"Rejoice in the Lord always; again, I will say, Rejoice

Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near." – Philippians 4:4-5



December 15, 2024 • Third Sunday of Advent

Saint Thomas Aquinas Catholic Church

144 North Fifth Street, Zanesville, Ohio 43701 740-453-3301 | www.saintthomaszanesville.org You Are Always Welcome Here.

PARISH INFORMATION

Saint Thomas Aquinas Church 144 North Fifth Street Zanesville, Ohio 43701 740-453-3301

www.saintthomaszanesville.org

Reverend David J. Young, Pastor Reverend Brian Beal, Parochial Vicar Reverend Stephen Ondrey, Parochial Vicar

Organist & Choir Director

Christopher Urbiel Ext. 122 curbiel@columbuscatholic.org David Gentil

Director of Faith Formation & Youth Ministry

Rob Rodgers Ext. 125 rrodgers@saintthomaszanesville.org

Director of Finance & Facilities

Michael Morris mmorris@saintthomaszanesville.org

Administrative Assistant, **Director of Cemeteries**

Keri Dailey Ext. 114 kdailey@saintthomaszanesville.org

Maintenance

Steve Harding Ext. 123 sharding@saintthomaszanesville.org

Coordinator of Ministry to the Sick & Homebound

Sister Maureen Anne Shepard mshepard@saintthomaszanesville.org

St. Vincent de Paul Society Helpline: Call 740-453-3301 and press 5 at the prompt to leave a message; a volunteer will return your call.

Emergency Anointing: In a medical emergency, call the Parish Office and at the prompt, press 4. This automatically routes your call to our Sacramental Emergency Line. For non-emergencies, call the office to schedule an anointing.

Prayer Line: Call any one of the following numbers; your request will be passed along to the entire team.

> 740-453-8397 740-588-0314 740-704-3136

PARISH OFFICE HOURS:

Monday-Thursday: 8:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. Friday: Closed Additional hours by appointment

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WEEKLY CALENDAR

Sunday, December 15 - Third Sunday of Advent

Scripture Readings: Zep 3:14-18a; Is 12:2-3, 4, 5-6; Phil 4:4-7; Lk 3:10-18

4:30 p.m. Mass (BB) (St. Thomas Aquinas Church) for the People of the Parish

7:45 a.m. Mass (BB) (St. Thomas Aquinas Church) for 🕏 Julia Hankins 9:45 a.m. Choir Rehearsal (St. Thomas Aquinas Church)

11:00 a.m. Mass (SO) (St. Thomas Aquinas Church) for 🕏 Bud Gookins

Monday, December 16

Scripture Readings: Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a; Ps 25:4-5ab, 6 and 7bc, 8-9; Mt 21:23-27 No Mass

Tuesday, December 17

Scripture Readings: Gn 49:2, 8-10; Ps 72:1-2, 3-4ab, 7-8, 17; Mt 1:1-17

9:00 a.m. Mass (SO) (St. Thomas Aquinas Church) for 🕏 Jim Reef

Wednesday, December 18

Scripture Readings: Jer 23:5-8; Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19; Mt 1:18-25

9:00 a.m. Mass (BB) (St. Thomas Aquinas Church) for 🕏 Theresa Hemmer

10:00 a.m.-9:00 p.m. Eucharistic Adoration (St. Thomas Aquinas Church)

6:30 p.m. OCIA (St. Nicholas)

Thursday, December 19

Scripture Readings: Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a; Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17; Lk 1:5-25

9:00 a.m. Mass (DY) (St. Thomas Aquinas Church) for 🕏 Jan Tanner-Thompson

Friday, December 20

Scripture Readings: Is 7:10-14; Ps 24:1-2, 3-4ab, 5-6; Lk 1:26-38

9:00 a.m. Mass (DY) (St. Thomas Aquinas Church) for 🕆 Cecil Baughman

Saturday, December 21

Scripture Readings: Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a; Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21; Lk 1:39-45

3:30 p.m. Confessions (St. Thomas Aguinas Church)

Sunday, December 22 - Fourth Sunday of Advent

Scripture Readings: Mi 5:1-4a; Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19; Heb 10:5-10; Lk 1:39-45

4:30 p.m. Mass (SO) (St. Thomas Aquinas Church) for 🕏 George Niggemyer 7:45 a.m. Mass (SO) (St. Thomas Aquinas Church) for the People of the Parish

9:45 a.m. Choir Rehearsal (St. Thomas Aguinas Church)

11:00 a.m. Mass (BB) (St. Thomas Aquinas Church) for the Living & Deceased Members

of Knights of Columbus #15824

BAPTISM:

We welcome Olive Khune, daughter of Cody & Taylor Khune, who was baptized December 1st.

