



# ST. THOMAS AQUINAS CATHOLIC PARISH

602 Everglade Drive, Madison WI 53717 • (608) 833-2600 • [stamadison.org](http://stamadison.org) • [parish@stamadison.org](mailto: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.

## First Sunday of Advent November 27, 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, 3:15-4:10PM  
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

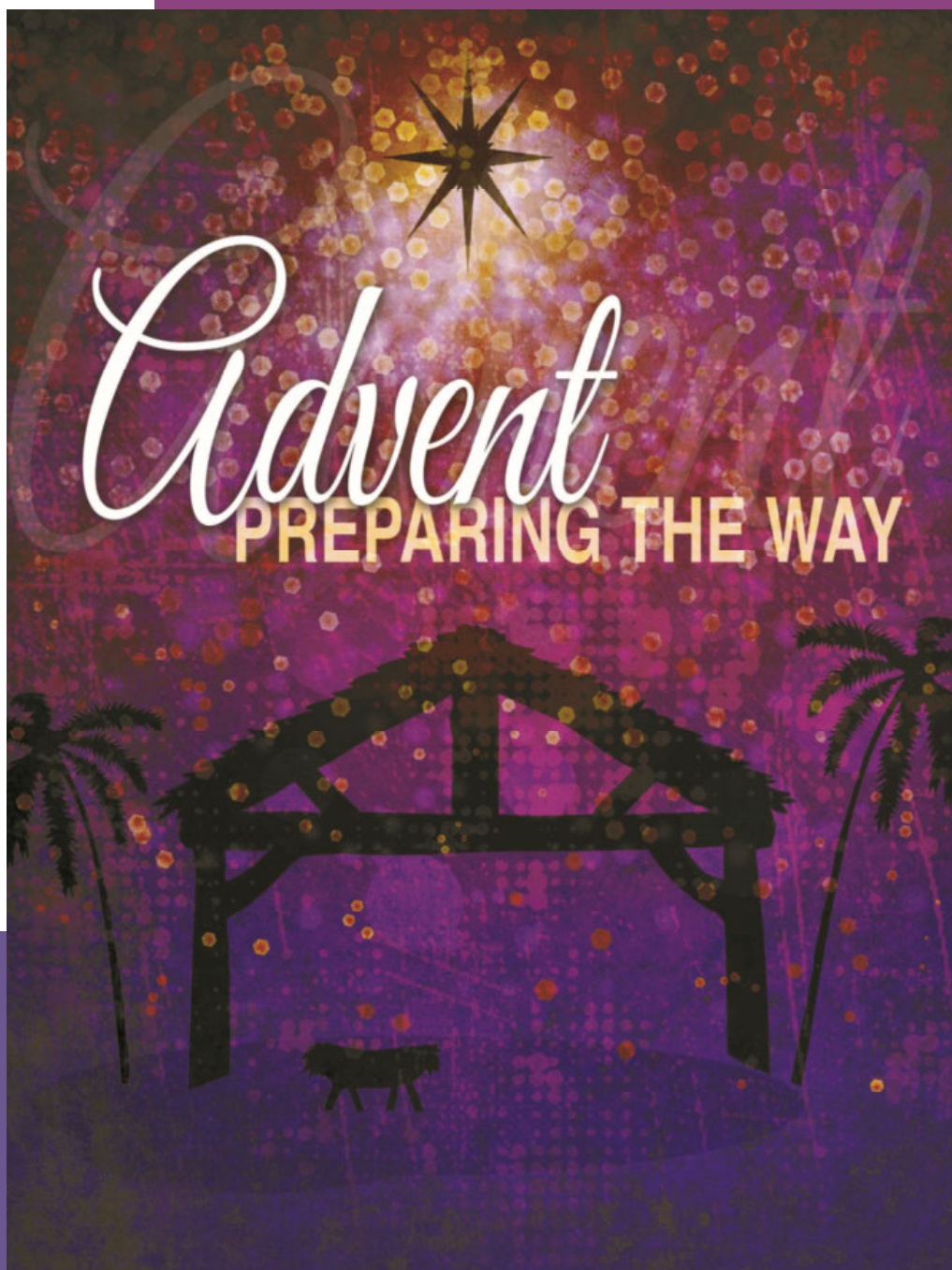
### Confesiones

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

*Let us go rejoicing to the house of the  
Lord. Psalm 122*



**Primer Domingo de Adviento  
27 de noviembre de 2022**

*Vamos alegres a la casa del Señor.  
Salmo 122*

# Parish News and Words from Our Pastor

## Noticias Parroquiales y Mensaje de Nuestro Párroco

by Fr. Bart Timmerman

### First Sunday of Advent 2022 The Four Holy Habits

Last week we concluded the liturgical year and we reflected on the final judgment and our desire to choose allegiance to Christ, King of the Universe! With the season of Advent, the wheel of time turns again. The Catechism of the Catholic Church states, "When the Church celebrates Advent each year, she makes present the ancient expectancy of the Messiah, for by sharing in the long preparation for the savior's first coming, the faithful renew their ardent desire for his second coming (#524)." Now it's all about beginnings and fresh starts. This season is pregnant with possibilities, expectant with hope. If you like, you can be born again with Christ! The world is getting another chance to make things right. Each of us is issued the same opportunity to be made new. This Advent our theme, "The Four Holy Habits," is a way for us to make things right in our lives and in our families:

- \* Reclaiming Sunday
- \* Daily Prayer
- \* Friday Penance/Regular Sacrifice
- \* Frequent Celebration of the Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)

These four holy habits have profound meaning for us as disciples and will help us become more Christian and more Christ-like!

### Preparing for a Holy Christmas

Besides our regular Mass and Reconciliation schedule, we have additional liturgies I would like to bring to your attention:

#### Immaculate Conception Holy Day of Obligation

Thursday, December 8  
Masses @ 6:30 a.m., 12:10 p.m., & 6:30 p.m. Bilingual Confessions from 5:30 p.m.- 6:15 p.m.

#### Our Lady of Guadalupe

Monday, December 12  
Bilingual Mass @ 6:30 p.m. with Aztec Dance and Drumming, followed by a Fiesta in the Social Hall

#### Sacrament of Reconciliation:

Tuesdays, December 6, 13, & 20 at 6:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m.  
Sabados 6:15 p.m.-7:00 p.m. en español



### Primer Domingo de Adviento 2022 Los Cuatro Hábitos Santos

La semana pasada concluimos el Año Litúrgico y reflexionamos sobre el juicio final y nuestro deseo de elegir la lealtad a Cristo, Rey del Universo! En el tiempo de Adviento, la rueda del tiempo vuelve a girar. El Catecismo de la Iglesia Católica afirma: "Cuando la Iglesia celebra cada año el Adviento, hace presente la espera antigua del Mesías, pues al participar en la larga preparación de la primera venida del Salvador, los fieles renuevan su ardiente deseo de su segunda venida (#524)". Ahora se trata de comienzos y de volver a empezar. Esta temporada está preñada de posibilidades, expectante de esperanza. Si quieres, puedes nacer de nuevo con Cristo! El mundo tiene otra oportunidad de hacer las cosas bien. A cada uno de nosotros se nos ofrece la misma oportunidad de ser hechos nuevos. En este Adviento, nuestro tema, "Los Cuatro Hábitos Santos", es una forma de mejorar las cosas en nuestras vidas y en nuestras familias:

- \* Reclamar el Domingo
- \* Oración Diaria
- \* Viernes de Penitencia/Sacrificio Regular
- \* Celebración Frecuente del Sacramento de la Reconciliación (Confesión)

Estos cuatro hábitos santos tienen un significado profundo para nosotros como discípulos y nos ayudarán a ser más Cristianos y más parecidos a Cristo!

### Preparándonos Para Una Santa Navidad

Además de nuestro horario regular de Misas y Confesiones, tenemos liturgias adicionales que me gustaría llamar su atención:

#### Día de la Inmaculada Concepción, Día Santo de Precepto

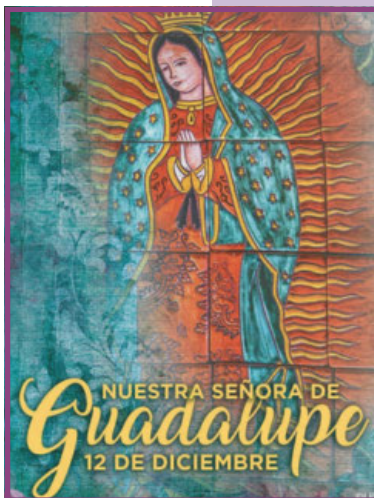
jueves, 8 de diciembre  
Misas a las 6:30 a.m., 12:10 p.m., y 6:30 p.m. bilingüe Confesiones de 5:30 p.m.- 6:15 p.m.

#### Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe

lunes 12 de diciembre  
Misa bilingüe a las 6:30 p.m. con Danza Azteca y Tambor, seguida de una Fiesta en el Salón Social.

#### El Sacramento de la Reconciliación:

los martes 6, 13 y 20 de diciembre de 6:00 p.m. a 7:00 p.m. y los sábados de 6:15 p.m. a 7:00 p.m. en español.





