



ST. THOMAS AQUINAS CATHOLIC PARISH

602 Everglade Drive, Madison WI 53717 • (608) 833-2600 • stamadison.org • parish@stamadison.org

Regular Mass Schedule

Saturday	4:30 PM
Sunday: Masses in English	8:00 & 10:00 AM
Misa en español/Mass in Spanish	6:30 PM
Monday, Wednesday, Friday	8:30 AM
Tuesday	5:30 PM
Thursday	7:30 AM

Confession

Saturdays, 3:15–4:10 PM

Sundays, 9:00–9:50 AM

Prayer, Devotion, and Adoration

Our Lady of Perpetual Help: Monday after Mass

Chaplet of Divine Mercy: Wednesday after Mass

Morning Prayer: Thursday after Mass

Rosario en español: Thursday, 6:00–7:00 PM

Rosary in English: Friday, 8:05 AM

Adoration: Monday, 2:00–4:00 PM

Tuesday, 4:30–5:25 PM

Friday, 9:00–10:00 AM

Parish Staff

Pastor: Fr. Bart Timmerman, 833-2600

Pastoral Associate: Erik Gyr, erik@stamadison.org

Music Ministries: Gregory Buchberger, greg@stamadison.org

Director of Evangelization and Parish Outreach:

Jennifer Ludtke, jennifer@stamadison.org

Middle/High School: Dominick Meyer, dominick@stamadison.org

Children & Families/Hispanic Ministry:

Lorianne Aubut, lorianne@stamadison.org

Director of Discipleship: Holly Irving, holly@stamadison.org

Business Manager: Patrick O'Loughlin, patrick@stamadison.org

Facilities/Community Minister:

Ismael Covarrubias, ismael@stamadison.org

Administrative:

Main office: Mary Bailey, mary@stamadison.org, 833-2600

Main office/bulletin: Clarice Hinrichs, clarice@stamadison.org

RE/Stewardship: Terri Kopplin, terri@stamadison.org, 833-2606



*"Yo soy la voz que grita"
en el desierto:
'Enderecen el camino del Señor,'"
Juan 1:23*

*"I am the voice of one
crying out in the desert,
make straight the way of the Lord;"
John 1:23*

**Third Sunday of Advent
December 17, 2017**

Gaudete Sunday

**Tercer Domingo de Adviento
17 de Diciembre de 2017**

From the Desk of Fr. Bart

Third Sunday of Advent; Gaudete Sunday

Please read the reflection on our Sacred Scripture Readings from Seminarian Michael Wanta on page 3.



Sacrament of Reconciliation Before Christmas

There are three opportunities to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation before Christmas:

- Advent Evening of Reflection: Tuesday, Dec. 19 at 6:30 PM
(Opportunity for individual confession from 6 - 7:30 PM)
- Saturday, December 23, 3:15 - 4:15 PM
- Sunday, December 24, 9:00 - 10:00 AM

4th Sunday of Advent is December 24

Next weekend both the 4th Sunday of Advent and Christmas Eve fall on Sunday. No one Mass covers both days, so please plan ahead to fit in a Mass on Saturday evening or Sunday morning for the 4th Sunday of Advent PLUS one on Sunday afternoon/evening or Monday morning for Christmas. Here are 4 ways you can do that: :

1. Sunday morning (8 or 10 AM) + Christmas morning (8 or 10 AM)
2. Sunday morning (8 or 10 AM) + Sunday evening vigil (4, 6:30, or 9 PM)
3. Saturday evening vigil (4:30 PM) + Sunday evening vigil (4, 6:30, or 9 PM)
4. Saturday evening vigil (4:30 PM) + Christmas morning (8 or 10 AM)

I encourage you to plan ahead and see what option will best help your family complete our observance of Advent and welcome Our Lord Jesus Christ at Christmas.

Celebrating a Catholic Christmas at STA

Please note our Christmas Mass Schedule. We are happy to continue to offer three Mass times on Christmas Eve to help ease parking lot congestion and over-crowding at the 4:00 PM Mass. The Eucharist nurtures in us and in our parish, a closer relationship with Jesus. The readings for our Christmas Masses give us a deeper appreciation for what God has done for us and the whole world in Christ. Thank you to all who have worked so diligently to prepare for our Christmas Masses especially our STA Staff members, our musicians, choirs, decorators, liturgical ministers, and all who are participating in our Advent journey by attending our Masses and Reconciliation. May all who attend our Christmas Masses be touched by the love of God and the miracle of the Incarnation, through the beauty of the Masses we are preparing to celebrate!

