



# Saint Thomas Aquinas Catholic Church

210 R63 Hwy-Indianola, IA 50125

Weekend Mass Saturday 4:30 pm, 8:00 am & 10:15 am Sundays

Sunday 8:00 am at Immaculate Conception-St Mary's

Tuesday- 6:00 pm mass

Daily Mass: WEDNESDAY-Friday 8:00 am

1st Tuesday of the Month at Good Samaritan Nursing Home 9:30 am

## St Thomas Aquinas Staff & Committees

Pastor Fr. Chris Fontanini	961-3026
Deacon Dave O'Brien	961-3026
Business Manager Leasa Garrett	961-3026
Director of Religious Education JoAnn Sayre	961-3026
Assistant Director of Religious Ed Elizabeth Williams	
Youth Minister (STAT) Todd Clancy	202-4670
Johna Clancy	708-0864
Maintenance: Joe Gezel	238-4543
Interim Maintenance: Jack Slinker	961-3026
Chaplain to Nursing Homes: Judy Sheets	961-3026
Assistant Chaplain to Nursing Homes: Deacon Ed Miller	961-3026
Trustees: Claire Patin 491-5149 / Interim Tim Gauger	961-3026
Pastoral Council, Chair: Mimi Kelly	321-4286
Social Concerns: Kris Gross	210-0169
Altar & Rosary (STARS): Kassi Hoxmeier	308-991-7927
Caring Hands, Pastoral Care: Helen Kollasch	961-5776
Parish Relations: Allison Carr	720-683-8355
Worship/Liturgy: Joyce DeGroot	783-3890
Hall Committee: Steve Mc Ginnis, Kristen Hanes, Kevin Parker and Leasa Garrett	
Knights of Columbus: Brian Hoxmeier	Koc.Indianola@gmail.com

**ROSARY:** Please join us in praying the rosary every Tuesday evening starting at 6:30pm in the church as we pray for peace, families and your special intentions. Also Wednesday, Thursday and Friday mornings the rosary is prayed at 7:40am.

**Sacrament of Reconciliation will be by appointment ONLY at this time. Please call the office to schedule an appointment.**

**Liturgy of Baptism:** Parents are requested to call the Parish Office to arrange for pre-baptism sessions and must be registered with the church, one sponsor must be Catholic.

**Liturgy of Marriage:** Call at least 6 months in advance to make arrangements. Pre-Marriage Program is required.

**Prayer Chain:** Our parish has a prayer chain for special intentions. Requests can be for anyone in need.

Prayer requests call Kris Gross 210-0169, Jackie Ward 515-250-7385 or Debbie McDaniel 240-2029

**Care of the Sick & Shut-ins:** Call to request the Sacrament of the Sick, the Eucharist or to be placed on the Prayer Chain.

**Newcomers/Addresses:** Register in person; call the Office for Appointment.

**Change of Address:** Notify the office when you change your address.

## DECEMBER 13

### THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

8:15 61:1-2a, 10-11 (Ps) Lk 1:46-50, 53-54

1 Thes 5:16-24 Jn 1:6-8, 19-28

7:30 a.m. Reconciliation at Immaculate Conception

8:00 a.m. Public Mass Immaculate-Linda Croat

8:00 a.m. Public Mass at St. Thomas-Arlene DeWall

10:15 a.m. Public Mass at St. Thomas-Beverly Krier

12 Noon Public Mass at St Thomas-Gary & Vivian Elbert

5:00p.m. No Mass at Simpson College until further notice

## DECEMBER 14

### SAINT JOHN OF THE CROSS

187: Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a Ps 25:4-5ab, 6, 7bc, 8-9

Mt 21:23-27 see 693:1 Cor 2:1-10a Lk 14:25-33

NO 8:00 a.m. Mass at St. Thomas

6:30 p.m. Rosary/ Reconciliation at Immaculate Conception

7:00 p.m. Public Mass Immaculate-Carl & Pat Nehring

## DECEMBER 15

188: Zep 3:1-2, 9-13 Ps 34:2-3, 6-7, 17-18, 19, 23 Mt 21:28-32

5:30 p.m. Reconciliation at St Thomas

6:00 p.m. Public Mass at St. Thomas-Zac Easter

## DECEMBER 16

189: Is 45:6b-8, 18, 21c-25 Ps 85:9ab, 10-14 Lk 7:18b-23

7:30 a.m. Reconciliation at St Thomas

8:00 a.m. Public Mass at St. Thomas-Carol VanAernam

## DECEMBER 17

193: Gn 49:2, 8-10 Ps 72:3-4, 7-8, 17 Mt 1:1-17

7:30 a.m. Reconciliation at St Thomas

8:00 a.m. Public Mass at St. Thomas-Beverly Krier

## DECEMBER 18

194: Jer 23:5-8 Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19 Mt 1:18-25

