

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

Fifth Sunday of Lent - April 3, 2022



SCRIPTURE REFLECTION

Pardon, restoration, and new life

When the adulterous woman is left alone with Jesus, he both expresses mercy and he strongly exhorts her to not sin again. The scribes wished to condemn, Jesus wished to forgive and to restore the sinner to health. His challenge involved a choice - either to go back to her former way of sin and death or to reach out to God's offer of forgiveness, restoration, and new life in his kingdom of peace and righteousness. Jesus gave her pardon and a new start on life. God's grace enables us to confront our sin for what it is - unfaithfulness to God, and to turn back to God with a repentant heart and a thankful spirit for God's mercy and forgiveness. Do you know the joy of repentance and a clean conscience?

Are you ready to be changed and transformed in Christ-like holiness? God never withholds his grace from us. His steadfast love and mercy is new every day (Lamentations 3:22-23). Through the gift and grace of the Holy Spirit we can be changed and made new in Christ. He can set us free from our unruly desires and passions.

Excerpt from: Daily Scripture Readings & Meditations

5TH SUNDAY OF LENT



Jesus bent down and began to write on the ground with his finger. But when they continued asking him, he straightened up and said to them, "Let the one among you who is without sin be the first to throw a stone at her." - Jn 8:6b-7

Learning, Living and Sharing the Good News

Meditation
Submission to God’s Holy Will
(from “My Daily Bread”)

Christ:

My Child, I know all things because I made all things and keep them in existence. Whatever powers and abilities are in each person or thing, they were put there by Me. Whatever happens is foreseen, planned and permitted by Me. My plan seeks your welfare, not just the welfare which your limited intelligence can see, but your truest and most lasting welfare.

When you feel like questioning My wisdom, remember what you are and who I am. You are the work of My hands. I gave you the intelligence with which you judge matters and the will with which you make your choices. If you disagree with My decisions, remember that I see all the reasons which you see and many other reasons which you do not see. All of your thinking is perfectly clear to Me. When I choose differently from you it is because your choice is not for the best.

On every occasion do what you think is best. Whenever necessary ask for My help, but do it with a desire to accept My decision in the matter. End every petition with this perfect ending: “Lord, if this is really good for me, please grant it; but if You decide differently, I want whatever You want.” Place your hopes, ambitions and efforts at My feet. Do your best and leave the rest to Me. I will dispose things for your highest welfare.

Never think of talking to your Creator as to an equal. You are the work of My hands and without Me, you are simply nothing. Your very next breath belongs to Me. It is a gift of Mine to you. Speak to Me with the humility of one who acknowledges this truth.

I love you. Why are you troubled, as though I did not care about you? Rely on My wisdom and love, and I will bring peace into your heart. Worries and fears will not leave you until you submit yourself to My Will in all things.

Readings for the Week of April 3, 2022

- Sunday:** Ez 37:12-14/Ps 130: 1-8/Rom 8:8-11/
Jn 11:1-45 or 11:3-7, 17, 20-27, 33b-45
- Monday:** Dn 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62
or 13:41c-62/Ps 23:1-6/Jn 8:12-20
- Tuesday:** Nm 21:4-9/Ps 102:2-3, 16-21/Jn 8:21-30
- Wednesday:** Dn 3:14-20, 91-92, 95/Ps Dn 3:52-56/
Jn 8:31-42
- Thursday:** Gn 17:3-9/Ps 105:4-9/Jn 8:51-59
- Friday:** Jer 20:10-13/Ps 18:2-7/Jn 10:31-42
- Saturday:** Ez 37:21-28/Ps Jer 31:10-13/Jn 11:45-56
- Next Sunday:** Lk 19:28-40/Is 50:4-7/Ps 22:8-9, 17-
18, 19-20, 23-24/Phil 2:6-11/Lk 22:14—23:56
or 23:1-49

Weekend Readings are at (727) 372-8600

Mass Intentions
(for the week ahead)

Monday	8:00 a.m. Domenico & Domenica Pontoriero
Tuesday	8:00 a.m. Domenico & Domenica Pontoriero
Wednesday	8:00 a.m. Vocations
Thursday	8:00 a.m. Frank Zaccaro
Friday	8:00 a.m. Lisa Misciagna-Virga
Saturday	4:00 p.m. Robert Cloud 6:00 p.m. Ursina Chantiaco
Sunday	7:00 a.m. Parish Family 8:30 a.m. Frank Schneider 10:30 a.m. Palmira Batista 5:00 p.m. Genie Usberghi

