



# St. THOMAS the APOSTLE

2155 North Union Decatur, IL 62526 (217) 877-4146 StThomasDecatur@gmail.com

**4th Sunday of Easter • May 7, 2017**

“We are called  
to love God  
and one another  
In the Spirit  
of Jesus Christ.”



**4<sup>th</sup>**  
**SUNDAY OF EASTER**

“Whoever enters through the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens it for him, and the sheep hear his voice, as the shepherd calls his own sheep by name and leads them out.” - Jn 10:2-3

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

## LITURGY SCHEDULE

### *Weekends*

Saturday 4 pm  
Sunday 10 am

### *Weekdays*

Monday-Friday 8:30 am

### **Reconciliation**

Saturday, 11 am at OLOL  
Saturday, 3 pm at St. Thomas

### **Eucharistic Adoration**

First Saturday at 8:30 am

### **Decatur Catholic Radio**

WDCR 88.9/96.5

## HYMNS FOR THIS MASS

### **Gathering Hymn**

Rain Down 606

### **Presentation of Gifts**

We Will Rise Again 438

### **Communion**

Shepherd Me, O God 457

### **Closing Hymn**

Sing to the Mountains 530



## ANNUAL CATHOLIC SERVICES APPEAL

This is the final week for the Annual Catholic Services Appeal. We are close to making our goal but we still

can use your help. Please take an envelope from the vestibule and mail it to the diocese this week. Every dollar you send saves the parish that amount of money. Please help in any way you can. Thanks!

### FAMILY FAITH FORMATION

Family Faith Formation committee met on Monday. We made plans for a number of opportunities for the parish for all families.

**Vacation Bible School** will be held the last week of June. Melissa has offered her time and talent to coordinating this event. Please help her

In any way you can. When all of us work together, we can make a big impact in the lives of our children in passing along the faith.

**Parish Picnic** will be held on August 13. We will need people to help in many of the areas. If everyone offers time and help we can make the picnic a big event. When the sign-up sheets are posted, please help and then join us for the picnic.

### Celebrating Ordination Anniversaries

With thanksgiving to Almighty God, the parishioners of St. Thomas congratulate our pastor **Fr. Rick Weltin** on his 34th anniversary of Priestly Ordination on May 28. Thank you, Fr. Rick, for the caring pastoral and sacramental service you give to the Church in the sacred priesthood.



**Fr. David Zimmerman** celebrates the 20th anniversary of his priestly ordination on May 24. **Deacon Kevin Richardson** celebrates his 10th anniversary of ordination on June 24.

We also join with Ss. James and Patrick Parish and Holy Family Parish in gratitude and thanksgiving for the priesthood of **Fr. John Burnette**, who celebrates his 32nd ordination anniversary on May 25, and **Fr. Joe Molloy**, who celebrates his 34th ordination anniversary on May 28.

## Sister Parish News

### Help Bring the Eucharist to Remote Areas

St. Thomas is helping our sister parish in Comapa, Guatemala to pay for a four-wheel drive pickup truck used by the priest to travel throughout the geographic boundaries of the parish and minister to parishioners in the 30 oratorios (chapels) built by villages that belong to Immaculate Conception Parish in Comapa.



The balance their parish owes on the truck is \$4200. This is a huge amount for them, considering the average Guatemalan lives on about \$2 a day.

A special **offering box** to help pay off the debt is located in the back of our church on the Sister Parish display table. Please consider making a weekly donation for this cause. Thank you!

We are proud to have a "sister relationship" with Immaculate Conception Parish in Comapa. The town is located in Southeastern Guatemala, near the El Salvadoran border. While the main church of our sister parish is in Comapa, members of the parish are spread out over many rugged miles in 30 remote villages. The use of a reliable vehicle able to navigate the rough terrain is crucial to the priest's ministry to his parishioners.

The great distance from the main church to these villages prevents many of the people from traveling to the church for weekly Mass. Therefore the priest, catechists, and extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion travel to the villages to provide the sacraments, pastoral care, and opportunities to share the Word and learn more about the Catholic faith.

A special thanks to St. Thomas parishioners who faithfully support our sister parish each month through the monthly offering envelopes. Your generosity is making a huge difference in the lives of our brothers and sisters in Guatemala.

### May Ministry of Praise Prayer Intention

That Christians in Africa, in imitation of the Merciful Jesus, may give prophetic witness to reconciliation, justice, and peace.

**Please Remember in your Prayers  
the Sick at Home or in the Hospital  
and their Families and Caregivers**

Karen Benjamin, Henry Burnett, Glenn Carlson,  
Irene Crotser, Larry Davis, Nancy Davis,  
Rosetta Ellington, Mary Lou Gardner,  
Shirley Glosser, Kay Henry, Bill Hoffmann  
John Jones, Margie Landrum, Kelly McLean,  
Leona Nichols, Rev. Msgr. James O’Shea,  
Trisha Rambo, Dave Sandage, Jackson Scharf,  
Mary Shimp, Rev. John Sohm, Peggy Tanner,  
Rachel Tapia, Nate Tohill, Mary Jo Valkamp,  
Tami Wittenauer

(New additions in **bold** for the first week.)



