



January 09, 2022
The Baptism of the Lord

St. Thomas Aquinas

Catholic Community Welcomes You!

The Baptism OF THE LORD

“I am baptizing you with water, but one mightier than I is coming. I am not worthy to loosen the thongs of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.”
- Lk 3:16bc

Mardi Gras 2022

Cadillac Dinner 2022

Faith Formation Needs Your Help!

MASS SCHEDULE

NO WEEKDAY MASS until Fr Tony returns
Word and Communion on
Wednesday at 9:00am
WEEKEND MASS
Saturday: 4:00pm
Sunday 8:30am & 10:30am

PARISH OFFICE

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st-thomas-aquinas.com

OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Friday: 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Closed noon to 1:00 p.m.

**What's Going On In The Narthex This Weekend:
A Quick Guide**

Refugee Collection - We are still collecting all sorts of items a family might need - bedding, socks, mittens, hats. We will collect through January. Thank you to all who have been so generous.

Fair Trade Sales - Stop by THIS WEEKEND and pick up a treat for the new year!



Calendar Raffle - Sales will continue through January 23rd. Make sure to pick up your chance to win!

Cadillac Ticket Sales - Cadillac Dinner is set for Saturday, March 26, 2022. The price will be \$140 for 2 people and a chance at the main prizes. \$105 for 1 person plus a chance at the main prizes. Pick up yours today!

Mardi Gras Raffle Tickets Pick Up - Mardi Gras will be Sunday, February 27, 2022!! Mardi Gras tickets are now available to pick up in the narthex. Look for your name on the envelopes at the table. Please pick up your envelopes and sell, sell, sell!

Blood Drive



Thanks to all who donated blood on Friday. We filled all of our appointments. A full report will be in next weekend's bulletin.

Faith Formation Corner

Jan 12—Wednesday in person classes resume
5:30 pm light pizza dinner
6—7 pm class



Online classes resume also, expect power points in the afternoon on Friday January 14 .

******VOLUNTEERS ARE STILL NEEDED******

For Sundays—without parent/grandparent/confirmed highschool volunteers, we cannot bring back in-person classes. If you have 1 hour a week, 1 hour a month, 1 hour every other week, we can make it work.

For Wednesdays—we could use more volunteers. You can help out any way possible: every week, 1 week a month, 2 weeks a month, if you are in high school you can also help as long as you are confirmed.

Only requirement is that you go through our VIRTUS first. It's online and free so you do not have to come to a class.

*****Wednesday Pizza Dinner*****

The faith formation students have enjoyed all the frozen pizzas that were donated this past fall. If you would like to donate more frozen pizzas for the children to enjoy before classes, please feel free to drop them off in the parish office. If you have any questions please contact LeAnn Dalbec at ldalbec1@st-thomas-aquinas.com or call 651-459-2131 x108
Bless, Bless

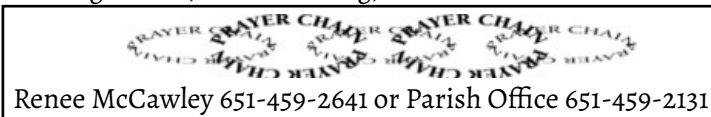
LeAnn

Prayer
REQUESTS

Please remember all of the following who have asked for our prayers.

- | | |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| Bonnie Williamson | Jack Flaherty |
| Janet Nordman | Gerald Hempler |
| Francisco Gonzalez | Theresa Clark |
| Toni Beard | Judy Crockett |
| Audrey Perkins | Steve Crockett |
| Patty Clark | Ron Leseman |
| Don Kulesa | Terry Alan Clark |
| Jim Hintz | Mary Sue Schrantz |
| Millie Schmit | Lorraine Mischke |
| Tom Budziszewski | Earl Liberko |
| Braxton Taylor | |

We remember the many people around the world who continue to suffer from the COVID virus. Please also remember the many members of our parish who are in nursing homes, assisted living, or homebound.



Honoring & Remembering

On Thursday, **December 23rd** we remembered **Don Dreher**, 72, and long time parishioner. Don was active with the Men's Club, Knights of Columbus, and for many years set up for daily Mass in the chapel. We were honored to have the Knights of Columbus pray the rosary in the chapel for Don prior to the visitation. Don was buried in our parish cemetery. He will be missed by his wife Teresa, children Lisa and Patrick, and his sisters and brothers and many, many friends. Please keep them all in your thoughts and prayers. He will be missed.



**Pastoral Care and Wellness Commission
Meeting Tuesday, January 11th - 6:30 p.m. in
Room 200 of the Activities Building**

We would love to have some new members join us. If you are interested in learning more about the commission and the work we do, contact Sue Kainz, or just join us at the meeting.

Questions of the Week

Theme: "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased."
Question for Children: What are some things you can do to please God?

Question for Youth: "With you I am well pleased." What are you doing right now that is pleasing to God? How does it feel to live that way?

Question for Adults: Name a time when you felt your actions were pleasing to God.

Deacon's Corner**Seven Foundational Principles of Faith – Chapter I**

Over the next seven weeks we will look together at seven principles that guide our faith. The first principle is the very beginning. Creation. "In the beginning, when God created the heavens and the earth". Our belief that God created the world answers the fundamental questions that humans have asked throughout history. "Where do we come from? How did we get here? What is our origin?"

