



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

*Mis ojos han visto a tu Salvador,
... luz que alumbra a las naciones
y gloria de tu pueblo, Israel.*

Lucas 2: 30, 32



*My eyes have seen your salvation,
... a light for revelation to the
Gentiles, and glory for your
people Israel.*

Luke 2:30, 32

From the Desk of Fr. Bart

Feast of the Holy Family

I think the most beautiful thing about the Gospel today is that the whole family goes on pilgrimage together to pray in the Temple. Fathers, mothers, children together go to the house of the Lord, in order to make mark the holy day with prayer. As a Jewish family, it is certain that Mary and Joseph taught Jesus how to pray and throughout the day, they would pray together as a family and then on the Sabbath, they would go together to the synagogue to listen to readings from the Law and the Prophets, and praise the Lord with the assembly. This continues in our day, in your family. This is so beautiful. As you come to Mass each Sunday with your family keep in mind Psalm 122:1-2: "I rejoiced when I heard them say, let us go to the house of the Lord! Our feet are standing within your gates, O Jerusalem." Truly when we come to Mass we come to the porch of heaven, what a wonderful place for your family to be for a little while each Sunday.



Prayer for Our Family (adapted from a prayer by St. Mother Theresa of Calcutta)

"Heavenly Father, you have given us the model of life in the Holy Family of Nazareth where love, peace, and joy reign. May we love one another as God loves each one of us, more and more each day, and forgive each other's faults as you forgive our sins. Help us, O loving Father, to take whatever you give and give whatever you take with a big smile."

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. 31, 2017."

To comply with Bishop's request, we have added the St. Michael Prayer to the back cover of our new missalettes and we will begin making this addition today on the Feast of the Holy Family.

Thank You to Fr. Jim Kuhn

I am so grateful to Fr. Kuhn for being available to celebrate our weekend Masses this weekend. I am spending the entire weekend in Kieler with my family. On Saturday, December 30, my cousin is

Prayer for Life

For families in times of illness:
May they find strength and hope
in the example of the Holy Family;
We pray to the Lord:



Por familias en tiempo de enfermedad
que sientan la fuerza y la esperanza
en el ejemplo de la Sagrada Familia;
roguemos al Señor:



Protecting our Children from Sex Trafficking: What Are the Signs?

Sunday, January 14, 2018, 11:15 AM-12:30 PM

"It is not possible to remain indifferent before the knowledge that human beings are bought and sold like goods." ---Pope Francis

All are welcome to join the parents of our middle school Religious Education Program after the 10:00 Mass on January 14 as we learn how to protect our children from being coerced into sex trafficking. The program will begin with the showing of a 20-minute film, "Chosen", which demonstrates how easy it is for sex traffickers to lure teenagers in communities such as ours into the industry. Following the film, we will share reactions and answer questions. Detectives Roger Baker and Jan Miyasaki from the Madison Police Department and Dane County Sheriff Dave Mahoney will then share more details on the industry, the extent of the problem in Madison, and how we all can act to prevent traffickers from preying on our children.

This is a topic that many of us are unaware of but one that threatens the children in our midst. The more we know, the more we can do to help victims and prevent future coercion. During the month of January, National Slavery and Human Trafficking Prevention Month, we ask all parishioners to pray three Hail Mary's on a daily basis for both the victims and the perpetrators of this practice.

Music & Liturgy By Greg Buchberger, Director of Music Ministries



A Blessed Christmas Season to each of you!

A word of thanks is needed to all of you who support St. Thomas Aquinas Parish, the ministry of the Church, and the work of our Parish Community. You are each a blessing to one another and to our community. Your presence here helps to build the Church on earth. Thank you to all of you for your commitment to the Lord and for helping St. Thomas Aquinas to be a vibrant community of profound faith. It is only through your immense generosity of time, talent, and treasure that St. Thomas Aquinas is able to care for the needs of our parishioners and the community around us.

Do you remember the 12 days of Christmas? Did you know that these 12 days begin on Christmas Day and conclude with the Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord?

