

ST. THOMAS AQUINAS



Roman Catholic Church

8320 Old C.R. #54 New Port Richey, FL 34653 Phone 727-372-8600 Web Page: www.stanpr.org

Pastor: Rev. Eric Peters **Associate Pastor:** Rev. George P. Varkey

Deacon: Rev. Mr. Melvin Dunphy

STA Early Childhood Center: 376-2330; Bishop Larkin Catholic School (K-8): 862-6981

Bishop McLaughlin Catholic High School: 857-2600

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph - December 26, 2021



SCRIPTURE REFLECTION

Jesus obeyed and served his family at Nazareth

While Jesus identified himself as Son of the eternal Father in heaven, he, nonetheless, submitted himself with love and obedience to Mary and Joseph. Like all godly parents, Mary and Joseph raised their son in the fear (Godly respect) and wisdom of God. Luke tells us that Jesus grew as a man in wisdom, stature, and favor with God and with the people of Nazareth, his home town. He remained at Nazareth until the age of 30 when he was baptized by John at the River Jordan and anointed by the Spirit for his mission as the Messiah and Savior of the world. (Thirty was the traditional age when a Jewish man could become a rabbi who taught and formed disciples in the knowledge and wisdom of God's word.) Do you seek to love and serve your family and to pursue peace and harmony in your home, neighborhood, and community?

The Lord Jesus came to show us the way to our Father's house and family in heaven. Listen to his word and obey him and you will find great peace, joy, and favor in serving him now and forever.

"Hear, my son, your father's instruction, and reject not your mother's teaching" (Proverbs 1:8). "Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it" (Proverbs 22:6).

Excerpt from: Daily Scripture Readings & Meditations

Learning, Living and Sharing the Good News

Meditation
Striving for Devotion
(from "My Daily Bread")

Christ:

My Child, the grace of devotion is not just a holy feeling, nor is it a religious mood. It is an intelligent attachment of your will to Me and to whatever I command or desire of you.

This is a very great grace. I will grant it to you if you will make a sincere effort to turn your back on whatever hinders your spiritual progress. You must empty your heart of all useless interests in order to make room for Me.

Often it is such a small matter that prevents one from obtaining this grace. Misguided self-interest cuts many people off from this glorious gift.

I desire you to have this grace. It will make you loyal to Me in all things. If you do not have it yet, it is because you have not yet prepared your soul for it. Pray for it and labor for it. Gain control of your feelings and unreasoning desires by acts of self-denial and self-sacrifice. Above all, begin a determined battle against the outstanding faults in your daily life.

With this grace of true devotion, you will find many things easy which now seem difficult and impossible. You will never again lose sight of My power, wisdom and love and you will consider it a privilege to follow My Will.

Think:

If I make a firm and persevering effort to abandon my foolish love for unnecessary distractions, God will give me the gift of devotion. From then on, I will have a steady loyalty to Christ. I will no longer depend on feelings or moods, but will follow God's Will intelligently and faithfully even when I do not feel like doing so.

Readings for the Week of December 26, 2021

Sunday: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14/Ps 128:1-5/Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17/Lk 2:41-52

Monday: 1 Jn 1:1-4/Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12/
Jn 20:1a, 2-8

Tuesday: 1 Jn 1:5—2:2/Ps 124:2-5, 7c-8/
Mt 2:13-18

Wednesday: 1 Jn 2:3-11/Ps 96:1-3, 5b-6/
Lk 2:22-35

Thursday: 1 Jn 2:12-17/Ps 96:7-10/Lk 2:36-40

Friday: 1 Jn 2:18-21/Ps 96:1-2, 11-13/Jn 1:1-18

Saturday: Nm 6:22-27/Ps 67:2-3, 5-6, 8/Gal 4:4-7/
Lk 2:16-21

Next Sunday: Is 60:1-6/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-13/
Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12

Weekend Readings are at (727) 372-8600

Mass Intentions
(for the week ahead)

Monday	8:00 a.m.	Laverne Schubert
Tuesday	8:00 a.m.	Susie Capodanno
Wednesday	8:00 a.m.	Vocations
Thursday	8:00 a.m.	Roland Laliberte
Friday	4:00 p.m.	Herbert Herm
Saturday	9:00 a.m.	Madeline Capodanno
	4:00 p.m.	Kim Beal
	6:00 p.m.	Sadie Almengor
Sunday	7:00 a.m.	Margaret Andriuzzo
	8:30 a.m.	Judith Leriger
	10:30 a.m.	Michael Potts
	5:00 p.m.	Frank Zmuda

