

February 7, 2021  
5<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time



# ST. THOMAS AQUINAS

## Catholic Community Welcomes You!

### What's Happening During Lent? Technology Committee

#### PARISH STAFF

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#### PARISH OFFICE

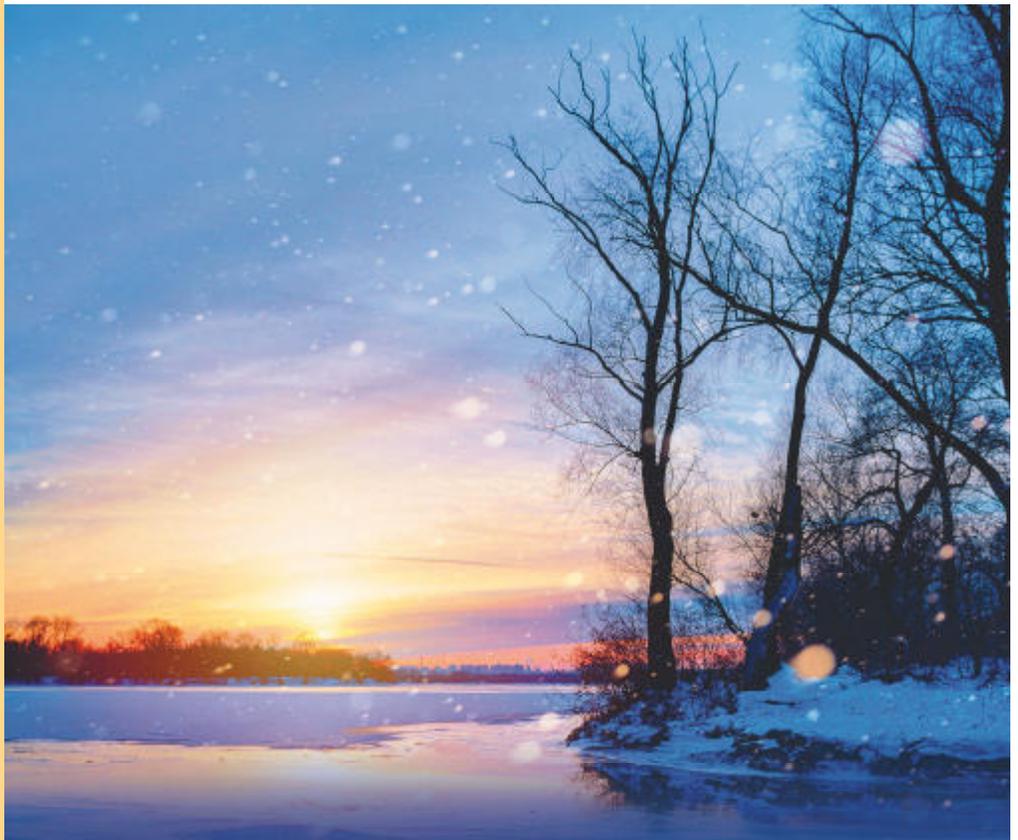
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Phone: 651-459-2131  
Fax: 651 459-8756  
www.st-thomas-aquinas.com

#### OFFICE HOURS

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

#### MASS TIMES

Wed, Thurs & Fri: 9:00 am  
Saturday: 4:00 pm  
Sunday: 8:30 am  
10:30 am VIRTUAL via  
Facebook only



5<sup>th</sup> Sunday  
IN ORDINARY TIME

He cured many who were sick with various diseases, and he  
drove out many demons, not permitting them to speak  
because they knew him. - Mk 1:34

**QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK**

*Theme:* Let us preach the good news to all!

*Question for Children:* What can you do to help your friends and classmates know more about Jesus?

*Question for Youth:* Jesus knew that his mission was for everyone, not just one village or group of people. How can you reach out to others (outside of friends and family) and offer them hope and Good News?

*Question for Adults:* If you were going to pray for healing for any reason, what would it be? What needs to be healed in our world and society?



