



St. THOMAS the APOSTLE

2160 North Edward Decatur, IL 62526 (217) 877-4146 StThomasDecatur@gmail.com

15th Sunday in Ordinary Time • July 10, 2022



We mourn together this week after the shooting in Chicago during the 4th of July parade in Highland Park. May those affected by acts of violence, in Illinois and elsewhere around the country, experience the support and comfort of our loving God.

It's important to keep our eyes open.

We can easily dismiss things that truly require our attention. Whether it is someone needing care, a wrong that must be rectified, an injustice that must be addressed, or someone in need of a helping hand, the lens through which we view life (and even the rules by which we live) can prevent us from stopping and acting.

Whether it's an obsession with being on time, a compulsion to complete tasks according to a schedule, or a rigidity with not breaking a law or fear of taking a risk, we miss daily opportunities to show mercy.

We often fail in our duty to be a good neighbor, especially when it involves brothers and sisters remote from us whom we have never met. The pain of the world is our pain. God's law of love, mercy, and compassion is not something remote. It's already within us and very near. All we have to do is open our eyes and carry it out.

LITURGY SCHEDULE

Weekends

Sunday 10 am

Weekdays

Monday-Thursday 5:15 pm

Reconciliation

Sundays: 9:15 am - 9:45 am

Tuesdays: 4:15 pm - 5 pm

Eucharistic Adoration

First Saturday at 8:30 am

Decatur Catholic Radio

WDCR 88.9/96.5

MEDITATION

About Doing Likewise

Question: What must I do to inherit eternal life? — What is written in the law? Answer: Love God, love neighbor, love self.

Question: Who is my neighbor, then? — The one who shows mercy (In this story, it is not the one who needs mercy – though likely a neighbor, too.).

The point: Go and do the same!

- Who is a “neighbor” beyond my acquaintances, my tribe?
- What mercy work do I see being done?
- What will I likewise go and do?

Q: I volunteer every once in a while. How can I incorporate serving the poor in my everyday life?



A: In the Gospels, Jesus is very clear about emphasizing outreach to vulnerable persons on the margins of society. These may be the materially poor, the disabled, the lonely, or any others whose circumstances drive them from mainstream society. We can all respond to Christ's call to love by incorporating direct service into our regular life routine. Here are some ideas to find your niche:

Consider your life. Before you look for direct service opportunities, consider your schedule, commitment levels, and personal gifts. When can you help out and how regularly? Where have you volunteered in the past that has felt like a good fit? Do you have any particular skills or personality traits that lend you to particular work?

Do some research. There are a lot of structured ways you can get involved in your community. Your parish might have a social concerns outreach program. If not, ask friends and family. A simple online search for local nonprofits can also expose you to new opportunities.

Be open to God's invitation. The chance to serve may be closer than you think. Befriending an elderly neighbor, widowed and far from children, is an act of serving the poor. Keep your eyes and heart open!

New Members Are Welcome!

If you've been joining us at St. Thomas for Mass and you would like to become a member of our St. Thomas Parish family, we welcome you with open arms!

So if you're looking for a parish family we'd love to have you make ours yours! Be sure to introduce yourself to us so we can get to know you and serve you better!



Prayer Shawls Are Available

Do you know someone who is ill or grieving a loss? Perhaps they would enjoy the comfort of a prayer shawl that was created by women of the Prayer Shawl Group. The shawls have been blessed at Mass. Call Deacon Kevin at the parish office or speak to him after Mass to arrange to pick out a prayer shawl for someone.



Lunch Bunch

The St. Thomas Lunch Bunch will meet at **Benny's Grill, 1770 E Pershing Rd, Decatur** on **Tues, July 12** at 11:15 a.m. Join us for food and conversation. Bring a friend!



Please remember to pray for those in our Sister Parish, **Immaculate Conception**, in Comapa, Guatemala, as they pray for us.

G U A T E M A L A

Host the Vocations Crucifix

Please sign up today!
The church needs your prayer.
The signup sheet is on a table in the gathering area of church.

Families and individuals are encouraged to sign up to host the Vocations Crucifix and pray for the week.

God bless you!



Reporting Allegations of Child Sexual Abuse

To report allegations of sexual abuse of a minor by clergy or other church personnel—even if it is in the past—individuals are encouraged to call the Diocese's Child Abuse Reporting and Investigation number at 217.321.1155. Individuals may also contact Illinois Department of Children and Family Services Child Abuse Hotline at 1.800.25.ABUSE.



	Collected	Budgeted
July 3	\$4,199.	\$5,000.
Year-to-Date:	\$4,199.	\$5,000.
Short/Ahead:	- 801.	

July 1, 2022 started a new fiscal year.

