



## St. THOMAS the APOSTLE

2160 North Edward Decatur, IL 62526 (217) 877-4146 [stthomasdecatur@dio.org](mailto:stthomasdecatur@dio.org)



### The History of the Rosary

The origins of the Rosary are "sketchy" at best. The use of "prayer beads" and the repeated recitation of prayers to aid in meditation stem from the earliest days of the Church and has roots in pre-Christian times. Evidence exists from the Middle Ages that strings of beads were used to count Our Fathers and Hail Marys. Actually, these strings of beads became known as "Paternosters," the Latin for "Our Father."

The structure of the Rosary gradually evolved between the 12th and 15th centuries. Eventually 50 Hail Marys were recited and linked with verses of psalms or other phrases evoking the lives of Jesus and Mary. During the 16th century, the structure of the five-decade Rosary based on the 3 sets of mysteries prevailed.

— Fr. William Saunders

<https://www.ewtn.com/catholicism/library/history-of-the-rosary-1142>

### LITURGY SCHEDULE

#### *Weekends*

Sunday 10 am

#### *Weekdays*

Monday-Friday 8:15 am

#### **Reconciliation**

Sundays: 9:15 - 9:50 am

Wednesdays: 7:30 - 8:10 am

#### **Eucharistic Adoration**

First Friday from 9 am - 5 pm

#### **Decatur Catholic Radio**

WDCR 88.9/96.5

### CONTEMPLATE

A life-long Catholic friend of mine recently mumbled to me, "I can't stand all these converts to the faith. They're always rocking the boat." It made me realize how easily I close my heart to those whom I perceive to be outsiders who become new members of the Catholic community.

This week Jesus' punchy parable about the two sons blows up that black and white world. One son said he wouldn't get to work, and then did. The other said he would, and then he did not. "Which did the will of his father?" asks the Lord. Like so many of us, in identifying the first as the answer, the religious authorities manifest hidden hypocrisy in refusing to follow Jesus. They — like us — intuit the correct path but simply won't do it. The tax collectors and prostitutes are indeed following Jesus and thereby getting to work in the kingdom of God. Everyone is called to do God's will regardless of the labels we may apply to them.

This week let's reject the convenient but damaging categories of "insiders" and "outsiders." Instead, let's embrace a grateful attitude that Jesus is calling fallen, weak, and broken men and women like you and me. Then we begin to see that the tax collectors and prostitutes aren't them. They are us. And Jesus wants all of us working in his boat, no matter the rocking.

— Father John Muir



## A WORD FROM FR. PETER

### Herbert Dulle - and the Angels

Last Friday, September 29th, was the feast of the archangels – Michael, Gabriel, and Raphael. While we know of the existence of multitudes of angels in heaven and those assigned to each of us as our guardian angels, only a few, Michael, Gabriel, and Raphael, are explicitly named in the Bible; Lucifer, who disobeyed God, was condemned to hell. All the angels, including the three archangels, have specific functions besides their overall duty of constantly singing praises to God in heaven. Archangel Michael is generally known for his military role as the defender of the children of God against their enemies. He appears in the Book of Daniel as the great prince who defends Israel against its enemies and in the Book of Revelation as leading God's armies to final victory over the forces of evil (cf. iBreviary). Archangel Gabriel is mainly known as God's messenger who has conveyed most of the prominent events in our salvation history to persons whom God used as the instruments of establishing his will on earth. We read about him mostly in the Book of Daniel and the Gospel of Luke. Finally, the Archangel Raphael appears pre-dominantly in the Book of Tobit, conveying God's love and goodness to Tobias.

Here on earth, we have our guardian angels for special spiritual support daily. In addition, God has given us a unique ability to be angels to other people – angels of protection, provision, prayerful supports, hospitality, love, and so on.

When I first arrived in the United States to study in the seminary for our Diocese of Springfield, the couple Herbert and Helen Dulle volunteered to be angels of hospitality to me. This couple showered me with so much love and hospitality that I was hardly homesick all my years in the seminary in Indiana. They were there for me in any way a parent can be of loving support to their children.



