



# ST. THOMAS AQUINAS CATHOLIC CHURCH

210 S Wesley Street- Indianola, IA 50125

515-961-3026

Weekend Mass: Saturday 4:30 pm - Sunday 8:00 am & 10:15 am

Daily Mass: Wednesday - Friday 8:00 am and Tuesday 6:00 pm

Mass at Smith Chapel on Simpson Campus: 5:00 pm on Sundays while school is in session

## Saturday, February 14

334: 1 Kgs 12:26-32; 13:33-34/Mk 8:1-10  
3:30pm — 4:15pm Sacrament of Reconciliation  
4:30 pm Mass at St. Thomas

## Sunday, February 15

### SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

76: Sir 15:15-20/1 Cor 2:6-10/Mt 5:17-37 or 5:20-22a,  
27-28, 33-34a, 37

8:00 am Mass at St. Thomas - For the People  
10:15 am Mass at St. Thomas – Larry and Geri Cutts  
5:00 pm Mass at Simpson

## Monday, February 16

335: Jas 1:1-11/Mk 8:11-13  
NO MASS AT ST. THOMAS

## Tuesday, February 17

336: Jas 1:12-18/Mk 8:14-21  
6:00 pm Mass at St. Thomas

## Wednesday, February 18 ASH WEDNESDAY

219: Jl 2:12-18/2 Cor 5:20—6:2/Mt 6:1-6, 16-18  
7:00 AM Mass at St. Thomas  
12:00 pm Mass at Simpson  
7:00 PM Mass at St. Thomas

## Thursday, February 19

220: Dt 30:15-20/Lk 9:22-25  
8:00 AM Mass at St. Thomas – Loretta Petersen  
and Wilma Hill

## Friday, February 20

221: Is 58:1-9a/Mt 9:14-15  
8:00 am Mass at St. Thomas – Lauren Strable  
(Birthday)

## Saturday, February 21

222: Is 58:9b-14/Lk 5:27-32  
3:30pm — 4:15pm Sacrament of Reconciliation  
4:30 pm Mass at St. Thomas - Jack Kibbie

## Sunday, February 22

### FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

Gn 2:7-9; 3:1-7/Rom 5:12-19 or 5:12, 17-19/Mt 4:1-11,  
8:00 am Mass at St. Thomas - For the People  
10:15 am Mass at St. Thomas - Genie Hansen  
5:00 pm Mass at Simpson

## St. Thomas Aquinas Staff

Pastor: Fr. Adam Westphal	ext 201
Bookkeeper: Beth McGinnis	ext 200
Administrative Assistant: Brenna Blong	ext 205
Campus Ministry & Special Projects Coordinator: Trenton Priest	ext 203
Youth Minister (STAT): Diane DeWall	ext 209
Director of Catechesis of the Good Shepherd: Michelle Helm	ext 202
Facility Rental Coordinator: Nicola Brummer	ext 206
Housekeeper: Andrea Ooms	
.....	
<b>Deacon Support:</b> Rev. Mr. Dave O'Brien	ext 204
Rev. Mr. Tom Hunkele	ext 208
Caring Hands: Patty Alexander	ext 207

**Eucharistic Adoration with Exposition** is available Wednesdays and Thursdays 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 must attend pre-baptism classes. Please call the Parish Office to register.

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

**Prayer Chain:** To be put on the prayer chain, call Kris Gross 515-210-0169, Jackie Ward 515-250-7385 or Debbie McDaniel 515-240-2029 or follow this link: [pray.mysta.org](http://pray.mysta.org)

**Care of the Sick & Homebound:** Call to request the Sacrament of the Sick or the Eucharist or follow this link: [care.mysta.org](http://care.mysta.org)

**Newcomers/Change of Addresses:** [new.mysta.org](http://new.mysta.org) Please update your address in a timely manner if you move.

**Bulletin Announcements:** Information must be in by 12PM on Wednesday to Brenna Blong - [bblong@mysta.org](mailto:bblong@mysta.org)

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

**Parish Office:** 515-961-3026 or [office@stthomasindianola.com](mailto:office@stthomasindianola.com)

**Website:** [stthomasindianola.com](http://stthomasindianola.com)

Saint Thomas Church Indianola IA

**For Sacramental Emergencies:** call 515-961-3026 when prompted push #7

## Fr. Adam's Five for February 12 - February 18

1) Fr. Adam will be sharing with you about the meaning of his ordination prayer card during his homily this weekend. Please pick up a copy on your way into masses.

2) Ash Wednesday Masses will be 7 am and 7 pm at St. Thomas Aquinas, and noon at Simpson's smith chapel. Please bring any of your last year palms to be burned NO LATER THAN FEBRUARY 15.

Please check the bulletin for our many Lenten activities- there are calendars in this weekend's bulletin.

3) Is there something in the (holy) water? There is a God-inspired trend at St. Thomas Aquinas. People have been asking to join the church on a weekly basis from all different walks of life. We are forming groups to journey with those who are seeking to answer the deeper questions of life. If you, or someone you know, would like to join the Catholic Church, please fill out the form at [ocia.mysta.org](http://ocia.mysta.org) and one of our leadership team will reach out to you.

4) If you would like to officially register as a parishioner at St. Thomas Aquinas please go to [new.mysta.org](http://new.mysta.org).

5) We will be launching our 2026 ADA the week of February 16, and you all should be receiving a mailing from the Diocese around that time. As of 2/12, we do not have our 2026 Diocesan goal.

