



ST. THOMAS AQUINAS CATHOLIC PARISH

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



World Marriage Day



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
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Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time
February 11, 2018

Sexto Domingo del Tiempo Ordinario
11 de Febrero de 2018

From the Desk of Fr. Bart

Liturgical Season About to Change!

This will be our final Sunday of Ordinary Time until June 10, when we will resume with the Tenth Sunday of Ordinary Time. This coming Wednesday, February 14, we will begin our Lenten Journey with Ash Wednesday. Please see pages 5-7 to help you plan for a grace-filled Lent. Lenten Regulations are also printed on page 6. Our theme for Lent 2018 is: Inviting Jesus to Be a Part of Our Lives! One way to begin to do this is to read the daily Gospel Mass reading and allow Jesus to speak to us. There are several resources that can help you achieve this goal that I have shared in the Lent Section of this bulletin. They can also be found on our website.



Sacrament of Reconciliation During Lent

Please plan to celebrate God's Mercy in the Sacrament of Reconciliation during Lent to prepare for a new life in Christ at Easter. Through the confession of our sins, we are able to die to them, be absolved, and rise with Jesus to new life in His Church. One of the difficulties I had during Advent was managing the high volume of confessions. I am so amazed by so many people desiring to experience this Sacrament of love, forgiveness, and healing. To help us be able to experience this Sacrament and avoid long lines, we will have two priests available during our weekend Confession times during Lent. I will be in the Confessional and a visiting priest will be in the Library on Saturdays from 3:15-4:15 PM. On Sundays, Fr. John Norder will be in the Confessional and Fr. Cy Weisensel will be in the Library. In addition to these regular times, I will add an additional time for Confessions every Tuesday evening from 6:00-6:45 PM in the Library. Another great opportunity will be at our Lenten Evening of Reflection where we will have five priests hearing Confessions from 6:00-7:30 PM. Please plan ahead for the time that will work out best for you. I am also available by appointment.

February 11- World Day of Prayer for the Sick

February 11 is World Day of the Sick, an observance introduced by St. Pope John Paul II as a way for believers to offer prayers for those suffering from illnesses. The day coincides with the commemoration of Our Lady of Lourdes and is an important opportunity for those who serve in Catholic health ministry to reflect on caring for those who are sick as well as those who provide care to them. Here is Pope Francis' message for today:

The memory of this long history of service to the sick is cause for rejoicing on the part of the Christian community, and especially those presently engaged in this ministry. Yet we must look to the past above all to let it enrich us. We should learn the lesson it teaches us about the self-sacrificing generosity of many founders of institutes in the service of the infirm, the creativity, prompted by charity, of many initiatives undertaken over the centuries, and the commitment to scientific research as a means of offering innovative and reliable treatments to the sick. This legacy of the past helps us to build a better future, for example, by shielding Catholic hospitals from the business mentality that is seeking worldwide to turn health care into a profit-making enterprise, which ends up discarding the poor. Wise organization and charity demand that the sick person be respected in his or her dignity, and constantly kept at the center of the therapeutic process.

Fr. Bart's article is continued on the next page **2**

Prayer for Life

For those who suffer from illness:
May they be comforted and cared for
by loved ones following Christ's example;
We pray to the Lord:



Por quienes sufren una enfermedad:
para que sean consolados y cuidados
por seres queridos siguiendo el ejemplo de Cristo;
rogueemos al Señor:

Marriage & Family Planning

Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend

"He cured many who were sick with various diseases."
Is your marriage suffering from lack of communication or kindnesses? Are you looking for a way to bring your marriage back to its fullness. Jesus can cure all! The next Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekends are **Feb. 16-18 in Geneva, IL; March 16-18 in Madison, WI or April 20-22 in Brookfield, WI.** Early registration is highly recommended. For more information visit our website at: alifetimeoflove.org or call (888) 574-5653.

