



APRIL 18, 2021
THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

MASS TIMES

Saturday 5:00pm
Sunday 10:00am,
5:00pm, 9:00pm
Monday 12:30pm
Tuesday 5:30pm
Wednesday 12:30pm
Thursday 5:30pm
Friday 12:30pm

RECONCILIATION

Saturday 4:00pm
Sunday 4:00pm
Monday 11:30am
Tuesday 6:00pm
Wednesday 11:30am, 9:00pm
Thursday 6:00pm
Friday 11:30am

ADORATION

Wednesday 9:00pm
Thursday 8:00am-Midnight

PARISH OFFICE

Monday to Friday
1:00pm-5:00pm

FOOD PANTRY

Tuesday, Thursday and
First Saturday
10:00am-12:00pm

SACRAMENTS

If you're interested in Baptism, Confirmation, Anointing of the Sick, or Holy Matrimony, please contact Fr. Jeff. Marriage prep must take place at least six months before your intended date.

REGISTRATION

Student parishioners and new members of our permanent community can register at sttomsbg.org/register



WEEKLY CALENDAR

SATURDAY, APRIL 17

4:00pm—Reconciliation
5:00pm—Mass intention for Edward Drouillard (D)
Acts 6:1-7 | Jn 6:16-21

SUNDAY, APRIL 18

Third Sunday of Easter
10:00am—Mass
4:00pm—Reconciliation
5:00pm—Mass intention pro populo
9:00pm—Mass intention for Fr. Bob Wilhelm (D)
Acts 3:13-19 | 1 Jn 2:1-5a | Lk 24:35-48

MONDAY, APRIL 19

11:30am—Reconciliation
12:30pm—Mass intention for Alaire Bang
Acts 6:8-15 | Jn 6:22-29

TUESDAY, APRIL 20

5:00pm—Rosary for Life
5:30pm—Mass
6:00pm—Reconciliation
Acts 7:51-8:1a | Jn 6:30-35

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 21

St. Anslem
11:30am—Reconciliation
12:30pm—Mass intention for Bill Bihn (D)
Acts 8:1b-8 | Jn 6:35-40

THURSDAY, APRIL 22

Eucharistic Adoration
5:30pm—Mass intention for EW
6:00pm—Reconciliation
Acts 8:26-40 | Jn 6:44-51

FRIDAY, APRIL 23

Sts. George & Adalbert
11:30am—Reconciliation
12:30pm—Mass intention for Kate & Kevin Bang
Acts 9:1-20 | Jn 6:52-59

SATURDAY, APRIL 24

St. Fidelis of Sigmaringen
4:00pm—Reconciliation
5:00pm—Mass intention for Tom & Linda Wojciechowski
Acts 9:31-42 | Jn 6:60-69

SUNDAY, APRIL 25

Fourth Sunday of Easter
10:00am—Mass
4:00pm—Reconciliation
5:00pm—Mass
9:00pm—Mass intention pro populo
Acts 4:8-12 | 1 Jn 3:1-2 | Jn 10:11-18

To schedule a Mass intention for a loved one, please contact the office.

A - Anniversary | B - Birthday | D - Deceased

A MESSAGE FROM OUR DEACON

Last summer, when Father Jeff moved in and we met to do some planning, I told him that I did not think there would be an RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) process this year. As of August, we had only one committed candidate. In the coming weeks, the Holy Spirit sent us 7 more candidates, and suddenly we had a group of 20 that included 8 candidates, 8 sponsors, and a team. God always provides! Instead of meeting in the Romero Room that has been the custom, we met all year with masks and distanced tables in Seton Hall. We had some who were unable to consistently join us for health and other reasons, so we had a session on Wednesday evenings and a second, virtual session on Fridays. In the end, we fully initiated 8 new Catholics (“neophytes”) at the Easter Vigil two weeks ago. We like to claim a ninth neophyte—a young woman who was part of RCIA with us last year, decided to take a second year for the process, and was brought into the Church at her local parish.

Of all the ministries with which I have been associated over the years, probably nothing gives me more satisfaction, hope, and grace than RCIA. The face of God is evident in a person who is learning more about the Catholic faith, asking questions, and preparing for initiation. Sponsors and team members grow alongside of the candidates throughout the year, as the enthusiasm is contagious. There are three categories of individuals who seek the RCIA process: (1) Those who were not raised in any faith tradition and need to be baptized, confirmed and receive First Holy Communion. (2) Those who were baptized Christian—either Catholic or in another non-Catholic tradition—but are seeking to become Catholic through confirmation and Communion. (3) Those who were baptized Catholic, received First Communion, but were never fully catechized and have not been confirmed. An RCIA candidate may receive one, two, or three Sacraments of Initiation at the Easter Vigil. This year, we had individuals in all three of these categories.

