



# ST. THOMAS AQUINAS CATHOLIC CHURCH

535 Rucker Road  
Alpharetta, GA 30004  
P: 770-475-4501  
F: 770-772-0355  
www.sta.org

April 4, 2021



## Easter SUNDAY DOMINGO DE PASCUA



### MASS SCHEDULE

#### MASS TIMES

**Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday:**

- 12:00 p.m. - English\*

**Wednesday:**

- 12:00 p.m. - English - Senior Mass (62 and older) \*

**Jueves**

- 7:00 p.m. - Misa en español\*

**Saturday Vigil / Vigilia:**

- 5:00 p.m. - **Indoors** - English\*
- 7:30 p.m. - **Templo** - Español\*

**Sunday / Domingo:**

- 8:00 a.m. - **Indoors** - English
- 11:00 a.m. - **Outdoors** - English
- 2:00 p.m. - **Afuera** - Español
- 5:00 p.m. - **Indoors** - English

*\*Mass is Livestreamed through our Facebook page and posted on our website and YouTube following each Mass.*

*\* La misa se transmite en vivo a través de nuestra pagina de Facebook y se publica en nuestro sitio web y en YouTube después de cada misa.*

### PARISH OFFICE HOURS

#### OFFICE HOURS

**Parish Office:** 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Monday - Friday

Sunday: 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

**Faith Formation:** 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Tuesday - Friday

#### HORARIO DE OFICINA

**Oficina Parroquial:** 9 a.m. a 4 p.m. Lunes a viernes.

**Formación de fe:** 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. Martes a viernes

**La Oficina de atención al público en español:**

3 p.m. - 7 p.m. Lunes a jueves

# WELCOME TO OUR FAMILY

Office Hours / Question of the Week

## CLERGY



**Msgr. Daniel Stack**  
Pastor

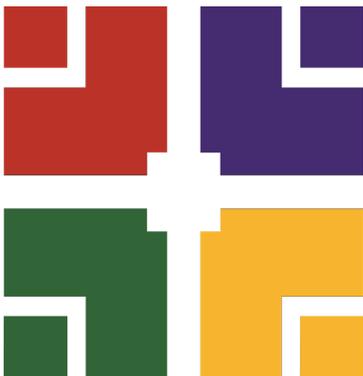


**Fr. Roberto Herrera**  
Parochial Vicar



**Fr. Paul W. Berny**  
In Residence

## FOLLOW US



### WECONNECT PARISH MOBILE APP

- EVENTS CALENDAR**  
Stay up-to-date with events at your church.
- PARISH NOTIFICATIONS**  
Receive notifications about parish news and ministries.
- DAILY READINGS**  
Follow the daily readings from home or during Mass.

**TO DOWNLOAD:**  
iPhone Users Scan: ParishApp2 to 523888  
Android Users Scan: ParishApp2 to 523888

### WECONNECT PARROQUIA APLICACIÓN MÓVIL

- CALENARIO DE EVENTOS**  
Manténgase al día sobre los eventos de su parroquia.
- AVISOS DE SU PARROQUIA**  
Reciba avisos sobre noticias de su parroquia y los ministerios.
- ESCRITURA DIARIA**  
Siga los lecturas diarias de su libro o durante la Misa.

**PARA DESCARGAR:**  
Usuarios de iPhone: Escan el código QR Parroquia2 a 523888  
Usuarios de Android: Escan el código QR Parroquia2 a 523888

# Question of the Week

## QUESTION OF THE WEEK

*Today is only the beginning of our Easter Joy. How will you and your family keep this joy during the 50 days of Easter?*

Each week, members of the staff gather to study and reflect on the upcoming Sunday's Gospel, and from that study and reflection they prepare the Question of the Week. Refer back to today's Gospel to reflect on your personal response. [John 20:1-9](#)

## PREGUNTA DE LA SEMANA

*Hoy inicia el Gozo de la Pascua. ¿Cómo tú y tu familia van a vivir este gozo durante los siguientes 50 días de la Pascua?*

Cada semana, miembros del personal se reúnen para estudiar y reflexionar en el próximo evangelio del domingo y en base de ese estudio y reflexión ellos preparan la Pregunta de la Semana. Usa el evangelio y las lecturas para encontrar tu respuesta personal a la pregunta. [Juan 20:1-9](#)

