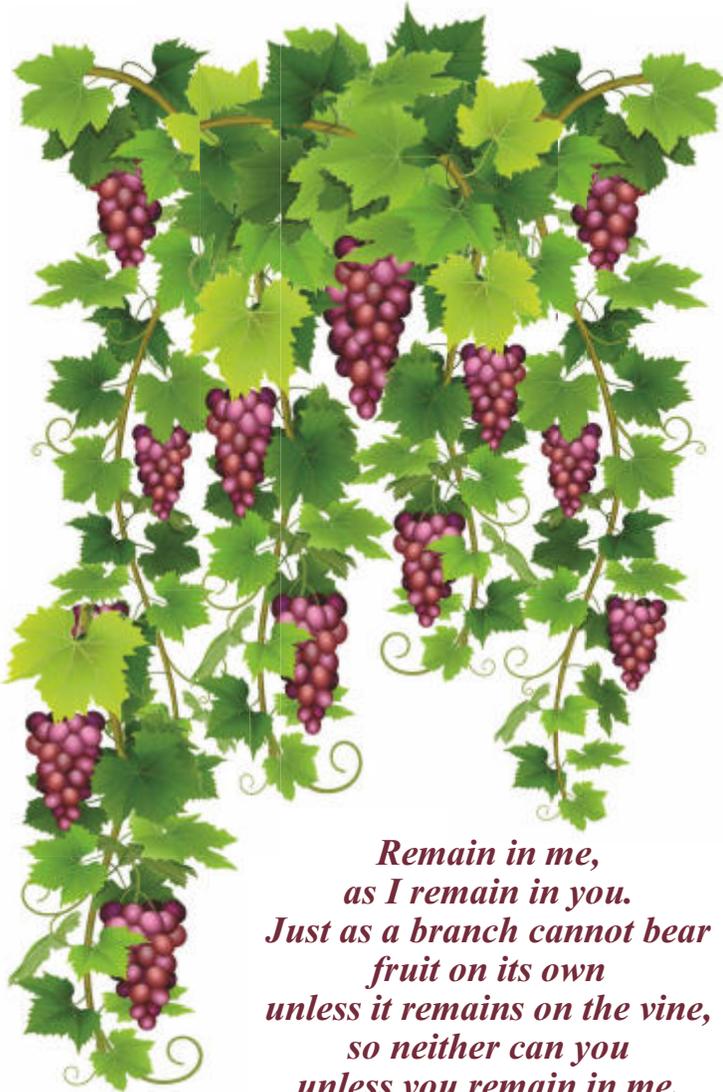


# ST. THOMAS AQUINAS

## CHURCH & CATHOLIC STUDENT CENTER

SISTER PARISH OF DULCE NOMBRE DE MARIA, HONDURAS

@ IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY



*Remain in me,  
as I remain in you.  
Just as a branch cannot bear  
fruit on its own  
unless it remains on the vine,  
so neither can you  
unless you remain in me.  
I am the vine,  
you are the branches.  
Whoever remains in me  
and I in him  
will bear much fruit,  
because without me you can do nothing.*

- Jn 15:4-5

### Sunday Mass

**Saturday:** 4:45 *(also live streamed: YouTube)*

**Sunday:** 8:30am & 10:30am

7:00pm resumes August 22

### Daily Mass

Tuesday through Friday: NOON

### Reconciliation

**Saturday:** 3-4pm  
or by appointment

### Adoration

**FINALS WEEK**

Tuesday & Wednesday: 8:00 -10:00am

### Evening Prayer

**Mondays: 5:30pm**

in person - Blessed Sacrament Chapel  
or via Live Stream YouTube  
[goSTA.link/evening-prayer](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=goSTA.link/evening-prayer)

2210 LINCOLN WAY  
AMES, IOWA 50014

515-292-3810

[WWW.STAPARISH.NET](http://WWW.STAPARISH.NET)



AT SAINT THOMAS AQUINAS CHURCH AND CATHOLIC STUDENT CENTER, WE ARE:  
GATHERED IN THE HOLY SPIRIT, A DIVERSE AND VIBRANT COMMUNITY  
TRANSFORMED BY JESUS CHRIST IN THE CATHOLIC TRADITION, AND  
SENT TO BE THE PRESENCE OF GOD IN AMES, IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY, AND THE WORLD.



## May is the Month of Mary

As the Mother of God, the Virgin Mary has a unique position among the saints, indeed, among all creatures. She is exalted, yet still one of us.

