SEPTEMBER 17, 2023



WELCOME TO THE PASTORATE OF ST. THOMAS AQUINAS CATHOLIC PARISH & OUR LADY QUEEN OF PEACE

Msgr. James Gunn • Fr. Jay Poster • Fr. Brian Wilk, Parochial Administrator

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"Lord, if my brother sins against me, how often must I forgive? As many as seven times?" Jesus answered, "I say to you, not seven times but seventy-seven times."

MATTHEW 18:21-22

"Si mi hermano me ofende, ¿cuántas veces tengo que perdonarlo? ¿Hasta siete veces?" Jesús le contestó: "No sólo hasta siete, sino hasta setenta veces siete".

MATEO 18, 21-22

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

Leccionario II © 1987 Comisión Episcopal de Pastoral Litúrgica de la Conferencia del Episcopado Mexicano.

The Lord is kind and merciful, slow to anger, and rich in compassion. Psalm 103

El Señor es compasivo y misericordioso. Salmo 102

Pastorate #21: St. Thomas Aquinas & Queen of Peace

St. Thomas Aquinas/Queen of Peace Mass Times

Saturday Vigil Mass

4:30 PM—STA 5:00 PM—QP

Sunday Masses

8:00 AM—STA 10:00 AM—STA 1:00 PM—STA (Spanish) 8:00 AM—QP 9:30 AM—QP 11:15 AM—QP

Weekday Masses

Monday

8:30 AM—STA 8:30 AM—QP

Tuesday

5:30 PM—STA 8:30 AM—QP

Wednesday

8:30 AM—STA 8:30 AM—QP

Thursday

7:30 AM—STA 8:30 AM—QP 1:00 PM—at Renaissance (1st & 3rd)

Friday

10:00 AM—at Oakwood (1st & 3rd)

Reconciliation

Saturday

3:15-4:10 PM—STA 3:45-4:30 PM—QP

TASTE OF CHILI HEAVEN





FALL TRIVIA FEST



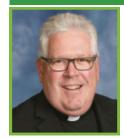


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- Fundraising



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From Fr. Brian Wilk



God forgives and so must we. This is the message of this Sunday's readings. Sometimes forgiveness is easy. Friends and family know how to brush off each other's small transgressions. But sometimes forgiveness is difficult. Relationships can be difficult. Finding ways to forgive in

difficult circumstances can feel like a hopeless task.

God's tireless compassion should be the model for our lives. Forgiveness deepens opportunities for divine love. God's compassion can free us to forgive, no matter the amount of mercy required.

This weekend we are having a "deacon swap" between our parishes. We welcome Dcn. Mark to St. Thomas, and Dcns Jerome and Dick to Queen of Peace. Permanent deacons provide great service to their parishes. They are a valuable resource and holy vocation within the church. As our parishes come together, remember to pray for and thank the deacons that we are privileged to have serving among us. May God continue to bless them in their ministries. Have a blessed week.

Welcome Dcn. Mark Zwolski

Deacon Mark was ordained to the Permanent Diaconate in April 1989, having been called to ministry by the people and staff of St. Mary of Vernon Parish, near Vernon Hills, IL. He was based at SMV until October of 2022 when he and his wife, Carol, moved to Wisconsin. Faculties to minister in the



Diocese of Madison were granted in 2021, and Mark was assigned to Our Lady Queen of Peace Parish. Mark joined the QP staff as Director of Liturgy & Worship in March of 2022, and has since moved into the business office on an interim basis.

Mark has been involved in a wide range of ministries before and after ordination. His focus in Illinois, in addition to sacramental duties, had been facilitating the parish RCIA program and running a ministry for the unemployed. His current ministry interests are in supporting organizations feeding the hungry, especially children, and in promoting a spirituality of work for working adults. Mark and Carol live in Fitchburg and have three adult children and two grandchildren.

Gospel Reflection

Matthew 18:21-35 by Dcn. Jerome

What is mercy? If you look it up, you might find it means "compassion" or "pity." But I don't think that's quite right. Compassion and pity are emotions, something you feel. Mercy is active; it is something you do – as in an act of mercy. And we are not just to dole out mercy in limited batches; we are to be extravagant in mercifulness – "not seventy times, but seventy times seven" (meaning infinite mercy, as the Father's mercy is infinite). Mercy is an act of love, not just for someone who deserves it, but perhaps most especially for those who do not. The greatest act of mercy in history was the death & resurrection of Jesus. That is mercy. Jesus asks us—no commands us—here today, to share that merciful love with others.

