

WELCOME TO THE CATHOLIC PARISHES OF
Saints Thomas Aquinas & Columban



5TH SUNDAY OF LENT

April 7, 2019

Jesus said, "Neither do I condemn you. Go, and from now on do not sin any more." - Jn 8:11b

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

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Priest, FR. BEN HADRICH and *Deacon*, FRANCIS ZAREN

810 5th Street International Falls, MN 56649 / 1014 4th Ave Littlefork, MN 56653

p: 218-283-3293 | stthomasifalls.org | stthomascatholicschool.com

Welcome!

We are glad that you joined us today! If you are interested in joining our parish, please contact our office.

We look forward to connecting!

PARISH INFORMATION

St. Thomas Parish Office Hours:

Monday-Thursday: 8:00 am - 4:00 pm

Friday: 8:00 am - 1:00 pm

Have any questions? Stop by and see us!

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Confessions are heard on Saturdays at 4:00 pm, 1/2 hour before every mass, and by appointment.

Anointing of the Sick: Call 283-3293 (or after hours: 283-0847) to make arrangements.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament:
Monday-Friday from 11:00 am to 11:00 pm.

Eucharistic Services
Falls Care Center - Wednesdays 3:30 pm

Rosary
30 minutes before weekend Masses
at Littlefork Care Center: Mondays at 7 pm
at St. Columban: Tuesdays at 7 pm
at Rivers Edge Villa: Wednesdays at 1 pm
at Good Samaritan Care Center: Fridays at 6 pm

Becoming Catholic (R.C.I.A.)
Process begins in October,
please call at any time.

More info: stthomasifalls.org



MASS SCHEDULE

Mass is regularly held at St. Thomas

INTENTIONS

| | | |
|----|--------------------|-------------------------|
| M | 8:30 am | Deceased Members of CDA |
| T | 8:30 am | +Shirley Brown |
| W | 6:30 pm | +Louise Hudak |
| Th | 8:30 am | +Ralph Brown |
| F | NO MASS | |
| S | 5:00 pm | Parishioners |
| Su | 8:30 am (Columban) | To End Abortion |
| Su | 10:30 am | +Christine Hauner |

Tears on Earth and Heaven . . .

"No longer shall the sound of weeping be heard there, or the sound of crying..." (Isaiah 65:19).

As a man and as a priest, I have certainly heard some people that say, "Men don't cry" or "Man up" in some machoism currents in our society. On the opposite spectrum, I have personally experienced as well as learning, sharing and merely believe tears can be healthy. I'll never forget an individual who served as a Marine overseas and was a seminarian at St. John Vianney. As we were conversing by ourselves, he ultimately said, "Always know that Marines cry too." And so can men.

The text above was contained in our daily Mass reading (Monday, April 1st during the 4th week in Lent) and is also used in a funeral. As I prepped for my homily that day, I was reminded of how crying can be distinct in two different types: sorrow or joyfulness. One occurs with grieving (ex. the loss of a loved one, depression, divorce, abuse or more), another type with tears with gratitude, as the verse right before, Isaiah spoke: "Instead, there shall always be rejoicing and happiness in what I create; For I create Jerusalem to be a joy and its people to be a delight..."

Today I would like to offer a few thoughts about these two different types of crying or weeping. The first experiences sadness or the moments, days, weeks or more prolonged than directly hurt an experience. Now, is this crying healthy? Yes, and of course! And, sometimes each of us (yes, even men), should take some courage to speak to a loved one friend or counselor to walk through those tough times in life, and do not be afraid of crying.

Then there is a happy and rejoicing type of crying, like the birth of a child, gratitude for experience the presence of God, or only stopped in your tracks with beauty beyond our own lives.

I mention that during Lent because each of us has experienced both types of weeping, and both of them will probably continue throughout our life on earth. Yet at the end of our lives, if we are called to heaven, we will perhaps not experiencing grieving or sadness anymore, only tears of love, compassion, and mercy.

In the book of Revelation, John wrote "Behold, the dwelling of God is with men. He will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself will be with them; he will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning nor crying nor pain any more, for the former things have passed away" (Revelation 21:3-4).

Continue to be courageous during tough times and tears, remembering that Jesus Christ is always walking with you, holding your hand, and knowing that this period will be passed.
God Bless!

God Bless!

