



**JANUARY 9, 2022**

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## THE BAPTISM *of the Lord*

"I am baptizing you with water, but one mightier than I is coming. I am not worthy to loosen the thongs of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire." - Lk 3:16bc

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

### 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



THE ROMAN CATHOLIC  
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# LETTER FROM FR. MUIR

2



## PARISH STAFF

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FR. Ryan Lee

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DCN. Jason Robinson  
DCN. Edgar Carnecer  
DCN. Ken Wedge  
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**Julie Cipriano** x275  
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**MaryLina Luna** x214  
Assistant to the Parish Manager  
**Ronnie Buchino** x290  
Receptionist & Parish Assistant

**Dear Friends,**

Do you know what day you were baptized?

I was baptized on Feb 12, 1978. It is also Abraham Lincoln's birthday, which has always helped me remember that my baptism is a true spiritual birthday. Once Saint John Paul II was asked what the most important day of his life was. He, a man who had accomplished more than most men do in a hundred lifetimes, answered unhesitatingly: "the day of my baptism." He never stopped remembering the fundamental value of this day: when he was re-born as a son of God, a "son in the Son," sharing by grace in the filial identity of the Son of God.

So, here's your homework: learn the date of your baptism and put it in on your calendar to celebrate. You can celebrate by going to Mass, or confession (both which renew our baptismal grace in a special way), or even visiting the church in which you were baptized (a plenary indulgence is attached to this on your baptism day). Of course, you could also throw a party and invite friends. All are great options.

This Sunday's celebration is the Baptism of the Lord. We re-live the mystery that the Lord Jesus willed to plunge himself into the murky and muddy waters of our sinful condition so that we could arise as sinless and healed sons and daughters of God. He didn't need to be baptized. But it was fitting "to fulfill all righteousness." That is, his loving descent into our unrighteousness unleashes the power to bring divine holiness and life into our humanity. His baptism foreshadows his death and descent to the place of the dead—his rising from the waters is a sign of his resurrection. All this we experience sacramentally in our baptism.

So, what's the purpose of our baptism? Psalm 29 gives us a hint today: "Give to the Lord, you sons of God, give to the Lord glory and praise!" In the Bible, "sons of God" originally means "angels." They are the heavenly, created beings who are around God's throne and worship the uncreated One day and night. They are also the ones who exercise God's authority to invisibly govern natural and human affairs. In our baptism, we are given an authority equal to (even higher than!) the angels of God. The proof of this is our access to heavenly worship in the sacred liturgy. We worship God the Father "with all the angels and archangels" as we say in the preface. We are now sons of God who worship with the angelic beings. This baptismal elevation of our status as "sons of God" is also why we believe that human saints "intercede for us with unfailing help" in earthly affairs, much like the angels. They are baptized "sons of God" by the grace of Jesus.

This week, let's marvel at the mystery of divine sonship: revealed by Christ in his core identity, and given to us as a free gift—one to be celebrated and lived each and every day.

Truly,

**Fr John Muir**

## MASS SCHEDULE AND INTENTIONS

### SUNDAY, JAN. 9

07:00am Teresa Herrera †  
 09:00am Christina Gossen - Birthday  
 10:45am Intentions of the Parish  
 12:30pm Romulo Rillera †

### MONDAY, JAN. 10

08:00am Mr. & Mrs. Pablo M. Loya †

### TUESDAY, JAN. 11

08:00am Ronald G. Bozzi †

### WEDNESDAY, JAN. 12

08:00am Norm Cassil †

### THURSDAY, JAN. 13

08:00am Ann Sappanfield †

### FRIDAY, JAN. 14

08:00am Mr. & Mrs. Luis Chavira †

### SATURDAY, JAN. 15

08:00am Antonio Milallos †  
 05:00pm Khalya-Luna Gomez - Healing

### SUNDAY, JAN. 16

07:00am Jim O'Donnell †  
 09:00am Diego Gettig †  
 10:45am Intentions of the Parish  
 12:30pm Deacon Al Scheller †



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](http://www.stacc.com/mass-intentions)

or by visiting the Parish Office during regular business hours.



### WHY DO WE DO THAT? Catholic Life Explained:

#### Question:

At my grandson's Baptism, the priest put a bib on the baby. I do not remember seeing this before. Why is this done? Is it something new?

#### Answer:

When an adult is baptized, there is a part in the ceremony when the newly baptized is vested in a white garment. It is symbolic of the changes that baptism brings in the life of the baptized as they are freed from the bonds of sin and brought into the saving grace of Christ. Realities that are so profound are symbolically presented so that we might better grasp and understand them.

Infants are often dressed in a baptismal dress, which is the baptismal garment. In some places, the bib is used as a kind of baptismal garment. At the place in the ceremony where the investiture takes place, the bib is used. Some are poncho-like and fit over the baby's head. Others are simply placed on the baby's chest. If the baby is dressed in a white garment, nothing else is needed. The prayer says it all: "See in your white garment the outward sign of your Christian dignity ... bring that dignity unstained into the everlasting life of heaven." In baptism, we are given our purpose and goal in life as believers, and this is symbolized by the white garment.