EUCHARISTIC EXPOSITION:

Adoration will be cancelled on December 25th and January 1st due to the holiday. Adoration will resume on January 8th after the 9:00 a.m. Mass. If you have any questions, please call the Parish Office at 740-453-3301.

BAPTISM PREP CLASS:

Families seeking to get their children baptized will need to attend a Baptism Prep Class. The Class will be held only if someone is preregistered. Please do not show up without preregistering for the class. The next scheduled Baptism Class will be held January 28th at 6:30 p.m. The meetings typically last 1.5 hours and will be held at St. Nicholas Parish Office. To register, please contact the St. Nicholas Parish Office at 740-453-0597.

ALUMNI BREAKFAST:

Calling all Bishop Rosecrans, St. Thomas and St. Nicholas graduates! Please join us on December 18th after the 9:00 a.m. Mass in Rosary Hall for an Alumni Breakfast. Please join us for fellowship and reminisce with classmates. Breakfast is free of charge! If you have any questions, please contact Megan Dosch at 740-452-7504.

SUPPORT ST. THOMAS AND LOWER YOUR TAXES:

You can use funds in your retirement account to support St. Thomas Aquinas. The Charitable IRA Rollover allows donors who are 70½ years or older to transfer up to \$100,000.00 from a traditional or Roth IRA to a qualified charity like The Catholic Foundation, which manages The Saint Thomas Aquinas Parish Endowment Fund. An endowment fund is a longer-term, sustained investment designed to provide a perpetual source of income to our parish. Regardless of your age, you can support St. Thomas Aquinas, while still qualifying for a tax deduction. Contributions to The Saint Thomas Aquinas Parish Endowment Fund also can be made in the form of cash, appreciated stocks, and other assets. For more information on how you can make a real-world impact on the future of St. Thomas Aquinas and the Catholic faith, please contact Christy Steffy at 614-443-8893, ext. 110, or csteffy@catholic-foundation.org.

ROSECRANS ATHLETIC BOOSTERS:

It's time again to purchase your Booster Mania tickets for the upcoming year. \$25.00 each or three tickets for \$60.00. January 1 is the first drawing; it makes a good gift. Questions? Please contact Marvin Paul at 740-819-3429.

BELL RINGERS NEEDED:

The Salvation Army Zanesville is looking for Bell Ringers for the Annual Red Kettle Campaign. The holidays are here and with the season of giving comes a season of need as well. And to meet that need, the Salvation Army is getting ready to roll out the Red Kettles. If you are interested in volunteering, please call Vanessa at 740-452-8350, ext. 1.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS SOCIAL EVENT:

Knights of Columbus Council 505 is having Social Night every Friday evening. A Euchre Tournament will be played from 7:00-9:00 p.m. There is no entry fee, and the winner wins a \$10.00 Gift Certificate to the K of C Hall. If you don't play Euchre, no problem; other games can be played based on interest. Or, just come to enjoy the fellowship and a good meal. There are weekly specials from the kitchen. You will have a chance to win a \$10.00 gift certificate just for showing up!

COLUMBUS CATHOLIC WOMEN'S CONFERENCE:

Inviting All Women... please mark your calendar now for the Columbus Catholic Women's Conference on Saturday, February 15, 2025, from 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. at the Ohio Expo Center. Our theme is "Created for this Moment." Register now at columbuscatholicwomen.com. Take the Bus! The Bus is free! Call St. Nicholas Parish Office at 740-453-0597 to reserve your seat! Don't forget to purchase your ticket! Bus leaves St. Nicholas Church parking lot at 6:15 a.m.