# New Liturgical Year Begins!

## Comienza el Nuevo Año Litúrgico!

by Fr. Bart Timmerman

### New Liturgical Year Begins!

The First Sunday of Advent marks the beginning of our new liturgical year. This year we will be using Cycle "A" Scripture Readings for Sunday Mass. The Sunday Scripture Readings are on a three year cycle and each year is called Year "A," "B," or "C." Each of the Gospels (Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John) is unique in structure and a good bit of content. What each Gospel writer put into his account was shaped by the needs, the problems, and the trials and challenges of the community for which the Gospel is written. This year, Year "A," we will be proclaiming the Gospel of Matthew. Matthew was writing for the Jewish followers of Jesus who had continued to attend the synagogue regularly. However in 70 A.D. the Jewish Christians were expelled from the synagogues and treated like enemies, especially by the Pharisees who were leading the Jewish faith at that time. They said that Jesus was not the Son of God and in fact was a terrible sinner who violated the Jewish laws and practices. Matthew's Gospel addresses these issues in an anecdotal literary form and presents Jesus doing very "Moses-like" things. Matthew's Gospel begins with a statement from Isaiah, "Emmanuel...God is with us (1:23)." The Gospel ends with a similar sentiment with Jesus promising, "I am with you always, until the end of the age (28:20)." Matthew's Gospel invites us to be open to hear and believe in the Word of God and open ourselves to God's continuing presence in our lives. We are to witness to others that God's love is abundant and given to us freely. In turn, we are to give that same love to others, abundantly and freely.

### Comienza el Nuevo Año Litúrgico!

El primer domingo de Adviento marca el comienzo de nuestro nuevo año litúrgico. Este año utilizaremos las lecturas bíblicas del Ciclo "A" para la Misa Dominical. Las Lecturas Bíblicas Dominicales tienen un ciclo de tres años y cada año se llama Año "A", "B" o "C". Cada uno de los Evangelios (Mateo, Marcos, Lucas y Juan) es único en su estructura y en su contenido. Lo que cada escritor de los Evangelios puso en su relato fue moldeado por las necesidades, los problemas, las pruebas y desafíos de la comunidad para la que se escribe un Evangelio. Este año, el Año "A", proclamaremos el Evangelio de Mateo. Mateo escribía para los seguidores judíos de Jesús que seguían asistiendo regularmente a la sinagoga. Sin embargo, en el año 70 después de Cristo, los cristianos judíos fueron expulsados de las sinagogas y tratados como enemigos, especialmente por los fariseos que dirigían la fe judía en ese momento. Decían que Jesús no era el Hijo de Dios y que, de hecho, era un terrible pecador que violaba las leyes y prácticas judías. El Evangelio de Mateo aborda estos asuntos de forma literaria anecdótica y presenta a Jesús haciendo cosas muy "a lo Moisés". El Evangelio de Mateo comienza con un comunicado de Isaías: "Emanuel... Dios está con nosotros (1:23)". El Evangelio termina con un sentimiento similar, con Jesús prometiendo: "Yo estoy con ustedes todos los días, hasta el fin del mundo (28:20)". El Evangelio de Mateo nos invita a estar abiertos a escuchar y creer en la Palabra de Dios y a abrirnos a la presencia continua de Dios en nuestras vidas. Debemos dar testimonio a los demás de que el amor de Dios es abundante y se nos da gratuitamente. A su vez, debemos dar ese mismo amor a los demás, de forma abundante y gratuita.

## St. Vincent de Paul Award Goes to STA Member

### Lauren Clausen Recipient of Award



Lauren has volunteered as a food pantry receptionist for about a decade. She volunteered for the evening shift on Thursdays alongside Anne Lynn. The dynamic duo always provided staff and volunteers with lots of laughs and much needed lightheartedness while always giving compassion and care to those whom we serve. Thursday evenings at the pantry would not have gone as smoothly without her presence. Lauren even recruited her husband, Chris, to help out in the pantry on those really busy days.

When the pandemic hit, Lauren quarantined as most of the country did, but by late spring/early summer she was ready to get back to her volunteer duties. She picked up a much needed weekly Tuesday check-in shift and has remained in that position ever since. She easily translated her ability to provide a welcoming environment at the reception desk to the drive through pantry. Lauren also picks up extra shifts whenever we need the help, always willing to do what she can to help ensure our pantry can operate smoothly.

# Make Sunday Special throughout Advent and the Holy Days of Christmas



As we travel through these special days of Advent and Christmas, look for the moments where God breaks through the noise and invites you to rest in hope and love. Take a few minutes to breathe, to embrace a moment of stillness amid the hustle and bustle.

Let us stand in wonder and awe this Advent and Christmas, and be ready to witness to the joy and peace we have been given. Truly these are holy days!



## 27<sup>th</sup> November – 24<sup>th</sup> December: Advent

Advent prepares us for the coming of Jesus not just at Christmas but into our lives every day. Do you need to clear some space for him? Take time to quiet the noise, to clear out a moment of stillness, and as you breathe, silently pray "Come Lord Jesus."