INTERCESSORY PRAYER WORKBOOK STUDY GROUP

Using the book Intercession: A Guide to Effective Prayer by Sister Ann Shields, we will study key Scripture passages that undergird productive prayer. In nine lively lessons, we 'll discover what it means to pray, how to intercede for the church and the world, and the elements of spiritual warfare.

STARTING TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 26TH



Joshua Minden 312-880-8615 jminden@gmail.com

St. Thomas Aquinas Tuesdays 6:30 PM to 8:00 PM

Contemplative Prayer

When the new school year starts---even long after we've graduated---we can feel a yearning to learn something new. If you find yourself with that desire and would like to deepen your relationship with God, you may be interested in contemplative prayer. Perhaps you heard Fr Brian in his homily a few weeks ago share his thoughts on the importance of contemplation. He pointed to Peter, who is a "doer," an active guy, and he made the point that we can't always be "doers." Sometimes it is important to take time for silence and just be with God. But what exactly is contemplative prayer? It is one of the three forms of prayer about which the Catechism of the Catholic Church teaches us. If you'd like to learn more and experience contemplative prayer, Our Lady Queen of Peace has a group that meets at 7PM in the chapel on the first, second, and third Wednesdays of every month. Please join us. All are welcome and a Zoom option is offered, too. Email Tricia with questions at: taheines@yahoo.com

Eucharistic Congress

Time is Running Out! Pre-Register for the Diocese of Madison's First Eucharistic Congress Now!

You know about its beautiful Masses and music, its inspiring speakers, its spiritual encounter with Jesus in the Holy Eucharist during the conversion calls, its fellowship, adoration, and more. Now, it's time to say, "Yes." *Come to Jesus in the Eucharist*. Be with family and friends in a relationship with Jesus Christ.

The *Congress Handbook* is completed. It prepares you before you come and guides you when you arrive.

Please preview the Handbook online, pre-register at the same time, pre-register to order Saturday lunch, sign up for childcare: *blessedbrokenandgiven.com*

Madison Diocesan Eucharistic Congress Sept. 29-Oct. 1

St. John the Baptist, 209 South St., Waunakee

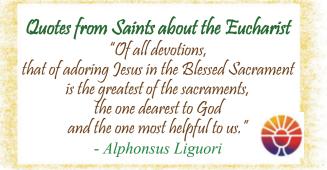


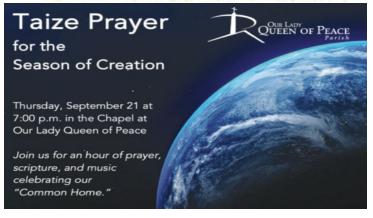
QP/STA Shuttle to/from the Eucharistic Congress

A shuttle bus has been booked to and from the Diocesan Eucharistic

Congress on Fri., Sept. 29 and Sat., Sept. 30. You can take the bus from either QP or STA to the gathering in Waunakee. For more information on the Eucharistic Congress, visit *blessedbrokenandgiven.com*

The bus only costs \$5 per round trip but seats are limited! To sign up for a seat on the bus or the conference, contact Cheryl at *Cheryl.horne@qopc.org* or 608.231.4616.





Volunteer Opportunities

Letters from STA's St Vincent de Paul Conference

What comes to mind when you think of STA St. Vincent de Paul: monthly food donations, fill the crib, Thanksgiving Day collection, Christmas Giving Tree, blanket drive, food pantry, thrift shop, etc? All of that is true until you join and become a member of the family known as Vincentians. The primary purpose of the Society is our spiritual growth, to follow Christ serving those in need and bringing them closer to God. We always pray that the Holy Spirit guides us before each visit. We pray for the people we serve as we listen to their stories and help them recover their own dignity. We also pray with the neighbors at the end of our visits and invite them to our masses. After one visit, the gentleman texted, "I am grateful and thankful for the opportunity meeting someone who represents the true meaning of God. Because your actions reflect the love of God. Your very positive attitude touched my soul, bless you and I thank you. I would love to come visit your church and fellowship with your congregation in the near future."

Please consider joining our STA Conference. You will find you are never just a volunteer, because within months you will discover you have found your vocation. Blessings, Karen Smith.

If interested, contact Kathy Taddy at stasvdp@gmail.com.