You might be reading this article and thinking, “Hey, that’s me!” because you may fit one of those categories. Maybe you have been attending Mass and other events at St. Tom’s but are not Catholic and are ready to take another step toward the Church. Or, you might be fully initiated but thinking about a friend, relative, neighbor, roommate, or co-worker who is just waiting for you to invite them to contact us. This is the time of year when we start gathering names of “inquirers” who might be interested in starting the RCIA process this fall.

To be clear, RCIA is NOT like taking a college course where you read books, write papers, take endless notes, and study. Instead, it’s a process—a time of formation and prayer that starts in September and culminates at Easter. Maybe your friend or you are hesitant and not certain if you want to move forward. If that’s the case, let me tell you about a conversation I had with Father Jeff almost 10 years ago. I told him I was considering applying for Deacon Formation but wasn’t sure if I was truly being called. He encouraged me to apply anyway, saying, “If you are being called, it’ll be obvious and you’ll become a deacon. If not, and you leave the process, you will have gotten closer to God along the way, and you still win!” That’s the attitude I suggest about RCIA—the process brings you closer in your relationship to Jesus. What could possibly be wrong with that? If joining the Church is in your future, you’ll know.

If you have any interest in RCIA or know someone who does, including if you would just like to meet in person or virtually to talk about the process, I urge you to contact me by emailing DeaconDan@sttomsbg.org. Together, let us continue to spread the faith, as did the early Christians we are hearing about each Sunday in the scripture readings at Mass throughout the Easter Season.

Yours in Christ,
Deacon Dan Brahier

OUR PARISH FAMILY

PARISH WEEKEND COLLECTION

April Goal = \$20,000.00



ST. VINCENT DE PAUL FOOD PANTRY

Beginning May 4, our new hours for the food pantry will be Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10:00am-12:00 noon, and Wednesdays 3:30-5:30pm. Face masks will be required. You can also give back to our food pantry if you have a Kroger Rewards card by going to Kroger Community Rewards and connect your rewards card to St. Thomas More Food Pantry!



PISANELLO'S PIZZA COUPONS

Looking for an easy night without cooking, while supporting our St. Vincent de Paul food pantry in an ongoing fundraiser? Purchase coupons anytime in our parish office at \$3.00 each for a 7" two-topping personal pizza from Pisanello's located downtown.

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Shop through smile.amazon.com and Amazon will donate .5% of the prices directly to our parish.

AN ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

My Jesus,
I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You.
Amen.

OUR PARISH STAFF

- Pastor**
Rev. Jeffery Walker, STL, fr.jeffwalker@sttomsbg.org
- Deacon**
Deacon Dan Brahier, PhD, deacondan@sttomsbg.org
- Parish Manager**
Theresa Williams, theresa@sttomsbg.org
- Director of Campus Ministry**
Alicia Schmiesing, alicia@sttomsbg.org
- Director of Music**
Edward Gerrity, edward@sttomsbg.org
- Director of Marketing & Administrative Assistant**
Sophia Bauer, sophia@sttomsbg.org
- Bookkeeper**
Kathy Helm, kathyhelm@sttomsbg.org
- Catholic Falcon Community President**
Shannon Carmon, carmos@bgsu.edu
- Newman Housing Ministers**
Mary Wires
Allison Mancarella, nhminister@sttomsbg.org
- Buildings & Grounds Team**
Ray Kagy, ray@sttomsbg.org
John Souder, john@sttomsbg.org
- Sacristan**
Kathy Wojciechowski, kathy@sttomsbg.org

CUE FROM THE PEW



SUMMER MASS SCHEDULE

Next weekend will be the last weekend we will offer the Sunday 5:00pm and 9:00pm Masses until the BGSU Fall semester begins in August. Please pray for our students!

PRAYING FOR OUR COMMUNITY

To add a loved one to our list, or request an intention for a specific Mass, please contact the parish office.

- Norma Stowe • Eileen Martini • M. Blankenship • Chris Stratton • Brian Shoup • Mary Bobinski • Izac Szymczak • Soul of David Kline • Elizabeth Barringer • Soul of Sr. Theresa Milne • Cheryl Powell • Georgiana Miller • Carter • Richard Booms • Gary Heba • Allen Heringhaus • Marie Martini • Kate Michelman • Anne Goldstone • Fr. Jason Kahle • Joyce Hinesman • The family and soul of Cheryl Carroll • Laura, daughter of Eileen and Larry Bostwich • Laurie Krone • Tracy Myers • Bonnie Wilcox • Karen Kinsey

IN OUR DIOCESAN COMMUNITY

GIVEMORE



Scan to give a one-time donation to our Sunday Collection, Maintenance, Mission Support, and Endowment campaign today! Want to give a recurring gift? Feel free to choose that option in the donation menu!