## 25<sup>th</sup> December: Christmas Day

Today is a joyous 'Glory to God!' But tonight, when the celebrations are winding down, turn off the lights and sit in the glow of your Christmas tree. Rest for a few moments in a prayer of thankfulness for the gifts of the day.



## 6<sup>th</sup> January: Epiphany of Our Lord

Three magi, searching for the Light, found more than they imagined. What are you searching for? Be open to the surprising, wonder-filled, awe-inspiring ways that Jesus shows up. Tell someone the story of your searching and finding.

## We Remember Mary



- ❖ 8<sup>th</sup> December: Feast of the Immaculate Conception
- ❖ 12<sup>th</sup> December: Our Lady of Guadalupe
- ❖ 1<sup>st</sup> January: Mary, Mother of God

Kiss the cheek of a child or elder. Rest a hand on the hand of a loved one. Embrace a friend. Wordlessly, speak a prayer. *Mother Mary, embrace this special person just as you embraced your Son Jesus. Pray for me, that I may learn from your example of holiness. Amen.*



## Advent Activities

### Christmas Baskets—Can you help?

Our annual tradition at St Thomas Aquinas is to fill and deliver Christmas Baskets to our neighbors at Wexford Ridge and Tree Lane Apartments. During the Christmas season, you can make a difference by sharing food with our neighbors in need!

#### What needs to be done:

**Donate:** Please bring your **non-perishable** food and personal hygiene items to church between now and **December 16<sup>th</sup>**. Items to donate include: canned goods, boxes of cereal and pasta, as well as laundry detergent, toothpaste and shampoo.

**Sort food/pack baskets:** Sign up sheets are in the Gathering Area for volunteers to sign up to help sort and pack the baskets. **We will start at 6 pm on Friday, December 17<sup>th</sup>**. Please include your phone number or email when signing up. This is a great family activity and children of all ages are welcome.

**Deliver baskets:** Baskets will be delivered beginning at 9:00 AM on **Saturday, December 17<sup>th</sup>**. Sign up sheets are in the Gathering Area for those who wish to volunteer to deliver 3-5 baskets. We need lots of delivery volunteers! Invite a friend to ride along and help!

This is a wonderful opportunity for families to experience giving at Christmas and for our parish to build community among its members and our neighbors. There are many jobs for all ages—children through seniors!

**If you know of someone in the parish  
in need of a Christmas Basket,  
please call the Parish Office at 833-2600.**

### Gifts From the Heart due NEXT Weekend December 3-4

Thank you for taking a tag and your generosity toward our neighbors in need at Christmas! Reminder that it is a quick turnaround...gifts and **gift cards are due next weekend, December 3-4.**



Unwrapped gifts go near the fireplace in the gathering area, gift cards can be dropped in the slot by the main office.

### Gathering to Write This Advent

Join us this Advent for **Gathering to Write**, a spiritual program for adults during which we will read and reflect on one short passage from the Gospel of Luke each week *through writing*. We will have writing prompts for each session. *There is no homework!* Writing as spiritual practice is different than other types of writing. Making lists, drawing, talking about our ideas in even the simplest of words – all of this can count as writing which means *anyone* can do it. Finding just the right words to describe our thoughts, emotions, and experiences can be an act of holy gratitude and a way of opening ourselves to God's ongoing work within us. Consider joining us this Advent on Tuesday nights (November 29<sup>th</sup>, December 6<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup>, & 20<sup>th</sup>) from 6:30-7:30 PM.

For more information or to sign up, please contact Jackie Schramm at [jackie.schramm@icloud.com](mailto:jackie.schramm@icloud.com).

## Lighting the Way

### An Advent Celebration for Women



**Thursday,  
December 1<sup>st</sup>  
6:30 - 8:30 PM**

Prepare for Advent by joining with women of the parish for a peaceful evening of reflection, praise, music and fellowship as we focus on the deeper meaning of this beautiful season. All women are welcome (no children, please). Space is limited. Registration is necessary to attend or volunteer.

<https://bit.ly/3fCr5Ks>

For more information contact Terri Kysely at [terrikysely@gmail.com](mailto:terrikysely@gmail.com) or 608-219-3652

**Advent Mission with Fr. Michail Ford,  
O.P., and St. Jude  
Monday-Wednesday, November 28-30  
Blessed Sacrament Church  
2121 Rowley Ave., Madison, WI**

**Monday and Tuesday, November 28 and 29**  
Preaching by Fr. Michail at 7:00 pm

**Wednesday, November 30:**  
Healing Mass at 7:00 pm  
Featuring a blessing with a relic  
of the arm of St. Jude from the Dominican Shrine  
of St. Jude Thaddeus in Chicago

## Music & Liturgy

### Join the Christmas Choirs!!!

We are seeking students and adults to help us celebrate our Christmas Masses with some extra festivity! If you like to sing but cannot commit to the choir for the entire year, this opportunity is for you! Please consider joining us! Contact Greg for more information or to sign up!

