

#### ST. THOMAS AQUINAS CATHOLIC PARISH

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#### LOVE GOD. LOVE OTHERS. MAKE DISCIPLES!

We are a Catholic parish where people experience Jesus Christ in a way that changes how they live.

# Second Sunday of Easter April 24, 2022

#### **Holy Mass Schedule**

Monday, Wednesday, Friday, 8:30AM Tuesday, 5:30PM & Thursday, 7:30AM Saturday, 4:30PM English 6:30PM Spanish Sunday, 8:00AM and 10:00AM All Masses are live streamed.

#### **Confession Schedule**

Saturday, 3:15-4:10<sub>PM</sub> Sunday, 9:00-9:50<sub>AM</sub>

#### Adoration

Monday, 2:00-4:00pm Tuesday, 4:15-5:15pm Friday, 9:00-10:00am

#### **Parish Office Hours**

Monday-Thursday, 9:00ам-5:00рм Friday, 9:00ам-Noon

#### **Church and Chapel Hours**

Monday-Friday, 7:30AM-5:00PM Saturday, 10:00AM-6:00PM Sunday, 7:00-11:00AM

#### Misa en español

Sábados a las 6:30pm

#### **Confesiones**

Sábados 3:15-4:10<sub>PM</sub> y por cita previa

#### Adoración al Santísimo

 Lunes
 2:00-4:00PM

 Martes
 4:15-5:25PM

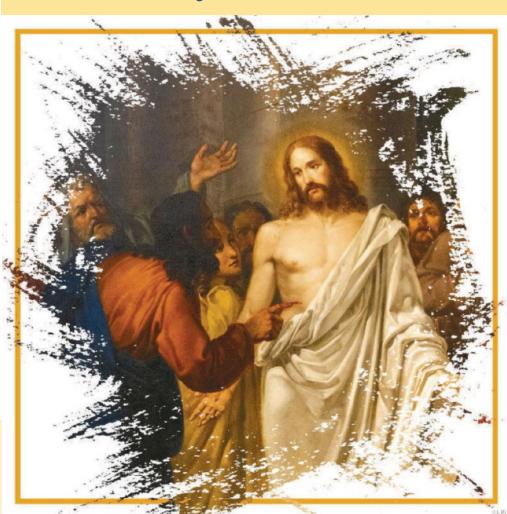
 Viernes
 9:00-10:00AM

Il Domingo de Pascua 24 abril de 2022

## Dívine Mercy Sunday

"My Lord and my God!"

John 20:28



"¡Señor mío y díos mío!"

Juan 20:28

La Divina Misericordia

### Parish News and Words from Our Pastor

by Fr. Bart Timmerman

## Second Sunday of Easter- Divine Mercy Sunday

The essential celebration of Divine Mercy Sunday consists in the celebration of the liturgy of the Second Sunday of Easter, during which the homily should focus on the scriptural readings of the day. It should be noted that the three cycles of

scriptural readings and liturgical prayers are all centered on the forgiveness of sins and God's infinite mercy, which endures forever. In addition, it is necessary that the day publicly be called by its proper name, "Divine Mercy Sunday." Pope St. John Paul II in the year 2000 in his own public announcement during the homily for St. Faustina's canonization, stated: "It is important then that we accept the whole message that comes to us from the word of God on this Second Sunday of Easter, which from now on throughout the Church will be called 'Divine Mercy Sunday.""

Pope St. John Paul II said that the image of Divine Mercy, which we have displayed in our Sanctuary today and in our Prayer Chapel all other days, portrays the Risen Jesus Christ bringing mercy to the whole world. This image is actually a gift of parishioners, John and JoAnne Szczepaniuk. They had it shipped to STA from Poland. Our Lord said to St. Faustina: "I want the image to be solemnly blessed on the first Sunday after Easter, and I want it to be venerated publicly so that every soul may know about it. I promise that the soul that will venerate this image will not perish" (Diary 341, 48). Please take the time to visit with this Image of The Divine Mercy and thank Jesus for His mercy.

