



**JANUARY 30, 2022**

13720 West Thomas Road

Avondale, AZ 85392

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#### **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

## **4<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

[He said to them], "Today this Scripture passage is fulfilled in your hearing." And all spoke highly of him and were amazed at the gracious words that came from his mouth. They also asked, "Isn't this the son of Joseph?" - Lk 4:21-22

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

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THE ROMAN CATHOLIC  
**DIOCESE OF PHOENIX**

# LETTER FROM FR. MUIR

2



Dear Brothers and Sisters:

This Sunday we celebrate the Solemnity of Saint Thomas Aquinas. This is one of those rare instances when a saint's feast day trumps the weekly celebration of the Resurrection of the Lord. That's the case for us because he is the patron Saint of our parish. Which leads me to ask this question: Why is Saint Thomas Aquinas worth knowing? What difference does he make for us today?

There is a darn good argument that he is the saint the Church most lifts up for us in the modern world. Here's why.

Thomas lived in the thirteenth century. He was a Dominican friar, priest, preacher, professor, theologian, philosopher, and above all, a committed disciple of Jesus. He brought together the whole of Christian teaching in a calm, orderly, and powerful way. He did so by drawing on the Scriptures, the Church fathers, Jewish and Muslim sources, and perhaps most notably, pagan Greek sources such as Aristotle. For the three or four centuries after his death, his style and teaching was massively influential. For example, Dante's Divine Comedy is a poetic articulation of the spiritual truths in Thomas' Summa Theologica.

In the 17th century, Thomas' influence began to fade. The 19th century faced new intellectual and spiritual problems in what became the modern world. The Angelic Doctor came roaring back, and this comeback was officially endorsed by Pope Leo XIII in 1879 when he wrote promoted Thomas as "the special bulwark and glory of the Catholic Faith." Wow. In 1880 he became the patron of ALL Catholic schools. And then in 1917, Church Canon required that all Catholic teachers of philosophy and theology follow Thomas' methods and principles. The late twentieth century saw another wave of studies of Thomas and his relevance, which continues with much energy to this very day. You Tube search "Aquinas 101" for a great popular example.

Why do we need Thomas today? In an age of skepticism about truth, Thomas teaches us to optimistically seek understanding. In a time of polemics and hatred, Thomas teaches calm argumentation and love. In an era of fragmentation and confusion, he offers a coherent way of seeing all things in a wisdom-based framework. In a time when men despair that life has meaning, Thomas gently shows why life is noble and beautiful. In a world which thinks chaos and emptiness reign, our patron helps us see that love is truly the force which makes all things move.

--We're celebrating Catholic Schools week all this week! Please join me in giving thanks to God for the irreplaceable role that our Catholic School plays in the life of our community, deeply forming young men and women to be who God has created them to be. Thank you to everyone who supports this great mission!

--Well done to everyone last week for picking up our game in terms of singing the Mass parts and hymns. Our choir is back in a week. Let's let our voices lift up our hearts to the Lord with renewed energy and focus. Saint Thomas Aquinas, pray for us,

**Fr John Muir**

## PARISH STAFF

### CLERGY

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

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Parish Manager  
**Andrew Starbuck** x206  
Facilitator of Faith Formation  
**Mayra Romero** x218  
Marriage Prep  
**Gina Kaiser** x210  
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**Derek Diesner** x274  
Communications  
**Stephanie Chorkavy** x243  
The DOC Manager  
**Daniel Saucedo** x212  
Director of Sacred Liturgy  
**Julie Cipriano** x275  
Executive Assistant to the Pastor  
**MaryLina Luna** x214  
Assistant to the Parish Manager  
**Ronnie Buchino** x290  
Receptionist & Parish Assistant

## MASS SCHEDULE AND INTENTIONS

### SUNDAY, JAN. 30

07:00am Gary Atkinson †  
 09:00am STA School Community  
 10:45am Intentions of the Parish  
 12:30pm The Gora Family †

### MONDAY, JAN. 31

08:00am Rudy Gonzalez †

### TUESDAY, FEB. 1

08:00am Charles Buchino †

### WEDNESDAY, FEB. 2

08:00am Damian Carriosoza †

### THURSDAY, FEB. 3

08:00am Joanne Lisowski †

### FRIDAY, FEB. 4

08:00am Mr. & Mrs. Angel Alvarado †

### SATURDAY, FEB. 5

08:00am Mr. & Mrs. Manuel Sanchez †  
 05:00pm Mike Barry †

### SUNDAY, FEB. 6

07:00am Joanne Zamora (Birthday)  
 09:00am Betty Raton †  
 10:45am Intentions of the Parish  
 12:30pm Mr. & Mrs. Dominador Santarina

