



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 Dave O'Brien	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.

NOVEMBER 29

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

2:1s 63:16b-17, 19b; 64:2-7 Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19
1 Cor 13:9 Mk 13:33-37

7:30 a.m. Reconciliation at Immaculate Conception

8:00 a.m. Public Mass Immaculate-Carl & Pat Nehring

8:00 a.m. Public Mass at St. Thomas-Beverly Krier

10:15 a.m. Public Mass at St. Thomas-Ralph & Bea Johnson

12 Noon Public Mass at St Thomas-Angie Chiappine

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

NOVEMBER 30

SAINT ANDREW, APOSTLE

684:Rom 10:9-18 Ps19:8-11 Mt 4:18-22

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

6:30 p.m. Rosary/ Reconciliation at Immaculate Conception

7:00 p.m. Public Mass Immaculate-Carl & Pat Nehring

DECEMBER 1

ADVENT WEEKDAY

176: Is 11:1-10 Ps 72:7-8,12-13, 17 Lk 10:21-24

5:30 p.m. Reconciliation at St Thomas

6:00 p.m. Public Mass at St. Thomas-The Frueh sisters

6:30 p.m. Rosary at St. Thomas

DECEMBER 2

ADVENT WEEKDAY

177:Is 25:6-10a Ps 23:1-6 Mt 15:29-37

7:30 a.m. Reconciliation at St Thomas

8:00 a.m. Public Mass at St. Thomas-David Houston

DECEMBER 3

SAINT FRANCIS XAVIER

178: Is 26:1-6 Ps 118:1, 8-9, 19-21, 25-27a Mt 7:21, 24-27

See 685:1 Cor 9:16-19, 22-23 Mk 16:15-20

7:30 a.m. Reconciliation at St Thomas

8:00 a.m. Public Mass at St. Thomas-Beverly Krier

DECEMBER 4

SAINT JOHN DAMASCENE

179:Is 29:17-24 Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14 Mt 9:27-31

7:30 a.m. Reconciliation at St Thomas

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

DECEMBER 5

ADVENT WEEKDAY

180:Is 30:19-21, 23-26 Ps 147:1-6 Mt 9:35-10:1, 5a, 6-8

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

4:30 p.m. Public Mass at St. Thomas-Beverly Krier

DECEMBER 6

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

5:1s 40:1-5, 9-11 Ps 85:9-14 2 Pt 3:8-14 Mt 1:1-8

7:30 a.m. Reconciliation at Immaculate Conception

8:00 a.m. Public Mass Immaculate-Jim Boyd

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

10:15 a.m. Public Mass at St. Thomas-Beverly Krier

12 Noon Public Mass at St Thomas-Alice Whitmore

5:00p.m. No Mass at Simpson College

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
Facebook: St. Thomas Church, Indianola IA

PASTORS REPORT

Dear Parishioners: We begin the Season of Advent this weekend. It is hard to believe after a long hard year, we enter a new liturgical year, Cycle B, the Gospel of Mark. I am going to be quite honest with you, this source is taken verbatim from www.prayerist.com. They speak about this season in a much more articulate way than I can. Here it is:

"The word "advent," from the Latin in *adventus* (Greek *parousia*), means "coming" or "arrival." The **Advent Season** is focused on anticipating the arrival of Jesus as Messiah (Christ or King).

The worship, scripture readings, and prayers not only prepare us spiritually for Christmas (his first coming), but also for his second coming. This is why the Scripture readings during Advent include both Old Testament passages related to the expected Messiah, and New Testament passages concerning Jesus' second coming as judge of all. Also, passages about John the Baptist, the precursor who prepared the way for the Messiah, are read. All of these themes are present in Catholic worship during Advent, which

The [Catechism](#) succinctly describes:

When the Church celebrates the liturgy of Advent each year, she makes present this ancient expectancy of the Messiah, for by sharing in the long preparation for the Savior's first coming, the faithful renew their ardent desire for his second coming. By celebrating the precursor's birth and martyrdom, the Church unites herself to his desire: "He must increase, but I must decrease" (524).

Since Advent looks forward to Christ's birth and Incarnation, it is an appropriate way to begin the Church Year. However, Advent is *not* part of the Christmas season itself, but a preparation for it. Thus, Catholics do not sing Christmas hymns, or use Christmas readings, in Mass until December 25th, the first day of the Christmas season.

The official color for Advent is violet (except for the Third Week of Advent, often called *Gaudete Sunday*, in which rose may be used), and the season is somewhat penitential, similar to [Lent](#), although not so explicitly so. The character of worship during Advent is solemn, quiet, and less festive than during other times of the year. In the Catholic Church, for example, the *Gloria in Excelsis* is not used. The use of violet reflects the general themes of Advent: penitence (generally expressed more in terms of expectant hope)

and royalty. Some prominent feasts fall within the Season of Advent, including the [Feast of the Immaculate Conception](#) and the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe. Secular culture and many non-Catholic churches celebrate the day of [Christmas](#), but take it outside of the context of Advent and Christmastide. However, Christmas is not meant to be an isolated day, but a festival of the Incarnation in the midst of the [Church year](#).