- The Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph (Dec. 31), is a traditional time for the Blessing of a Family.
- The Christmas season, especially the Solemnity of Epiphany (Jan. 7), is a traditional time when homes may be blessed.
- On New Year's (Dec. 31) Eve or New Year's Day (Jan. 1), households may gather at the table, at the Christmas Tree, or Manger Scene for a Blessing of the New Year.
- Remember that the Christmas Season doesn't officially end until after Evening Prayer on Monday, January 8 (Baptism of the Lord). Ordinary time begins Tuesday, January 9.
- Join us on the Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord for a special celebration of Lessons & Carols, celebrated here at St. Thomas Aquinas at 1:00 PM.

The Love that Lives by W.D. Dorrity

Every child on earth is holy,
Every crib is a manger lowly,
Every home is a stable dim,
Every kind word is God's own gem,
And every town is Bethlehem,
For Christ is born and born again,
When His love lives in hearts of men.

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

being married in the same Church and on the same day as my parents were married 45 years ago. My entire family will be with my parents at my cousin's wedding to celebrate my parent's milestone Wedding Anniversary. On Sunday, I will celebrate Mass at my sister's home. Her family just bought a new home, so we will bless the home as part of the Mass. I want to thank Fr. John Norder as well who will be celebrating Mass on Monday in honor of Mary, Mother of God. I will ring in the New Year with my family and friends this year. I am looking forward to spending quality time with my family, especially since adding the Mass in Spanish on Sundays at 6:30 PM has kept me from my usual time with them.

January 1, Mary Mother of God

Please note that this holy day is not a holy day of obligation this year, since the feast falls on a Monday. We will be celebrating Mass at 9:00 AM in honor of Mary, Mother of God.

Happy New Year!

As we begin 2018, let us use our time and energy to become closer to Jesus Christ, build up and enrich our families, and continue to encourage one another as we journey towards heaven. May each of you and your families have a blessed, healthy, and prosperous New Year!

Thank You

Thank you to all who helped make our Christmas celebration so Christ-centered and beautiful last weekend! Thank you to Greg Buchberger, our Music Director. Thank you to all of our musicians and singers who provided the beautiful music for our Masses. Thank you to Ismael Covarrubias, our Maintenance Director, who made the Church so beautiful and clean. I also appreciate his good work outdoors. Thank you to all of our volunteers who helped decorate the Church for Christmas. Thank you to Holly Irving, our Director of Discipleship for her support at all the Masses. Thank you to all of our Liturgical Ministers. Thanks to Eileen Hartog and all who helped direct and participate in our children's pageant. Thank you to our entire STA Staff for all of their good work behind the scenes to make this Christmas special. Thank you to all who participated in any way in our Christmas Masses and for your great generosity with our parish at Christmastime. Our STA Parish Staff is very appreciative of your cards and remembrances. Thank you to all who were so thoughtful to remember me and Lawrence, our seminarian, at Christmas with cards, food, and gifts. Your kindness to me is overwhelming and I appreciate your generosity with our parish and with me. THANK YOU!

Lessons and Carols with the STA Parish Choir

Sunday, January 7, 1:00 PM

Join us on the Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord for a special celebration of Lessons & Carols, celebrated here at St. Thomas Aquinas at 1:00 PM. During this service of Lessons & Carols, we recall the stories of our faith, sing together the songs of Christmas, and reflect on this Holy Season of Christmas. Come and join us! All are welcome! Reception to follow!



2017 Annual Catholic Appeal Update

Diocesan Goal:	\$3,200,001
Pledge Total:	\$3,448,259
Percent of Goal Pledged:.....	108%
Paid to Date:	\$3,249,578
Percent of Goal Collected:.....	102%
STA Parish Pledge Goal:	\$94,586
STA Parish Pledge Total:	\$131,357
Percent of Goal Pledged:.....	139%
Paid to Date:	\$126,480
Percent of Goal Collected:.....	134%
Percent of households participating	28%

Thank you for fulfilling your pledge and supporting our Diocese of Madison.

Priests for Our Future Update

Thank you for supporting the *Priests for Our Future: The Church Is Alive!* Campaign 2014 - 2019.