Fr. Peter Chineke,  
Parochial  
Administrator

A year ago, on September 29, 2022, on the feast of the angels, Herb died. There could be no better proof of who he has been to me than joining the saints on the feast of the angels for which he officially became one. His death left a terrible scar on my life as I lost a Dad and a friend in him. Herbert was a perfect Dad, friend, and an angel in human form alongside his wife. They will forever have a special place in my life and priesthood. To commemorate this year's feast of the angels, I ask for one Hail Mary prayer for Herb Dulle's soul and the souls of the faithful who were angels of hospitality, love, and endless support to others while they were here with us.

—Fr. Peter



## Mass Intentions for the Week

Sunday, October 1

10 am – **Kathy Brown**

Monday, October 2

8:15 am – **Anita Burns**

Tuesday, October 3

8:15 am – **Matthew Kirby †**

Wednesday, October 4

8:15 am – **Margaret Hynen †**

Thursday, October 5

8:15 am – **Diane Gifford**

Friday, October 6

8:15 am – **Mary Hammann**

Saturday, October 7, *No Mass*

† *Deceased*



## St. Jude's Novena

May the Sacred Heart of Jesus be adored, glorified, loved, and preserved throughout the world now and forever.

Sacred Heart of Jesus, pray for us.

St. Jude, worker of miracles, pray for us.

St. Jude, help of the hopeless, pray for us.

I will never forget thy graces and favors you obtain for me and I will do my utmost to spread devotion to you.

Pray an Our Father, Hail Mary, and Glory Be.

Say this prayer 9 times a day for 9 days.

**Thank you, St. Jude, for Prayers Answered.**



	Collected	Budgeted
September 24	\$ 3,335	\$5,000
<b>Year-to-Date:</b>	<b>\$ 50,794</b>	\$65,000
<b>Short/Ahead:</b>	<b>- \$ 14,206</b>	

R/M Donations .....\$ 35  
 Sister Parish Donations ..... \$ 115

**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>

## St. Thomas Event Blessing of Animals on the Feast of St. Francis



When: October 4, 5:30pm  
 Where: North parking lot  
 Please keep your pets under control. Thank you!

### Request a Mass Intention

If you would like to have a weekday or weekend Mass offered for a deceased loved one or friend, or for another intention, please call **the parish office at 877-4146.**



The typical offering for a Mass intention is \$10. Mass Intention Envelopes are now available on the table with the Rosaries in the back of the church.

## PARISH OFFICE

- Mrs. Cynthia Hinkle**, *Parish Secretary*
- Mr. Richard Harding**, *Maintenance Manager*
- Mr. Joe Snow**, *Business Manager*
- Mr. Chris Hoffman**, *Communications Coordinator*
- Rev. Richard Weltin**, *Pastor Emeritus*
- Rev. Peter Chineke**, *Parochial Administrator*

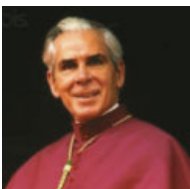
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## PRAYER REQUESTS

### Please Remember in your Prayers All who are Ill at Home or in the Hospital and their Families and Caregivers

Stan Rothenbuecher, Carol Dilbeck, Rachel Flick, Kevin Henry, Jim Hertel,, Ann-Marie Hillyer, 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, Roz Sandage, Libby Spainhour, Rev. Jason Stone, Ed Schanuel, Ron Shinall, Brenda Sullivan, JoAn Wayne, Pete Wayne, Jan Vandercar, and Tami Wittenauer. Please call the parish office or email [stthomasdecatu@dio.org](mailto:stthomasdecatu@dio.org) to add or remove a name.



"The Rosary is the book of the blind, where souls see and there enact the greatest drama of love the world has ever known; it is the book of the simple, which initiates them into mysteries and knowledge more satisfying than the education of other men; it is the book of the aged, whose eyes close upon the shadow of this world, and open on the substance of the next. The power of the Rosary is beyond description."  
 — Venerable Fulton J. Sheen

## Food for the Hungry



Just a reminder that we have a Food Drive for Catholic Charities every weekend of the year. A few cans and boxes of food make a big difference to people who may otherwise go hungry (put items in the basket by the coat rack).