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

- |                 |                   |
|-----------------|-------------------|
| Mary Lou Albu   | Gus Briguet       |
| Janet Nordman   | Bonnie Williamson |
| Jason Dunn      | Raymond Rumpca    |
| David Mattingly | Meridean Schmidt  |
| Harlan Kahl     | Jean Shinn        |
| Dan Taft        | Shay Fuchs        |
| Jim Weir        | Bob Beskar        |

We know there are many parishioners who are suffering from COVID19 or are in quarantine. (None contracted the virus at church) We also remember many family members of parishioners and the thousands of people around the world who suffer from COVID19 as well.

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

**BLOOD DRIVE - THURSDAY, APRIL 29TH FROM 1:00PM TO 6:00PM**

Due to the great need for blood during this pandemic we have been asked to sponsor another blood drive. You can now make an appointment by calling 1-800-redcross or on line at [www.redcrossblood.org](http://www.redcrossblood.org), enter sponsor code StThomasAquinas. Thank you in advance.



**RETIREMENT FUND FOR RELIGIOUS**

Thanks to all who made a donation. You can still turn in your envelope in the regular collection baskets or mail or bring into the parish office.

**FAIR TRADE SALE**

The Social Justice Commission will be selling Fair Trade products in the narthex before & after the in-person Masses on the weekend of February 13-14. Stop by and pick up some coffee or cocoa and don't forget a chocolate bar for your Valentine!



**CALENDAR RAFFLE WINNERS!**

Feb. 2 - \$125 Geri Morse  
Feb. 6 - \$100 Connie Lee Flores

**Congratulations!**  
**And thank you to all who played!**

**WE REMEMBER AND HONOR:**

On **Friday, February 5th** we celebrated the long life of **Marcia Elizabeth Bailey**, 83, long time member of our parish. Marcia and Rod, her husband, lived in Woodbury and raised their four children in the parish. Please keep her husband Rod, their four children and many grandchildren and great grand children in your thoughts and prayers.



**NEW TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE!**

Calling all techies (and we know you are out there)!! We are in need of a few folks to help with our live-streaming and other technology needs. If this sounds like something you might like to help with, please call the parish office. Currently Chris and Nick Ripka and John Hawthorne have been getting our live-streaming up and running *every weekend*. They would love to have a couple of folks to help with some of those weekend duties, free training will be provided.

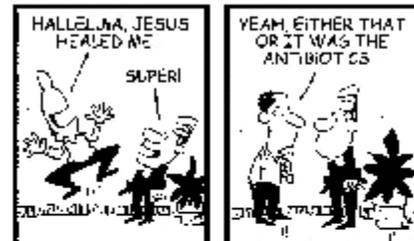
**ST. THOMAS AQUINAS YOUTH - FAITH FORMATION**



**Faith Formation has officially started!!!**

If you would like to participate in our virtual Faith Formation program it is not too late! Please email Amy Stein at [astein1@st-thomas-aquinas.com](mailto:astein1@st-thomas-aquinas.com) or call the office at 651-459-2131.

5th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



## Deacon's Corner

### 5TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

“Rising very early before dawn, he left and went off to a deserted place, where he prayed.” Today’s gospel is filled with activity for Jesus. He pays a visit to the house of Simon and Andrew with James and John. Simon’s mother-in-law is sick in bed with a fever, and he heals her. They probably have a meal together. Then the whole town comes to the door. He spends the evening healing the sick and driving out demons. The next morning everyone is looking for him. He makes his travel plans to go to the nearby villages and through all of Galilee to preach and drive out demons.

In the midst of all this activity, “he left and went off to a deserted place, where he prayed.” Jesus took time to pray. He made it a priority despite the business of his life.

Prayer is the mark of a Christian. Whenever we pray, we are expressing our faith. The very act of prayer is believing that there is a God who hears our prayer. Prayer is also an act of hope. We turn to God expecting that prayer will change our circumstances and will change us. And prayer is an act of love. It is where we give God our undivided attention and simply spend time with the one we love.

