

ST. THOMAS AQUINAS

Roman Catholic Church



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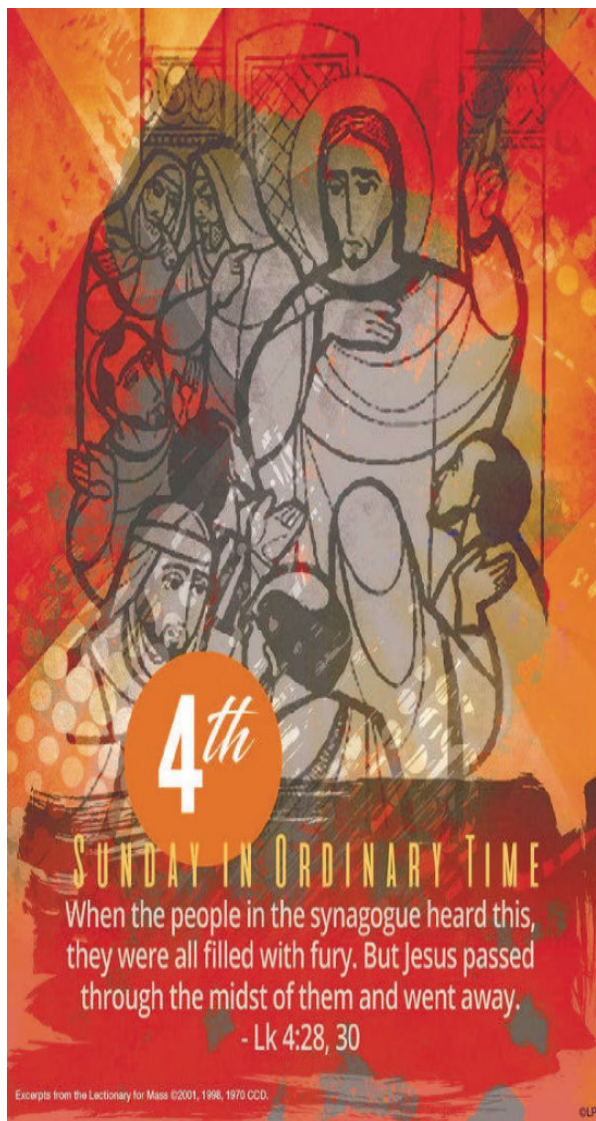
Pastor: Rev. Eric Peters **Associate Pastor:** Rev. George P. Varkey

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

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time - January 30, 2022



SCRIPTURE REFLECTION

Do you believe that God wants to act with power in your life today? Power to set you free from sin and hurtful desires, fear and oppression. Throughout the Scriptures we see God performing mighty acts to save his people from death and destruction - from Noah's ark that spared his family from the flood of wickedness that had spread across the land to Moses and the Israelites who crossed through the parting waters of the Red Sea as they fled the armies of Pharaoh their slave Master and oppressor.

Throughout the Gospel accounts Jesus praised individuals who put their faith in God as they remembered the great and wonderful deeds he had performed time and again. Jesus even praised outsiders - non-Jews and pagans from other lands who had heard about the mighty deeds of the God of Israel. One example Jesus mentioned was Naaman the pagan army commander from Syria who was afflicted with leprosy - a debilitating skin disease that slowly ate away the flesh (2 Kings 5:1-15). Naaman's slave-girl was a young Jewish woman who had faith in God and compassion for Naaman her master. She urged him to seek healing from Elisha, the great prophet of Israel. When Naaman went to the land of Israel to seek a cure for his leprosy, the prophet Elisha instructed him to bathe seven times in the Jordan river. Naaman was indignant at first, but then repented and followed the prophet's instructions. In doing so he was immediately restored in body and spirit.

Excerpt from: Daily Scripture Readings & Meditations

Learning, Living and Sharing the Good News

Meditation
Man's Daily Cross
(from "My Daily Bread")

Christ:

My Child, I had to bear many trials throughout My earthly life. Knowing this, how can you seek rest and pleasure for yourself on earth? Believe Me, it is a great mistake to expect anything else but suffering and hardship in this life! Man's earthly life is full of miseries and crosses.

If you carry it willingly, you will find greater strength in the cross, and it will lead you towards Heaven. If you bear it unwillingly, you only make it a greater burden than it already is: and you still have to bear it. One who runs away from the cross is only running toward another cross, perhaps a heavier one.

There is no other road to Heaven except the way of the cross. No man can escape his cross. Even My saints went through their earthly life, burdened by the cross. Not a single hour of My earthly life was free of the cross. I entered into My glory by suffering and dying upon the cross. Do not fear the cross. I shall help you to bear it.

