



St. THOMAS the APOSTLE

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

22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time • August 28, 2022



22ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

“Rather, when you hold a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind; blessed indeed will you be because of their inability to repay you. For you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous.” - Lk 14:13-14

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

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 Friday from 9 am - 5 pm

Decatur Catholic Radio

WDCR 88.9/96.5

“Humble yourself more, the greater you are.”

These words from Sirach are packed with wisdom. Who we become, and the success we achieve, is due not only to our own merits but also to God’s grace. Without God, we cease to be. This is a simple fact.

If we ever feel entitled to honor, superior treatment, or privileges, then we are deluding ourselves. The person who truly understands and is responsible for their well-being and success will quickly become a servant of others.

The humble one does not need others to give them worth and value. Their self-esteem comes from the much more secure foundation of God. Only those who are entirely free can give themselves freely to others. Love must always be our motivation for doing all things.

We tend to forget how important service is. Being generous and kind, especially to those who cannot repay us, is the hallmark of the Christian life. Are we willing to put ourselves last?

An easy way to seek an answer is to determine how much value you place on sitting in the seat you occupy today or the space you choose to park your car. Would you offer these to someone else?

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

What invitations are you sending?

Invitations are not just the fancy cards or emails we receive for parties and events. Whether we realize it or not we give out many invitations everyday.

How we treat people, our tone of voice, words, expressions, gestures, etc. are also invitations. They let others know if we see them as friends or they warn them to keep away. They make others feel included or left out and excluded.

In this week's gospel passage. Jesus reminds us to be humble and treat others with dignity and respect so that everyone feels invited and welcomed.

St Monica – A Model for Christian Wives and Mothers. Feast Day – August 27

In the early fourth century, somewhere in northern Africa, in the town of Tagaste (the modern-day Souk Ahras), there lived a woman named Monica. Tagaste, a city that holds a notable place in the history of western civilization, was one of the cultural and socio-economic hubs of the civilization championed and shaped by Christianity. In this city, Monica was born, raised, and given in marriage to a pagan man – Patritius.

Already a Catholic before her marriage to Patritius, Monica devoted herself to the conversion of her pagan husband. To do this, Monica lived a holy and prayerful life. She was also very loyal and affectionate to her husband. Persevering in these virtues, Monica was blessed to have her husband voluntarily convert to the Catholic faith about a year before his death.



Around this time, Augustine left the faith as a young adult. He became wayward and openly scornful of the Catholic faith. Augustine engaged in various kinds of sinful behaviors that both severed his relationship with his mother and endangered his life.

Monica's motherly love for Augustine, like most mothers for their children, was boundless. She prayed without ceasing and would always approach any priests and bishops she met to ask for prayers for her son. As we all know that God does not fail, Monica's prayers were answered superabundantly. Through the instrumentality of St. Ambrose, then bishop of Milan, whom Monica had asked to pray for Augustine, the young man converted to the faith. He later became a priest and later a bishop. Today, Augustine is one of the most influential figures in Christian theology and philosophy, Catholicism, and a Saint for all times.

What a perfect model for Christian wives and mothers! We all can agree that there would not be any St. Augustine today without St. Monica. How inspiring! What can we learn from St. Monica?

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 makes a big difference to people who may otherwise go hungry.



Here are some ideas:

- dry pasta, jars of pasta sauce,
- canned fish and meat (salmon, tuna, ham, turkey —pop-top cans are best),
- canned vegetables and fruit,
- instant potato packets,
- peanut butter, jam and jelly,
- and canned beans.

Thanks for your caring and generosity!



Communication & Engagement Coordinator

The Parish Communications and Engagement Coordinator serves as the face, voice and presence of the parish, mainly to the parishioners, but also to the public, new members, and any other person they come in contact with. Their main responsibility is to promote the mission of the parish and foster a welcoming atmosphere through all methods of communication and media. This position also supports the pastor and members of the parish, as well as various committees and boards.