Christmas is only properly understood after having the preparation provided by Advent. In the midst of the secular excesses leading up to Christmas, Advent provides a welcome solace and an opportunity to continually re-orient ourselves to God's will as we expectantly wait with patriarchs, prophets, and kings for the true meaning of Christmas: the Incarnation of God the Son.

Advent History

The New Testament identifies Jesus as the expected Jewish Messiah, although Jesus was not the Messiah most Jews at the time expected, a warrior who would forcibly overthrow the Romans. The gospel writers are clear that Jesus did not come to establish an earthly kingdom, or deliver the Jewish people from the Romans, but rather he proclaimed a heavenly kingdom available to Jew and Gentile alike. Even though early Christians understood that Jesus reigned in the Church, they knew that all things had not been subjected fully to him, so Christians understood that there existed a future finalization of his kingdom (see [Catechism](#) 680). Thus, early Christians eagerly awaited the return of Jesus in glory "to achieve the definitive triumph of good over evil," when he would judge the living and the dead ([Catechism](#) 681, 682). These prominent Scriptural themes form the basis of our Advent season.

The first clear reference to a celebration of Advent occurs in the 6th century. Prior to this time, there were celebrations and fasts resembling our current Advent season. St. Hilary of Poitiers (d. AD 367) and the Spanish Council of Saragossa (AD 380) spoke of a three week fast before Epiphany. Pope St. Leo the Great preached many homilies about "the fast of the tenth month (i.e. December)" prior to Christmas. The Gelasian Sacramentary (AD 750) provided liturgical material for the five Sundays before Christmas as well as Wednesdays and Fridays. The Western Church eventually settled on 4 Sundays of Advent, which has the season beginning at the very end of November or the very beginning of December, starting immediately after [Ordinary Time](#). Until the 12th century, in many geographical areas, Advent had a more festive tone, and white vestments were still occasionally used. However, Advent became more closely related to Lent as Christ's second coming became more and more a prominent Advent theme, as especially seen in the seventh century [Bobbio Missal](#). Advent proper is unknown in the East, although the Eastern Churches have a long fast before Christmas. This fast lasts longer than the Western Advent season and begins in mid-November. Advent, or the Eastern equivalent fast, is celebrated in all Catholic and Orthodox Churches.

During the Reformation, some Protestants attacked or de-emphasized many Christian holy days and seasons, disconnecting their churches from the rhythms of the Church Year. However, some Reformation churches, like the Anglicans, retained Advent. Possibly because of the liturgical movement, or maybe as a reaction to the excesses of secular Christmas values, celebrating Advent has become more popular in non-Catholic and non-Orthodox churches. Lutherans, Anglicans, Methodists, Presbyterians, and even many evangelical groups have incorporated Advent into their worship service to varying degrees. However, some churches have fallen short of celebrating the true meaning of Advent, treating the season as more of an early extension of Christmas. As non-Catholics and non-Orthodox begin to rediscover the Church year, Advent (like Lent) is one of the first results, flowing naturally from churches looking to fill in the gaps around Christmas and Easter. For more information see [The Oxford Dictionary of the Christian Church](#) and [The Study of Liturgy](#)." (complete source taken verbatim: www.prayerist.com/advent.html)

During this Season, there will be extra confession times every day of the week, Mondays at 6:30 p.m. at Immaculate Conception, St. Marys, 5:30 p.m. on Tuesdays at St. Thomas Aquinas, 7:30 a.m. at St. Thomas Aquinas on Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays, 3:30 p.m. at St. Thomas Aquinas on Saturdays and 7:30 a.m. on Sundays at Immaculate Conception, St. Marys. I would highly recommend participating in this Sacrament of Reconciliation during this Season. It is a season of Hope, Waiting, Joyful Expectation, yet, we also need to be prepared, as we do not know when we will meet Jesus Christ face to face for our particular judgment. With so much uncertainty in the world, I highly, highly recommend we all go!! I know I will! I need the graces of the Sacrament too!

Happy Advent Season to you all!

Fr. Chris

Advent Prayer for week one....

Grant your faithful, we pray,
Almighty God, the resolve to run forth
to meet your Christ with righteous deeds at His
coming,
so that, gathered at His right hand,
they may be worthy to possess the heavenly Kingdom.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.
Amen

Liturgy of the Word



Ministry Schedule

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

4:30 p.m. Mass November 28th:

Lector: Kris Gross
Eucharistic Ministers: Bill & Kris Gross
Ushers: Vivian Winkler & Derry Butler
Cleaning Vessels: Bill & Kris Gross

8:00 a.m. Mass November 29th:

Lector: Penny Miller
Eucharistic: Joseph DeWall & Carol Proctor
Ushers: Terry & Cathy Krapfl
Cleaning Vessels: Joseph DeWall & Carol Proctor

10:15 a.m. Mass November 29th:

Lector: Tristan Grover
Eucharistic Ministers: Tristan & Logan Grover
Ushers: Bob & Julie Ormsby
Cleaning Vessels: Tristan & Logan Grover

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 Leinen, Jean Veasman,
Loretta Petersen, Aaron Babinski, Mike Metz, Patrick Shandley
James Rector & for the Souls in Purgatory

Please contact Jackle Ward at 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.

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.

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