Natural Family Planning Education

Are those special feelings and interactions with your spouse becoming routine? Learn how to **really** communicate and revitalize those feelings by attending a Natural Family Planning course. Taught by certified teaching couples in a 3-class series (Classes 2 & 3 TBD at Class 1), Class 1 starts as follows:

St. Paul Catholic University Center: February 17: 1 PM

Our Lady Queen of Peace: March 10, 10 AM and June 3: 10 AM

Holy Name Heights: April 8, 1 PM and May 12, 10 AM

Food Sunday Collection

As we prepare for our Lenten journey, let us consider our almsgiving opportunities. We can make a difference on a local level by participating in our monthly Food Sunday collection next weekend. When we do our grocery shopping, we have the opportunity to share our purchases with our neighbors. This month we are collecting donations for the Food Pantry at Lussier Community Education Center. Your donations will make a big difference to our neighbors struggling to make ends meet. Some of the most needed items are:

Tuna	Cereal	Pasta
Hearty soups	Meals-in-a-can	Olive oil
Peanut butter	Toothpaste	Toilet paper
Pancake mix/syrup		

The Human Concerns Commission wishes to express its sincere THANKS for your generosity this past year.

Reflection from Our Parish Seminarian, Lawrence Oparaji



In the Gospel today, Jesus encounters a leper. According to the standards of that time, a leper was an unclean person and it was even believed that leprosy was a punishment for some action against God. With this thinking, lepers were ostracized and avoided. So, this man's friends and families must have rejected him. But what did Jesus do? Instead of avoiding, rejecting, or stigmatizing the leper, as the world would have done, he touched and healed him. By healing the leper, Jesus makes a statement that the leper was not excluded from Salvation.

We all are sick, we all are sinners; but not to worry! Our God is a God that heals, He is a God that forgives, He is a God that does not turn us away. Instead He reaches out to take us by the hand and calls us by our name, He is a God that clears out our debt and gives us a fresh start time and again. However, just as a sick person seeks medical care, we too ought to sincerely approach God in the Sacrament of Reconciliation with our sicknesses so that He will restore us and give us the grace to carry on. Just as we observe our health and notice some symptoms which then lead us to seek medical care, we too must constantly observe our lives and evaluate them in relation to the life God lovingly demands of us, so as to make the appropriate amendments and continue to flourish in his grace. A great spiritual director once said "the reason why we sin is because we want to conquer temptations on our own, we feel we are powerful enough." But in reality, we cannot do it by our power, and we need to ask for God's help every day.

May God give us the grace to constantly approach him in our moments of weakness, those moments when we feel helpless, when we feel resentment towards God's loving plan for us. May he help us to recognize that He is here for us, to help us and to guide us if we only ask and stop trying to do it all on our own.

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

Let us increase our efforts to pray for the sick, that God may strengthen them, bring healing to them and renew them with his love. We ask Almighty God to look kindly on His suffering sons and daughters and comfort them with His love and mercy.

February 11—World Day of Prayer for Marriage

World Marriage Day (WMD) is an observance sponsored by World-wide Marriage Encounter, associated with the Catholic Marriage Encounter movement and observed on the second Sunday of February each year. Its purpose is to have a day that honors husbands and wives as the foundation of the family, the basic unit of society. It salutes the beauty of their faithfulness, sacrifice and joy in daily married life. The Theme for WMD has been permanently adopted as "Love One Another." This phrase is the commandment given us by Jesus in John 15:12. It speaks to us in a simple but challenging way of how our Heavenly Father wishes us to live. Loving one another is a daily decision - simple, but challenging.

Prayer For Marriage

Heavenly Father, we thank you for your tremendous gift of the Sacrament of Marriage.

Enable us to grow in our intimacy with You and with each other. Teach us the beauty of forgiveness so we may become more and more one in heart, mind, and body.

Strengthen our communication with each other, and help us become living signs of your love.

Help us to be examples of commitment, love, and service to our families and children.

Make us a sign of unity which Jesus prays for at the Last Supper.

