

**December 24-25, 2022**  
**The Nativity of the Lord**



**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)  
 Emergency Number: 217-494-6326

**Pastor:** Fr. R. Dean Probst (email: [dprobst@dio.org](mailto:dprobst@dio.org))  
**Parochial Vicar** Fr. Pawel Luczak  
 Email: [revpl.stthomas@gmail.com](mailto:revpl.stthomas@gmail.com)

**Deacon emeritus:** Rev. Mr. Larry Miller  
**Office Manager:** Linda M. Hemrich  
**PSR Coordinator:** Pete Pasero

**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

**Eucharistic Adoration** 7:30-8:00 am

w/Morning Prayer 7:30 am and Benediction 7:55 am

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

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

Dec. 17-18, 2022 Collection

Envelopes	\$	9,352.25
Loose	\$	89.00
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>9,441.25</b>
Immac. Conception	\$	40.00
Ret. Religious	\$	180.00
Building Fund	\$	220.00
School Fund	\$	890.00
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>1,330.00</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>10,771.25</b>

**St. Thomas Church November Tithe**

November Tithe Income – \$37,924.00

10% Monthly Tithe Given to Diocese - \$3,792.00

**This Week in Our Parish**

**Monday, December 26, St. Stephen**

**No School till Jan. 4<sup>th</sup>, 2023 OFFICE CLOSED**

**5:30 pm** Mass (Linda S. Massie+)

**Tuesday, December 27, St. John**

**7:30 am** MP w Adoration - Benediction at 7:55 am

**8:30 am** Mass (Jim Ed Wright+)

**4:00 pm** Clergy-Seminarian Gathering – Springfield

**Wednesday, December 28, The Holy Innocents**

**7:30 am** MP w Adoration - Benediction at 7:55 am

**8:30 am** Mass (Carol Rohr+)

**9:00 am** Rosary Group

**4:00 pm** OCIA for Youth (Church Conference Room)

**NO** Youth Choir

**NO** PSR at St. Mary's/St. Thomas PSR/CYO

**Thursday, Dec. 29, St. Thomas Becket**

**7:30 am** MP w Adoration - Benediction at 7:55 am

**8:30 am** Mass (Lorraine Ochs+)

**Friday, December 30, The Holy Family of J.M.J.**

**7:30 am** MP w Adoration - Benediction at 7:55 am

**8:30am** Mass (Jarrett Zumbahlen+)

**Office closes noon**

**Saturday, December 31, St. Sylvester I**

**4:30 pm** Mass @ St. Thomas (For the Parish)

**Sunday, Jan. 1, Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God**

**World Day of Prayer for Peace**

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

**10:00 am** Mass at St. Thomas (For the Parish)

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

**St. Thomas Parish Christmas Ministry Schedule:**

**Saturday, December 24 @ 4:30 pm**

Lectors: Brian Bierman; Luke Zuber

E.M.: Dee Bower, Marissa Bower, Kristine Probst,  
 Denisse Ochs

Servers: Dylan Earnest, Ava Earnest

Gift Bearers: Knights of Columbus

Musicians: Vicki Mullen/Debbie Matson/Youth Choir

Greeters/Ushers: Knights of Columbus

**Sunday, December 24 @ 11:00 p.m.**

Lectors: Nikki Bierman; Amy Hartrich

EM: Jason Bierman, Paul Bierman, Becky Shamhart,  
 Lori TeVault

Servers: Adria, Alivia, and Nathan Bierman

Gift Bearers: Knights of Columbus

Musicians: Five For the One

Greeters/Ushers: Knights of Columbus

**Sunday, December 25 @ 8:30 am**

Lectors: Becky Shamhart

