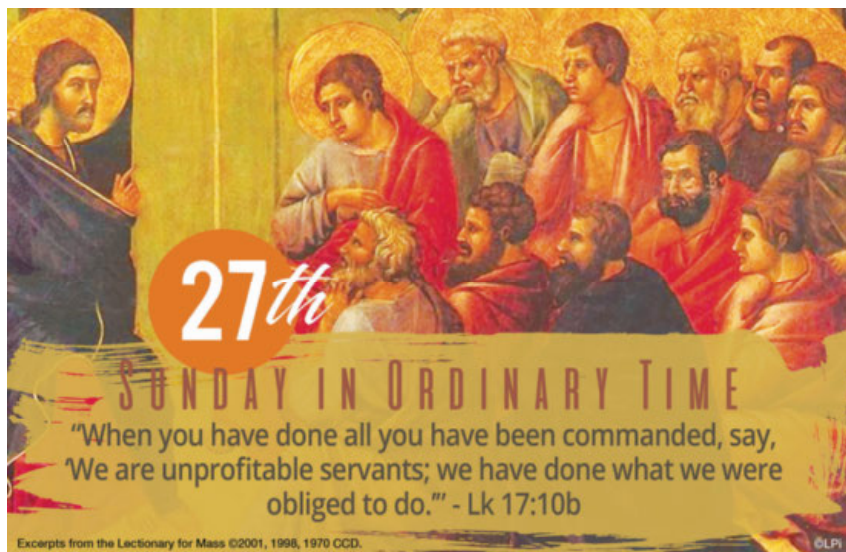




St. THOMAS the APOSTLE

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

27th Sunday in Ordinary Time • October 2, 2022



LITURGY SCHEDULE

Weekends

Sunday 10 am

Weekdays

Monday-Thursday 8:15 am

Reconciliation

Sundays: 9:15 - 9:45 am

Wednesdays: 7:30 - 8:10 am

Eucharistic Adoration

First Friday from 9 am - 5 pm

Decatur Catholic Radio

WDCR 88.9/96.5

Why does God allow evil and suffering to occur?

Looking around at what is happening in the world, it is tempting to get angry with God for not actively intervening. Jesus walked among the suffering and evil of his day. While he healed some things, he simply sat with the sinner, challenged the leaders, and spoke against injustice.

Jesus spoke of God's kingdom and his vision for humanity. But he made it very clear that it is our responsibility to realize this vision. The disciples saw how Jesus lived and dealt with the day's circumstances. They wanted that same faith and determination. They wanted his fortitude and courage. Mostly, they wanted Jesus' confidence and patience that God's vision would someday be fulfilled.

In the meantime, waiting in joyful hope, we become servants who do what is necessary: Nurturing a deep love of God and trusting in his providence, we obediently do what we know is pleasing to God: love, repent of sin, show mercy, be compassionate and fight injustice.

As we willingly give witness to our faith, we do only what we are obliged to do, expecting nothing in return. Spared from the task of having to figure it all out for ourselves, we discover freedom.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

Walk by Faith

In today's gospel, the apostles shout out to Jesus "increase our faith." We would all like to have more faith at times, but what does that mean and how do we do it?

It is about taking little steps that we believe that God wants us to do. Sometimes we're afraid or nervous, but having faith means we trust that God will help us do what he wants. It is about taking that first step.

Lord, like your apostles, we too want to increase our faith. Like them we often don't know how to do it. Please show us and teach us through your words and the example of others. Amen.



A WORD FROM FR. PETER

Oh, Father Is Busy!

Many of us have heard the expression “Oh, Father is busy!” several times. Others may have heard it only a few times or too many times. Whichever be the case, it seems one of those diplomatic ways in which Satan distracts or dissuades us from reaching out to our priests when we need them. I have heard it too many times that I feel the need to talk about it.

We live in a time and place where the shortage of priests tends to be a significant pastoral obstacle to the practice of our faith and practical involvement in parish life and religious activities. Most of our priests, including myself, have more than two pastoral responsibilities. Some are managing multiple parishes. Others have schools or other institutions and ministries attached to their parish assignments.

While this has become a pastoral reality in our times, Satan is constantly using it as a powerful weapon against us. He continually reminds us that our priests are busy, so we should not contact or reach out to priests when we need them. This issue is a satanic manipulation we should all be aware of and guard against.