Thank You!

Thank you for your great response to our Christmas Food Baskets Project. Again this year we were able to package and deliver food to families who struggle with hunger in our neighborhood. The funds raised at our cookie sale helped to add fresh, healthy foods to the baskets, like fruits and vegetables. Thank you to those who packaged the food on Friday evening and those who delivered the food on Saturday morning. A special “thank you” to Dennis and Sara Marx for their leadership and all who helped organize this event.

End of Calendar Year Giving

The last regular Sunday offertory collection of the year will be the weekend following Christmas, the Feast of the Holy Family December 30 and 31. I am confident that as a parish family, we will all do our best to help our parish meet our financial commitments. If you are able, this

Prayer for Life

For those who feel lonely or abandoned:
May their hearts be consoled by
the genuine and loving care of others;
We pray to the Lord:



Por los que se sienten aislados o abandonados:
que sus corazones sientan el consuelo
del cuidado amoroso y real de los demás;
roguemos al Señor:

Confession Times During Advent

Saturday, 3:15–4:10 PM

Sunday, 9:00–9:50 AM & 5:30–6:15 PM

Tuesday, December 19, 6:00–7:30 PM

during our Advent Evening of Reflection

4th Sunday of Advent Masses

Saturday, Dec. 23, 4:30 PM

Sunday, Dec. 24, 8:00 and 10:00 AM

Christmas Mass Times

Christmas Eve, Sunday, Dec. 24

Children’s Mass & pageant: 4:00 PM, no incense

Vigil Mass: 6:30 PM bilingual, no incense

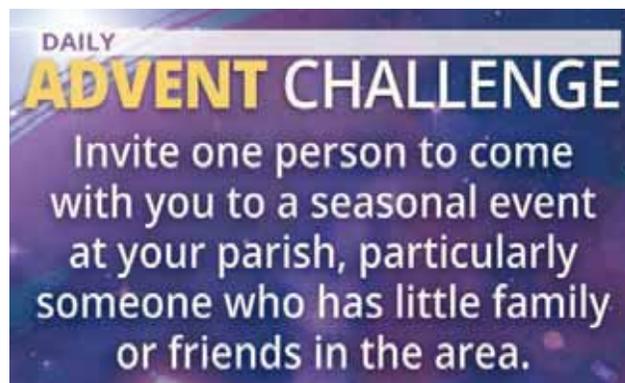
Mass during the Night: 9:00 PM

Prelude and carols at 8:15 PM

Christmas Day, Monday, Dec. 25

8:00 AM and 10:00 AM

Masses Sunday morning, December 24, will be for 4th Sunday of Advent, not Christmas.



Reflection from Our Summer Seminarian, Michael Wanta

As we entered into the season of Advent, marked by our efforts to quiet our souls and fix our gaze on Christ, the one who is coming, I realized that I have been in Italy for nearly 5 months, and haven't written one bulletin article! Ah!



Too much has passed in that time to recount here, but it has been a busy time of learning the Italian language and culture, becoming part of a community of around 230 seminarians from across the states, adjusting to a new university system – I'm just taking midterms now, in December! – and finding the time to grow in my life of prayer.

It has been a big transition, with its share of struggles and joys. In Advent we are exhorted to "Rejoice in the Lord always! I say it again. Rejoice! Everyone should see how unselfish you are. The Lord is near" (Philippians 4:4-5). These past months, my prayer has tended to a simple recognition of God's unspeakably great love for us and my all too little yet pleasing response of adoration. We cannot thank Him enough! In appreciating His guiding plan and allowing Him to love me in the midst of this transition, I have felt more confirmed in my studies for the priesthood. I have found it easier to be joyful and self-giving. When we turn our attention away from ourselves and back to God, we are more free to be our best selves.

We have great cause for rejoicing because Christ "The King will come... He himself will lift the yoke of our captivity." This is the great joy that we proclaim today on Gaudete Sunday, that Jesus has come and is coming again to save us from the burden of sin. He will lift the burden, let us simply love Him in return.

Fr. Bart's article is continued from the previous page

is the time to complete your pledge you made last year. To take advantage of a tax deduction for all 2017 contributions, the following guidelines are offered:

- All hand-delivered 2017 contributions must be received in the parish office no later than noon on Sunday, December 31, 2017.
- All mailed 2017 contributions must be postmarked by December 31, 2017.

If you have any questions about how you can make your gift to the parish, or any question regarding your pledge balance, please call Patrick O'Loughlin at our parish office between 9:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. Thank you so much for all of your great generosity towards our STA Parish!

