



# Saint Thomas Aquinas Catholic Church

210 R63 Hwy-Indianola, IA 50125

Weekend Mass Saturday 4:30 pm, 8:00 am & 10:15 am Sundays

Sunday 8:00 am at Immaculate Conception-St Mary's

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

## St Thomas Aquinas Staff & Committees

Pastor Fr. Chris Fontanini	961-3026
Deacon <b>Dave O'Brien</b>	961-3026
Business Manager Leasa Garrett	961-3026
Director of Religious Education JoAnn Sayre	961-3026
Assistant Director of Religious Ed Elizabeth Williams	
Youth Minister (STAT) Todd Clancy	202-4670
Johna Clancy	708-0864
Maintenance: Joe Gezel	238-4543
Interim Maintenance: Jack Slinker	961-3026
Chaplain to Nursing Homes: Judy Sheets	961-3026
Assistant Chaplain to Nursing Homes: Deacon Ed Miller	961-3026
Trustees: Claire Patin 491-5149 / Interim Tim Gauger	961-3026
Pastoral Council, Chair: Mimi Kelly	321-4286
Social Concerns: Kris Gross	210-0169
Altar & Rosary (STARS): Kassi Hoxmeier	308-991-7927
Caring Hands, Pastoral Care: Helen Kollasch	961-5776
Parish Relations: Allison Carr	720-683-8355
Worship/Liturgy: Joyce DeGroote	783-3890
Hall Committee: Steve Mc Ginnis, Kristen Hanes, Kevin Parker and Leasa Garrett	
Knights of Columbus: Brian Hoxmeier	Koc.Indianola@gmail.com

**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.

**Sacrament of Reconciliation will be by appointment ONLY at this time. Please call the office to schedule an appointment.**

**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.

## JANUARY 10 THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

21: Is 42:1-4, 6-7 Ps 29:1-2, 3-4, 9-10 Acts 10:34-38 Mk 1:7-11 or, in Year B: Is 55:1-11 (Ps) Is 12:2-3, 4bcd, 5-6 1 Jn 5:1-9 Mk 1:7-11

7:30 a.m. Reconciliation at Immaculate Conception

8:00 a.m. Public Mass Immaculate-Linda Croat

8:00 a.m. Public Mass at St. Thomas-Arlene DeWall

10:15 a.m. Public Mass at St. Thomas-For the intentions of Mike & Kerri O'Meara & Family