Jesus told St. Faustina in a private apparition to her that this Feast of Mercy would be a very special day when "all the divine floodgates through which graces flow are opened" (Diary 699). Jesus promised that "The soul that will go to Confession and receive Holy Communion shall obtain the complete forgiveness of sins and punishment" (Diary 699). He went on to say "I want to grant a complete pardon to the souls that will go to Confession and receive Holy Communion on the Feast of My Mercy" (Diary 1109).

This plenary indulgence (the complete forgiveness of sins and punishment due to sin) is granted under the usual conditions (sacramental confession, Eucharistic communion and prayer for the intentions of Supreme Pontiff) to the faithful who, on the Second Sunday of Easter or Divine Mercy Sunday, in any church or chapel, in a spirit that is completely detached from the affection for a sin, even a venial sin, take part in the prayers and devotions held in honor of Divine Mercy, or who, in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament exposed or reserved in the tabernacle, recite the Our Father and the Creed, adding a devout prayer to the merciful Lord Jesus (e.g. Merciful Jesus, I trust in you!). It is allowed for one to go to Confession up to about 20 days, before or after, Divine Mercy Sunday to receive this plenary indulgence.

#### **Praying the Divine Mercy Chaplet**

The Divine Mercy Chaplet Devotion is prayed every Wednesday in the Prayer Chapel after 8:30 a.m. Mass. All are welcome! Please check out these links for more about and to pray along with the Divine Mercy Chaplet:

Pray Along with the Divine Mercy Chaplet | Franciscan Friars of the Renewal https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=s-410S9wP0s

Fr. Mike explains: Which Is Better? The Rosary vs. The Chaplet (Fr. Mike Schmitz) https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OFIaBa0s12s

For a very short explanation of the prayer: Divine Mercy Chaplet Explained (St Faustina) -Catholic Video by Speaker Ken Yasinski https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-YrfxXb8Uwk

A good description of how to pray the chaplet from the USCCB: https://www.usccb.org/beliefs-and-teachings/how-we-teach/new-evangelization/year-of-faith/how-to-pray-the-chaplet-of-divine-mercy



## First Communion Next Sunday!

As you plan your Mass attendance for next weekend, please be aware that we will be celebrating First Communion at STA! First Communions will be celebrated at 4:30 p.m. Mass, 6:30 p.m. Mass, and 10:00 a.m.

Mass. No First Communions will be celebrated at the 8:00 a.m. Mass. Thank you for keeping the First Communicants and their families in your prayers as they celebrate this most holy Sacrament!

#### Congrats to Robert Rosa Cruz

Recently our Youth Minister, Robert, was elected Vice President of the Madison Directors of Religious Education Organization (MDREO). This is the latest development among our STA Staff members who have served in leadership roles in professional organizations. Formerly, Jenny Ludtke, our Director of Evangelization and Outreach, served as President of MDREO. Erik Gyr, our Pastoral Associate, has served as past President of the State DRE Federation, former president of MDREO, and former president of Madison Diocese Pastoral Ministries Association (MDPMA). I appreciate our staff members' willingness to share their talents, take the time to serve on these important committees, and take on leadership roles within the diocese.

## **Gospel Reflection**

#### by Dcn. Jerome Buhman

What do you believe?

A simple, and yet complicated question. What do you believe?

Thomas the skeptic, in today's Gospel, refused to believe Jesus had risen until he had verified it by use of his senses. Apparently for Thomas, belief was based on what he could physically detect.

But can we trust our senses?

In the modern world, first we tend to test with our senses and then with our reasoning, and then we believe. In fact, today if you look up the word believe in the dictionary, one of the definitions is "to think." We have, in a way, made belief a matter of thinking; a matter of the mind.

But is belief thinking? No, thinking can illumine our belief, but it cannot be one and the same. Although a modern definition of believe is "to think", if you examine the word "believe" itself, we strike more truly at what it means to believe. The ancient root of the world "believe" comes from a prehistoric Germanic word meaning "to love and to trust."

Therefore, to believe is not something we do with our minds – it is something we do with our hearts. To believe is to love, to trust. Where thinking ends, belief must pick up.