ST. JOSEPH AND THE BLESSED MOTHER

Join St. Mary Byzantine Catholic Church for a day of reflection this May on how Man and Woman should be for the other in the world of today. The men's Day of Reflection will be held on Saturday, May 8, and the women's Day of Reflection will be on Saturday, May 22. Both days will require registration, limited space will be available for all participants. The event will begin with a continental breakfast at 8:00am, and conclude with Liturgy at 4:00pm both days, led by Fr. Thomas J Loya, STB, MA. Lunch will be provided. There is no cost to either retreat, a free will offering will be collected for anyone wishing to give back to the presenter and parish. To register for this wonderful opportunity, call 419.626.037 to leave your name and phone number.

IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE

Since Oregon passed the first physician-assisted suicide law in 1997, 8 more states and the District of Washington DC passed assisted suicide laws by 2020. So far in 2021, 13 more states have new proposed assisted suicide bills and 4 states with assisted suicide laws are facing bills to expand their assisted suicide laws. The expansions range from expanding "qualified medical providers" from doctors to a range of non-doctors including nurses to eliminating so-called "safeguards" such as 15 day waiting periods, in person requests and even to allow electronic prescribing and shipping of lethal overdoses.

Conscience rights for health care providers has been a very real problem since the 1974 Roe V Wade decision legalizing abortion in the U.S. The legalization of assisted suicide has made this even worse for nurses, doctors, pharmacists and other healthcare workers. Even healthcare institutions have faced discrimination problems.

Without a strong resistance movement, the assisted suicide movement will only keep expanding. So far, much of the public has been shielded from the real truth by euphemisms and false reassurances from assisted suicide supporters, a mostly sympathetic mainstream media and often spineless professional and health care organizations. We all must educate ourselves to speak out before it is too late.

Nancy Valko.com
Life Site News



ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL

Countless lives are touched by every contribution to the 2021 Annual Catholic Appeal. Children, seminary students, the sick and aged, the needy—they all depend on our generosity. Help make our faith community a place "Where Charity & Love Prevail". As a parish we have collected **85% of our goal**. For more information on ministries funded by the appeal, visit acatoledo.org

Total Raised

\$15,218.46 of **\$17,884.00**

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We encourage parishioners to patronize our bulletin sponsors. Their advertising allows our bulletin publications to be free of charge to the parish. A big thank you to our local sponsors!

He still makes... all things new

**Bowling Green Pregnancy Center
Annual Gala**

May 20, 2021

You are cordially invited to our annual fundraising gala on May 20 at 6:00pm at the Hilton Garden Inn in Perrysburg. Our featured speaker is Eric Verstraete. Proceeds will go toward assisting couples financially struggling to support their pregnancies. Tickets are on sale for \$30.00 each. Visit us at bgpcgala.com or call **419.354.4673** for more information and registration.

THE POPE'S MONTHLY INTENTION

We pray for those who risk their lives while fighting for fundamental rights under dictatorships, authoritarian regimes and even in democracies in crisis.

MORE IN MINISTRY



We are partnering with Christendom College in Virginia to offer Catholic Studies Electives for BGSU students! Two students have been participating in the pilot program for this Spring 2021 semester and we are excited to open up the opportunity for all of our students to take excellent, for-credit Catholic courses right here!

COURSE OPTIONS FOR FALL 2021

HIST 504

*Catholicism and Modernity:
From Vatican I to John Paul II*
Mondays | 5:00-7:00pm

—OR—

SCRI 502

The Bible
Tuesdays | 5:00-7:00pm

Once a week students will participate in a live online class, as well as meet in person with Fr. Jeff to talk about the week's lesson. Upon completion of a course, students can submit their transcript to BGSU as transfer credits. Additional fees apply, partial scholarships are available through St. Thomas More. Interested? Email Fr. Jeff at fr.jeffwalker@sttomsbg.org for MORE!



CONGRATULATIONS!

We were excited to welcome Alicia, Adam, Arrah, Zachary, Robert, Olivia, Emily, and Olivia into the Church. Please continue to pray for them as they begin their new journey walking with Christ!

PARKING FOR SALE

NOW AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE

sttomsbg.org/parking

SENIOR NOMINATIONS

Note today!

Shout out to one of our outstanding seniors through our parish website today! Recipients will be announced at the Commencement Celebration

KOINONIA RETREAT TEAM

Applications due THIS SUNDAY
sttomsbg.org/koinonia



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