



Saint Thomas Aquinas Catholic Church

210 S Wesley STREET- Indianola, IA 50125
Weekend Mass Saturday 4:30 pm, 8:00 am, 10:15 am,
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
Simpson Masses start September

St Thomas Aquinas Staff & Committees

Pastor Fr. Adam Westphal	515-961-3026
Deacon Dave O'Brien	515-961-3026
Business Manager Leasa Garrett	515-961-3026
Director of Religious Education JoAnn Sayre	515-961-3026
Youth Minister (STAT) Alex Miller	
Assistant Director of Religious Ed Elizabeth Williams	
Maintenance: Jack Slinker/Steve Garrett	515-961-3026
Chaplain to Nursing Homes: Call the office	515-961-3026
Trustees: Johna Clancy / Kevin Miller	515-961-3026
Pastoral Council, Chair: Mimi Kelly	515-321-4286
Social Concerns: Kris Gross	515-210-0169
Creation Care Team: Rita Bresnan	515-783-0643
Altar & Rosary (STARS): Mindy Blanchard	515-961-3026
Caring Hands, Pastoral Care: Nancy Cambron	515-240-5227
Parish Relations: Kristi Hartford	515-961-3026
Worship/Liturgy: Joyce DeGroote	515-783-3890
Hall Committee: Cathy Krapfl, Kristen Hanes, Kevin Parker and Leasa Garrett	
Buildings and Grounds Chair: Bob Ormsby	
Knights of Columbus: Jack Slinker	Koc.Indianola@gmail.com

Perpetual Adoration Wednesday from 9am to 9pm
And Friday mornings from 9:00am to noon.

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.

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.

Bulletin Announcements: Information must be in by 4PM on Tuesday to Leasa Garrett-lcs3garr@yahoo.com

Sunday, December 31, 2023

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: Gn 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

8:00 am Mass at St. Thomas—For the People
10:15 am Mass at St. Thomas—Shelby McCasland

Monday, January 1, 2024

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
No Mass at St. Thomas

Tuesday, January 2

SAINTS BASIL AND GREGORY

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
6:00 pm Mass at St Thomas—Dave Barnes

Wednesday, January 3

CHRISTMAS WEEKDAY

206: 1 Jn 2:29-3:6 Ps 98:1-3, 6 Jn 1:29-34 for Memorial,
see Lectionary, vol. IV, no. 983
8:00 am Mass at St Thomas—Albert Basler

Thursday, January 4

SAINT ELIZABETH ANN SETON

207: 1 Jn 3:7-10 Ps 98:1, 7-9 Jn 1:35-42 see 737-742, esp.
Sir 26:1-4, 13-16 or 1 Cor 13:4-13 Ps 128:1-5 Lk 10:38-42
8:00 am Mass at St Thomas—Pauline Ripperger

Friday, January 5

SAINT JOHN NEUMANN

208: 1 Jn 3:11-21 Ps 100:1-5 Jn 1:43-51
see 719-724, esp. 1 Cor 9:16-19, 22-23 Jn 10:11-16
8:00 am Mass at St Thomas—Shelby McCasland

Saturday, January 6

CHRISTMAS WEEKDAY

209: 1 Jn 5:5-13 Ps 147:12-15, 19-20 Mk 1:7-11 or Lk 3:23
-28 or 3:23, 31-34, 36, 38
3:30 pm—4:15 p.m. Sacrament of Reconciliation
4:30 pm Mass at St Thomas—Shelby McCasland

Sunday, January 7

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
8:00 am Mass at St. Thomas—For the People
10:15 am Mass at St. Thomas—Gary & Vivian Elbert
5:00pm Mass at Simpson College

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: 515-961-3026 Website: stthomasindianola.com Facebook: [St. Thomas Church, Indianola IA](https://www.facebook.com/St.ThomasChurchIndianolaIA)
For Emergencies contact the office 515-961-3026 when prompted push #7

Father Adam's Five for December 30—January 5

1. Merry Christmas! Yes, it is still Christmas- we celebrate the season until after the New Year begins. We wish you a most blessed New Year! Thank you to everyone who made the Christmas Season possible, and for all the many cards you all sent to me and to the staff. We appreciate them.
2. Registration for Discovering Christ is OPEN! Go to <https://tinyurl.com/STA-DC> for more information or to register.
3. End of year giving must be postmarked by December 31; this weekend's collection also counts. You may give online through December 31 by going to <https://tinyurl.com/STA-GIVE>
4. Thank you to everyone who has responded to the end-of-year letter. I will provide an update in the new year outlining the next steps of the path forward. If you happened to miss the letter, you may find it at: <https://tinyurl.com/STA-EOY>
5. I will be gone to St. Louis with our Simpson Students next week, but back for the weekend Masses. Simpson Mass resumes January 7.



