



**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 p.m.  
Mass at Smith Chapel on Simpson Campus: 5:00 pm on Sundays  
while school is in session  
First Tuesday of the month at Good Samaritan Nursing Home 9:30 am

## St. Thomas Aquinas Staff

515-961-3026

Pastor: Fr. Adam Westphal ext. 4  
Business Manager: Leasa Garrett ext. 3  
Administrative Assistant: Michelle Helm ext. 6  
Director of Religious Education: JoAnn Sayre ext. 5  
Youth Minister (STAT): Diane DeWall  
Maintenance: Jack Slinker  
Housekeeping: Andrea Ooms

**Deacon Support:** Rev. Mr. Dave O'Brien and Rev. Mr. Tom Hunkele

**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 6:30 in the church as we pray for peace, families, and your special intentions. The rosary is also prayed Wednesday, Thursday and Friday mornings at 7:40 a.m. before Mass.

**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 the office 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 4PM on Tuesday to Michelle Helm - [mhelm@stthomasindianola.com](mailto:mhelm@stthomasindianola.com)

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

**Parish Office:** 515-961-3026

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

 Saint Thomas Church Indianola IA

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

### Saturday, March 22

235: Mi 7:14-15, 18-20/Lk 15:1-3, 11-32  
3:30 pm—4:15 p.m. *Sacrament of Reconciliation*  
4:30 pm Mass at St. Thomas— Keith & Mary  
Joslyn

### Sunday, March 23

#### THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

30: Ex 3:1-8a, 13-15/1 Cor 10:1-6, 10-12/  
Lk 13:1-9  
8:00 am Mass at St. Thomas—For the People  
10:15 am Mass at St. Thomas—Mike Metz  
5:00 pm—Simpson Mass

### Monday, March 24

237: 2 Kgs 5: 1-15b/Lk 4:24-30  
**NO MASS AT ST. THOMAS**

### Tuesday, March 25

#### THE ANNUNCIATION OF THE LORD

545: Is 7:10-14; 8:10/Heb 10:4-10/Lk 1:26-38  
6:00pm Mass at St. Thomas— John & Donna  
Sereg

### Wednesday, March 26

239: Dt 4:1, 5-9/Mt 5:17-19  
8:00 am Mass at St. Thomas

### Thursday, March 27

240: Jer 7:23-28/Lk 11:14-23  
8:00 am Mass at St. Thomas— Wilma Hill and  
Loretta Petersen

### Friday, March 28

241: Hos 14:2-10/Mk 12:28-34  
8:00 am Mass at St. Thomas

### Saturday, March 29

242: Hos 6:1-6/Lk 18:9-14  
3:30 pm—4:15 p.m. *Sacrament of Reconciliation*  
4:30 pm Mass at St. Thomas

### Sunday, March 30

#### FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

33: Jos 5:9a, 10-12/2 Cor 5:17-21/Lk 15:1-3,  
11-32  
8:00 am Mass at St. Thomas—For the People  
10:15 am Mass at St. Thomas—Mary Miller  
(birthday)  
5:00 pm—Simpson Mass



# Father Adam's Five for March 20—March 26

1) Have you heard of Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (C.G.S.)? You may be surprised to learn that we have C.G.S. atriums set up in our building. If you want to learn about how our C.G.S. atriums convey the lessons of our faith, please come to an open house on Sunday, March 23 at 3 p.m. in the multi-purpose room.

2) During Lent, I am going to be preaching a series of homilies on Catholic Social Teaching. If you'd like to listen to them after the fact, you can find them on the church app. Click the "More" icon and then click "Audio files" then click "homilies". Or, go to [homily.mysta.org](http://homily.mysta.org).

3) I'm humbled by the generous response you all have shown to the Annual Diocesan Appeal. We are way ahead of where we were last year at this time, and have a real chance of finishing in the top 10 parishes reaching their ADA goal.

To provide everyone an opportunity to help us reach our goal and finish in the top 10, we have several giving avenues. First, donating online at [ada.mysta.org](http://ada.mysta.org) (and choosing Indianola from the drop-down menu). Second, if you'd like to donate by check, please drop the check in the wooden box by the ADA sign. We will put the checks in our safe and mail them to the Diocese throughout all of March. Third, you can bring your donation directly to the office.

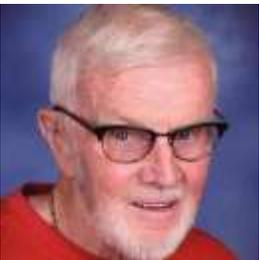
Please make checks out to the Diocese of Des Moines. Thank you for your generosity!

4) During Lent, I'm adding extra confession times. In addition to the normal Saturday confessions, I will hear confessions 45 minutes before mass begins until 15 minutes before Mass begins (including Simpson).

