

Fr. Adam's Five for January 29 - February 4

1) End-of-year giving letters will be available after Masses at St. Thomas this weekend, and at the office next week. Please stop by to pick yours up. They will be mailed Friday.

2) Thank you to Beth McGinnis, our new bookkeeper, who has caught us up on our bookkeeping. I am happy to report that year over year our operating fund has grown substantially. Our Finance Council voted to move a portion of our operating fund to a reserve in an effort to meet Diocesan guidelines. The Diocese recommends each parish hold in reserve an amount equivalent to 6 months worth of operating expenses.

3) I have an exciting announcement to make! At our last Parish Council meeting, the council voted unanimously to pursue a relationship with FOCUS to bring parish missionaries to St. Thomas Aquinas. Currently, only 25 parishes across the country have FOCUS parish missionaries. The next step for us is to make sure we have adequate funding for this initiative. I'm working on a grant application that should cover a significant portion of the cost. Say a prayer or two for this initiative, if you wouldn't mind.

4) Ash Wednesday is February 18, 2025. Masses will be 7a and 7p at St. Thomas Aquinas, and noon at Simpson. Please bring in your Palm Sunday palms to be burned and used for Ash Wednesday.

5) It is that time of year again- all groups are asked to submit their budget for FY27. Please email them to bookkeeper@mysta.org.

St. Joseph Winterset Secretarial Position

The secretary position at St. Joseph Church is now open. Approximately 20 hours a week Tuesday through Friday. If you are interested in this position, please contact the office for more information or to submit an application. 515 462-1083 mailing address 1026 N.8th Ave. Winterset 50273

Eucharistic Adoration

As we settle into Ordinary time in the Church calendar, are you looking for a way to deepen your faith and or prayer life?

Eucharistic Adoration can help you to do both.

We currently have adoration with exposition on Wednesdays and Thursdays from 9am to 9pm. We need a few more adorers on Wednesday and Thursday and are in need of just 3 adorers on Tuesdays in order to consider adoration with exposition on that day also.

We need 1 additional adorer for each of the hours below so that we can have 2 adorers to share each hour to ensure coverage.

Tuesday: 1, 3, and 4 pm

Wednesday: 7 and 8 pm

Thursday: 7 pm

We are also in need for substitute adorers to fill in while some of our snow birds fly south for the winter. If you are willing to fill in an hour for a few months or just as needed, please reach out to me and I'll add you to the substitute adorer list.

Please prayerfully consider signing up for one of these hours or as a substitute adorer.

Call or text, 515-344-7850 or email spennani1976@outlook.com

For those unable to commit to an hour each week, please come and visit Jesus anytime your schedule allows. He is present in the tabernacle at all times and exposed on Wednesday and Thursdays.

You may visit any time the church doors are open.



We want to thank you for all your hard work this year at the cookie walk! Please join us for a heartfelt celebration on March 23 at 6:30pm in the Multipurpose room!

We are hosting a beautiful story about Fr. Ryan, a man who learned to love God's will. Please join us for this wonderful film dedicated to finding purpose according to God's will.

Parishioners can RSVP by email: pseregalexander@gmail.com and STARS members can RSVP through the church app.

We'll have light appetizers, movie snacks and beverages! Here's a sneak preview of what to expect! https://youtu.be/yYASZ3d_NxE?si=avqb0GHwONG94_Gw

All ages welcome!

Bring your family and friends! Open to the entire community!



Creation Care



"As he walked by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew, his brother, casting a net into the sea—for they were fishermen. And he said to them, 'Follow me, and I will make you fish for people.' Immediately they left their nets and followed him." —Matthew 4:18-20

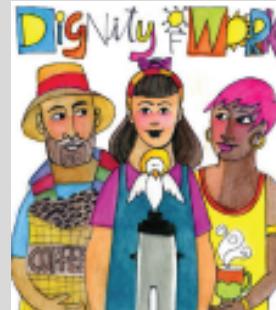
Jesus spent a lot of time in boats, on beaches, and along shorelines, and he spent a lot of time with people who made their livelihoods from fishing. If you've ever been to shores in the Holy Land where Jesus once walked or imagined them in your own prayer, you probably don't envision them littered with all the trash that is so common on our beaches now. Imagine how distressed Jesus would be to walk along a shoreline cluttered with plastic straws, bottles, cans, pieces of styrofoam, old tires, etc. If you vacation at a beach or shoreline, pick up trash. If that isn't an option, do the same in your neighborhood. Better yet, go with a friend or family member, or take some kids with you to multiply the effect.