Mass and Devotions Schedule

Saturday Vigil: 4:00 pm and 6 pm

Sunday: 7:00 am, 8:30 am, 10:30 am (*Contemporary*),
and 5:00 pm (*LifeTeen™*)

Daily Mass: 8:00 am Monday-Friday

Prayer Group: The 2nd and 4th Mondays of the month starting Sept. 13th and ending May 23rd.

Holy Rosary after 8:00 am Mass, Mon-Fri,
in Church

Marian Novena after 8:00 am Mass on Tuesdays

Benediction & Adoration: Thursdays at 3:00 pm until 6:45 pm

Reconciliation: Saturday 2:30-3:30 pm or by appt.

Parish Calendar

- Mon. 12/27 OFFICE CLOSED
- Tues. 12/28 9AM Rosary Makers
- Wed. 12/29 9:15AM Legion of Mary
- Thurs. 12/30
- Fri. 12/31 OFFICE CLOSED
NO 8AM Mass Today;
Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God
Mass at 4PM
(Not a Holy Day of Obligation)
- Sat. 01/01 HAPPY NEW YEAR!
Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God
Mass at 9AM
Regular Weekend Masses at
4 & 6PM
- Sun. 01/02 Regular Weekend Masses at
7AM, 8:30AM, 10:30AM & 5PM

"GOD IS
LOVE.
WHOEVER
LIVES IN
LOVE LIVES
IN GOD
AND GOD
IN HIM."

ST. JOHN, APOSTLE



©LPI

Parish Information

Office hours: 9:00 am to 4:00 pm Monday-Friday.
Call for information.
Phone: (727) 372-8600
Website: www.stanpr.org
Prayer Line: (727) 372-8600
Emergency Number for Anointing of the Sick:
Nights and Weekends (727) 836-3211

Administration

Business Office Fax: (727) 376-7204
Asst. to Pastor/Staff Coordinator:
Cheralyn Quevedo - Ext. 111
Parish Bookkeeper: Cherise Amundson - Ext. 115
Bulletin Editor: Kate - Ext. 113

Parish Ministry

Faith Formation K-5: Jessica McIlveen - Ext. 132
Middle School (Edge) and High School (Life Teen):
Beth DeBella and Cliff Stodden – Ext. 131
Adult Formation: Michaela Meyers - Ext. 133
Music: Dan O'Hara - Ext. 128
Parish Nurse, Ministry to the Sick & Homebound:
Betty West - Ext. 116
Sacristan: Elizabeth Sheridan - Ext. 129
St. Vincent de Paul Society: Ext. 142
Ambassador: Mary Ellen Taylor - Ext. 144
Coordinator of Ushers: Ada DeFina

STA Early Childhood Center

Alicia Mumma, Director – (727) 376-2330
www.staecc.org

Food Pantry: Monday *and* Thursday
9:30am until 11:00am *and* 1:30pm until 3:00pm

Gift Store: *Open before and after Sat. 4pm
and Sun. 10:30am Masses*

Parish Library: Open during office hours.

Offertory: December 18 & 19, 2021

**Not Available
Please see next bulletin.**

*Thank you to our Parishioners
and Visitors
for your generous support!*



Come & See!

Do you seek the face of God? We warmly invite you to visit a Lay Carmelite Community meeting to learn about Carmelite Spirituality. Our Lady Queen of Carmel LCC meets in room 4 of the parish center of St. Ignatius of Antioch Catholic Church at 715 E. Orange Street in Tarpon Springs. Our next meeting will be Saturday, January 8th, following the 9 am mass.

For more information, contact Pat Mermelstein at 727-534-5729.

Catholic Days at the Capitol, February 1-2, 2022

Make the trip. Make a difference.

Join Catholics from around Florida as they gather in Tallahassee for Catholic Days at the Capitol. This annual advocacy event will be held on February 1-2, 2022. The event includes a briefing on key legislative proposals, a breakfast with the Bishops of Florida, legislative visits with the offices of state Senators and Representatives and the Red Mass of the Holy Spirit. This is a great way to bring your voice and your values to the political process. Learn more and register here: <https://www.dosp.org/life/catholic-days-at-the-capitol/>.