BUT we do have one goal we as a community are working toward that we can get started on right away.

We need 30 households who did not give last year to setup recurring monthly gifts of \$15. The Diocese will cover all fees associated with giving, and your monthly gifts will help us reach our goal every year. Please go to [ada.mysta.org](http://ada.mysta.org) and be sure to select Indianola-St. Thomas Aquinas from the drop-down menu and also check "make this a recurring gift". Thank you!

More details to follow.

### 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

## Eucharistic Adoration

Lent is upon us and what better way to prepare for Easter than to spend an hour with Jesus each week.

The 3 pillars of lent are almsgiving, fasting and prayer. As you consider what to "give up" this lent and how to grow closer to Jesus, give up an hour each week to spend time in prayer.

We need 1 additional adorer for each of these hours to have 2 adorers each hour to ensure coverage.

Tuesday : 1, 3, and 4 pm

Wednesday : 7 and 8 pm

Thursday : 7 pm

If you cannot commit to an hour each week, join together with a friend to cover an hour or sign up to be a substitute adorer to fill in when scheduled adorers cannot be present.

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](mailto:spennani1976@outlook.com)

Jesus is exposed in the chapel on Wednesdays and Thursdays from 9am-9pm and is present in the tabernacle in the chapel everyday. Please come and visit Jesus anytime your schedule allows whenever the church doors are unlocked.



### Prayer List

*For all those in need 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](mailto: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](mailto:bblong@mysta.org) to add or remove names from the bulletin.



# Creation Care Corner



## Approaching Lent Through God's Creation

To enhance your Lenten experience, the Creation Care Team is hosting a one-time, 90 min. session called "Approaching Lent through God's Creation." Rather than "giving up" something for Lent, take this chance to make a new habit of caring. Through video and discussion we'll look at caring for "Our Common Home." For your convenience, there are 3 different times you can choose from to fit your schedule:

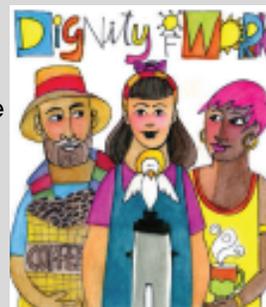
- Thursday, Feb. 19, 9-10:30 a.m.
- Sunday, February 22, 4-5:30 p.m.
- Sunday, March 1, 6:30-8 p.m.

Register by Feb. 16 at [cclent.mysta.org](http://cclent.mysta.org) or on the registration forms in the Gathering Space.

## DIGNITY OF WORK AND THE RIGHTS OF WORKERS

"Justice is to be observed not merely in the distribution of wealth, but also in regard to the conditions under which all people engage in productive activity. There is, in fact, an innate need of human nature requiring that people engaged in productive activity have an opportunity to assume responsibility and to perfect themselves by their efforts." The economy must serve people, not the other way around. Work is more than a way to make a living; it is a form of continuing participation in God's creation. If the dignity of work is to be protected, then the basic rights of workers must be respected- the right to productive work, to decent and fair wages, to the organization and joining of unions, to private property, and to economic initiative.

Pope John XXIII



## Knights News

- |                                      |                              |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| <b>Friday February 20</b>            | <b>1st Lenten Fish Fry</b>   |
| <b>Thursday March 12</b>             | <b>Monthly Meeting IVHC</b>  |
| <b>Sat &amp; Sun Mar 28 &amp; 29</b> | <b>Bake Sale</b>             |
| <b>Monday April 6</b>                | <b>Fraternal Soup Supper</b> |

### Knights of Columbus Scholarship Information:

The St. Thomas Aquinas Knights of Columbus Council is offering higher learning scholarships to graduating high school seniors and undergraduate students. For scholarship information, go the St. Thomas Aquinas website and located at MYSTA.ORG Applications are to be emailed to [vandy.omeara@gmail.com](mailto:vandy.omeara@gmail.com) or mailed to Pat O'Meara, 201 North J Street, Indianola, IA. 50125. Applications must be received at the correct email or mailing address by March 29, 2026.

**Come Holy Spirit!** Join Young Catholics of Des Moines on Wednesday, Feb. 25 for St. Catherine of Siena's annual Newman Lecture featuring author and speaker Joshua Mazrin, who will address how the Holy Spirit can help us engage with Lent on a deeper level. The lecture begins at 7 p.m. at Grand View University's Luther Memorial Chapel. Need more information? Contact Megan Schultz at [campusminister@stcatherinedrake.org](mailto:campusminister@stcatherinedrake.org).

### VBS dates for 2026 are June 8-June 12 this year and registration is now open!

Cor Jesu Rex (Vacation Bible School) is open to children who have finished grades 1 – 8 and we will also offer a simultaneous program for children in preschool and kindergarten. Go to [VBS.mysta.org](http://VBS.mysta.org) for more information and to register.

### ASH WEDNESDAY

The Lenten season kicks off on Wednesday, Feb. 18 with Ash Wednesday. Anyone can receive ashes on their forehead at church as a sign of repentance and turning toward God. Catholics abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday and all Fridays during Lent, and fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. Through prayer, fasting, and charitable works (almsgiving), we draw closer to God and remember Jesus' sacrifice for us. Find family resources, including fish fry dinners, reconciliation services, meatless recipes, children's activities, and more at [dmdiocese.org/living-lent](http://dmdiocese.org/living-lent).

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