So, what is prayer? St. John Damascene says, “Prayer is the raising of one’s mind and heart to God.” St. Therese of Lisieux says, “Prayer is a surge of the heart, it is a simple look turned toward heaven, it is a cry of recognition and of love, embracing both trial and joy.” In the first reading today, we hear of Job’s trials and suffering as he pours out his heart to God. Prayer can take many forms. Jesus also went to the synagogue to pray as was his custom. So, we can pray alone. We can pray with two or three as in family prayer. Or we can pray as a Church in the most comprehensive and greatest prayer, the Mass.

The Catechism of the Catholic Church is broken up into four sections. The entire fourth section is on prayer. It is a beautiful expression of our faith and well worth reading if you are interested in growing in prayer. “Let us pray.”

*Deacon Joe*



### WHAT'S HAPPENING DURING LENT

We hope you took a few moments to check out some of the Lenten offerings included in last weekend's bulletin. Here are a few highlights, and make sure to watch for details about Lenten offerings each week in the bulletin or EBlast.

#### ASH WEDNESDAY MASS RESERVATION

At Masses this weekend, February 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup>, we will be taking names of parishioners who want to attend the **Ash Wednesday Masses at either 9:00am or 6:30pm on February 17<sup>th</sup>**. Similar to what we did for Christmas Masses. Starting Feb 8<sup>th</sup> you must call the office to make your reservation. Our limit is 200 people per Mass. We will also be Live Streaming the 6:30pm Mass on Facebook.

**RSVP**

#### LITTLE BLACK BOOKS FOR LENT ARE GOING FAST



Get them while the supplies last. Either before Masses or in the parish office. Cost is \$1.00. Please bring correct cash.

#### SOMETHING NEW & EXCITING!

On Sunday, February 21st - the first weekend of Lent - we will have a Parking Lot Communal Penance and General Absolution. You will remember in the past we were able to celebrate Reconciliation and all received a General Absolution. Because of the pandemic, Fr. Tony has been given the permission from the Archbishop to once again do General Absolution. We will do a safe distribution of ashes to all who wish to receive them and then Fr. Tony and Deacon Joe will distribute Holy Communion. (If you attended our Christmas Parking Lot Communion, it will be similar.)



#### FEBRUARY 21<sup>ST</sup> FREE WILL BREAKFAST

##### EVERYONE IS INVITED!



On February 21st the Men's Club will be having a drive-thru FREE WILL offering breakfast after the 8:30am Mass and again after the parking lot event at 12:00pm.

This breakfast **to go** is being provided by Tinucci's Restaurant and will include a cheese omelet, breakfast potatoes, breakfast meats and breakfast bread. It will all be packed up for you to take home and enjoy! The breakfast will be distributed at the drive thru/roundabout of the Activities Building. We ask that you enter the Activities Building parking lot on 10th Avenue, and drive over to the entrance on Holley Avenue where it will be distributed to you in your vehicle. If you are planning on attending the Parking Lot Communal Penance, Ashes and Communion service you can also pick up a breakfast at the end of that service.

Recently we had some major issues with one of our boilers (yes we have two, both over 60 years old) and the repairs cost close to \$4,000.00. Your free will donation for this breakfast will go to help defray those costs.

If you plan on attending the breakfast please call the parish office (or check out the EBlast), with the number of breakfasts you would like to pick up. We are trying to get an idea of how much food to order. Deadline to call will be Thursday, February 18th.



### JUST A FRIENDLY REMINDER

Per the Archdiocese guidelines we continue to encourage you NOT to participate in singing while at Mass. Even though you are wearing a mask, research suggests that singing releases large droplets that can transmit significant portions of the COVID virus. We ask you sing in your heart, not with your voice. Thank you for your understanding.



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### SHOPPING ONLINE? REMEMBER TO SMILE!



