SAINT THOMAS AQUINAS

JANUARY 2, 2022



THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

GIO-

They were overjoyed at seeing the star, and on entering the house they saw the child with Mary his mother. They prostrated themselves and did him homage. Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. - Mt 2:10-11

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



13720 West Thomas Road Avondale, AZ 85392 Ph: (623) 935-2151 Fax: (623) 935-5044 www.stacc.net

MASS TIMES

Mon-Sat: 8:00am Sat (Vigil): 5:00pm Sun: 7:00am, 9:00am, 10:45am*, 12:30pm *Mass Livestreamed on Aquinas Catholic Church YouTube channel

CONFESSIONS

Sat: 8:30am to 9:30am **Wed:** 5:00pm to 6:45pm

ADORATION

Tues: 1:00pm to 7:00pm **Wed:** 1:00pm to 7:00pm **Thurs:** 1:00pm to 7:00pm **Fri:** 8:30am to 12:30pm



ABOUT OUR PARISH



PARISH STAFF

CLERGY

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FR. John Muir, **Pastor** FR. Chris Gossen FR. Ryan Lee

DCN. Ken Porter DCN. Jason Robinson DCN. Edgar Carnecer DCN. Ken Wedge DCN. Chuck Shaw

STAFF

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Parish Manager	
Andrew Starbuck	x206
Facilitator of Faith Formati	on
Mayra Romero	x218
Marriage Prep	
Gina Kaiser	x210
Infant Baptism	
Derek Diesner	x274
Communications	
Stephanie Chorkavy	x243
The DOC Manager	
Daniel Sauceda	x212
Director of Sacred Liturgy	
Julie Cipriano	x275
Executive Assistant to the	Pastor
MaryLina Luna	x214
Assistant to the Parish Ma	nager
Ronnie Buchino	x290
Receptionist & Parish Assis	stant

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Happy New Year! I hope the celebration of the Christmas season, Mary Mother of God, and New Year's Day have been filled with fresh joy and peace for you. Is one religion correct and all others wrong? Or are all religions of equal value, relative to the preferences of each person or culture?

The nuanced answer is marvelously contained in this Sunday's celebration of the Epiphany of the Lord. You'll recall from the reading from Matthew 2:1-12: "Magi from the east arrived in Jerusalem, saying, 'Where is the newborn king of the Jews? We saw his star at its rising and have come to do him homage.'" In the Magi "from the east" we see representatives of the pagans, that is, non-Israelite religions. These men symbolize all the various human religious attempts to express and encounter God.

Wonderfully, the gospels don't denigrate the Magi. Quite the contrary--they are depicted as wise, intelligent, zealous, courteous, and generous people. And it is through their intelligence and zeal that they seek the "newborn king of the Jews." Here they sense something of a totally unique fullness—something worth their homage.

All this corresponds to the fact that Church acknowledges the true and good elements in all the great religions and philosophies of human history, while recognizing that in the coming of God-with-us in Jesus Christ, all the religious strivings of man find their proper fulfillment. This means that Israel's uniqueness is not just for Israel, but for the nations, for all humanity. It's an overflowing uniqueness, so to speak. That's why the Catechism says:

"The Epiphany shows that 'the full number of the nations' now takes its place in the family of the patriarchs,' and acquires Israelitica dignitas (is made 'worthy of the heritage of Israel')" CCC 528. So when the Magi enter the "house" with Mary and the Child, they symbolize the entering of the nations into the Church and into true worship of God, dignified men sharing a new, elevated dignity.

What's the upshot of this? Two complementary things. First, we should always be attentive to and respectful of all the good elements of other religions, philosophies, and peoples. Especially in the great religions of the world there are many elements of truth to consider and admire. Second, we should always confidently embrace and share the unique truth of human salvation through the Incarnation of God in the human flesh and blood of Jesus. We acknowledge that this is not simply another human religion, something quite different, of a higher objective order. And we do so in humility and honesty, knowing that in Christ and the Church, it's not so much about our search for God, but the revelation of God in search of—and finding—us. This is the good news we should never tire of sharing—or "epiphanizing"—to the magi in our lives. Come, let us adore Him!

Truly,

Fr John Muir



MASS SCHEDULE & INTENTIONS

MASS SCHEDULE AND INTENTIONS

SUNDAY, JAN. 2

07:00am James O. Young † 09:00am MSgt Terry Rahe, USAF † 10:45am Intentions of the Parish 12:30pm Rickey Gulipardo †

MONDAY, JAN. 3 08:00am Joanne Lisowski †

TUESDAY, JAN. 4 08:00am Mike Vanessa †

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 5

08:00am Jennifer Romijn †

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THURSDAY, JAN. 6 08:00am Patricia Mifsud †

FRIDAY, JAN. 7 08:00am Ann Hickey †

SATURDAY, JAN. 808:00amNelson Perina †05:00pmBobby Hernandez III - Healing

SUNDAY, JAN. 907:00amTeresa Herrera †09:00amChristina Gossen - Birthday10:45amIntentions of the Parish12:30pmRomulo Rillera †

MASS INTENTIONS

The Mass Intention Book will open for the months of April, May, and June on Saturday, January 15 at 12 Midnight. You may select up to six Masses total. A \$10 donation is recommended for each Mass. You can sign-up for your Mass by visiting:

www.stacc.com/mass-intentions

or by visiting the Parish Office during regular business hours.