Our senses, our reasoning, our thinking, show us things we can believe, but it is our hearts that show us things in which we must believe because they are beyond human scope. Thomas saw the crucified Jesus with the eyes of his mind, but with the eyes of his heart he saw the glorified risen Christ.

The eyes of our heart as a Church is our faith. St. Augustine said "Faith is to believe what you do not see; the reward of this faith is to see what you believe."

And so I ask you, "What do you believe?"



# Luke House Community Meal Program Bring in Food Items by April 27th at 9 AM

## **Pastoral Council Election**

#### Nomination Announcement St. Thomas Aquinas Pastoral Council Election

This weekend, we need your help in beginning the process to elect one new member to our Pastoral Council. Being a Council member provides an opportunity to help set the course for our parish family.

The role of Parish Council member is to advise and confer with Fr. Bart concerning ideas and activities involving the parish. We are looking for nominees willing to share ideas and creativity as they work with Fr. Bart, other Council members, and Commissions.

Typically, the Council meets nine times a year, September to June, for about an hour and a half.

If the role of Pastoral Council member fits you or someone you know, please complete the nomination form and return it to the Pastoral Council drop box in the Gathering Area by April 30<sup>th</sup>. The election will be held on May 14-15 during all masses. Thank you for your help!

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Nominee:
Nominee's Phone Number:
Why would you or your nominee be a good Pastoral Council member?
Name of person submitting nomination:
Telephone number of person submitting nomination:
Please complete the nomination form and return it to the Pastoral Council drop box in the Gathering Area

by April 30th.

Pactoral Council Namination Form

### Earth Day



The Care for Creation Team hopes you were able to take some time to reflect on the beauty of God's creation on Earth Day this Friday. Were you able to spend some time committing to taking better

care of the earth? Can you change some daily habits that will help to save the earth for future generations? Consider what you can do to change those habits as we rejoice in the Risen Christ during these 50 Days of Easter.

This year we will celebrate the 7th anniversary of Pope Francis' signing of his seminal encyclical, Laudato Si', on May 24. In anticipation of Laudato Si Week, May 22-29, the Care for Creation Team will be sharing with you some actions you can take to participate in the Laudato Si Action Platform (LSAP), the Vatican's 7-yr plan for individuals, parishes, schools, and dioceses around the globe to put into action the principles espoused by Laudato Si'. See https://laudatosiactionplatform.org/.

We will focus on one of the 7 goals of the LSAP each week from now until June 5. We start with the first goal: Response to the Cry of the Earth. Using the Archdiocese of Washington, DC's LSAP plans, (https://adw.org/living-the-faith/social-concerns/laudato-si-action-plan/) we share some of the actions they propose individuals take to participate. If you have already taken these actions, what is the next big step you want to take? What will it take to make that a reality?

- Turn off lights when not in use; replace all light-bulbs with LED bulbs.
- Purchase power strips to turn off electronics when not in use.
- Use ceiling fans rather than air-conditioning.
- Lower water consumption: repair leaks, install low -flow sinks and toilets, refrain from watering lawns.
- Increase tree canopy.
- Eliminate chemical fertilizers and pesticides.
- Compost at home.
- Reduce turf grass and replace with pollinator plants, vegetable gardens, and/or a rain garden.
- Use EPA Energy Star ratings when buying new appliances.
- Install solar panels.

#### **Prayers**

#### A Prayer for Our Earth

--Pope Francis, Laudato Si'

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

help us to rescue the abandoned and forgotten of this earth, so precious in your eyes. Bring healing to our lives,

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.
Amen.

#### Pray the Rosary for Ukraine, Unborn

Join us on Mondays at 8:00 AM to pray the Rosary for the unborn and the Supreme Court Justices. Join us on Fridays at 8:00 AM to pray the Rosary for the people in Ukraine and peace in the world.

#### Prayer for Peace in Ukraine

God of Peace, whose light dispels the darkest night, we pray for the people of Ukraine at this time of warfare and violence. Give comfort to those who suffer and calm to those who live in fear. Grant eternal life to those who have died and consolation to those who mourn. Companion those who are fleeing their homeland and grant them a safe haven. Open the hearts of those who live in neighboring countries as they welcome refugees. Convert the hearts and minds of those who choose arms and protect those who wage peace.