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### SPREAD THE WORD

As many of you are aware, Natural Science Academy is no longer leasing from St. Thomas Aquinas. If you know of an organization looking for space—please contact Amy in the office at 651-459-2131.

### 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.

### DO WE HAVE YOUR CURRENT INFORMATION?

Be sure to keep us informed of any of changes to your address or phone number by calling the parish office at 651-459-2131 or by e-mailing Tina at [tfox1@st-thomas-aquinas.com](mailto:tfox1@st-thomas-aquinas.com). Thank you!

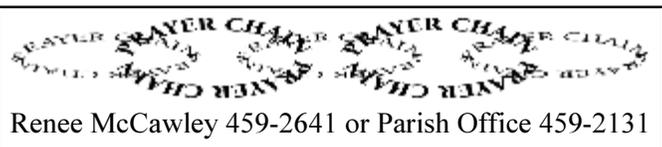
### DO YOU NEED HELP?

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.



### VICTIM ASSISTANCE HOTLINE

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



Renee McCawley 459-2641 or Parish Office 459-2131

## THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

KEY: (C)= Church (AB) Activities Bldg

**MONDAY, February 8**

**TUESDAY, February 9**

**WEDNESDAY, February 10**

8:30 am - Rosary (C)

9:00 am - Mass (C)

Judy Heimerman †

**THURSDAY, February 11**

8:30 am - Rosary (C)

9:00 am - Mass (C)

Ambrose Blatz †

6:00 pm - Facility Committee (AB)

**FRIDAY, February 12**

8:30 am - Rosary (C)

9:00 am - Mass (C)

Marcia Bailey †

**SATURDAY, February 13**

4:00 pm - Mass (C)

Charles & Mary McGraw †

**SUNDAY, February 14 - Valentine's Day**

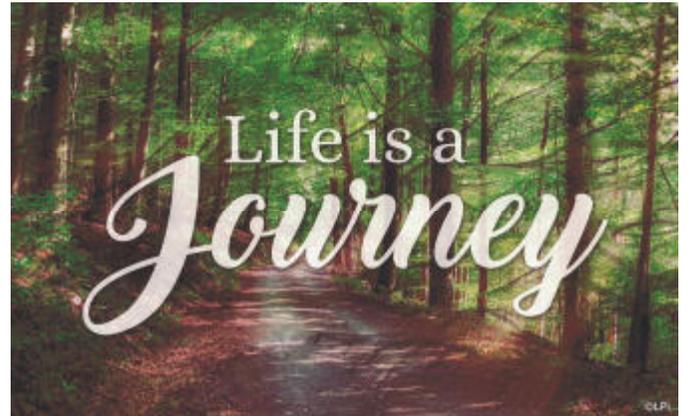
8:30 am - Mass (C)

Ron Becker †

10:30 am - Mass VIRTUAL via Facebook

Charles Weaver †

Have questions about the **Sacrament of Baptism**, the **Sacrament of Marriage** or **New Member Registration**? Call the Parish Office for information. **Gluten Free Hosts** are available. Please come to the Sacristy before Mass to arrange to receive one.



## Readings of the Week

Monday: Gn 1:1-19/Ps 104:1-12, 24 & 35c/  
Mk 6:53-56

Tuesday: Gn 1:20—2:4a/Ps 8:4-9/Mk 7:1-13

Wednesday: Gn 2:4b-17/Ps 104:1-2a, 27-30/Mk 7:14-23

Thursday: Gn 2:18-25/Ps 128:1-5/Mk 7:24-30

Friday: Gn 3:1-8/Ps 32:1-7/Mk 7:31-37

Saturday: Gn 3:9-24/Ps 90:2-13/Mk 8:1-10

Next Sunday: Lv 13:1-2, 44-46/Ps 32:1-11/  
1 Cor 10:31—11:1/Mk 1:40-45

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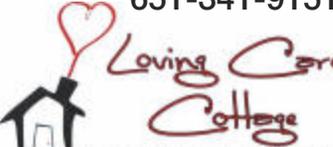
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