## WE REJOICE WITH THOSE WHO CELEBRATED THE EASTER SACRAMENTS *NOS REGOCIJAMOS CON LOS QUE CELEBRARON LOS SACRAMENTOS PASCUALES*

**At the Easter Vigil on April 3, 2021, we welcomed into the Catholic Church with great joy through the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist:**

***Les damos la bienvenida a la Iglesia Católica con gran alegría a través de los Sacramentos del Bautismo, Confirmación y la Eucaristía:***

Dianna Mary Arevalo  
Leonardo Miranda-Lara  
Victor Manuel Miranda Lara  
Andy Marquez  
Anthony Marquez

Nancy Marquez  
Kevin Jesuaa Martinez-Granados  
Richard Neri-Rubin  
Irmeya Cedrick Ouedraogo  
Luka Samir Perez Mar

**We joyfully received into full communion of the Catholic Church through the Sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist:**

***Los recibimos gozamente en la plena comunión de la Iglesia Católica a través de los Sacramentos de la Confirmación y de la Eucaristía:***

Anderson Courtney Bailie  
Rachel Katherine O'Neill  
Katelyn Cleary Plescow  
David Matthew Rosado

**We rejoiced with these Catholics who have completed the Sacraments of Initiation with Confirmation and the Eucharist:**

***Nos regocijamos con estos Católicos que completaron su iniciación con la Confirmación y de la Eucaristía:***

Christopher Cruz Ordoñez  
Estefania Huerta Bruno  
Vanessa Guadalupe Ortiz Rivera  
Deici Pineda-Aleman  
Alberto Rangel-Castro  
Lelis Antonio Reyes Granados

Joselyn Reyes-Velasquez  
Luisa Edilma Velasquez Gómez  
Jose Guadalupe Villarreal-del Real  
Fatima Zamudio-Gonzalez  
Sebastian Zamudio-Gonzalez

**We rejoiced with these Catholics who have completed the Sacraments of Initiation with Confirmation:**

***Nos regocijamos con estos Católicos que completaron su iniciación con la Confirmación:***

Carlos Alexander Carrillo-Muñoz  
Guadalupe Garcia Zamora  
Marvin Benjamín Guardado  
Michael Lee Critchet  
Francisco López Cruz  
Xitlali Martinez Camacho

Kassandra Mercado-Galván  
Maria Lizbeth Rivera-Peñalosa  
Michael John Scherrer  
Timothy Francis Schindler, Jr  
Santos Varela

**And we rejoiced with the following Catholics who completed the Sacraments of Initiation with the Eucharist:**

***Y nos regocijamos con los siguientes católicos que completaron los Sacramentos de iniciación con la Eucaristía:***

Elizabeth Lara Bahena  
Gerardo Miranda Aguilar





“ Resurrection and hope.

Atlanta has the perfect weather for the Liturgical year, especially for Easter. So many flowers are blooming and trees are sending forth new leaves. Years ago in Cedartown, Georgia we had a group of young men from Guatemala who came to the parish in January. They had been in Florida after coming from Guatemala. I took some of them for a ride around the county and one of them asked me “What killed everything?” In January, everything seemed dead! How surprised and delighted they were with the resurrection of Spring. In that same Parish, St. Bernadette’s, an older woman told me when I was downhearted about something: “bad times pass.” Easter is a celebration of the bad times having passed and having given way to resurrection and new life.

May yours be a joyous Easter. ”



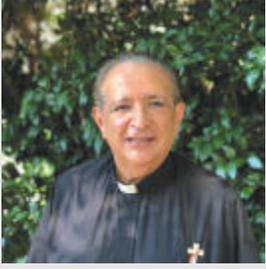
*-Monsignor Dan Stack  
Pastor*

• “Dios nos ama mucho”  
• Escuchamos a la Sagrada Escritura que dice, “Dios nos demuestra el amor que nos tiene en el hecho de que, siendo todavía pecadores, murió Cristo por nosotros. Así que con mayor razón, ahora que hemos sido justificados por su sangre, seremos salvados por él de la colera divina.” (Romanos 5, 8-9) Hoy, que celebramos a Resurrección de Cristo, vemos que Él nos ama, y que nos habla del amor que nos tiene.

