St. Thomas Aquinas

CHURCH & CATHOLIC STUDENT CENTER

SISTER PARISH OF **DULCE NOMBRE DE MARIA**, HONDURAS

@ IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY



So what are you doing this year for Lent? You can certainly decide to do nothing and let Lent pass you by as if it does not exist. The real advantage of taking this stand is that it is easy — nothing is required. Yet this is also its greatest disadvantage because nothing can be expected either. Put nothing into Lent, and that's exactly what you will get out of it — nothing! You really can't expect a return without an investment.

Lent takes place no matter what we do. But what we do during Lent will either make it days of blessing and grace or just days on a calendar. Do not let this wonderful and important season of the year pass you by.

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AT SAINT THOMAS AQUINAS CHURCH AND CATHOLIC STUDENT CENTER, WE ARE:

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SENT TO BE THE PRESENCE OF GOD IN AMES. IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY, AND THE WORLD.



CELEBRATE 75!

Anniversary Party Sunday, April 3, 2-4:30pm

The STA parish family is invited to an indoor/outdoor anniversary celebration Sunday, April 3. Come and go as you'd like between 2 and 4:30 p.m. There will be Bingo, Bags, Euchre and 500 card tournaments, Cake Walk and kids' carnival games. Or, come for the joy of conversations with fellow parishioners again!

The planning committee seeks volunteers to help with games; if you could for part of the time, email **smajreilly@gmail.com**.



FOR LOCAL PEOPLE IN NEED



Communal Reconciliation

at St. Cecilia

Sunday, March 20, 2pm



URGENT NEED IN UKRAINE

Helping people in Ukraine and those fleeing the violence

You can help our brothers and sisters in Ukraine by making a donation to Catholic Relief Services (CRS), the international relief agency of the Catholic Church. CRS is on the ground preparing across Ukraine and in bordering countries, ready to provide safe shelter, hot meals, hygiene supplies, transport to safe areas, counseling support, and more.

Donate securely online:

https://support.crs.org/donate/donate-ukraine

Please be sure to write "Ukraine Aid" in the Special Request section. Send checks to: Catholic Relief Services, P.O. Box 17090, Baltimore, MD 21297-0303. Please write on the check "Ukraine Aid."



PART OF LOWER PARKING DECK CLOSED APRIL 3

The east half of the STA lower parking level will be closed to vehicles Sunday morning, April 3, for set-up of the parish anniversary celebration that afternoon. We apologize in advance for this temporary inconvenience. Volunteers will be on hand before the 8:30 and 10:30 Masses to alert drivers when the lower level is full.

Remember, STA will pay for 90 minutes of parking at the Memorial Union ramp. Bring with you to STA the parking stub you receive as you enter the ramp. Fully insert your parking stub in the validation machine by the gathering space doors (you should hear a soft click). This lets the MU know to charge STA for your parking. Turn in the stub as you exit the ramp.



The STA 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 to continue. No experience necessary; Alan will train you. Contact: Alan Gaul adgaul@netins.net.



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







Keaton and Holly Carter 4 years at STA

Our girls love going to mass. Our oldest, Josie, is very observant. When Deacon Frank had just been ordained and was helping serve mass, Josie asked, "Who is Fr. Kyle's friend?!" Deacon Frank was from then on known as Fr. Kyle's friend. Another memory we have is when Fr. Kyle was told all about the bunnies that destroyed our garden ... as told by a 2 and 4 year old. What melted our hearts was the fact that he was at their level, listening with an intent ear and a loving heart. It was amazing (and hilarious)!





