

ST. THOMAS AQUINAS

CHURCH & CATHOLIC STUDENT CENTER

SISTER PARISH OF DULCE NOMBRE DE MARIA, HONDURAS

@ IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY

First Sunday of Lent

Repent and Believe in the Gospel



STA PROCESSIONAL CRUCIFIX



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.

First Sunday of Lent

March 6, 2022



Almsgiving is defined as donating money or goods to the poor and performing other acts of charity. The Catechism of the Catholic Church describes it as “a witness to fraternal charity” and “a work of justice pleasing to God.”

Almsgiving puts us in communion with others and helps us understand that we are all members of the Body of Christ. More than simply giving money, almsgiving is an act of love and a way to join in the generosity of God.

The duty to give alms is as ancient as the Bible. Sacrifice and almsgiving were two duties that a religious person had to undertake (with joy). For an act to be truly a holy act of almsgiving, it requires that we make some sacrifice, we don't give from our surplus or the extra change we have in the purse – we give even when it “hurts a bit” or rather when it hurts so good!

You might think, “What is the purpose? My small sacrifice can't make much of a difference?” Servant of God Dorothy Day wrote... “People say, ‘What can one person do? What is the sense of our small effort?’ They cannot see that we must lay one brick at a time, take one step at a time; we can be responsible only for the one action of the present moment. But we can beg for an increase of love in our hearts that will vitalize and transform all our individual actions, and know that God will take them and multiply them, as Jesus multiplied the loaves and fishes.”

So, consider this - as we gather, become transformed, and are sent out...what are those little ways, one brick at a time, that we can live as disciples of this Jesus whom we say is our God?

Keep your eyes peeled – there are many opportunities for almsgiving during Lent, such as the one built JUST FOR LENT: **Operation Rice Bowl**. You can support STA through your extra giving or giving to its endowments which allow the parish mission to continue for the next 75 years (*contact the parish office if you want more information*). There is Catholic Charities, Food At First, Habitat for Humanity, the STA Lenten Food Drive, organizations, such as Catholic Relief Services, providing aid to the people of Ukraine, Romero House in Ames and so many good and worthy causes that help to better our community and our world.

Finding a place to give is never a problem. Maybe finding the heart to generously give is more challenging?



Curbside ordering & pick-up ONLY

This year the **STA Knights** and the **St. Cecilia Knights** are teaming up and working together for SIX Fish Dinners: all at St. Cecilia as their building lends itself to drive-up service much better than ours.

MENU

Baked Fish
Baked Potato
Mac & Cheese
Green Beans
Cole Slaw

Adults: \$10 **Ages 5-12: \$5** **Ages 0-4: FREE**

Cash, check, debit accepted

Front of School
Please enter off of Hoover Ave.

FRIDAYS:

March 11 March 18 March 25
April 1 April 8

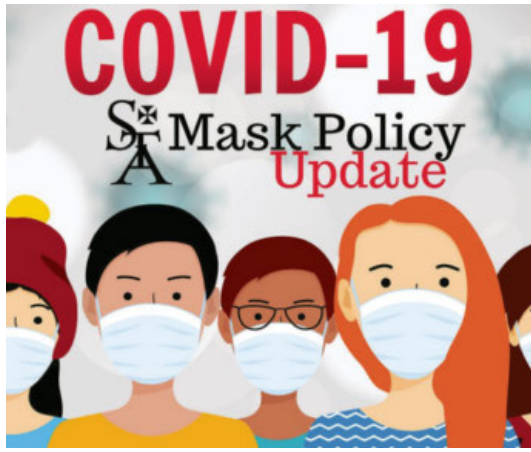
**Join the Knights for as many dinners
as you can! Thank You & bon appétit!**

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WWW.STAPARISH.NET



In accord with the CDC guidelines and in consultation with local health experts, we will be modifying mask expectations at STA. **Starting this weekend those who are vaccinated do not need to wear a mask while attending Mass OR while in the building.** However, don't throw away those masks yet. They may be a second class relic someday when you are canonized a saint. And it is not impossible that the risk level may rise again in the future and we will need them again to keep everyone safe. All are still most welcome to wear masks and we will continue to provide masks for those who would like them.