Think:

As I embrace my daily cross, I shall find Jesus standing on the other side of it, waiting to help me carry it. I shall not have to carry it alone. My daily life is a partnership with Jesus. He walks every step of it with me. As He proved His love for me by embracing His cross, so do I prove my love for Him by embracing my daily trials. True, I may always try to solve my daily problems and remedy my troubles. When, however, my efforts have failed, I should not lose my self-control by impatience, anger or rebellion against God's Will. Nor need I seek to avoid all of the trials which come my way. At times I can deliberately allow myself to endure things or people who annoy me, at least a bit longer than I would naturally like. The more I grow in genuine love for Jesus, the less will I fear or resent the cross.

Readings for the Week of January 30, 2021

Sunday: Jer 1:4-5, 17-19/Ps 71:1-6, 15-17/
1 Cor 12:31—13:13 or 13:4-13/Lk 4:21-30
Monday: 2 Sm 15:13-14, 30; 16:5-13/Ps 3:2-7/
Mk 5:1-20
Tuesday: 2 Sm 18:9-10, 14b, 24-25a, 30—19:3/
Ps 86:1-6/Mk 5:21-43
Wednesday: Mal 3:1-4/Ps 24:7-10/Heb 2:14-18/
Lk 2:22-40 or 2:22-32
Thursday: 1 Kgs 2:1-4, 10-12/Ps 1 Chr 29:10, 11b,
11d-12/Mk 6:7-13
Friday: Sir 47:2-11/Ps 18:31, 47 and 50-51/Mk 6:14-29
Saturday: 1 Kgs 3:4-13/Ps 119:9-14/Mk 6:30-34
Next Sunday: Is 6:1-2a, 3-8/Ps 138:1-5, 7-8/
1 Cor 15:1-11 or 15:3-8, 11/Lk 5:1-11

Weekend Readings are at (727) 372-8600

Mass Intentions
(for the week ahead)

Monday	8:00 a.m. Lorraine Lyons
Tuesday	8:00 a.m. John Blankenship
Wednesday	8:00 a.m. Vocations
Thursday	8:00 a.m. Robert McCabe
Friday	8:00 p.m. Linda Fiori
Saturday	4:00 p.m. Patricia Szczepanski
	6:00 p.m. Charles & Margaret Cronin
Sunday	7:00 a.m. Robert Martinez
	8:30 a.m. Parish Family
	10:30 a.m. Deceased Members of the Lennon 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. 01/31 6:30PM Life Teen Core Team Meeting
- Tues. 02/01 9AM Rosary Makers;
6:30PM Life Teen Core Team Mtg;
6:45PM Boy Scouts
- Wed. 02/02 9:15AM Legion of Mary;
10AM SVDP Meeting;
4PM Traditional Choir;
5:15PM Faith Formation K-12;
7PM RCIA
- Thurs. 02/03 10AM Prayer Shawl Ministry;
3PM Benediction/Adoration;
6PM K of C Meeting;
7PM Contemporary Choir;
7PM Bible Study
- Fri. 02/04 9AM Spiritual Motherhood of Priests
Apostolate
- Sat. 02/05
- Sun. 02/06 9AM Faith Formation;
6:15PM Life Nite

FREE INCOME TAX PREPARATION HELP AVAILABLE

IRS trained and certified volunteers will prepare and electronically file your income tax return for free at one of twelve sites in Pasco County. Refunds and Earned Income Tax Credits can be received in as little as ten days using Direct Deposit.

You can make an appointment on-line at www.unitedwaypasco.org or by calling 727-845-3030 Monday to Friday from 10 until 2.

Free tax preparation help will be available to low- and moderate-income wage earners and retirees from January 25, 2022 until April 18, 2022.

Service will be provided for homebound individuals upon request, subject to availability of volunteers.

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

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: January 22/23, 2022

Offertory: \$11,579.80

Online Giving: \$ 4,374.00

Total: \$15,953.80

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



WE'RE ANXIOUS TO HEAR FROM YOU!

For a Synodal Church: Communion, Participation, and Mission An Opportunity for You to Participate at St. Thomas Aquinas

What:

- ✦ Usually a gathering of bishops to discuss challenges faced by the Church, this Synod calls for all of us to participate and gives us each an opportunity to have a voice in the process.
- ✦ Synodality is also a mindset, a quality of the Church as having “a habit of mutual listening, dialogue, and collective discernment.” Together as members of the Church, we discern the movement of the Holy Spirit and where the Holy Spirit is leading us.

