

ST. THOMAS AQUINAS CATHOLIC CHURCH

Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston | Served by Missionaries of St. Francis De Sales



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JULY 17, 2022

WELCOME HOME

PASTOR:

Rev. Joseph Pottemmel, MSFS frjoseph@stasugarland.com

PAROCHIAL VICAR: Rev. Joseph Arulrai, MSFS. frajoseph@stasugarland.com

MASS TIMES

Saturday 5:00 p.m. **Sun.** 7:30 a.m. 9:30 a.m. & 11:30 a.m.

DAILY MASS

Mon.-Sat. 8:00 a.m., Wed. 7:00 p.m.,

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

Mon.-Tue. & Thur.

9:00a.m.. - 8:00 p.m. **Wed. -** 9:00 a.m.. - 6:30 p.m. Fri. - 9:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

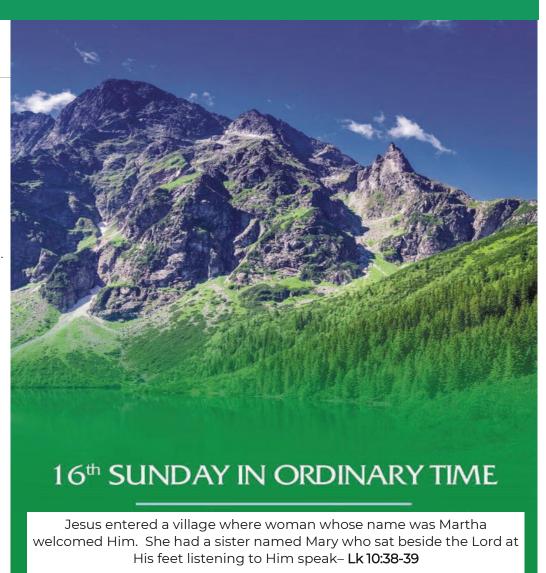
Divine Mercy Chapel

SACRAMENT OF PENANCE

By request after Mass, Mondays & Tuesdays Saturday: 4:00 – 4:45 p.m.

OFFICE HOURS

Mon.-Thur. 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Closed 12 p.m. to 1 p.m. (Lunch) Fri: 7:30 a.m. to 12 p.m. Sat & Sun: Closed



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

OUR MISSION ——

"We the Parishioners of St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Church are a diverse Christ Centered community empowered by the Holy Spirit and strengthened by the Word and the Sacraments to Proclaim the Good News"



GOSPEL MEDITATION

"Our families need to ask for the gift of the Spirit! Through prayer, even in the busiest times, we give time back to God, we find the peace that comes from appreciating the important things, and we encounter the joy of God's unexpected gifts. Through daily prayer may our homes become, like the house of Martha and Mary, places where Jesus always finds a warm welcome (Pope Francis)." While it is necessary to attend to the details of hospitality, learning how to be present to people, experiences, and God is sometimes more important. Creating homes that are welcoming environments requires not only organization and structure but members who truly enjoy being there and celebrating life with one another.

Details can often get the best of us. While attending to details is important to success, our obsession with them can be problematic. Whether wanting to make a good impression, fear of failure, insecurity, or emotional immaturity, throwing ourselves into the "details" of hospitality can distract us from being present to those we want to serve. Conversely, focusing exclusively on being present without any attention to detail also sets our attempts at

hospitality up for disaster! We need a balance of both. But creating a truly welcoming space in our homes and within ourselves requires still more.

We have to be empty of ourselves. Becoming a welcoming, hospitable person is not possible in someone focused on their own needs and desires. If the one we serve is the one who looks back at us in the mirror, then there is no space for anyone else. While Martha and Mary had different ideas of what it means to serve, they both had the inner space and freedom to do so. They were detached from themselves. Detachment becomes the challenge to hospitality and creating a God-centered, openhearted space in our lives. When we impulsively act out of our personal agendas, violence, abuse, pride, greed, lust, power, control, passion, and selfaggrandizement encroach upon the space needed to be present to another human being. Not only can others not find a home in us, but even God cannot find a home in usl

INSPIRATION OF THE WEEK

We become a welcoming person when we can step aside from our own needs and desires to create space for someone else. Welcoming involves a quality of listening and presence that communicates to another person that what they are sharing and who they are have importance. When we shift attention and focus from ourselves and direct it toward someone else, positive things can happen. When someone knows that their story matters, it can be life changing and life-giving. Hospitality brings forth life and celebrates relationships. Whether we are actively tending to the business of serving the needs of others or opening ourselves to listening to their story, devotion and attentiveness are friends of love. Becoming anxious and preoccupied with one's personal agenda leaves no room for the creative. nurturing and spontaneous power of God's love.



RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS



Be Ready for God to "Stop By"

In my experience, most people can be divided into two groups: those who are old enough to remember when you kept food on hand for company, and those who aren't.

For those of you in the latter group, let me explain. Before text messaging and social media made us all unconditionally, mercilessly reachable, people would do this thing called "stopping by." They would be passing by a friend's house, maybe on the way home from work or shopping, and they would just ... stop. With no warning. No notice whatsoever. "I was just in the neighborhood," they would say. I remember my mother and I would do this on many a Saturday. It wasn't an everyday occurrence, but it was common enough that you had to be ready.

"Crazy," you might exclaim. "People just appeared on your doorstep? How did you cope with the uncertainty?" Well, most of us had moms who kept a little something on hand to eat or drink that was extra nice, just in case anyone stopped by. That way, we were always ready.

Today's readings are about a lot of things: prayer, hope, redemptive suffering. They're about what it means to *be* a Christian, and not just what it means to do Christian things.

Most of all, though, they're about readiness. If God showed up at your door, would you be ready for Him? Would you be ready for what He gives you, or what He takes away? Would you be ready for Him to interrupt the plans you have for yourself? To disrupt the idea you carry in your mind of what a servant or a steward is supposed to be?

Read your Bible. Say your rosary. Go to Mass. Get to Confession. Talk to God — every day, not just when you think you need Him. That way, you are always ready.

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION



Is your day filled with work, family, errands, rushing here and there?

Wishing you could have just one peaceful hour? How about one peaceful hour with YOUR LORD? Jesus wishes to SPEND ONE HOUR WITH YOU!

IF YOU ARE WILLING TO COMMIT TO ONE HOUR EACH WEEK CALL THE OFFICE AT 281-240-6721.

IF YOU CANNOT MAKE YOUR ADORATION HOUR, PLEASE FIND A REPLACEMENT.

THE BLESSED SACRAMENT SHOULD NEVER BE LEFT ALONE.



SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Baptism preparation classes for Parents and Godparents are held every other month.

Please call the parish office for information.



SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

Engaged couples need to call, Matt Falleri (281) 240-6721 ext. 107, six to nine months before your wedding to allow time for preparation.



SACRAMENT OF HEALING

In case of illness, please call the Parish Office at 281-240-6721

1 PARISH INFORMATION

PARISH STAFF

BUSINESS MANAGER

Lee Meister

Imeister@stasugarland.com

DIRECTOR

Aquinas Early Childhood Center Erum Khan 281-240-7196 ekhan@stasugarland.com

CCE COORDINATOR

Matt Falleri

mfalleri@stasugarland.com

YOUTH MINISTER

Charles (Chazz) Sheffield csheffield@stasugarland.com

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BOOKKEEPER

Vivian Kuoh

vkuoh@stasugarland.com

PARISH SECRETARY

Leticia Cordova

lcordova@stasugarland.com

STFWARDSHIP

13TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME JUNE 25 - 26, 2022

1st Collection

STA Cares Collection this weekend......\$1,765





SPIRITUAL PILGRIMAGE 🔏





Fr. Manny Fernandez

The Magnificat Prayer Group

is inviting you and your family & friends to come and join us to a pilgrimage to Louisiana

The There will be Mass, exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Healing Services.

August 21, 2022 - Sunday Date:

6:30 A.M. Meeting Time: Departure Time: 7:00 A M

Wal-Mart Super Center @ 11210 West Airport Blvd. Meeting Place:

(Corner Hwy 59 and West Airport Blvd.) *Continental Bus will pick-up at the back corner - right side

Return: Departure Time from Louisiana back to Houston @ 5:00 pm

Bus Fare: \$50.00 "NON-REFUNDABLE" (Please make check payable to Yolanda Sison and mail it to 9019 Woodleigh Dr., Houston, TX 77083)

Lunch will be at a nearby restaurant (optional). You may bring your own lunch. Please bring snacks to share...

Reservations are limited! Seats are assigned on First Come First Serve Basis

For more details... Please call:

Yolly Sison (713) 562-1389 Myrna Sulit (917) 325-9117 Tessie Bumanglag (832) 287-3355





All altar servers are required to attend the annual training on Saturday, Sept. 24, 2022 starting with the Mass at 8:00 a.m. and ending at 12:00 p.m.

There will be games, prizes and snacks.







MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY, JULY 16

8:00 a.m. Healing for Lee Meister

5:00 p.m. Selestino Garcia †

SUNDAY, JULY 17

7:30 a.m. For All Parishioners

9:30 a.m. Thanksgiving for Pinto Family

11:30 a.m. For All Anicete & Saheba Deceased Fam. †

MONDAY, JULY 18

8:00 a.m. Katherine Fidelis - Birthday

TUESDAY, JULY 19

8:00 a.m. Angela Nwoko †

WEDNESDAY, JULY 20

8:00 a.m. Healing for Maria Elena Cordova 7:00 p.m. Caitlyn Noelle Ne - **Birthday**

THURSDAY, JULY 21

8:00 a.m. Thanksgiving for Gabriel & Leticia Cordova

FRIDAY, JULY 22

8:00 a.m. Bolaji Salako †

SATURDAY, JULY 23

8:00 a.m. Healing for Lee Meister

5:00 p.m. Paula Garcia †

SUNDAY, JULY 24

7:30 a.m. For All Parishioners

9:30 a.m. Ana Santos de Garcia †

11:30 a.m. Felix Iroh +

ALTAR SERVER SCHEDULE

FOR THE WEEKEND OF JULY 23 – 24 If you have any questions please call Earl Marasigan at 832-687-0455.

Saturday 5:00 p.m.

Sunday 7:30 a.m.

Brandon Amaefule Bianca Amaefule Kosi Uzoh Kamsi Uzoh

Sunday 9:30 a.m.

Joachim Panam Joseph Panam

Sunday 11:30 a.m.

Chidimma Richards Chidume Richards Arinze Nmadin Justice Ojo

"If you cannot make it to your Mass, please contact the Adult Coordinator assigned for the Mass."

Adult Coordinators

5:00 p.m. 7:30 a.m.

9:30 a.m. Samson Awoh (713) 232-9131 or

Jonah Eze (346) 717-8911

11:30 a.m. Edmund Warren (832) 926-9595



Here at

St. Thomas Aquinas

we host year round Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)

If you are hearing the call and would like to explore the possibility of becoming Catholic, the inquiry sessions are held after the 9:30 a.m. Mass every Sunday. We meet in the Thissen Education Center located directly behind the church on the 2nd floor. If you are interested in becoming Catholic and want to know more about the classes, please call: Scott Sabol at 832-265-3473 with any questions.

% INFORMATION



Now Enrolling for 2022

We call it learning, they call it fun!

Aquinas Early Childhood Center who We Are

Seeing a need for high quality early childhood education in the community, St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Parish rose to the challenge. Licensed by the State of Texas, our degreed teachers, trained in the Reggio Emilia, allow children to flourish.



- NCI accepted
- Enrolling from 6 weeks to 6 years old.
- Breakfast, lunch & p.m. snack is included in the tuition.
 - 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., weekdays
 - Closed circuit cameras and coded security access



We want to get to know you! Stop by to see us or contact us to schedule a tour.

Parishioner discounts are available.

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St. Bridget of Sweden | July 23

Saint Bridget or Birgitta was born in 1303, the daughter of Birger Petersson, governor of Uppland and his wife Ingeborg Bengtsdotter. She was married to Ulf Gudmarsson, who became governor of the province of Nericia. They had eight children, all of whom survived past infancy which was rare for the 12th cen-

tury. One of their daughters would become St. Catherine of Sweden.

Saint Bridget was hailed as a mystic and her visions, which began in her early childhood when she had visions of Christ Crucified, made her somewhat of a Middle Ages celebrity. Her vision of the Nativity of Jesus even influenced the art of the Nativity through the Baroque era! She is said to have predicted the Vatican State. Saint Bridget's Revelations, which she dictated to Peter Olafsson, the prior at the Cistercian monastery of Alvastra near which she retired after her husband's death in 1344, were published in 1492. They have since been published in many languages and can still be purchased today.

Some of her most profound visions regarded the founding of a new religious order which would be primarily for women, ruled by an abbess, but with a separate house for monks who would serve as order chaplains. Her visions detailed everything from the church to the clothing that would be adopted as the nun's habit, and how the order would be ruled. King Magnus II of Sweden granted Bridget land and buildings. The order, called the Bridgettines or the Order of the Most Holy Savior was approved by Pope Urban V in 1370.



WHY DO WE DO THAT? Catholic Life Explained:

Weddings

Question: This time of year, I attend a lot of weddings. Why do Catholic weddings need to take place in a church?

Answer: Technically, there is a clause in Church law that could allow for weddings to take place outside of a church, in a suitable space under special circumstances, but it requires the rare permission of the bishop. But the meaning of marriage goes very, very deep, and the Church has a vested interest in protecting that meaning. As Catholics, we don't see a wedding as an event that needs a pleasing backdrop.