#### Choir for 9PM Christmas Eve Mass and Epiphany Lessons & Carols

Students in grade 7 and up, and adults are all welcome and encouraged to join us for our celebration of Midnight Mass and Epiphany Lessons & Carols. This choir will lead music for 45 minutes before Mass During the Night begins, starting at 8:15 p.m. on Christmas Eve. We will also present a program of **Epiphany Lessons & Carols on Sunday, January 8 at 1:00 p.m.** for all in our parish, neighborhood, and community to attend.

Anyone interested in singing for Christmas Eve – Mass during the Night (9:00 p.m.) should attend at least three of the rehearsals in December (Thurs., Dec. 1, Tues., Dec. 6, Thurs., Dec. 15, 22) from 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. in addition to the remaining rehearsals in November (Thurs., Nov. 17, Tues., Nov. 22) from 7:30 – 8:30 p.m.

All those who commit to sing for Christmas Eve – Mass during the Night are also asked/expected to attend/sing for **Lessons & Carols on Sunday, January 8 at 1:00 p.m.** Please mark your calendars now so that you are able to be in attendance!

#### Children & Family Choir for 4PM Christmas Eve Mass

All students in grades 4 and up are invited to sing for the 4:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Mass. Parents are welcome to sing with their children as well! Rehearsals are on Saturdays, Dec. 3, 10, 17 from 10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. here at St. Thomas Aquinas! Mark your calendars now! Students are asked/expected to attend all 3 rehearsals!

For more information, contact Greg at [greg@stamadison.org](mailto:greg@stamadison.org) or 608-833-2600 x869.



**Saturday,  
December  
24<sup>th</sup>  
4PM Mass**

#### Christmas Pageant

Children ages 2 & up are invited to participate in the Christmas Pageant at the 4:00PM Christmas Eve Mass.

If your child is interested, please contact Holly Irving at: [holly@stamadison.org](mailto:holly@stamadison.org) or 608.833.2600 x861

### Art & Environment Wish List

Throughout the Seasons of the Church Year we have a dedicated team of people who help us enliven our celebration of the Mass, through their decorating and care for the Sanctuary and the Altar. This group of folks works with a very small budget amount each year, which primarily takes care of the flowers for the Seasons of Christmas and Easter. As we have striven to be good stewards of the resources we have been blest with, we are now at the point where some of our cloth and other furnishings need to be refreshed or replaced. We can only do this through your generosity! This list includes a few examples of what we are looking for and their associated costs. If you would be willing to assist us financially with this endeavor, please contact Greg Buchberger ([greg@stamadison.org](mailto:greg@stamadison.org) or 608-833-2600 x869). Thank you to all our parishioners and friends for your generosity to our parish family.

#### Set of New Altar Cloths/Fabric for Decorating

Ranges from \$1,200 - \$2,500 PER SEASON, depending upon the style and size of the altar cloths which are used. Seasons of Christmas and Easter, where we use full cloths that drape to the floor cost considerably more. We are looking forward to new altar cloths for the Seasons of Advent, Christmas, Lent, Easter, and Ordinary Time. We would ideally like to purchase a couple of new sets each year, so that we can spread out the cost and be responsible stewards of your gifts.

#### New Censor/Thurible/Incense Stand

\$1,200. Our current stand has been around for many years and is very worn. It also does not match any of our altar appointments or candle sticks. This new stand would integrate well into our décor as needed.

#### New Advent Wreath/Stand

\$2,500 - \$3,000. We have been making do using our Altar candle sticks and carefully attaching a wreath to them. Making the investment in an actual Advent wreath stand for the church will allow us to spend less time in setup, be more creative in our decorating of the wreath, and allow us more time to focus on other parts of the church in our Advent décor.



#### Sanctuary Lamp Stand

\$3,000. A floor-standing sanctuary lamp stand would allow us some options for placement of the sanctuary lamp. Last year, we used a temporary set-up for this during Lent, which was a bit precarious. Having a floor stand allows us a safe way to keep the sanctuary lamp visible throughout the Seasons of the Year.



#### Torch Stands

\$1,400. We currently have several processional candles/pew torches, which we rarely use because they are difficult to store and to setup for use. Having storage stands for them, would allow us to utilize them much more easily, and use them for special liturgical celebrations and Masses throughout the year.