Sometimes, this awful idea that our priests are too busy comes from our false impressions of their schedules and pastoral inclinations. Other times, these thoughts about our priests being too busy come from some pastoral agents who either want to take the place of the priests in our lives or who do not like the priest and try to dissuade us from any actual contact with him.

Whichever be the case, I sincerely encourage us to understand that no matter how busy our priests are, they have time for us. Let us not allow anything or anyone to keep us away from our priests. Visit them, reach out to them, and ask for their prayers. Reach out to them for moral, pastoral, and spiritual questions, and invite them to your family activities. They are your priests! And be open to the fact that they, like any other person, will not be able to honor all invitations or attend to every request.



Fr. Peter Chineke,
*Parochial
Administrator*

With Heartfelt *Sympathy*

Our sympathy and prayers of comfort to the family and friends of:

Annette H Mormino (99), a longtime St. Thomas parishioner, passed away on September 21 in her home at Primrose Retirement Community in Decatur.

Florence Eileen Benjamin (91), mother of St. Thomas parishioner Karen Benjamin, passed away September 26.

May God shower their families with His peace and comfort, and may the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

Dealing with Loss

Those who have experienced the loss of a loved one often find healing and support through sharing with others with similar experiences. Ss. James & Patrick Parish is hosting a grief support group. For more information, please contact Donna at 422-4534



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

G U A T E M A L A

Lunch Bunch

The St. Thomas Lunch Bunch will meet at **Cracker Barrel** (**Tues, Oct. 11**) at 11:15 a.m., 5120 Hickory Point Frontage Rd. Join us for food and conversation!



Weekly Breakfast after Mass

You are invited to join us for breakfast after 8:15am Monday morning Mass. The weekly breakfast location will be announced at the end of Mass. Anyone is welcome to join us.





	Collected	Budgeted
September 25	\$3,470.	\$5,000.

Year-to-Date: \$55,645. \$65,000.
Short/Ahead: - \$9,357.

R/M Donations.....\$15.
 Sister Parish Donations\$30.
 Assistance for the Needy.....\$16.

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/stthomasdecaturn>



Sunday, October 2
 10 am – **Robert and Louise Luckenbill †**

Monday, October 3
 8:15 am – **End of Abortion**

Tuesday, October 4
 8:15 am – **50th Wedding Anniversary of Bill and Beth Robbins**

Wednesday, October 5
 8:15 am – **DeDe Hall†**

Thursday, October 6
 8:15 am – **Paul Vighi †**

Friday, October 7
No Mass

Saturday, October 8
No Mass

Sunday, October 9
 10 am – **Norma Wilson †**

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

Betty Althoff, Rachel Flick, 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, **Ron Shinall**, Brenda Sullivan, Virginia Thompson, JoAn Wayne, Michelle Wayne, Pete Wayne, and Tami Wittenauer



Recipe from *Thomasian Cooks*

St. Thomas Women's Club Cookbook

Published in 1978

TEXAS CAKE

4 Tb. Cocoa	1 C. water
2 c. flour	2 C. sugar
2 sticks margarine	1/2 c. buttermilk
2 eggs, beaten	1/2 tsp. cinnamon
1 tsp. soda	1 tsp. vanilla

Bring 1 c. water and 4 Tb. cocoa to a boil. Pour this over the flour, sugar and margarine mixture and beat well. Add 1/2 c. buttermilk, 2 beaten eggs, 1/2 tsp. cinnamon, 1 tsp. soda and 1 tsp. vanilla. Mix well and pour in large greased and floured pan--9x13. Bake 250 deg. for 25-30 minutes.

Frosting:

4 Tb. Cocoa	6 Tb. milk
1 stick margarine	1 box powdered sugar
1 tsp. vanilla	nuts (optional)

Melt the margarine and add 4 Tb. cocoa and 6 Tb. milk, vanilla, nuts and powdered sugar. Spread on cooled cake.