We open ourselves to the guidance of your Holy Spirit who empowers us to love in Jesus name and walk in His footsteps.

Amen.

Relit Recap

This past weekend, nearly 60 parishioners participated in Relit—an intense training on how to be evangelizers...how to share the good news of our faith. Our time together was an amazing experience of the Holy Spirit, and an awakening to the charge that we have been given through our baptisms to share the Good News with others. To the right we are praying over Brad just before his presentation on the Holy Spirit, and below is a table of young adults with Jenny Ludtke's mom.



V Encuentro: A Pastoral and Evangelization Effort

By Lorianne Aubut, Coordinator of Elementary R.E. and Hispanic Ministry



For the past 8 months a large group of parish disciples and I, supported by our pastor Fr. Bart, have worked intensely within St. Thomas Aquinas and the Diocese of Madison as part of an incredible national effort called V Encuentro!



This effort is focused on strengthening the presence of the Hispanic community in the Catholic Church in the United States and attending to

the needs, concerns, and dreams of the Hispanic community at the parish, diocesan, regional, and national levels. This past fall, from September to November, our parish participated in this process by organizing a parish leadership team of 8 members and leading two rounds of 5 sessions focused on prayer and mission. We ended the process with our Parish Encuentro, which took place in November. Nearly 40 Latinos came together to discuss and reflect on the needs of our parish and our diocese.

Now, even more exciting times are approaching as the diocesan core team of approximately twelve members, including parishioner Edgar Martinez and me, works to plan the Diocesan V Encuentro to be held Sunday, March 11. Over 90 delegates from more than 10 parishes in our diocese, who fully participated in their parish sessions and *encuentros*, will gather at the Diocesan Encuentro to discern and propose recommendations about how to reach out to the Latino community and grow the evangelization efforts within Hispanic Ministry in our Diocese.

Now is a great opportunity for our parish to gather in prayer for the success of the V Encuentro, especially within our Diocese of Madison. Thank you for your prayers and for being part of this great parish family, where we love God, love Others, and make Disciples!

Discipleship with Holly Irving

Discipleship Moment

"Brothers and sisters, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do everything for the glory of God." 1 Corinthians 10:31



Do a quick check of your Discipleship. Where does God rank in your life? If He's not first, you have some work to do. Putting God first in everything keeps us from putting other "gods" (like our pride and ego, money and possessions) before God. Before making a decision, ask yourself if I am doing this for the glory of God or for the glory of me?

Discipleship Is

The fate of a leper is a great tragedy at any time and place. In Jesus' time, lepers were considered condemned, part of the plagues God sent as punishment. They were cast out of society and abandoned. Saint Mark's Gospel reveals the unthinkable. Jesus reaches out and touches a leper. He risks catching the contagious disease and heals the man. As the Gospel story teaches, no one is abandoned by Christ. Are there those in our society or in our personal lives for whom we ascribe no hope, whom we have abandoned, treated like lepers? Or as Christ's disciples do we risk reaching out and touching those who may seem to us to be "unclean" or not worthy of our time or attention?

(Based on ICSC)

Ministry of the Week

St. Thomas Aquinas would like to acknowledge and thank the cantors and psalmists who lead us in prayer every weekend! Cantors and Psalmists are those members of our music ministry who lead the congregation in singing and sing the Responsorial Psalm at Mass. Thank you for sharing your beautiful gifts and talents.

IRA Rollover

Charitable IRA Rollovers now offer a permanent giving and tax saving opportunity. If you have made a gift to the parish in the past using your IRA, this tax saving gift tool has been made permanent to help with your year-end gift planning. Please consider doing so again!

Catholic Herald Newspaper

Did you know that 791 parish households receive the *Catholic Herald*? Of those households, 172 contribute toward their subscription. The rest of the subscription cost comes out of our annual parish budget. Please consider contributing toward your subscription to help offset this great expense to the parish. You will find an envelope in your monthly envelope packet. If you do not get envelopes, you can write a check to St. Thomas Aquinas for \$15 with "Catholic Herald" written in the memo line and put it in the offertory basket. Thanks in advance for helping defray the cost to the parish of our Diocesan newspaper.



