



FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

St. Thomas More Catholic Student Parish

421 Monroe Street, Kalamazoo, MI 49006

THE CHURCH IS OPEN FOR MASS

Daily

Monday — Friday 5:15 p.m.

Weekend

Saturday 6:00 p.m.

Sunday 10:30 a.m. & 6:00 p.m.

Seating is limited for proper social distancing at weekend masses. Please sign-up on our website or call the office to ensure seating is arranged accordingly. We want all to attend and feel safe.

Reconciliation

Saturday and Sunday

5:00 - 5:30 p.m.

Wednesday 6:00 - 6:30 p.m.

Holy Hour

Friday 8:00 - 9:00 a.m.

**THE BUILDING IS NOT OPEN
FOR ANY
OTHER MEETINGS OR ACTIVITIES**

Fr. Paul Redmond | ext. 264
Pastor
frpaul@sttomskazoo.org

Pete Chadderdon | ext. 234
Maintenance
pete@sttomskazoo.org

Michele Cretsinger | ext. 273
Bulletin Editor
michele@sttomskazoo.org

Lisa Heyduk | ext. 272
Campus Minister
lisa@sttomskazoo.org

Martha Reid | ext. 266
Bookkeeper
martha@sttomskazoo.org

St. Thomas More
parish office is located at
1333 W. Lovell Street
Kalamazoo, MI 49006
Phone: 269-381-8917
Fax: 269-381-0195

email:
sttoms@sttomskazoo.org

website:
<http://www.sttomskazoo.org>

THE PARISH OFFICE REMAINS CLOSED

Phone messages and
emails are checked and
responded to regularly.

deacon joe schmitt | ext. 274
Pastoral Associate
Marriage & Baptismal Preparation
jhschmitt@charter.net

Narcia Schultz-Acker | ext. 261
Parish Secretary
Safe Environment Coordinator
narcia@sttomskazoo.org

Deacon Frank Sila | ext. 278
Pastoral Associate
Hospital, Homebound and
Jail Ministries
frank.sila@sttomskazoo.org

Michael Zutis
Director of Music Ministry
zututriot@gmail.com

PARISH MISSION STATEMENT — We, the people of St. Thomas More Parish, gifted and led by the Holy Spirit, are called to build up the kingdom of God among the college communities of Kalamazoo. Diverse, yet one, we are called to be the Body of Christ, to praise and worship our Heavenly Father, to proclaim God's Word, to love and serve others, especially the poor and neglected. We welcome all into our parish family who wish to share in this mission.

SACRAMENTAL LIFE

*Congratulations to***Nellie Mae Nordquist**

daughter of Jeffrey & Sydney
who was baptized Sunday, December 13, 2020

BAPTISM — Parents and godparents are expected to participate in a class before the celebration of this sacrament.

MARRIAGE PREPARATION — Couples planning to marry within the next year need to attend a marriage preparation meeting.

For more information call the parish office at 269-381-8917 or email sttoms@sttomskazoo.org

*Mass Schedule*

Daily 5:15 p.m.
Saturday - 6:00 p.m.

Sunday
10:30 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.

Seating is substantially reduced to accommodate social distancing guidelines due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

Everyone is welcome - signing up is recommended,
Sign-up at our website www.sttomskazoo.org and

Click on sign-up for in person weekend mass

You may also call 269-381-8917 (leave message)
or email sttoms@sttomskazoo.org

**ALL MASSES STREAM LIVE ON FACEBOOK**

Daily Mass
Monday-Friday - 5:15 p.m.

Saturday - 6:00 p.m.

Sunday - 10:30 a.m. & 6:00 p.m.

<https://www.facebook.com/sttomskazoo/>

If you don't have a Facebook page go to St. Tom's website and click the box on the homepage that says live stream mass at St. Tom's.

Email birthdays, anniversaries and good news to
sttoms@sttomskazoo.org

December 24 - Christmas Eve (Thursday)

5:00 p.m. Vigil Mass

7:30 p.m. Christmas Vigil Mass

10:00 p.m. Christmas Vigil Mass

December 25 - Christmas Day (Friday)

10:00 a.m. Christmas Mass

6:00 p.m. Christmas Evening Mass

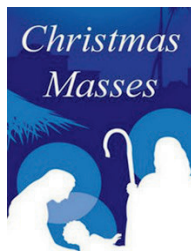
Seating is substantially reduced to accommodate social distancing guidelines due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

Everyone is welcome

PLEASE SIGN UP - SEATS WILL BE RESERVED.