Redeemed by reason of the merits of her Son and united to Him by a close and indissoluble tie, she is endowed with the high office and dignity of being the Mother of the Son of God, by which account she is also the beloved daughter of the Father and the temple

of the Holy Spirit. Because of this gift of sublime grace she far surpasses all creatures, both in heaven and on earth. At the same time, however, because she belongs to the offspring of Adam she is one with all those who are to be saved. (Lumen Gentium, no. 53)

Mary embraces God's will and freely chooses to cooperate with God's grace, thereby fulfilling a crucial role in God's plan of salvation. Throughout the centuries, the Church has turned to the Blessed Virgin in order to come closer to Christ. Many forms of piety toward the Mother of God developed that help bring us closer to her Son. In these devotions to Mary, "while the Mother is honored, the Son, through whom all things have their being and in whom it has pleased the Father that all fullness should dwell, is rightly known, loved and glorified and . . . all His commands are observed." The Church honors her as the Mother of God, looks to her as a model of perfect discipleship, and asks for her prayers to God on our behalf.

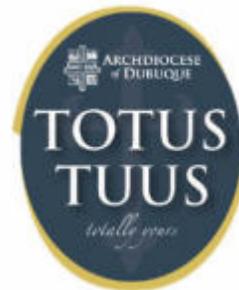
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*May God bless you and guide you as your journey continues!*

### First Communion Banners

This weekend, if you look to our balcony, you will notice several First Communion banners. At a special **Mass on May 16**, 11 of our youngest parishioners will receive the Sacrament of the Eucharist for the first time. *Please keep these youth in your prayers these next few weeks.*



## Totus Tuus returns this June\*

\*if volunteers are forthcoming

St. Thomas Aquinas is looking to return as a host for our summer camp, Totus Tuus, June 20-25. However, **before** we open registration for participants, we are in need of a coordinator and several additional volunteers so we can ensure a great week for all.

### Coordinators and volunteers will be needed for:

1-6<sup>th</sup> Grades  
Mon-Fri, Jun 21-25  
8:30-2:30pm

7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> Grades  
Sun-Thurs, Jun 20-24  
6:30-9:30pm

Please contact Joe Weyers at 515-292-3810 if you are able and willing to assist to discuss this ministry more.



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## COLLEGE STUDENTS

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# Summer in Ames



Will you be in Ames this summer? Let us know:  
[goSTA.link/summer21Ames](http://goSTA.link/summer21Ames)

## e-BULLETIN

If you don't already receive the parish email each week you can **VIEW** the current e-bulletin OR **SUBSCRIBE** on the homepage at [staparish.net](http://staparish.net)



**between the 8:30 and 10:30 Masses May 2**  
**Wish Shari Reilly Well !**

Will take place in either the Gathering Space parking area OR in the Prayer Garden. Stop by and say thanks to Shari and wish her well on Sunday, May 2.

## Preparing for Finals



God of Wisdom,  
Thank you for this opportunity to stretch my understanding.  
I thank you for the knowledge gained  
and the learning experiences of the semester.  
I lay before you all the hopes and fears I have about the outcome.  
Let your Holy Spirit be with me as I prepare for exams,  
guiding my studies and giving me insight  
so that I can perform to the best of my ability.  
Grant me the strength to handle the pressure of these days,  
the confidence to feel secure in my knowledge,  
and the ability to keep a proper perspective through it all.  
Help me to keep in mind what is truly important,  
even as I focus my time and energy on these exams.  
Finally, may I sense your peace  
in knowing that I applied myself to the challenges of this day.  
I ask this through Christ our Lord.

**St. Thomas Aquinas, patron of students, pray for us.**

**Welcome Guests & New Parishioners** Whether you're a first time guest, occasional visitor, thinking of becoming a registered parishioner or already a member of this community, we're glad you're here! Let us know how we can help you? If you would like more information about our parish community, please talk with one of our staff members, 515-292-3810, and check out our website at [staparish.net](http://staparish.net). Thanks for celebrating with us; your presence is both gift and grace. WELCOME!



It is said that to determine what is important to a person you only need to check two things: their checkbook (or credit card statement) and their calendar.

We tend to spend our money and time on things that are most important to us or that which sustains us. Our life, faith, and personal priorities are reflected in our spending and our commitment to time and presence. Consider your priorities, look at your checkbook and look at your calendar. Do they reflect your spiritual priorities in response to God's call to discipleship?

The quality of our liturgies, campus ministry, education programs, parish ministries, facilities and outreach to the needy is determined by the support we receive from you.