There has been an ongoing debate in modern times between creationists and evolutionists. Scientific evidence seems to point to the earth being 4.5 billion years old and the universe being 14 billion years old. Scientists themselves will say that these are estimates and new discoveries may change this estimates. Strict creationists date the earth being 6000 years old based on biblical interpretation. As Catholics we don't have to take a side in this debate. Regardless of the age of the universe we believe that "It is not only a question of knowing when and how the universe arose physically, or when man appeared, but rather of discovering the meaning of such an origin: is the universe governed by chance, blind fate, anonymous necessity, or by a transcendent, intelligent, and good Being called "God"? (CCC 284). As Catholics we believe in the transcendent, intelligent and good Being called God.

And as we take an in depth look at the universe, we can see revealed the "Glory of God". One rough estimate is there are one septillion stars in the observable universe. (1 with 24 zeros after it). And no one knows the size of the universe. We cannot see the end. And if we go the other way and look at our world under a microscope we see more great mystery. Although quarks are the smallest known entity they have not been able to be measured. An electron is 1 with 16 zeros before it or a billionth of a billionth of a centimeter. And God has ordered this universe from the smallest to the largest to reveal his glory. I will always remember a film I watched in the 1980s at the Museum of Science and Industry in Chicago called the "Powers of Ten" which you can now see on YouTube. It is a great testimony to the beauty and magnitude of creation. I encourage you to watch it and let me know what you think. The more we research and study the world around us, the more it is confirmed that "The heavens declare the glory of God"!

Veni Sancte Spiritus,
Deacon Joe

Emergency's during Fr. Tony's vacation:

If you have an emergency during Fr. Tony's vacation, please call Sue Kainz directly. While there won't be any home visits at the present time due to the COVID virus, Sue can be in contact with the group of priests who are trained to anoint people with COVID. She is taking calls night or day. Sue's phone number is listed on the flap of the bulletin.

Save the Dates


**Sunday,
February 27, 2022**

**Cadillac Dinner 2022
Saturday, March 26, 2022**


Funeral Lunches

We are sorry to inform the parish that we will be discontinuing funeral lunches. After consultation with the lunch leaders, the staff, and Fr. Tony we will no longer provide the lunches. This is due to many reasons....mainly finding enough volunteers and the hours involved. There are other locations that can provide for the family - Tinucci's Restaurant, The American Legion, VFW Red Barn or Carbone's in Cottage Grove. I know for many families you have celebrated the lives of family members in our hall, but unfortunately in this pandemic time it is becoming more and more difficult. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to call me.

Sue Kainz, Pastoral Minister

Holiday Thank You

A special "thank you" to all of the ministers who came forth to help to make our holiday Masses so special for all who attended - ushers, servers, lectors, and Eucharistic ministers. Thanks also to the Kaltenbrun's, Murphy's and Zander families for participating in the procession to bring in Baby Jesus. I thank you all for your continued dedication to serving our parish.



Sue Kainz, Pastoral Minister

Virus Update

Every week we hear of more and more family members who have the COVID virus. This is just a reminder, wear your mask, if you are feeling ill, please stay home. Thank you.

With the rise in COVID cases and the new variant and per the recommendation of Archbishop Hebda, we encourage everyone to wear masks in church.



Do You Need Help?

Friends In Need can help with food. Call 651-458-0730 on Mondays from noon to 3:00pm or Tuesday mornings after 7:30am to make an appointment to choose your own food for your family. Masks will be required inside the food shelf.

Victim Assistance Hotline

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

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This Week At A Glance

Key: (C) Church; (AB) Activities Building

Monday: January 10

Tuesday: January 11

Wednesday: January 12

8:30am - Rosary (C)

9:00am - Word & Communion (C)

9:45am - Bible Study (C)

5:30pm - Faith Formation (C)

7:00pm - Choir Rehearsal (C)

Thursday: January 13

NO - Rosary

NO - Mass

6:00pm - Facility Committee (AB)

Friday: January 14

NO - Rosary

NO - Mass

Saturday: January 15

4:00pm - Mass (C)

Karen Sporcic †

Sunday: January 16

8:30am - Mass (C)

Carolyn Budziszewski †

10:30am - Mass (C)

Charles Weaver †

10:30am - Liturgy of the Word

Monday: January 17

Parish Office CLOSED



Readings of the Week LPI

Monday: 1 Sm 1:1-8/Ps 116:12-19/Mk 1:14-20

Tuesday: 1 Sm 1:9-20/1 Sm 2:1-8abcd/Mk 1:21-28

Wednesday: 1 Sm 3:1-20/Ps 40:2-10/Mk 1:29-39

Thursday: 1 Sm 4:1-11/Ps 44:10-25/Mk 1:40-45

Friday: 1 Sm 8:4-22a/Ps 89:16-19/Mk 2:1-12

Saturday: 1 Sm 9:1-19; 10:1a/Ps 21:2-7/Mk 2:13-17

Next Sunday: Is 62:1-5/Ps 96:1-10/1 Cor 12:4-11/ Jn 2:1-11

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