds.: 2Sm 7:4-5a,12-14a,16	Rom 4:13,16-18,22
Mt 1:16,18-21,24a	
Th.: Jer 17:5-10	Lk 16:19-31
Fri.: Gn 37:3-4,12-13a,17b-28a	Mt 21:33-43, 45-46
Sat.: Mi 7:14-15,18-20	Lk 15:1-3,11-32
Sun.: Ex 17:3-7	Rom 5:1-2, 5-8 Jn 4:5-42

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, March 22 @ 4:30 pm

Lector: Kim Zuber

EM: Alice Addis, Mark Bolander, Ramon Kocher,
Glenda Spiker

Servers:

Gift Bearers: Ronnie & Patti Ochs

Musicians: Tammy Page & Kaitlyn Ochs

Greeters/Ushers: Ken Buerster

Sunday, March 23 @ 7:00 am

Lector: Jill Bierman

EM: Lucy Bierman, Paul/Katie Bierman,
Brenda Phillips

Servers: Caleb Kistner & Brady Francis

Gift Bearers: Chris Bierman Family

Musicians: Jeff Finley & Lindsey Spiker

Greeters/Ushers: Ben Bierman

Sunday, March 23 @ 10:00 am

Lector: Tracey Bower

EM: Jenny/Nick Bierman, Sarah Hemrich, Dee Bower

Servers: Dylan Earnest & Jack Weber

Gift Bearers: Matt Bower Family

Musicians: Vicki Mullen & Debbie Matson

Greeters/Ushers: Mike Gier

Catholic Heart Work Camp 2025

Bowling Green, KY; June 29-July 5

Those attending are selling **Texas Roadhouse Rolls, Cinnamon Butter and gift cards** to help fund this mission trip. Your items will be here in time for Easter! Rolls are \$8/dozen, \$4/cinnamon butter, and gift cards come in \$25, \$50, and \$100 increments. Contact any of the participants, including Jill Bierman, or the parish office to place an order. Orders due March 28th. Your support is greatly appreciated!!

Participants: Jackson Baltzell, Audrey Beals, Alani Bergbower, Lucy Bierman, Nathan Bierman, Maddie Brummer, Cameron Davis, Ava Earnest, Brenly Francis, Caroline Frohning, Lauren Gier, Allie Hermann, Kylie Higgs, Alayna Ochs, Lexi Ochs, Oliver Ochs, Hannah Phillips Claire Probst

Adult Chaperones: Jill Bierman, Paul Bierman, Annie Ochs, Jeff Phillips

St. Thomas CYO Upcoming Schedule:

Meeting on Wednesday evenings at 6:30 pm

Mar. 19th – 6:00 pm Movie night with Fr. Pawel

Mar. 26th – Stations of the Cross at 7:00 pm

Mar. 28th – Working KC's Fish Fry

April 2nd – Stations of the Cross Rosary at 7:00 pm

April 9th – Dress Rehearsal for Living Stations

Sunday, April 13th @ 6:30 pm Living Stations

April 16th – Attend Living Stations at St. Mary

April 23rd – Clean Church/Service Night

April 30th – End of year celebration

Rite of Elect. Congratulations to the following Catechumens and Candidates who celebrated the Rite of Elect at Springfield on March 9th:



Catechumens: Colin Creadore, Lea Creadore, Matthew Creadore, Aaron Helm, Simon Helm, Sutton Helm, Bryar Marlow

Candidates: Katie Helm, Katelyn Larson, Will May

As a parish family, let us pray for them as they continue to prepare to enter fully into the Catholic faith. Be sure to welcome them and be a source of support along their journey.

First Friday Adoration at St. Thomas

April 4, 2025

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

The remaining Fridays of the month Adoration will be held from 7:30 am – 8:15 am.

St. Thomas Wine Tasting and Funeral Dishes. Please pick up your dishes as soon as possible. Wine tasting dishes are in the usher's room at church while funeral dinner dishes are still available in the parish center kitchen. If your dishes are not picked up by March 21st, they will be donated to the upcoming Gigantic Garage Sale. Thank you for your cooperation!