Carl Bern 55 years at STA

It was a beautiful warm Sunday morning in the summer of 1989 and the Bern family was running late for 10:30 Mass. Since the church was full, we were directed to the west end of the south balcony. During Mass, being celebrated by Father Dan Knepper, my mind momentarily wandered and my eyes settled on the west end of one of the laminated wood beams that support the roof (See picture). I noticed that the end of the beam had dropped a few inches and was now resting on the top brick. At this time, Harlan Hanson was just beginning to install a new church roof. Later that day, I called Harlan because his roofing work would involve moving heavy equipment and roofing materials to the roof. Harlan was concerned and so he called structural engineer Paul Rietz. After inspecting the beam, Paul asked Father Knepper to close the church until further notice. The church remained closed until Story Construction had placed a jack under the beam. This beam and many others had rotted from the outside due to lack of maintenance. Over the next year, Story Construction installed steel plates on the ends of the beams at about 36 locations, at a cost of over \$200,000 I believe.





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FRIDAYs: 5:00 -7:00pm

SAVE THE DATE

Spring
Parish Clean-Up
Saturday, April 30
9am—11am

Parish Meeting & Brunch

Sunday, May 1 after the 10:30 Mass

Consider & Pray over...

A Call to Parish Leadership The Pastoral Council

The St. Thomas Aquinas Pastoral Council is recruiting parishioners to serve on the Council. During the first week of May, we will elect five new representatives, two will be resident parishioners and three will be students. The terms will begin in July, and the resident parishioners will serve three year terms while the students serve one year terms.

The Pastoral Council asks you to consider representing the STA community by serving on the Pastoral Council. For the vision and mission of the parish to be realized it is essential that student and resident parishioners, young and old, male and female have a voice in the life of the parish. The voice needed could be yours! The Pastoral Council is a representative group of the entire parish, whose goal is to ensure that all voices of the parish can be heard and responded to appropriately. They work with Fr. Kyle to develop policy and long-range planning priorities for the Parish. Please prayerfully consider serving St. Thomas Aquinas as a member of the Pastoral Council.

If you have questions about the Pastoral Council or are willing to serve on the Council, please contact one of the following Council members:

Ronnie Lindeman, mmdesign@netins.net Dawn Bratsch-Prince, deprince62@gmail.com

Deadline for nominations & self-nominations is Friday, April 22



You are invited to send your prayer requests to **prayers** (a) staparish.net

We ask that the person who is being prayed for has given their permission for the information to be shared.

PRIEST REFLECTION on St. Thomas' anniversary

I have been touched by your invitation to be part of the 75th anniversary. I cannot be with you physically but I will be with you in spirit.

The first time I visited St. Thomas was in the summer of 1992 when I came to Ames to know where the late Fr. Pat Geary was Pastor and also to know where my Aunt, Dr. Laetitia Hevi-Yiboe had her Ph.D. I had a warm welcome by the staff and that was the beginning of a great link with St. Thomas until I



joined the staff in the summer of 2015 for my sabbatical. To my utter amazement, the welcome was the same twenty three years earlier so I concluded that "warm hospitality" was a hallmark of St Thomas. I saw and experienced it in different ways during my short stay. Keep it up!

I left St. Thomas with joy and great memories. The Student Cook Out, The New Student Retreat, The Thursday Night Liturgy, The Carpenter Shop, The Small Group Experience etc had a great impact on me. St. Thomas enriched me with experiences that are helping me in my pastoral work in my Parish in Ghana.

The family spirit of St. Thomas is unique. No doubt, my Aunt has fond memories of St Thomas after more than thirty years after graduation.

I wish you a blissful 75th anniversary. May you continue to GATHER the people of God around the Altar so that you will be TRANSFORMED by the love Christ who calls us to be disciples SENT to spread the GOOD NEWS to the world at large.

I want to thank you once again for your love and care during my sabbatical. I experienced this passage of Scripture during my stay in Ames. (Mark 10:29). The Lord gave me brothers, sisters, mothers and fathers. God bless you family! I am very grateful to those of you who drop a line or two once in a while.

I wish Fr. Kyle and all parishioners a Happy 75th Anniversary and may the souls of our gallant pioneers rest in peace! St. Thomas! Ever United in Christ! Happy Anniversary!