Weekly Stewardship of Treasure

February 4

Envelope Offerings	\$15,161
Offertory	\$1,036
Children's Offerings.....	\$117
Total	\$16,314
Building Fund	\$430
Capital Improvement Fund	\$160

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

Counters Schedule

Monday, February 12

Jan McGinley and Edward Corcoran

Tuesday, February 20

Aeki Baik and Barbara Rudin

Online Lenten Resources for a Grace-Filled Lent

The Ignatian Workout for Lent: An Online Retreat

Tim Muldoon writes that, “Life in Christ demands the same kind of vigilance, preparation, and training that a person undertakes as an athlete.”

This Lent, become a spiritual athlete and join Tim for *The Ignatian Workout for Lent*. Each Monday he’ll share audio reflections accompanied by suggestions for prayer and action. Based on the book of the same name, the online retreat begins the week of Ash Wednesday and continues through Easter Week.

<https://www.ignatianspirituality.com/lent/the-ignatian-workout-for-lent-an-online-retreat>



Xt3 Lent Calendar 2018

Do you enjoy listening to an Australian accent? Join the Australian bishops as you prepare your heart for Christ and go deeper in your faith. The Xt3 Lent Calendar provides daily content, including videos, meditations and podcasts, to assist you to prayerfully journey through Lent. The first Lent calendar door will open on the 14th of February with a new door opening each day until the 29th of March. <http://www.xt3.com/lent/>

Holy Heroes Lenten Adventure

Everything you need to make this the **Best Lent Ever for you and your family!**

Here’s what you get for FREE:

- Daily Lenten Activities: You’ll receive regular emails linking you to daily activities
- Fun video and audio selections
- View and listen online to an array of Holy Heroes media
- Activity Downloads: Print out and enjoy coloring pages, word searches, and crossword puzzles, Fun quizzes and more!



<https://www.holyheroes.com/Holy-Heroes-Lenten-Adventure-s/37.htm>

Bishop Robert Barron, Word on Fire

Bishop Robert Barron is an author, speaker, theologian, and founder of Word on Fire, a global media ministry. Word on Fire reaches millions of people by utilizing the tools of new media to draw people into or back to the Catholic Faith.

<https://www.wordonfire.org/>

Matthew Kelly, Dynamic Catholic

What is Best Lent Ever? It’s a free email program that will guide you on an incredible 40-day journey to become the-best-version-of-yourself, making this a truly life-changing Lent.

<https://dynamiccatholic.com/bestlentever>

USCCB Lenten Resources

Readings for Daily and Sunday Masses are available in both English and Spanish.

Audio Readings and Video Reflections are also available.

<http://www.usccb.org/readings>

All of these resources are also available at our parish website:
stamadison.org/lent-2018-resources/



Inviting Jesus to Be a Part of Our Lives!

Questions and Answers about Lent and Lenten Regulations from the USCCB

Q. Why do we say that there are forty days of Lent? When you count all the days from Ash Wednesday through Holy Saturday, there are 46.

A. It might be more accurate to say that there is the "forty day fast within Lent." Historically, Lent has varied from a week to three weeks to the present configuration of 46 days. The forty day fast, however, has been more stable. The Sundays of Lent are certainly part of the Time of Lent, but they are not prescribed days of fast and abstinence.

Q. So does that mean that when we give something up for Lent, such as candy, we can have it on Sundays?

A. Apart from the prescribed days of fast and abstinence on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday, and the days of abstinence every Friday of Lent, Catholics have traditionally chosen additional penitential practices for the whole Time of Lent. These practices are disciplinary in nature and often more effective if they are continuous, i.e., kept on Sundays as well. That being said, such practices are not regulated by the Church, but by individual conscience.