12 Noon Public Mass at St Thomas-Alice Whitmore

5:00p.m. No Mass at Simpson College until further notice

## JANUARY 11 WEEKDAY (WEEK ONE IN ORDINARY TIME)

305: Heb 1:1-6 Ps 97:1, 2b, 6, 7c, 9 Mk 1:14-20

NO 8:00 a.m. Mass at St. Thomas

4:30 p.m. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

6:30 p.m. Rosary at Immaculate Conception

## JANUARY 12 WEEKDAY

306: Heb 2:5-12 Ps 8:2ab, 5-9 Mk 1:21-28

6:00 p.m. Public Mass at St. Thomas-Velma Forret

## JANUARY 13 SAINT HILARY

307: Heb 2:14-18 Ps 105:1-4, 6-9 Mk 1:29-39

8:00 a.m. Public Mass at St. Thomas-Nancy Slick

## JANUARY 14 WEEKDAY

308: Heb 3:7-14 Ps 95:6-7c, 8-11 Mk 1:40-45

8:00 a.m. Public Mass at St. Thomas-Frank Celsi

## JANUARY 15 WEEKDAY

309: Heb 4:1-5, 11 Ps 78:3, 4bc, 6c-8 Mk 2:1-12

8:00 a.m. Public Mass at St. Thomas-Gary & Vivian Elbert

## JANUARY 16 WEEKDAY

310: Heb 4:12-16 Ps 19:8-10, 15 Mk 2:13-17

3:30 p.m.—4:15 p.m. Reconciliation at St. Thomas

4:30 p.m. Public Mass at St. Thomas-Marty Middleswart

## JANUARY 17 SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

65: 1 Sm 3:3b-10, 19 Ps 40:2, 4, 7-10 1 Cor 6:13c-15a, 17-20 Jn 1:35-42

7:30 a.m. Reconciliation at Immaculate Conception

8:00 a.m. Public Mass Immaculate-Linda Croat

8:00 a.m. Public Mass at St. Thomas-Arlene DeWall

10:15 a.m. Public Mass at St. Thomas-Mark, Nan, and Carl Bailey

12 Noon Public Mass at St Thomas-Gary Bliss &

The Souls in purgatory

5:00p.m. No Mass at Simpson College until further notice

**Livestream Masses**

**Saturdays at 4:30pm and Sunday at 10:15am at St. Thomas & Sundays at 8:00 a.m. at Immaculate Conception**

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: 961-3026/ Fax: 961-3458 Rectory Phone 962-2063 **Website: [stthomasindianola.com](http://stthomasindianola.com)**  
**Facebook: St. Thomas Church, Indianola IA**

## THE DEACON'S SCRIPTURE NOTES

Today we end the Christmas season with the feast of the baptism of the Lord and the church wants us to know how important it is. We have a tendency to overlook or take for granted this great event. All four gospel writers mention it so they must have thought it was important. The fact that Jesus submitted to it showed he must have thought it was important and even God the Father is pleased that Jesus was baptized.

If we take the Gospel for today, Mark almost begins with the baptism of Jesus. He identifies Jesus as the son of God, then describes John the Baptist who is baptizing in the Jordan River, and then Jesus gets baptized. A first century Jew would not have recognized Jesus' baptism as any big deal. To him, it would be just another Jew repenting and getting ready for the Messiah.

A first century Jew would not care who was doing the baptism or who was getting baptized. They would be excited about the location of the baptisms. John chose to baptize outside of Jerusalem in a more isolated spot. However, any Jew would have recognized that this was a special place. It was the same area where their ancestors wandered in the wilderness for 40 years and crossed over the Jordan River into the Promised Land. Secondly, it was the same place where Elijah, one of their great prophets, was taken up to heaven in a chariot of fire. They also believed that Elijah would return first before the Messiah comes so their expectations were high for the arrival of their Messiah, who will restore the kingdom of David. The baptism of Jesus was not a big deal.

We Christians look at baptism differently. We die to the old life and rise to the new life. It makes us eligible for the heavenly kingdom and renews our relationship with God which was lost with original sin. We are no longer separated from God. Jesus did not need to be baptized, He knew we need baptism. He was obedient to the Father's will so the Father could draw us back to him. So we celebrate this great feast every year as it reminds us of our Journey back to God.

God Bless you,  
Deacon Dave

## Ministry Schedule

**\*Please call someone to replace you if you aren't available to serve\***

### **4:30 p.m. Mass January 16th:**

**Lector:** David DeGroot  
**Eucharistic Ministers:** Todd & Johna Clancy  
**Ushers:** Derry Butler & Teri Cooper  
**Cleaning Vessels:** Todd & Johna Clancy

### **8:00 a.m. Mass January 17th:**

**Lector:** Terry Schefeld  
**Eucharistic:** Mike & Terry Schefeld  
**Ushers:** Jack & Kathy Slinker  
**Cleaning Vessels:** Mike & Terry Schefeld

### **10:15 a.m. Mass January 17th:**

**Lector:** Ryan Whitesitt  
**Eucharistic Ministers:** Cindy Whitesitt  
& Judy Hutton  
**Ushers:** Tony & Anitta Spenner  
**Cleaning Vessels:** Cindy Whitesitt  
& Judy Hutton

**Please remember: at least 2 Eucharistic Ministers need to stay after Mass to help clean the Sacred Vessels.**

**Please Note: That you are strongly encouraged to wear a face masks social distance and use hand sanitizer before entering and exiting the church.**

**Linens:** Judy Kirby

**Prayerfully consider continuing your weekly Tithes ,Building Fund & monthly Capital Campaign Pledge as expenses will continue to come in.**

**You may drop your envelope off in the Secured Box on the wall under the Office sign, place it in the mail or there will be a basket in the back of the Church for you to place your Offerings in as well.**

## Prayer List

For all those in need.