JANUARY 30  
**HAPPY BIRTHDAY**  
**FR MUIR**



**RISE FROM THE ASHES**  
 SAINT THOMAS AQUINAS LENTEN EXPERIENCE 2022  
**ASH WEDNESDAY, MARCH 2ND**  
 DAILY MASS WITH ASHES 8:00AM, 10:30AM, & 7:00PM  
 LITURGY OF THE WORD WITH ASHES 6:30AM, 12:30PM, & 5:30PM  
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## Family of the Month

Have you read our Aquinas Parish Neighbors Magazine? Each month we feature a new family and share with you their amazing story, that you may not know. 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**

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**Reason for Hope** 1 PETER 3:15

**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 (RSVP and pay in advance online)  
(Cost covers Light Breakfast, Lunch, Snacks, Drinks, and printed materials.)





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

**RSVP:** <https://bit.ly/3FBUJGM>



**Are you interested in growing closer to God? Have you ever considered joining a Bible Study Group? If so, you're in luck! We have numerous opportunities to join various Bible Study groups here at St. Thomas Aquinas, and the best part is, they are completely FREE.**

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to learn more and view our different class offerings.

			
<b>Lisa Hende</b> Award-winning Author, Speaker and Missionary Disciple	<b>Arasely Rios</b> Founder & Creative Director for Seraphym Heirloom Rosaries and Heirloom Jewelry	<b>Sherry Boas</b> Publisher at Caritas Press, Author, Owner of Crowning Glory Tea Room	<b>Jennifer Chan</b> Owner & Designer, "Her Honor, His Glory" Rosaries and Faith-based Jewelry



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**This week's readings can be found at 1120 -  
The 4th Sunday of Ordinary Time / C  
The Order of Mass can be found on the Red Trimmed pages.**

## SERVANT SONG

Donna Marie McGargill, OSM

Verses



1. What do you want of me, Lord?      Where do you  
2. I hear you call my name, Lord,      and I am  
3. A-bove, be-low, and a-round me,      be-fore, be-  
4. You are the light in my dark-ness.      You are my  
5. I am your song and ser-vant,      sing-ing your



1. want me to serve you?      Where can I sing your  
2. moved with-in me.      Your Spir-it stirs my  
3. hind, and all through me,      your Spir-it burns deep with-  
4. strength when I'm wea-ry.      You give me sight when I'm  
5. praise like Ma-ry.      Sur-ren-dered to your



1. prais-es?      I am your song.  
2. deep-est self.      Sing your songs in me.  
3. in me.      Fire my life with your love.  
4. blind-ed.      Come, see for me.  
5. Spir-it,      "Let it be done to me."

Refrain





1. Je-sus, Je-sus, you are the Lord.  
2. Je-sus, Je-sus, you are my Lord.  
3. Je-sus, Je-sus, be the warmth of my heart.  
4. Je-sus, Je-sus, you are my Light.  
5. Je-sus, Je-sus, "Let it be done to me."



1-5. Je-sus, Je-sus, you are the way.

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# 5 QUESTIONS & THE ART OF CHURCH

## 5 Question's for YOU (Please return to the Parish Office or Complete Online):

1. Three words your non-Catholic Christian friends would use to describe the Catholic church are:
2. Three words your non-Christian friends would use to describe Catholics are:
3. In what ways does the church best serve you?
4. In what ways has the church failed to serve you?
5. As Catholics, what is our biggest concern?

### The Art of Church: The Dome

By Janice Eckert

Do you ever sit in the Church as you wait for Mass to begin pondering the many works of art, the sculptures and symbols, or the architecture? Do you ever wonder about the artist or the meaning behind the symbolism? Do you ever wonder what the proper reverence and etiquette are as you pass the altar, the statue of The Virgin, enter the adoration chapel, or pause to light a votive candle? You aren't the only one. Every part of our Church communicates something about our Catholic faith; nothing is there by chance. In a new and exciting series, you will periodically see write-ups in the bulletin and/or videos on STACC social media that explore the statues, art, architecture, and contents in and around our Church. We hope this series will bring you deeper insight to our faith, our parish, and our history. Since there is no time like the present let's start at the top and look at the magnificent center dome in our church.

Ed Maslyn, a long-time parishioner, recently sat with me to share some parish history. When we got around to discussing the building of the new Church, I happened to ask him if he knew why the dome was left white as I have wondered many times. Ed stated the dome was intentionally left white so that images could be projected onto it via three cameras that are mounted into its frame. Ed said he could remember a few times in the early days of the church in which it was used for this purpose. He also told me that some parishioners, himself included, signed the interior frame of the dome before it was mounted into place by two cranes in 2003. Makes me wonder what else we will discover as we explore more art of our church!



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## WHAT'S NEW?