Q. I understand that all the Fridays of Lent are days of abstinence from meat, but I'm not sure what is classified as meat. Does meat include chicken and dairy products?

A. Abstinence laws consider that meat comes only from animals such as chickens, cows, sheep or pigs --- all of which live on land. Birds are also considered meat. Abstinence does not include meat juices and liquid foods made from meat. Thus, such foods as chicken broth, consommé, soups cooked or flavored with meat, meat gravies or sauces, as well as seasonings or condiments made from animal fat are technically not forbidden. However, moral theologians have traditionally taught that we should abstain from all animal-derived products (except foods such as gelatin, butter, cheese and eggs, which do not have any meat taste). Fish are a different category of animal. Salt and freshwater species of fish, amphibians, reptiles, (cold-blooded animals) and shellfish are permitted.



VS.



Q. I've noticed that restaurants and grocery stores advertise specials on expensive types of fish and seafood on Fridays during Lent. Some of my Catholic friends take advantage of these deals, but somehow I don't feel right treating myself to the lobster special on Fridays during Lent.

A. While fish, lobster and other shellfish are not considered meat and can be consumed on days of abstinence, indulging in the lavish buffet at your favorite seafood place sort of misses the point. Abstaining from meat and other indulgences during Lent is a penitential practice. On the Fridays of Lent, we remember the sacrifice of Christ on Good Friday and unite ourselves with that sacrifice through abstinence and prayer.

Q. I understand that Catholics ages 18 to 59 should fast on Ash Wednesday and on Good Friday, but what exactly are the rules for these fasts?

A. Fasting on these days means we can have only one full, meatless meal. Some food can be taken at the other regular meal times if necessary, *but combined they should be less than a full meal*. Liquids are allowed at any time, but no solid food should be consumed between meals.

Q. Are there exemptions other than for age from the requirement to fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday?

A. Those that are excused from fast and abstinence outside the age limits include the physically or mentally ill including individuals suffering from chronic illnesses such as diabetes. Also excluded are pregnant or nursing women. In all cases, common sense should prevail, and ill persons should not further jeopardize their health by fasting.

Alpha is Just Beginning: Don't do Lent alone, it's not too late to sign-up for Alpha

Alpha is offered on:

Sunday, 11:15 AM

Tuesday, 11:30 AM

Wednesday, 5:30 PM

For questions or to join please **contact Jennifer Ludtke at 608-833-2600.**

Inviting Jesus to Be a Part of Our Lives!

Adoration

Mondays: 2:00–4:00 PM in Chapel
Tuesdays: 4:30–5:25 PM in Chapel
Fridays: 9:00–10:00 AM in Chapel



Ash Wednesday Masses with Distribution of Ashes

February 14, 8:30 AM, 12:10 PM, and 6:30 PM (*bilingual/bilingüe*)

Prayer and Reflection

Lent Evening of Reflection:
Tuesday, March 20, 6:00–7:30 PM

Confession During Lent

Tuesdays, 2/20–3/13, 3/27, 6:00–6:45 PM
During Lent Evening of Reflection
Tuesday, March 20, 6:00–7:30 PM
Saturdays, 2/17–3/24, 3:15–4:15 PM
Sundays, 2/18–3/25, 9:00–9:45 AM

Confession in Spanish

Sunday, March 18 : 7:30–8:30 PM

Stations of the Cross

(*no incense*)

Stations in English

Friday, 2/16 and 3/23, 3:00 PM
Tuesdays, 2/20–3/13, 6:00 PM

Stations in Spanish (El Viacrucis)

