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
                        RE/Stewardship: Terri Kopplin, terri@stamadison.org, 833-2606
Communications/Hospitality: Clarice Hinrichs, 833-2600
                        clarice@stamadison.org
### From the Desk of Fr. Bart

#### Third Sunday of Easter

Our celebration of the 50 Days of Easter continues in a joyous way this week. The Joy of the Easter Gospel is something that we cannot contain or just keep to ourselves; we want to share it with others. A new way we are doing this in our parish is through social media. Thank you to everyone for your support of this evangelization effort. We had many parishioners who took the time to be interviewed for our video that we showed at Mass this weekend. We had many parishioners who previewed the video and made helpful suggestions on how to improve it. Our STA Staff and I have been working on this project for the last nine months and it is exciting to see the fruits of our labor and share these videos with the whole parish. I hope you enjoyed the video shown during Mass this weekend and that you are gaining a clear understanding of our STA Parish Vision and Mission. The reason for the video is for the purpose of communicating our vision of being a parish of missionary disciples of Jesus and our mission to encounter Jesus Christ in a way that changes how we live.

Please help us to evangelize by following us on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram, and subscribing to our YouTube Channel. You can access all of these through our parish website at stamadison.org. Once you begin to follow us, you can share our videos and messages with your family, friends, and neighbors. This is a great way to evangelize and share our Easter Joy with those we love!

#### First Holy Communion Masses April 28 and 29

We have 52 young people, mostly second graders, preparing to celebrate First Holy Communion at St. Thomas Aquinas! Due to the large number of First Communicants, we will be celebrating two First Communion Masses. One will be at our 4:30 PM Mass on Saturday, April 28 and one will be at our 10:00 AM Mass on Sunday, April 29. The First Communicants will sit in reserved pews in the front of the Church and their families and guests will sit in reserved pews on the main floor. Please schedule your Mass attendance accordingly as we look ahead to celebrate this important day in the life of our youth and our parish family. Please keep all of these young people in your prayers.

#### Sacrament of Confirmation May 5

We have 37 high school students, mostly ninth graders, preparing to celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation with Bishop Robert Morlino at a special 7:00 PM Mass here at STA. We are hosting our neighboring parishes this year: St. Francis Xavier, Cross Plains; St. Christopher, Verona; and St. Michael, Mt. Horeb. Nearly 100 total candidates will be Confirmed. Please keep all of these young people in your prayers.

#### Parish Photo Directory

Please sign-up to have your family picture taken for our Photo Directory, we are hoping for a very high participation rate so that our directory is useful and a good record of everyone who is a part of our parish. Please call 866-756-0281 during regular business hours to make an appointment or use the link from our webpage.

#### Parish Trivia Fundraiser: Saturday May 12

Please plan on attending the parish fundraiser on May 12 following 4:30 PM Mass. If you can’t attend, please support the event through making a donation and/or buying a raffle ticket.

---

### Weekly Stewardship of Treasure

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>April 7/8</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Envelope Offerings .............................................</td>
<td>$18,032</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Offertory ...........................................................</td>
<td>$1,394</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children’s Offerings ..........................................</td>
<td>$116</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total.................................................................</td>
<td>$19,542</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Building Fund .......................................................</td>
<td>$620</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capital Improvement Fund .......................................</td>
<td>$170</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

### Counters Schedule

- **Monday, April 16**
  - Aeki Baik and Barbara Rudin
- **Monday, April 23**
  - Mary Neuhauser and Carol Sawyer
Reflection from Seminarian, Lawrence Oparaji

In our Gospel today, Jesus strengthens the faith of His disciples and apostles by helping them to understand the scriptures. A common mistake we often make is the supposition that it was Thomas alone that doubted Christ’s resurrection. However, Jesus, being God, did not make this mistake because He understood very well that most of His disciples doubted. Thomas doubted and openly expressed it, while others pretended to believe. Jesus knew this, and this was why He had to eat, drink and even allowed them to touch Him, to prove to them that He was real and that He is truly resurrected.

