



# 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 <b>Dave O'Brien</b>	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 DeGroote	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 27

### THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY, AND JOSEPH

17: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 Ps 128:1-5 Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17 Lk 2:22-40 or 2:22,

39-40 or, in Year B: Gen 15:1-6; 21:1-3 Ps 105:1-6, 8-9

Heb 11:8, 11-12, 17-19 Lk 2:22-40 or 2:22, 39-40

**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-Anita Cheshier**

**12 Noon Public Mass at St Thomas-Debbie Fontanini Morlan**

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

## DECEMBER 28

### THE HOLY INNOCENTS

698: 1 Jn 1:5-2:2 Ps 124:2-5, 7c-8 Mt 2:13-18

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

**4:30 p.m. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament**

**6:30 p.m. Rosary at Immaculate Conception**

## DECEMBER 29

### FIFTH DAY WITHIN THE OCTAVE OF THE NATIVITY

202: 1 Jn 2:3-11 Ps 96:1-3, 5b-6 Lk 2:22-35

**6:00 p.m. Public Mass at St. Thomas-Phillips Family**

## DECEMBER 30

### SIXTH DAY WITHIN THE OCTAVE OF THE NATIVITY

203: 1 Jn 2:12-17 Ps 96:7-10 Lk 2:36-40

**8:00 a.m. Public Mass at St. Thomas-Kay Bethards**

## DECEMBER 31

### SEVENTH DAY WITHIN THE OCTAVE OF THE NATIVITY

204: 1 Jn 2:18-21 Ps 96:1-2, 11-13 Jn 1:1-18

**4:00 p.m. Public Mass at St. Thomas-for blessings on the marriage of**

**Mary Hughes & Brian Connolly**

**5:30 p.m. Public Mass at Immaculate Conception-**

**Carl & Pat Nehring**

## JANUARY 1

### SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE MOTHER OF GOD

18: Nm 6:22-27 Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8 Gal 4:4-7 Lk 2:16-21

**9:00 a.m. Public Mass at St. Thomas-Albert Basler**

## JANUARY 2

### SAINTS BASIL THE GREAT & GREGORY NAZIANZEN

205: 1 Jn 2:22-28 Ps 98:1-4 Jn 1:19-28 see 510: Eph 4:1-7, 11-13

Mt 23:8-12

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

**4:30 p.m. Public Mass at St. Thomas-For the intentions of**

**Kevin & Ellen Miller**

## JANUARY 3

### THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

20: Is 60:1-6 Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-13 Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6 Mt 2:1-12

**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-Cathy, John & Kathy Malloy**

**10:15 a.m. Public Mass at St. Thomas-Arlene DeWall**

**12 Noon Public Mass at St Thomas-Carol VanAernam**

**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 the Feast of the Holy Family this weekend! Although the Coptic faith tradition has celebrated this feast in earliest times due to the flight into Egypt, the Feast of the Holy Family is fairly recent in its origin. According to one source, Barbara d'Hillehoust founded the Association of the Holy Family in Montreal in 1663. The devotion spread and in 1893, Pope Leo XIII, approved the Feast and himself composed part of the Office. It was welcomed by succeeding pontiffs in trying to bring home the model of the Holy Family in trying to stem the evils of modern society. It was not until the time of Pope Benedict XVI (Cardinal Francis della Chiesa) to insert the Feast into the Liturgical Calendar in 1921. Originally, it was the Sunday after Epiphany (which is now the Baptism of the Lord), but it was moved to the Sunday after Christmas only in 1969, bringing within it the Christmas Season.

(source: [www.brittanica.com](http://www.brittanica.com) & [www.salvemariaregina.com](http://www.salvemariaregina.com))  
I can remember as a young boy romanticizing this Feast. As I have had time to pray and study some of the outside sources, I realize that what they went through was anything but a cakewalk. I believe that they had little understanding of what their Yes to God and the angel would entail. They would leave behind Anna, Joachim, and their relatives to travel by foot to Bethlehem to register for the census under Caesar Augustus. Then, they dealt with fear of the Christ child being snatched out of their hands by Herod's soldiers as many young boys were giving their lives for the Messiah by being killed by Herod and his men. This was a great systemic corruption in the political atmosphere at the time, not unlike today with the holocaust of abortion and injustice on so many levels. Then, they had to make the flight into Egypt. They dealt with: fear of gentile robbers, animals of prey, horrid weather conditions, lack of food or shelter, and so forth. Once they arrived in Egypt, they would be dealing with homesickness away from family, a new culture, language, and way of life with the trade of carpentry which may have been much different in Israel. For two years, they lived there. Then, they had to leave behind acquaintances and friends they met in Egypt and begin to make their way back home, starting over again with the new clients, etc. The Holy Family had their share of crosses and frustrations, but bore them patiently for God and His Son. If that was not enough, they were both present at Golgotha in body and spirit, to watch their Son die on the cross for the salvation of the world. As Deacon Dave O'Brien mentioned last weekend, it was their 'Yes' that made it possible for His 'Yes' on the Cross and for our salvation.

