



ST. THOMAS AQUINAS CATHOLIC PARISH

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

LOVE GOD. LOVE OTHERS. MAKE DISCIPLES!

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

23rd Sunday of Ordinary Time
September 4, 2022

In every age, O Lord, you have been
our refuge. *Psalm 90*

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, 3:15-4:10PM
Sunday, 9:00-9:50AM

Adoration

Monday, 2:00-4:00PM
Tuesday, 4:15-5:15PM
Friday, 9:00-10:00AM

Parish Office Hours

Monday-Thursday, 9:00AM-5:00PM
Friday, 9:00AM-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 3:15-4:10PM
y por cita previa

Adoración al Santísimo

Lunes 2:00-4:00PM
Martes 4:15-5:25PM
Viernes 9:00-10:00AM

**HAPPY
LABOR
DAY!**

23° domingo del tiempo ordinario
4 septiembre de 2022

Señor, tú has sido nuestro refugio de
generación en generación. *Salmo 90*

Parish News and Words from Our Pastor

Noticias Parroquiales y Mensaje de Nuestro Párroco

by Fr. Bart Timmerman

23rd Sunday of Ordinary Time- Happy Labor Day!

"Work is fundamental to the dignity of a person. Work, to use an image, 'anoints' us with dignity, fills us with dignity, makes us similar to God, who has worked and still works, who always acts..." - *Pope Francis, Feast of St. Joseph the Worker and World Labor Day, 5/1/13*

"I address a strong appeal from my heart that the dignity and safety of the worker always be protected." - *Pope Francis, Regina Caeli, 4/28/13*

On this Sunday before Labor Day, we have an opportunity to reflect on what the Church teaches us about the dignity of work and the rights of workers. In the Catholic tradition, work is more than a way to make a living; it is a form of continued participation in God's creative action. The Catholic bishops of the United States have long held that the most effective way to build a just economy is to make decent work at decent wages available for all those capable of working. When the economy fails to generate sufficient jobs, there is a moral obligation to protect the life and dignity of unemployed and underemployed workers and their families.

In Catholic social teaching, the dignity of work and the rights of workers are important because work is a form of continuing participation in God's creation, and so the basic rights of workers must be respected. Worker Justice Wisconsin is an example of how valuing the dignity of work can play out in 'the real world.' They are a non-profit organization located here in Madison that partners with faith communities. They help workers to advocate for just and living wages, workplaces that are safe and free from discrimination, and opportunities for collective organizing to address workplace issues such as wage theft. The majority of the workers helped are Hispanic, and in 2021 WJW helped to recover \$111,762 in previously owed but unpaid wages. You can learn more about them and their efforts at www.workerjustice.org.

Annual Finance Report July 2021-June 2022

Please take time to read our parish's annual finance report. Thank you to all of you for your generous, sacrificial giving to help us realize our mission to love God, love others, and make disciples! I am grateful to Julia Hix, our Business Manager, Jim Rose, our Parish Trustee, and all of our Parish Finance Council and Pastoral Council members who help with parish planning and decision making. Your continued financial support, as well as your time and talent, is greatly appreciated and I thank you all for your goodness to our beloved St. Thomas Aquinas Parish!



23^o Domingo del Tiempo Ordinario ¡Feliz Día del Trabajo!

"El trabajo es fundamental para la dignidad de la persona. El trabajo, por usar una imagen, nos 'unge' de dignidad, nos llena de dignidad, nos hace semejantes a Dios, que ha trabajado y aún trabaja, que siempre actúa..." - *Papa Francisco, Fiesta de San José Obrero y Día Mundial del Trabajo, 5/1/13*

"Hago un fuerte llamado desde mi corazón para que se proteja siempre la dignidad y la seguridad del trabajador". - *Papa Francisco, Regina Caeli, 28/4/13*

En este domingo que antecede el Día del Trabajo, tenemos la oportunidad de reflexionar sobre lo que la Iglesia nos enseña sobre la dignidad del trabajo y los derechos de los trabajadores. En la tradición católica, el trabajo es más que una forma de ganarse la vida; es una forma de participación continua en la acción creadora de Dios. Los obispos católicos de los Estados Unidos han sostenido durante mucho tiempo que la forma más efectiva de construir una economía justa es hacer que el trabajo decente con salarios decentes esté disponible para todos aquellos capaces de trabajar. Cuando la economía no logra generar suficientes puestos de trabajo, existe la obligación moral de proteger la vida y la dignidad de los trabajadores desempleados y subempleados y sus familias.