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## Family of the Month

Have you read our Aquinas Parish Neighbors magazine? Each month we feature a different family and share with you their amazing story. Do you know a family in our Parish that has a great story to share? If so, we want to know. Please email Derek Diesner at [ddiesner@stacc.net](mailto:ddiesner@stacc.net) and tell us why we should feature this family in the next issue of our magazine.

**SAINT THOMAS AQUINAS**

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.

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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.

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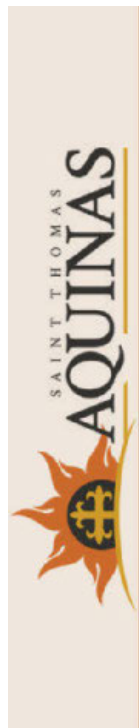
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# Reason for Hope

1 PETER 3:15

## Women's Retreat

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

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

**Location:** St. Clare Hall  
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**RSVP:** Email [womensretreatsvp@gmail.com](mailto:womensretreatsvp@gmail.com)



**Lisa Hendey**  
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## This week's readings can be found at 1022 - The Baptism Of The Lord / C The Order of Mass can be found on the Red Trimmed pages.

### JESUS TO JORDAN'S WATERS CAME

BROTHER JAMES' AIR



1. Je - sus to Jor - dan's wa - ters came Those wa - ters to re - deem.
2. Ris - ing he saw the heav - ens rent; Saw, fall - ing from a - bove,
3. Fa - ther, who claimed us in your Son, Keep us your chil - dren still.



1. Un - der the Bap - tist's guid - ing hand He plunged in - to its stream
2. God's Spir - it sail - ing down on him, In sym - bol as a dove.
3. Spir - it, who shone a - bout the Christ, His life in us ful - fill.



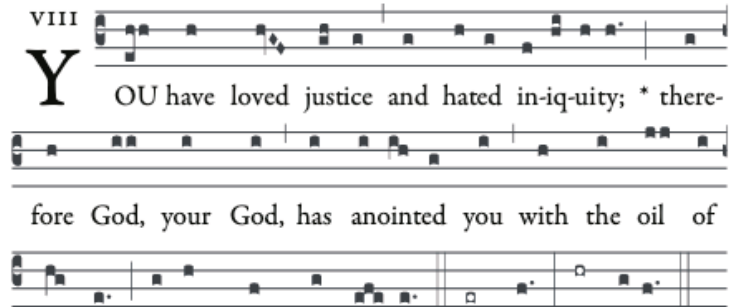
1. That all who come to be bap - tized Might share his life su - preme.
2. He heard his heav'n - ly Fa - ther's voice: "You are the Son I love."
3. O Christ, sus - tain our life in you In thought and heart and will.

Text: 86 86 86; Michael Joncas, © 2012, Jan Michael Joncas Trust. Published by OCP. All rights reserved.  
Music: J.L. MacBeth Bain, ca. 1840-1925.


### INTROIT

*Dilexisti*

*Ps 45 (44): 8*



Y **OU** have loved justice and hated in-iq-uity; \* there-  
fore God, your God, has anointed you with the oil of  
gladness above your companions.

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**Latin Introit**

*Ps. 44, 8 et 2*

VIII

**D** I-le-xí-sti \* iustí-ti-am, et o-dí-sti in-i-

qui-tá-tem : proptér-e-a un-xit te De-us,

De-us tu-us, ó-le-o laetí-ti-ae prae consór-

ti-bus tu-is. *T. P.* Alle-lú-ia, al-le-lú-ia.

*Ps.* E-ructá-vit cor me-um verbum bonum : di-co e-go

ó-pe-ra me-a regi.

**PSALM 40: HERE I AM / GOD, MY GOD, COME TO MY AID**

Rory Cooney

*Refrain*

Here I am, Lord, here I am. I come to do your will.

*Alternate Refrain*

God, my God, come to my aid, come to my aid, come to my aid; come.

1. Long was I waiting for God, and then he heard my cry. It was he who taught this song to me, a song of praise to God.
2. You asked me not for sacrifice, for slaughtered goats or lambs. No, my heart, you gave me ears to hear you, then I said, "Here I am."
3. You wrote it in the scrolls of law what you would have me do. Doing that is what has made me happy, your law is in my heart.
4. I spoke before your holy people, the good news that you save. Now you know that I will not be silent, I'll always sing your praise.

Text: Psalm 40:8, 14, 2, 4, 7-10. Refrain texts © 1969, 1981, ICEL. All rights reserved. Used with permission. Music and verses text © 1991, NALR. Published by OCP Publications. All rights reserved.

**Communion Antiphon**

All who have been bap-tised in Christ, you have put on Christ, al-le-lu-ia.