Please continue to fulfill your pledge to ensure enough funds to educate our

future priests. Our results so far are as follows:

Diocesan Overall Results to Date

Campaign Goal:	\$32,770,000
Campaign Pledge Total:.....	\$42,773,700
Paid to Date:.....	\$28,678,819

Parish Results to Date

Parish Pledge Goal:.....	\$830,000
Parish Pledge Total:.....	\$1,541,079
Percent of Goal Pledged:	186%
Paid to Date:.....	\$1,185,834
Percent of Goal Collected:.....	143%



Discipleship with Holly Irving

Discipleship Moment

When Jesus is presented in the Temple, our Blessed Mother formally offers him to God's service without reservation. It is a service that Simeon prophetically foretells: a service to God that will turn the old laws and cultural norms upside down. Are we destined to hold on to old habits and customs tightly or like Jesus, are we willing to serve the Lord and proclaim the Gospel in new and creative ways?

(Based on ICSC)



Discipleship Is Changing Our Ways

In the second Reading today, St. Paul tells us to "Put on, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, heartfelt compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience, bearing with one another and forgiving one another, if one has a grievance against another, as the Lord has forgiven you, so must you also do." As we look forward into the coming new year of 2018, how can we "Put on, as God's chosen one?"

Ministry of the Week

St. Thomas Aquinas would like to acknowledge the people who are sacristans. Sacristans get everything ready for Mass during the week and the weekends. We appreciate your help! Thank you! If you would like to be a sacristan, please contact Holly. Training will be provided.

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 need 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.

IRA Rollover

Are you 70 1/2 and considering a gift to the parish? If you have an IRA this could provide you with a beneficial way to make a gift of up to \$100,000 this year! Special conditions apply so please contact your tax advisor, plan administrator to learn more about Charitable IRA Rollover.

Weekly Stewardship of Treasure

December 12: Our Lady of Guadalupe

Envelope Offerings.....	\$441
Offertory	\$1,005
Total.....	\$1,446

December 15/16

Envelope Offerings.....	\$18,729
Offertory	\$1,543
Children's Offerings	\$202
Total.....	\$20,474
Building Fund	\$175
Capital Improvement Fund.....	\$115
Retired Priests of the Diocese.....	\$2,289

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

Weekly Stewardship of Treasure

Giving amounts will return next week.

Counters Schedule

Tuesday, January 2

Mary Neuhauser and Carol Sawyer

Monday, January 8

Dick and Mary Ann Ihlenfeld

Symbolon: The Catholic Faith Explained

Wednesday evenings not Thursday evenings, starting January 17, from 6:30-8 PM



We may be familiar with different aspects of the Catholic Faith ... but how does it all fit together? And what difference does it make for our lives? This video series systematically presents the BIG picture of the Catholic Faith. Acclaimed author, speaker, and theologian Dr. Edward Sri leads over 25 of the nation's top experts to clearly explain the Catholic Faith in a way that helps us know it, live it, and articulate it to others.

This is another great follow-up to Alpha! Contact Jenny Ludtke, Director of Evangelization, at Jennifer@stamadison.org or 833-2606 or for more information or to register.

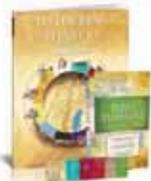
Young Adult Connections

Open to marrieds and singles in their 20s and 30s, the Young Adult group at St. Thomas Aquinas gathers for conversation and fellowship twice a month during (with a few extra fun events).



Young Adults are meet on the first and third Monday nights. Our next gathering is Monday, January 15, 7-9 PM. To be added to the email/ mailing list, please contact Jennifer Ludtke at 833-2606 or jennifer@stamadison.org. You can also stay informed on <https://www.facebook.com/STAMadisonYA>

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 unending 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 Jennifer Ludtke, Director of Evangelization, at 608 833-2606 or Jennifer@stamadison.org for more information or to register.

Alpha Is about to Begin!

Alpha is about to begin!