This Week on FORMED

The TRUTH About the Shroud of Turin w/Fr.

Robert Spitzer | Chris Stefanick Show

The Shroud of Turin is the subject of a lot of rumors, myths and controversies — maybe you've heard some of them yourself and don't know what to believe.

That's why this week I hosted Fr. Robert Spitzer, a Jesuit scientist and scholar on the Shroud of Turin. He offered some amazing facts about the Shroud, including what we can learn about the Crucifixion from what we see on the cloth. We also talked about the infamous carbon dating claims (they've been scientifically debunked).

If you've ever wondered how seriously we can take the Shroud of Turin, you have to see this episode!

St. Thomas & St. Mary Parishes

WELCOME you and INVITE you.



Please pray for the Sick:

Connie Brooks, Belinda Kuvicki, Carson French, Matilda Hemrich, Brenda Zuber, John Probst, Donna Boehl, Vickie Kocher, Carol Schafer, Jim and Norma Kocher, Randy Ochs, Jessica Andruch, Whitney Benefiel, Delorse Johnson, Ted/Susie Ochs; those in healthcare facilities/Book of Requests.



Consecration to Jesus through Mary.

Please contact the St. Thomas Parish office, 618-783-8741, if you are interested in learning more!

"I Thirst" Lent Book Discussion. Join us as we walk with Saint Mother Teresa throughout the season of Lent with I Thirst: 40 Days with Mother Teresa accompanied by a seven-part book discussion between Dr. Ben Akers and Fr. Daniel Moloney. Throughout lent, they will dive into Mother Teresa's spirituality, her teaching on prayer, the life of faith, and much more. Interested? All are invited to join us on Saturday mornings throughout Lent and meeting at St. Thomas – 9:00 am. Contact 618-783-8741 to learn more.

Lent Reconciliation Services Scheduled for April 3

1:45 pm Student Reconciliation

3:00 pm St. Thomas Parish (All are welcome!)

6:30 pm St. Mary Parish (All are welcome!)

LENTEN REGULATIONS :

Abstinence: All the faithful who have reached 14 years of age are required to abstain from meat all the Fridays of Lent.

Fasting: All the faithful between the ages of 18 and 59 inclusive are bound to fast on Ash Wednesday and on Good Friday.

To disregard completely the law of fast and abstinence is seriously sinful. However, health and/or medical needs dispense a person.

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 in Illinois who exemplify the SDCCW's mission. The mission of the SDCCW is to support and empower all Catholic women in spirituality, leadership, and service. Contact the parish offices to learn how to apply.

A Kind Reminder from Fr. Pawel

I would like to kindly remind all parishioners that chewing gum is not permitted during Mass, especially when approaching to receive the Most Holy Eucharist. This practice is not in keeping with the reverent and respectful manner we strive to maintain during the sacred celebration of the Mass.

Please be advised that if you are seen chewing gum, the priest or Eucharistic minister will not give Holy Communion. It is to ensure the dignity and sanctity of the Sacrament is upheld.

Let us all remember to approach the altar with the utmost reverence and respect for the Body and Blood of Christ. Thank you for your cooperation and understanding. Let us all keep Eucharist as holy food that nurtures our soul.

St. Thomas Gigantic Garage Sale

April 10th -11th 8:00 am - 6:00 pm

April 12th 8:00 am - 11:00 am

Specials announced during the sale!!

