



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 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

22: 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

Monday, February 23

224: Lv 19:1-2, 11-18/Mt 25:31-46

NO MASS AT ST. THOMAS

Tuesday, February 24

225: Is 55:10-11/Mt 6:7-15

6:00 pm Mass at St. Thomas

Wednesday, February 25

226: Jon 3:1-10/Lk 11:29-32

8:00 AM Mass at St. Thomas – Donald Mangold

Thursday, February 26

227: Est C:12, 14-16, 23-25/Mt 7:7-12

8:00 AM Mass at St. Thomas – Bev and Rich Krier

Friday, February 27

228: Ez 18:21-28/Mt 5:20-26

8:00 am Mass at St. Thomas – Rich Gunnarson

Saturday, February 28

229: Dt 26:16-19/Mt 5:43-48

3:30pm — 4:15pm Sacrament of Reconciliation

4:30 pm Mass at St. Thomas – Genie Hansen

Sunday, March 1

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

25: Gn 12:1-4a/2 Tm 1:8b-10/Mt 17:1-9

8:00 am Mass at St. Thomas - For the People

10:15 am Mass at St. Thomas

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

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Deacon Support: 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

Care of the Sick & Homebound: Call to request the Sacrament of the Sick or the Eucharist or follow this link: care.mysta.org

Newcomers/Change of Addresses: 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

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

Parish Office: 515-961-3026 or office@stthomasindianola.com

Website: mysta.org

Saint Thomas Church Indianola IA

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

Fr. Adam's Five for February 19 - February 25

1) Thanks to everyone who submitted a response to the Strong Roots Survey! We had 172 responses with an average 7.12 out of 10! We had broad support for the initiative, but unfortunately we are not able to overcome legal obstacles and the rental will not take place.

2) Please join us Fridays for our Knights of Columbus Fish Fries!

3) We will be doing stations of the cross starting at 7p.m. on Fridays during Lent.

4) During Lent, one of the rubrics (the rules telling us what we are permitted to do during liturgy) is that we are to go sparingly on instrumentation for Masses. This is to enhance the natural beauty of the human voice. Please feel free to sing along with us this lenten season.

5) I am still waiting for our ADA goal number for 2026. Thank you for your continued generosity to the ADA!

A huge thank you to all of you who came to the Lenten Open House and Shrove Tuesday Pancake dinner!

We had a great time, passed out lots of Lenten materials, and all the children got to go home with a King Cake "baby Jesus".

We are especially grateful to the Knights who made the delicious pancakes and ham!



THANK
YOU

Nursery is Open During Confession at St. Francis of Assisi

St. Francis of Assisi's nursery is open during confession from 8-9 a.m. every first Saturday of the month. This Lent, let nothing stand between you and God's mercy—not even finding childcare.

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

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 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.



Creation Care Corner

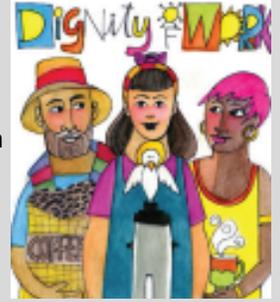


Pope Francis wrote that there is “mystical meaning to be found in a leaf, in a mountain trail, in a dewdrop, in a poor person’s face” (Laudato Si’ 232). This week, take time to consciously look for nature around you, whether you live near a forest, you farm the land you live on, you can watch the sunrise over the ocean, or you simply have a pot of African violets growing on your windowsill in an apartment. Maybe you will notice tenacious weeds growing through the cracks in the sidewalk. As often as you can, thank God for the marvels of creation.

The Lord God planted a garden in Eden, in the east, and placed there the man whom he had formed. Out of the ground the Lord God made grow every tree that was delightful to look at and good for food.” - Genesis 2:8-9

DIGNITY OF WORK AND THE RIGHTS OF WORKERS

The culture of selfishness and individualism that often prevails in our society is not what building up and leads to a more habitable world: it is the culture of solidarity that does so, seeing others not as rivals or statistics, but as brothers and sisters.



Pope Francis

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 celent.mysta.org or on the registration forms in the Gathering Space.



Knights News



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

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 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.

Pope Leo's Prayer to St. Francis of Assisi

Saint Francis, our brother, you who eight hundred years ago went to meet Sister Death as a man at peace, intercede for us before the Lord. You recognized true peace in the Crucifix of San Damiano, teach us to seek in Him the source of all reconciliation that breaks down every wall. You who, unarmed, crossed the lines of war and misunderstanding, give us the courage to build bridges where the world raises up boundaries. In this time afflicted by conflict and division, intercede for us so that we may become peacemakers: unarmed and disarming witnesses of the peace that comes from Christ.
Amen

Guiding Star Project Cycle Show Workshop

A workshop that will take place at St. Thomas on March 7 from 9am - 2pm. This will cover puberty, body awareness, and menstrual cycle information. It is all done in a girls-only, hands-on learning method that I think is a truly awesome opportunity for girls to learn about their unique femaleness. from a body-positive, Christian perspective. While the workshop itself is not Catholic, the instructor that will be running it is and has worked the Catholic perspective into the curriculum. A parent presentation is given the evening before the workshop, or you can attend one online, so that you will see the exact same material the girls will be taught. No surprises here! Contact Michelle Helm with questions at 515-961-3026 or mhelm@mysta.org. The workshop can only accommodate 12, so it is first come first serve.

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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