STEWARDSHIP (Our fiscal year is July 1, 2024-June 30, 2025)					
December 8, 2024					
Mass Collection	\$	10,567.00			
EFT	\$	0.00			
Online/Direct Gifts	\$	0.00			
Total Offertory	\$	1,056,700.00			
YTD Collected	\$	244,639.10			
YTD Budgeted	\$	230,000.00			
Surplus	\$	14,639.10			

CATHOLIC FOUNDATION UPDATE:

We are pleased to announce that St. Thomas Aquinas Parish has applied for and been awarded grants from the Catholic Foundation. St. Nicholas Convent renovation for the new Sisters that will be arriving in 2025 received \$9,000.00. St. Thomas Food Pantry received \$3,000.00. Thanks to the Catholic Foundation for their help in funding our parish.



THERE'S STILL TIME TO GIVE:

Your gift to the 2024 Appeal is vital to the success of this Diocesan-wide campaign and can benefit our parish. We are off to a good start toward our parish goal of \$60,889.20. To date, we have collected \$31,355.00 and pledged \$34,405.00. Thank you to all those families who have made a gift or pledge. If you have not yet made your gift to this year's Appeal, please consider doing so in the days ahead. Your gift will help continue the vital work of the various ministries and services that reach so many in need. Please pray for the success of The Appeal and remember, no amount of giving is too small. Thank you for your prayers and for your generous support!

DECEMBER 14/15	ALTAR SERVER	LECTORS	EXTRAORDINARY MINISTER OF HOLY COMMUNION	CANTOR
4:30 p.m.	Needed	Ann Combs	Rose Rath	David Gentil
7:45 a.m.	Abby/Levi Crum	Sue Maxwell	Mike Ryan	Mary Baker
11:00 a.m.	Rob Rodgers Iggy Rodgers Max Rodgers	Kim Gates	Jerry Lynn Luci Green	Choir



PILGRIMAGE TO ITALY:

You're invited to join Father Sullivan on a Eucharistic Miracle tour of Italy in November of 2025. Join us for the Jubilee year in Rome to enter the Vatican through the Holy Doors. General audience with the Pope is planned as well as the home of St. Padre Pio, St. Francis of Assisi, Naples, and the final resting place of St. Carlos Acutis. We will also visit Orvieto, the site of the Eucharistic miracle where a consecrated host began to bleed. This land-only program will be from November 3-15. If you need assistance with flight planning, you can contact the group coordinator, Amy Morris. Please see flyers available in the vestibule in the church. This promises to be a faith-affirming trip with Mass celebrated daily. Please join us!

SMART PHONE CATHOLIC RESOURCE:

Do you own a Smart Phone? If you do, consider adding a free app, "Laudate." It contains more than 200 Catholic Prayers, Liturgy of the Hours, Podcasts of Mass Readings, Audible Rosary, Chaplet, Stations of the Cross, Bible, Catechism, Vatican Documents, Catholic Media and more. Take advantage of this tremendous resource and grow in your faith!

CATHOLIC MAN OF THE YEAR:

The Catholic Men's Luncheon Club is now accepting nominations for the Diocese of Columbus 2025 Catholic Man of the Year. The Catholic Man of the Year is awarded to one layman who, through his daily actions, words, and prayers, exemplifies the "good and faithful servant." Nomination instructions and the required online nomination form are at https://www.catholicmensministry.com/catholicmanoftheyear. Submit your nomination and let us know why your husband, father, grandfather, son, uncle, brother, or friend is the Catholic Man of the Year! Nominations will be accepted through January 15, 2025. Bishop Earl K. Fernandes will present the 2025 Catholic Man of the Year at a luncheon on Friday March 7, 2025, at St. Patrick Church in downtown Columbus. Holy Mass (optional) begins at 11:45 a.m., followed by lunch at 12:10 p.m. and Bishop Fernandes' presentation of the 2025 Catholic Man of the Year. No reservations are necessary. \$12.00 covers the lunch. Bring a friend and help us honor the 2025 Catholic Man of the Year

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL COLLECTION

Beginning in January of 2025, the Society of St. Vincent de Paul (at both parishes) will be transitioning toward a more-localized model of service to the poor. I want to thank Tam Bowman and Mike Whiteman at St. Thomas Aquinas, and John Ginikos at St. Nicholas, who have (for many years!) spearheaded our assistance to the diverse and complex needs of our less-fortunate brothers and sisters. These three folks have done an amazing job of helping the poor, on our behalf; may God bless them for their years of hard work!