• El día de hoy les pido que hagamos una obra de caridad con los que nos rodean. Sí, una obra de caridad. No tiene que ser monetaria, si no lo deseamos. Por ejemplo, limpiar la mesa después de comer, lavar la loza, llevar a la mascota para que se recrea algo y haga sus necesidades, leerles a nuestros padres – o hijos – o a alguien las sagradas escrituras. Es decir, hagamos algo que nos acerque más al Señor y a nuestros seres queridos.  
• ¡Felices Pascuas 2021! ”



*-Padre Roberto Herrera  
Parochial Vicar*



“*May this Easter Sunday fill you with hope, happiness, prosperity, and abundance, all received through God's divine grace.*”

-Deacon Art Lema



“*My family and I moved to Alpharetta in 1983 and found Saint Thomas Aquinas (STA) that first week. We have been parishioners ever since. I was ordained as a Deacon in 2001 and have served at STA for 20 years. Welcome. We pray that you call Saint Thomas Aquinas your spiritual home.*”

-Deacon Kevin Tracy



Deacon John Stachan



Deacon Tom McGiveny



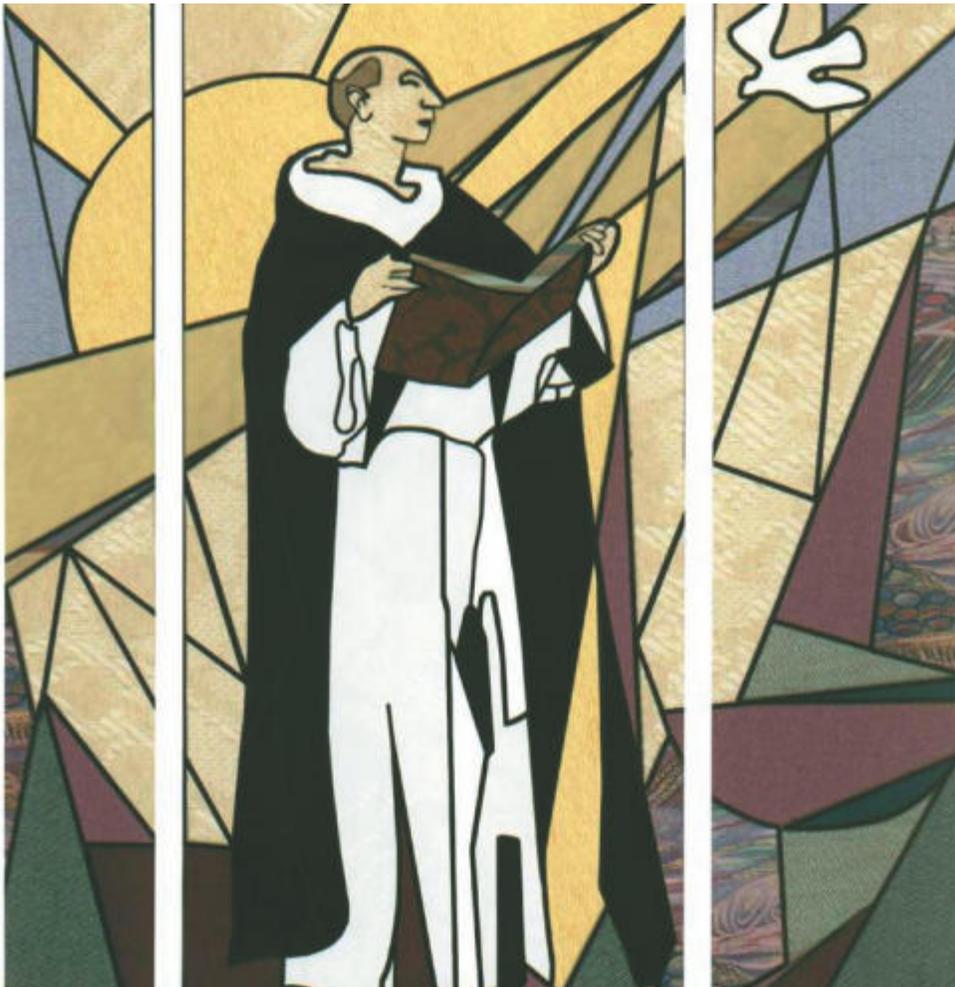
Deacon Ed LaHouse



Deacon Bill Keeling



Deacon Bernie Casey



**FOLLOW US**



**@stacatholicchurch**

Daily and Saturday Vigil Masses are livestreamed on our Facebook.