7:30 a.m. Reconciliation at St Thomas

8:00 a.m. Public Mass at St. Thomas-Zac Easter

## DECEMBER 19

195: Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6b, 16-17 Lk 1:5-25

3:30 p.m.-4:15 p.m. Reconciliation at St. Thomas

4:30 p.m. Public Mass at St. Thomas-Zac Easter

## DECEMBER 20

### FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

11: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16 Ps 89:2-5, 27, 29

Rom 16:25-27 Lk 1:26-38

7:30 a.m. Reconciliation at Immaculate Conception

8:00 a.m. Public Mass Immaculate-Linda Croat

8:00 a.m. Public Mass at St. Thomas-Zac Easter

10:15 a.m. Public Mass at St. Thomas-Zac Easter

12 Noon Public Mass at St Thomas-Alice Whitmore

5:00p.m. No Mass at Simpson College until further notice

## Livestream Masses

Saturdays at 4:30pm and Sunday at 10:15am at St. Thomas &  
Sundays at 8:00 a.m. at Immaculate Conception

Office Hours: Monday-Friday 9:00 a.m. -4:00 p.m. Closed for lunch Monday-Friday (12 p.m.- 1 p.m.)  
Parish Office: 961-3026/ Fax: 961-3458 Rectory Phone 962-2063 Website: [stthomasindianola.com](http://stthomasindianola.com)  
Facebook: St. Thomas Church, Indianola IA

## PASTORS REPORT

Dear Parishioners:

We celebrate Gaudete Sunday this weekend. Gaudete means rejoice from the Latin. The Scripture verse we take this from is: Philippians 4:4-5: "Rejoice in the Lord always, again I Say, Rejoice, Indeed, the Lord is near." The church sees this penitential season of Advent as more than half way over and we look forward to the annual celebration of Christmas, but also look back to that first Christmas, when he came in history to the people of his time and day, yet also, in majesty, when he comes again in glory. Our hearts long for his coming when His people rejoice to see him returning to his people and bringing them to the new, eternal Jerusalem. Let us look at the setting for the first reading. Israel had been in Babylonian exile for nearly 50 years. They were in a foreign land with foreign customs and traditions. It might be like us being deported to another part of the world, where our faith, language, food, culture, customs, traditions, etc. would all be a foreign concept. It might take some getting used to and more than likely, we would never completely adjust, particularly when it came to our faith in Jesus, if that was subordinated to the State or some other ideology that was not a part of the Democratic Republic process which allowed freedom to worship or to celebrate holidays or if done so, more or less in a hidden, underground way, much like the Christians lived in the first centuries with the Masses in catacombs. Persecution, even death may be part of the exile. Then, Isaiah, the prophet tells them, they will return home to all their familiar faith, customs, traditions, language, food, and culture. This would be a cause for rejoicing. Yes, there would be a rebuilding process, yet, God would not abandon them.

Then, we look at the Gospel reading for today, St. John the Baptist is in jail. He has spoke the truth to the powers to be. They wanted nothing of that and nothing to do with him. In fact, he would soon lose his head, literally, as a martyr under King Herod. He had called Herod and Herodius out due to the adulterous affair. He was not into making friends and influencing people as Dale Carnegie might say. Even today, a modern day St. John the Baptist, might find himself or herself in the same predicament. St. John the Baptist might have been in the 'dumps', Is this Messiah whom we have had fever pitch expectations not going to overthrow the oppressive Rome? Is he not an earthly king? St. John the Baptist was told the same message from Isaiah: the blind would see, the deaf would hear, the mute would speak, those in captivity would be liberated or freed, the poor would have the Good News preached to them, etc. This is Good News, this is cause for rejoicing. Jesus Christ is not some earthly king who is here today, gone tomorrow, or ruling for two, four, six, eight or even 20 or 30 years, but a king whose reign is forever, a king who would establish peace, justice, righteousness for all peoples from the womb to the tomb. He needs us. We are his hands, eyes, ears, and feet here on this earth. We are called to make a difference, to make known his Joy, by being a people of joy, a people who rejoice! Someone said JOY is Jesus, Others, and Yourself. When we put things in this priority, we will have true JOY in our lives. So, Rejoice in the Lord always, again, I say, rejoice., Indeed, the Lord is near. Philippians 4:4-5. Happy Gaudete Sunday!