Thursday, 3/15, 6:30–7:30 PM
Sunday, 3/18, 7:30–8:30 PM

Holy Week Schedule

Passion Sunday, March 25: Masses Saturday at 4:30 PM
Sunday at 8:00 AM and
10:00 AM with procession from Social Hall
Sunday, 6:30 PM (*en español/ in Spanish*)
Monday of Holy Week, March 26: Mass at 8:30 AM
Tuesday of Holy Week, March 27: 5:30 PM Mass at STA
Diocesan Chrism Mass, 7:30 PM at St. Maria Goretti
Wednesday of Holy Week, March 28: Mass at 8:30 AM
Holy Thursday, March 29: **No** 7:30 AM Mass
Mass of the Lord's Supper, 7:00 PM
(*heavy incense, bilingual/bilingüe*)
Good Friday, March 30: **No** 8:30 AM Mass
Liturgy of the Lord's Passion, 1:00 PM
(*no incense, in English*)
Servicio de Viernes Santo, 3:30 PM
(*en español/in Spanish*)

Easter Masses

Easter Vigil Mass, Saturday, March 31, 8:00 PM
(*incense, bilingual/bilingüe*) **No** 4:30 PM Mass
Easter Sunday, April 1, **No** 6:30 PM Mass
8:00 AM in Church (*incense*)
10:00 AM in Church (*incense*),
10:15 AM in Social Hall (*no incense*),

Reading and Praying with the Gospels in 1% of Your Day

14 Minutes and 24 Seconds—How you spend that time could change your life.

During Lent we are challenging you to read and pray with the Gospel daily. All the readings for the week, including the Gospel, are on the last page of every bulletin. If you are not sure how to start reading and praying with Scripture, here are some ideas for how to pray in about 15 minutes.

Ask / 3 Minutes

Begin in the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

Take a moment to be still, rest, and know that Jesus is here...

Ask Jesus to help you get to know Him during this prayer time...

Seek / 7 Minutes

Read the day's Gospel.

Seek to know Jesus by reflecting on what He said; what He did, how He interacted with others; and how He felt...

Re-read the passage.

Speak to Jesus about what it means for you...

Ask Him what He wants you to know...

Take a few minutes to listen...

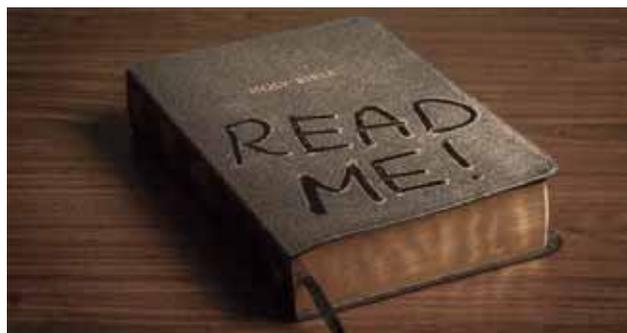
Knock / 5 Minutes

Ask for what you need and what others need...

Thank Him for being with you today...

Close with an Our Father.

End in the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.



STA Singles Dinner Out

Join the St. Thomas Aquinas Singles for our monthly dinner, this month at Tanner's Bar & Grill, 1611 Deming Way, Middleton on **Thursday, February 15 at 6 PM**. RSVP by **Tuesday, February 13** to Jill at 1-608-604-3070 or jillymoose18@yahoo.com.

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.

The STA young adults will be going to a Lenten fish fry at St. Peter's in Middleton on **Friday, February 23**. St. Peter's is widely considered to have the best church fish fry in the area, so we hope you'll be able to join us! We'll get in line for a table at 5:45 PM at the entrance of the school next to the church 7129 County Road K, Middleton. **RSVP to pnewhouse@wisc.edu**

Young Adults also meet on the first and third Monday nights. Our next gathering is **Monday, February 19, 7-9 pm**. Each evening stands on its own, so come and join us anytime! 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 [facebook.com/STAMadisonYA](https://www.facebook.com/STAMadisonYA)

Lord, Teach Me To Pray

Women of the parish - are you looking for a Lenten practice that will deepen your prayer life and allow you to hear the voice of the Holy Spirit through Scripture? **Lord, Teach Me To Pray** is a 12-week prayer series focused on rediscovering Christian virtues in the scriptures using St. Ignatius' methods of meditation and contemplation.