New Liturgical Mandate From Bishop Morlino

I want to share with you a recent communication I received from Bishop Morlino that will have an effect on our Sunday Masses. In a communication with priests, Bishop has written:

"Given the troubles of our age, I believe we are certainly called, not only to redouble our efforts in spreading Christ's plan for the redemption of creation, but also our struggle against the evil one and his works. For these reasons, and after consulting with and receiving the support of the Presbyteral Council, I have determined that as a diocesan Church we will begin to insert one or more "Prayers for the Triumph of Good and the Overcoming of Evil," and a call for the intercession of St. Michael the Archangel at the end of the General Intercessions.

I believe that it is urgent that we undertake this practice and would have liked to ask that it begin on the First Sunday of Advent (with brief and appropriate catechesis, as always). However, I recognize that it may be judged pastorally advantageous to have the St. Michael Prayer available to the faithful in print and that this may prove challenging in such a short time. As such, the absolute deadline for the undertaking of this additional petition and prayer to St. Michael will be the Feast of the Holy Family, Dec. 31st, 2017."

To comply with Bishop's request, we will have the St. Michael Prayer added to the back cover of our new missalettes and after a few weeks to allow me to catechize and explain this addition to the Mass, we will begin making this addition on the Feast of the Holy Family.



Almost Bright

December 19, 6:30-7:30 PM

An Advent Night of Reflection

Three candles are burning...but not all are lit.

The Light of the World is coming...but isn't here yet.

We want to let God shine through us...but sometimes our sins and failures get in the way.

Advent helps us focus on the approaching Light rather than on the encroaching darkness. On December 19, come for an evening of beautiful music, scripture, reconciliation and the joy of seeing the light grow. Bring someone with you in whom you see the Light of Jesus' love. Invite someone who hungers to experience the healing of the sacrament of reconciliation. Encourage someone who needs to see the light of Jesus' love. Join us in the quiet light of Advent, as we wait for 'almost bright' to transform to 'all is bright.'

Bake Sale Thank You!

Thank you to all of the bakers who made our annual bake sale so successful! We also thank all the volunteers who helped to sell the baked goods especially Grace Phelps, Diane Katalenich, Rosemary Neu, and Joanne Peterson who organized the bake sale! With your help, we raised \$2,694! Finally, thank you to Catholic Financial Life, which donated \$500 towards the bake sale! It was a huge success and we are forever grateful for your generosity!



Fr. Bart, Holly Irving, and Alan Charles, parishioner and a local representative of Catholic Financial Life, which made a \$500 matching donation to our bake sale, in the Gathering Area.

Weekly Stewardship of Treasure

December 8: Immaculate Conception

Envelope Offerings.....	\$1,425
Offertory	\$471
Children's Offerings	\$15
Total.....	\$1,911

December 9/10

Envelope Offerings.....	\$18,387
Offertory	\$1,534
Children's Offerings	\$180
Total.....	\$20,101
Building Fund.....	\$341
Capital Improvement Fund.....	\$10
Retired Priests of the Diocese.....	\$1,785

Thank you for your generosity and support of our mission at St. Thomas Aquinas Parish!

Counters Schedule

Monday, December 18

Jan McGinley and Edward Corcoran

Monday, December 26

Aeki Baik, Barbara Rudin, and Carol Sawyer

Discipleship with Holly Irving

Discipleship Moment

In today's second reading Paul concludes his letter to the Christian community at Thessalonica by providing it with actions to take as they wait for the return of the Lord. The first action is to rejoice always and give thanks in all circumstances. This sounds easy but it's not. The two words that make this task difficult are "always" and "all." This means giving thanks and rejoicing even when our circumstances are not always moments of joy and thanksgiving, or when we are confronted with a broken world. Prayerful disciples rejoice and give thanks in all circumstances because they are people of hope. A good reflection this week would be how the season of Advent can give you reason to hope. (Based on ICSC)



Discipleship Is Hunger for Christ

In the Gospel, we hear the Jews inquiring of St. John the Baptist who he is. The Jews are looking for Christ! They are looking for someone who will save them. Have you found Christ this Advent? Take some quiet time and reflect on your relationship with Jesus!