En la doctrina social católica, la dignidad del trabajo y los derechos de los trabajadores son importantes porque el trabajo es una forma de participación continua en la creación de Dios, por lo que se deben respetar los derechos básicos de los trabajadores. *Worker Justice Wisconsin* es un ejemplo de cómo la valoración de la dignidad del trabajo puede funcionar en el "mundo real". Son una organización sin fines de lucro ubicada aquí en Madison que se asocia con comunidades religiosas. Ayudan a los trabajadores a abogar por salarios justos y dignos, lugares de trabajo seguros y libres de discriminación y oportunidades para la organización colectiva para abordar problemas en el lugar de trabajo, como el robo de salarios. La mayoría de los trabajadores que recibieron ayuda son hispanos, y en 2021 WJW ayudó a recuperar \$111,762 en salarios adeudados anteriormente pero no pagados. Puede obtener más información sobre ellos y sus esfuerzos en www.workerjustice.org.

Informe Financiero Anual Julio 2021-Junio 2022

Tómese el tiempo para leer el informe financiero anual de nuestra parroquia. ¡Gracias a todos por su generosidad y sacrificio en ayudarnos a realizar nuestra misión de amar a Dios, amar a los demás y hacer discípulos! Agradezco a Julia Hix, nuestra Gerente Comercial, Jim Rose, nuestro Síndico Parroquial, y a todos los miembros del Consejo Financiero Parroquial y del Consejo Pastoral que ayudan con la planificación parroquial y la toma de decisiones. Su continuo apoyo financiero, así como su tiempo y talento, es muy apreciado y les agradezco a todos por su bondad hacia nuestra amada Parroquia de Santo Tomás de Aquino.

Care for Creation

Season of Creation

September 1st - October 4th

The Season of Creation is a relatively recent addition to Catholic liturgical celebrations. In 2015, Pope Francis added the World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation to the Catholic liturgical calendar to be celebrated on September 1st each year. In 2019, the Vatican asked Catholic communities and pastors everywhere to join ecumenical communities around the world in celebrating the Season of Creation from September 1st to October 4th.

The Season of Creation is a liturgical season dedicated to prayer, reflection, and celebration of God as Creator. It also celebrates and reflects prayerfully on the gifts of creation and the mission given us by God to care for creation and respond to its needs and crises today. Let us observe this season well and continue to pray and do our part to care for God's creation.

Be sure to come to Mass the weekend of September 24-25. Our Care for Creation Team is planning to celebrate the Season and make Sundays special that weekend with a special give-away. Watch for more details in next week's bulletin.



Care for Creation Team

If you would like to join the STA Care for Creation Team to be inspired and supported by members of your faith community, contact Trudi Jenny, trudijenny@yahoo.com.

Prayer

*Gentle God, we confess we distract easily.
We are surrounded by wonder,
but we settle for gadgets.
We are drowning in abundance,
but we shop and shop until our hearts are empty.
We have substituted big screens
for the sky of stars.
So, awaken us.
Awaken us to the sky that's always there,
to the land that's always there,
to the breath that's always there.
Let us live with hearts full, hands empty,
spirit large, ego small;
friends many, and regrets few.
Amen.*

Adapted from Just Faith Ministries, "Sacred Land: Food and Farming" Participant Packet, 2021

Music & Liturgy

by Greg Buchberger

Next week, the St. Thomas Aquinas Music Ministry will return to its "normal" fall rehearsal schedule for the first time since before the pandemic began. There are many opportunities for students and adults to become involved. If you are currently involved as a musician, choir member, or cantor here at St. Thomas Aquinas, THANK YOU! If you are not currently involved in our music ministry, NOW is the time to consider becoming involved!

Cantors/Small Group Singers: (Saturday 4:30p.m./ Sunday 8:00a.m./Summer Months–Sunday 10:00 a.m.)