Our southwest pews are designated for social distancing for those who feel more comfortable with the physical space between parishioners while at Mass. **We ask all to respect this need others may have and avoid sitting in pews marked "closed."**

Thank you for your cooperation and please continue to pray for the safety and health of all our parish family. Stay holy and stay healthy.

—Fr. Kyle

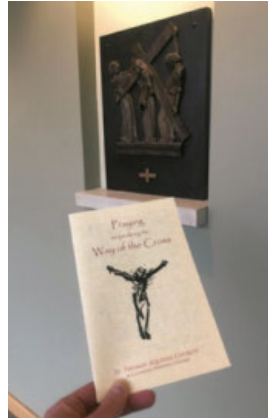


FOR LOCAL PEOPLE IN NEED

We will collect non-perishable food donations & household supplies **through Palm Sunday.** Food donations may be placed in the baskets below the "Head of Christ" in the gathering space. *Please do not leave items outside the church when the doors are locked.*

Essentials: Canned soups, canned fruit, canned vegetables, pasta, pasta sauce, peanut butter, jelly, crackers, granola bars, cereal, oatmeal, canned meat and tuna, and other non-perishable foods. **Non-essentials** that are in high demand: laundry soap, dish soap, cleaning products, shampoo and conditioner, shower gel, toothpaste, deodorant, women's hygiene articles. Baby formula, bottles, lotion, soap and shampoo, diapers in many sizes, and baby wipes.

Stations of the Cross



Parishioners will gather on the **Fridays of Lent (except for Good Friday) at 5:15pm to pray the Stations of the Cross.** Please gather in the upper Processional Pathway.

If entering the building at this time for other reasons, please enter at the Prayer Garden or Gathering Space.

All are welcome to pray the Stations privately at one's convenience. There is a prayer resource available next to the Stations which you are welcome to use (and keep).

Campus Ministry: Greek Outreach

God is actively working in the lives of fraternity and sorority members at Iowa State. This semester, the campus ministry team is hosting 3 events for the Greek community to grow in faith and authentic community with Christ. Last week, we hosted our first Greek Night of the semester at the AGR fraternity house. Over 80 students attended to hear testimonies and share s'mores after. This semester, we started a team called "Greek Ambassadors". We have a representative from different chapters in fraternities and sororities to help serve as a liaison from the Greek community to St. Thomas Aquinas. God continues to stir the hearts of members in this community and invite new students to know Him. Please pray for our upcoming events on March 23 and April 27.





SAVE THE DATE

All-Parish PARTY

Sunday, April 3, 2- 4:30pm

Enjoy games for kids and adults, food and beverages
We'll use indoor and heated outdoor spaces



On January 20, the City of Ames Human Relations Commission announced that the **COVID-19 Emergency Fund for Story County Immigrants** was to be awarded the **2022 Humanitarian Award**. We hope that the award, pictured above, can be displayed at a future Ministry Spotlight on the Social Justice Committee. While the fund was an Ames community and multi-church effort, STA parishioners supported the organization with volunteers, collaboration through Love Your Neighbor, and many donations. Hence we all share in this honor.

STEWARDSHIP BULLETIN FEATURE

During this parish anniversary celebration we pose this question to ALL:

What is a fond memory you have of STA?

We encourage you to share a memory (and your photo) with the parish. Responses will be included in the print bulletin and in the e-bulletin.

