

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 and Thursday
10:00am-12:00pm
Wednesday 3:30pm-5:30pm

SACRAMENTS

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

REGISTRATION

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

faith



WEEKLY CALENDAR**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 4***St. John Damascene*

4:00pm—Reconciliation

5:00pm—Mass intention for

Andy, Lisa, Lily, & Abby Hover

Is 30:19-21, 23-26 | Mt 9:35—10:1-8

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 5*Second Sunday of Advent*

10:00am—Mass intention for

Cheryll Carroll (D)

4:00pm—Reconciliation

5:00pm—Mass intention *pro populo*

9:00pm—Mass intention for

Fr. Francisco Caballero

MONDAY, DECEMBER 6*St. Nicholas*

11:30am—Reconciliation

12:30pm—Mass intention for

Fr. Francisco Caballero

Is 35:1-10 | Lk 5:17-26

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 7*St. Ambrose*

5:00pm—Rosary for Life

5:30pm—Vigil Mass

6:00pm—Reconciliation

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 8*The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary*

11:30am—Reconciliation

12:30pm—Mass

7:00pm—Solemn Vespers

8:00pm—Mass intention *pro populo*

Gn 3:9-15 | Eph 1:3-12 | Lk 1:26-38

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 9*Eucharistic Adoration**St. Juan Diego Cuauhtlatotzin*

5:00pm—Rosary for Vocations

5:30pm—Mass intention for

Paul Weinandy (D)

6:00pm—Reconciliation

Is 41:13-20 | Mt 11:11-15

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 10

11:30am—Reconciliation

12:30pm—Mass

Is 48:17-19 | Mt 11:16-19

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 11*St. Damasus I*

4:00pm—Reconciliation

5:00pm—Mass intention for

Stacey, Sam, & Katie Gilbert

Sir 48:1-4, 9-11 | Mt 17:9a, 10-13

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 12*Third Sunday of Advent*10:00am—Mass intention *pro populo*

4:00pm—Reconciliation

5:00pm—Mass

9:00pm—Mass

A MESSAGE FROM OUR DEACON

Have you ever noticed that the word “adventure” begins with the root “advent”? The word “advent” comes from the Latin word *adventus*, which means “coming.” During these four weeks before Christmas, we anticipate and prepare with much hope the coming of Jesus—in the flesh at Christmas, at the end of time, and in our hearts. The word *adventure* is defined as an exciting and unusual experience that often involves bold or risky behaviors. When you think about it, that’s what our preparation for Christmas should include—bold acts of faith and charity as a way to ready ourselves for the coming of Christ. This Season of the Liturgical Year is one of bold anticipation.

Advent has its roots in the fourth century. In the first several hundred years, it was viewed as a “little Lent” that was observed for 40 days before Christmas, with fasting occurring on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays. Even today, the Orthodox faith begins Advent on November 14 and follows fasting rules until Christmas. In the Catholic Church, by the ninth century, the period of Advent was reduced to four weeks, with more of an emphasis on preparation than penance, though the Season should include some of both. As the days get shorter until December 21 at 10:59am, we look to Jesus as the Light of the World and look forward to the increased hours of daylight that begin around Christmas. The darkness of the world is transformed by the Light of Christ as the Advent Season concludes and the Christmas Season begins.

In a daily homily I preached this past week, I suggested that we compare Advent to the process of climbing a mountain, which is a favorite activity of our family. Repeatedly in Advent, we hear readings from Isaiah that talk about ascending the mountain of the Lord, and the Psalms use similar imagery (e.g., Psalm 24). When we climb a mountain, we have to be sure that we have the proper equipment, that we are ready to persist when the going gets tough, that we recognize the hardest part of the climb is usually at the very end when we scramble rocks and ascend rapidly, and that the view from the top makes the trip totally worth it.

So it goes with the celebration of Advent: We have to begin with the right equipment. That might mean a Bible Study, a reflections book (such as the *Advent Companion* booklet made available here in church), daily Mass, or other opportunities offered by St. Tom’s, such as the *Advent Evenings of Reflection* on Monday and Tuesday, December 6-7, at 7:00pm or *Solemn Vespers* celebrated each Wednesday evening at 7:00pm. Persistence is important as we work our way through these four weeks, as the pressure to buy presents, attend holiday parties, and study for exams can easily derail plans for spiritual growth. In the week leading up to Christmas, most of us find it difficult to keep up—to buy the final gifts, to wrap presents and bake cookies, to clean the house for guests, and so forth. But one thing we know for sure is that if we persist in our undaunted preparations, the celebration of Christmas and the Season are absolutely worth it.

Atop the mountain of the Lord, all pales in comparison to God’s glory. This weekend, we hear the Prophet Baruch proclaim, “Jerusalem! Stand upon the heights” and “look to the east” (Baruch 5:5). The Star of Bethlehem has yet to rise in the east, yet we have already begun to search for it. May your advent-ure this Advent Season be bold and filled with every blessing as we climb this mountain together over the next three weeks.