Fr. Chris

## Ministry Schedule

**\*Please call someone to replace you if you aren't available to serve\***

### **4:30 p.m. Mass December 19th:**

**Lector:** Adam Naughton

**Eucharistic Ministers:** Adam & Amy Jo Naughton

**Ushers:** Derry Butler

**Cleaning Vessels:** Adam & Amy Jo Naughton

### **8:00 a.m. Mass December 20th:**

**Lector:** Mark Kollasch

**Eucharistic:** Joseph DeWall & Cathy Krapfl

**Ushers:** Terry & Cathy Krapfl

**Cleaning Vessels:** Joseph DeWall & Cathy Krapfl

### **10:15 a.m. Mass December 20th:**

**Lector:** Ed Tormey

**Eucharistic Ministers:** Ben Brackney & Logan Hageman

**Ushers:** Ed & Connie Tormey

**Cleaning Vessels:** Ben Brackney & Logan Hageman

**Please remember: at least 2 Eucharistic Ministers need to stay after Mass to help clean the Sacred Vessels.**

**Please Note: That you are strongly encouraged to wear a face masks social distance and use hand sanitizer before entering and exiting the church.**

**Linens:** Judy Kirby

**Prayerfully consider continuing your weekly Tithes ,Building Fund & monthly Capital Campaign Pledge as expenses will continue to come in.**

**You may drop your envelope off in the Secured Box on the wall under the Office sign, place it in the mail or there will be a basket in the back of the Church for you to place your Offerings in as well.**

## Prayer List

For all those in need.

Doug Andreasen, Ed Lelnen, Jean Veasman,  
Loretta Petersen, Aaron Babinski, Mike Metz, Patrick Shandley  
James Rector & for the Souls in Purgatory

Please contact Jackie Ward at jjward71@gmail.com or 515-250-7385,  
Kris Gross at 210-0169 or Debbie McDaniel at 240-2029  
to put someone on the Prayer Chain. They will notify the rest of the group to  
start immediate prayers for  
you or your loved one in need.

We would like to offer a prayer shawl to parishioners who are ill or in need of  
comfort.

The shawls were prayed over when created. Please make your request  
through one of the prayer chain leaders.

Please contact Leasa Garrett (961-3026) to add a name  
to the list published in the bulletin.

Names will remain on the list for a month unless  
you indicate otherwise.

## STAT Night

# "Shop till you drop night"

This past Wednesday, December 9th our STAT group went Christmas shopping for their COC friends, this is always such a fun time of year. Wednesday, December 16th will be the COC "drive-by Christmas present delivery"!



## RE Night

Please remember our 2nd graders in your prayers as they will be making their First Reconciliation on December 16th. May God bless them.



All Christmas poinsettia plant requests must be in no later than

**December 17th**

Thank you



## Prayer for the 3rd Sunday of Advent

*O God, who see how your people faithfully await the feast of the Lord's Nativity, enable us, we pray, to attain the joys of so great a salvation, and to celebrate them always with solemn worship and glad rejoicing. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. — Amen.*

Liturgy of the Hours

## Local Help For Those in Need

The St. Vincent de Paul Society (SVDP) is an international ministry with a local council in Des Moines that is supported by the Des Moines Diocese. Parishes in the diocese form conferences of volunteers that work to help the society achieve its goal of serving those in material or spiritual need.

**St. Patrick's-Irish Settlement Parish in rural Cumming** has formed a conference to help those in our local communities. Volunteers from St. Patrick's are available to assist people in accessing services available thru SVDP and to help those in emergent need of basic necessities. **If you or someone you know needs assistance, contact the SVDP/St. Patrick's volunteers at # 515-204-8047. All contacts are kept confidential.**

Through two locations in Des Moines, SVDP offers food, clothing & household items; emergency assistance with rent/utilities; job prep, tutoring, language & computer training and much more. Volunteers and donations are always welcome. More information can be obtained at [www.svdpsm.org](http://www.svdpsm.org).

If you would like send Msgr. Bognanno a Christmas Card his address is below.

Msgr Frank Bognanno  
3663 Grand Ave. Unit 207  
Des Moines, Iowa 50312

# ADORATION



We currently have several openings for adoration in our chapel. Advent is such a wonderful time to start and make an ongoing commitment to spending an hour a week with our Lord. We need the prayers and graces now more than ever during these trying times. Below are the hours that are currently empty. If you are able/interested in covering one of these hours, please call Anitta 515-344-7850 or send me an email at [spennani1976@outlook.com](mailto:spennani1976@outlook.com). God Bless you for your consideration.

**Mondays:** 12 Midnight and 1 am  
**Tuesdays:** 12 Midnight, 1, 2, 3, 8 am and 12 noon  
**Wednesdays:** 12 Midnight, 1, 2, and 11 am  
**Thursdays:** 12 Noon and 3pm  
**Fridays:** 12 Midnight, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 8, 9am and 12 noon

## ADA

St. Thomas has an **ADA** Goal of **\$65,894** we have paid **\$43,173**. As of 11-13-2020, **\$22,721** remains. If this amount is not met St. Thomas will have to pay the shortfall amount back to the Diocese of Des Moines.

There are ADA cards in the back of the church where you pick up your bulletins.

Please prayerfully consider giving whatever you can afford. Thank you!

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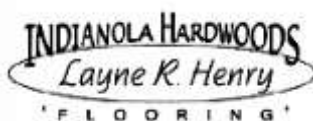
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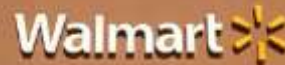
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**Terry Krapfl**  
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