 <p><b>LIFE TEEN</b> HUB HOMES 01.23   6-8</p>	 <p><b>XLT</b> 01.30   6-8</p>	 <p><b>EDGE</b> 02.01   6:30-8</p>	 <p><b>LIFE TEEN</b> HUB HOMES 02.06   6-8</p>
 <p><b>MILITIA IMMACULATA</b> YEAR TWO RETREAT 02.12   10-6</p>	 <p><b>LIFE TEEN</b> HUB HOMES 02.13   6-8</p>	 <p><b>EDGE</b> 02.15   6:30-8</p>	 <p><b>ADVANCED CATHOLICISM</b> 02.19   1:00-2:30</p>

### TRUTH & ORDER


A STUDY ON CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHING

STARTING SAT, FEB 19 FROM 3PM-4:30PM

What is Catholic Social Teaching? Many would describe it as a vague push to help the poor. In reality, it is so much more. It ranges from truly understanding the nature of man to teachings on art, economy, and government. In this study we will explore how to further our pursuit of holiness by discussing how Catholics should view society.

### Summa

02.23 | 6-8



FR. JOHN MUIR  
HOW TO READ THE BIBLE

### SAINT THOMAS AQUINAS

## FEBRUARY

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28					

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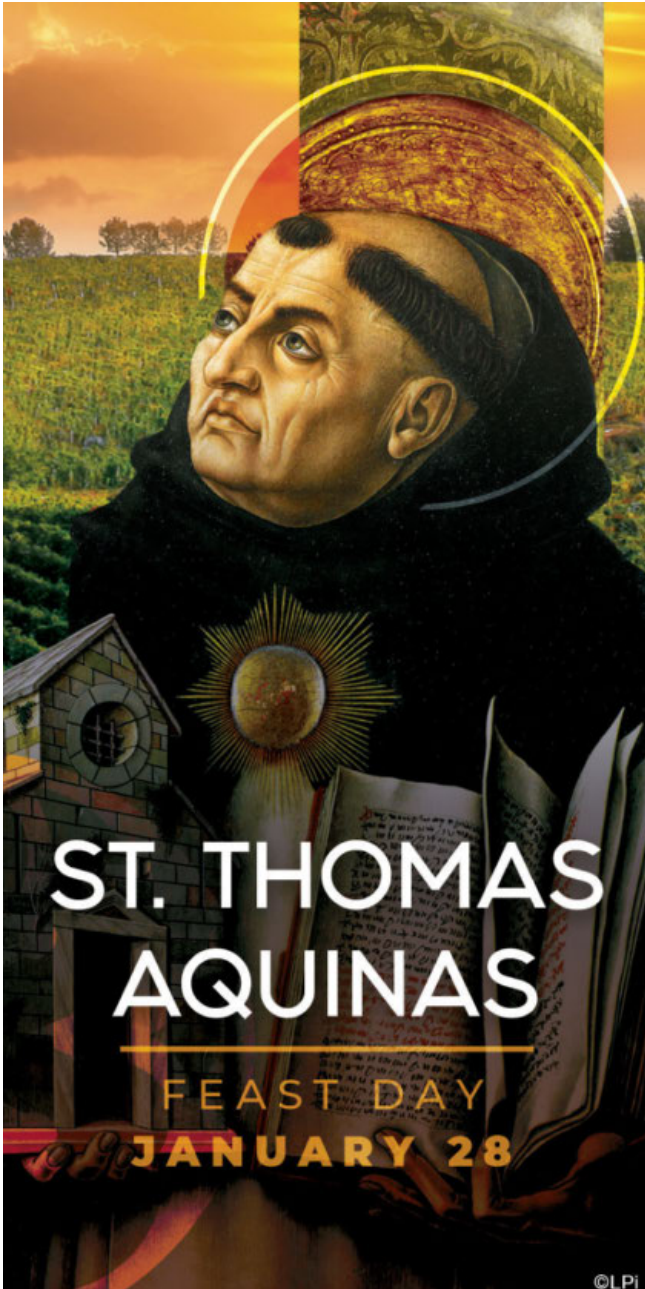
## St. Thomas Aquinas | January 28

One of the most famous members of the Dominican Order, St. Thomas Aquinas (1225 – 1274) is well-known by many for his theological work, “The Summa Theologiae.” Born in Italy, his mother wanted him to become a Benedictine and had high hopes that he would eventually become abbot of Monte Cassino, where he spent much of his youth. To change his vocation, she had him kidnapped by his brothers on his way to Paris at the age of 19. He spent two years in their captivity. Despite this, nothing could shake him from his vocation to become a Dominican priest and he was eventually released. Once free, he went to Paris and then to Cologne, where he finished his studies with Albert the Great.