EM: Alice Addis, Sara Mette, Dee Bower, Marge Horton

Servers: **None**

Gift Bearers: Knights of Columbus

Musicians: Patsy Leffler & Debbie Matson

Greeters/Ushers: Knights of Columbus

**St. Thomas Annual Wine Tasting is Saturday,  
 Jan. 21<sup>st</sup>, 2023 at Newton Knights of Columbus Hall.**

### St. Thomas Parish Ministry Schedule:

**Saturday, December 31 @ 4:30 pm**

Lectors: Mike Hartrich; Karen Buerster

E.M.: Glenda Spiker, Emma Rauch

Servers: Allie Hermann

Gift Bearers: Brad Ochs Family

Musicians: Tammy Page and Mallory Bolander

Greeters/Ushers: Ken Buerster

**Sunday, January 1 @ 7:00 am**

Lectors: Jamie Shamhart; Nicholas Shamhart

EM: Paul Bierman, Becky Shamhart, Lily Bierman,

Sheryl Brummer

Servers: Will Hartrich & Michael Shamhart

Gift Bearers: Craig Hartrich Family

Musicians: Five For the One

Greeters/Ushers: Randy Hemrich & Nick Hemrich

**Sunday, January 1 @ 10:00 am**

Lectors: Kelly Iffert & Sadie Iffert

EM: Jason & Jenny Bierman, Renee Gier, Ryan Probst

Servers: Avery Geier & Josie Vogt

Gift Bearers: John Bower Family

Musicians: Patsy Leffler & Anne Kuhl

Greeters/Ushers: Doug Iffert

### Congratulations to:

**Mr. & Mrs. Aaron & Kelsey (Vahling) Borge** who were joined in marriage Saturday, December 17, 2022 at St. Thomas Church. The wedding Mass was presided by Fr. Dominic Vahling. May they live a happily married life in faith.

**Wait till next year Cub fans. NOTE: Speaker System** is being scheduled for mid-January 2023 with expectant delivery amps and dsp equipment at yearend.

**The next pre-baptismal class** will be held this **Sunday, January 8 at 8:45 am** at St. Thomas Church. To register, please call the St. Thomas or St. Mary's parish office. **Baptisms are scheduled during Mass** so that the child/person can be welcomed into the Church, the family of God.

### St. Thomas School 4th Annual Trivia Night & Live Auction

**Cash Prizes ~ Silent Auction ~ 50/50 ~ Heads/Tails ~ Food ~ Wine Pull**

**Saturday, February 11, 2023 @ 6:30 pm**

~ **Doors open at 5:00 pm** ~ Space is Limited!

Cost to play: \$160/ team of 8 adults over 21

(Must be on a team to play)

**Pulled Pork & Chips available for a free-will donation. Beverages available for purchase.**

**Questions: Contact Jill Bierman or Lori Smith at St. Thomas School 618-783-3517**

## St. Thomas & St. Mary Parishes

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.

**Please pray for the Sick**, especially, Steve Stiles,



Mike Yager, Rhonda Wilson, Suzi Ochs, Dick Worland, RoseAnn Kerner, Doug Frichtl, Randy Hatten, Lynn Schafer, Vicky Yager, Bob Helregel, Rodney Hatten, Matilda Hemrich, George Roth, Gary

Griffith, Mary Bergbower, Karen Shamhart, Geneva Barber, Seth Weber; and those in healthcare facilities & in our Book of Requests.

### This Week's Scripture Readings:

<b>Monday:</b>	<b>Acts 6:8-10, 7:54-59</b>	<b>Mt 10:17-22</b>
<b>Tues.:</b>	<b>1 Jn 1:1-4</b>	<b>Jn 20:1a, 2-8</b>
<b>Weds.:</b>	<b>1 Jn 1:5-2:2</b>	<b>Mt 2:13-18</b>
<b>Thursday:</b>	<b>1 Jn 2:3-11</b>	<b>Lk 2:22-35</b>
<b>Friday:</b>	<b>Sir 3:2-6, 12-14</b>	<b>Mt 2:13-15, 19-23</b>
<b>Saturday:</b>	<b>1 Jn 2:18-21</b>	<b>Jn 1:1-18</b>
<b>Sunday:</b>	<b>Nm 6:22-27 Gal 4:4-7</b>	<b>Lk 2:16-21</b>

