

July 19, 2020 / 16th Sunday In Ordinary Time



ST. THOMAS AQUINAS

Catholic Community Welcomes You!

**Make your appointment for the Annual Blood Drive
Men's Golf Tournament Cancelled**



16th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

“The righteous will
shine like the sun in the
kingdom of their Father.”
- Mt 13:43a

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

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PARISH OFFICE

920 Holley Avenue
St. Paul Park, MN 55071
Phone: 651-459-2131
Fax: 651 459-8756
www.st-thomas-aquinas.com

OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Friday: 8:30am - 4:30pm,
Closed 12:00pm - 1:00pm

Mass Times:

Wednesday: 9:00 am
Saturday: 4:00 pm
Sunday: 8:30 am
10:30 am VIRTUAL
via Facebook

PARISH STAFF

Pastor: *Father Tony Andrade* ❖ ext. 105 ❖ tandrade1@st-thomas-aquinas.com

Deacon: *Joe Utecht* ❖ ext. 109 ❖ jutecht1@st-thomas-aquinas.com

Business Administrator: *Amy Stein* ❖ ext. 103 ❖ astein1@st-thomas-aquinas.com

Office Manager: *Tina Fox* ❖ ext.101 ❖ tfox1@st-thomas-aquinas.com

Dir. Faith Formation: *Deone Parnell* ❖ ext. 108 ❖ dparnell1@st-thomas-aquinas.com

Director of Music: *Robin Medrud* ❖ ext. 107 ❖ rmedrud1@st-thomas-aquinas.com

Pastoral Associate: *Sue Kainz* ❖ 651-707-6874

Dir. of Bldg & Grounds: *Bryce Hauck* ❖ ext.106 ❖ bhauck1@st-thomas-aquinas.com

QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK

Theme: The reign of God is like ...

Question for Children: What are the things that keep you from being a friend of Jesus?

Question for Youth: The good and the bad have the same opportunity to rule our life. What are you doing (bad habits, poor choices, etc.) that you need to weed out? Who can help you with that?

Question for Adults: How would you describe "the weeds" which have polluted your own faith, or the faith of people whom you know?



BURIALS THIS PAST WEEK

Over the past several days we have buried the following people at our cemetery.

On **Tuesday July 7th** we buried **G. Ray Gilman**, 85, a long time former resident of Cottage Grove

and former member of the parish. Please keep his wife of 63 years, Jeannine and her family in your thoughts and prayers.

On **Monday, July 13th** we buried **Raymond Hurd**, uncle of Barb Kulesa. Ray died a number of years ago and was placed in the columbarium. Please keep his family in your thoughts and prayers.

On **Monday, July 13th** we buried **Mildred Polzin**, with her husband Ralph. Millie died a number of years ago. She and Ralph raised eight children in our parish. Two of her children, who were able to attend her burial, had wonderful memories that they shared about growing up at the "corner church". Her sons were altar boys for Fr. Westfall. Please keep all of Millie's family in your thoughts and prayers.

On **Thursday, July 16th** we celebrated the long life of **Bernadette Schueller**, 96, with a Funeral Mass. Bernie was a resident of Norris Square for six years and during that time Fr. Tony visited her each month, and our Word and Communion Ministers brought her communion each week. Bernie was the mother of former parishioners Ron (Diane) and David (Mary Beth) Schueller. Bernie was buried in Holy Rosary Cemetery in Detroit Lakes, next to her husband John. Please keep her, Ron and David, and their families in your thoughts and prayers.



WHAT TO EXPECT WHEN YOU COME TO MASS

As more of you plan to attend our in-person Masses at 4:00pm Saturday or 8:30am Sunday, here is a list of changes for you to expect when you come. Keep in mind, all of these changes are for your safety during this pandemic time.

1. There is only **one** door open for entrance.
2. Please come early so you can be checked in.
3. Remember social distancing if you have to wait on the plaza.
4. Masks are required and **MUST** be worn for the duration of the service.
5. Your hands will be given a spray of hand sanitizer as you enter the church.
6. There are baskets after you check-in to deposit your donation envelope.
7. Pews are marked for seating and households may sit together. Otherwise, please remember social distancing.
8. There is no singing by the congregation.
9. Communion is distributed at the end of Mass, after the final blessing.

- The ushers will dismiss pews one at a time.
 - You are asked to **remain seated** until your pew is dismissed.
 - You will receive another spray of hand sanitizer.
 - Leave your mask **ON**.
 - Hosts are received in the hand only.
 - Once Host is given, please slide you mask to place Host in your mouth, and then place mask back in position.
 - You will then leave the church via the side aisles.
10. We ask if you visit with people on the plaza, please remember social distancing.

We are so thrilled to see all of you who are attending either the 4:00 pm Saturday Mass or the 8:30 am Sunday Mass. We want to remind you once more that the parish staff is working very hard to make sure you are safe in church.