Our Lady Queen of Peace Blood Drive

Thursday, September 21 from 1-5PM Gathering Space 401 S. Owen Drive, Madison

For an appointment call 1-800-REDCROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit *redcrossblood.org* and enter Sponsor Code: OLQPWI







Charity Starts with You & Me

Just imagine being a young student getting ready to go back to school and worrying about where you're going to eat your next meal, get clean clothes, do your homework, or even sleep.

The Knights of Columbus Chapter #4527, which includes Queen of Peace & St. Thomas Aquinas members, are kicking off the fall drive. They will be working with the MMSD-Homeless Service Transition Education Program to support that program, as well as the Catholic Multicultural Center to help as many kids possible.

Below is a list of needed items. Please make sure all items are new (not used). Bins will be in the gathering area **September 16-24**. Thank you for your support.

School Supplies – Backpacks

Personal Hygiene items – Shampoo, body soap, deodorant, toothpaste, toothbrushes, tampons, pads, and laundry soap.

Clothing – Undershirts, underwear, bras, socks, boots, and waterproof gloves in all sizes.

Blankets - Tie-fleece blankets for sleeping in cars

Gift Cards – St. Vincent, Goodwill, and Grocery Store (\$25 increments)

Coats for Kids – As members of the Knights of Columbus, we are able to purchase large quantities of coats at a huge discount. If you prefer to just donate cash, mail it to Knights of Columbus Council #4527, 5256 Verona Road, Madison, WI 53711

KofC.org/join

When the time is right, we are council #4527.





Walking with Moms

Whether a mom is pregnant or already parenting, each parish in

the diocese is being trained and equipped to link moms and families to life-affirming resources in the community, such as pregnancy resource centers and low-cost clinics. and a variety of services from Catholic Charities and the Catholic Multicultural Center. Visit the diocesan website: walkingwithmoms.com, a userfriendly, easy-to-navigate resource site spotlighting local resources. The STA Respect Life Team and parish staff are committed to supporting families in need and to stand with moms who choose life for their children. To get involved with Walking with Moms and our parish Respect Life efforts, please contact Jenny Ludtke at jennifer@stamadison.org or STA Respect Life Team Lead Greg Chesmore at gchesmore@yahoo.com.

Justice & Peace

Last Sunday to Get Your Bag!

This Sunday, September 17, is the last day you will be able to get your custommade reusable shopping bag featuring the



STA logo and art by our young parishioners! We sold over 100 last weekend! Can we beat that this weekend? We are selling the bags for \$5 to cover the cost of bag production with a little left over to support future programs.

Parishioners are buying the bags to express their commitment to creation care and to be an inspiration to others. If you already use your own reusable bags, great! Consider sharing one with family, friends, or relatives or use the bags to wrap Christmas presents! One parishioner is sending a bag to her son who works for the UN in Tokyo for his birthday—she was proud to share that her parish was taking small active steps to lessen the use of plastics.

When you pick up your bag, share what you are doing to care for creation on the flip chart next to the table. Be sure to take the quiz that is attached to the bag. Did you know that it takes 1,000 years for a plastic bag to break down in a landfill and then it becomes microplastics that continue to pollute the environment? Or it takes 12 million barrels of oil to manufacture the bags the US uses each year?*

During this Season of Creation, Pope Francis asks us, "What can we, particularly as Christian communities, do to heal our common home so that it can once again teem with life? We must do this by resolving to transform our hearts, our lifestyles, and the public policies ruling our societies."

*Center for Biological Diversity, 10 Facts about Single-use Plastic Bags.



MASS

Now Scheduling for 2024

Each family will be able to request

3 Masses in 2024 (one weekend and 2 weekday). Requests can be

made using the envelopes in the Gathering Area. When completed, please place in the collection basket or in the parish mail drop near the office windows with payment enclosed. The stipend is \$10 for each Mass, payable in cash or by check. Dates will be scheduled on first come, first served basis. You will be notified if your dates are not available. You may also call or email Judy in the parish office to request dates: 608.833.2600x864 or *judy@stamadison.org*

Faith & Family



2023-24 Faith Formation

High School Youth: Sundays 5-7PM 17-Scripture Series "180 from the Cross" begins "Calvary"

24-Scripture Series "180 from the Cross"
The Upper Room

PK/EL Tuesday & Wednesday Dates September 19 & 20, 26 & 27

MS Youth: Wednesdays 6-7:30PM 20-Trust with Parents

27-Truthful Friendships

Faith Formation Office

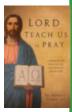
608-833-2606 or formation@stamadison.org Follow us on Instagram: @sta_youth_ministry

Young Adults Book Study

Need a prayer life? Don't know how to start one? The book our young adults will be talking about is called *Lord*, *Teach Us To Pray: A Guide to the Spiritual Life and Christian Discipleship* by Father Jeffrey Kirby.