## Around the Diocese

### The Madison Catholic Woman's Club Christmas Luncheon

The Madison Catholic Woman's Club invites all women of our Diocese to:

**Annual Christmas Luncheon**  
**Tuesday, December 13**  
**Nakoma Country Club**  
**4145 Country Club Road, Madison**

Seating begins at 11:30 a.m. with luncheon served at noon followed by entertainment from Edgewood High School Choral students. Paid reservation of \$25.00 must be received by Tuesday, December 6th either online at [madisoncatholicwomensclub.org](http://madisoncatholicwomensclub.org) or be mailed to Theresa Urzagaste, 4420 Rolla Lane, Madison 53711 with your name, address and phone number. We will still be accepting donations for St. Vincent de Paul's Little Drummer Project and will also feature their pop-up Holiday Gift Shop for shopping. Bring a friend and join us in celebrating the season!

**Fish Fry on December 2nd**  
Blessed Trinity Parish  
will be hosting a Fish Fry.  
Friday, Dec 2, 2022  
Drive-Thru from 4:30PM-7PM.  
St Michael's Church  
109 S Military Rd in Dane

## Care for Creation

### Reflect, Renew and Act

*"A fragile world, entrusted by God to human care, challenges us to devise intelligent ways of directing, developing and limiting our power."*

--Pope Francis, Laudato Si' [LS 78]



As we move into December, we might find ourselves torn between our Advent reflections and our desperation over purchasing holiday gifts. Why not inject our Advent resolutions into our consumption this year? Buy second-hand or re-purposed gifts. Or make gifts from existing, on-hand materials. If buying something new is essential, focus on quality gifts that will last. Or give the gift of a donation or an experience, especially the gift of your time. The memory of such a gift can last a lifetime!



# INTO THE DEEP

### Into the Deep Feedback

Next weekend, **December 3-4**, for those unable to go online to provide feedback, there will be paper copies of Into the Deep feedback forms in the Gathering Area. Staff will be present, along with maps of the proposed pastorates and FAQ handouts, to assist you. **All feedback is due by December 11.**

[www.intothedeepmadison.org/provide-feedback-on-overall-process](http://www.intothedeepmadison.org/provide-feedback-on-overall-process)

**Check out the website:**  
[www.intothedeepmadison.org](http://www.intothedeepmadison.org)

**The Model:**  
[www.intothedeepmadison.org/model](http://www.intothedeepmadison.org/model)

**Sign Up to Stay Connected & Informed:**  
[www.intothedeepmadison.org/stay-connected](http://www.intothedeepmadison.org/stay-connected)



"When the Sisters are exhausted, up to their eyes in work; when all seems to go awry, they spend an hour in prayer before the Blessed Sacrament. This practice has never failed to bear fruit: they experience peace and strength."  
*St. Teresa of Kolkata (Mother Teresa)*

### Eucharistic Revival Exciting Exhibit Immaculate Heart of Mary Monona

**Blessed Carlo Acutis'**  
**Eucharistic Miracles of the World**  
**December 8 – 10, 9am-7pm**  
**December 11, 8am – 3pm.**

Carlo Acutis was a boy from Milan, Italy, who had a great love for the Lord, the Eucharist, computers and the internet, hiking and other activities that young people do. Because of his love for Jesus in the Holy Eucharist, he gathered information of all of the recorded Eucharistic Miracles from around the globe, and cataloged these into a website. He finished his work in 2005. A year later, Carlo died at the age of 15 from leukemia. He was beatified in 2020. Since that time, a traveling exhibit of panels has been developed, using the information he cataloged. A Relic of Blessed Carlo Acutis will accompany the exhibit – be sure to come visit this exciting display!



# Thanksgiving, Advent, and Christmas Season at STA

## **Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service**

### **At Queen of Peace**

401 S Owen Drive, Madison  
Monday, November 21, 6:30 PM

### **Thanksgiving Mass at STA**

Thursday, November 24  
9:00 AM (No 7:30 AM Mass)

### **No Mass Friday, November 25**

### **Immaculate Conception Mass**

### **Misa Inmaculada Concepcion**

(Holy Day of Obligation)

Thursday, December 8, 6:30 AM,  
12:10 PM and 6:30 PM bilingual/bilingüe

### **Our Lady of Guadalupe Mass**

### **Misa de Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe**

Monday, December 12  
6:30 PM bilingual/bilingüe

**\*All Masses are Livestreamed on YouTube  
and Facebook\***

## **Confessions During Advent**

Saturdays: 3:15-4:10 PM

Sundays: 9:00-9:50 AM

Tuesdays, December 6, 13, and 20

6:00-7:00 PM

Thursday, December 8, 5:30-6:15 PM

## **Confesiones en Español**

Sabados: 6:15-7:00 PM



## **Christmas Mass Schedule**

(Holy Day of Obligation)