— *Theresa Darby*

Rosary Rally

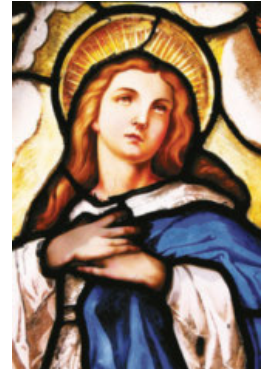
Please come and join us in praying the rosary at **noon on Oct 15 at St. Patrick Church** (front steps). The Rosary Rally is sponsored by America Needs Fatima. It will be one of the 20,000 rallies taking place across the United States.



We are offering reparations for sins and offenses committed against the Immaculate Heart of Mary and praying for the conversion of the US. You are welcome to bring a chair and umbrella with you.

Can You Remember?

Perhaps you'll recall the beautiful stained glass windows in the former St. Thomas Church that were donated in memory and in honor of parishioners and families. Below is a list of many of the names on the windows. Our 100th Jubilee of the founding of St. Thomas is in 2025.



Can you help us with any information about these donors and hopefully make a connection with family members who are still living? Please let us know! Deacon Kevin would appreciate hearing from you about this challenge! Thanks!

1. Mr. and Mrs. Hamil
2. H Elam and Family
3. Francis and Adelaide Uehlein
4. John, Arthur, and James Dougherty Families
5. Berry E Gay Sr
6. John J Matthew
7. Rev D J Doyle
8. Charles and Julia Durbin
9. Mr. and Mrs. James Masterson
10. Father Thomas Masterson
11. Mr. and Mrs. Adam Broske
12. Mr. and Mrs. David King
13. Fred W Schaniel
14. David John Bangert
15. Mr. and Mrs. R J Bangert
16. Mr. and Mrs. Angelo Calvetti

First Friday Eucharistic Adoration!

Every first Friday is a day of Eucharistic Adoration at St. Thomas. The Blessed Sacrament will be exposed in the main church **next Friday, Oct. 7, beginning at 9 am and concluding with Benediction at 5 pm.** A signup sheet for adoration hours on first Fridays will be available in the back of church this Sunday.



FREE
AD DESIGN

WITH PURCHASE
OF THIS SPACE

LPi CALL
800.950.9952

Here with *you.*



HSHS
St. Mary's
Hospital

ADT-Monitored Home Security

Get 24-Hour Protection From a Name You Can Trust

- Burglary
- Fire Safety
- Flood Detection
- Carbon Monoxide



SafeStreets

1-855-225-4251

**GROW YOUR
BUSINESS**
BY PLACING
AN AD HERE!

CONTACT US!

Contact Brandy Stivers
to place an ad today!
bstivers@4LPi.com or
(800) 950-9952 x2609



Graceland/Fairlawn

www.gracelandfairlawn.com
217-615-0769

Moran & Goebel

www.moranandgoebel.com
217-615-0793

Lisa Coffman

**BROKER ASSOCIATE
REALTOR®**

CELL:
217-433-5081

GLENDIA WILLIAMSON REALTY



B & W II

ASPHALT PAVING
& SEALCOAT CO.
877-8362

P.O. Box 448 Forsyth, IL



HSHS Medical Group
Health and Medical Spa

WORK ONE-ON-ONE
with Weight-Loss Coach
Natalie Feriozzi, MS



HSHSMedicalGroup.org/weight-loss
217-321-7281 • MG-healthandspa@hshs.org

SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS!



NEVER MISS A BULLETIN !

Sign up to have our weekly parish bulletin
emailed to you at www.parishesonline.com



**A service as
unique
as your
loved one.**

Honor the life of
your loved one
with the experts
at helping you say
goodbye.

**Brintlinger
AND Earl**
FUNERAL HOMES
brintlingerandearl.com

STAND OUT

with a **PREMIUM DIGITAL AD**
on **PARISHESONLINE.COM**



CONTACT US AT 800-950-9952

WE'RE HIRING

AD SALES EXECUTIVES

**BE YOURSELF. BRING YOUR PASSION.
WORK WITH PURPOSE.**

- Paid Training
- Some Travel
- Work-Life Balance
- Full-Time with Benefits
- Serve Your Community



LPi Contact us at careers@4lpi.com
www.4lpi.com/careers

**Place Your Ad Here and
Support our Parish!**

Instantly create and
purchase an ad with

AD CREATOR STUDIO



4lpi.com/adcreator



For ad info. call 1-800-950-9952 • www.4lpi.com

St. Thomas the Apostle, Decatur, IL

A 4C 01-1176