Why:

- ✦ In his letter to us, Bishop Parkes explains two reasons for this global Synod. “This Synod is an opportunity to reclaim our identity as a pilgrim Church that ‘journeys together.’ . . . This Synod process is rooted in an encounter with Jesus in the Sacred Scriptures and the liturgical life of the Church and is inspired by an openness to the movement of the Holy Spirit. We seek the Holy Spirit’s guidance on how to move forward as we emerge from a global pandemic, a world in turmoil and a Church in crisis.” We are all the *Body of Christ*, and as such we can only move forward together, guided by the Holy Spirit.

How:

- ✦ We are in the period of the Synod where thoughts and ideas are shared about where the Church is going, what is positive in the Church, and what is challenging. In order that we hear from as many of the St. Thomas Aquinas family as possible, we are making the **5 Synod questions** available via a Padlet shared on our FlockNote system.
 - **To Become Part of St. Thomas Aquinas’ FlockNote:** Text the word Super to 84576. Our administrator will accept you to receive texts and/or emails from us via FlockNote.
 - **To Get to the Padlet:** Once you are part of FlockNote (or if you are already part of FlockNote), we will post a text/email with a link to our Synod Padlet. The Padlet will have the questions in a Word document and as separate questions that can be answered there at the site.
 - **To Answer on Paper:** At the Padlet, you can print the Word document and answer the questions. Then, either drop it off in the church Narthex or at the parish office. Office hours are Monday to Friday, 9am to 4pm.
 - **To Answer at Padlet:** Each question will be posted separately on the Padlet, each with a comment box. Simply click the comment box for the question you want to answer and type in your answer.

We want to hear from everyone, but there is a deadline. In order for us to prepare and submit our report of your responses to the diocese, we need to have your answers by

Sunday, March 13, 2022

The Second Sunday of Lent

Thank you. We look forward to walking with you as the Holy Spirit uses us to “renew the face of the earth!”

SAVE THE DATE! A SPECIAL INVITE FROM FATHER ERIC

I'm happy to announce that we will have a very nice dinner-dance party on Friday, February 18th in our lovely parish hall, and I do hope you will save the date and plan to join us. The food will be catered, and my band and I will provide entertainment with a very nice blend of fast and slow dance songs. More details will follow, and I do hope you can find time to have some fun.



Lourdes
Virtual Pilgrimage Experience
TM

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8320 Old County Road 54
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Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes
Friday, February 11th
9:00 AM (Following Mass)

****Lourdes Water***
****The Grotto Rock***
****Eucharistic Blessing***
****Candlelight Rosary***

For more information
Contact:

Cheralyn Quevedo
727-372-8611, ext. 111
Admission is free.

Donations are welcome.



Assembly 2882 is having a **Sweeties Dinner/Dance**

On Saturday, February 12, 2022, at Monsignor Aiden Foynes Hall located at **Our Lady Queen Of Peace Church**. Doors open @ 5:00 PM, Dinner @ 6:00 PM. Chicken Marsala dinner catered by St. Lorenzo's Kitchen. Music by "DJ Lewis". 50/50 raffle. Donation of \$20/person. All proceeds go to helping veterans. For tickets contact, Jim Marcotte at 207-229-1032

or by email at: jrmmarcotte@gmail.com



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+ embracing God's call to serve

+ accompanying those who help form missionary disciples

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There are different ways to say "yes." The first is to complete a pledge card and return it at Mass or mail it to the Pastoral Center of our diocese.

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Shared ministries can do what we as a parish alone cannot do.

Ben Langer, Parishioner
Our Lady of Grace, Beverly Hills

There is strength in numbers... we are a community of disciples and our talent and resources can be shared to reach a larger audience and be of benefit to more people.

Debra Livingston, Parishioner
Nativity, Brandon

By helping our brothers and sisters in need, by teaching the truths of our faith, by supporting youth and families as they strive to follow Christ, by supporting men and women with a religious vocation and our ordained ministers, we are answering our call as Christians.

Jane Martinson, Parishioner
St. Thomas Aquinas, New Port Richey

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

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 St. in Tarpon Springs on the first Saturday of each month following the 9 am mass.

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

**FASHION SHOW & LUNCHEON,
 Thursday, February 10, 2022**

St. Brendan Council of Catholic Women will host a Fashion Show & Luncheon on Thursday, February 10, 2022 at Belleair Country Club, 1 Country Club Lane, Belleair, with fashions by Patchington. All proceeds benefit local charities. Fabulous prizes, 50/50 and Basket raffles. Doors open at 11:00 AM. Choose chicken, salmon or vegetarian. \$40 per person. Open to the Public.

Contact Peggy Boyer at (727) 584-0065 or peggyboyer1@tampabay.rr.com for reservations.

HURRY, This event sells out fast.

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