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. 04/04 1PM SVDP Meeting;
 Tues. 04/05 9AM Rosary Makers;
 4PM-6PM Communal Penance-Church;
 6:30PM Life Teen Core Team Mtg;
 6:45PM Boy Scouts
 Wed. 04/06 9:15AM Legion of Mary;
 10AM SVDP Meeting;
 4PM Traditional Choir;
 5:15PM FF K-5; 5:15PM Edge 6-8;
 5:15PM FF Parent Session; 7PM RCIA
 Thur. 04/07 10AM Prayer Shawl Ministry;
 3PM Benediction/Adoration;
 5:30-6:30PM Lenten Confessions;
 6PM K of C Meeting;
 6PM Life Teen Core Team Meeting;
 7PM Cont. Choir; 7PM Bible Study
 Fri. 04/08 9AM Spiritual Motherhood of Priests
 Apostolate; 5PM Fish Fry
 7PM Stations of the Cross in Church
 Sat. 04/09
 Sun. 04/10 11:30 Easter Egg Hunt;
 6:15PM Life Nite

Holy Week Schedule



The Beautiful Liturgies of Holy Week:

Holy Thursday, April 14- Mass of the Lord's Supper at 7pm

Good Friday, April 15- The Passion of Our Lord and Veneration 3pm; Stations of the Cross 7pm

Holy Saturday, April 16 - Blessing of the Easter food at noon

The Easter Vigil, April 16 - will be celebrated at 8:30pm beginning with the "Lighting of the Easter Fire" outside in front of the church. Please note this is the only mass offered on Holy Saturday throughout the Universal Church.

Easter Sunday Masses, April 17 are at 6:30am in the church, 8:30am in the church, 10:30am in both the church and parish center.

Please note: no 5pm Mass on Easter Sunday.

Masses scheduled to be livestreamed: Thurs. 7pm, Fri. 3pm service; Sat. 8:30pm; Sun. 10:30am

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
 Admin. Asst: Meghan Snyder - Ext. 112
 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: March 26/27, 2022

Offertory:	\$15,744.65
Online Giving:	<u>\$ 3,721.00</u>
Total:	\$19,465.65
Catholic Relief Services:	\$1,106.00



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

Solidarity

One of seven themes at the heart of **Catholic Social Teaching** is “**Solidarity.**” We are one human family whatever our national, racial, ethnic, economic, and ideological differences. We are our brothers’ and sisters’ keepers, wherever they may be. Loving our neighbor has global dimensions in a shrinking world. At the core of solidarity is the pursuit of justice and peace. Pope Paul VI taught that “if you want peace, work for justice.” The Gospel calls us to be peacemakers. Our love for all our sisters and brothers demands that we promote peace in a world surrounded by violence and conflict.

COVID-19 Crisis in India. **Catholic Relief Services** has partnered with the Diocesan Social Service Society and the Catholic Health Association of India to provide much needed protective equipment and supplies to front-line health care workers in India.

Your participation in our **Lenten CRS Rice Bowl** campaign supports this and other programs to alleviate suffering and assist people in need throughout the world.



**Join us Saturday, April 9, 2022 at 1 pm
St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church
4843 Mile Stretch Drive, Holiday, FL
727-938-1974**

as **Frank Runyeon** performs **Sermon on the Mount** followed by **Hollywood vs. Faith: The 3 other Beatitudes.** Using hilarious anecdotes from his years in Hollywood and his own family’s life, Frank helps all ages to laugh at the way the media portrays the world.

Frank Runyeon has starred in over 1,000 television shows over the last 20 years... opposite Meg Ryan on *As the World Turns*, on *Santa Barbara*, *Falcon Crest*, *General Hospital*, *LA Law* and *Melrose Place*. He is also an honors graduate of General Theological Seminary and Princeton University.

We will be taking free will offerings for this event.



JOIN US FOR AN
EASTER
EGG HUNT
& FAMILY FUN

APRIL 10TH, 2022
 FROM 11:30 - 2:00

St. Thomas Aquinas
 Bounce House | Crafts | Face Painting

\$3 Hot Dog, Chips, & Drink
 Proceeds to benefit Vacation Bible School

The Spiritual Motherhood of Priests Apostolate invite you to pray for the Priests and Seminarians of our Diocese. Please remember to pray for all of our Priests. Below are the names for the week.

O Jesus, eternal Priest,
 keep your priests within the shelter of Your Sacred Heart, where none may touch them.

Keep unstained their anointed hands,
 which daily touch Your Sacred Body.

Keep unsullied their lips,
 daily purpled with your Precious Blood.

Keep pure and unearthly their hearts,
 sealed with the sublime mark of the priesthood.

Let Your holy love surround them and
 shield them from the world's contagion.

Bless their labors with abundant fruit and
 may the souls to whom they minister be their joy and
 consolation here and in heaven their beautiful and
 everlasting crown. Amen.