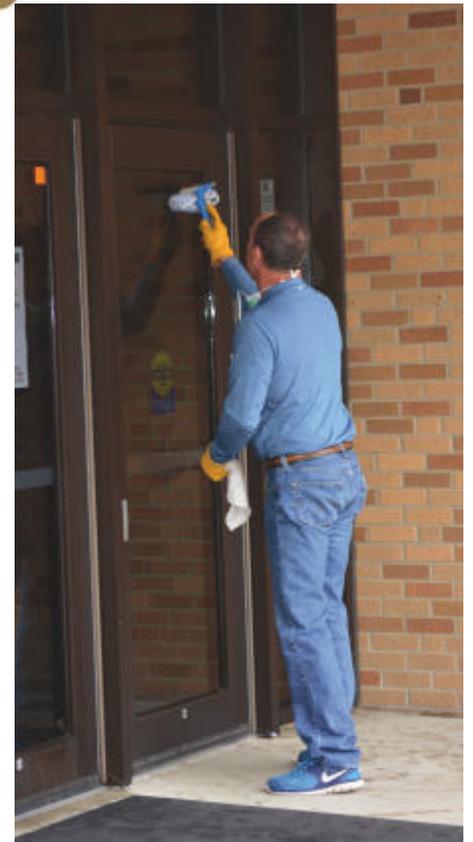
A generous heart needs to give of self and resources or else it turns to stone and disciples needs to further the mission of the Gospel or else they become just bystanders.

Interested in serving the parish community as part of the STA Stewardship Ministry Team? Contact chair John Stafford—[jbstaff@mchsi.com](mailto:jbstaff@mchsi.com) We would love to have your ideas and care for the parish shared in this group!



# Thanks

THANKS to the 30+ parishioners, STUDENTS & RESIDENTS who came last Saturday to help clean the church. We appreciate you sharing your time and your effort, but especially your care for STA!





# 1 more for 2021

STA Stewardship Challenge

## Campaign for Online Giving

The STA Stewardship Team started 2021 with a challenge for each of us to expand our parish participation by doing 1 more thing in 2021. Luckily, the parish is providing an easy “1 more thing to do”...sign up for on-line giving! At the annual parish meeting, Fr. Kyle announced the parish is working smarter, not harder by transitioning to a single database called **Realm**. This new system combines registration data with the ability to make and track donations and organize volunteers. Registering in the system does NOT require setting up on-line giving, but the Stewardship Team is encouraging everyone to do so.

**Why On-line giving?** If this year of COVID has taught us anything, it has taught us not all change is bad. Who knew even those of us with limited technological skills could learn to Zoom. We also came to better appreciate the benefits of on-line giving. While cash donations dropped, on-line giving remained steady. This allowed for better parish financial planning. In addition, it demonstrated how much cleaner it is not to handle cash and the need for fewer volunteers to transport cash after each Mass.

Here is the timeline for implementing the new STA database system:

### May 3:

- **Realm** goes live.
- Look for e-mail invitation from STA encouraging registration in the system and the opportunity to sign-up for on-line giving. If you missed the e-mail, use this link <https://onrealm.org/StThomasAquinas> or look for a link on the STA homepage.
- **Present WeShare (online) Givers:** once you have set-up your online giving in Realm, the parish office will delete your WeShare account. Please email Net Larson, financial secretary, [net@staparish.net](mailto:net@staparish.net) to let her know your old WeShare account can be deleted or with any questions.

Here is a video to help you with the four easy steps to set-up online giving: [goSTA.link/online-giving](https://goSTA.link/online-giving)

# YOUR GIVING MATTERS!



## The Lord is My Song

A Service featuring  
Songs and Prayers of Taizè

Sunday Evening, May 16, 2021 7:00 p.m.  
St. Thomas Aquinas Church  
2210 Lincoln Way, Ames  
Music lead by Eric Evans and Paul Witmer.

We will gather in person for worship with appropriate COVID protocols.  
The service will also be available via livestream:  
<https://youtu.be/Zaljsaufw3s>

Come celebrate the liturgical transition from Easter to Pentecost with a contemplative worship experience featuring lovely meditative chants, music, scripture, and silence.



Contemplative Outreach  
of Central Iowa  
Shoreline Sillable Solitary Service  
[www.CenterIowa.org](http://www.CenterIowa.org)



## SUMMER PARKING AT STA

Need a weekday parking space during the summer? STA provides Monday through Friday parking on the upper level from May 10 to August 13 for a small donation. Contact [bobby@staparish.net](mailto:bobby@staparish.net) for details.



St. Thomas Aquinas...

## YOUTH MINISTRY

...St. Cecilia

Our **Last Life Teen** is Sunday, May 2 at St. Cecilia or online from 7-8:30pm.