The cantors' and singers' primary function is to support and encourage the congregation in singing. They are our song leaders, animators, and psalmists. These small groups of singers share their gifts and talents year-round. Join any time.

STA Parish Choir: (Sunday 10:00a.m. – Sept–May)

The STA Parish Choir sings weekly at the 10:00 a.m. Sunday Mass. In addition, this group sings for evening Holy Day Masses, Midnight Mass, Christmas Day, Holy Week, Easter, Confirmation, and other special liturgical celebrations during the church year. Open to students (grades 7+) and adults. Rehearsals are Thursdays from 6:30-8:30 p.m. The ability to read music is helpful, but not necessary. – Our first rehearsal is scheduled for **Thursday, September 8**. Please contact me ahead of time if you are interested in joining us or would like more information so that things can be prepared for our first rehearsal.

STA Choristers: (Saturday 4:30p.m. &/or Sunday 10:00a.m., Once or Twice a Month – September–May)

The STA Choristers (Children's Choir) sing monthly at the 4:30p.m. Saturday Mass and/or the Sunday 10:00a.m. Mass. In addition, this group has the opportunity to sing for other celebrations, including Thanksgiving Day and Christmas Eve Masses. This choir sings from September through May each year, and is open to students (grades 3-8) as well as high school students. Students should be able to read well in order to keep up at rehearsals and Masses! Rehearsals are most often on Wednesday from 5-6p.m. – Our first rehearsal is scheduled for **Wednesday, September 7 at 5:00p.m.** Please share the word and let's get some more of our students involved!

STA Spanish Choir: (Saturday 6:30 p.m.)

The STA Spanish Choir sings weekly at the 6:30 p.m. Saturday Mass. This choir joins the STA Parish Choir for bilingual celebrations throughout the liturgical year. This choir sings year round and is open to students (grades 7+) and adults. Rehearsals are on Saturdays at 5:30p.m. before the 6:30 p.m. Spanish Mass. Join any time. Contact me for more information or come and join us on Saturday at 5:30 p.m. in the Music Room!

Instrumentalists & Accompanists: (All Masses)

Instrumentalists and accompanists (piano and/or organ) are encouraged to join our music ministry, depending upon experience. Audition required.

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

Gospel Reflection

by Dcn. Jerome Buhman



Luke 14:25-33

Wow! A tough Gospel today – “If anyone comes to me without hating his father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, and even his own life, he cannot be my disciple.” So we have to hate our Mom and Dad and spouse?

Well, no, not exactly. Then why does Luke seem to have Jesus say so? There are a couple reasons. First, let's look at the word Luke uses here: hate. The Aramaic (the language Jesus spoke) word that corresponds to the Greek word that Luke uses actually has a broader sense than we tend to think when we hear “hate.” It could mean anything from actually despising someone to simply loving someone else more. So, Jesus could be saying that we should love being his disciple MORE than loving our Mom & Dad or spouse. In fact, if you look at the parallel reading from the Gospel of Matthew (10:37) here is what Jesus says: “Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me, and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me; and whoever does not take up his cross and follow after me is not worthy of me.”

Second, we need to look at the reading in a broader context. In the whole of Jesus teachings, he does not teach hate (except to hate sin!), but love. Then why does Luke use the Greek word for “hate?” Perhaps for the same reason that hearing it in the Gospel today made us all squirm a little. Maybe to jar his readers, and us, into thinking about what discipleship should mean for us. These last few Sundays we have been hearing about the requirements of discipleship. Two weeks ago we heard about the narrow door, last week about the need for humility, and today about the need for self-sacrifice and putting Christ before all else. It is a message we would “hate” to miss.

Really Cool Info Attached

Maybe that's not **really** what RCIA stands for, but if you are curious, read on . . .

In general:

Do you have questions about faith?

Are you searching for a safe place to discuss issues and questions regarding God and faith?

Are you searching for something that seems to be missing from your life?

Or specifically:

Have you been a Catholic all your life, but never celebrated all the Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, Confirmation, Eucharist)?

Have you joined us from a different faith background & would like to find out more about the Catholic Church?