Parish Maintenance/Custodial Position

The Facilities Maintenance Coordinator position provides cleaning and maintenance for the parish and school buildings and grounds. This position monitors the status of the buildings and grounds in order to oversee prevention of any major repairs and planning for the future longevity of the parish's physical assets.

Applicants should contact the Director of Operations, Justin Reed, for more information by calling 217-877-4404.



	Collected	Budgeted
August 21	\$3,922.	\$5,000.
Year-to-Date:	\$35,700.	\$40,000.
Short/Ahead:	- \$4,300.	

R/M Donations.....\$10.
 Sister Parish Donations\$20.

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/stthomasdecatur>



Sunday, August 28
 10 am – **Renee Saunches †**

Monday, August 29
 5:15 pm – **Christine Kerns †**

Tuesday, August 30
 5:15 pm – **Jane Welch †**

Wednesday, August 24
 5:15 pm – **Isabelle Blakeman †**

Thursday, September 1
 5:15 pm – **Dan Ashenfelter**

Friday, September 2
No Mass

Saturday, September 3
No Mass

Sunday, September 4
 10 am – **Dolores Brady †**

Parish Office

Rev. Peter Chineke, Parochial Administrator
 pchineke@dio.org (217) 877-4146, ext. 20

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,
 Andy Richards, Kay Russell,
 Carolyn Thorpe, Roz Sandage, Brenda Sullivan,
 Virginia Thompson, JoAn Wayne,
 Pete Wayne, and Tami Wittenauer



Recipe from Thomasian Cooks

St. Thomas Women's Club Cookbook

Published in 1978

CHEDDAR CHEESE SOUP

- 1/3 c. finely chopped carrots
- 1/3 c. finely chopped celery
- 1 c. finely chopped green onion
- 2 c. water
- 1 medium onion, chopped
- 1/2 c. butter
- 1 c. flour
- 3 c. milk
- 3 c. Chicken broth
- 1 15 oz. jar Cheez Whiz
- salt and pepper to tastes
- 1/4 tsp. cayenne pepper
- 1 Tb. prepared mustard

Boil carrots, celery and green onion in 2 cups of water for 5 minutes. Sauté white onion in butter. Add flour and blend well. Boil milk and chicken broth. Stir briskly into onion mixture with a wire whisk. Add cheese, salt, pepper, and cayenne. Stir in mustard and boiled vegetables with water. (Do not pour in water if soup isn't too thick.) Bring to boil.

-- Mrs. Polly Hensley

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.

With Heartfelt *Sympathy*

Our sympathy and prayers of comfort to the family of **Maureen Jesse** (68) who passed into eternity on August 21, 2022. Maureen is the sister of the late Gary Ransdell and sister-in-law of Janet Ransdell.



May her soul, and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

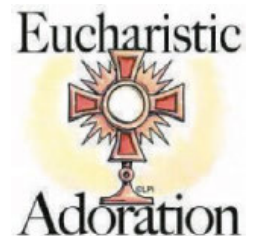
Lunch Bunch

The St. Thomas Lunch Bunch will meet at the **Royal International Buffet**, 2036 Mount Zion Rd. (Rt 121), Decatur, on **Tues, Sept. 13** at 11:15 a.m. Join us for food and conversation.

First Friday Eucharistic Adoration Begins Sept. 2!

Every first Friday will be a day of Eucharistic Adoration at St. Thomas., beginning Friday, September 2.

The Blessed Sacrament will be exposed in the main church beginning at 9 am and concluded with Benediction at 5 pm.



A signup sheet for adoration hours for first Fridays will be available in the back of church this Sunday. The addition of the first Friday adoration will **replace the first Saturday holy hour previously held at 8:30 am.**

The Eucharist is the source and summit of the Church's life and ministry. Adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament is a time we Catholics (or anyone with a prayerful heart) take to worship the true God in the person of Jesus Christ Who is really, truly present in the eucharistic host.

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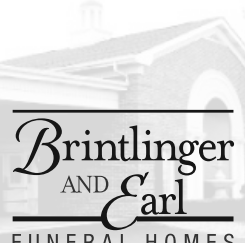
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