

ST. THOMAS AQUINAS

Roman Catholic Church



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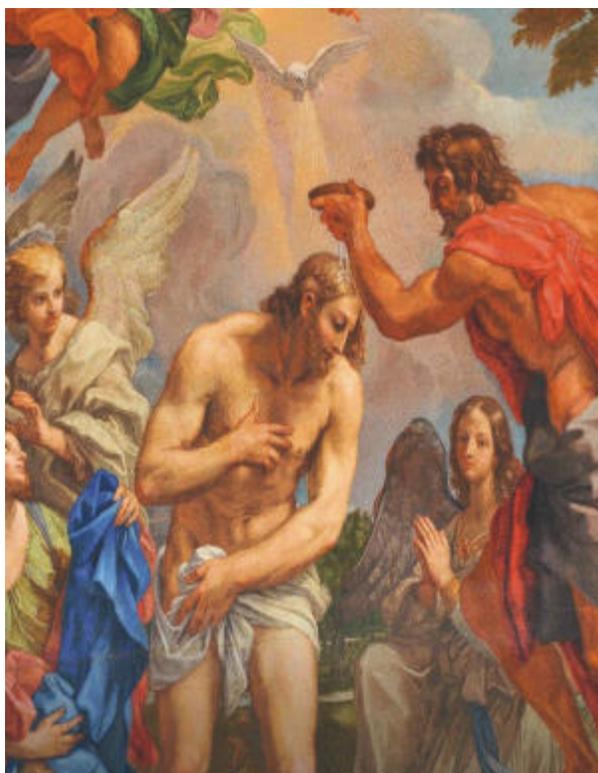
Pastor: Rev. Eric Peters **Associate Pastor:** Rev. George P. Varkey

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 Baptism of the Lord - January 9, 2022



THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD



After all the people had been baptized and Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, heaven was opened and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. - Lk 3:21-22a

Illustration from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1979 CCC

GLP

SCRIPTURE REFLECTION

Jesus came to give us the fire of his Spirit that we may radiate the joy and truth of the Gospel to a world in desperate need of God's light and truth. His word has power to change and transform our lives that we may be burning lights pointing others to Jesus Christ. Like John the Baptist, we too are called to give testimony to the light and truth of Jesus Christ. Do you want the Lord's power, grace, and love to burn brightly in your life? Ask him to fill you with his Holy Spirit.

John preached a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins (Luke 3:3). Why did Jesus, the Sinless One, submit himself to John's baptism? In this humble submission we see a foreshadowing of the "baptism" of his bloody death upon the cross. Jesus' baptism is the acceptance and the beginning of his mission as God's suffering Servant (Isaiah 53). He allowed himself to be numbered among sinners. Jesus submitted himself entirely to his Father's will. Out of love he consented to this baptism of death for the remission of our sins. Do you know the joy of trust and submission to God?

Excerpt from: Daily Scripture Readings & Meditations

Learning, Living and Sharing the Good News

Meditation
Human Hurts
(from "My Daily Bread")

Christ:

My Child, what is man that you should fear his contempt or insults? Today he seems so strong and powerful and tomorrow he will be laid in his coffin. Fear only sin and stand by Me. Human words and even injuries are not as terrible as they seem. My martyrs, who now shine forth in heavenly glory, can tell you how true this is.

The harsh critics and the persecutor hurt themselves far more than they hurt their victims. They shall not escape My judgement. I will deal with them as they dealt with their fellow man. Do not seek revenge against them by word or deed. Leave them to Me, without wishing them any harm.

If the criticism and fault-finding of others confuse and discourage you, turn to Me and let Me strengthen you with patience. I shall relieve you in your confusion and injury.

Remember too this suffering may well be offered to Me as a reparation for your many sins against Me. This consideration will make you more willing to be despised and forsaken by people. You will then find strength to bear this present trial in peace.

At times it is good for you to suffer opposition and to have people think ill of you and slight you, even when you mean well. This is often a valuable means for gaining humility and patience. Then will you call on Me to judge what goes on within you as you realize the unreliability of human judgments and friendships.