Las misas de vigilia diaria y de los sábados se transmiten en vivo en nuestro Facebook.



**St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Church**

All livestreamed Masses are posted on our YouTube.

Todas las misas transmitidas en vivo se publican en nuestro YouTube.



**@sta\_catholics**



**@sta\_catholics**



## WELCOME TO THE ST. THOMAS AQUINAS FAMILY!

We are so excited to welcome you to St. Thomas Aquinas this Easter Sunday! After a year filled with questions, we are blessed to have our doors open to you. If you are new here, we're so happy that you decided to come to our Parish. If you are returning after weeks, months, or even a year of remaining in quarantine, we welcome you back home.

To keep in touch with us and to stay in the know, make sure you are following us on all of our social media platforms and are subscribed to our weekly newsletter, STA Today.

STA Today was created a year ago to update our parishioners of all the frequent and fast changes that were happening in our Parish, in the Archdiocese, and in the United States. STA Today is a weekly newsletter that is published on Thursdays and is sent to your e-mail. Find out what is happening in our Parish, our local community, the Archdiocese of Atlanta, and the Catholic Church. To sign up for the newsletter, go to the home page of our website, [www.sta.org](http://www.sta.org), and find the section titled "STA Today", where you will enter your e-mail address.

Our website, [www.sta.org](http://www.sta.org), contains all the information that you could need to know about our parish and community. It is updated frequently and has a convenient way for you to register as a parishioner online. Just click the "I'm New" tab to find all the information you may need.

Again, we welcome you to the St. Thomas Aquinas community, and pray you find a home within our Parish.



If you have any questions regarding communications, contact our Communications Coordinator, Lia Armistead, at [liarmistead@sta.org](mailto:liarmistead@sta.org) or ext. 112.

## SHARE YOUR JOY - GET INVOLVED!

*I dream of a "missionary option," that is, a missionary impulse capable of transforming everything, so that the Church's customs, ways of doing things, times and schedules, language and structures can be suitably channeled for the evangelization of today's world rather than for her self-preservation.*

*(Francis, Evangelii Gaudium, no. 27)*

Our parish is alive with a variety of groups and their activities. We invite you to get involved. People who met here find their common interests and either join existing ministries or form their own that will perform the corporal and spiritual works of mercy in the community of which we are a part.

We invite you to take action in our call to evangelize through participation in the parish-based Ministries and services or the different international and archdiocesan approved lay Organizations. We are dedicated to creating a place for everyone to make a connection and grow in faith through prayer, lifelong learning, service, discipleship, and pastoral support.

### Lay Ecclesial Movements and Organizations

- Habitast for Humanity
- Knights of Columbus
- Legion of Mary
- Prison Ministry
- St. Vincent de Paul Society
- Scouts BSA
- Small Faith Communities
- Alpha

### Pastoral Care and Parish Life Ministries

- Annulment Case Sponsor
- Bereavement
- Funeral Ministry
- Friends of Martha
- Heath Ministry
- Our Sister Parish in Haiti
- Blue Star Military Group
- Forever Young Friends - Senior Group
- Newcomer Ministry
- Baptism Ministry
- Wedding Ministry

### Liturgical Ministries

- Acolytes
- Adoration
- Altar Guild
- Altar Linen
- Extraordinary Ministers
- Hospitality
- Lectors
- Liturgical Decorators
- Sactistains

### Music Ministry

- Cantors
- Children's Choir
- Choir 10:30 a.m.
- Contemporary Ensemble
- Handbell Choir
- Fifteen Band

More information on all of our ministries and how you can get involved are available on [www.sta.org](http://www.sta.org).

## SMALL FAITH COMMUNITIES

A Small Faith Community is a group of 10-12 parishioners who gather regularly in homes to pray and reflect on the Sunday scripture readings in order to make connections between those readings and the experiences of everyday life. New communities are formed at the beginning of each year; however, you may join an existing group at any time.