WHY DO WE DO THAT? Catholic Life Explained:

Question: What happens to a consecrated host if it accidentally falls to the ground?

Answer:

This a very practical question because, as we all know, accidents happen, even during the most careful celebration of the liturgy. The short answer to this question is that nothing happens to the consecrated host. The Real Presence of Jesus remains in the consecrated host or any consecrated wine that might accidentally be spilled.

Another question we might ask is: How should the minsters respond if the Eucharist is dropped or spilled? If this happens, the priest, deacon, or extraordinary minister of holy Communion should immediately pick up the dropped host and consume it. If it is a case of the Precious Blood being spilled, the minister would use the purificator (and additional purificators if needed) to clean the spill and then the area should be reverently washed as soon as the Mass is over and the water poured into the sacrarium (a special sink that is located in church sacristies for reverently disposing of holy water, the water used to clean sacred vessels, etc.).



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St Thomas Aquinas, Avondale, AZ

PARISH NEWS



THINK ABOUT ... YOUR LAST TITHE

Naming your parish as a **beneficiary** in your estate plan has no immediate impact on you financially but can guarantee your continued support of the mission of St. Thomas Aquinas beyond your lifetime.

> Call CCF to learn how: ccfphx.org | 480-651-8803

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CATHOLIC COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

SAVE THE DATE FOR THE NUN RUN

The Poor Clares of Perpetual Adoration of Our Lady of Solitude Monastery invite you to participate in their largest fundraising event of the year: The 13th Annual Nun Run on March 5th, 2022 at Kiwanis Park, Tempe. 10K, 5K, I Mile, Prayer Walk.

For more information, visit: www.desertnunrun.com



WOMEN'S RETREAT



Women's Retreat

Explore how to be a disciple of Jesus Christ wherever you are in life

Date: Feb. 5, 2022 from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Admission: \$15 (pay at the door) (Cost covers Light Breakfast, Lunch, Snacks, Drinks, and printed materials.)

Location: St. Clare Hall Northwest corner of St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Church.

RSVP: Email womensretreatrsvp@gmail.com



Lisa Hendey Author, Speaker and Missionary Disciple

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Arasely Rios Founder & Creative Director



Sherry Boas Publisher at Caritas Press, Author, **Owner of Crowning** Glory Tea Room



Jennifer Chan Owner & Designer, and Faith-based

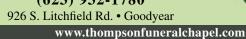
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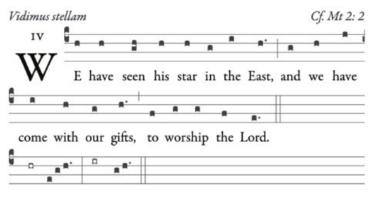
St Thomas Aguinas, Avondale, AZ

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WORSHIP AID

6 – IN	The Epiphany	s can be found at 1021 - Of The Lord / C Und on the Red Trimmed pages.
	B Cf. Mal 3: 1; 1 Chron 29: 12 Cf. Mal 3: 1; 1 Chron 29: 12 B Ehold, * the Sovereign Lord is coming; kingship,	<u>Latin Introit</u>
4 4	government and power are in his hands.	Cf. Mal. 3, 1; 1 Chron. 29, 12; Ps. 71, 1. 10. 11 C-CE * advé- nit domi- ná-tor Dó-
1. 2. 3.	 Psalm 72 (71) O God, give your judgment <i>to the</i> king, * to a king's son your justice, that he may judge your people in justice, * and your poor in right judgment. The kings of Tarshish and the islands * shall pay him tribute. The kings of Sheba and Seba * shall bring him gifts. Before him all kings shall fall prostrate, * all nations shall serve him. For he shall save the needy when they cry, * the poor, and those who are helpless. He will have pity on the weak and the needy, * and save the lives of the needy. From oppression and violence he redeems their souls; * to him their blood is dear. 	mi-nus: et regnum in ma- nu e- ius, et pot- éstas, et impé-ri-um. mi-nus: et pot- éstas, et impé-ri-um. mi-nus: et pot- éstas, et iustí-ti-am tu-am mi-nus: et iustí-ti-am rabum et Saba dona addú-cent.
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e e	Contact us at careers@4lpi.com www.4lpi.com/careers For ad info. call 1-800-950-9952 • www.4l	pi.com St Thomas Aquinas, Avondale, AZ D 4C 05-12

Communion Antiphon







Text: 87 87 with refrain; Bramley and Stainer's Christmas Carols New and Old, 1871; William C. Dix, 1837–1898. Music: Trad. English melody, 16th cent; Bramley and Stainer's Christmas Carols New and Old, 1871; arr. © 2013, Spirit & Song, a division of OCP. All rights reserved.