Readings for the Week of January 9, 2021

Sunday: Is 42:1-4, 6-7/Ps 29:1-4, 9-10/Acts 10:34-38/
Lk 3:15-16, 21-22 or, Is 40:1-5, 9-11/Ps 104:1b-4, 24-25,
27-30/Ti 2:11-14; 3:4-7/Lk 3:15-16, 21-22

Monday: 1 Sm 1:1-8/Ps 116:12-19/Mk 1:14-20

Tuesday: 1 Sm 1:9-20/Ps 1 Sm 2:1, 4-8/Mk 1:21-28

Wednesday: 1 Sm 3:1-10, 19-20/Ps 40:2, 5, 7-10/
Mk 1:29-39

Thursday: 1 Sm 4:1-11/Ps 44:10-11, 14-15, 24-25/
Mk 1:40-45

Friday: 1 Sm 8:4-7, 10-22a/Ps 89:16-19/Mk 2:1-12

Saturday: 1 Sm 9:1-4, 17-19; 10:1a/Ps 21:2-7/
Mk 2:13-17

Next Sunday: Is 62:1-5/Ps 96:1-3, 7-10/1 Cor 12:4-11/
Jn 2:1-11

Weekend Readings are at (727) 372-8600

Mass Intentions
(for the week ahead)

Monday	8:00 a.m.	Beatrice Zamborsky
Tuesday	8:00 a.m.	Dorothy Kaufer
Wednesday	8:00 a.m.	Vocations
Thursday	8:00 a.m.	Geraldine Leskovec
Friday	8:00 p.m.	Frank Zaccaro
Saturday	4:00 p.m.	Patricia Szczepanski
	6:00 p.m.	Lillian & Frank Ludwig
Sunday	7:00 a.m.	Parish Family
	8:30 a.m.	Ralph Mandarino
	10:30 a.m.	Deceased Members of The Nagle Family
	5:00 p.m.	Anthony Talotta, Jr.

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. 01/10 6:30PM Prayer Group Meeting;
6:30PM Life Teen Core Team Meeting
- Tues. 01/11 9AM Rosary Makers;
6:30PM Catholic Daughters Meeting;
6:45PM Boy Scouts
- Wed. 01/12 9:15AM Legion of Mary;
5:15PM Faith Formation K-12;
7PM RCIA
- Thurs. 01/13 3PM Benediction/Adoration;
6PM Girl Scouts; 7PM Cont. Choir;
7PM Bible Study
- Fri. 01/14 OFFICE CLOSED-STAFF RETREAT
- Sat. 01/15 9AM Catholic Men’s Fellowship Mtg.
- Sun. 01/16 8AM Pancake Breakfast

CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS MEETING

Court Vincent de Paul #2172 of the Catholic Daughters of the Americas will hold their regular meeting on 1/11/2022 at 6:30PM in the Youth Room of St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Church. All Catholic women age 18 or older are invited to attend.

If you have any questions or concerns please contact Linda Bergeron at 727-203-3498. We look forward to seeing you.

Tax Statement for 2021 Donations

Please call the office if you’d like to receive a tax statement for your 2021 donations, and give us your name and envelope number.

Offertory: January 2, 2022

Offertory:	\$14,837.66
Online Giving:	\$18,707.00
Holy Day:	<u>\$ 2,865.00</u>
Total:	\$36,409.66



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 25, 2021

\$21,012.00

Offertory: December 26, 2021

Offertory:	\$13,882.85
Online Giving:	<u>\$ 4,034.00</u>
Total:	\$17,916.85

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



Please help our St. Vincent de Paul Conference!

Thanks very much to all our generous parishioners who keep our Food Pantry stocked and our funds replenished! You may not feel called to serve as a Home Visitor or Food Pantry Friend, but you could help us in a BIG way with a small – but especially important commitment. Every month on the second full weekend we stand by after each Mass to accept cash and check donations from parishioners as they depart. It takes about 10 minutes once each month, but it makes a BIG difference.

If you are able and willing to help, please leave a message at 727-372-8600, ext. 142 with your name, phone or email contact information, and your Mass preference. Thank you and God bless you!



Thanks to your continuing generosity; in November, The St. Thomas Aquinas Conference of The St. Vincent de Paul Society was able to feed 156 families totaling 440 people from our Food Pantry. Additionally, we provided 50 students with Pack-A-Sack Bags of food each weekend, provided 46 turkey dinners for Thanksgiving and paid electric, water or rental assistance for 11 families. Our monthly collections will be this weekend, January 8th and 9th. If not manned, the Collection boxes will be on a snack tray as you exit the doors of the church. Thank you so much for your continued generous support of those in need.