## FAITH FORMATION

We at St. Thomas Aquinas are proud of our comprehensive faith formation program, in both English and Spanish, which features a total family approach: From the most rambunctious 3-year-old to the most thoughtful adult, the whole family participates in faith formation at one hour, and then worships together at another, preserving the essential link between worship and catechesis. Parents are the first teachers of their children in the ways of faith, and

parents cannot give what they do not have. But adult faith formation is not solely for the sake of children. Faith is not primarily a set of propositions to be learned once for a lifetime, but a relationship with the living God, which, like all relationships, must constantly be nurtured if it is to thrive. This ongoing faith development is an imperative for all adult Catholics. 2021-20211 Registration and Information our Faith Formation programs will be available in June 2021.





**SANTO TOMAS DE AQUINO LE DA LA MÁS CORDIAL BIENVENIDA A NUESTRA COMUNIDAD HISPANA.**

Es nuestro deseo compartirle la información acerca de los diferentes ministerios, horarios de Misas, cómo hacerse miembro de la Iglesia, y como participar en familia en la formación de fe. Hermanos y hermanas los invitamos a conocer la parroquia y a formar parte de esta hermosa comunidad en la que procuramos servir y amar a nuestro prójimo como Cristo Nuestro Señor nos enseñó.



Para mas informacion contacte Andrea a la oficina de Información en español al teléfono 770-475-4501 ext. 215 o a [agarcia@sta.org](mailto:agarcia@sta.org)

**OFICINA EN ESPAÑOL**

Nuestra oficina de información en español está abierta de lunes a jueves de 3:00 p.m. a 7:00 p.m. Esta oficina esta para servir a la comunidad hispana con la planeación de bautizos, quinceañeras, bodas, presentaciones, bendiciones especiales, etc.

Santo Tomas de Aquino es una comunidad que vibra espiritualmente, tenemos ministerios en inglés y español, esforzándonos día a día para crecer en la vida espiritual dentro y



**Horario de Misas en español**

- jueves: 7:00 p.m.
- sábado: 7:30 p.m.
- domingo: 2:00 p.m.
- Las misas de jueves y sábados en español son transmitidas en vivo. Puede verlas en [www.sta.org](http://www.sta.org) o en nuestra página de Facebook

**Confesiones**

- lunes: 2:00 pm
- sábado: 3:00 pm

**¡LO INVITAMOS A CRECER CON NOSOTROS!**

¿No sabe cómo ser un servidor? a continuación, le presentamos una lista de ministerios en español para que usted considere poner sus talentos al servicio de los demás y para Gloria de Dios y así también puede ser parte integral de la vida activa de Santo Tomas de Aquino. Nuestros líderes de ministerios están impacientes por escuchar de usted y responder a todas sus preguntas.

**Ministerios Litúrgicos**

- Adoración
- Acólitos
- Ministros de Eucaristía
- Ministros de Hospitalidad - Ujieres
- Lectores
- Sacristanes



**Ministerio de Música**

- Coro Estudiantina Canaria (Adultos)
- Coro Divino Niño Jesús (Niños y adolescentes)
- Coro Santo Tomas Aquino (jóvenes adultos)



**Ministerios Eclesiales Laicos**

- St. Vicente de Paul
- Alpha



**Vida Parroquial y Cuidado Pastoral**

- Adolescentes de Sto. Tomás
- Evangelización para Niños y Adultos
- Fiesta Brunch
- Grupo de Oración Carismática
- Proclamadores Niños de Fátima
- Unity & Diversity
- Unidos con Jesús- Grupo de Jóvenes Adultos

Oramos a Dios para que usted pueda encontrar el ministerio al que Dios le está llamando para encontrarse con El y así amarlo, servirle y vivir en Él junto con su familia y la gran familia de Santo Tomas.