Mark Your Calendar



EVENTS THIS WEEK

SUNDAY: FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT/8:30 am Mass - St. Columban/10:30 am Mass
MONDAY: 8:30 am Mass - St. Thomas/9:30 am Men's Prayer - Hospitality Room/3:15 pm to 4:30 pm Elementary Faith Formation
TUESDAY: 8:30 am Mass/1:30 pm CDA - Hospitality Room/5:30 pm to 6:30 pm 1st Reconciliation & 1st Communion/40 Hours of Adoration begins
WEDNESDAY: 10:00 am to 1:00 pm Community Clothes Closet drop off/ 11:50 am to 12:50 pm St. Columban Religious Ed/ 6:30 pm Mass - St. Thomas /7:00 pm to 8:30 pm Jr. & Sr. High Faith Formation/40 Hours of Adoration continues
THURSDAY: 8:30 am Mass - St. Thomas (School)/10:00 am to 1:00 pm Community Clothes Closet shopping/ 7:00 pm KCs - Maronic Hall/40 Hours of Adoration concludes
FRIDAY: NO MASS/5:00 pm to 6:30 pm Lent Fish Fry - Aquinas Hall/7:00 pm Stations of the Cross
SATURDAY: 4 pm Confessions/5:00 pm Mass - St Thomas

RESPECT LIFE

"The right to life is the first among human rights. To abort a child is to kill someone who can not defend himself."
Pope Francis

Hurting after abortion? You are not alone. The Duluth Diocese is here to help you heal through our post abortion ministry, Project Rachel. This ministry offers a confidential helpline for you to speak with someone about your experience. A willing person to listen who has been specially trained to help you sort through unresolved feelings and conflict is just a confidential call away at 218-421-7110. Move beyond the pain, call today.

Adoration of Our Lord

Weekdays from 11 am to 10 pm

Adoration hours in need of adorers are:

Tuesday 7:00 p.m., Friday 8:00 p.m.

Thursday, Friday 9:00 p.m. and 10:00 p.m.

Good friends find pleasure in one another's company. Let us know pleasure in the company of our best Friend, a Friend who can do everything for us, a Friend who loves us beyond measure. Her is nthe Belssed Sacrament we can talk to hHim straight from the heart."
-St. alphonsus Liguoiari

The Community Clothes Closet is in need of clothing donations. If you find clothes that no longer fit or you no longer wear, please bring them to the closet on drop off days - April 10th or 24th. Thank you for helping those in need!

Easter Flower Memorials: Parishioners are encouraged to help decorate the church for the Holy Week and Easter Liturgies. If you wish to honor a loved one, living or deceased, please use an Easter Flower Offering envelope or a plain white envelope. Include your name and the name(s) of those you wish to honor. You may place your request in the collection basket during the weekend or mail or drop it off at the parish office. Suggested donation is \$20. God bless!

WEEKLY READINGS

Readings for the week of April 7, 2019

Sunday: Is 43:16-21/Ps 126:1-2, 2-3, 4-5, 6 [3]/Phil 3:8-14/Jn 8:1-11

Monday: Dn 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62 or 13:41c-62/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6 [4ab]/Jn 8:12-20

Tuesday: Nm 21:4-9/Ps 102:2-3, 16-18, 19-21 [2]/Jn 8:21-30

Wednesday: Dn 3:14-20, 91-92, 95/Dn 3:52, 53, 54, 55, 56 [52b]/Jn 8:31-42

Thursday: Gn 17:3-9/Ps 105:4-5, 6-7, 8-9 [8a]/Jn 8:51-59

Friday: Jer 20:10-13/Ps 18:2-3a, 3bc-4, 5-6, 7 [cf. 7]/Jn 10:31-42

Saturday: Ez 37:21-28/Jer 31:10, 11-12abcd, 13 [cf. 10d]/Jn 11:45-56

Next Sunday: Lk 19:28-40/Is 50:4-7/Ps 22:8-9, 17-18, 19-20, 23-24 [2a]/Phil 2:6-11/Lk 22:14--23:56 or 23:1-49

Volunteers are needed to help in the St. Thomas School office on Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday afternoons from 12:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. Choose one, two or all of the shifts. Thank you for your prayerful consideration and for giving of your time and talent.

The 2019 Silent Auction will be held Saturday, May 18th.

The Saint Thomas Aquinas Catholic School Silent Auction Committee is looking for donations of wine and whiskey for the Silent Auction Wine & Whiskey Pull.

Please drop off donations to the school office or parish office.

Please join in praying the Stations of the Cross each Friday during Lent beginning at 7:00 p.m. in the church.

Feel free to take a copy of the prayer cards, "A Prayer for Your Priest", from the book table in the gathering space. These were put together by the Mothers of Priests - Diocese of Duluth and made available by Deacon and Diana Moravitz.

The Knights of Columbus is a trusted name, tried by time, present where men are, providing inspiring resources and support for strengthening your faith and living a life of virtue.

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The next parish breakfast will be Sunday, May 3rd, following 10:30 a.m. Mass. Parish BBQ will be Saturday, June 15th, beginning at 5:30 p.m. in Aquinas Hall.

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