We're offering three sessions starting in February not January:

Sunday after 10 am Mass (starting February 11),
Wednesday evening 5:45-7:30 pm (starting February 7),
Tuesdays from 11:30-1 pm (starting February 13).

Please RSVP or send questions to Jenny at 833-2606. or Jennifer@stamadison.org.

What is Alpha?

Alpha is a series of about 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. Has it been awhile since you had to explain the basics of what we believe about Jesus and our faith? 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. 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.

STA Singles Dinner Out

Join the St. Thomas Aquinas Singles for our monthly dinner, this month at Olive Garden Italian Restaurant, 7017 Mineral Point Rd, Madison on Tuesday, January 16 at 6 PM. RSVP by Sunday, January 14 to Jill at 604-3070 or jillymoose18@yahoo.com.

Love God.

Love Others.

Make Disciples!

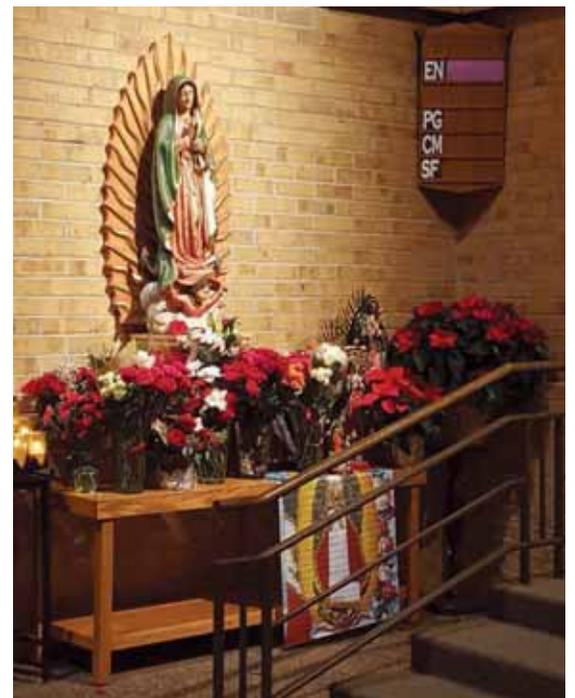
December at the St. Thomas Aquinas



**Christmas Basket Sorting,
Packing, and
Delivery
December 15 & 16**



**Our Lady of
Guadalupe
December 12**



**Advent Evening of Reflection
Tuesday, December 19**



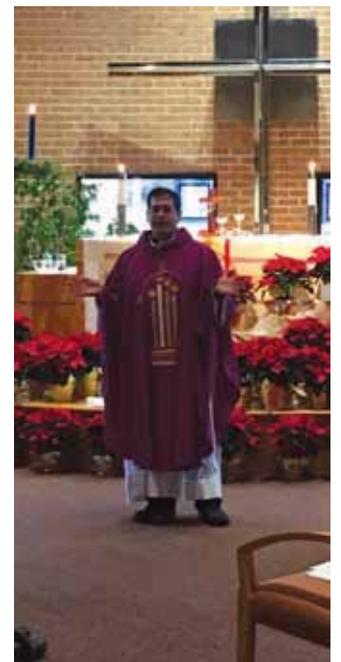
**Decorating for Christmas,
December 22
Many hands make light
work.**



**Las Posadas
December 21**



**Mass at Oakwood
December 22**



Relit: The Heart of Evangelization

Friday, February 2 (evening) and Saturday, February 3 (all day)



If a friend or family member asked you about your faith, would you know how to respond? Have you ever felt unequipped or unprepared to share your faith with others? If you answered yes to either of these questions, you are invited to attend our upcoming parish training program, **relit: The Heart of Evangelization**. Relit helps you take a step back to look at your life as well as your parish involvement with a new lens, a renewed perspective. You will learn how to take the good work you are already doing and discover how these ministries can be more effective. By exploring such things as some people's obstacles to the faith and learning how others see God in their lives, you will gain the skills to help them grown in their faith. This intense training is part of our parish 5-year plan, and we would love to see you there. For more information, or to register, contact Jennifer Ludtke at Jennifer@stamadison.org or 833-2600

Kids Share Time and Talent!