5) Our Stained Glass committee will be meeting for the first time this Tuesday to begin the conversation about stained glass. Please keep us in prayer. I'll keep you updated as we research this project. We're still a long way off from launching this project, but we're about to begin the initial steps.

It is with deep sorrow, but with hope in eternal life, that we share the news of the recent passing of parishioners **Madeline Weeks** and **Jack Harvey**.

Madeline's service was March 19, 2024.



Jack's visitation will be Monday, March 24 from 3:00 to 4:00 pm at Overton Funeral Home, followed immediately by a memorial service at the same location.

Please keep the Weeks and Harvey families in your prayers.



The Annunciation, fresco by Fra Angelico c. 1440-1445

## The Annunciation of the Lord

The Annunciation recalls the day when the Archangel Gabriel appeared to Mary and revealed God's will that she become the Mother of the Son of God and she accepted. At that moment, the "Word became Flesh and dwelt among us" (John 1:14).

### Adoration Update

We are still in need of adorers to sign up for hours on Tuesday and Thursday so that we can expand our adoration ministry. This ministry is such a blessing for us and we can be confident that it has brought peace and blessings to those who spend an hour with Jesus each week as well as to our parish. Please prayerfully consider signing up for one of the hours below or ask a friend to share the hour with you if your schedule doesn't permit an hour each week. Either way, just try it, you will be hooked!!

#### Hours Needed:

**Tuesday: 1 adorer for 9:00, 2:00, 3:00 and 4:00**

**Wednesday: 1 adorer at Noon and 1:00**

**Thursday: 1 adorer at Noon, 4:00 and 5:00**

To sign up or if you have questions, contact Anitta at 515-344-7850 or [spennani1976@outlook.com](mailto:spennani1976@outlook.com).

"A Holy Hour before the Most Blessed Sacrament so pleases the Heart of Jesus, that every man, woman and child on earth receives a new effect of God's graces." (St. Faustina)

### Prayer List

For all those in need, Clara Hill, Axel Hammer, Leasa Garrett, Bryan Bradley, Kailey Peters, Kerri O'Meara, Carol Proctor, Helen Kollasch, 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 Michelle Helm at 515-961-3026 to add or remove names from the bulletin.

**More suggestions for our Lenten journey:**

**Creation Care**



In our spiritual lives, pray for our common home, and consider how our actions affect the natural world and how our consumer habits may harm others. In our active lives, find new ways to care for the earth & the poor.

Nature reveals to us the hand of God. Take time each day to make it part of your prayer. Notice new life budding, the intricate patterns of a plant, the sounds of different birds, the changes in a tree, the sound of water.

The Laudato Si' Movement has gifted us with the download-able Laudato Si' Prayer Book, with 62 prayers offered by people from 26 countries. [www.laudatosimovement.org/prayer-book/](http://www.laudatosimovement.org/prayer-book/)

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

Corner



**REVEAL Christ's LOVE**

Next week our parish will take up The Catholic Relief Services Collection. Funds from this collection provide food to the hungry, support displaced refugees, and bring Christ's love and mercy to vulnerable people here and abroad. Next week, please give generously to the collection and reveal Christ's love to those most in need. Learn more about the collection at [www.usccb.org/catholic-relief](http://www.usccb.org/catholic-relief).



Please return your rice bowls for CRS **next weekend, March 29 & 30**. There is a collection box under the black offering box on the west wall of the gathering space. Thank you for your generosity!



**ADA—Where does the money go?**

Here are some of the needs the ADA contributions cover:

Clergy Care and Vocations (includes health care and retirement)

- 48 active priests with medical and insurance provided exclusively by the Diocese
- 34 retired priests with medical care and retirement income
- 30 international priests with US Citizenship and immigration services
- 9 seminarians with formation and tuition expenses
- 60 active and 45 retired deacons with training, education, and support
- 19 men in Diaconate Formation with scheduled ordination of September 2028



**Save the Date**

**NCYC**

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**NOV 20 22**

**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 to the St. Thomas Aquinas website at [stthomasindianola.com](http://stthomasindianola.com). The application is at the bottom of the home page and also on the Knights of Columbus tab under Ministries.

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 April 6, 2025.



**News from the Knights**

**Upcoming events**



Lenten Fish Fries— Mar 21, 28.; Apr 4, 11

April Meeting— April 10— 6:30 to 8:00

IVHC Bake Sale— April 12 & 13—After all masses

All male parishioners 18 and over are always invited to attend our monthly meetings.

**Saint Thomas Aquinas Teens**

**STAT - WEDNESDAY, MARCH 26TH**  
7:00-8:40

CHRISTLIFE - MEET IN THE HALL

PRaise & WORSHIP



DINNER



MESSAGE



SHARING



DESSERT

**Topic:**

**Our Need for the Church?**

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