



St. THOMAS the APOSTLE

2160 North Edward Decatur, IL 62526

(217) 877-4146

StThomasDecatur@gmail.com



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

Decatur Catholic Radio

WDCR 88.9/96.5

Eucharist Calls Us to Be Christ for Others

The Eucharist reminds us that we are part of the Body of Christ. When we come together to celebrate, we are also called to be like Christ to others. This means we should act in ways that reflect His love and teachings.

Our world can be a difficult place, with many people experiencing pain and suffering. Some people feel lost, lonely, and left out. Others face unfair treatment and abuse. As followers of Christ, it is our duty to reach out to these individuals and offer them support and care.

When we receive His body and blood during Communion, we are asked to become more like Christ. This means setting aside our own worries and priorities to help those in need. By doing so, we can bring positive change to the lives of those we encounter.

The power of Christ is present in the Eucharist, and it becomes a part of us when we receive it. This powerful presence can transform us and enable us to make a difference in the lives of others. We can show them God's unconditional love and demonstrate the beauty that comes from loving one another.

SCHEDULE CHANGE

No Friday Masses

There will not be Friday morning Masses or First Friday all-day Eucharistic Adoration through Friday, July 28. Fr. Peter will be gone for his studies. Father has made arrangements for priests to cover our Sunday and weekday Masses until he returns.

MAIL for FR. PETER

Fr. Peter's Summer Address in Washington, DC:

Rev. Peter Chineke

Marian Scholasticate

3885 Harewood Road, NE

Washington, DC 20017

Solemnity of Corpus Christi

Today we celebrate the solemnity of Corpus Christi. Corpus Christi is a Latin translation of the Body of Christ. This solemnity is abbreviated as Corpus Christi, but in full, it will be Corpus et Sanguis Christi (The Body and Blood of Christ). As a solemnity, it ranks among the highest feasts in the Church. This solemnity commemorates in a unique way the very essence of our eucharistic celebrations whenever we gather for Mass. It celebrates the Body and Blood of Christ, which are what we celebrate at every Mass, and which is at the center of every theology and faith-related study in the Catholic Church.

Everything we read in the scriptures, especially the New Testament, points to the Body and Blood of Christ as given to us freely for our salvation. But when we want a deeper understanding of this mystery, we focus on the four Gospels.

Specifically, the sixth Gospel of John verses 22 to 59. In this passage, titled “The Bread of Life Discuss,” the beloved apostle takes us deep into the mystery of the Eucharist as the greatest gift of Christ to humanity as long as our salvation is concerned. In verses 53 and 54 of the passage, John recounts Jesus’ emphasis on our reception of the eucharist: “Amen, amen, I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you do not have life within you. Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise him on the last day.”

Many of us make incredible efforts to attend Mass every Sunday, even every day, for a handle of us. But how many of us believe that what we receive in the Eucharist is the actual body and blood of Christ? A conviction that Jesus is truly present in the Eucharist is critical for a life of faith and discipleship in the Catholic Church. There are many ways to know whether we have this conviction, no matter how we want to rationalize or justify our shortcomings.



Fr. Peter Chineke,
*Parochial
Administrator*

Receiving the Eucharist with little or no reverence, as though a piece of cake; chatting carelessly inside the Church while others are praying to Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament; receiving the Eucharist and making no efforts to leave sinful lifestyles; being adamant about the needs of our parish Church and our neighbors, even when we have something to give; remaining intentionally ignorant of the Church’s teachings on the Eucharist and living hateful and judgmental lives as communicants. These are among the possible signs that one does not necessarily believe in the presence of Jesus Christ in the eucharistic species.

May God grant us, through the celebration of this Solemnity of the Body and Blood of Christ, a burning desire to see Jesus truly as he is in the Eucharist. Amen.

I wish you all a blessed solemnity and a grace-filled week ahead.

Fr. Peter



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

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 !

Parish Giving

| | Collected | Budgeted |
|----------------------|-------------------|------------|
| June 4 | \$6,298. | \$5,000. |
| Year-to-Date: | \$237,198. | \$245,000. |
| Short/Ahead: | - \$7,801. | |

R/M Donations.....\$150.
 Sister Parish Donations\$180.
 Retired Priests/Peter's Pence\$670.

