



Saint Thomas Aquinas Catholic Church

210 S Wesley STREET- Indianola, IA 50125

Weekend Mass Saturday 4:30 pm - Sunday 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
Deacons Dave O'Brien and Tom Hunkele	515-961-3026
Business Manager Leasa Garrett	515-961-3026
Administrative Assistant Michelle Helm	515-961-3026
Director of Religious Education JoAnn Sayre	515-961-3026
Assistant DRE Elizabeth Williams	
Youth Minister (STAT) Diane DeWall	515-961-3026
Maintenance: Jack Slinker	515-961-3026
Music Minister: Kay Neumann-Thomas	515-961-3026
Chaplain to Nursing Homes: Call the office	515-961-3026
Trustees: Johna Clancy / Kevin Miller	515-961-3026
Pastoral Council, Chair:	
Social Concerns: Kris Gross	515-210-0169
Creation Care Team: Rita Bresnan	515-783-0643
Altar & Rosary (STARS): Kim Delay & Patty Alexander	
Caring Hands, Pastoral Care: Patty Alexander	
Parish Relations: Kristi Hartford	515-961-3026
Worship/Liturgy: Joyce DeGroote	515-783-3890
Hall Committee: Cathy Krapfl, Kristen Hanes,	515-961-3026
Kevin Parker and Leasa Garrett	
Buildings and Grounds Chair: Bob Ormsby	
Knights of Columbus: Wes Neal	Koc.Indianola@gmail.com

Eucharistic Adoration with Exposition is available
Wednesdays from 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. in the adoration chapel
and most Friday mornings in the sanctuary

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 godparent 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. Call Kris Gross 515-210-0169, Jackie Ward 515-250-7385 or Debbie McDaniel 515-240-2029 or follow this link: <https://tinyurl.com/STA-PRAY>

Care of the Sick & Shut-ins: Call to request the Sacrament of the Sick or the Eucharist, or follow this link: <https://tinyurl.com/STA-PRAY>

Newcomers/Change of Addresses: tinyurl.com/STA-NEW Please update your address in a timely manner if you move.

Bulletin Announcements: Information must be in by 4PM on Tuesday to Michelle Helm - mhelm@stthomasindianola.com

Saturday, December 21

197: Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a/Lk 1:39-45
3:30 pm—4:15 p.m. Sacrament of Reconciliation
4:30 pm Mass at St Thomas—**Robert O'Meara**

Sunday, December 22

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

12: Mi 5:1-4a/Heb 10:5-10/Lk 1:39-45
8:00 am Mass at St. Thomas—For the People
10:15 am Mass at St. Thomas—Shelby McCasland & Judy Pierson

Monday, December 23

199: Mal 3:1-4, 23-24/Lk 1:57-66
NO MASS AT ST. THOMAS

Tuesday, December 24

200: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/Lk 1:67-79
4:00 pm Mass at St. Thomas
6:30pm Mass at St. Thomas

Wednesday, December 25

THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD
16: Is 52:7-10/Heb 1:1-6/Jn 1:1-18 or 1:1-5, 9-14
9:30 am Mass at St Thomas

Thursday, December 26

SAINT STEPHEN, THE FIRST MARTYR
696: Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59/Mt 10:17-22
NO MASS AT ST. THOMAS

Friday, December 27

SAINT JOHN, APOSTLE AND EVANGELIST
697: 1 Jn 1:1-4/Jn 20:1a, 2-8
8:00 am Mass at St Thomas—Pauline Wadle

Saturday, December 28

THE HOLY INNOCENTS, MARTYRS
698: 1 Jn 1:5—2:2/Mt 2:13-18
3:30 pm—4:15 p.m. Sacrament of Reconciliation
4:30 pm Mass at St Thomas—Bill Martin

Sunday, December 29

FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY
17: 1 Sm 1:20-22, 24-28/1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24/Lk 2:41-52
8:00 am Mass at St. Thomas—For the People
10:15 am Mass at St. Thomas—Winston Sayre

Office Hours: Monday-Friday 9:00a.m.-4:00p.m.

Parish Office: 515-961-3026

Website: stthomasindianola.com

Facebook: **St. Thomas Church, Indianola IA**

For Emergencies contact the office 515-961-3026 when prompted push #7

Father Adam's Five

for December 19– 25

1) Christmas Mass times: December 24, 4 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. December 25 9:30 a.m.
There will be no daily Mass December 26.

2) Thank you to St. Thomas Aquinas Staff and Volunteers for all your dedicated work making St. Thomas an amazing place to serve the Lord in 2024. We've got an amazing community, and I look forward to seeing where the Lord leads us in 2025.

3) YEAR END GIVING UPDATE! Please pay attention to these special dates.

To receive credit for your donation:

- If you drop off a donation at the office, please bring it in no later than December 30. Our offices close early in anticipation of the new year.
- If giving online, you may give through December 31.
- If you mail in your gift, the envelope must be postmarked by December 31.

Thank you for thinking of St. Thomas Aquinas in your year-end giving!