We commit to praying 15 minutes each day on assigned scripture passages and then meet as a small group once a week to learn more about prayer and to share with each other how the Holy Spirit has touched us in our personal prayer. It's a powerful way to connect with other women in the parish, with Scripture, and with the Holy Spirit.

The first meeting will be **Thursday, February 15 at 7 PM in the lower conference room**. To sign up or to learn more, **e-mail Laura at laura.m.angle@gmail.com**. Please RSVP by Monday, February 12 so we can prepare materials ahead of time.

Charity & Discipleship:

"The true disciple of the Lord commits himself personally to a charitable ministry, whose scope is man's multiform and endless poverty."

- Pope Francis

Music & Liturgy By Greg Buchberger, Director of Music Ministries



Lent exists so that we can prepare ourselves for these three great days (THE TRIDUUM).

The annual Lenten season is the fitting time to climb the holy mountain of Easter. As our catechumens and candidates prepare to enter the Church, the entire Christian community is called to be more attentive to the Word of God, to prayer, and to prepare ourselves to celebrate these Three Great Days. What is remembered during these three days is so spectacular and miraculous that it takes the Church fifty days to celebrate it. From the close of Easter Sunday until Pentecost we celebrate with great joy that which Jesus has done for us.

How do we celebrate our Lenten Liturgies?

Our celebrations during the season of Lent encourage our ongoing repentance and conversion. There are a few things that Mother Church asks of us during the season of Lent. The Glory to God is not sung or said during Lent. The Alleluia is not sung or said, and the Gospel Acclamation may be omitted completely. The Altar should not be decorated with flowers. Indeed, the décor should reflect the simple and penitential nature of the season. Musical instruments are to be played only to give support to the singing. In addition, the tradition of celebrating the Roman "stations" should be kept and promoted, and the Rite of Penance should be celebrated before the Triduum.

This coming Wednesday is Ash Wednesday and begins our Lenten journey. We will be having the distribution of ashes at all of our Masses that day. As we are signed with ashes, one of these two formulas is used: 1) Repent and believe in the Gospel. [or] 2) Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return. This signing with ashes takes place following the homily, and it is our act of penitence. As such, the normal penitential rite at the beginning of Mass is omitted on Ash Wednesday.

Let us pray for ourselves and for one another, that during this coming season of grace, we may invite Jesus into our lives in a new and profound way. May we experience many blessings on our Lenten journey together!

2018 Annual Catholic Appeal

Please prayerfully consider making a pledge payable over 5-months to the Annual Catholic Appeal.

Your gift will help enable the Diocese to reach its goal and provide grant opportunities for Catholic schools, religious education programs and assisting distressed parishes in need. Thank you for your continuing support of our parish, diocese and the work of the Church throughout the world.





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

This Week at St. Thomas Aquinas

Tuesday, February 13

- Bible Study, Upper Conference Room..... 9:30 AM
- Alpha, Social Hall..... 11:30 AM

Wednesday, February 14

- Ash Wednesday Mass..... 8:30 AM
- Toddler Time, Nursery and Upper Conference Room 9:00 AM
- Ash Wednesday Mass..... 12:10 PM
- Ash Wednesday Mass, Bilingual 6:30 PM

Thursday, February 15

- Choir Rehearsal, Social Hall 6:30 PM
- Lord Teach Me to Pray, Lower Conference Room..... 7:00 PM

Friday, February 16

- Bible Study, Library..... 9:00 AM

Saturday, February 17

- STACKS, RE Wing Room 102 - 104..... 1:00 PM

Care Facility Liturgies This Week

- Oakwood:** Friday, February 16, Rosary
- Brookdale:** Friday, February 16, Word and Communion
- Sebring:** Sunday, February 11, Word and Communion

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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)

Middle and High School Ministry with Dominick Meyer

Feed My Sheep



Feed My Sheep is a two-part Lenten project that our parish works on with the other Westside Catholic Parishes. ALL ages are encouraged to participate in both stages.