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FAITH FORMATION

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As we look forward to this new, fresh year, how is God calling you & your family to grow in holiness? Are you going to read more Scripture (or maybe just start)? Are you going to make prayer time with your family a priority? Are you going to seek out a new ministry to serve within? Maybe commit to a Holy Hour every week? Or even just an XLT every month? You could pick a Saint you don't know much about and get to know them this year!

When you look at your New Year's resolutions, don't forget that we are spiritual as well as physical, intellectual, and emotional beings. Don't neglect growing your relationship with the God of the Universe and His Church this year!

In Him, Andrew Starbuck

	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				-			ANARY MOTHER
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	(HH)	24	25	26	27	28 JEALL PLEANNI	
5	XLT	31					





St Thomas Aquinas, Avondale, AZ

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01.29 | SIGN UPS OPEN

SHAREHOLDER PROJECT



What would our world look like if more of our youth knew, loved, and served Jesus Christ in their lives? Every year, here at Aquinas, hundreds of children & teens go through our religious education, sacramental

preparation, and youth ministry programs. Through the generosity of our parishioners' tithing, we are able to keep costs low while providing the highest-quality materials, events, retreats, conferences, and more! However, some of our families require partial or full scholarship assistance for their children.

The Shareholder Project allows you to sponsor scholarship(s) and directly bless one (or more) of our parish families. You quite literally become a Shareholder investing in the spiritual life of our youth! Please prayerfully discern if you are able to share your financial blessings with a young person in our community as they seek a deeper relationship with the God that has blessed us all so abundantly.

You can donate to the Shareholder Project via FaithDirect or by filling out the bottom of this page and returning it in an envelope with a check payable to St. Thomas Aquinas Faith Formation. This can be left in the collection basket at Mass, turned in at the Parish Office in The DOC, or dropped in the drop-box. As an added bonus, your donations are tax deductible!



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How do shares work? Shares are \$25 apiece. Two shares would completely cover a Religious Education Registration, EDGE Registration, or an EDGE Retreat. Three shares is a Sacrament Prep or a Life Teen Registration. Add two or three shares to cover kids for both Youth Ministry and Sacrament Prep. Eight shares sends a high-schooler on a life-changing retreat experience. How many of our youth will you bless with your shares?

Phone_ Shareholder Name ____

Number of Shares ______ x \$25 each = \$_____ (Total Enclosed)



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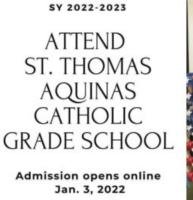
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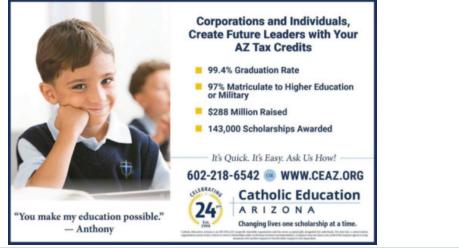


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St Thomas Aquinas, Avondale, AZ



WELCOME CENTER, CAFE, & GIFT SHOP

PARISH OFFICE

Parish Office Hours:

Sunday: 8:00 am - 2:15 pm

<u>Monday:</u> 8:45 am to 11:00 am

<u>Tuesday - Thursday:</u> 8:45 am - 11 am 2:30 pm - 4 pm

Friday & Saturday: CLOSED





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Cafe & Gift Shop Hours: Sunday: 8:00 am - 2:15 pm

> <u>Monday:</u> 8:45 am - 11 am

Tuesday - Thursday:

8:45 am - 11 am 2:30 pm - 4 pm

> Friday: CLOSED

<u>Saturday:</u>

8 am - 10:30 am 4:30 pm - 6:15 pm



WHAT'S HAPPENING

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TUESDAY, JANUARY 11TH

GOODYEAR JOINT - 15280 W MCDOWELL ROAD

St. Thomas Aquinas School Wildcat Dads Club BRING THIS FLYER IN ON TUESDAY, JANUARY 11TH FOR DINE IN OR TAKE OUT AND OREGANO'S WILL GIVE 20% OF YOUR BILL (BEFORE TAX AND GRATUITY) BACK TO ST. THOMAS AQUINAS SCHOOL WILDCAT DADS CLUB

IT'S THAT EASY!

ATTENTION! WHEN ORDERING, PRESENT THIS FLYER TO



STA WILDCAT **DAD'S CLUB** BREAKFAST





8:00 AM - 10:45 AM

Pancakes, scrambled eggs, breakfast burritos and hash browns. Drink options include: coffee, water, and orange juice.

VISIT WWW.STACC.NET FOR MORE INFO



EVERY OTHER SUNDAY 9am Mass

Kinder - 2nd Grade



On Tuesday, January 25, 2022, Bishop Thomas J. Olmsted will be with us at our parish to celebrate Mass at 6:00pm which will be followed by a reception. We invite you to attend Mass and then join us in the hall for a reception. In order to prepare accordingly for the reception, we ask that you RSVP to the Parish Office by Tuesday, January 18, 2022.