Acceptable donations: Gently used clothing (**SEASONAL**), house wares, home decor items, shoes, toys, books, bedding & curtains, purses, belts, backpacks and **furniture with prior approval.**

CANNOT accept: Undergarments, girls/ladies swimwear, motor oils, lawn & garden chemicals, paint, spray paint, lawn & garden tools, **any outdated electronics (TV's computer monitors, printers) or reference book sets.**

Drop donations off April 7th -8th, 8 am - 6 pm

All proceeds benefit

St Thomas School technology and improvements

The Pre-Cana hosted by St. Mary this past weekend

was another success and was well attended! Thank you to the following married couples who coordinate this wonderful opportunity for engaged couples: Mike & Renee Gier, Kelly & Jennifer Hinterscher, Derek & Kasey Iffert, Jacob & Kate Pruemer, and Tony & Allison Weber. Thank you for sharing your experiences and faith-filled marriages with those who are preparing to enter into the Sacrament of Marriage which is seen as a visible sign of God's love in the world.

Illinois Pro-Life March takes center stage in Springfield

– On Tuesday, March 25, you are invited to join thousands of pro-life advocates, being a joyful witness to life and raising your voice for the voiceless at the Illinois Pro-Life March. There is a rally at the capitol at 1 p.m. and then a march around the capitol at 2 p.m.

March 15-16, 2025
Second Sunday of Lent



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, March 17th, St Patrick

Parish Office Hours – 8a.m. – 3p.m.

Tuesday, March 18th, St Cyril of Jerusalem

Parish Office Hours – 8am – 3p.m.

8:00 a.m. – Rosary

8:30 a.m. – Mass (Int: Lorraine (Johnny) Ochs+)

**Wednesday, March 19th, St Joseph Spouse of the
Blessed Virgin Mary**

PARISH OFFICE CLOSED

6:30 p.m. – PSR

Thursday, March 20th, Lenten Week Day

PARISH OFFICE CLOSED

8:00 a.m. – Rosary

8:30 a.m. – Mass (Int: Harvey & Mary Nash+)

Friday, March 21st, Lenten Weekday

Saturday, March 22nd, Lenten Weekday

Sunday, March 23rd, Third Sunday of Lent

8:30 a.m. – Mass (Int: Paul Goebel+)

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

Ushers: Bob Barthelme, Alex Kaufmann, Owen Ochs

Servers: Blake Frohning/Max Ochs

Lectors: Ethan Zwilling/Ron Zwilling

Gift Bearers: Ben & Nancy Ochs

E M's: Amy Frohning, Rose Gangloff, Bridget Matson

St Mary's Disciples' Stewardship of Treasures
Collection for the week of March 5-9, 2025

Envelopes	\$ 990.00
Loose	362.00
Sub Total	\$ 1,352.00
Church Eastern/Central Europe	60.00
Total	\$ 1,412.00

St Mary's Church Tithe

January Tithe Income \$30,454.00

10% Tithe to Springfield - \$3,054.00

Parish Office Hours – Week of March 17th – 21st

Monday, March 17th – 8am – 3pm

Tuesday, March 19th, - 8am – 3pm

Office Closed – Wednesday, March 19th

Thursday, March 20th

Picnic Committee Meeting – March 25th @ 7p.m. in
the Parish Center

Cemetery Meeting – The annual meeting of the St
Mary's Cemetery Board will be held on Monday, March
17th at 6:30 p.m. in the parish center.

PSR - Beginning **Wednesday, March 12th thru April
16th the PSR will begin in church at 6:15pm** with
Stations of the Cross. The students will be doing the
stations and all families, parishioners and those who
would like to attend are welcome. Living Station will be
presented by the youth of the parish on April 16th.

Why not make this a part of your Lenten journey?



Lenten Reflection

God of times and season,
you have brought us again to Lent-
for the study of your Word,
for the remembrance of the temptation
of your Son,
and for the contemplation of his cross.
Grant us a Lenten blessing, and
may no one miss this time of growth.

Events

3/25/25 – Picnic Meeting @ 7pm in Parish Center

3/12/25 – 4/16/2025 – Stations of the cross at 6:15pm
at St Mary's Church

4/3/25 – Parish Reconciliation Service – 6:30 p.m.

4/13/25 – Living Stations – St Thomas CYO–6:30 pm

4/16/25 – Living Stations by St Mary PSR – 7:00 pm