

# St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Church

## *Pride In Our Past, Faith In Our Future*



*“May this edifice of such history and beauty be returned to sacred service and continue to inspire and direct the life of truth, beauty, worship, and service of the Catholic faith on the banks of the mighty Muskingum for generations to come.”*

Fr. Jan Sullivan, Former Pastor (2017- 2023)

### Our History Is Rooted in Dominican Teachings

St. Thomas Aquinas is rooted in the teachings of the Dominican Fathers. Parish life began in 1819 when the first Catholic Mass was celebrated by Fr. Dominick Young at the Green Tree Tavern. In 1820, John Dugan, the key benefactor of St. Thomas, purchased land at the corner of Fifth Street and Locust Alley upon which the first Catholic Church was built in Zanesville under the patronage of The Holy Trinity.

This new Catholic Church was the catalyst for Catholicism in Zanesville. A sandstone structure was built that stands today as the current St. Thomas Aquinas Church. St. Thomas has been serving the community since the cornerstone was laid on St. Patrick’s Day in 1842. Dominican Fathers staffed St. Thomas until 2017, when the Catholic Diocese of Columbus accepted the property and assumed pastoral care.

### Our Parish Life Is A Testimony To Christ’s Presence

#### **Spiritual Impact**

Daily & Weekend Masses

Confessions

Adoration Of The Blessed Sacrament

Eucharistic Ministry To The  
Sick And Homebound

Holy Rosary, Points Of Faith Ministry,  
And Masses Have Been Live Streamed

Sacramental Ministry

Catechesis For Persons Entering The  
Church And Continuing Adult Education

Youth And Choir Ministries

#### **Community Outreach**

Catholic School Financial &  
Nonfinancial Support

St. Vincent DePaul Society

Heartbeats Ministry For Life

Knights Of Columbus

Lenten Blessing Bag & 40 Cans For  
40 Days Lenten Ministry

St. Thomas Aquinas Food Pantry

Cub Scouts & Boy Scouts

Parish Festivals

March For Life Pilgrimage To  
Washington DC



*“May we continue the dedicated work of the generations who have gone before us. Having benefited from the fruits of their labor, now it is our turn to plant the seeds, and renew St. Thomas for future Catholics. May the Lord bless our efforts and may what we do now echo His glory for years to come!”*

**Father David Young, Pastor**

# Building The Future Of St. Thomas Aquinas



## Phase 1: Saving St. Thomas Structurally

On Ash Wednesday 2020, St. Thomas closed due to issues associated with our roofing infrastructure. In order to reopen our beloved church, a plan to stabilize the roof was implemented.

## Phase 2: Saving St. Thomas Canonically

St. Thomas faced two additional challenges: the COVID pandemic and the newly implemented Diocesan plan known as *Real Presence, Real Future*. During this time, the St. Thomas community rallied together and engaged in a variety of parish life activities in order to help overcome the void of not physically being inside the church. The fruits of our labor resulted in the final report of *Real Presence, Real Future* issued by Bishop Earl K. Fernandes in Spring 2023 that keeps St. Thomas Aquinas open.

## Phase 3: Rebuilding St. Thomas

Despite all of the hardships faced over the past few years, membership at St. Thomas has grown by 10% since 2020. Today, nearly 600 families call St. Thomas their faith home. Plans are underway to not only repair the roof, but also preserve the beautiful, one-of-a-kind Gothic plaster ceiling inside the church. **It is essential that all parish families participate in the financial act of stewardship to help with the structural restoration of St. Thomas. Please help us to re-enter our beautiful church!**

## \$1.5 Million Campaign - We Need YOUR Support!

➤ \$700,000 has been spent on engineering shoring towers and bracing to support the existing roof.

➤ \$600,000 in existing funds will go towards the new roof.

➤ \$250,000 pledge from the Cora E. Rogge Foundation.

➤ **\$1,500,000 in financial support is needed.** Please consider sharing your treasure to establish a sound infrastructure *and* future for St. Thomas Aquinas. **Pledges can be spread out over the next three years.**



Scan the QR Code to give to the St. Thomas Roof Campaign

## Gift Levels For Donor Acknowledgment Plaque

\$250,000+	Angelic Doctors
\$249,999-\$150,000	Circle of Our Lady
\$149,999-\$75,000	St. Thomas Aquinas Society
\$74,999-\$50,000	Pastor's Council
\$49,999-\$30,000	1842 Guild
\$29,999-\$15,000	Cornerstone Club
\$14,999-\$9,000	Friends of St. Thomas

## Questions?

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