Have you been worshiping with us, but never officially taken the step to become Catholic?

Have you been away from the Church, and have now returned, but want to know more?

If you or someone you know answers **YES** to any of these questions, you are invited to find out more through a process called the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA). It is a journey that begins with your questions. There is no obligation to join the church as you discover more about faith and later, more specifically, Catholic faith.

The decision is ultimately yours to discern if this is to be your spiritual home. The invitation is always open. Contact Dcn. Jerome at dcn.jerome@stamadison.org.

Initial sessions using *Alpha* begin
Wednesday, September 14 at 6:30 PM.

Discipleship & Development

by Holly Irving

Ministers of Hospitality & Greeters Needed

Are you a people person? If so, our parish family needs Ministers of Hospitality and Greeters. Greeters stand at the doors to the Church, welcome everyone and schedule themselves each week. Ministers of Hospitality greet, help with seating, take up the collection, and put out bulletins, among other duties. If you are interested or want more information, please contact Holly: holly@stamadison.org.

Spice up your night at STA's “Taste of Chili Heaven” FUN(d) Raiser!

Come join us for our annual FUN(d) raiser on **Friday, October 28 at 5:30 PM**. This evening will be filled with delicious fall food, and fun! There will be a wine pull and trivia! Don't tell me you are not good at Trivia! Form a team! There is power in numbers! Tickets go on sale soon! For more information, please contact Holly at 833-2600 or holly@stamadison.org.

Young Adults, Faith Formation, and Families

Young Adults: *Lumen Fidei*

This fall, young adults will be discussing the *Lumen Fidei, Light of Faith* over 5 weeks.

All adults in their 20's/30's are invited. Sessions will be on Thursdays at 7p at Panera Bread on Mineral Point Rd.

Read Chapter 4 for September 8 Questions? Contact Robert Rosa-Cruz at robert@stamadison.org.

NOTE: *Lumen fidei* church document can be found free on the Vatican website.

Volunteers Needed

Volunteer Needed for Visually Impaired

The parish is looking for someone who would be willing to do a recording of talking through each of the prayers and actions of daily Mass. This project is for someone who is visually impaired and who would like to 'practice' at home in order to be better able to participate when they come to Mass.

Willing to help or want to learn more?
Contact Jennifer Ludtke at
833-2606 or jennifer@stamadison.org

STA SVDP Conference Is Always Open to New Members

The three pillars of our St. Vincent de Paul Society are Spirituality, Friendship and Service. We would love to have you join our parish conference. If you would like more info contact:

Kathy Taddy, President, kathy.taddy@gmail.com
Mike Meehan VP, meehanmnk@gmail.com

The SVDP district council on Fish Hatchery Road in Madison is also looking for daytime volunteers for their food pantry. They especially need people who can help pack food boxes. Contact Jenni Troia, jtroia@svdpmadison.org for more information.

Registration for 2022-2023 Faith Formation (ages 3-17)

Contact the Faith Formation Office
for more details & availability
(608) 833-2606 or formation@stamadison.org

Small Faith Sharing Groups

Small Faith-sharing Groups: New members welcome

Faith groups nourish our sense of belonging. Our fast-paced lives can leave us little time to reflect on the meaning of life. Faith groups give us a chance to slow down, recall the day or week in quiet time and listen to God and others. This fall there are several small groups that would love to have you join them!

MOST – Men of St. Thomas Aquinas:

This group spends time each week, Tuesdays from 6:30-8pm, with Sacred Scripture, reading from the Sunday Mass alternated with readings of each member's choice. Members discuss how the passage speaks to them, and in the process share personal challenges as well as experiences of hope. Looking to the future, the group is considering a change in format that would include studying the Catechism, and engaging in corporal acts of mercy either on their own with special projects or in support of other parish groups. This group meets in person at the parish. To learn more, contact Jim Wrich at jim.wrich@yahoo.com.