Anyone interested in joining the Creation Care Team can call Rita Bresnan at 515-783-0643 or go to the Church App and request to join.

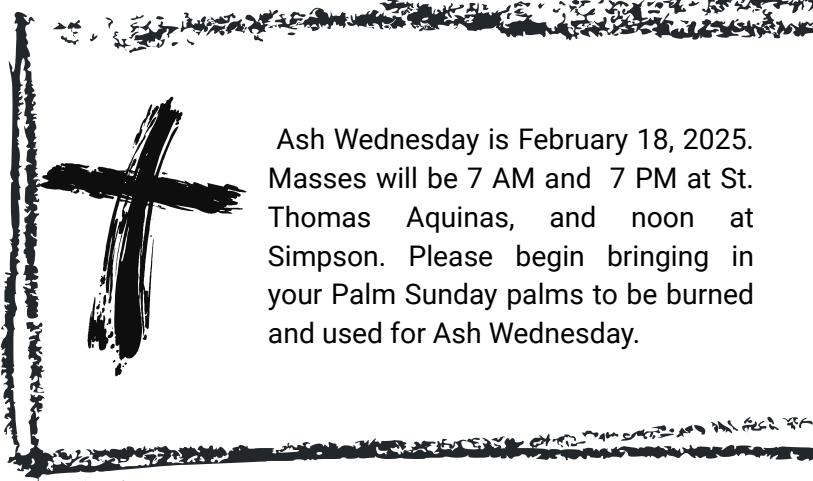
Corner

DIGNITY OF WORK AND THE RIGHTS OF WORKERS

A just wage is the legitimate fruit of work. To refuse or withhold it can be a grave injustice. In determining fair pay both the needs and the contributions of each person must be taken into account.



-Catechism of the Catholic Church



Ash Wednesday is February 18, 2025. Masses will be 7 AM and 7 PM at St. Thomas Aquinas, and noon at Simpson. Please begin bringing in your Palm Sunday palms to be burned and used for Ash Wednesday.



Knights News



Sunday February 1

KC Breakfast

Thursday February 12

Monthly Meeting

Friday February 20

1st Lenten Fish Fry

Prayer List

For all those in need, Genie Hansen, Michael Deming, Linda Mullen, Aleisha Fox, Alex Lynch, Clara Hill, Bryan Bradley, Kailey Peters, Kerri O'Meara, Carol Proctor, Deanna Bahr, Doug Andreasen, Patrick Shandley, Martin Wernimont, Joan McElroy, John Schletzbaum & all 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 Brenna Blong at 515-961-3026 or bblong@mysta.org to add or remove names from the bulletin.

Gathering Table

Our next Gathering Table is Monday, February 2nd

Please consider those who are less fortunate and so appreciate the meals we provide. We have been serving around 120 so please prayerfully consider helping out with main dishes, side dishes or dessert. Items can be put in the walk-in refrigerator early if you can't come by on Monday. Servers can come anytime between 4:45 and 5 p.m.



Please tell us how you will help by signing up. This allows us to better prepare to meet the requests for meals. You can sign up:

- On the Church App home page
- Or using this QR code

Care Center Masses

First Tuesday of the month : Good Samaritan Nursing Home - 9:30 AM
Third Thursday of the month : Westview Care Center - 10:30 AM

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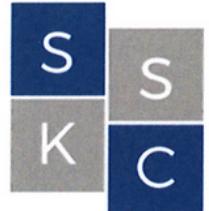
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