	Collected	Budgeted
Holy Week/Easter	\$4,104.	\$5,700.
Year-to-Date Total:	\$226,653.	\$250,800.

Short Budgeted Amt **-\$24,147.** ←

**Other St. Thomas Envelope Collections**

Sister Parish Donations	\$17.
Repair/Maint. Church Donations	\$56.
Catholic Home Missions Appeal	\$80.
Holy Land	\$10.
Pentecost (Retired Priests)	\$6.

Please pay close attention to the “year-to-date total” above each week. This amount shows how much we collected each week and how far we are ahead or behind our budgeted amount. Currently we are **\$24,147** behind our budgeted goal! Please consider giving a little more each week! Blessings!

**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 **Phyllis**



**Howley at 877-4404.** Masses for an individual’s intention are based on availability, and typically a \$10 donation is offered.

*Mass Intentions for the Week*

Monday, May 8, 2017  
8:30 am – **Frank Seman**

Tuesday, May 9, 2017  
8:30 am – **“an end to abortion”**

Wednesday, May 10, 2017  
8:30 am – **Charles Moseley**

Thursday, May 11, 2017  
8:30 am – **Kathleen Reedy**

Friday, May 12, 2017  
8:30 am – **Bill Thompson**

Saturday, May 13, 2017  
4:00 pm – **Erika Luckenbill**

Sunday, May 14, 2017  
10:00 am – **Ernestine Fox**

**We’re Family and We Care!**

When someone in your family is in ill health and can no longer attend Mass or who has moved to a nursing facility, please call the parish office and speak to **Phyllis Howley**, our pastoral care coordinator. Also, please let us know when there is a death in your family. We don’t always hear about these things, and it will help us reach out to our families in times of need. Please call Phyllis at 877-4404.

**Parish Office**

Pastor: Rev. Richard Weltin  
Senior Priest In Residence: Rev. David Zimmerman  
Deacon Kevin Richardson  
Pastoral Care Coordinator: Phyllis Howley  
Plant Manager: Vern Wilson (volunteer)  
Director of Music: Jennifer Kater

2160 N. Edward Street, Decatur, IL 62526  
(217) 877-4146 Phyllis Howley: 877-4404

StThomasDecatur@gmail.com

**Office Hours:** 9am-noon, Monday-Thursday



## FUNERAL LUNCHEON MINISTRY

This is a wonderful ministry to families that have lost a loved one. We prepare a meal for the family for after the funeral. How can you help? We are always in need of people who would be willing to serve on a Luncheon Team. The teams take turns setting up, preparing and cleaning up a Funeral Luncheon. The more teams, the more hands – the less work for all. Perhaps, you are not already on a list of people who are willing to donate food, please let us add your name to the calling list. If you would like more info, call **Diane Gifford** 428-4807 or **Phyllis Howley** 877-4404.



## 55 Plus Community Gathering

The next Fifty-five plus Community gathering will be Wednesday, May 17, 2017 with Mass in St. Anne's Chapel at 11:30 a.m. followed by a noon potluck (entrée, beverage, and table service provided; bring a dish to share). Our guest speaker will be Vicki Compton, Diocesan Director of Missions whose topic will be "Office of the Missions – What's it all About?" All fifty-five and older welcome – bring a friend! Please RSVP by Friday, May 12<sup>th</sup> to Gigi Langhauser, 875-2683.

# Lunch Bunch

The St. Thomas Lunch Bunch will meet at Perkins at N Monroe and Pershing on **Tues, May 9** at 11:15 a.m. Join us for food and conversation!

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## With Heartfelt *Sympathy*

Our sympathy and prayers of comfort to:

- Fr. Nick and his family on the death of his brother **Lilioso Husain** who passed away on April 29th in the Philippines; and
- Mark and Patty Kates on the death of Mark's brother **Jonathan Kates** who passed away on April 27th.

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



Thank you to all who helped to make the Triduum and Easter so beautiful: to the Radical Hospitality Committee for the sumptuous Thursday

Potluck, to the Art and Environment Committee who decorated the church for each special service and the Easter Season, to those who donated to the Easter flower fund, to the Choir for providing beautiful music for our Masses, for all those who served in any extra ministry this Holy Season, to Fr. Zimmerman and Fr. Nick, and to everyone who participated in the Holy Week and Easter liturgies! We are truly blessed to have such giving volunteers that seek to enhance these special services for our parish family.

**PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY:** The Prayer Shawl Group will meet on Wednesday, May 24th at OLOL in the Library at 9:30 a.m. If you have a need, or know of someone who could use a Prayer Shawl, please call Karen Briner 428-0352 or Phyllis Howley 877-4404.

**BASKET FOR THE NEEDY:** Thank you to all who continue to drop money in our "Basket for the Needy". We collected \$280 during the month of April and were able to send \$70 to each of the four charities that we share this money with- Oasis, DOVE, MAX Fund, and Catholic Charities. All serve clients that have significant needs and a shortfall of funding.