



St. THOMAS the APOSTLE

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

29th Sunday in Ordinary Time • October 16, 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

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

Our continual prayers bother God?

Does God finally answer our persistent prayers to stop us from bothering Him? The thought that persistent prayer can be disturbing or upsetting to God does not ring true with the images of God as compassionate, understanding, merciful, and loving that our tradition conveys.

Yet, Jesus tells his disciples to “pray always without becoming weary.” Maybe the type of prayer necessary to endure the trials of discipleship and the challenges and criticisms of Christian teaching goes beyond words. We need to tend to the realities of human life.

The persistent prayer of which Jesus speaks is the prayer of the heart. This contemplative, silent, loving prayer gives us the vision to see God in all things, especially in each human soul. Desiring God alone and not only what we want God to do for us places this love relationship foremost in our minds, hearts, and souls. This alone can provide the strength of endurance to confront anything contrary to the truth of faith.

Pray without ceasing

Do you remember pestering your parents, asking them over and over for the same thing? Why do you think you did that? In hopes that you would finally wear them down and get what you wanted. Right?

In today's gospel, Jesus holds up the example of a widow who kept demanding justice from a judge until he finally gave in and gave it to her because he didn't want to be bothered anymore.

Sometimes we pray only when we have an emergency or when we really want something. Lord, help us to remember that when we pray with you throughout our days, we can begin to feel your presence with us in each moment.



A WORD FROM FR. PETER

Embracing the Change: Pope Saint John XXIII

Change is a word that almost half of humanity does not like. Many people would want it to disappear from the dictionary. The word change evokes a feeling of insecurity and powerlessness over the things, ideas, places, beliefs, and people we cherish. Our excessive emotional attachments to any of these makes change one of the most reviled vocabularies in many human languages.



Fr. Peter Chineke,
*Parochial
Administrator*

However, change is a two-edged sword. It is not always clear if a change will be good or bad. But, as people of faith and hope, we must carefully discern a change, be positive about it, and be ready to embrace it. Beyond these, we should also be willing to make changes as individuals, groups, and societies.

Last Tuesday, October 11, 2022, we celebrated the feast of Saint John XXIII, the pope who convened Vatican II. After the first and second world wars and their terrible impacts on humanity, the world was responding amidst hopelessness, fear, and a growing religious skepticism. In the midst of all these and the lingering cold wars, Pope John XXIII summoned the most critical meeting of the century to help the church respond to the miserable state of the human condition according to the signs of the times.

Unfortunately, almost sixty years after the Council, many have failed to understand, respect, and embrace the reforms that the council advocates. Some of us continue to hold on to the former ways, while others resort to misinterpreting and misrepresenting the teachings of Vatican II to suit their whimsical desires and ideologies inconsistent with the church's teachings.

May Pope Saint John XXIII intercede for us and obtain for us the grace to accept the beautiful teachings of the Council and shun the practices and teachings that are inconsistent with the teachings of our Lord and his Apostles. Amen.

Mass of Remembrance

Wednesday, Nov. 2 at 5:15 p.m.

During the month of November we celebrate and honor the memory of our beloved dead.



We will have our St. Thomas Mass of Remembrance on **Wednesday, Nov. 2 at 5:15 p.m.** Everyone is invited to attend this beautiful Mass as we remember parishioners who have died in the past year.

Pictures for the Table of Remembrance

As a way to remember our beloved dead during the month of November, we again have a table for you to place a picture of your deceased loved ones on. You may bring those pictures any weekend in November beginning **Sun., Oct. 30**. Please plan to take them home on Sun., Nov. 27.



Bible study every Tuesday morning

Looking to grow in your faith? You're invited! Bible study group meets every Tuesday at 9:15 a.m. after morning Mass. Currently, we're reading the Book of the Prophet Amos. Deacon Kevin leads the hour-long Bible Study group in the chapel of the church. Please join us in learning from scripture in a fun, informative, and friendly setting. Everyone is welcome!



Ministry Schedule Sign Up Online

Add yourself to the monthly ministry schedule for Eucharistic Ministers, Lectors, and Altar Servers by picking the Sunday Masses when you're available on the signup page on the parish website:

<https://stthomasdeatur.com/ministrysignup>

Thank you!



	Collected	Budgeted
October 9	\$6,027.	\$5,000.

Year-to-Date: \$67,371. \$75,000.

Short/Ahead: - \$7,629.

R/M Donations.....	\$140.
Sister Parish Donations	\$140.
Assistance for the Needy.....	\$60.
World Mission Sunday	\$100.

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, October 16
 10 am – **Mary Kraus †**

Monday, October 17
 8:15 am – **Elmer and Alice Rosentretter †**

Tuesday, October 18
 8:15 am – **Mary and Paul Kraus †**

Wednesday, October 19
 8:15 am – **Denise Ann “Dee” Mennel and Leo and Margaret Reinhart †**

Thursday, October 20
 8:15 am – **Annette Mormino †**

Friday, October 21
No Mass

Saturday, October 22
No Mass

Sunday, October 23
 10 am – **60th Wedding Anniversary for Caroline and Charles Snyder**

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,
 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, Ed Schanuel, Ron Shinall,
 Brenda Sullivan, Virginia Thompson, JoAn Wayne,
 Pete Wayne, and Tami Wittenauer

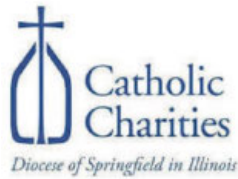
Have A Serving Heart?

We Need Your Help!

Faith in Action has flexible volunteer opportunities that work around your schedule. Come volunteer with us and impact someone's life in a special way!

We currently need:

Drivers – transport seniors to their medical appointments, grocery store, and/or errand running (hand sanitizer and gloves are available to help ensure safety)



Shoppers – get groceries for a homebound senior or escort a senior to the store (hand sanitizer and gloves are available to help ensure safety)

Friendly Phone Callers/Friendly Visitors – brighten up a homebound senior's day by calling/visiting them to remind them that they have not been forgotten and that someone cares about them (weekly, biweekly, or monthly calling/visiting options)

For more information, please contact Sarah at 217-428-0013 or ssanchez_dec@cc.dio.org



Please pray for our Sister Parish,
Immaculate Conception,
in Comapa, Guatemala,

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.

An easy way to donate online

As many people move away from using cash, many organizations have enabled giving through digital options. QR codes (quick response codes) allow givers to make instant donations via their phone or mobile device simply by scanning a special code.



SCAN ME

In partnership with our Diocese, our parish offers an online giving program that enables parishioners to donate to the parish online.

3 Steps to Donate via QR Code

1. Open the camera app on your phone
2. Hover the camera over the QR code above
3. Don't take a picture but click on the notification on your screen which will take you to our online donation page.
4. Maybe give it a try!

Online giving...

- Enables you to make your Sunday offertory contribution online by debit or credit card
- You can make a one-time Memorial Gift Donation
- Your information remains private and secure
- Provides you the flexibility to designate a one-time gift or recurring gift
- Provides you comfort knowing your donation will be supporting the ongoing mission and vitality of our parish community.

Please call the parish office at 217-877-4146 if you have any questions.

Thank you!

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