### **Christmas Eve**

### **Family Mass - Children's Pageant**

Saturday, December 24

4:00 PM, no incense

### **Vigil Mass**

6:30 PM, bilingual/bilingüe

no incense

### **Mass during the Night**

Prelude and Carols begin at 8:15 PM

9:00 PM Mass

### **Christmas Day**

Sunday, December 25, 8:00 AM and 10:00 AM

### **Holy Family**

Friday, December 30, 8:30 AM

### **Mary Mother of God**

(Holy Day of Obligation)

Saturday, December 31, 4:30 PM and

6:30 PM Español

Sunday, January 1, 8:00 AM and 10:00AM

# SSM Health St. Mary's Hospital Volunteer Opportunities

Volunteering at St. Mary's Hospital—Madison is rewarding and pride is taken in providing volunteers with a meaningful experience. Volunteers offer services that have a high impact on the patient experience. This is a great place to make new friends and reconnect with past friends. Volunteers are needed:

**Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion** in the Pastoral Care Department are needed. Volunteers provide a healing presence to patients as they distribute Holy Communion to Catholic patients. This meaningful service aligns with the mission and core values. Flexible scheduling and training are available.

**Surgical Waiting Area** volunteers are needed to welcome patients and visitors to the beautiful, relaxing waiting area. While waiting for their loved one in surgery, volunteers provide compassion and serve as a concierge to visitors. Volunteers are needed to serve a three-hour shift Monday-Friday between 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

**At Your Service** is a great service for volunteers who enjoy walking. Volunteers support patients, visitors and staff. They deliver flowers, mail, patient belongings and help escort patients and visitors to their destination. Volunteers also assist the hospital staff in maintaining a smooth flow throughout the patient discharge process and focus on the patient as the priority.

Please consider joining St. Mary's family as a volunteer.  
Apply on-line at: [www.ssmhealth.com/volunteer](http://www.ssmhealth.com/volunteer) or call 608-258-6640.



## Gospel Reflection

by Dcn. Jerome Buhman



### Matthew 24:37-44

On the First Sunday of Advent on November 27<sup>th</sup> in Madison, Wisconsin, the sun doesn't rise until after 7 AM and sets before 4:30 PM. That's a lot of darkness. With that much darkness, it's easy to feel sleepy and hard to stay awake. But Jesus tells us in our Gospel today to "stay awake!" And how do we do that? We turn on a light. That spiritual light for us is following in the way of Jesus, living his commandments, loving God and one another. That creates light around us and keeps us awake – but we know that our limited little lights are just dim reflections of the light of the sun, or rather the son, which illumines all. But you might say, there is darkness! Yes, but the sun is ALWAYS shining; the darkness of night only arrives when the bulk of the earth comes between us and the sun. Let this be a reminder at this busy time of year to not let earthly things come between us and the Light. So as we prepare during this season of Advent, let us stay awake and keep our lights shining, until the bright dawning arrival of the Son!

## Giving Tuesday

by Holly Irving

### #GIVINGTUESDAY is a Couple Days Away!

This is your opportunity to help our neighbors in need. In the past, we have given to our St. Vincent de Paul Conference who help our neighbors in need, the Catholic Multi-cultural Center, Nigerian Parish & Orphanage, Lussier Community Education Center, Waspam Nicaragua Sister Parish, Catholic Charities Adult Day Care, Women's Care Center, Care Net Pregnancy Center, Rachel's Vineyard, Elizabeth House, and Beds for Refugees. We need your help in continuing to support the efforts of these nonprofit organizations.

**On November 29th, please go to [www.stamadison.org](http://www.stamadison.org), click on **Donate**, and enter the amount you wish to donate. *Don't forget to mention #GivingTuesday.***

**You can also write a check made out to "St. Thomas Aquinas" & in the memo section note "Giving Tuesday" and drop it in the mail or bring it to the parish.**

**Thank you in advance for your generosity!**

## Young Adults, Faith Formation, & Family



*Middle & High School Youth Sessions are for ALL students, not just the confirmed. Come in and join us any time.*

### High School

11/20-Robert's Prayer Stations  
11/27-No meeting-Thanksgiving Break  
12/4-The Meaning of Advent  
12/11-Advent Night (reconciliation)  
12/18- HS Youth Christmas Party

### Middle School

11/23-No meeting-Thanksgiving Break  
11/30-Advent  
12/7-Power of Friendship  
12/14-Las Posadas Night

### Preschool & Elementary

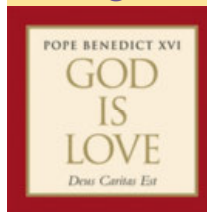
Classes in November: 29&30  
December: 6&7, 13&14

**Faith Formation Office**  
**608-833-2606**

**[formation@stamadison.org](mailto:formation@stamadison.org)**

*Follow us on Instagram: @sta\_youth\_ministry*

### Young Adults



Young Adult Ministry will be wrapping up the year by reading *God is Love*. Starting on Dec. 1, meetings are held at Panera Bread on Mineral Point Rd. For this week, we ask that you read paragraphs 1-10.