## ANNUAL PRO-LIFE BREAKFAST

**JANUARY 15**

**7AM - 12PM**

**TEUTOPOLIS BANQUET HALL**

**Whole Hog Sausage & Egg Breakfast**

**Sunday, January 15  
7:00am-12:00pm**

**Teutopolis Banquet Hall  
210 S. Pearl Street**

- Free-Will Donation
- Dine In or Carry Out
- 50/50 Drawing
- Raffle Baskets



**Effingham Area  
Right to Life**



**March for Life, Washington, D.C.–Jan. 18-22, 2023**

*Those attending from St. Thomas include:*

**Adults:** Paul Bierman, Jenny Fritchley, Linda Hemrich, Beth Ochs

**Youth:** Katie Bierman, Allison Brummer, Cameron Davis, Caroline Frohning, Will Fritchley, Alex Gier, Laney Hemrich, Lexi Ochs, Mallory Ochs, Wade Ochs, Wyatt Ochs, Emma Rauch, Adam Weber

**Merry Christmas!**

Dear Friends in Christ,

For the past 143 years, the Catholic Children's Home (CCH) has served as a beacon of hope for thousands of children in need of safe harbor and a place to call Home.

The CCH continues this mission by meeting the emotional, social, academic and basic material needs of all the children sent for residential care or special education services. This includes an innovative program designed to serve the needs of children with immense challenges of autism.

The children served by the CCH have been chronically abused, designated "unmanageable" by their schools or simply have no home. They are some of the most vulnerable in our society. Our Lord says, "What you have done for the least of my people, you have done for me." (*Matthew 25:38*) The CCH will continue to serve the special needs of these children in the name of Jesus Christ.

The holiday season is a particularly difficult time for these youths as many of them are without a family. Those who have a family are often lacking the special care they need. Please keep these children in your prayers throughout this holy season of Advent and Christmas.

In the spirit of Christ's incredible love for all children, I ask that you continue to support the work of the Catholic Children's Home and generously contribute to the special Christmas collection. "Let all that you do be done in love." (*1 Corinthians 16:14*)

May God fill your hearts with love, grace and a spirit of giving during these blessed days of Advent and Christmas.

With every best wish and gratitude, I am

Sincerely yours in Christ,  
Most Reverend Thomas John Paprocki  
Bishop of Springfield in Illinois

**Isaiah 9:6**

A child is born to us! A son is given to us!  
And he will be our ruler.  
He will be called, "Wonderful Counselor,"  
"Mighty God," "Eternal Father,"  
"Prince of Peace."

**Catholic Heart Workcamp 2023  
is planned for July 9-14, in Huntingburg, Indiana.**

*Those signed up include:*

**Adults:** Jason Bierman, Ted Weber, Jill Bierman & Rose Gangloff

**Youth:** Jackson Baltzell, Lucy Bierman, Nick Bierman, Alex Gier, Kylie Higgs, Alayna Ochs, Ashtyn Ochs, Kelby Ochs, Mallory Ochs, Wade Ochs, Wyatt Ochs, Adam Weber, Elias Weber

**If you are interested in participating, please turn in your applications ASAP.**

**The Regular Weekend Mass Schedule returns** on January 7/8. Fr. Dean or Fr. Pawel will be filling in two weekends for Fr. Sunder Ery; and helping on Friday mornings during January at Sacred Heart, Effingham and Fr. Beagles in Robinson, first weekend of February.

**October 17-26, 2023** Trip to Holy Land with Fr. Dean is being prepared by NAWAS Catholic Agency. Dorothy of Oz stated: "There is no place like home!" The Holy Land is our home as Christians. Visit the sites of Jesus birth, preaching and healing, suffering, death and resurrection. Brochures are available in the foyers of each parish Church. Cost: \$4,179.

**Fr. Michael Rosa**, Pastor of Sacred Heart Parish, Effingham is leading a pilgrimage tour of Poland, his homeland before being ordained a priest for our Diocese. Brochures are available in the foyer. The trip May 21-June 2 is at a cost of \$4,100.

**World Marriage Day – Save the Date!**  
On **Sunday, February 12, 2023, at 2:30 pm.**, Auxiliary Bishop Mark S. Rivituso will celebrate a Mass for World Marriage Day at the Cathedral Basilica of St. Louis, 4431 Lindell Blvd. St. Louis, MO. A reception will follow in Boland Hall. All married couples are invited to attend and celebrate the gift of marriage. World Marriage Day honors husband and wife as the foundation of the family – the basic unit of society. It emphasizes the faithfulness, sacrifice and joy of daily married life.