This week's **EDGE night** is *Move: An EDGE Night on Everyday Fiat*. Join us on 5/2 from 2-3:30pm to find out more. Hope to see you there!



In the book, *With Burning Hearts: A Meditation on the Eucharistic Life*, priest-contemplative Henri Nouwen says that the moment of Eucharist is THE single most important decision of our lives: Are we going to allow Christ in? It is a decision to make Christ part of your life, every moment of every day, to remove the walls you have placed around Him.

Jesus is a very interesting person; his words are full of wisdom. His presence is heart-warming. His gentleness and kindness are deeply moving. His message is very challenging.

But do we invite him into our home? Do we want him to come to know us behind the walls of our most intimate life? Do we want to introduce him to all the people we live with? Do we want him to see us in our everyday lives? Do we want him to touch us where we are most vulnerable? Do we want him to enter into the back rooms of our homes, rooms that we ourselves prefer to keep safely locked? Do we truly want him to stay with us when it is nearly evening and the day is almost over?



## READINGS THIS WEEK

- Sunday:** Acts 9:26-31/Ps 22:26-27, 28, 30, 31-32 [26a]/1 Jn 3:18-24/Jn 15:1-8
- Monday:** 1 Cor 15:1-8/Ps 19:2-3, 4-5 [5]/Jn 14:6-14
- Tuesday:** Acts 14:19-28/Ps 145:10-11, 12-13ab, 21 [cf. 12]/ Jn 14:27-31a
- Wednesday:** Acts 15:1-6/Ps 122:1-2, 3-4ab, 4cd-5 [cf. 1]/Jn 15:1-8
- Thursday:** Acts 15:7-21/Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 10 [3]/Jn 15:9-11
- Friday:** Acts 15:22-31/Ps 57:8-9, 10 and 12 [10a]/Jn 15:12-17
- Saturday:** Acts 16:1-10/Ps 100:1b-2, 3, 5/Jn 15:18-21
- Sunday:** Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48/Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4 [cf. 2b]/ 1 Jn 4:7-10/Jn 15:9-17

<http://usccb.org/bible/>

# MINISTRY STAFF

staparish.net/about/directory

**Parish Office Phone: 515-292-3810**

**Pastor, Fr. Kyle Digmann**.....x113  
frkyle@staparish.net

**Deacon, Frank Montabon**  
DBQ004D@dbqarch.org.....(c) 515-203-9751

**Business Manager, Bobby LeBlanc**.....x112  
bobby@staparish.net.....(c) 515-708-2861

**Coordinator of Ministries, Tom Budnik**.....x118  
tom@staparish.net

**Campus Ministry, Emily Klaus**.....x114  
emily@staparish.net.....(c) 563-920-6672

**Evangelization, Joe Weyers** .....x116  
joew@staparish.net.....(c) 224-622-9923

**Faith Formation, Jen Weyers**.....x130  
jen@staparish.net.....(c) 815-757-9900

**Marriage Preparation/RCIA, Brenda Neppel**.....x125  
brenda@staparish.net

**Development, Sue Winer**.....x123  
sue@staparish.net

**Youth Ministry (office at St. Cecilia: 515-233-3092)**  
*Director of Youth Ministry*  
Kayla Greiner..... kgreiner@stceciliaparish.org  
*Coordinator of Middle School Youth Ministry*  
Zeke Mientkiewicz.....zmientk@stceciliaparish.org

**Don Alexander, Secretary**.....x110  
don@staparish.net

**Net Larson, Financial Secretary**.....x122  
net@staparish.net

Bruce Dittmer.....Maintenance  
Monica Kwat .....Custodial

## Peer Ministers

[peerministers@staparish.net](mailto:peerministers@staparish.net)

Keegan Sassaman-Clark  
David Scaffidi  
Alexander Vazquez  
Ethan Westhoff

## FOCUS Missionaries

Joel Bittner  
Brenna Bittner  
Noah Huber  
Rachel Nurse  
Kate Phelps



## Congratulations and Welcome!

**Freya Josephine Hurd**, daughter of Lynette and Franz Hurd, recently baptized into our Christian Catholic community.

## Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Level I Complete Formation



St. Cecilia Catholic Church  
Ames, Iowa

July 12-18, 2021  
2022: Jan 15-16, Feb 5-6,  
March 5-6  
April 2-3 Make Up Weekend

Contact Melissa Tegatz  
for more information  
[mteggatz@stceciliaparish.org](mailto:mteggatz@stceciliaparish.org)  
(515)232-3514 ext. 356

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