One major problem that Jesus identified in His disciples was ignorance. Even though they were with Him, heard Him preach, and saw Him do miracles, they remained ignorant of who He really was and especially, what the scriptures said about Him. Ignorance was actually a major reason why they lacked faith in Him. Are we different today? How well do we know the Lord? The easiest way to know the Lord is through encountering Him in the scriptures, His own inspired word, penned down for us that we might come to know Him and believe in Him. This is why St. Jerome reminds us that: “Ignorance of the scriptures is ignorance of Christ.” Ignorance of Christ, His power, His promises, and of course His words, are a major stumbling block to faith. It is only when we are delivered from ignorance that our faith can become strong enough to witness to the resurrected Christ.

This was why Paul constantly prayed: “May the Lord open the eyes of your minds.” We are in constant need of help in order to be freed from ignorance and, for our faith to grow. We can do this by daily inviting Jesus and the Holy Spirit to help us. Today we are encouraged to delve full speed ahead in every way possible to come to know the Lord more; how we do this can range from reading the scriptures, attending talks, listening to good podcasts or shows (Relevant Radio) and asking Fr. Bart those “hard questions.” He is always there for all of us. May God open our minds and hearts to come to know Him better.

STA Parish Singles Dinner Out

Join the STA Singles for our monthly dinner at Monk’s Bar & Grill, 8313 Murphy Dr, Middleton on Tuesday, April 17 at 6 PM RSVP by Sunday, April 15 to Jill at jillymoose18@yahoo.com or 604-3070.

Reflection from Seminarian, Michael Wanta

Alleluia! A word that we don’t often think about. As a seminarian, I say it often since it is part of the opening prayer for the Liturgy of the Hours: the prayer of the Church at different times or ‘hours’ of the day, such as morning prayer, midday, evening, and night prayer. During Lent, we refrained from using this word of praise and rejoicing, but with the coming of Easter, it is everywhere, especially in the Liturgy of the Hours and the Mass! I spent the Easter Octave in a Benedictine Monastery and was able to take part in their countless hours spent in prayer each day. I was surrounded by the word and it took on a new meaning. The Church now uses “Alleluia” exuberantly, tacking it onto all sorts of prayers. Why?

In Her wisdom, Holy Mother Church calls us to remember the joy of Easter day. Even the Gospel of the Road to Emmaus takes place on Easter Sunday even though we are now reading it two weeks later. The mystery is too great for one day. It is not possible to properly penetrate the mystery or to celebrate the joy of the Resurrection in one day. Thus the Church has given us not only an Octave to contemplate it, but a whole season. 50 days versus the 40 days of Lent which prepare for it. At last we can begin to grasp the necessity of Christ’s sufferings because in His Resurrection we find hope, because death no longer has the last word. Suffering is deprived of its sting because, united to the cross, it is made a weapon against death and evil. Suffering is transformed into a way of union with the Father, through the obedience of the Son. Founded in this faith of “Christ in us, the hope of glory” we praise God for the gift of salvation: Alleluia!

So let us remember what we celebrate, Christ the cause of our joy when we sing aloud: Alleluia! Let us continue to ponder the mystery so that we too may say: “were not our hearts burning within us?” and with our song of praise let us ask the lord: “Stay with us,” alleluia!

Easter Egg Hunt Thank You!

Thank You to our STA families for coming together for some Easter Fun at our Easter Egg Hunt and Family Potluck!

Ages 1 - 3

Ages 4 - 5
Earth Day, April 22
In last week’s bulletin Fr. Bart talked about the Easter Vigil as “the Christian feast...of new birth, new beginnings, salvation renewed, and humanity restored to the Lord...It is the beginning of a new season of grace and a time of joy and thanksgiving.” Mindful of these words and in anticipation of our long-awaited spring, the Justice and Peace Committee’s Care of Creation Team invites all to rejoice in the beauty of God’s creation and the miracle of new life bursting forth all around us in the weeks ahead.
As we approach Earth Day next Sunday, April 22, the Care of Creation Team offers a prayer and a resource to support renewed commitment to caring for God’s creation. We encourage adding Pope Francis’ “Prayer for Our Earth” to your daily prayers this week.
We also encourage further reflection. A good resource, “Reconciling God, Creation and Humanity,” can be found on the Jesuits’ Ignation Solidarity Network at ecologicalexamen.org/. The “Ecological Examen” “asks you to reflect on your personal relationship with creation...[and] is a tool for prayer, reflection and action...to deepen our call to care for creation and the most vulnerable.”