R/M Donations.....	\$189.
Sister Parish Donations	\$155.
Assistance for the Needy.....	\$168.

Thank you for your continued generosity in supporting the church. Envelopes may be mailed to the parish office, or slipped through the mail slot on the office door.

Bill Pay is offered through many banks. You can schedule a weekly or monthly payment that comes from your checking account. Your bank then mails a check to the parish. If interested, you might speak to your bank about the option.

Online giving is also available:
<https://parishgiving.dio.org/stthomasdecatu>



Sunday, July 10
 10 am – **For All Parishioners**

Monday, July 11
 5:15 pm – **End to Abortion**

Tuesday, July 12
 5:15 pm – **Fred Luckenbill †**

Wednesday, July 13
 5:15 pm – **Elmer and Alice Rosentretter †**

Thursday, July 14
 5:15 pm – **David Peterson †**

Friday, July 15
No Mass

Saturday, July 16
No Mass

Sunday, July 17
 10 am – **Dennis Mahorney †**

Parish Office

Rev. Ramesh B. Matta, Parochial Administrator
 rmatta@dio.org (217) 877-4404

Rev. Richard Weltin, Pastor Emeritus

Deacon Kevin Richardson
 deaconkev@gmail.com (217) 877-4146

Vern Wilson, Plant Manager (volunteer)

Parish Office
 Open Mon-Thurs., 9am-noon
 2160 N. Edward Street, Decatur, IL 62526
 (217) 877-4146

StThomasDecatur@gmail.com
<http://www.StThomasDecatur.com>

Office Hours: 9am-noon, Monday-Thursday



Please Remember in your Prayers

**All who are Ill at Home or in the Hospital
 and their Families and Caregivers**

Mike Heneghan, Kevin Henry,
 Polly Hensley, Jim Hertel, Ann-Marie Hillyer,
 Sawyer Dale Hunter, Anonymous,
 Amber Johnson, Edwin Jones, Patricia Jones,
 Kelly McLean, Trey McLean,
 Lucia Molloy, Christina Mooney, Lucia Mounce,
 Rev. Msgr. James O'Shea, Joe Perry,
 Kay Russell, Pat Ryan, Carolyn Thorpe,
 Roz Sandage, Caroline Snyder, Brenda Sullivan,
 Virginia Thompson, JoAn Wayne,
 Pete Wayne, and Tami Wittenauer

Meals on Wheels

The Macon County Meals on Wheels is accepting new clients. All meals are heart healthy and diabetic friendly. Specialized diets are also available. Lunches are delivered every week day to homebound seniors in Macon County. Clients must be 60 or older, homebound (not-driving) and live in Macon County to be eligible. Anyone can make a referral. Call Meals on Wheels at 217-422-6611 for more information.

Dealing with Loss

Those who have experienced the loss of a loved one often find healing and support by sharing with others who have similar experiences. Our parish is hosting a grief session on Tuesday, July 12th at 5:30pm in the parish house at St. James. Anyone is welcome to attend. For more information, contact Donna at 422-4534.

Are You Planning a Vacation?

Many will take a vacation this summer. Do we also make sure we schedule a trip to a Catholic Church to fulfill our obligation to give praise & worship to God? To Find a Catholic church at your vacation location, check the website: masstimes.org

Ill or Hospital Bound?

Please call the office so Father can anoint you if you have not been anointed recently. When you go to the hospital please register as a St. Thomas parishioner. If you have not been visited by a priest within two days, please call the office.

Food for the Hungry

Just a reminder that we have an on-going Food Drive for Catholic Charities every weekend of the year. A few cans and boxes of food doesn't look like much, but when added with other donations it does make a big difference to those people in our community who may otherwise go hungry.





Bedtime Prayers with Young Children

By the age of 2, children should be able to pray along with a parent at bedtime. Having a regular prayer time is very important.

+ **In the name of the Father**, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen

Now I lay me down to sleep, I pray the Lord my soul to keep. If I should die before I wake, I pray the Lord my soul to take. If I live for other days, I pray the Lord to guide my ways. Amen.

God bless Mama, and Daddy, and (brothers, sisters, grandparents, pets, etc.) and all of our aunts and uncles and cousins; and all of our friends, and all who have hurt us, and every little boy and girl and person in the whole world. Amen.

Our Father, Who art in heaven
Hallowed be Thy Name;
Thy kingdom come,
Thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil. Amen.

Parental Blessing of the Child

Make the sign of the cross on child's forehead.

Heavenly Father,
Bless (name) and keep (her/him) in Your love. Grant (her/him) a good rest tonight, And send Your angels to protect (her/him).

+ **In the name of the Father**, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen

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