1. 2. 3. Last


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**EDGE**  
01.11 | 6:30-8



**LIFE TEEN**  
**LIFE NIGHT**  
01.16 | 6-8



**EDGE**  
01.18 | 6:30-8



**Summa**  
01.19 | 6-8



**LIFE TEEN**  
**HUB HOMES**  
01.23 | 6-8



**XLT**  
01.30 | 6-8



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**JANUARY**

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1 MARY, MOTHER OF GOD - HOOD
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9 HH	10	11 EDGE	12	13	14	15
16 LN	17 MLK DAY	18 EDGE	19 SUMMA	20	21	22
23 HH	24	25	26	27	28	29 FEAST OF SAINT THOMAS AQUINAS EDGE RETREAT
30 XLT	31	<b>STAYCATHOLIC.ORG</b>				



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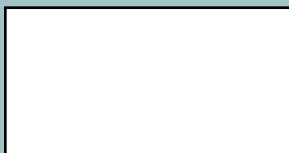


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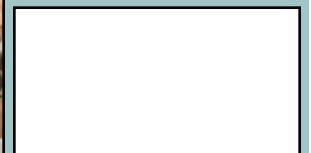


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### Featured Drink:

#### Oxen Brew



The DOC, pronounced “dock” is our parish office, giftshop, and café. What does The DOC mean? Why is it spelled D.O.C? It actually has several meanings, a dock in the traditional form means “A platform extending from a shore supported by pillars; which receives vessels for loading and unloading.” Fr. Muir aptly put it that The DOC is like a traditional dock, where we extend ourselves to our Parish community; meeting them wherever they are in their journey towards Christ. This could be as simple as providing anything from new parishioner registration, information on sacraments, a specialty coffee drink, a gift for a family member, or an ear for listening. The second meaning and where The DOC spelling comes about is from our patron saint; St. Thomas Aquinas. Everyone knows how intelligent and devout St. Thomas was; a theologian like no other who had a wonderful teacher, St. Albert The Great. Because St. Thomas kept to himself and was a thoughtful thinker, other students made fun of Thomas calling him “The Dumb Ox.” St Albert The Great proclaimed in his defense: “We call this young man a dumb ox, but his bellowing in doctrine will one day resound throughout the world!” Boy was he correct! Not only was St Thomas titled as one of the Doctors of the Church; but had one of the greatest understandings of the precious gift of The Eucharist! DOC stands for “Doctor of the Church” and “Dumb Ox Café” –where volunteers and staff happily serve our Parish through thoughtful drink preparation and service, assistance in the needs of our parishioners, fellowship, unique gifts sourced both locally and from around the globe. We thank you for supporting The DOC and we look forward to meeting your needs each day!

God Bless,

**Stephanie Chorkavy**  
DOC Manager

### Enter For Your Chance to Win the Gift Basket

January is a busy month at The DOC! For the entire month, all books are 10% off and we will have an exclusive “bargain books” section, where you can save even more. With any gift shop purchase of \$20 or more during the month of January, you will be entered into our drawing to win the gift basket (pictured to the left), to celebrate the Feast Day for St. Thomas Aquinas.

# WHAT'S HAPPENING

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You, our St. Thomas Aquinas parishioners have outdone yourselves in generosity again this year! How can we ever begin to thank you for all the wonderful "Angel Tree" gifts for our families...and many extras to send on to St. Michael's in Gila Bend! Thank you from the bottom of our hearts! A detailed report on both our Thanksgiving Food Drive and our "Angel Tree" will be coming up later this month but we could not wait to recognize your outpouring of love to those in need! Our SVdP conference is so very blessed by each and every one of you!



## Valentine Steak Dinner and Dance Saturday, February 12<sup>th</sup>

*Knights of Columbus Annual Steak Dinner/Dance  
All proceeds go to the Knights - Coats for Kids Program*

Appetizers and bar opens at 5:30 pm, dinner starts at 6:30 pm, and dancing goes to 10 pm. Ticket price is \$30.00 for a cooked to order steak dinner with all the trimmings. This is a quick sellout and tickets are available now. For tickets please contact:

[terrancedonegan@cox.net](mailto:terrancedonegan@cox.net)



**EVERY OTHER SUNDAY  
9am Mass**

**Kinder - 2nd Grade**

## **PORTERS OF SAINT JOSEPH LOOKING FOR ADDITIONAL NEW MEMBERS**

The Saint Thomas Aquinas Catholic Church; Porters of Saint Joseph Men's Ministry is a volunteer apostolate with the mission to develop spiritually strong men and to provide a safe environment at our Church so parishioners can worship God in peace and safety. An orientation meeting is scheduled for new members on January 22nd from 11:30 am to 3:30 pm in Saint James Hall. Email [security@stacc.net](mailto:security@stacc.net) to express your interest in becoming part of the team. All interested men will have to be Safe Environment compliant with a full background check completed.