Contemplative Dialogue

Contemplative Dialogue is a process of reading, silence and sharing that gives the Spirit a chance to move in one's heart through active listening. This group of women meet every other week (starting Thursday, September 19) at 9:30am at the parish. A final decision on the material the group will be using remains to be determined, but possibly will be *Rediscovering Jesus* by Matthew Kelly. They would love to welcome another 2-4 new members as they continue growing closer to Jesus, strengthening their prayer life, and feeling braver in sharing their faith with others. To learn more, contact Trudi Jenny at trudijenny@yahoo.com.

Women Journeying Together

This is a spiritually supportive group of older women, focused on prayer and intention. They start each meeting with sharing something about what is going on in life—challenging issues, happy moments or anything in-between. The group meets weekly on Tuesday mornings from 10:30 to 12:00, either in person at the host's home or via zoom, depending on the group's availability. Currently, they are studying the book *A Well Built Faith*. To learn more, contact Carol Wright at fam4kidz@gmail.com



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Sept. 10: 2-11pm
Sept. 11: 10am-5pm

<https://sacred-hearts.org/fall-festival>

Mass Intentions

Saturday, September 3 St. Gregory the Great, Pope & Doctor of the Church

4:30 PM Miles Breunig ☩

6:30 PM Albertina Bermudez ☩

Sunday, September 4

8:00 AM Rosemary Johnson ☩

10:00 AM St. Thomas Aquinas Parishioners

Monday, September 5 Labor Day

8:30 AM **NO Mass at STA**

Tuesday, September 6

5:30 PM Harold and Lue Buhman ☩

Wednesday, September 7

8:30 AM Ann Lenoch ☩

Thursday, September 8 The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary

7:30 AM All souls in purgatory

Friday, September 9 St. Peter Claver, Priest

8:30 AM Fred Zingsheim ☩

10:00 AM (Oakwood) Roger Lestina ☩

Saturday, September 10

4:30 PM Valorie Olson ☩

6:30 PM Julius Moor ☩

Sunday, September 11

8:00 AM St. Thomas Aquinas Parishioners

10:00 AM Melvin Ballweg ☩



READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 4, 2022

Sunday: Wis 9:13-18b/Ps 90:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 14-17/Phlm 9-10, 12-17/Lk 14:25-33

Monday: 1 Cor 5:1-8/Ps 5:5-6, 7, 12/Lk 6:6-11

Tuesday: 1 Cor 6:1-11/Ps 149:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6a and 9b/Lk 6:12-19

Wednesday: 1 Cor 7:25-31/Ps 45:11-12, 14-15, 16-17/Lk 6:20-26

Thursday: Mi 5:1-4a or Rom 8:28-30/Ps 13:6ab, 6c/Mt 1:1-16, 18-23 or 1:18-23

Friday: 1 Cor 9:16-19, 22b-27/Ps 84:3, 4, 5-6, 12/Lk 6:39-42

Saturday: 1 Cor 10:14-22/Ps 116:12-13, 17-18/Lk 6:43-49

Weekly Offertory Update

Week Ending	Income*	MDCC & MDCC Endowment
2022 GOAL thru August	\$841,500	\$229,347
2022 TOTALS	\$925,313	\$289,000
8/7/2022	\$16,154	\$2,725
8/14/2022	\$15,486	\$6,008
8/21/2022	\$69,363	\$7,295
8/28/2022	\$16,688	\$4,942
August Total	\$117,691	\$20,970
August GOAL	\$108,500	\$58,000

*Envelopes, stock gifts, PayPal Credit/Debit and ACH online, ACH monthly withdrawals, plus loose offertory (cash), adjustments to totals may occur.

COUNTERS' SCHEDULE

Due to the Labor Day holiday, money counting will be Tuesday, September 6, at 9am:

Allen, Baxter, Dulli, Ihlenfeld

Monday, September 12:

Degenhardt, Ihlenfeld, Michalski, Neu

St. Thomas Aquinas will be CLOSED on Labor Day, September 4th NO Mass or Adoration



Thank you to the friends & family of Ruth Trudel!

These generous memorial gifts will keep Ruth's memory alive!

Prayers

Prayer for Life

May the life of every human person, from conception to natural death, be protected in our laws and cherished in our hearts; *We pray to the Lord.*

Prayer for Justice

May we listen to the voice of creation and commit to lifestyle changes that will protect life for future generations; *We pray to the Lord.*

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