**FORMACIÓN EN LA FE**

En St. Thomas Aquinas estamos orgullosos de nuestro programa integral de formación en la fe, tanto en inglés como en español, que presenta un enfoque familiar total: desde el niño de 3 años más inquieto hasta el adulto más reflexivo, toda la familia participa en la formación de la fe a una hora, y luego adoran juntos

a otra, preservando el vínculo esencial entre el culto y la catequesis. Los padres son los primeros maestros de sus hijos en los caminos de la fe, y los padres no pueden dar lo que no tienen. La formación de la fe de adultos no es únicamente por el bien de los niños. La fe no es principalmente un conjunto de proposiciones que deben aprenderse una vez en la vida,

sino una relación con el Dios vivo que, como todas las relaciones, debe nutrirse constantemente para que prospere. Este desarrollo continuo de la fe es imperativo para todos los católicos adultos. 2021-2022 La información y el registro para nuestros programas de formación en la fe estarán disponibles en junio de 2021.



## ST. THOMAS AQUINAS PRESCHOOL

### Mission Statement

St. Thomas Aquinas Preschool embraces children spiritually, emotionally, and socially, nurturing children through play and socialization in a learning environment, and guiding children towards respect and compassion for others in the belief that God made all of us unique and with special gifts.

### Philosophy

St. Thomas Aquinas Preschool accepts each child at his or her own developmental level providing activities that facilitate growth spiritually, emotionally, socially, physically and cognitively.

We believe that children learn through developmentally appropriate practices which offer children the time to learn and practice new skills.

We believe that children learn freely and easily when they feel secure and accepted, therefore we strive to provide an environment that is safe, nurturing and stimulating. It is our hope that the preschool years at St. Thomas Aquinas will encourage a love of learning and an understanding of God's love for each child.

### Affirmative Action Statement

St. Thomas Aquinas Preschool accepts children of any race, creed, color, sex, national origin or religion.



Our very own Preschool Director, Kathy Hampton, was named the Archdiocese of Atlanta Catholic School's Preschool Director of the Year! She has been bringing joy to STA for 24 years and loves being a Catholic educator!



## Amen Corner Kathy Kuczka

Easter conjures childhood memories of daffodils that pushed their way through the soil to announce the arrival of spring, of Easter bonnets and baskets, and of special Easter

food. At our house in Western Pennsylvania, the kitchen surged with life in the days leading up to Easter. Dough that was kneaded, placed gingerly in large bowls, and covered with dish cloths would rise slowly but steadily. Rice pies, a local delicacy, were crafted with care, and a delectable leg of lamb, symbolic of Jesus, the Paschal Lamb, was prepared for the Easter feast

The Easter after Mom died, I decided to host my own holiday dinner at our house, as she had done for so many years. I invited our family, some of whom came from as far away as New York. I retrieved the Easter decorations from the attic and dressed up the house. I baked the Easter bread and the rice pies. I prepared the leg of lamb, put it in the oven and set the table, just as Mom used to do. Mom was no longer there, but

somehow performing the ritual of our Easter dinner made her present. That's what rituals do.

That's what we do each time we gather for liturgy. We make present the person of Jesus through the rituals of the Mass. Liturgical symbols also make present the person of Jesus by helping us to relate to Jesus in new ways. Water washes us, renews us, and quenches our thirst. So does Jesus. Oil soothes us and heals us. So does Jesus. Light guides us and gives us direction. So does Jesus. Bread and wine nourish us and sustain us. So does Jesus. Liturgical symbols are packed with meaning. They invite us to see beyond the ordinary and to understand more deeply the mysteries they symbolize. That's what symbols do.

Symbols are powerful. Today's gospel reveals a powerful symbol. At the place where Jesus was buried, the disciples discover something completely unexpected: an empty tomb. Mary of Magdala sees the empty tomb and believes what appears to be obvious, that the body of Jesus was stolen. But the other disciple sees beyond the obvious. The gospel tells us that this disciple saw the empty tomb and believed. That's what faith does. May we, who celebrate the rituals and witness the symbols of Easter, have the faith to see beyond the ordinary and beyond the emptiness to fullness of life in God. That's what Easter calls us to do.