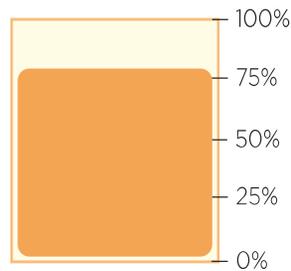
Yours in Christ,
Deacon Dan Brahier

OUR PARISH FAMILY

PARISH WEEKEND COLLECTION

November Goal = \$20,000.00

Other Giving = (end of the month)
 Online Giving = (end of the month)
 Nov 27/28 = \$1,315.75
 Nov 20/21 = \$6,787.00
 Nov 13/14 = \$1,866.02
 Nov 6/7 = \$6,100.00



ST. VINCENT DE PAUL FOOD PANTRY

We are asking for donations of Instant mashed potatoes, cereal, and precooked bacon at this time. You can also give back to our food pantry if you have a Kroger Rewards card by going online 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.

ADVENT GIVING TREE

There are still a few tags left on the tree. We invite you and your family to take a tag (or two!) and return the gifts no later than next weekend. Can't donate a gift but still want to help? Join our sorting team on December 13 or delivery team on December 18! For more info, please contact Jean Korsnack at 419.356.3005

CALLING ALL MUSICIANS

We are looking for singers and instrumentalists (horns or strings) for our Christmas Eve and Christmas morning Masses. If you are interested in singing or playing for any of our three Masses (5pm, Midnight, or 10am), please reach out to our music director, Ed Gerrity by phone (419-503-3173) or email (edward@sttomsbg.org). Thanks in advance!

OUR PARISH STAFF & STUDENT LEADERSHIP

Pastor

Rev. Jeffery Walker, STL, fr.jeffwalker@sttomsbg.org
 Schedule a meeting at go.oncehub.com/frjeffwalker

Deacon

Deacon Dan Brahier, PhD, deacondan@sttomsbg.org

Parish Manager

Theresa Williams, theresa@sttomsbg.org

Director of Campus Ministry

Justin Leiner, justin@sttomsbg.org

FOCUS Team Director

Heather Fleury, heather.fleury@focus.org

FOCUS Missionaries

Julia Waters, julia.waters@focus.org

Jenna Dedek, jennifer.dedek@focus.org

Luke Hellwig, luke.hellwig@focus.org

Director of Music

Edward Gerrity, edward@sttomsbg.org

Director of Marketing & Administrative Assistant

Sophia Bauer, sophia@sttomsbg.org

Director of Mission Support

Toni Marsteller, toni@sttomsbg.org

Bookkeeper

Kathy Helm, kathyhelm@sttomsbg.org

Newman Resident Ministers

Anna Findlay, nhminister@sttomsbg.org

Tucker Howard, nhminister@sttomsbg.org

Buildings & Grounds Team

Ray Kagy, ray@sttomsbg.org

John Souder, john@sttomsbg.org

Parish Counselor (Telehealth)

Luke Brown, LPC, lukebrown@sacredheartcleveland.com

Sacristan

Kathy Wojciechowski, kathy@sttomsbg.org

St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry

Jo Graber, stvdpg@gmail.com

Linda Kuns, stvdpg@gmail.com

PRAYING FOR OUR COMMUNITY

To add a loved one to our list, please contact the office.

Norma Stowe • Eileen Martini • M. Blankenship • Chris Stratton • Brian Shoup • Mary Bobinski • Izac Szymczak • Elizabeth Barringer • Cheryl Powell • Georgiana Miller • Carter • Richard Booms • Gary Heba • Allen Heringhaus • Marie Martini • Kate Michelman • Anne Goldstone • Fr. Jason Kahle • Janet Laughlin • the souls of Larry and Laura, spouse and daughter of Eileen Bostwick • Bonnie Wilcox • Corney Collins • Johnnie Haas • Sutton Brown • John Buckenmyer

Christmas Mass Schedule

December 24 | 5:00pm & Midnight

December 25 | 10:00am

IN OUR DIOCESAN COMMUNITY

FEAST OF OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE

Join St. Aloysius parish down the road on Sunday, December 12 for the noon Mass in celebration of Our Lady of Guadalupe, with a processional beginning at 11:30am. All are invited to bring fresh flowers to offer Our Lady, as well as partaking in a potluck immediately following the Mass. Main dishes will be provided, all are encouraged to bring a side, salad, or dessert to share. Questions? Contact Maribel at **419.601.0767**

EXHIBIT OF EUCHARISTIC MIRACLES

An exhibit of the Eucharistic Miracles from around the world will be on display in the St. Louis School basement, Custar, on Saturday, December 11, 9:00am-3:00pm and on Sunday, December 12 starting after the 9:30 am Mass and ending at 3 pm. The exhibit will also be on display at St. Patrick's Parish in Grand Rapids on Saturday, December 18, 9:00am-6:00pm and Sunday, December 19, 7:30am-1:30pm. This exhibition presents many Eucharistic Miracles through photographs and historical descriptions. Through the centuries, the Church has recognized these miracles from various countries as a testimony to the Real Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist. Please take some time to view the displays and learn about the real presence of Christ in the Eucharist.