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.

ANNIVERSARY OF ROE V. WADE

On January 22, 1973, the Supreme Court legalized abortion throughout the United States in its companion decisions *Roe v. Wade* and *Doe v. Bolton*. Since that time, millions of children have lost their lives and millions of women and families have been wounded by abortion.

On **Friday, January 21**, we will observe the annual “**Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children.**” We are called to observe this day through prayer and penance. Benediction will be prayed after the 8 AM Mass followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament in our Church until 4 PM. Please join us in prayer. Sign-up sheets for Prayer Captains will be available in the narthex on 15/16 January.

The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops also sponsors a nationwide novena called “**9 Days for Life.**” Join thousands of Catholics nationwide praying the novena, January 19-27. Sign up today at www.9daysforlife.com.

If you or someone you know is suffering after abortion, confidential, compassionate help is available. Visit HopeAfterAbortion.com.



MINISTRIES IN ACTION

DIocese OF ST. PETERSBURG | CATHOLIC MINISTRY *Appeal*

TIME *to* START OVER

Last year, Bishop Parkes, diocesan leadership and a task force of experienced pastors studied how our parishes work together to support our local Church. For more than 20 years, the Annual Pastoral Appeal (APA), had supported all parts of our diocesan budget: administrative, business, leadership as well as ministry, programs and outreach. Parishes worked to reach their goal, sometimes all year. But if not met, the balance was paid by the parish. The Appeal Task Force recognized how difficult this was for parishes. They also discerned that our people wanted to support the good work of our Catholic Church.

After much prayer, consultation and review, the task force voted unanimously to retire APA, and start over, separating how different areas would be funded. Their innovative plan calls for the leadership of our local Church to be supported by a much smaller assessment of 2%, and the administrative functions such as accounting and human resources to be funded through interest earnings on a responsibly invested trust.

And finally, it invites our parishioners to participate in the new *Catholic Ministry Appeal* each year to fund what most consider to be the traditional ministries and programs of our diocese.



HOW *is* THE CATHOLIC MINISTRY APPEAL DIFFERENT?

- + Each parish will have a goal for the new appeal, *but it does not have to be paid by the parish if not achieved.*
- + Because leadership and administrative costs are not included in this appeal, *100% of donations are going to outreach that positively affects people, communities, parishes and schools.*
- + If we exceed our \$7.1 million goal, *ministries such as seminarian support, Worship, the permanent Diaconate program, campus ministry efforts, discipleship formation and vocations can grow.*

SCAN TO LEARN MORE!



ALL MEN INVITED TO

**Catholic Men's Fellowship
St. Thomas Aquinas Parish**

**NEXT GATHERING @ 9:30
ON SATURDAY Jan. 15, 2022
In the PARISH COMMUNITY ROOM
NOTE: ROSARY PRAYED @ 9AM
BEFORE 9:30 MEETING.
ALL ARE WELCOME!**



Catholic Men's Fellowship
St. Thomas Aquinas Parish

**For more info call:
Norm Perreault
727-207-2199**

**Or email:
nperreault@tampabay.rr.com**

PANCAKE BREAKFAST
Join us after all morning Masses

- ♦ \$5 Adults/\$3 Children
- ♦ Generous Portions
- ♦ In Parish Center Hall
- ♦ Pancakes, Scrambled Eggs, Sausage, Hash Browns, Coffee and Orange Juice
- ♦ Everyone is invited and bring a friend
- ♦ We cook, you enjoy!!
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Sunday, January 16th

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**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



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PRO-LIFE DINNER/DANCE GALA

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St. Thomas Aquinas Parish Hall

\$29 per ticket

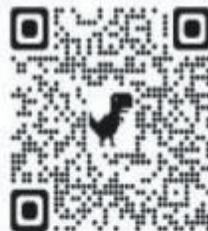
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Any Questions call Tony Fontana (727) 372-6912

St. Thomas Aquinas Knights of Columbus Council 11497

<http://uknight.org/CouncilSite/?CNO=11497>

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