Ever wonder what our parish children say on their envelopes as Time/Talent for the week? Here are just a few things!

- I played nice with new friends.
- I sit quietly in the early mornings.
- I hug my animals when I get frustrated.
- I take turns with my brother.

What beautiful examples of following in Jesus' footsteps.

World Day of Peace Message

January 1, 2018

As we celebrate the Prince of Peace throughout the Christmas season, Pope Francis calls us to reach out to migrants and refugees. "In a spirit of compassion, let us embrace all those fleeing from war and hunger, or forced by discrimination, persecution, poverty and environmental degradation to leave their homelands."

In his annual World Day of Peace message, he defines migrants and refugees as "men and women, children, young and elderly people, who are searching for somewhere to live in peace." He goes on to say, "In order to find that peace, they are willing to risk their lives on a journey that is often long and perilous, to endure hardships and suffering, and to encounter fences and walls built to keep them far from their goal."

Let us keep migrants and refugees in our daily prayers and in particular on New Year's Day. To read Pope Francis' full statements search for Pope Francis World Day of Peace statement on the web.

To see Pope Francis' full message, go to w2.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/messages/peace.index.html and click on the link for the 51st World Day of Peace 2018.

New Year's Resolutions and Stewarding our Relationship with Christ

The beginning of the new year is an ideal time to reflect on how we intend to follow Christ Jesus and become better stewards of our relationship with him in the coming year. Will Jesus be a priority in our lives in 2018? Take some time to reflect on your own personal priorities and values by taking this short 5-step self-assessment this week. Is it time to deepen your relationship with the Lord?

Step 1) How I spend the time entrusted to me: Name six to ten things you spent the most time doing regularly this past year.

Step 2) How I spend the financial resources entrusted to me:

1	6
2	7
3	8
4	9
5	10

Name six to ten things you probably spent the most money on this past year.

Step 3) Jesus as a priority during the past year a self - evaluation:

1	6
2	7
3	8
4	9
5	10

Mark an "X" on the line below that you think represents how high a priority Jesus has been in your life this past year (using actual time and money spent as a particular indicator.)

Low Priority	High Priority
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Step 4) Jesus as a priority during the coming year - a personal decision: Draw a small circle on the line above that represents how high a priority you would like Jesus to be in your life during this coming year.

Step 5) My concrete plan for a better relationship with Christ Jesus: What are some things I could start, stop or continue that would help me toward what I decided in Step 4 above.

Start:

Stop:

Continue:

(Based on ICSC)



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, January 1

Mass 9:00 AM
Parish Closed after Mass, No Office Hours, no Adoration

Wednesday, January 3

Toddler Time 9:00 AM
Pastoral Council Meeting, Lower Conference Room 6:30 PM

Saturday, January 6

Baptism Preparation Class, Upper Conference Room 10:30 AM

Sunday, January 7

Lessons and Carols, Church 1:00 PM
Epiphany Celebration with 3 Wise Men after Spanish Mass 7:30 PM

Care Facility Liturgies This Week

- Oakwood:** Friday, January 5, Rosary
- Brookdale:** Friday, January 5, Word and Communion
- Sebring:** No liturgy this week

*Love God.
Love Others.
Make Disciples!*

Mark Your Calendar!

St. Thomas Aquinas will host our area Confirmation Mass **Saturday, May 5, 2018 at 7 PM.** There will be lots more details to come but, please mark your calendars!

Please continue praying for our candidates and the others in the area.

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)

The Human Face of Trafficking: What Can We Do?

Saturday, January 13, 2018, 9 AM-2 PM

Goodman Community Center, 149 Waubesa St Madison Kimberly Ritter, the director for development for Exchange Initiative, a social action organization that “empowers people and organizations with resources, knowledge and networks to help fight sex trafficking” is the keynote speaker at this event sponsored by the Madison Area Sinsinawa Dominicans Against Human Trafficking. As the Senior Account Manager for Nix Conference & Meeting Management, Kimberly learned about sex trafficking from a client in 2011. Appalled by what she discovered, she began raising awareness of the issue with all the hotels Nix does business with and in 2013 she created Exchange Initiative.