## A Christmas Blessing

May love come alive within your heart  
As Christmas time draws near.  
May hope fill each room you decorate  
And bring joy to those you hold dear.  
May peace be before you at every meal  
And faith ring through every song.  
For Christ is alive, the light of the world  
May he bless you all season long.



**December 24-25, 2022**

**Nativity of the Lord**



**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)

Parish Emergency Number: 217-494-6326

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

**Parochial Vicar** Fr. Pawel (Paul) Luczak  
(email: [revpl.stthomas@gmail.com](mailto: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**

and **8:30 am Tuesday and Thursday**

**Rosary:** 8:00 am Tuesday and Thursday

**Reconciliation:** requested with a priest.

Also available at St. Thomas Church 8-9 am Saturdays

**This Week in our Parish**

**Monday, December 26<sup>th</sup>, St Stephen**

**Tuesday, December 27<sup>th</sup>, St John**

8:00 a.m. – Rosary

8:30 a.m. – Mass: (Int: Paul & Rosemary Mullinax+)

**Wednesday, December 28<sup>th</sup>, The Holy Innocents**

**NO PSR**

**Thursday, December 29<sup>th</sup>, St. Thomas Beckett**

8:00 a.m. – Rosary

8:30 a.m. – Mass (Int: George & Hilda Dallmier,  
Margie Townsend+)

**Friday, December 30<sup>th</sup>, The Holy Family**

**Saturday, December 31<sup>st</sup>, Seventh Day within the  
Octave of the Nativity of the Lord**

4:30 pm – Mass (For the Parish)

**Sunday, January 1<sup>st</sup>, Solemnity of Mary**

8:30 a.m. – Mass: (Int: Clarence Keller+)

**Ministers for 4:30 pm December 31, 2022**

**Ushers:** Tim Keller, Bob Barthelme, George Kirts

**Servers:** Charlee Hartrich/Chase Kistner

**Lectors:** Beth Hartrich/Claire Griffith

**Gift Bearers:** Anita Griffith Family

**Eucharistic Ministers:** Lisa Ochs, Amy Frohning,  
Ben Ochs

**Ministers for 8:30 a.m. – January 1, 2023**

**Ushers:** Paul Kaufmann, George Semple,  
Alex Kaufmann

**Servers:** Brianna Zwilling/Ellie Ochs

**Lectors:** Ron Zwilling, Rose Gangloff

**Gift Bearers:** Marvin & Elaine Zwilling

**Eucharistic Ministers:** Elaine Zwilling, Norman  
Boehl, Lora Semple

New Year's Eve Saturday evening Mass at 4:30 pm at St. Mary's and St. Thomas. Please note that the Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve Masses are special holiday Masses.



**St Mary's Pictorial  
Directory Update:**

Photo session dates are:

**Sunday, January 8<sup>th</sup> -  
10am – 6pm**

**Monday, January 9<sup>th</sup> -  
1pm – 9pm.**

The second session for pictures is:

**Sunday, February 5<sup>th</sup> - 10 am – 6pm**

**Monday, February 6<sup>th</sup> - 1pm – 6pm.**

Appointments will be scheduled every 15 minutes.

**You should have received an e-mail invite to sign up genius, or you can call the office to schedule your photo session.**

**If you would be interested in helping with the development of the directory, please call the parish office.**

**St Mary's Disciples' Stewardship of Treasure  
Collection for the week of December 18, 2022**

Envelopes	\$ 1285.00
Loose	83.00
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>\$ 1368.00</b>
Immaculate Conception	20.00
Retired Religious	60.00
Haiti	135.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 1583.00</b>

**THANKS** to all those who participated in any way for the Christmas masses. To the worship committee for the beautiful décor and all who helped them with preparing the Church for Christmas season. The ministers who volunteered of their time and talent. To the youth choir for sharing their voices in worship.