Ministry of the Week

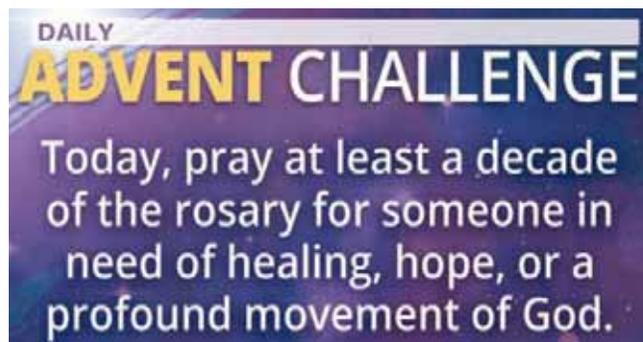
St. Thomas Aquinas would like to acknowledge the people who wash and iron the altar linens each week. Thank you for giving of your time and talents!

Prayer Chain

Prayer is powerful. There are many parishioners who pray daily for the needs of others. If you, a loved one, or a friend are in need of prayers please contact Holly at 833-2600. If you would like to pray for the people in need, **please contact Holly at 833-2600 or holly@stamadison.org**. The prayer chain is very long by the end of December, so in January I take everyone off the prayer chain. If you know someone who needs to remain on the prayer chain, **please contact Holly at 833-2600 or holly@stamadison.org**.

Leaving a Lasting Legacy

Many parishioners make contributions outside the parish because we have not asked them for their help. Bequests to the parish, gifts of life insurance, stocks, bonds, and certificates of deposit can help perpetuate your faith commitment. Please remember the ongoing and long range needs which exist here at St. Thomas Aquinas Parish. For specific areas which could benefit from your gift, **please contact Holly Irving at 833-2600 or holly@stamadison.org**.



Sisters of the Morning Star Update

Dear Father Bart,

I am sister Teresa Marie here in Calamba, Philippines. I would like to thank you once again for all your help in raising money for our HERMITAGE! In fact I am writing to give you some news (finally) and so that you can share with all your parishioners. After some more negotiating with the contractor, we were able to start work one week ago. Things are going along fine and it will probably be done the beginning of January. I just wanted to share some pictures of the progress work. I will send you



pictures when things are more advanced and of course of the finished hermitage.

Please thank everyone again for us and assure them of our prayers even if we are very far away!

Holy feast of the Immaculate Conception!
Sr. Teresa Marie

Below is a thank you from the Catholic Multi Cultural Center Meal Coordinator. STA Parish serves a meal at the CMC every first Thursday of the month and is a host site for a garden where all the produce is used by the CMC Meal program.

Catholic Multicultural Center Thank You

"For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat,
I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink,
I was a stranger and you invited me in."

"Whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me"

- Matthew 35:40
- Well that about sums it up, and I didn't even have to think of the words myself! It seems fitting to be delivering this electronic "thank you" between Thanksgiving and Christmas, when for many (myself included) the to-do lists and other demands of the season can oftentimes overwhelm the "spirit" of the holidays. But as all of you know intimately well, for many in our community, the words "thanksgiving" and "celebration" can ring hollow when challenged by the daily realities of poverty, hunger, and inadequate shelter.

It's in the face of those challenges that you and the groups you lead have again delivered, on a daily basis, 363 days (365 minus Thanksgiving and Christmas Day) of compassion, along with a meal! While stating again the obvious, the meal program at the Catholic Multicultural Center doesn't exist if not for the hands and hearts of volunteers like you, stepping up to the front to prep and serve the roughly 30,000 meals a year to our fellow brothers and sisters in need.

On behalf of the staff at the CMC that is privileged to serve alongside with you, thank you for all that you do, and wishing you a blessed Christmas and New Years!

Sincerely, Len Go (CMC Meal Coordinator)



Parishioner volunteer,
Neil Vassau working in our
STA garden

To volunteer to help serve this monthly meal, please **contact Fabio Ramirez at femar71@yahoo.com.**

Alpha begins in early January – with three times to choose from!

We're offering three sessions starting in January:
Sunday after 10 AM Mass (starting January 7),
Wednesday evening 5:45-7:30 PM (starting January 10),
Tuesdays from 11:30-1 PM (starting January 16).

Please RSVP to me or send me questions! Jennifer@stamadison.org or 833-2606.

What is Alpha?

Alpha is a series of 10 sessions. It provides a comfortable, hospitable environment to refresh your understanding of the basics of the Christian faith and the big questions of life.

Who Should Come to Alpha?

Anyone who wants to get to know Jesus and their faith better, or who has questions about their faith. Do you feel like you need a boost to enliven your spiritual life? Do you have a family member or friend who has stepped away? Alpha can help you explain things to them, or give them a place to ask their own questions, while giving you an experience of community that will warm your heart and soul. Even if you have been Catholic your whole life, it will deepen your appreciation for the way God loves us. Come, and bring a friend!