4/3 Rev. Jose George

4/4 Rev. Kyle Bell

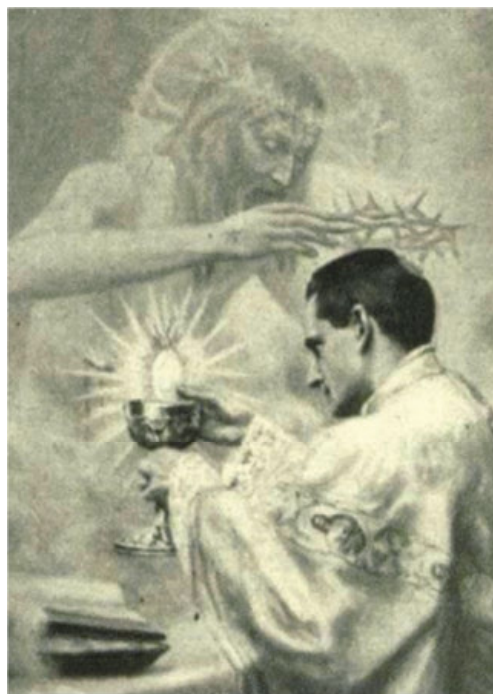
4/5 Rev. Greg Tottle

4/6 For Vocations to Priesthood & Religious Life

4/7 Deacon Zachary Bresseur, Seminarian

4/8 Rev. Ryszard Stradomski

4/9 Rev. Alan C. Tupa



“You are a Priest forever,
 in the line of Melchizedek.”

-Pslm 110:4



LENTEN FISH FRYDAY

Join us Friday after 5PM

- \$10 Adults/\$5 Children
- Generous Portions
- Eat in Parish Hall, take-out or drive up!
- Fried or baked fish w/ sides of the day
- Tea, lemonade, water and dessert
- Cheese pizza w/ drink and dessert \$3
- Soft drinks available for purchase \$1
- We accept Cash, Check and Credit Cards






FRIDAYS, MARCH 4TH THRU APRIL 8TH



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USHERS NEEDED

We are in need of volunteers for the following masses: 6pm Saturday; 7am, 8:30am, and 5pm on Sunday. The usher is usually the first person who greets you when you attend mass. If you enjoy smiling and making people feel comfortable, then this is the position for you.

You may be asking yourself, what does this entail and am I committed every single Saturday or Sunday? We'd love to have you there all the time, but if you have another commitment just let your captain know that you will be away so they can get a substitute to fill your spot. Here are the requirements for being an usher:

Opening doors and greeting the parishioners and visitors, helping them find seats, taking up the collection baskets and handing out the bulletins after mass, and assisting at the various celebrations of the mass. We usually have sign-up sheets for the following:

Communal anointing services, communal Penance, Holy Days of Obligation, Ash Wednesday, Holy Week, Christmas and Easter Vigil.

Main ingredients for becoming an usher: a welcoming smile, kindness to all young and elderly, respectful to each other and be willing to give one hour of your time.

If you can say yes to any of the above ingredients, we would love to have you come on board and join us. Thank you and God Bless you.

Please call Cheralyn Quevedo, Asst. to Pastor at 727-372-8600, Ext. 111

Eucharist Ministers Needed

*for Nursing Homes, the Homebound, and Hospital
We can schedule according to your availability. If interested, contact
Betty West, Parish Nurse, at 727-372-8600, ext. 116*

A Solemn Time of Preparation for Elect & Those about to Receive Sacraments at the Easter Vigil

And a time for the rest of us to check our Lenten progress as well!

**STARCIA
The Scrutinies**

As they reach the Easter Vigil, those receiving sacraments at the Easter Vigil—in particular the Catechumens who will be baptized—enter a time of deeper reflection and prayer. The Scrutinies help them in 5 ways:

- ✦ Uncover, then heal, what is weak, defective, and sinful
- ✦ Bring out what is upright, strong, and good
- ✦ Deliver the Elect from the power of Satan
- ✦ Protect them from temptation
- ✦ Strengthen them in Christ.



The First Scrutiny: The Woman at the Well

- ✦ When Jesus shows her that He knows her, she knows she's in the presence of someone special.
- ✦ Do I let Jesus show me that He knows and understands me?

The Second Scrutiny: The Man Born Blind

- ✦ As soon as he could see, the man's life became very difficult.
- ✦ Has the restoration of my sight so changed me that others are surprised at the transformation?

The Third Scrutiny: Raising of Lazarus from the Dead

- ✦ Jesus shouts the liberating words of life, "Lazarus, come forth!"
- ✦ How is He shouting that to me today?

The Rite:

- ✦ Intercessions for the Elect
- ✦ Prayer of Exorcism
- ✦ The Laying on of Hands
- ✦ Dismissal of the Elect

Please continue to pray for our Catechumens and all those receiving sacraments this Easter!



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