Like the Holy Family, we are called to sanctity too. It involves prayer-making Christ central in our lives, study of our church teachings, reaching out to the poor as the Holy Family did with their resources, communication, and spending quality time with our family. There are so many obstacles that can get in the way, particularly with allowing ourselves to cave in to the busy-ness of our lives or allowing ourselves to accommodate to the culture, that we too easily blend in and make little difference in our world. Money, honor, power, pleasure, just 'getting along' or 'letting be' can be just some of things that can keep us from becoming who we were meant to be. We, as a family of faith, are called to make a difference by what we say and do in a culture that has given over itself to the lies of the evil one. Let us look to the example of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph, on this Feast of the Holy Family who sought out to please God more than anything else in their lives. Happy Feast of the Holy Family!  
Fr. Chris

## Ministry Schedule

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

### **4:30 p.m. Mass December 26th:**

**Lector:** Kris Gross

**Eucharistic Ministers:** Bill & Kris Gross

**Ushers:** Carol Proctor & Vivian Winkler

**Cleaning Vessels:** Bill & Kris Gross

### **8:00 a.m. Mass December 27th:**

**Lector:** Terry Schenfeld

**Eucharistic:** Mike & Terry Schenfeld

**Ushers:** Terry & Cathy Krapfl

**Cleaning Vessels:** Mike & Terry Schenfeld

### **10:15 a.m. Mass December 27th:**

**Lector:** Ryan Whitesitt

**Eucharistic Ministers:** Judy Hutton & Cindy Whitesitt

**Ushers:** Bob & Julie Ormsby

**Cleaning Vessels:** Judy Hutton & Cindy Whitesitt

**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, Dianne Funk & for the Souls in Purgatory

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Please contact Jackie Ward at [jjward71@gmail.com](mailto: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.

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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.



"For today in the city of David a savior has been born for you who is Messiah and Lord." (Luke 2:11)



**Wishing you and your family  
a Merry and Blessed Christmas  
and a Happy and Holy New Year!**

**from: Father Chris, Deacon Dave, Leasa,  
JoAnn and the staff of St Thomas**

#### Poinsettia Plant list add-ons

Gloria Schettler in memory of **Len & Diane Miller**

Brenda Easter in memory of **Zac Easter**

Terry Elbert &  
Nancy Cambron in memory of **Gary & Vivian Elbert**



The best gift you can give to the Lord  
is the gift of your presence.  
Consider going to Adoration  
of the Blessed Sacrament.  
He longs to see you.



## **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 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

#### Mass Times

**For the Feast of Mary Mother of God  
New Years Eve & New Years Day**

**DECEMBER 31**

**4:00 p.m. St. Thomas**

**5:30 p.m. Immaculate Conception**

**January 1**

**9:00 a.m. St. Thomas**

**Thank You Lord for the arrival of the Coronavirus vaccine. We continue to ask the Lord for good health on all our parishioners and we pray 2021 bring healing.**

#### **A Coronavirus Prayer**

Loving God, Your desire is for our wholeness and well being. We hold in tenderness and prayer the collective suffering of our world at this time.

We grieve precious lives lost and vulnerable lives threatened. We ache for ourselves and our neighbors, standing before an uncertain future.

We pray: may love, not fear, go viral.

Inspire our leaders to discern and choose wisely, aligned with the common good.

Help us to practice social distancing and reveal to us new and creative ways to come together in spirit and in solidarity.

Call us to profound trust in your faithful presence,  
You, the God who does not abandon. **Amen**

#### **ADA**

St. Thomas has an **ADA** Goal of **\$65,894** we have paid **\$47,873**. As of 11-13-2020, **\$18,021** 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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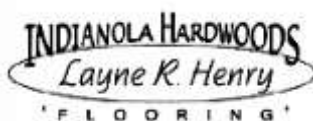
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