A Prayer for Our Earth
All powerful God,
you are present in the whole universe
and in the smallest of your creatures.
You embrace with your tenderness all that exists.
Pour out upon us the power of your love,
that we may protect life and beauty.
Fill us with peace, that we may live
as brothers and sisters, harming no one.
O God of the poor,
help us to rescue the abandoned and forgotten of this earth so precious in your eyes.
Bring healing to our lives,
that we may protect the world and not prey on it,
that we may sow beauty, not pollution and destruction.
Touch the hearts of those who look only for gain
at the expense of the poor and the earth.
Teach us to discover the worth of each thing,
to be filled with awe and contemplation,
to recognize that we are profoundly united with every creature
as we journey towards your infinite light.
We thank you for being with us each day.
Encourage us, we pray, in our struggle
for justice, love and peace.
(Laudato Si’, n. 246)

Discipleship with Holly Irving
Estate Planning
Estate planning is the way to continue our life’s work and support organizations, such as your parish, that are important to you. It is vital that you invest some time to ensure that your life’s efforts will continue the causes and people who will most treasure your gifts. Your attorney, in conjunction with your accountant, can prepare a proper will and make other arrangements for the easy, inexpensive transfer of your estate.

Spring Fling Trivia and Fiesta
Have you formed your Trivia Team for our Spring Time Trivia Fun(d) Raiser? The winning Trivia teams are waiting for the challenge! The fun begins after the 4:30 Mass on May 12. Money raised will go to promote Evangelization!
Contact Holly at 833-2600 or holly@stamadison.org for more information!
Admission tickets in advance are $15 a person and $25 a couple
Or at the door:
$20 a person and
$30 a couple

60th Anniversary of the Founding of our Parish!
Please save the date, June 10 to celebrate the 60th anniversary of the founding of our parish! We will begin the celebration with Mass at 10:00 AM followed by lunch. Join us from 11:00 AM - 2 PM for lunch, refreshments, games, cake walk and much more! To make sure we have enough food, we will be selling tickets in advance! Be on the look-out for the ticket sales!

Pictorial Directory
Sign-up to get your photo taken for our 60th Jubilee pictorial directory! You can receive assistance scheduling your photo session in the Gathering Area this weekend after Mass, call (866) 756-0281, sign up using the link at the homepage of our website, or go to stamadison.org/parish-photo-directory/. Please help us reach 100% participation in the directory so we all may get to know our parish family!
Sign up to help Host - We are looking for volunteers to be at church to greet and check in parishioners arriving for their photo session. See the sign-up sheets in the Gathering Area for times we still need help.
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
SGT Ian Bush, nephew of Patrick and Kathy Taddy

Monday, April 16
Men’s Integrity Group, Library ..................................................... 6:30 PM
Young Adults, Gathering Area ...................................................... 7:00 PM

Tuesday, April 17
Men’s Evening of Recollection, Chapel ........................................ 6:00 PM
Fun Raising Meeting, Social Hall .................................................. 6:30 PM
Building and Grounds Meeting, Fireside Room ......................... 7:00 PM

Wednesday, April 18
Toddler Time, Nursery and Upper Conference Room ................. 9:00 AM
Choristers, Music Room ............................................................... 6:00 PM

Thursday, April 19
Spanish Rosary ............................................................................... 6:00 PM
Choir Rehearsal, Social Hall ......................................................... 6:30 PM
Anniversary Event Meeting, Library ............................................. 6:30 PM

Friday, April 20
Wild Goose, Library ..................................................................... 9:00 AM

Saturday, April 21
STACKS, RE Wing Room 102 - 104 ................................................. 1:00 PM
Confessions .................................................................................... 3:15 PM

Care Facility Liturgies This Week
Oakwood: Friday, April 20, Rosary
Brookdale: Friday, April 20, Word and Communion
Sebring: Sunday, April 22, Word and Communion

Follow Fr. Bart on Twitter at @Frbart01
Follow St. Thomas Aquinas on Facebook

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 (adoptions, 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)
Young Adult Connections

April events

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 (with a few extra fun events). The best way to stay informed is to be on the YA email list. To be added to the list, please contact Jennifer Ludtke at jennifer@stamadison.org or 833-2606. You can also stay informed about parish, diocesan and other YA events at facebook.com/STAMadisonYA

There are some wonderful opportunities for STA Young Adults coming up in the next few weeks. We hope to see you there!