Marriage is a sacrament, both an occasion of joyful promise and symbolic solemnity. It is a spiritual event. The loving bond of marriage symbolizes the mystical union between Christ and His Church. The man and woman profess lifelong vows of fidelity, and they receive supernatural grace from God to keep their promises. Receiving the sacrament of Marriage in a church has broader symbolic meaning for the couple as well. Marriage isn't simply two people in isolation from the world around them. Marriage is the joining of families and the beginning of a new, holy mission in the life of the couple. Weddings are sacred occasions, and it's fitting that they occur in sacred spaces.

CATHOLIC TRIVIA - JUST FOR FUN

Question: Who is the patron saint of altar servers?

Answer: Saint John Berchmans.



PASTORAL ASSISTANT

LORD, WE LIFT UP PETITIONS OF HEALING FOR OUR SICK, ESPECIALLY:

Jane Arinze, Fr. Angelito Baldonado SDB, Fr. John Bosco, Elizabeth and Courtney Brown, Donna Buczo, Alan Cordova, Maria Elena Cordova, Fr. Vince Dulock, Pat Gerecci, Doris Giron, Elizabeth Jackson, Amanda Jackson, Dana Bryan Lee, Lee Meister, Ronald Murphy, Martha Swift, Millie Thibodaux, Cecilia Williams, Fr. Louis Zee and our Catholic Residents at The Hampton Meadows Place Assisted Living Facility, Bedford Place, Home Sweet Home, First Smile and Catholic Patients at Atrium Medical Center.





PRAY FOR THE DECEASED

Members of St. Thomas Aquinas.



May They Rest in Peace

NEW JERUSALEM CATHOLIC CHARISMATIC RENEWAL PRAYER GROUP

'EMPOWERED' TO PROCLAIM JESUS TO THE WORLD

The Apostle Paul tells us in **Rom 12:6** that "Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us let us use them." Usually, Doctors recommend regular physical exercise to keep us in shape. Physical therapists advise us on specific exercise that will enable an injured body part to work properly. Musicians practice exercises on their instruments to develop what is called "muscle-memory". In the same way, our Lord Jesus (the greatest of all Doctors) commands us to exercise the gifts of the Spirit given to us (Rom **6:12**). By exercising our spiritual gifts, the body of Christ (the Church) becomes more dynamic. Each spiritual gift helps to heal the wounded parts of the Christ's body when exercised properly. By exercising our spiritual gifts regularly, we become more "in tune" with the Spirit that we develop "Spirit-memory." In other words, we are more quickly and able to recognize the movements of the Holy

Spirit, even to the point of becoming "co-workers with the Spirit". **Eph 4:7**-8 says "But grace was given to each of us according to the measure of Christ's gift. Therefore it is said, 'When He ascended on high He led a host of captives, and gave gifts to men"

As we recall the account of Pentecost in the New Testament, we see the zeal in the early disciples and their willingness to proclaim Jesus. We are all called to evangelize and bring the Gospel to every human situation. There are three states of **Evangelization:** First is to live our faith with openness and to lovingly share it with others; second is to offer a gentle invitation to a personal relationship with Jesus and the Church; third is to transform the world around us until Gospel values become the center point of every human endeavor and the earth becomes God's Temple. We can do these when we yield ourselves [individually] to the Holy Spirit! Rather than make excuses for not

using the gifts (**Lk 14:18ff**) or trying to quench the Spirit (**1Thes 5:19**), let's all ask for God's grace to always be available for Him and be open to the Holy Spirit as on the day of Pentecost. The Holy Spirit is "the Lord and giver of life". He is God.

PRAYER MEETING EVERY SATURDAY, FROM 6:00 P.M.—9:00 P.M. IN AQUINAS CENTER ROOMS B & C.

All are invited!!

For any questions, please call Emmanuel OFILI at: 832-247-5226.









1st Sacrament and Confirmation

2022-2023 REGISTRATION OPENS JUNE 6TH

Parish office - 6/6 - 8/26 During Regular Business Hours

Early Registration - June 6th - July 8th (It's Over)
All Faith Formation (CCE, Edge & Life Teen) \$70 each
(Family Plan 3 or more children) \$50 each
Confirmation \$80 each - First Sacraments \$70 each

Regular Registration - July 11th - August 5th
All Faith Formation (CCE, Edge & Life Teen) \$85 each
(Family Plan 3 or more children) \$60 each
Confirmation \$95 each - First Sacraments \$85 each

<u>Late Registration – August 8th - August 26th</u>
All Faith Formation (CCE, Edge & Life Teen) \$110 each
(Family Plan 3 or more children) \$85 each
Confirmation \$120 each - First Sacraments \$110 each