Doug Andreasen, Ed Lelnen, Jean Veasman,  
Aron Babinski, Mike Metz, Patrick Shandley  
James Rector, Dianne Funk & for the Souls in Purgatory

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Please contact Jackle Ward at [jjward71@gmail.com](mailto: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 for you or your loved one in need.

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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.

## STAT SERVICE NIGHT

Wednesday, January 13th is the Meals from the Heartland service evening from six to eight, leaving from the church at 5:30pm. If you have not signed up please check *Sign-up Genius*.



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*Our deepest condolences go out to Steph Bintner, for the loss of her father David Haraldson who died January 3rd 2021. Steph as you know, was the Office Manager of St. Thomas Aquinas for many years and helped with many of the funerals that took place at the Church, we ask that you remember her now in her hour of sorrow. Her dad, David, will be greatly missed. Please remember him, as well as the entire family in your prayers.*

Eternal rest grant unto Him, O Lord  
And let perpetual lights shine upon Him.  
May he rest in peace.



## Gathering Table News

It is time for the Gathering Table Monday Jan. 18th 5:30-6:30. We have been serving around 120 each time. This mission would not be possible if it wasn't for the support of all you wonderful people.

We are now using Sign up Genius. If you have trouble, please let us know what you would like to bring and we will fill it in for you.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0d44a8a72ca0f49-gathering>

This is again a grab and go meal, We want to thank you for helping this past year, and to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year.

Thank you and God Bless  
The Gathering Table Committee

## Mark your Calendar:



Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, February 17, 2021. The WATCH Retreat will be virtual and will begin Sunday evening March 21 at 7 PM - 8:15 PM and on the following four Sunday evenings. Mark your calendars and watch for more information.

If you have questions, please contact Jackie at [jjward71@gmail.com](mailto:jjward71@gmail.com) or 515.250.7385.

## Local Help For Those in Need

The St. Vincent de Paul Society (SVDP) is an international ministry with a local council in Des Moines that is supported by the Des Moines Diocese. Parishes in the diocese form conferences of volunteers that work to help the society achieve its goal of serving those in material or spiritual need.

**St. Patrick's-Irish Settlement Parish in rural Cumming** has formed a conference to help those in our local communities. Volunteers from St. Patrick's are available to assist people in accessing services available thru SVDP and to help those in emergent need of basic necessities. **If you or someone you know needs assistance, contact the SVDP/St. Patrick's volunteers at # 515-204-8047. All contacts are kept confidential.**

Through two locations in Des Moines, SVDP offers food, clothing & household items; emergency assistance with rent/utilities; job prep, tutoring, language & computer training and much more. Volunteers and donations are always welcome. More information can be obtained at [www.svdpsm.org](http://www.svdpsm.org).



Some of the seminarians from our Diocese will be staying in the rectory at Immaculate Conception for the next two weeks. They are very excited to be there, and we are so happy to have them!

**Please Keep them all in your prayers... They are the future of our Church.**

## Look for your end of year statements coming soon!



A special thanks to the priests who are graciously covering the Masses at St Thomas and Immaculate Conception while Fr. Chris is on vacation. Also, a thank you to Deacon Dave for Expositions, rosaries and prayer services.

Msgr. On

Fr. Peters



Msgr. Beeson

Deacon Dave



DIOCESE OF DES MOINES

The Diocese of Des Moines had suspended all parish sponsored or hosted social events through January 10th, this has now been extended to February 2nd.

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