- Come to the regular first and third Monday night gathering! Join us on Monday, April 16, 7-9 PM in the Gathering Area, and we will learn about and get some practice using lectio divina. Each evening stands on its own, so come anytime!
- The monthly dinner out will be Monday, April 30 at the Dumpling Haus. RSVP to Tyler at t.holle@sbcglobal.net

April is Immigration Awareness Month

“Migration today is not a phenomenon limited to some areas of the planet. It affects all continents and is growing into a tragic situation of global proportions. Not only does this concern those looking for dignified work or better living conditions, but also men and women, the elderly and children, who are forced to leave their homes in the hope of finding safety, peace and security. Children are the first among those to pay the heavy toll of emigration, almost always caused by violence, poverty, environmental conditions, as well as the negative aspects of globalization. The unrestrained competition for quick and easy profit brings with it the cultivation of perverse scourges such as child trafficking, the exploitation and abuse of minors and, generally, the depriving of rights intrinsic to childhood as sanctioned by the International Convention on the Rights of the Child.” Message of His Holiness Pope Francis for the World Day of Migrants and Refugees 2017 [15 January 2017]

Consider Deepening Your Relationship with the Holy Spirit

The ‘Wild Goose’ program is being offered on Friday mornings (after morning Mass) from 9:15 to 10:45 AM. The “Wild Goose” was a term that the ancient Celts had for the Holy Spirit. The series will help you experience a deeper relationship with the Person of the Holy Spirit, and as you come to experience God’s presence and power, this very same Spirit will transform you and bring you freedom. The Wild Goose sessions are ‘stand alone’ and will cover many topics related to the Holy Spirit and our Catholic faith, so consider stopping by! Contact Jennifer Ludtke for more information at jennifer@stamadison.org or 833-2606.

Mass Intentions for This Week

Saturday, April 14
4:30 PM H.T. and Catherine Mayheu and Mary Mayheu
Sunday, April 15: 3rd Sunday of Easter
8:00 AM Dale Schmitt
10:00 AM Barbara Cassidy and Dorothy Wagner
6:30 PM St. Thomas Aquinas Parishioners
Monday, April 16: The Annunciation of the Lord
8:30 AM Frank and Catherine Weitz
Tuesday, April 17
5:30 PM Laura Acker
Wednesday, April 18: St. Stanislaus, Bishop & Martyr
8:30 AM Peter and Connie Sahagian
Thursday, April 19
7:30 AM Arthur Stiennon
Friday, April 20: St. Martin I, Pope & Martyr
8:30 AM Knute and Mildred Adler
Saturday, April 21
4:30 PM Gil Schlimgen
Sunday, April 22: 3rd Sunday of Easter
8:00 AM St. Thomas Aquinas Parishioners
10:00 AM Ray Galvin
6:30 PM Abelardo Rojas

Readings for the Week of April 15

Saturday: Acts 3:13-15, 17-19/Ps 4:2, 4, 7-8, 9 [7a]/1 Jn 2:1-5a/Lk 24:35-48
Tuesday: Acts 7:51--8:1a/Ps 31:3cd-4, 6 & 7b & 8a, 17 & 21ab [6a]/Jn 6:35-40
Wednesday: Acts 8:1b-8/Ps 66:1-3a, 4-5, 6-7a [1]/Jn 6:35-40
Thursday: Acts 8:26-40/Ps 66:8-9, 16-17, 20 [1]/Jn 6:44-51
Friday: Acts 9:1-20/Ps 117:1bc, 2 [Mk 16:15]/Jn 6:52-59
Next Sunday: Acts 4:8-12/Ps 118:1, 8-9, 21-23, 26, 28, 29 [22]/1 Jn 3:1-2/Jn 10:11-18

Reflective Gathering for Those Affected by Addiction

Thursday, April 26 at 7 PM
St. Mark’s Lutheran Church 605 Spruce St, Madison
Join Restoring Roots for a night of story, music, poetry, and meditation as we come together as a community to raise awareness of addiction.
This is a free event and is open to everyone. To learn more, contact info@restoringroots.org or restoringroots.org.