Very Rev. Charles Boniface Ahenkorah STA Associate Pastor 2015-2017

St. Paul's Quasi-Parish, Kibi Ghana-West Africa ahenkorahcb@yahoo.com





If you would like to volunteer to help with **Sunday Coffee & Donuts ministry**: contact Ray Bratsch-Prince, bratschprince@hotmail.com, (515) 291-8492.



Fridays 5:15_{pm}
Processional (upper) Pathway



St. Oscar Romero Feast Day Celebration

Join Ames Catholic Worker House (Romero House) for a feast day celebration on March 24 with dinner beginning at 6pm. Pupusas will be provided and guest are asked to bring a side dish (Salvadorian if possible). If

weather allows, we will celebrate outside. Learn more about our namesake saint and enjoy the Oscar Romero movie in the later evening. **All are welcome.**

709 Clark Ave., Ames amescatholicworkerhouse@gmail.com



With the retirement of Jackie Conzemius who has led parish garden and landscape care for 30 years, the Buildings & Grounds committee is asking parishioners (with or without a *green thumb*—but with pride in our gardens) to consider "adopting" one of TEN areas into which we have divided our landscape. We do need parishioners help and involvement to keep our grounds, and the work of Jackie and helpers over the years, attractive and complimentary to our building. DETAILS and a lot more information coming very soon (as is spring!). Please consider helping the parish as an individual or a family.

READINGS THIS WEEK

Sunday: Ex 3:1-8a, 13-15/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 6-7, 8, 11 [8a]/

1 Cor 10:1-6, 10-12/Lk 13:1-9

Monday: 2 Kgs 5:1-15ab/Ps 42:2, 3; 43:3, 4/Lk 4:24-30

Tuesday: Dn 3:25, 34-43/Ps 25: 4-5ab, 6 and 7bc, 8-9/Mt 18:21-35

Wednesday: Dt 4:1, 5-9/Ps 147:12-13, 15-16, 19-20/Mt 5:17-19 **Thursday:** Jer 7:23-28/Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9/Lk 11:14-23

Friday: Is 7:10-14; 8:10/Ps 40:7-8a, 8b-9, 10, 11/Heb 10:4-10/

Lk 1:26-38

Saturday: Hos 6:1-6/Ps 51:3-4, 18-19, 20-21ab/Lk 18:9-14 **Sunday:** Jos 5:9a, 10-12/Ps 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7 [9a]/2 Cor 5:17-21/

Lk 15:1-3, 11-32

http://usccb.org/bible/

MINISTRY STAFF

staparish.net/about/directory

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Zeke Mientkiewiczzmientk@stceciliaparish.org
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Elizabeth Engelken, Administrative Assistantx110

PEER MINISTERS

peerministers@staparish.net

Stella Leuer Maggie Lynott Hope Petersen Karen Vandervort

FOCUS MISSIONARIES

Sophie Albert Joseph Heyrman Noah Huber Rachel Nurse Kate Phelps



This week's EDGE night is *Forever Begins: Why Get Married in the Catholic Church?* We'll discuss how the Sacrament of marriage reflects God's love, connect some famous pairs and pray about the states in life that we are called to live in.



C-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**

Date Night

Celebrating the Liturgical Year

Ian and Maria Schneider will share the value of celebrating the liturgical year within their family, their domestic church.

All adults from the area are invited to join us on **April 2 in the St. Cecilia Social Hall**. We will provide the meal and refreshments. Please gather for the meal by 6:15pm, followed by "Celebrating the Liturgical Year" at 6:45pm, concluding by 8:15pm. We will provide a meal for the children.

Please RSVP for the meal and/or childcare by contacting Deacon Ron and Mary Smith at **DateNight@StCeciliaParish.org.** Please know you are welcome to join us, if you have not made a reservation.

Sunday Mass

Saturday: 4:45pm IVESTREAM

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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