The book study begins on Thursday, September 28, at 7p.m. Meetings will be held at Panera Bread on Mineral Point. If interested, contact Robert for a copy of the book at robert@stamadison.org.



Parish Care Team

Are you, a friend, or a family member caring for a loved one? Is it challenging to stay positive when the day-to-day demands are increasing? Sometimes it is difficult to



ask for help, but there can be great healing and benefit to allowing yourself to be cared for as well as your loved one. Our Care Team offers many services to help you. We can meet with you to identify ways that we can assist you and your loved one. All of our team members are parish members who are interviewed, screened, background checked and trained.

To inquire about receiving services or become a member of our team, please contact Kathy Swanson at 608-444-9374 or Judy Niederberger at 608-845-7057.

Mass Intentions

Saturday, September 16 Sts. Cornelius, Pope, and Cyprian, Bishop, Martyrs

4:30 PM James & Shirley Shampo♥

Sunday, September 17 Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time; Catechetical Sunday

8:00 AM D. Aldo Pitassi & Rose Marie Walch &

10:00 AM Dolores Schwenn +

1:00 PM St. Thomas Aquinas & Our Lady Queen of Peace Parishioners

Monday, September 18 8:30 AM Tom Gombar †

Tuesday, September 19 St. Januarius, Bishop & Martyr

5:30 PM Monsignor Mike Burke \$

Wednesday, Sept. 20 Sts. Andrew Kim Tae-gon, Priest, and Paul Chong Ha-sang and Companions, Martyrs

8:30 AM Jan McGinley +

Thursday, September 21 St. Matthew, Apostle & Evangelist

7:30 AM George Weiland +

Friday, September 22

8:30 AM Pat Jagoe \$

Saturday, September 23 St. Pius of Pietrelcina, Priest

4:30 PM Kevin Hartberg♥

Sunday, September 24 Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time; Priesthood Sunday

8:00 AM Jim Speth †
10:00 AM Jim Cassidy †
1:00 PM William †

Weekly Readings

Sunday: Sir 27:30-28:7/Ps 103:1-4,9-12/

Rom 14:7-9/Mt 18:21-35

Monday: 1 Tm 2:1-8/Ps 28:2, 7-9/Lk 7:1-10

Tuesday: 1 Tm 3:1-13/Ps 101:1-3,5-6/Lk 7:11-17

Wednesday: 1 Tm 3:14-16/Ps 111:1-6/

Lk 7:31-35

Thursday: Eph 4:1-7,11-13/Ps 19:2-5/Mt 9:9-13

Friday: 1 Tm 6:2c-12/Ps 49:6-10,17-20/Lk 8:1-3

Saturday: 1 Tm 6:13-16/Ps 100:1-5/Lk 8:4-15 **Sunday:** Is 55:6-9/Ps 145:2-3,8-9,17-18/Phil

1:20-24,27/Mt 20:1-16

Weekly Offertory Update

Weekend Offertory	Income*	MDCC & MDCC Endowment
2023 Year Goals	\$1,421,000	\$405,000
2023 Year Totals	\$957,700	\$306,080
Week 1 9/3/2023	\$15,476	\$27,714
Week 2 9/10/2023	\$14,125	\$915
Week 3 9/17/2023		
Week 4 9/24/2023		
September ACH 9/26/2023		
September 2023 Totals	\$29,601	\$28,629
September 2023 Goals	\$92,000	\$71,000

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

Counter Schedule

September 18:Dulli, Ihlenfeld, Marx, Sawyer

September 25:

Baik, Degenhardt, Dulli, Hurtgen, Ihlenfeld, Peterson

Prayers

September 17th Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

For all whose hearts ache from participating in abortion: may they be strengthened to seek the Lord's compassion, mercy, and healing in the Sacrament of Reconciliation; *We pray to the Lord*.

May we pray for and reach out to all who are suffering extreme losses due to raging wildfires and commit to making changes in habits that perpetuate global warming; *We pray to the Lord.*



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