NEW YEAR'S EVE PRAYER SERVICE

Looking for a meaningful way to celebrate New Year's Eve? Close out the year in prayer as requested by Our Blessed Mother. You are invited to a prayer service at St. Aloysius Clare Chapel (off of Enterprise St. behind Taco Bell) at 11:00pm on December 31 for a holy hour of prayer, praise, thanksgiving and intercession.



Saints of the Season

WITH DEACON DAN BRAHIER

DECEMBER 6 - 7 | 7:00-8:45PM

Email deacondan@sttomsbg.org or visit sttomsbg.org/advent for MORE

IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE

As the Supreme Court prepares to hear a case that could challenge the 1973 Roe v. Wade ruling that legalized abortion, pro-life groups are rolling out a series of campaigns to educate Americans about abortion.

Eric Scheidler, Executive Director of the Pro-Life Action League, told Live Action News that one of the campaign's goals is to let the Supreme Court know, "We don't accept this, we've never accepted it and that we have got their back and we want them to know that there's a massive movement out there among the American people that is ready to receive an overturning of this horrible precedent."

"Women who have been told your freedom, your liberty, your pursuit of happiness depends on your ability to destroy the life of your own child – that's a horrible message to send to women," Scheidler said. "It's a horrible message to send to a man that you can get out of the responsibilities of fatherhood, the responsibilities that you take on when you get involved in a sexual relationship with a woman". He emphasized, "This is something, this is a moment for every pro-life American to get involved, really inviting our fellow pro-life Americans to be an active part of this historic moment."

Samantha Kamman

Live Action News

**MARCH FOR LIFE**

Join in on the 2022 college student and young adult trip to the March for Life in Washington, DC, January 20-22. Buses will leave Thursday, January 20 at 2pm from St. Thomas More. We'll spend Thursday and Friday night at the Marriott in downtown DC. We will leave at 2 pm Saturday, January 22, for home. Only \$149 for college students and \$249 for adults. Payments due Dec. 3. Email Peter Range for more info at prange@toledodiocese.org

THE POPE'S MONTHLY INTENTION

Let us pray for the catechists, summoned to announce the Word of God: may they be its witnesses, with courage and creativity and in the power of the Holy Spirit.

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ST. THOMAS MORE UNIVERSITY PARISH

FINANCIAL REPORT | YEAR END JUNE 2021

| | Actual 2020/21 | Actual 2019/20 | Actual 2018/19 |
|--|-----------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| RECEIPTS | | | |
| Sunday Collections | \$293,422.17 | \$281,628.20 | \$293,080.09 |
| Holiday Collections | \$26,270.04 | \$22,509.42 | \$24,713.54 |
| Other Income | \$269,043.47 | \$180,560.17 | \$200,508.00 |
| Total Receipts | \$588,735.68 | \$484,697.79 | \$518,301.63 |
| EXPENSES | | | |
| Salaries/Payroll Expenses | \$307,382.90 | \$275,239.81 | \$278,307.78 |
| Repairs and Maintenance | \$115,933.17 | \$112,608.40 | \$127,247.05 |
| Diocesan Charges | \$6,892.44 | \$10,645.00 | \$10,225.00 |
| Other Expenses | \$78,585.01 | \$85,247.52 | \$85,714.85 |
| Total Expenses | \$508,793.52 | \$483,740.73 | \$501,494.68 |
| Operational Gain/Loss | \$79,942.16 | \$957.06 | \$16,806.85 |
| Other Income/Expenses | | | |
| Gifts and Donations Non Operating | \$132,005.21 | \$58,980.00 | \$37,433.00 |
| Other Income Non Operating | \$75,042.04 | \$52,474.09 | \$48,269.93 |
| Capital Expenses | \$(115,316.00) | \$(51,331.52) | \$(36,048.00) |
| Total Non Operating Income/Exp. | \$91,731.25 | \$60,122.57 | \$49,654.93 |
| Net Gain (Loss) | \$171,673.41 | \$61,079.63 | \$66,461.88 |
| Cash—Unrestricted | \$257,802.81 | \$155,993.09 | \$242,682.39 |
| Cash—Restricted | \$105,098.96 | \$104,052.55 | \$37,433.00 |
| Savings—Unrestricted | \$72,478.29 | \$68,437.40 | ————— |
| Investments Restricted | \$577,288.84 | \$512,051.59 | \$462,977.50 |
| Total | \$1,012,668.90 | \$840,534.63 | \$743,092.89 |

For more information and questions about our parish finances, please contact Parish Manager Theresa Williams at theresa@sttomsbg.org



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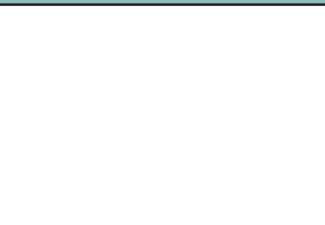
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