Catholic Women’s Conference

Every woman is invited to attend Spirit FM’s 7th Annual Women’s Conference on April 2, 2022. It will be held at the Florida State Fairgrounds, and tickets are on sale through myspiritfm.com/womensconference.

Flyer/Graphic available at this link: <https://bit.ly/3psTB2j>.

**Christ the King Parish,
821 S. Dale Mabry Highway, Tampa**

Saturday, January 29, 2022
8:30 am (Mass) – 4:00 pm (Lunch included.)
Parishes and schools are invited to bring teams of 3-5 representatives to join us for this workshop as we learn how to better promote and foster vocations in our faith communities.

Please contact the Office of Vocations to RSVP or to find out more information.
Ph. 727-345-3452 or by email: jp@dosp.org.

Promotional graphics available at this link: <https://www.dosp.org/parish-vocation-ministry-workshop/>.

Winter Concert Series

The WINTER CONCERT SERIES returns to ***Saint Mary, Our Lady of Grace***, 515 4th Street South in St. Petersburg, in 2022 after a one-year hiatus due to COVID.

The first concert will be held on **Sunday, January 9, 2022** at 3:00 pm, and is entitled, “Music Not Just for the Holidays!” The featured artists are FLUTE AMICI, a flute choir made up of professional flutists from the Tampa Bay Area.

The concert is one-hour, FREE, and open to all. For more information, see our website: stmaryolg.org, or call 727-896-2191 ext. 208.

St. Thomas Aquinas Gift Shop

Are you looking for that special gift? Well look no further. Our Gift Shop is opened Saturday before the 4pm Mass and Sunday before and after the 10:30 Mass.

We have a variety of crucifixes, medals, bibles, statues, items for children, Communion, Confirmation, Wedding and Baby gifts. We also have Advent candles and Advent Rings. If we don't have something you are looking for, we are more than happy to order it for you.

All proceeds stay in our parish. Why not come in and look around? We would love meeting you!

What is a Synod?

A "Synod" can refer to the body of bishops who aid the Pope in listening to and guiding the Church or to a gathering to discuss challenges that the Church faces and to discern together how to move forward. The three main characteristics of a synod are: mutual listening, dialogue, and collective discernment. The main objective of a synod is journey together as the Pilgrim People of God towards holiness by responding to the promptings of the Holy Spirit. Synod is an opportunity to reclaim our identity as a pilgrim Church that journeys together. It is a Church that listens to the Holy Spirit. The Synod process is rooted in an encounter with Jesus in the Scriptures and the liturgical life of the Church. It is inspired by an openness to the movement of the Holy Spirit.

Pope Francis recognizes the need for the People of God to live as a synodal Church, which consists of the following three essential components:

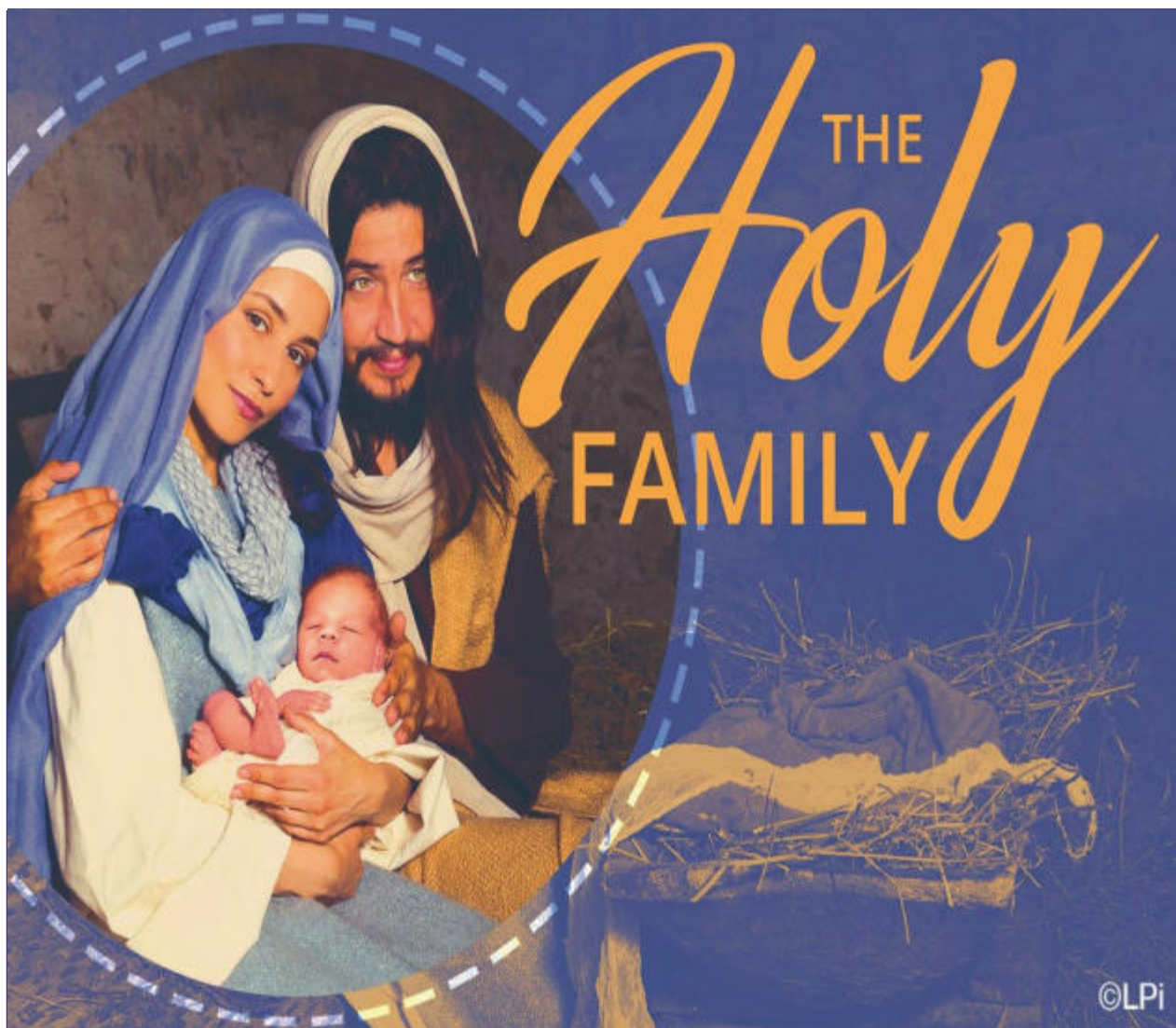
- 1) **Communion:** The conversations lead to conversion to Christ and commitment to active participation in the mission given by Christ.*
- 2) **Participation:** The people of God talk with and listen to one another about questions that matter.*
- 3) **Mission:** Our communion and unity exist for a common purpose inspired by the Holy Spirit.*

For the Synod to bear fruit, the following requirements need to be met:

- 1) Address basic questions together.*
- 2) Listen to the Holy Spirit.*
- 3) Remain open to the perspectives of other people.*
- 4) Nurture the fruits of the Holy Spirit over time.*

Synod Session: Prayer & Discernment

Location: St. Theresa Parish (*Spring Hill*)
Date: Saturday, February 19, 2022
Time: 9 AM