MANY HAVE ASKED FOR OUR PRAYERS

Please remember all of the following who have asked for our prayers in their illness:

- | | |
|----------------|-------------------|
| Bob Weisbrod | Megan Wagner |
| Ed Fleege | Bonnie Williamson |
| Jean Shinn | John Kell |
| Harvey Pierson | Lori Mundy |
| Joan Deshler | Russell McDonald |
| Cindy Smith | Theresa Campbell |
| Denny Smith | Pat Schrantz |

All those suffering from COVID-19

Please also remember the many members of our parish who are in nursing homes, assisted living, or homebound.

THINGS TO KEEP IN MIND ABOUT BURIALS AT ST. THOMAS AQUINAS CEMETERY.

With so many people now choosing cremation, sometimes it is easy to keep family members at "home" after the funeral. Sometimes, people are just not ready to say good-bye. In reading about the burials at our cemetery recently you might wonder about the delay in burials. It is always good to say that final good-bye to your loved one when you are ready, as these two families were. One of the Corporal Works of Mercy of the Catholic Church is to "Bury the dead". If you have a loved one that you would like to say a final good-bye to, please call the parish office and we can assist you.

Deacon's Corner

WEEDS IN THE KINGDOM

Jesus reveals to us through the parable in this week's gospel one of the greatest mysteries of the Kingdom of God. This is something that we can take for granted in our time. But in first century Israel it was absolutely revolutionary. What is this great mystery?

The Kingdom is open for all of humanity and all nations. This is why He lets the weeds continue to grow. He wants to give everyone the opportunity to repent and receive forgiveness of sins. Even the greatest of sinners can repent and receive forgiveness because God judges with clemency and leniency. There is no one outside of God's mercy. Just as "all have sinned and are deprived of the glory of God"(Rm 3:23) all have the opportunity to be forgiven. Jesus death on the cross paid the price for even the greatest sin.



All that is needed is to have faith, believe in the Lord Jesus and to turn to Him, to repent, and ask for mercy. Even if our faith is as small as a mustard seed, when founded on Jesus it will grow to be a refuge for many. Like yeast our faith can build us up and fill us with the Holy Spirit. This is the good news. That we all can receive forgiveness and be a part of the great harvest at the end of time.

Deacon Joe

**ANNUAL SUMMER BLOOD DRIVE
THURSDAY AUGUST 6TH 1:00PM-7:00PM**

Our annual Summer Blood Drive is now open for appointments. **Please go on-line to redcrossblood.org enter St. Thomas Aquinas, or call 1-800-RedCross.** There is a real need for blood and if you are healthy, please consider giving. All safety precautions will be followed. New donors are always welcome.



MEN'S CLUB GOLF TOURNAMENT

Due to the uncertainty and safety concerns surrounding Covid-19 and also several significant golf course rule changes that would need to be implemented in order to proceed with the event, this is to inform you that our golf committee has decided to **CANCEL the 2020 Men's Club Golf Tournament previously scheduled for Sunday 9/20/2020** at Clifton Hollow, River Falls, WI. We intend to have the event again in 2021 and will be communicating about that next summer. We'd also like to thank all of our golfers and sponsors for their past participation and donations.

St. Thomas Aquinas Men's Club Golf Committee



**ST. THOMAS AQUINAS YOUTH
FAITH FORMATION**

- ◆ **Senior Recognition 2020!** - It was wonderful to be able to celebrate our amazing graduates and their families and lift them up in prayer! Thanks to everyone who helped make this event special including all the staff and volunteers at St. Thomas Aquinas. Thanks again to Annie Gibson for creating gift bags for each Senior and Tom Strom for donating gift cards. We are excited to see the positive impact our graduates will have on the world!
 - ◆ **Confirmation** - After touching base with our Confirmation families, we are offering the following options to meet the needs of our families and ensure a blessed safe event for all.
 - Option 1—Confirmation during private Mass Wednesday, August 5th
 - Option 2—Confirmation during public Mass Saturday, August 8th at 4pm
 - Option 3—Wait to be Confirmed until Spring 2021
 - ◆ **First Communion** - After touching base with our First Communion families, we are offering the following options to meet the needs of our families and ensure a blessed safe event for all.
 - Option 1—First Communion during private Mass Wednesday, August 12th
 - Option 2—First Communion during public Mass Saturday, August 15th at 4pm (Feast of the Assumption)
 - Option 3—Wait to receive with group in 2021
 - Option 4—Schedule to receive at another Mass that works for your family
 - ◆ **Baptism** - There is now an opportunity to begin planning Baptisms with precautions in place to ensure the safety of our whole church family. Contact Deone or Fr. Tony if you have questions or would like to plan a future Baptism. A big thank you goes to Carol Williams for sewing and donating Baptism gowns for our littlest disciples!
 - ◆ **The Word!** - You can find The Word resources to enjoy at home in the Parish Email Newsletter. If you are not receiving the Eblast, contact the church office to sign up today!
 - ◆ **Youth Mission Trip 2021!** - YAY!!! We have reserved the WEEK of HOPE in Colorado! June 20-25, 2021! Youth aged 13 through adult can join! \$100 deposit and forms are due October 1st. Anyone who paid their 2020 deposit can apply it to 2021!
 - ◆ **Faith Formation Calendar** - Available on our website www.st-thomas-aquinas.com/calendar
- Questions? Comments?** Contact Deone Parnell at dparnell1@st-thomas-aquinas.com or Cell: 715-977-2493