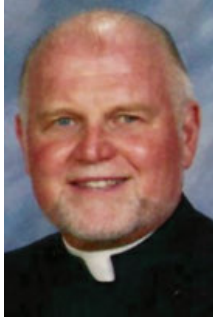
To take part in this new bulletin feature you can respond HERE:

gosta.link/aniv-memory

PRIEST REFLECTION on St. Thomas' anniversary

Dear St. Thomas Community,

Congratulations on your 75th anniversary! I fondly remember the excitement of my years at St. Thomas and the enthusiasm of our liturgies, especially Thursday Night Liturgies (TNLs)! In those days we developed our parish mission statement and began plans for the renovation of the church. Fortunately those plans kept expanding and came to fruition with the complete renovation and expansion of the facilities under Fr. Ev Hemann's leadership.



One humorous memory: In the early 90's we priests took turns preaching on weekends. One Sunday morning I was presiding at the 8:30 Mass and Fr. Seda was scheduled to preach. It came time for the homily and he wasn't there. Not having the ability to "wing" it, I mentioned that he must have overslept and suggested someone check on him at the Cardinal House. After communion, he got up to give the homily and explained that he was having this dream and there was Tom Schmitz knocking on his window. When he finished his homily, he said "Now this will be our little secret." Naturally, word spread throughout the community and greatly endeared Fr. Jon to the students and the whole community.

Another special memory: in the late 80's St. Thomas participated in RENEW. Part of the process was small groups, in which people shared their faith. One question we were asked to share on one week was "What do you think God thinks of you?" Betty Dennis, a vivacious, middle-aged woman, responded with a big smile on her face: "I think God is crazy about me!" Rather than seeing God as a judge or policeman, she saw God as a loving parent who takes great delight in us, His children.

I look forward to sharing with you on April 24 at the 7pm liturgy.

Fr. Dan Knepper
STA pastor from 1987-1993



WHY CATHOLIC CHARITIES?



"Love-inspired care for our neighbor is the most effective way to show love to God..."

Dear friends,

The theme for this year's annual appeal is: "Why Catholic Charities?" If the emphasis is on the word charities, then the answer to the question is because those works are the most important ones we do as followers of Jesus.

Love-inspired care for our neighbor is the most effective way to show love to God, which is the first of all the commandments.

Also, Jesus says that he takes personally how we treat our neighbor in need, and that those works will serve as the basis of judging whether we'll spend eternity in Heaven, or not.

If the emphasis is on the word Catholic, then the answer to the question is that we hope that others will know we are Catholic Christians by our love. Also, as the word catholic comes from the Greek word meaning universal, our love-inspired care for our neighbor includes anyone,

everyone, no matter who, or whether the person is deserving, or says please and thank you. And if the emphasis is on the word why, then the answer to the question is ... why not?

As the Apostle John teaches in his third epistle, when we share our money in support of the Church's ministries, we receive the heavenly reward for the good deed as much as those who actually do the work.

Thanking you in advance for support of the good work of Catholic Charities, I am.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Michael Jackels

Michael O. Jackels
Archbishop of Dubuque

Find your reason WHY and support Catholic Charities with your gift today!

Please detach this form and mail to:

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Visit our website to give stock or Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD) from IRA.

I would like more information on planned giving opportunities.



Make a monthly, recurring gift via the online donation portal and spread your impact throughout the year!



The STA YouTube channel provides live-streamed video coverage of the 4:45 Saturday Mass as well as other events. Production quality is very high and some videos have over 600 views. Volunteer manager Alan Gaul needs camera and/or computer operation help for this ministry. No experience necessary; Alan will train you. Contact: Alan Gaul adgaul@netins.net.

Council of Catholic Women

The Dubuque province of the National Council of Catholic Women is hosting a virtual training event, **Leadership, Training and Development**, on Saturday, March 19 (9am-noon, via Zoom). Registration is \$10 per person. It's open to all Catholic women and will train in three areas: Spirituality, Service and Leadership, through sessions on member recruitment, leadership transition and the commissions of the council.

Registration site: <https://dbqarch.org/events-1>. Questions may be directed to Florine Swanson, florineswanson@gmail.com.