Mark your calendars
Discovering Christ
Starts Saturday,
January 6, from
6:00PM– 8:30PM

From the desk of Leasa Garrett: Year-end Contributions

Contributions **must be postmarked** by Dec. 31, to qualify as a contribution for 2023. The date on the check DOES NOT determine the tax year, only the post-mark.

The Church office will be closed on **January 1st**.

Coffee with Jesus

Ladies of St. Thomas Aquinas &
Fellow Christian Women Friends



What: Faith, Fellowship, Fun

When: Saturday, Jan. 6th, 2024

Time: 9:00 - 10:30 a.m.

Where: St. Thomas Multi-purpose Room

Bring a friend.

Coffee, juice & breakfast treats provided. Please bring your rosary, bible and fun filled spirit! Look forward to seeing you Saturday morning,

Prayer List

For all those in need.

Carol Proctor, Helen Kollasch, Randy Swanson,

Deanna Bahr, Duffy Metz,

Doug Andreasen, Ed Leinen, Jean Veasman,

Mike Metz, Patrick Shandley, & 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.

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.

Adorers Needed



Now that we have Wednesdays and Thursdays set with Jesus exposed in Adoration, we are ready to take the next steps to expand. We would like to try to have continued adoration from 9am on Wednesdays until 9pm on Thursdays so we will be looking to fill in holy hours throughout the night and early morning on those days. Additionally, we are beginning to work on filling in Tuesday hours. Below are the hours and number of adorers needed in each hour. As with Wednesday and Thursday, we are looking for 2 adorers from different households for each hour. Please prayerfully consider signing up for one of these open hours.

Tuesday: 1 adorer at 9am, 2 adorers at Noon, 1, 2, 3 & 4pm and 1 at 5pm

Wednesday: 1 adorer at 9 & 11pm and 2 at 10pm

Thursday: 2 adorers at Midnight, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 & 6am and 1 at 7am

Please pray that many hearts will be moved to sign up to spend an hour each week with Jesus. To sign up, contact Anitta at spennani1976@outlook.com or you can call me at 515-344-7850. Thank you and God Bless!

Dear Adorers

Merry Christmas! Just sending a reminder that because Jesus is exposed on both Wednesday and Thursday, you are required to be present and on time during the hour that you have signed up for. Jesus can never be left alone and it is unfair to the adorers from the hour before you to be left sitting there if you fail to show up or are late. I've received a few complaints about some adorers not showing up or being late and I'm hoping this reminder will get us back on track so that we don't lose the privilege of having Jesus exposed.

We have 2 adorers for each hour so that if you cannot show up or be **on time** for your scheduled hour, you should check with your adoration partner to see if they can be there. If neither of you can be there (which should be a rare occurrence) please call me and let me know as soon as you can so that we can make arrangements to have coverage. It is not Joann's or Leasa's responsibility to find replacements or cover for adorers. If you are finding it difficult to keep your schedule please let me know and we will try to find a replacement.

For those of you who find yourself without a replacement when your hour is up, please call or text me and I will try to get there myself or find someone to come and relieve you as soon as possible. I can be reached at 515-344-7850.

God Bless all of you for your faithful commitment to your holy hours.

Thank you
Anitta

Our deepest condolences go out to the Martin family, for the death of **Bill**, who died this past week. Bill will be greatly missed at Saint Thomas. Please remember him, as well as Betty and the entire Martin family in your prayers.

Eternal rest grant unto Him, O Lord
And let perpetual lights shine
upon Him, may he rest in peace.
May his soul and the souls of all the faithful departed
through the mercy of God rest in peace. Amen



HOLY MOMENTS



Holy Moments are moments in which you open yourself to God and create grace in your life,

This week's Holy Moment Focus: Be generous to your neighbor

Bake cookies
Watch dog for free
Shovel the driveway
Go over and chat for a bit

Creation Care Corner

The bottles we sip from, the packaging we wrap our food in, and synthetic fibers we wear can all break down into microplastics, infiltrating ecosystems and contaminating food chains. **What's worse is that according to the United Nations, half of all plastic produced is designed to be used just once and thrown away. In the following weeks, we will give some zero waste swaps for plastic, starting in the kitchen**

Any single-use plastic or disposable product in your home should be on top of your list for zero waste swaps. Plastic sandwich bags are an easy first swap to make!

Not only will it reduce your waste since plastic sandwich bags can't be recycled, but switching will also save you time and money!

Consider swapping out the plastic sandwich bags for silicone bags or reusable metal or glass snack containers. Anything that can be washed and reused is ideal.

[Stasher silicone bags](#) – great for kids!

[PlanetBox stainless steel containers with silicone lids](#) – great for kids!

[LunchBots stainless steel containers with silicone lids](#) – great for kids!

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