Senior Recognition Mass July 12, 2020

Blessing of our Graduates



Photo courtesy of John Hawthorne

E-BLAST EMAILS

Did your Eblast email suddenly stop coming to your inbox? Sometimes they end up filed into Junk randomly. Please make sure to check your junk inbox and/or add our email address to your list of 'safe' addresses. We would hate for you to miss any news and information.

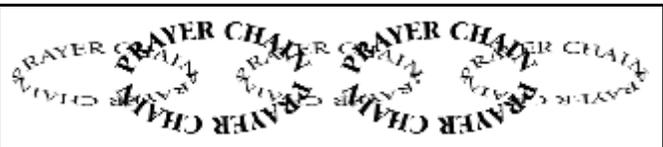
ATTENTION!

There are text messages going around to St. Thomas Aquinas staff and parishioners looking like they are coming from Fr. Tony. DO NOT open these text messages or reply to these text messages.

Fr. Tony will NEVER text any parishioner personally. If you have any questions or concerns, please reach out to Amy Stein at 651-500-9669 or astein1@st-thomas-aquinas.com ~ Thank you

Spread The Word

As many of you are aware, Natural Science Academy is closing and will not be leasing from St. Thomas Aquinas starting August 1st, 2020. If you could please spread the word that we have space available for lease, we would greatly appreciate it.



Renee McCawley 459-2641 or Parish Office 459-2131



DO YOU NEED HELP?

Friends In Need can help with food. Call on Mondays from noon - 3:00pm or Tuesday mornings after 7:30am at 651-458-0730 to make an appointment to pick up a pre-packed box of food for your family.



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HAVE YOU MOVED RECENTLY?

DO YOU HAVE A NEW PHONE NUMBER?

DO WE HAVE YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS?

Be sure to keep us informed of any of these changes by calling the parish office at 651-459-2131 or by e-mailing Tina at tfox1@st-thomas-aquinas.com. Thank you!

THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

KEY (AB) = Activities Building (CB) = Church Basement
(C) = Church Comn. = Commission Cmte. = Committee

MONDAY, July 20

TUESDAY, July 21

WEDNESDAY, July 22

8:30 am - Rosary (C)

9:00 am - Mass

Charles & Mary McGraw † (C)

THURSDAY, July 23

FRIDAY, July 24

SATURDAY, July 25

4:00 pm - Mass

Gertrude Narusiewicz † (C)

SUNDAY, July 19

8:30 am - Mass

Ed & Carol Devaney † (C)

10:30 am - Mass VIRTUAL via Facebook

James Lence † (C)

MASS INTENTIONS

We are taking Mass intentions for the upcoming year. If you want to remember your loved one, having a Mass said is a very nice way to honor them. Donations for a Mass intentions are \$10.00. Remember, one intention per person, per month. Call Tina in the office for details or to schedule.

Sacrament of Baptism

Call Deone Parnell in the Parish Office to make arrangements.

Sacrament of Marriage

To allow sufficient time for marriage preparation arrangements should be made at least 8 months in advance. Parish membership is required. Contact the Marriage Prep Coordinator.

New Member Registration

Contact the Parish Office if you are interested in joining.

Gluten Free Hosts are available. Please come to the Sacristy before Mass to arrange to receive one.

Victim Assistance Hotline

The Archdiocese offers a 24-hour Victim Assistance Hotline at 651-291-4497.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Mi 6:1-8/Ps 50:5-23/Mt 12:38-42

Tuesday: Mi 7:14-20/Ps 85:2-8/Mt 12:46-50

Wednesday: Sg 3:1-4b or 2 Cor 5:14-17/Ps 63:2-9/
Jn 20:1-18

Thursday: Jer 2:1-13/Ps 36:6-11/Mt 13:10-17

Friday: Jer 3:14-17/Jer 31:10-13/Mt 13:18-23

Saturday: 2 Cor 4:7-15/Ps 126:1-6/Mt 20:20-28

Next Sunday: 1 Kgs 3:5-12/Ps 119:57-130/

Rom 8:28-30/Mt 13:44-52 or 13:44-46

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