God of hope, inspire leaders to seek reconciliation with enemies by embracing nonviolence. Give diplomats wisdom, understanding and insight and lead them in the way of peace. May the universal church be salt and light in this dark time.

Inspire compassion in the hearts of all your people and give us hope for a world where justice rolls down like water and righteousness like an everflowing stream. We ask this through Jesus Christ, Prince of Peace and Light of the World, who taught us "Blessed are the peacemakers for they shall be called children of God," through the intercession of Mary, Queen of Peace. Amen.

Family & Faith Formation					
Description	Tuesdays	Wednesdays	Wednesdays	Sabados	Sundays
(APRIL)	Elementary	Elementary	Middle School	Catequesis	High School
Classes held	April	April	April	Abril	April
	5, 19	6, 20	6, 20, 27	2, 9	3, 24

## Go Make Disciples! Parish Renewal—May 9, 10, & 11



Join us for a Spirit filled Parish Renewal during the evenings of May 9-11. Led by Mari Pablo of Evangelical Catholic, Monday and Tuesday evenings will inform, inspire and energize! Wednesday evening will be a Parish Town Hall to discuss and decide our road forward in the growth of our parish in light of information obtained through the Disciple Maker Index survey that we completed last fall. Childcare will be available. Please make an effort to attend this important event!

#### Monday, May 9, 6:30-8:30pm: Remembering our Call

Jesus invites all of us to follow Him and to make disciples. We are called through our baptism and encouraged to remember the many gifts we have been given. In the face of such blessings, how can we not joyfully bring others to the Lord?

#### Tuesday, May 10, 6:30-8:30pm: Recounting God's Work

Our stories are so powerful! When we recount God's work in our lives, we can help point others to how God works in their lives, too. This evening, we will have time to reflect on our own stories and then share our "mini testimony" with a partner. We end the night in adoration, offering the story of our life to the Lord.

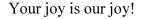
#### Wednesday, May 11, 5:45-8:30pm: Renewing our Parish

We have remembered our call and recounted God's work in our lives. Yet, we are called not only as individuals, but as a community. We need the voices of everyone in our parish family to help set the renewed vision for the parish's evangelization efforts for the next 2-3 years. Dinner will be served; RSVP to terrikysely@stamadison.org



#### Celebrating Families!

Do you have a special wedding anniversary coming up next month? We'd like to celebrate your commitment with you. If you are celebrating a five-year milestone anniversary (5,10,15,20,etc.) send us a wedding picture and a recent photo as well. We'd like to include you in our video updates that we play before Mass on the second weekend of each month.



Pictures can be emailed to pastoral associate, Erik Gyr, erik@stamadison.org, or we can scan portraits that you bring to the office.



#### Formed.org-St. Joseph: Our Spiritual Father

While the gospel has not preserved any of his words, his actions have resounded through the ages. Joseph of Nazareth stands out as the model par excellence for Christian virtue, a brilliant example of obedience to God and trust in Divine Providence. His role as protector of families in the difficulties of life and patron of the Universal Church has never been more clearly needed. Now the Church is seeking to deepen its understanding of the Guardian of Jesus and of the Holy Family. St. Joseph: Our Spiritual Father provides a glimpse into one of the most incredible lives in all of human history — a figure whose spiritual fatherhood remains open to all of us.

#### Gold Mass

In cooperation with The Society of Catholic Scientists, a "Gold Mass" will be held for those in the STEM fields (Scientists, Technologists, Engineers, and Mathematicians) or who are educators in these fields.

#### Thursday, April 28, 2022 at 5:30 pm Cathedral Parish of St. Raphael

(Holy Redeemer Church)

128 W. Johnson Street, Madison

Mass will be followed by a dinner (RSVP) and lecture, tentatively to be delivered by Dr. Cory Hayes of St. Joseph Seminary College, Covington, LA.

For more info, go to http://scsmadisonwisconsin.org or call Richard Bonomo at 608-258-8613.