Sex trafficking is a form of human trafficking that forces children and adults, against their will, to engage in commercial sex acts. A little known fact is that sex trafficking is prevalent in Wisconsin, a threat to our children and an issue that all of us can help to curb.

To see the schedule for the day and to register go to <https://www.sinsinawa.org/news-events/antitrafficking-reg-form01-18.pdf>. There is a \$15 registration fee to cover the cost of lunch. The deadline for registration is January 5.

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) right after Lent begins. This weekend retreat starts Thursday evening at 7:15 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 and the food is fantastic. SAVE THESE DATES-- February 15-18, 2018. Please let us know if you would like to car pool. For more details, visit the website www.jesuitretreathouse.org or contact Jerry Doll at jddoll@wisc.edu or 608 836-8809.

March for Life in Chicago.

Each year people of all faiths gather across America to pray and march to seek a reversal of the Supreme Court decision of Roe v Wade that legalized abortion in our country in 1973. The **2018 Chicago March for life is on Sunday, January 14.** Pro-Life Wisconsin has chartered buses for those in the Madison area to participate in the Chicago march. Buses will leave the Dutch Mill Park and Ride at 9:30 am and return at 8:00 p.m. **Click on this link to register and for more information!** <https://www.eventbrite.com/o/pro-life-wisconsin-8628850076> Questions? Call or email Therese Aloia (262) 796-1111 ext. 14 or Therese.A@ProLifeWI.org. And complete information on the Chicago March of Life is found at: <http://www.marchforlife-chicago.org/>

Mass Intentions for This Week

Saturday, December 30

4:30 PM David Peterson ☩

Sunday, December 31: The Holy Family; New Year's Eve

8:00 AM St. Thomas Aquinas Parishioners

10:00 AM Edward and Shirley King ☩

6:30 PM Deceased members of the Sergio Ocotl family

Monday, January, 1: Mary, the Holy Mother of God; World Day of Peace;

9:00 AM St. Thomas Aquinas Parishioners

Tuesday, January, 2: SS. Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops & Doctors of the Church

5:30 PM Ron Fortner and Zedith Seipp ☩

Wednesday, January, 3: The Most Holy Name of Jesus

8:30 AM Shirley Laska ☩

Thursday, January, 4: St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Religious

7:30 AM Aileen Pinto ☩

Friday, January, 5: St. John Neumann, Bishop

8:30 AM Owen Bradley ☩

Saturday, January, 6

4:30 PM Dr. Tim Galvez ☩

Sunday, January, 7: The Epiphany of the Lord

8:00 AM Marks family: Carl Sr., Margaret, Carl Jr., Gloria, and David ☩

10:00 AM Ann Belekevich ☩

6:30 PM St. Thomas Aquinas Parishioners

Readings for the Week of December 31

Sunday: Gn 15:1-6; 21:1-3 or Sir 3:2-6, 12-14/Ps 105:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9, [7a, 8a] or Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 [cf. 1]/Heb 11:8, 11-12, 17-19 or Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17/Lk 2:22-40 or 2:22, 39-40

Monday: Nm 6:22-27/Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8 [2a]/Gal 4:4-7/Lk 2:16-21

Tuesday: 1 Jn 2:22-28/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4 [3cd]/Jn 1:19-28

Wednesday: 1 Jn 2:29--3:6/Ps 98:1, 3cd-4, 5-6 [3cd]/Jn 1:29-34

Thursday: 1 Jn 3:7-10/Ps 98:1, 7-8, 9 [3cd]/Jn 1:35-42

Friday: 1 Jn 3:11-21/Ps 100:1b-2, 3, 4, 5 [2a]/Jn 1:43-51

Saturday: 1 Jn 5:5-13/Ps 147:12-13, 14-15, 19-20 [12a]/Mk 1:7-11 or Lk 3:23-38 or 3:23, 31-34, 36, 38

Next Sunday: Is 60:1-6/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13 [cf. 11]/Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12

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