What Does Alpha Look Like?



GOOD FOOD

Each Alpha gathering begins with a meal. This is a time of fun and relaxation in a casual atmosphere ... perfect for making friends.



ALPHA TALK

Following the meal there is a video of a short talk exploring various aspects of the Christian faith.



DISCUSSION

Guests break into small groups where everyone is welcome to share thoughts and ask questions in a nonjudgmental and relaxed setting.

Unlocking the Mystery of the Bible: An Engaging Journey Through the Bible

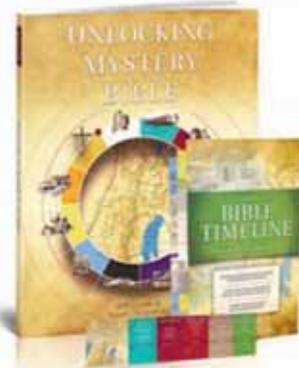
This eight-part study (30-minute sessions) provides the easiest way to understand the Bible. Unlocking the Mystery of the Bible makes the complex simple. It helps you uncover the story woven throughout Scripture so that you can get the “big picture” of the Bible and understand what it is all about. The Bible is a story about the Father’s unfailing love for you - a love that you are now called to share with others.

You will:

- Make sense of the Bible and see how it relates to your everyday life
- Discover the remarkable connections between the Old and New Testaments
- See how the sacraments, the Church and our entire Catholic Faith is rooted in Scripture ... and much more!

This is a great follow-up to Alpha!

Cost of the study is \$20, and runs on Friday mornings, starting January 12, from 9:15-10:30 AM. **Contact Jenny Ludtke, Director of Evangelization, at 608 833-2606 or Jennifer@stamadison.org** for more information or to register.



Music & Liturgy

By Greg Buchberger, Director of Music Ministries
HAVE YOU NOTICED THAT WE ARE SINGING A NEW MASS SETTING?

We began learning the bilingual setting of the Mass Propers from the Misa Luna at the beginning of September. Occasionally I still receive questions about why we are learning a new setting. While our assembly knows and sings the Mass of St. Ann very well, after singing it for 7 years, it is time to add some variety to our repertoire. We are also working very diligently as a parish at welcoming and encouraging our Latino brothers and sisters. At our Spanish Mass on Sunday nights, we have also been learning the Misa Luna. This will allow us to pray together more easily during our bilingual celebrations, especially when we pray together as one community, as we did on the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception (Dec. 8) and the Feast of our Lady of Guadalupe (Dec. 12). There are currently more than 100 different musical settings of the Mass Propers, as composers are still writing new music after the revision of the texts of the Roman Missal in 2011. And so, we chose very carefully, a setting that is in our primary hymnal, *One in Faith*, and in our missalette, *Celebremos*. The best part about this Mass Setting is its versatility in language. This setting can be sung entirely in English, entirely in Spanish, or any combination of the two languages that works best for our celebrations.

Each of brings with us our own preferences and opinions about the music that we like to sing, especially at Mass. By employing a variety of styles in our sung prayer, we strive to bring unity to our diverse assembly gathered for prayer. Not everyone may love the Mass of St. Ann, or the Misa Luna, or the Mass of Charity and Love, BUT the person next to you may feel truly engaged by it! We are encouraged to remember that the Catholic church is made up of people from around the world. Mother Church is bigger than St. Thomas Aquinas, or the United States, or even North America. We acknowledge and embrace our ethnic diversity and multicultural nature, as we grow in love of God, love of Jesus, and love of one another. This, too, is good!

For more information, contact Greg at greg@stamadison.org or 608-833-2600 x869.



Children's Choir

Saturday, December 9 the Children's Choir was practicing for Christmas Mass.

Please be sure to come and see how beautifully they sing!

Food Allergies

Allergies come in many forms and can happen quickly.

With respect to all of the families in our parish we asked that you refrain from bringing food into church.

This will help make sure that everyone here is able to participate in the Mass without worries of health issues.

Thank you for your help in keeping our parish family healthy during the holiday season and all year long.



Parking Lot Safety!

At St. Thomas Aquinas we try to maintain a safe, welcoming environment for everyone who comes to worship with us. One area where we need your help with this is in our parking lot. Recently many cars have been parked in the traffic lanes, and this makes it difficult for first responders to get close to the church in case of an emergency and dangerous for people walking in from the outer parking spaces and the street.