Anyone who wants to get involved with Young Adult Ministry, please reach out to our Youth and Young Adult Minister Robert Rosa-Cruz at **[robert@stamadison.org](mailto:robert@stamadison.org)**

### Grounds Volunteers for Winter

We are looking for individuals who can assist us with snow shoveling around sidewalks on the weekends this winter. While we have a regular service to provide clean-up to our parking lots and sidewalks after a snowfall, we occasionally need individuals who can arrive to help prior to the snow removal company.

If you are interested in helping us this winter, please call or email Brian Franzen **[brian@stamadison.org](mailto:brian@stamadison.org)** or 608-833-2600.

## Mass Intentions

### Saturday, November 26

4:30 PM Aaron Jacobs✙

6:30 PM St. Thomas Aquinas Parishioners

### Sunday, November 27 First Sunday of Advent

8:00 AM James Speth

10:00 AM Richard J. "Dick" Brachman II✙

### Monday, November 28

8:30 AM Gene Kruska✙

### Tuesday, November 29

5:30 PM Alicia Pazynski

### Wednesday, November 30 St. Andrew, Apostle

8:30 AM Rose DePietro✙

### Thursday, December 1

7:30 AM Gib Kleckner✙

### Friday, December 2

8:30 AM Roberto Vergara✙

### Saturday, December 3 St. Francis Xavier, Priest

4:30 PM Ruth Trudel✙

6:30 PM St. Thomas Aquinas Parishioners

### Sunday, December 4 Second Sunday of Advent;

### St. John Damascene, Priest & Doctor of the Church

8:00 AM Camilla Leininger✙

10:00 AM Jack Sprague✙

## WEEKLY PRAYER

### READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 27, 2022

**Sunday:** Is 2:1-5/Ps 122:1-2, 3-4, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9/Rom 13:11-14/Mt 24:37-44

**Monday:** Is 4:2-6/Ps 122:1-2, 3-4b, 4cd-5, 6-7, 8-9/Mt 8:5-11

**Tuesday:** Is 11:1-10/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17/Lk 10:21-24

**Wednesday:** Rom 10:9-18/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11/Mt 4:18-22

**Thursday:** Is 26:1-6/Ps 118:1 and 8-9, 19-21, 25-27a/Mt 7:21, 24-27

**Friday:** Is 29:17-24/Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14/Mt 9:27-31

**Saturday:** Is 30:19-21, 23-26/Ps 147:1-2, 3-4, 5-6/Mt 9:35—10:1, 5a, 6-8

**Next Sunday:** Is 11:1-10/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17/Rom 15:4-9/Mt 3:1-12

## Weekly Offertory Update

Week Ending	Income*	MDCC & MDCC Endowment
<b>2022 GOAL thru November</b>	<b>\$1,153,000</b>	<b>\$386,347</b>
<b>2022 TOTALS</b>	<b>\$1,212,324</b>	<b>\$387,256</b>
<b>All Saints Day &amp; All Souls Day</b>	<b>\$9,247</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>11/6/2022</b>	<b>\$15,937</b>	<b>\$1,435</b>
<b>11/13/2022</b>	<b>\$15,359</b>	<b>\$1,220</b>
<b>11/20/2022</b>		
<b>11/27/2022</b>		
<b>November Totals</b>	<b>\$40,543</b>	<b>\$2,655</b>
<b>November GOAL</b>	<b>\$106,500</b>	<b>\$26,000</b>

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

**DUE TO EARLY BULLETIN DEADLINES, THE OFFERTORY NUMBERS DO NOT REFLECT THE MOST RECENT WEEKEND.**

### Counter Schedule

**Monday, November 28:**

Baik, Degenhardt, Hurtgen, Ihlenfeld, Peterson

**Monday, December 5:**

Allen, Baxter, Dulli, Ihlenfeld



## Prayers

### November 27<sup>th</sup>

### The First Sunday of Advent

For all the faithful:

May the Lord help us build a culture of life in vigilant expectation of His return;

*We pray to the Lord.*

For all of us who await the coming of Baby Jesus,

May the Spirit guide us as we reflect on

what Jesus would want us to do during this Season and on the day of His birth;

*We pray to the Lord.*



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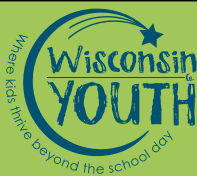
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