Knight's Korner Knights of Columbus Council #11497



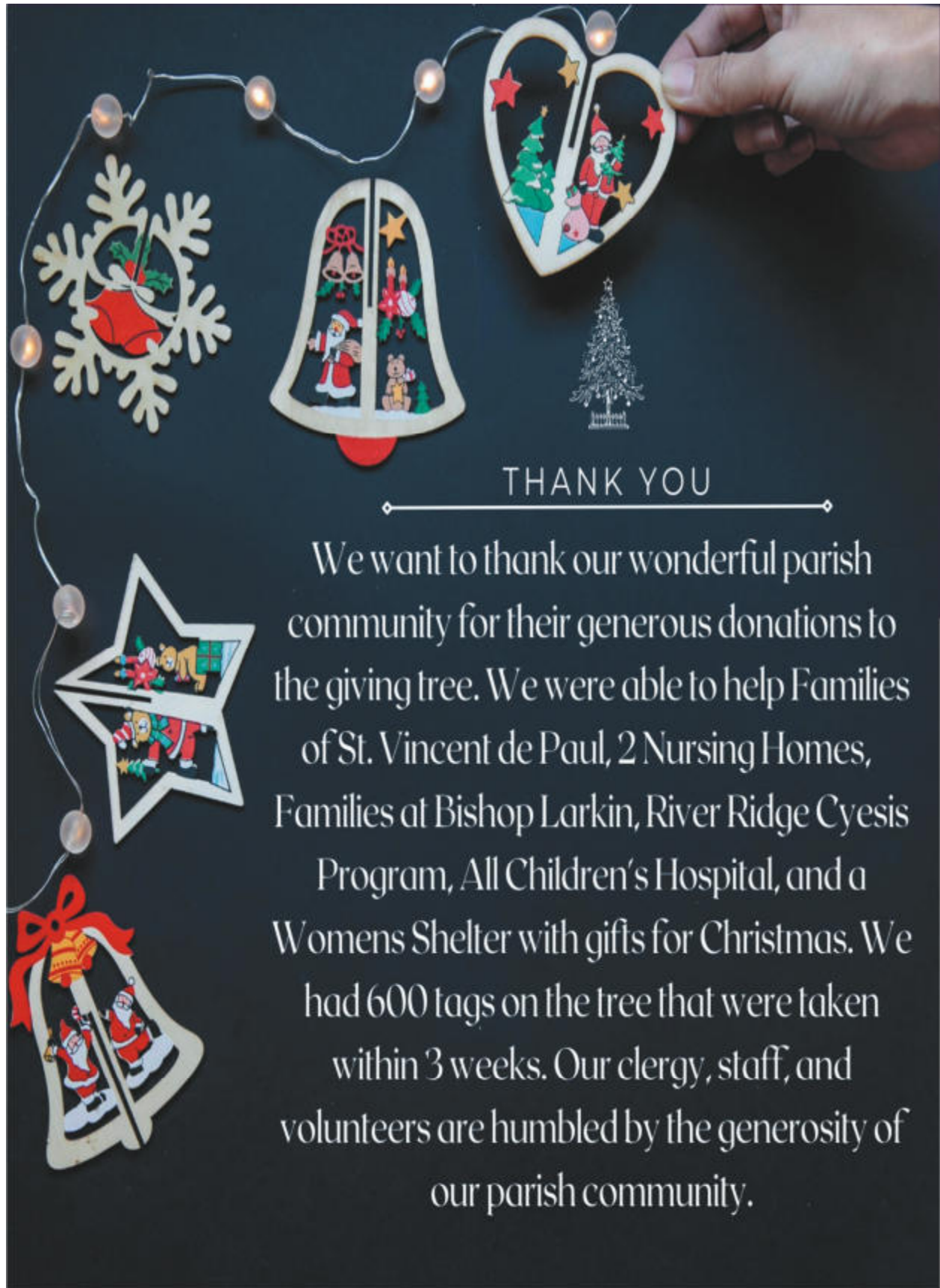
Our Mission Statement

As Knights, associated with Saint Thomas Aquinas Catholic Church in New Port Richey, Florida, we strive to humbly serve our Lord & Savior, Jesus Christ; guided by His Word and teachings, inspired by our patron, Saint Thomas Aquinas, to Learn, Live, and Share the "Good News" through valiant acts of Charity, delivered in Unity, backed by a Fraternal commitment to each other as an order, to our Parish family and her neighboring communities, and to the nation we Patriotically stand to respect and protect. Vivat Jesus!

Did you know that you can become a Knight's of Columbus eMember right now by going to KofC.org and pressing Join Us? Be sure to select Council 11497 and we do the rest!

- Membership meetings are every first Thursday of the month and social meetings are every third Thursday of the month (unless announced otherwise)

Further questions contact our Grand Knight Larry C. Alaimo at 813-297-9968 or email to: lcalaimo@yahoo.com



THANK YOU

We want to thank our wonderful parish community for their generous donations to the giving tree. We were able to help Families of St. Vincent de Paul, 2 Nursing Homes, Families at Bishop Larkin, River Ridge Cyesis Program, All Children's Hospital, and a Womens Shelter with gifts for Christmas. We had 600 tags on the tree that were taken within 3 weeks. Our clergy, staff, and volunteers are humbled by the generosity of our parish community.

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