The Knights of Columbus is a Catholic fraternal organization with the mission to serve our brothers and sisters in Christ as well as to grow in faith as followers of Jesus. The Knights of St. Thomas Aquinas work to help the Ames community through a variety of activities such as an annual Tootsie Roll drive to raise money for persons with intellectual disabilities, pancake breakfasts, Lenten fish dinners, financially supporting seminarians, and volunteering at Food at First. After 10:30 Mass on March 6, there will be a ceremony for any practicing Catholic man who is interested to join in the St. Catherine room at STA. Families are also invited to attend. Any questions or comments may be directed to Jacob Townsley at (563) 221-1799 or jtowns@iastate.edu

READINGS THIS WEEK

- Sunday:** Dt 26:4-10/Ps 91:1-2, 10-11, 12-13, 14-15 [cf. 15b]/ Rom 10:8-13/Lk 4:1-13
- Monday:** Lv 19:1-2, 11-18/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 15/Mt 25:31-46
- Tuesday:** Is 55:10-11/Ps 34:4-5, 6-7, 16-17, 18-19/Mt 6:7-15
- Wednesday:** Jon 3:1-10/Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 18-19/Lk 11:29-32
- Thursday:** Est C:12, 14-16, 23-25/Ps 138:1-2ab, 2cde-3, 7c-8/ Mt 7:7-12
- Friday:** Ez 18:21-28/Ps 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-7a, 7bc-8/Mt 5:20-26
- Saturday:** Dt 26:16-19/Ps 119:1-2, 4-5, 7-8/Mt 5:43-48
- Sunday:** Gn 15:5-12, 17-18/Ps 27:1, 7-8, 8-9, 13-14/Phil 3:17—4:1 or 3:20—4:1/Lk 9:28b-36

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

MINISTRY STAFF

staparish.net/about/directory

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Coordinator of Middle School Youth Ministry
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Net Larson, **Financial Secretary**.....x122
net@staparish.net

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

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peerministers@staparish.net

- Stella Leuer
- Maggie Lynott
- Hope Petersen
- Karen Vandervort

FOCUS MISSIONARIES

- Sophie Albert
- Joseph Heyrman
- Noah Huber
- Rachel Nurse
- Kate Phelps

EDGE

MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH MINISTRY

This week Anchor EDGE is Hosting **FOAM THUNDER III: An EDGE Nerf War Social**. Join us for the extended time of 7-9pm on Sunday March 6, at St. Cecilia School for two hours of foam-flying fun and mayhem. We'll play your favorites, including: Capture the Flag, Team Medic, and Zombies.

RSVP at anchorames.com



Thank you

Thanks to all involved in helping with the recent funeral Mass for Duane Stein, a member of St. Thomas Aquinas. Members of the Bereavement Ministry met with the family to plan the visitation and funeral Mass and served as hospitality ministers. Many others served as musicians, sacristan, liturgy and hospitality ministers, along with all of the people who kindly provided food for the luncheon and helped in serving, as well as cleaning up

If you are interested in being a part of our **Bereavement Ministry** to provide guidance to families who have lost loved ones with arrangements for a funeral or memorial service or to make advanced funeral plans, please contact Lynn Lanning with questions or to volunteer at 515-231-7549.

Sunday Mass

Saturday: 4:45pm **LIVESTREAM**

Sunday: 8:30am 10:30am 7:00pm

Daily Mass

Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday: NOON

Thursday (TNL): 9:15pm

Reconciliation

Tuesday: 10:00-11:00am

Wednesday: 2:30-3:30pm

Thursday: 6:00-7:30pm

Saturday: 3:00-4:00pm

or by appointment

Adoration

Tuesday: 9-Noon

Wednesday: 12:35-3:30pm

Thursday: 5-8pm

Evening Prayer

Mondays: 5:30pm

Blessed Sacrament Chapel



Masses @ St. Cecilia

Saturday at 5:00pm

Sunday at 8:30am and 10:30am

Misa en Espanol el domingo a las 5:00pm

Weekday Masses During Lent

—in the church—

Monday: 5:30pm

Tuesday & Thursday: 7:30am

Wednesday: 9:00am *School Mass*

Friday: 5:00pm

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