### Here are some ideas:

- dry pasta, macaroni & cheese, jars of pasta sauce
- canned fish and meat (pop-top cans are best)
- canned vegetables, fruit, soup, and stew
- instant potato packets
- peanut butter, jam and jelly, cereal
- canned beans, pork & beans

**Thanks for your caring and generosity!**

## 40 DAYS FOR LIFE.

From September 27<sup>th</sup> through November 5<sup>th</sup>, you are invited to join other Christians for 40 Days for Life – 40 days of prayer and fasting for an end to abortion. You are also invited to stand and peacefully pray during the 40-day vigil across the street from the local abortion clinic – Planned Parenthood at 3021 N. Oakland Avenue. If you would like more information or to volunteer, please call Cecilia Kehoe at 217-412-0063 or email her at [prayersforyou8384@gmail.com](mailto:prayersforyou8384@gmail.com). **Please visit the campaign website** at [www.40daysforlife.com/en/decatour](http://www.40daysforlife.com/en/decatour) to learn more, register and sign up.



## October Events

- 4** Blessing of Animals, 5:30pm
- 6** First Friday Adoration, 9am-5pm
- 12** Bible Study, Catholic Spirit Radio
- 22** Donut Sunday, after Mass
- 28** Bus to Springfield Eucharistic Congress, 10am-6pm

## Bishop Paprocki on the Rosary in *Catholic Times*



“... I suggest for us Catholics that we turn to our Blessed Mother for her intercession by praying the Rosary. Many parishioners pray the Rosary together in church before Mass, a practice that I heartily encourage. Prior to the naval battle of Lepanto to repulse the westward expansion into Europe by the Ottoman Turks in the 16th century, Pope St. Pius V called on Catholics to pray the Rosary. After the battle was successfully won near the west coast of Greece on Oct. 7, 1571, the pope attributed the victory to the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary and declared the Feast Day of Our Lady of Victory, which we now observe as Our Lady of the Rosary each year on Oct. 7. Let us pray to the Queen of Peace for her intercession, that the whole world may be led to the peace promised by her son, Jesus, the Prince of Peace.” — 10/19/14

\* \* \*

“During one of my training runs, after I finished praying the Rosary, I kept holding the Rosary in my hand with the cross of the Rosary between my index finger and my thumb. I felt the Lord say to me, ‘Hold fast to the cross. Embrace the pain.’ During the last few miles of the Long Beach Marathon I kept repeating that to myself like a mantra: ‘Hold fast to the cross. Embrace the pain.’

Oct. 7 is the Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary. While running the marathon, I prayed over 200 Hail Marys while meditating on the Joyful, Luminous, Sorrowful, and Glorious Mysteries. I offered these prayers for the pope and for all the clergy, religious and laity of our diocese, as well as for family members and friends.” — 10/14/18

\* \* \*

“The month of October is dedicated to Our Lady of the Rosary. As we are encouraged to pray the Rosary every day, it would also be a great blessing to pray the Angelus every day in the morning, at noon, and in the evening.” — 10/11/22

### Encyclical Quote of the Week



“Let all, therefore, try to approach with greater trust the throne of grace and mercy of our Queen and Mother, and beg for strength in adversity, light in darkness, consolation in sorrow; above all let them strive to free themselves from the slavery of sin and offer an unceasing homage, filled with filial loyalty, to their Queenly Mother. Let her churches be thronged by the faithful, her feast-days honored; may the beads of the Rosary be in the hands of all; may Christians gather, in small numbers and large, to sing her praises in churches, in homes, in hospitals, in prisons.”

— Pope Pius XII, *Ad Caeli Reginam*, 1954



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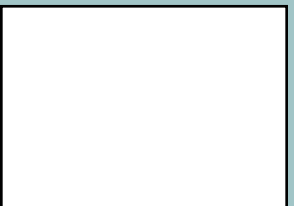


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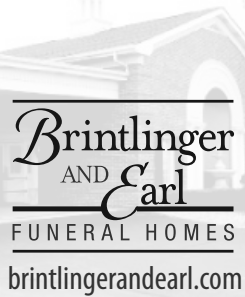
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