How can you help?

- Be sure to park only in marked parking spaces or on the street.
- If you need to park close to the building, you can usually find reasonable spaces up to 15 minutes before the start of the 10 am Mass or even later at the other Masses.
- If you need to make a quick getaway after Mass, parking on the street will help.
- If you dislike crowds, arriving early and waiting about 10 minutes to leave will help you miss the worst congestion. Before and after Mass are wonderful times to pray in Church or chat with the staff and other parish members in the Gathering Area.

None of these ideas are perfect; they all ask us to make some sacrifice for the good of the rest of our parish family. The members of this community have shown themselves capable of self-sacrificing love for others, so we are confident that together we can also handle this challenge in a way that lets us show our love for God through our consideration for the needs of others. Thank you all!

Love God.

Love Others.

Make Disciples!

Merry Christmas from the St. Thomas Aquinas Staff!



**Fr. Bart
Timmerman,
Pastor**



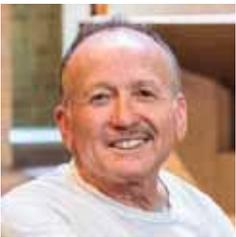
**Lorianne Aubut,
Baptism Prep.,
Elementary
Religious Education,
Hispanic Ministry**



**Mary Bailey,
Parish Secretary**



**Greg Buchberger,
Director of
Music Ministries**



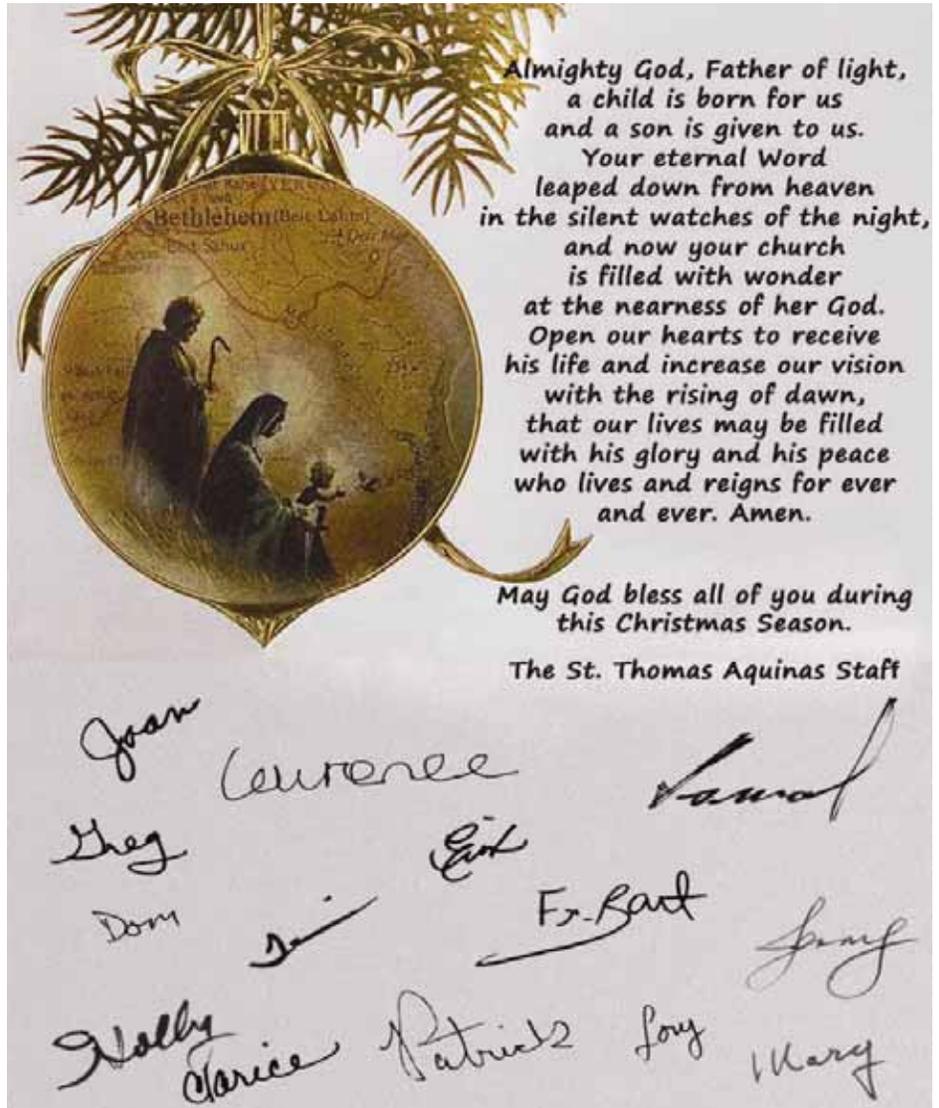
**Ismael
Covarrubias,
Facilities and
Community
Minister**



**Holly Irving,
Director of
Stewardship and
Development**



**Dominick Meyer,
Middle & High
School Religious
Education and
Youth Ministry**



May God bless all of you during this Christmas Season.