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>

Mass Intentions for the Week

- Sunday, June 11
10 am – **Cindy Harding †**
- Monday, June 12
8:15 am – **Marge and Delmer Collett †**
- Tuesday, June 13
8:15 am – **Ann Midden**
- Wednesday, June 14
8:15 am – **Jerry, Robert, Sam, and Joseph**
- Thursday, June 15
8:15 am – **Polly Hensley †**
- Friday, June 16
No Mass
- Saturday, June 17
No Mass
- Sunday, June 18
10 am – **Pat Hayes †**

† *Deceased*

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

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<http://www.StThomasDecatur.com>

Office Hours: 9am-noon, Monday-Thursday

PRAYER REQUESTS

Please Remember in your Prayers

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

- Alfred, Betty Althoff, Rachel Flick, Kevin Henry, Jim Hertel, Darlene, Ann-Marie Hillyer, Sawyer Dale Hunter, Edwin Jones, Patricia Jones, Kelly McLean, Trey McLean, Lucia Molloy, Christina Mooney, Lucia Mounce, **Tom Mounce**, Rev. Msgr. James O'Shea, Joe Perry, Art Richard, Kay Russell, Rev. Jason Stone, Carolyn Thorpe, Ed Schanuel, Ron Shinall, Brenda Sullivan, JoAn Wayne, Pete Wayne, Jan Vandercar, and Tami Wittenauer

**Q: How do you explain
"Real Presence" to
children?**



A: It's sometimes easier to explain this to kids than to adults. Jesus comes to us in holy Communion because he loves us so much and wants to be close to us. He comes to us in the form of bread and wine, and we truly receive him in the Eucharist.

Kids have strong faith and trust in Jesus, and they don't get caught up in doubts and questions about how it happens. Instead, they focus on the "why," and the answer is simple: love. Jesus wants to be with us because he loves us.

Lunch Bunch

The St. Thomas Lunch Bunch will meet at **El Rodeo** by WalMart north on **Tues, Jun 13** at 11:15 a.m. Join us for food and great conversation! Come join us!

BABY BOTTLE CAMPAIGN

change
for
LIFE



Donate in the Gathering Area

Babies need your help. Please pick up a Baby Bottle in the Gathering Area and fill with your Change, Cash or Checks. Money raised will support New Life's life changing work of meeting physical & spiritual needs of men and women facing an unexpected pregnancy...and Saves the Life of their Baby!

Begins Mothers' Day to Fathers' Day

THIS AFTERNOON!

Corpus Christi Procession Feast of the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ — Sunday, June 11

Come and join us in a city-wide Corpus Christi procession during this Year of Eucharistic Revival. The procession is sponsored by all parishes.

- **Adoration** of the Blessed Sacrament—
1:30 pm at St. James Church
- **Homily** on the Eucharist—2:15 pm
- **Procession** from St. James to St. Patrick Church with the Holy Eucharist—2:30 pm
(Transportation will be provided for those unable to walk the distance.)
- **Benediction** at St. Patrick Church —3 pm

Please join us at a **social gathering** at the Hall at 520 afterwards, provided by the Knights of Columbus.

You are invited to visit the Eucharistic Miracles Exhibit that will be on display in St. Patrick Church basement.

Vatican International Eucharistic Miracles Exhibit

Saints James and Patrick Parish will host the Eucharistic Miracles exhibit June 10-11 and June 17- 18 in St. Patrick Church basement.

- Saturday hours are 10 am - 6 pm
- Sunday hours are 9:30 am -4 pm.

Please make some time to come and tour this special exhibit.

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 session on Tuesday, June 13 at 5:30 pm in the parish house at St. James. Anyone is welcome to attend. For more information, contact Donna at 422-4534



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Lisa Coffman

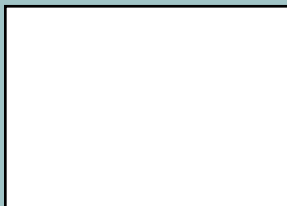
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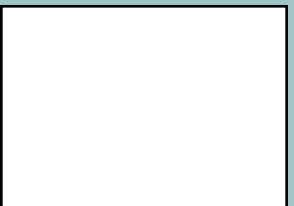
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