NO REGISTRATION AFTER AUGUST 26th

PARISH CALENDAR

SUNDAY, JULY 17, 2022

Gn 18:1-10a/Ps 15:2-3, 3-4, 5 [1a]/Col 1:24-28/ Lk 10:38-42

7:30 a.m. 16th Sunday in Ordinary Time Mass, Sanctuary

8:30 a.m. Knights of Columbus Breakfast, ALD Kit

9:30 a.m. 16th Sunday in Ordinary Time Mass, Sanctuary

10:30 a.m. RCIA - Adult, TH 202-204

11:30 a.m. 16th Sunday in Ordinary Time Mass, Sanctuary

MONDAY, JULY 18, 2022

Mi 6:1-4, 6-8/Ps 50:5-6, 8-9, 16bc-17, 21 and 23/ Mt 12:38-42

7:40 a.m. Stations of the Cross, Sanctuary
8:00 a.m. Weekday Mass, Sanctuary
9a.m.-8p.m. Adoration, Divine Mercy Chapel

6:00 p.m. Knights of Columbus Rosary for Life, Chapel 7:00 p.m. Knights of Columbus Council Meeting, ALD Hall

7:00 p.m. Young Adult Bible Study, TH-Youth

TUESDAY, JULY 19, 2022

Mi 7:14-15, 18-20/Ps 85:2-4, 5-6, 7-8//Mt 12:46-50

7:40 a.m. Stations of the Cross, Sanctuary
8:00 a.m. Weekday Mass, Sanctuary
9a.m.-8p.m. Adoration, Divine Mercy Chapel

WEDNESDAY, JULY 20, 2022

Jer 1:1, 4-10/Ps 71:1-2, 3-4a, 5-6ab, 15 and 17/Mt 13:1-9

7:40 a.m. Stations of the Cross, Sanctuary
8:00 a.m. Weekday Mass, Sanctuary
9a.m.-6:30p.m. Adoration, Divine Mercy Chapel
7:00 p.m. OLPH Mass & Novena, Sanctuary

THURSDAY, JULY 21, 2022

Jer 2:1-3, 7-8, 12-13/Ps 36:6-7ab, 8-9, 10-11/Mt 13:10-17

7:40 a.m. Stations of the Cross, Sanctuary Weekday Mass, Sanctuary
9a.m.-8p.m. Adoration, Divine Mercy Chapel

FRIDAY, JULY 22, 2022

Sg 3:1-4b or 2 Cor 5:14-17/Ps 63:2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9/ Jn 20:1-2, 11-18

7:40 a.m. Stations of the Cross, Sanctuary 8:00 a.m. Weekday Mass, Sanctuary 9a.m.-6:00p.m. Adoration, Divine Mercy Chapel

SATURDAY, JULY 23, 2022

Jer 7:1-11/Ps 84:3, 4, 5-6a and 8a, 11/Mt 13:24-30

7:40 a.m. Stations of the Cross, Sanctuary
8:00 a.m. Weekday Mass, Sanctuary
3:00 p.m. Legion of Mary, AQ-C

4:00 p.m. Reconciliation

5:00 p.m. 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time Mass, Sanctuary 6:00 p.m. New Jerusalem Charismatic Prayer Group, AQ B-C

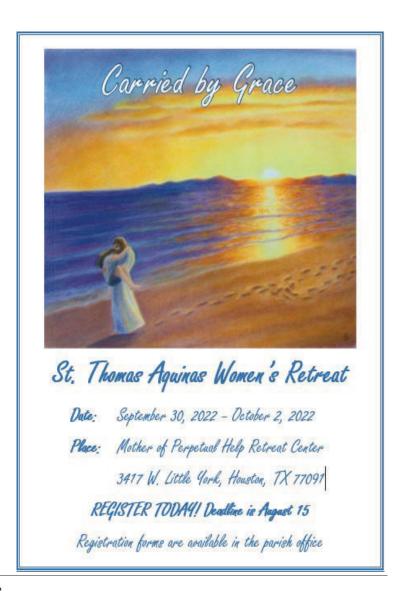
SUNDAY, JULY 24, 2022

Gn 18:20-32/Ps 138:1-2, 2-3, 6-7, 7-8 [3a]/Col 2:12-14/ Lk 11:1-13

7:30 a.m. 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time Mass, Sanctuary 9:30 a.m. 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time Mass, Sanctuary

10:30 a.m. RCIA - Adult, TH 202-204

11:30 a.m. 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time Mass, Sanctuary







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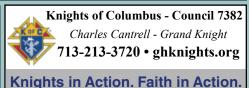


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