#### **Mass Intentions**

Saturday, April 23 St. George, Martyr; St. Adalbert, Bishop & Martyr

4:30 PM Felicia Ackom +

6:30 PM Arquimedes Romero, Luis Chacin, Robertina Mandique, Alirio Chacin

Sunday, April 24 Divine Mercy Sunday; St. Fidelis of Sigmaringen, Priest & Martyr

8:00 AM St. Thomas Aquinas Parishioners 10:00 AM All souls in purgatory

Monday, April 25 St. Mark, Evangelist

8:30 AM Camille Robak

Tuesday, April 26

5:30 PM Emil & Bernadine Lauber and Family

Wednesday, April 27

8:30 AM Dale Schmitt +

Thursday, April 28 St. Peter Chanel, Priest & Martyr; St. Louis Grignion de Monfort, Priest

7:30 AM Paul Baiola \$\Phi\$

Friday, April 29 St. Catherine of Siena, Virgin & Doctor of the Church

8:30 AM Deceased Members of the Gray/ Picchietti Family †

Saturday, April 30 St. Pius V, Pope

4:30 PM Julius & JJ Moor +

6:30 PM Amable Leon, Ana Cristino de León, and Digna Suárez de Rivas †

Sunday, May 30 St. Joseph the Worker

8:00 AM Amelia Trumbower \$

10:00 AM St. Thomas Aquinas Parishioners

# Prayer for men and women being deployed

Lord God, Almighty Father, creator of mankind and author of peace, as we are ever mindful of the cost paid for the liberty we possess,

we ask you to bless the members of our armed forces. Give them courage, hope and strength.

May they ever experience your firm support, gentle love and compassionate healing.

Be their power and protector, leading them from darkness to light. To you be all glory, honor praise, now and forever.

Amen.



1st Lieutenant Michael J. AkersCpl. Meg ZiegelbauerSpecialist Benjamin Litchfield

## **Weekly Offertory Update**

Week Ending	Income*	MDCC & MDCC Endowment	
2022 TOTALS	\$430,426	\$171,288	
4/3/2022	\$23,412	\$4,709	
4/10/2022	\$16,258	\$15,730	
4/17/2022	\$24,279	\$3,960	
4/24/2022			
April Total	\$63,949	\$24,399	
April GOAL	\$107,400	\$16,519	

<sup>\*</sup>Envelopes, stock gifts, PayPal Credit/Debit and ACH online, ACH monthly withdrawals, plus Loose Offertory (cash) COUNTERS SCHEDULE

#### Monday, April 25:

Baik, Degenhardt, Hurtgen, Ihlenfeld, Peterson Monday, May 2:

Allen, Baxter, Dulli, Ihlenfeld

#### READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF APRIL 24, 2022

Sunday: Acts 5:12-16/Ps 118:2-4, 13-15, 22-24 [1]/Rv 1:9-11a, 12-13,

17-19/Jn 20:19-31

Monday: 1 Pt 5:5b-14/Ps 89:2-3, 6-7, 16-17/Mk 16:15-20

Tuesday: Acts 4:32-37/Ps 93:1ab, 1cd-2, 5/Jn 3:7b-15

Wednesday: Acts 5:17-26/Ps 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9/Jn 3:16-21

Thursday: Acts 5:27-33/Ps 34:2 and 9, 17-18, 19-20/ln 3:31-36

Friday: Acts 5:34-42/Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14/Jn 6:1-15

Saturday: Acts 6:1-7/Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 18-19/Jn 6:16-21

Next Sunday: Acts 5:27-32, 40b-41/Ps 30:2, 4, 5-6, 11-12, 13 [2a]/Rv 5:11-14/ In 21:1-19 or 21:1-14

#### **Prayer for Life**

For those who have participated in an abortion and feel they have committed an unforgiveable sin: may they come to know the Lord's limitless mercy, and turn to Him for forgiveness and healing; *We pray to the Lord*.

#### **Prayer for Peace**

For those who knowingly harm God's creation; may they reach out to God for His mercy and commit to changing their ways to preserve life for future generations; *We pray to the Lord*.

#### **Making Sundays Special!**

If you've been in an argument, be brave and apologize first.

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