4) I've made it easier to find the APP home page on the internet. Just go to mysta.org, and it will redirect to the App homepage.

5) January 1 is a Holy Day of Obligation. Mass times will be December 31 at 6 p.m. and January 1 at 9:00 a.m.

OPEN

Holiday Office Hours

CLOSED

The office will close at 1:00 p.m. on **December 24th**.
The office will be closed on **December 25th** (Merry Christmas!) and **December 26th**.
The office will close at 1:00 p.m. on December 31st.
The office will be closed on January 1st.

Please note there will NOT be a daily mass on December 26th.

Adoration Hours Expanding

As noted in last week's bulletin, we are looking to expand Eucharistic Adoration and need to fill several hours. We need 2 adorers from different households for each hour to ensure we always have coverage. Below is a list of hours and the number of adorers needed for each hour. If you struggle committing to a weekly hour, consider signing up for an hour with a friend/friends to share the hour.

Spending time with Jesus in Adoration is so peaceful. You don't really need to do anything. Just rest with him, gaze upon him or just bring your needs to him. Please prayerfully consider signing up to spend an hour with Jesus each week in Eucharistic Adoration.

Tuesday: 1 adorer each at 9am, Noon, and 4pm AND 2 each adorers at 2pm and 3pm

Wednesday: 1 adorer each at Noon, 1pm and **6pm** (*we are especially in need of someone to cover our 6pm hour*)

Thursday: 1 adorer each at Noon and 1pm

Please contact Anitta Spenner to sign up for one of these hours at spennani1976@outlook.com or call 515-344-7850

Prayer List

For all those in need. Clara Hill, Jim Franken, Axel Hammer, Leasa Garrett, Bryan Bradley, Kalley Peters, Kerri O'Meara, Carol Proctor, Helen Kollasch, Deanna Bahr, Doug Andreasen, Patrick Shandley, Karen Van Buskirk & for the Souls in Purgatory

Please contact Jackie Ward at jjward71@gmail.com or 515-250-7385, Kris Gross at 515-210-0169 or Debbie McDaniel at 515-240-2029 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 Michelle Helm (515-961-3026) to add and remove names from the bulletin

ChristLife Part 1:
Discovering Christ



Operating Fund



Visioning Process



Christmas Mass Times

Christmas Eve, December 24:
4:00 p.m. and 6:30 p.m.
Christmas Day, December 25:
9:30 a.m.

The Solemnity of Mary, Holy Mother of God masses will be December 31 at 6:00 p.m. and January 1 at 9:00 a.m.



Nativity, Fra Angelico 1440-1441



*Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord,
and let perpetual light shine upon him.
May his soul and the souls of all the
faithful departed, through the mercy of
God, rest in peace.
Amen.*

It is with deep sorrow, but with hope in eternal life, that we share the news of the passing of long-time parishioner Duffy Metz this past week.

Visitation location has changed. It will now be held at Overton Funeral Home on Sunday, December 22, from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., followed immediately by the recitation of the rosary at 7:00.

The funeral will be Monday, December 23 at 10:30 a.m., at St. Thomas Aquinas. Please keep the Metz family in your prayers.



Creation Care Corner

Our best wishes for a beautiful Christmas!
We hope that you experience the love of
Christ with an open and loving heart.

Yours in Christ,
The Creation Care Team

Singers needed for the Christmas Day Mass!



We need people who love to make a joyful noise to join us on Christmas morning to sing!

If you are interested, please find one of the choir members after mass and tell them, or contact our Music Minister, Kay Neumann-Thomas at 515-961-3026.

Our Christmas program was an great success! Thanks to Andrea Ooms, our coordinator, and all the amazing volunteers who gave so generously of their time! And of course, our talented children who made the First Christmas come alive from the scriptures.



News from the Knights

Coats for Kids Program

The Knights of Columbus are pleased to announce that we have collected \$1900 for our Coats for Kids program. We have used the funds to purchase 7 cartons of coats (84). When coats have been delivered, we will present the coats to the Helping Hand along with the proceeds from the Social Concerns committee's campaign for hats and gloves. The Helping Hand also collects gently used coats at this time of year, so as you are cleaning out your closets, keep an eye out for these used items. The Helping Hand will put it to good use!



Keep Christ in Christmas Poster Contest

The annual Keep Christ in Christmas Poster Contest ended on Wednesday, December 18. All entries will be judged and displayed in the gathering space during the Christmas season.

Consecration to the Holy Family

The Knights of Columbus would like to encourage participation in the Consecration to the Holy Family. Materials will be provided near the Knights' kiosk in the gathering space beginning December 28/29 (the Feast of the Holy Family). More information can be found on our website: kofc.org/consecration. The consecration will culminate with a short ceremony during the evening mass on Tuesday, January 14. All participants are invited to attend.

\$\$\$\$ ATTENTION \$\$\$\$



If you are bringing your **year-end gift** to the office in person, please have it in by **4:00 p.m. on December 30th**. We will be closing the office early for the holidays.

Saint Thomas Aquinas Teens



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