## REMEMBER *in your prayers*

### PRAY FOR OUR SICK

Laura Acosta-Calixto	Mary Ellen Griffin	Angelica Quintero
Snobia Alvarez	Lisa Holland	Polly Russell
Ted Bare	Deacon Ed LaHouse	Catherine Sperando
Melinda Basco	Bob MacPhee	Deacon John
Lynn Brady	Ann Masterson	Strachan
Judy Chandler	Jack McBride	Angela Taylor
Sally Clark	Jim Musoil	Christopher Thomas
Ellen Reuland Coons	Eugene Otto	Lisa Westbrook
Doug Fee	Mary Peksa	Michael Willhelm
Carol Gallagher	Alberto Ayala	John Witkowski
Peter Gallagher	Penalzo	

This list of those suffering illness is a ministry of Forever Young Friends and is updated at noon on Thursday every week. To be listed for six weeks, removed or extended, contact Marianne Fronck at [marianneFronck@gmail.com](mailto:marianneFronck@gmail.com). Let us pray together as a family for your intentions.

### BAPTISMS / BAUTIZOS

Baptism is a special step in your child's faith journey, and we are honored to be part of it. The Catholic Church teaches us that parents are the primary educators in the faith of their children. Our Baptismal preparation is designed to assist you, parents and godparents, in raising these children in the faith. To allow ample time to complete planning, expectant mothers are encouraged to contact us before their baby is born. Please review our Baptism Preparation Class schedule, for more information on this class and how to register, please contact Maria Yactayo at 770-475-4501 ext. 102 or Andrea Garcia at ext. 215.

**Baptism Prep Class in English is held in room 204 at 1:00 p.m. on:**

- May 15
- July 17
- September 18
- November 20

**La clase de preparación para el bautismo en español se lleva a cabo virtualmente por Zoom a las 7:00 p.m. él:**

- 10 de abril
- 18 de mayo
- 15 de junio

El bautizo es un paso especial en la vida de fe de su hijo y nos sentimos honrados de ser parte de él. La Iglesia Católica nos enseña que los padres son los principales educadores en la fe de sus hijos. Nuestra preparación bautismal está diseñada para ayudarlos a ustedes, padres y padrinos, a criar a estos niños en la fe. Para permitir suficiente tiempo para completar la planificación, se recomienda a las mujeres embarazadas que se comuniquen con nosotros antes de que nazca su bebé. Por favor revise nuestro horario de clases de preparación para el bautismo, para obtener más información sobre esta clase y cómo registrarse, comuníquese con Maria Yactayo al ext. 102 o Andrea García a la ext. 215.



#### Monday, April 5

12 Noon Thanksgiving by Dhabilitywalas

#### Tuesday, April 6

12 Noon (+) Doris Hamblin by Niki & Herb Reis

#### Wednesday, April 7

12 Noon (+) Grace & Michael Virostek by Phil Virostek

#### Thursday, April 8

12 Noon (L) Catherine Sperando by Paul Caruso  
7:00 p.m. (+) Violeta Freites by Maigualida Vieto

#### Friday, April 9

12 Noon (+) Celinda Rojas by Natali Fleming

#### Saturday, April 10

5:00 p.m. (L) Staci Clenney by the Nadeau Family  
7:30 p.m. (+) José Alberto Marinez Blanco by Sus Papás by Familia

#### Sunday, April 11

8:00 a.m. For the intentions of the Parish Family  
11:00 a.m. (+) Jack Klopff by Mary Klopff  
2:00 p.m. (+) Jesus Maria Landinez by Maria Landinez  
5:00 p.m. (L) Mike & Cindy Purdo by the Purdo Family

### RECONCILIATION / RECONCILIACIÓN

Lent Reconciliation Schedule: All confessions will take place in the Chapel. Masks and social distancing are required.

- Mondays: 2-4 p.m.
- Wednesdays: 1-2 p.m.
- Saturdays: 3-4 p.m.



Reconciliación: Durante cuaresma pueden venir a recibir el sacramento de reconciliación

- Lunes- 2-4 p.m.
- Miercoles - 1.-2 p.m.
- Sabados - 3-4 p.m.

#### PRAYER FOR THE PANDEMIC

We continue to pray for each other, our nation, and our world. Pray for patience and strength, for wisdom and understanding. Pray for tolerance and more loving hearts. Pray that this pandemic, which has taken so much from us, in the end makes us stronger in our love for each other and closer to God our creator.