The first part is to fundraise to buy food ingredients that will then be packaged and sent to those in need.

Starting next weekend you can pick up an “Ewe Tube” in the gathering space. It holds \$10 in quarters, and that will feed 40 people for a day! Checks and cash fit in the tubes too. Please return filled or unfilled tubes to the Feed My Sheep Box **by March 11**.

The second part is to package all the ingredients. Our packaging day will be March 17 at the Catholic Multicultural Center. You can sign up to volunteer for the packing day on February 14. Almost all of the 500 volunteer spots fill up in the first week, so don't delay! **Go to feedmysheepmadison.com to sign up!**

Men's Retreat, February 15 – 18

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. For more details contact Jerry Doll at jddoll@wisc.edu or **608 836-8809**.

Living With The Saints

February 11: On this day in 1858, while gathering flowers with her sister and a friend, Bernadette Soubirous saw a vision of the Blessed Mother near Lourdes, France. Today there is a shrine at Lourdes visited by people from throughout the world, often seeking healing. Many parishes have outdoor shrines to Our Lady of Lourdes, set in a garden in a way similar to the way she appeared to St. Bernadette. Pray the rosary today. If you don't remember how, look online for help.

February 14: Lent begins today. This is one of the most solemn days of the Church year. We come face to face with the fact that we are sinners. Our only hope is in God's mercy which he generously pours out on us. Make sure that if you don't have a Lenten plan for prayer, fasting and almsgiving that you take some time today to do so. Go to church today and leave the ashes on your head as a silent witness of your faith. This year, Ash Wednesday falls on Valentines Day. Plan ahead and eat your chocolate on Fat Tuesday!



Mass Intentions for This Week

Saturday, February 10

4:30 PM Dan Stoudt ☩

Sunday, February 11: 6th Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 AM Ron Smith ☩

10:00 AM Dick Genske ☩

6:30 PM St. Thomas Aquinas Parishioners

Monday, February 12

8:30 AM Ray and Marian Genin ☩

Tuesday, February 13

5:30 PM Deceased members of Gozo Family and Rucker Family ☩

Wednesday, February 14

8:30 AM John and Kay McDonald ☩

12:10 PM Beverly and Robert Hudson ☩

6:30 PM Thanksgiving for Thomas Nicholas Llamas

Thursday, February 15

7:30 AM Alice Dorn ☩

Friday, February 16

8:30 AM Jim and Elaine Tracy ☩

Saturday, February 17

4:30 PM Ray Galvin ☩

Sunday, February 18

8:00 AM Arthur Mann ☩

10:00 AM Eric Bedward ☩ and his parents Brian and Judy Bedward

6:30 PM St. Thomas Aquinas Parishioners

Readings for the Week of February 11

Sunday: Lv 13:1-2, 44-46/Ps 32:1-2, 5, 11 [7]/1 Cor 10:31--11:1/
Mk 1:40-45

Monday: Jas 1:1-11/Ps 119:67, 68, 71, 72, 75, 76 [77a]/Mk 8:11-13

Tuesday: Jas 1:12-18/Ps 94:12-13a, 14-15, 18-19 [12a]/Mk 8:14-21

Wednesday: Jl 2:12-18/2 Cor 5:20--6:2/

Ps 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 12-13, 14 and 17 [cf. 3a]/Mt 6:1-6, 16-18

Thursday: Dt 30:15-20/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6 [40:5a]/Lk 9:22-25

Friday: Is 58:1-9a/Ps 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 18-19 [19b]/Mt 9:14-15

Saturday: Is 58:9b-14/Ps 86:1-2, 3-4, 5-6 [11ab]/Lk 5:27-32

Next Sunday: Gn 9:8-15/Ps 25:4-5, 6-7, 8-9 [cf. 10]/1 Pt 3:18-22/
Mk 1:12-15

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