The St. Thomas Aquinas Staff



**Erik Gyr,
Pastoral Associate
Marriage Prep.**



**Clarice Hinrichs,
Office assistant**



**Terri Kopplin,
Religious
Education and
Stewardship
Secretary**



**Jennifer Ludtke,
Director of Evan-
gelization and
Parish Outreach**



**Patrick O'Loughlin,
Business Manager**



**Joan Schaefer,
Office
assistant**



We Pray for Our Loved Ones

SERVING WITH THE ARMED FORCES

- CW4 Steve Artz, brother of Sue Ziegler and Judy Rossa
- SSG Michael Bosold, nephew of Sharon Michel
- Owen Carle, grandson of Glynn and Shirley Rossa
- SFC Enrique Andres Cervantes, cousin of Maria McHugh
- A1C Margarita Clayton, Sister of Tina Hutchison
- Anthony Church, grandson of Clara Church
- Major Tim Doll, nephew of Jerry and Mary Ann Doll
- A1C Colin Donovan, cousin of Pat Korger
- A1C Charles (Gus) Dorais, grandson of Mary Kay Dorais
- Lt. Colonel Michael Everton, brother of Jennifer Doering
- Captain Alex Harms, son of Bruce and Judy Harms
- Airman First Class Brianna Herreid, granddaughter of Ken and Joyce Niesen
- SPC Shalice Hood, friend of Alyssa Rivera
- A1C Nicholas Jones, grandson of Mary and Gordon Samuelsen
- SSGT Mark Jurakovich, brother of Gina Levesque
- LT Bradley Kirschbaum, grandson of Tom and Sally Ellis
- SSGT Mike Levesque, brother of Chad Levesque
- CPL Alyssa Rivera, cousin of Fr. Bart Timmerman
- Major Stuart Mark Slattery, grandson of Thomas & Loretta Slattery
- Steven Thomas, brother of Linda Galang
- SGT Jack Vilim, nephew of Mary Crave
- A1C Blake E. Westbrook, grandson of Diane Genske

Follow Fr. Bart on Twitter at @Frbart01

Follow St. Thomas Aquinas on Facebook

This Week at St. Thomas Aquinas

Monday, December 18

- Men's Integrity Group, Library 6:30 PM
- Young Adults, Gathering Area..... 7:00 PM

Tuesday, December 19

- SVdP Conference Meeting, Upper Conference Room..... 6:30 PM
- Advent Evening of Reflection, Gathering Area 6:30 PM
- Men's Evening of Recollection..... 6:00 PM

Wednesday, December 20

- Toddler Time, Nursery and Upper Conference Room 9:00 AM

Saturday, December 23

- 4th Sunday of Advent Mass 4:30 PM

Sunday, December 24

- 4th Sunday of Advent Mass 8 and 10 AM
- Christmas Eve Children's Mass..... 4:00 PM
- Christmas Eve Mass, Bilingual 6:30 PM
- Christmas Eve Prelude and Carol Sing..... 8:15 PM
- Christmas Eve "Midnight" Mass 9:00 PM

Monday, December 25

- Christmas Day Mass 8 and 10 AM
- Parish closed after Mass, No Office Hours, No Adoration

Care Facility Liturgies This Week

- Oakwood:** Friday, December 22, Mass
- Brookdale:** Friday, December 22, Rosary and Communion
- Sebring:** Sunday, December 24, Word and Communion

Bulletin Sponsor of the Week

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Resources for Human Needs

- www.momhelps.org/: Middleton Outreach Ministry (food, housing, utilities, clothing)
- www.womenscarecenter.org/Madison.html: Women's Care Center (counseling, ultrasounds)
- www.catholiccharitiesofmadison.org/: Catholic Charities (adoption, aging services, developmental disabilities, counseling, substance abuse treatment, etc.)
- www.cmcmadison.org/: Catholic Multicultural Center (food, health services, education, job development, immigration legal help)
- abuseintervention.org/: Domestic Abuse Intervention Service (crisis response, emergency shelter, support groups)
- www.silentnomoreawareness.org: Abortion recovery help
- hopeafterabortion.com: Project Rachel (Abortion recovery help)
- Madison Al-Anon Hotline:** support for families and friends troubled by someone else's drinking or drug use—608-255-5181
- www.elizabethhousedane.org: Care Net Pregnancy Center of Dane County (free residential maternity and parenting program)