We plan to continue supporting specific community agencies and ministries who serve the poor of Zanesville in ways for which our Parishes are not equipped. These include Eastside Ministries (clothing, meals, utility bills); First Methodist Church (household items, clothing, overnight shelter); Christ's Table (hot meals/soup kitchen); and the Homeless Hands organization (food, outdoor supplies, and help with employment, housing, and transportation issues for folks living on the streets of Zanesville).

Some may be wondering: Why the change? The answer is two-fold. First, visits to our Food Pantry (located in the Parish Offices of St. Thomas Aquinas) have increased 25%, just this year, alone. We are currently distributing an average of 50-100 boxes of groceries, every month. Clearly, there is a significant (and growing) need for foodstuffs, here in Zanesville, and our Parishes are helping to address that need, through our Food Pantry. As you can imagine, this increase in need has also meant an increase in expenses, and the Food Pantry's account has taken a substantial hit. So, directing more funding to this outreach is important.

The second reason we are making this change has to do with security. In the last six months, we have had a spate of episodes which put the personal safety of our staff and parishioners at risk. Like any outreach organization, we too must have parameters for any assistance we can provide (given the limits of our charitable funding). We must also be prudent in how we share those resources, to keep people from taking advantage of our charity. Therefore, there were times when we were simply unable to help a needful person in the way they wanted/expected. In some of these encounters, applying these limitations has inadvertently aggravated and/or agitated a person requesting help, and this has manifested itself in aggression, harassment, and threatening behavior. I cannot allow this type of behavior to continue, nor should anyone be subjected to such abuse, especially when trying to help someone!

Therefore, we will no longer be helping with rent, fuel, utilities, or the like. Instead, going forward, we will be focusing our resources on helping keep the Food Pantry stocked with groceries for our local friends in need. Thus, our collections for the less-fortunate will now be designated as "Outreach to the Poor." I thank you for your continued support of our efforts in service to the less-fortunate – for, as you know, whenever we serve them, we serve the Lord. (MT 25:40)

God bless,

Fr. David J. Young

Fr. David J. Young

Pastor

osterMyWall.com



December 1: Advent Penance Service at 6 p.m.

December 9: Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary Mass 10 a.m. & 6 p.m.



December 24: Christmas Eve Mass 5 p.m. & 9 p.m. with Carol Prelude at 8:30 p.m.

December 25: Christmas Day Mass 9 a.m. No Adoration

January 1: Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God Mass 9 a.m. No Adoration

January 4: The Epiphany of the Lord Vigil Mass 4:30 p.m.

January 5: The Epiphany of the Lord Mass 7:45 a.m. & 11 a.m.

Extended Hours for Wednesday Eucharistic Adoration

ADORATION ON WEDNESDAYS FOLLOWING DAILY MASS - 9:00 P.M.!

"Of all devotions, that of Adoring Jesus in the Most Blessed Sacrament is the greatest after the sacraments, the one dearest to God and the one most helpful to us." – St. Alphonsus Liguori



Eucharistic Adoration is a practice in the Catholic Church where Jesus in the Most Blessed Sacrament is Exposed and Adored by the faithful. This practice involves spending time in quiet prayer and reflection in the presence of the Eucharist.

Beginning December 18th, our Wednesday Adoration program at St. Thomas (currently scheduled following daily Mass until 3:00 p.m.) will be extended into the evening on Wednesdays with a full day of ADORATION following daily Mass until 9:00 p.m.

This inspiring invitation of ADORATION is open to ALL.

*Please note to use the ramp entrance after 3:00 p.m. The ramp door will lock at 6:00 p.m. Please knock to enter the church for Adoration, 6:00-9:00 p.m. There is no need to sign up in advance to Adore; all parishioners are considered as registered Adorers and will be admitted at any time during these extended hours.

To sign up as a **committed Adorer** for a weekly Holy Hour or reach out with any questions, contact Katie Campbell via text/call at 740-255-4073. Come spend an hour with Jesus during this Advent season while we wait and prepare our hearts.

Come let us ADORE Him!



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