"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



Saint Thomas Aquinas Catholic Church

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

DECEMBER 8, 2024 - SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT



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

This bulletin is furnished to the parish without charge due to the generosity of our advertisers.

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.

held 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.

ST. THOMAS AQUINAS CATHOLIC CHURCH

TRACK COACH NEEDED:

Bishop Rosecrans High School is searching for a Varsity Track & Field Coach. Previous coaching experience is preferred. Applicant must meet the paperwork requirements set forth by the OHSAA. If interested, please send résumé and cover letter to Athletic Director Seth Thompson at sthompson@ cdeducation.org.

ROSCRANS 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 almost 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

ANGEL TREE:

Every child deserves to experience the joy of Christmas morning. The Salvation Army Angel Tree program helps provide Christmas gifts for hundreds of thousands of children around the country each year. Please consider adopting a child this holiday season. Pick a tag on the back table of the Activity Center and shop for the desired items listed on the tag. Once you have purchased the items, please return the gifts unwrapped with the tag to the Salvation Army, 515 Putnam Avenue, Zanesville by December 9th.

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!

ST. NICHOLAS DAY DINNER:

Please join us on Saturday, December 7th after the 5:15 p.m. Mass at St. Nicholas Church for a free German-style dinner. We will be hosting children's activities and St. Nicholas will make an appearance and be available for photos. Bingo will be played at no cost for cards at a chance to win prizes. All are welcome to attend!

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!

HANDEL'S MESSIAH

A performance of Handel's *Messiah* will be presented on Sunday, December 15, at 6:00 p.m. at Central Trinity United Methodist Church, 62 South 7th Street in Zanesville. It will be sung by volunteers of many faiths and accompanied by a live orchestra. All are invited. Admission is free; a freewill offering will be taken. Enjoy this spiritual gift during the Advent season.

SMART PHONE CATHOLIC RESOURCE:

Do you own a Smart Phone? If you do, consider adding a free app, "Laudate." It contains over 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!

STEWARDSHIP (Our fiscal year is July 1, 2024-June 30, 2025)					
December 1, 2024					
Mass Collection	\$	11,713.00			
EFT	\$	0.00			
Online/Direct Gifts	\$	804.01			
Total Offertory	\$	12,517.01			
YTD Collected	\$	234,072.10			
YTD Budgeted	\$	220,000.00			
Surplus	\$	14,072.10			

NOVEMBER BOOSTER MANIA WINNERS:

WINNERS:

- \$25.00 Karen Lyons
- \$25.00 Paul Hoffman
- \$25.00 Bobbie Saunders
- \$25.00 Mike Kunkler
- \$25.00 Joyce Schilling
- \$25.00 Curt Clark
- \$25.00 Jeff Shawger
- \$25.00 Mark Redfern
- \$100.00 Mary Ann Nash

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 the parish office to reserve your seat! Don't forget to purchase your ticket! Bus leaves St. Nicholas Church parking lot at 6:15 a.m.

HELP NEEDED:

Can you give 24 hours for your Church with the Knights of Columbus? I know everyone is stretched thin and our time is precious. If you can find 24 hours over the span of a year, the Knights can help you become a better Catholic Man, father and husband. You will be joining a great brotherhood: eight hours in service projects in the church and community, four hours in council functions with your family, four hours planning future events within the Council business meeting, six hours (half an hour a month) reading newsletters and publications from the Knights to grow your faith, one hour a year meeting with an insurance agent to make sure that your family is protected, one hour a year attending Mass together as a council member. If this is something that interests you, please contact Grand Knight Brian Novotny at 614-207-3573 or BMN616@hotmail.com or any Brother Knight and we can get you started on this path.

DECEMBER 7/8	ALTAR SERVER	LECTORS	EXTRAORDINARY MINISTER OF HOLY COMMUNION	CANTOR
4:30 p.m.	Mike Morris	Linda Baughman	Janet Pompei	Debbie Apperson
7:45 a.m.	Abby/Levi Crum	Brent Mirgon	Brent Mirgon	Christopher Urbiel
11:00 a.m.	Paul Hoffman, Andrew Stark	Andi Hoffman	Becky Joseph, Jenny Snode	Joe Nezbeth/Choir

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!) spear-headed 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 food stuffs, 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 subject 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,

Javis J. Youn

Fr. David J. Young Pastor

MAJOR RELICS OF ST. THOMAS AQUINAS:

The major first-class relics of St. Thomas Aquinas (which includes the relic of his skull) will be available for public veneration at St. Patrick Church, 280 N. Grant Avenue, Columbus, Ohio 43215, on December 7-8, 2024. This is the first time that St. Thomas' major relics will tour the United States, through an arrangement between the Dominican Province of Toulouse, France and the Dominican Province of St. Joseph (Eastern U.S.A.). The relic tour is in commemoration of the Triple Jubilee of St. Thomas Aquinas: the 700th anniversary of his canonization in 2023, the 750th anniversary of his death in 2024, and the 800th anniversary of his birth in 2025.

CATHOLIC MEN'S LUNCHEON:

Please join us on Friday, December 6 at St. Patrick Church in downtown Columbus for a luncheon featuring a talk by Father David Johnstone. Father Johnstone is Parochial Vicar at St. Michael the Archangel Parish, Worthington, and Chaplain at St. Francis DeSales High School. Father Johnstone was one of five newly ordained priests in the diocese, and he will share his unique story. The Serra Clubs of Columbus are sponsoring the December luncheon. You can get more information about the Serra Clubs of Columbus at www.serracolumbus.org. If you are interested in sponsoring a luncheon, contact David Kilanowski at dkilano@aol.com. Holy Mass (optional) begins at 11:45 a.m., followed by lunch at 12:10 p.m. and Father Johnstone's presentation. No reservations are necessary. \$12.00 covers the lunch and meeting. Bring a friend! There will be no meeting in January 2025. Our next meeting will be on February 7, 2025, and will feature Jon Weaver from Catholic in Recovery which is a nonprofit organization that seeks to serve those suffering from addictions and unhealthy attachments (including alcoholism, drug addiction, pornography addiction, sex and relationship addiction, compulsive overeating and food addictions, gambling addiction, codependency and the impact on family, and general fear, control, and anxiety). Please mark your calendar to attend.

HELPING PEOPLE AFFECTED BY HURRICANES HELENE AND MILTON:

The Diocese of Columbus encourages any parishioner interested in sending financial aid to assist in the latest hurricane response to reach out to Catholic Charities USA (CCUSA). Visit https://www.catholiccharitiesusa.org/.

Where will my donation go? CCUSA distributes 100% of funds received *directly* to Catholic Charities agencies in disaster-stricken communities to care for our affected neighbors.

Can I give in ways other than online? Yes. Checks may be mailed to CCUSA, 2050 Ballenger Avenue, Suite 400, Alexandria, VA 22314. Contact us for other tax-deductible ways to give by emailing: donations@catholiccharitiesusa.org or by calling 800-919-9338.

Why give to Catholic Charities USA? CCUSA is the official domestic relief agency of the Catholic Church in the United States. In addition to providing financial support directly to communities affected by natural disasters, CCUSA has a long history of assisting in the rapid mobilization of Catholic Charities agency staff across the U.S. In doing so, they not only meet the immediate needs, they also provide critical, longterm support to communities as they rebuild.

How can I learn more about your efforts? Visit our website at https://www. catholiccharitiesusa.org/ for more information about the most recent efforts of CCUSA and local Catholic Charities agencies.



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!

CHRISTMAS Schedule

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.





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