Men's Retreat

February 15 – 18, 2018

What better way to start Lent than to attend a Jesuit Retreat on Lake Winnebago (just south of Oshkosh) just as Lent begins. This weekend retreat starts Thursday evening at 7:15 PM and concludes with lunch on Sunday. The facilities are handicap accessible and each room includes a private bathroom, full-size bed, easy chair, desk, and more. You will find it very comfortable to pray, attend short conferences and celebrate with others through daily Mass and the sacraments. There is plenty of free time to rest, pray, recreate, read and meditate along with good food.

Please let us know if you would like to car pool or more details, **visit the website www.jesuitretreathouse.org or contact Jerry Doll at jddoll@wisc.edu or 608 836-8809.**

Help and Healing for Post-abortion

No matter how much time has passed, recent or long ago. Project Rachel and Rachel's Vineyard retreats offer compassionate and individual care for anyone hurting from abortion. To talk with someone, **contact Mary 608-221-9593 or rachel@straphael.org. Confidentiality assured. www.madisondiocese.org/projectrachel**

Why is the third Sunday of Advent known as Gaudete Sunday?

Its name is taken from the entrance antiphon of the Mass, which is: "Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice. Indeed, the Lord is near."

This is a quotation from Philippians 4:4-5, and in Latin, the first word of the antiphon is Gaudete (Latin, "rejoice"; it's also pronounced with three syllables: gau-de-te)



St. Thomas Aquinas Supports CMC Radiothon

Fr. Bart presides at the noon Mass at the Catholic Multi Cultural Center.

Fr. Bart and Lorianne Aubut at the Catholic Multicultural Center Radiothon Fundraiser, broadcast by La Movida 1480.



Mass Intentions for This Week

Saturday, December 16

4:30 PM Peg Schey & deceased members of Phillip White Family ☩

Sunday, December 17: 3rd Sunday of Advent

8:00 AM Mary Kay Dorais ☩

10:00 AM Ruth Schim ☩

6:30 PM St. Thomas Aquinas Parishioners

Monday, December 18

8:30 AM Amelia Blair and Nora Louise Lilljedahl ☩

Tuesday, December 19

5:30 PM Dorothy Wagner and Barbara Cassidy ☩

Wednesday, December 20

8:30 AM Andrea Garcia ☩

Thursday, December 21: St. Peter Canisius, Priest & Doctor of the Church

7:30 AM Antonio Y. Martinez ☩

Friday, December 22

8:30 AM Murphy and Neuheisel Family ☩

10:00 AM Rolland Harris ☩ at Oakwood

Saturday, December 23

4:30 PM Joseph and Lucille Devine ☩

Sunday, December 24: 4th Sunday of Advent

8:00 AM St. Thomas Aquinas Parishioners

10:00 AM Barbara Prue ☩

Sunday, December 24: Christmas Eve

4:00 PM Norman and Huguette Ayoub ☩

6:30 PM Lourdes Medina de Larracilla ☩

9:00 PM Janet Sveum ☩

Monday, December 25: Christmas Day

8:00 AM St. Thomas Aquinas Parishioners

10:00 AM James Shampo ☩

Readings for the Week of December 17

Sunday: Is 61:1-2a, 10-11/Lk 1:46-48, 49-50, 53-54 [Is 61:10b]/

1 Thes 5:16-24/Jn 1:6-8, 19-28

Monday: Jer 23:5-8/Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19 [cf. 7]/Mt 1:18-25

Tuesday: Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a/Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17 [cf. 8]/Lk 1:5-25

Wednesday: Is 7:10-14/Ps 24:1-2, 3-4ab, 5-6 [cf. 7c and 10b]/Lk 1:26-38

Thursday: Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a/Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21 [1a; 3a]/Lk 1:39-45

Friday: 1 Sm 1:24-28/1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd [cf. 1a]/Lk 1:46-56

Saturday: Mal 3:1-4, 23-24/Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-9, 10 and 14 [cf. Lk 21:28]/Lk 1:57-66

Next Sunday: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27, 29 [2a]/Rom 16:25-27/Lk 1:26-38

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