His greatest contribution to the Catholic Church is his writings. The unity, harmony, and continuity of faith and reason, of revealed and natural human knowledge, encompasses his writings. The Summa Theologiae, his last and, unfortunately, uncompleted work, deals with the whole of Catholic theology.

The patron saint of teachers, theologians and students, St. Thomas Aquinas died in 1274. His life and the impact he had on the whole Church, however, remains alive today.

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Since 1974, National Catholic Schools Week is the annual celebration of Catholic education in the United States.

The theme for National Catholic Schools Week 2022 is "Catholic Schools: Faith. Excellence. Service."



St. Thomas Aquinas Grade School Wildcats

**Dad's Club**



Greetings:

My name is Doug Pierski, President of the St. Thomas Aquinas Wildcats Dad's Club. I'm reaching out to you to help us in making a huge impact on our children and their school, St. Thomas Aquinas Grade School.

Our club is dedicated to volunteer work and raising funds for projects that improve our children's school. Our latest project is our most ambitious yet: The installation of two (2) new sports courts. We need YOUR valuable assistance to help us achieve our goal!




Any donations towards this ambitious project would be greatly appreciated. The STA Dad's Club is a 501(c)(3) organization – and all donations are tax deductible. The highest sponsor can choose to have their corporate brand on our sports court for a full school year! Please inquire with us for more details.

We accept donations in all forms – our EIN is **26-2563865**. Please reach out to us at [stagsthewildcats@gmail.com](mailto:stagsthewildcats@gmail.com) for further information. Please also use our PayPal QR Code:






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We greatly appreciate your generosity, and the children will too! Thank you again and may God bless you.

Sincerely,

Doug Pierski  
President, STA Wildcats Dad's Club

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This is your last chance to enter into our St. Thomas Aquinas giveaway basket. With a purchase of \$20 or more of merchandise from The DOC Gift Shop, you can enter for a chance to win our St. Thomas Aquinas gift basket, as we celebrate his feast day.

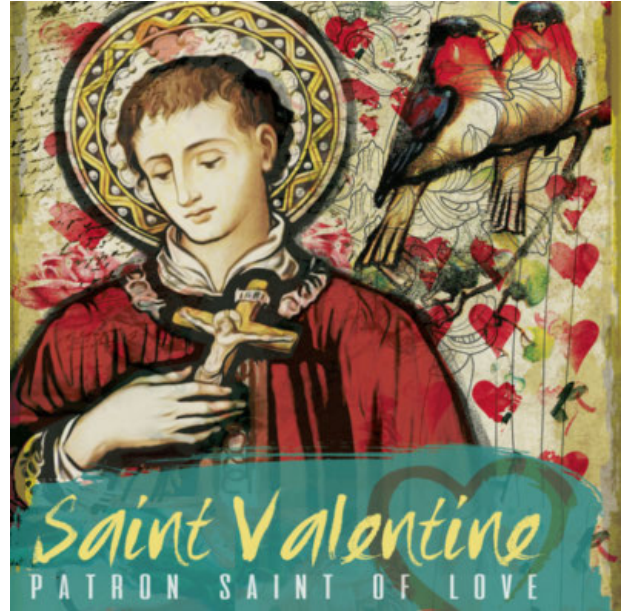
**Featured Drinks:**

**St. Valentines' Love Notes -**

Cold Brew Latte with White Chocolate, and notes of Strawberries and Rose.

**St. Valentines' Secret -**

A matrimony of flavors with red velvet and rich chocolate.



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## GOSPEL

Jesus did not expect everybody to like him. Jesus chose to follow God's plan, no matter what other people said. Even though some people wanted to hurt Jesus, he always spoke the truth. He always did what was right, no matter what.

## PRAYER

Dear God, help me to keep on doing what you want, no matter what other people say.

## COLOR

Read the Gospel of the week and color the image.




4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time • Luke 4:21-30

## New Parish App




With the launch this week of our new Parish Website, we also launched a brand new Parish App. Check out the poster below to learn more.


On your smartphone, be sure to download the WeConnect Parish Mobile App. Once you have downloaded it, search for our Parish. Once you select St. Thomas Aquinas, you can access all of our information whenever you want. This makes things even easier than having to pull up our website and search through our site. Now, St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Church is at your fingertips.



**WECONNECT PARISH MOBILE APP**

Developed for iPhone/iPad and Android

-  **EVENTS CALENDAR**  
Stay up-to-date with events at your church.
-  **PARISH NOTIFICATIONS**  
Receive notifications about parish news and ministries.
-  **DAILY READINGS**  
Follow the daily readings from home or during Mass.

 **TO DOWNLOAD:**  
Scan the QR code to visit the App Store

**TO LEARN MORE, VISIT OUR WEBSITE**