Sign-up at our website www.sttomskazoo.org and click on sign-up for in person weekend mass or at the link below

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040a45a8af23aaf49-christmas>



MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 19 — Late Advent Weekday

6:00 p.m. † Melina Bazali by Bazali Walters family

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 20 — Fourth Sunday of Advent

10:30 a.m. † Charles Unger, Jr. by Cartmill family

6:00 p.m. † Tony Romano by Elsie Romano

MONDAY, DECEMBER 21 — St. Peter Canisius

5:15 p.m. † Dave Wakefield 20th anniversary
by family

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 22 — Late Advent Weekday

5:15 p.m. For the healing of Dr. Luis Toledo

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 23 — St. John of Kanty

5:15 p.m. † Deceased members of the
Thomas J. Sullivan family

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 24 — Late Advent Weekday

5:00 p.m. Sisters and girls of Casa Amparo

7:30 p.m. † Karen & William Loughlin by Cartmill family

10:00 p.m. First responders and health care workers

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 25 — The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas)

10:00 a.m. People of the parish

6:00 p.m. Sick and shut-ins of our parish family

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 26 — St. Stephen

6:00 p.m. People of the parish

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 27 — The Holy Family

10:30 a.m. † Charles & Lucille Monaghan
by Cartmill family

6:00 p.m. † Phyllis Kiella by family

SCRIPTURE READINGS

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 20 — SUNDAY, DECEMBER 27

Sunday 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27, 29;
Rom 16:25-27; Lk 1:26-38

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

Tuesday 1 Sm 1:24-28; 1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd;
Lk 1:46-56

Wednesday Mal 3:1-4, 23-24; Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-9, 10 and 14;
Lk 1:57-66

Thursday 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16;
Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27 & 29; Lk 1:67-79

Vigil: Is 62:1-5; Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29;
Acts 13:16-17, 22-25; Mt 1:1-25 or Mt 1:18-25

Friday Night: Is 9:1-6; Ps 96:1-2, 2-3, 11-12, 13; Ti 2:11-14;
Lk 2:1-14

Dawn: Is 62:11-12; Ps 97:1, 6, 11-12; Ti 3:4-7; Lk 2:15-20

Day: Is 52:7-10; Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4, 5-6;
Heb 1:1-6; Jn 1:1-18 or Jn 1:1-5, 9-14

Saturday Acts 6:8-10, Acts 7:54-59; Ps 31:3cd-4, 6 and
8ab, 16bc and 17; Mt 10:17-22

Sunday Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 or Gn 15:1-6, 21:1-3;
Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 or Ps 105:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9;
Col 3:12-21 or Col 3:12-17 or Heb 11:8, 11-12,
17-19; Lk 2:22-40 or Lk 2:22, 39-40

a post
from
Fr. Paul

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Years ago, I took a course called the Bible – Old Testament as History. The professor was very knowledgeable. I did learn more about the Bible. One aspect that struck me was that the professor tried to explain all the miraculous events with scientific reason. The pitfall

with this approach, I fear, is that one may be tempted to explain away all the miracles that the Bible contains. There are many miracles in the Bible.

Our belief in God needs to contain both faith and reason. It's a balance. To really appreciate the mystery of the miracles, we need faith more than scientific reasoning. We need to appreciate, even if we don't understand fully the direct action of Divine Power.

This is especially true when we read the account of Jesus' conception and birth. The Divine Power of God was there. We can ask, "Why a virgin birth?" The obvious answer is, "Ask God." It is easy to want to claim some scientific event to explain or to believe that the whole event was just misunderstood. To journey on this route would be an easy entrance for doubt to enter our hearts.

In his book, *Behold, He Comes: Meditations on the Incarnation*, Fr. Groeschel states, "We need to reject quite consciously the rationalist prejudice that the human mind can comprehend everything in heaven and on earth. We are surrounded by natural mysteries, like gravity, time, and matter. We accept them and go on. Why not the mystery of grace, the mystery beyond the natural world?"

I hope you appreciate the mystery of the Christ Child this Advent season as we prepare for Christmas! Take care and God bless you all!

Peace — *FR. Paul*



TOILET PAPER MINISTRY

Toilet paper donation for those in need. The back door of the office garage is open 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. Monday-Friday for toilet paper drop-off.

Call the parish office or email sttoms@sttomskazoo.org for more information about how to donate.

Follow us on Instagram
@KalamazooCatholic
or sign up for our weekly email or GroupMe for updates on all the activities we offer for students.



COLLEGE STUDENT MINISTRY
at St. Thomas More
Catholic Student Parish

**THERE WILL BE NO STUDENT EVENTS
THROUGH JANUARY 10, 2020**

SEEK21 will be held Feb 4-7

this winter and they have a new format. Content and talks will be streamed online and small groups will meet locally during the conference to experience and discuss it together. We have groups for students with small group leaders ready for you! The price is \$49 per person.

Please contact Allison Clark, Grace Stier, or Evan Fadanelli if you are interested or want to know more about joining a group and registering.

Do you find yourself in need of a warmer jacket or winter coat?

We have generous parishioners with coats and jackets to give you, we just need to know your size. If you find yourself in need this semester, email Lisa@sttomskazoo.org so she can get you in something warm.



Lisa Heyduk, Director of Campus Ministry,
Serving Western Michigan University,
Kalamazoo College,
Kalamazoo Valley Community College
St. Thomas More Catholic Student Parish
lisa@sttomskazoo.org



Thank you to everyone who has supported our St. Tom's family so generously throughout this year.

In these unprecedented difficult times your prayers, calls, visits, kind words, have been so appreciated.

The entire St. Tom's staff wishes you a

Merry Christmas

and a hopeful and healthy New Year!



John D. Bradshaw, P.C.

Attorneys at Law
Parishioners

John D. Bradshaw, P.C.

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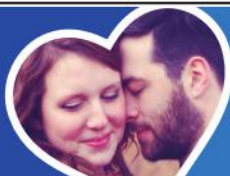
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