#### ORACIÓN POR LA PANDEMIA

Continuamos orando los unos por los otros, por nuestra nación y nuestro mundo. Oren por paciencia y fortaleza, por sabiduría y comprensión. Oren por tolerancia y por corazones más amorosos. Que esta pandemia, que tanto nos ha quitado, al final nos haga más fuertes en nuestro amor mutuo y nos acerque aún más a Dios,



## UPCOMING SECOND COLLECTIONS

April 4 | Archdiocesan Seminarians Spring

April 11 | Prison Ministry

April 18 | St. Vincent de Paul - STA

April 25 | Catholic Home Mission

May 2 | Habitat for Humanity

May 9 | Mother's Day

May 16 | St. Vincent de Paul - STA

May 23 | Catholic Communications

June 6 | Maintenance Fund

## MASS ATTENDANCE

**March 15 - March 21**

Wednesday Mass for Seniors | 98

Thursday Spanish | 102

Saturday 5:00 p.m. (English) | 101

Saturday 7:30 p.m. (Spanish) | 118

Sunday 8:00 a.m. (English) | 150

Sunday 11:00 a.m. (English) | 390

Sunday 2:00 p.m. (Spanish) | 460

Sunday 5:00 p.m. (English) | 110

**TOTAL | 1,529**

## SVdP FOOD PANTRY:

- Canned Fruit
- Jelly
- Paper Towels
- Shampoo
- \$25 Kroger or Publix gift cards

Please note that expired food will not be accepted.

**Thank you for donating!**



## PRISON MINISTRY

**Remember those in prison as if you were their fellow prisoners, and those who are mistreated as if you yourselves were suffering. Hebrews 13:3**

There are many wonderful ministries at St. Thomas Aquinas. An "outreach" ministry to the outside community is the Prison Ministry.

Last year we were blessed to have eight women and three men come into Holy Mother Church through the Knights of Columbus Catholic Study Program, the RCIA program (taught by our own Deacon Bernie Casey), and the RCIA program taught by Deacon Joe Eustace from St. Mary's in Rome, Ga.

### A gentle reminder:

On April 11, the second collection will be for the Prison Ministry. God Bless you for your support throughout the years!



### THANK YOU

With sadness and our thanks, Ricardo Luzondo will be leaving St. Thomas Aquinas in April. We thank him for his hard work during his time here. We wish him well in his future endeavors.

Thank you, Ricardo!

## STEWARDSHIP

I was riding in my car with my brother and we were chatting about his participation in a small faith group or some adult formation activity at St. Jude's. He said that the speaker used an analogy of a professional sports game and asked the listeners if, in their personal faith life, they were players or fans. I hope we are all both. As fans we are encouraging those on the field to use their talents in the pursuit of their goal, to live their faith life vibrantly. As players we are giving examples that excite the fans by showing, in effect, look what God can do through us. His grace can move through you as well!

Stewardship is using the gifts we were given to enliven the faith of those around us.

In the "Gates of Prayer," the prayer book of reform Judaism I found this little proverb: Where is God? Wherever we let him in. Stewardship is using our gifts to enable others to recognize God in their midst and to let him in.

Those fed at a soup kitchen are fed by Christ. Those clothed by a charity store are clothed by Christ.

As St. Paul says in Galatians: It is no longer I who live but Christ living in me.

Stewardship is a kind of two step process where, as the Jewish proverb says, we let God in but then we allow God's graciousness to flow out from us in the exercise of our talents and gifts in service to others.

Stewardship happens most of all in your careers. Doctors have been given the gifts that enabled them to become healers and they exercise stewardship as they allow that gift of healing to change the lives of those who come to them. Accountants are accountants because of the academic gifts God gave them. As they exercise those talents to improve the lives of others they are being good stewards.

I have two gifts I enjoy very much. One is welcoming. I am really good at it. It is such a pleasure to see someone who might seem a little anxious coming here for the first time as they, with a warm welcome, show by their body language that they feel at home. My second gift that I most enjoy is making mole hills out of mountains. It is a great joy to use that gift to enable someone who is certain that the sky is falling to come to realize that it is only a little rain. And that rain will bring new life.

How have your gifts brought you this sort of joy as you live stewardship?

**-Monsignor Dan Stack  
Pastor**



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