

**December 17, 2023
THIRD SUNDAY
OF ADVENT**

**WEEKEND
MASS SCHEDULE**
Saturday 6:00 p.m.
Sunday
8:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m.,
And 6:00 p.m.

**DAILY
MASS SCHEDULE**
December 18 - 22
Monday, Tuesday,
Wednesday and Friday
5:15 p.m.
No Mass Thursday

RECONCILIATION
Saturday and Sunday
5:00 - 5:30 p.m.
Wednesday
6:00 - 7:00 p.m.

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

Mass Schedule
4th Sunday of Advent
Saturday, December 23
6:00 p.m.
Sunday, December 24
8:30 a.m.

**Christmas
Mass Schedule**
Sunday, December 24
5:00 p.m. Children's Mass
(doors open at 4:00 p.m.)
7:30 p.m.
10:00 p.m.
Monday, December 25
10:00 a.m.
6:00 p.m.



ST. THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC STUDENT PARISH

421 Monroe Street, Kalamazoo, MI

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: www.sttomskazoo.org

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday thru Thursday 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.; Friday 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

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

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

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

Elizabeth Emmert | ext. 221
Office Assistant
elizabeth@sttomskazoo.org

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

Jeremy McNally
Live Stream Coordinator
jmcnally@sttomskazoo.org

Claire McSwiney
RCIA Coordinator
claire.mcswiney@att.net

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

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, Retired
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.

SCRIPTURE READINGS Week of December 17

Sunday	Is 61:1-2a, 10-11; Lk 1:46-48, 49-50, 53-54; 1 Thes 5:16-24; Jn 1:6-8, 19-28
Monday	Jer 23:5-8; Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19; Mt 1:18-25
Tuesday	Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a; Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17; Lk 1:5-25
Wednesday	Is 7:10-14; Ps 24:1-2, 3-4ab, 5-6; Lk 1:26-38
Thursday	Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a; Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21; Lk 1:39-45
Friday	1 Sm 1:24-28; 1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd; Lk 1:46-56
Saturday	Mal 3:1-4, 23-24; Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-9, 10 and 14; Lk 1:57-66
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

SACRAMENTAL LIFE

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 prep meeting.

REGISTRATION REQUIRED FOR BOTH CLASSES

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

MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 16 — Advent Weekday

6:00 p.m. People of the parish

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17 — Third Sunday of Advent

8:30 a.m. †Renee Adrian by wife Joan

10:30 a.m. †Jean Homola by Ron & Ellen Partee

6:00 p.m. †Kim Mansfield by Beth Caswell

MONDAY, DECEMBER 18 — Late Advent Weekday

5:15 p.m. Tim Krone (living) by Jane Krone

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 19 — Late Advent Weekday

5:15 p.m. †Melina Bazali by Bazali-Walters family

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 20 — Late Advent Weekday

5:15 p.m. †Pauline Bambrick (living) by George Hebben

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 21 — St. Peter Canisius

No Mass

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 22 — Late Advent Weekday

5:15 p.m. †Connie Brenes by family

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 23 — St. John of Kanty

6:00 p.m. †Jean Homola by Dick & Becky Crites

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24 — Fourth Sunday of Advent

8:30 a.m. †Lillian Owen by Deb Adams

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24 — Christmas Eve

5:00 p.m. People of the Parish

Children's Mass

7:30 p.m. Amy Alfen (living) by Jim & Mary Grace

10:00 p.m. †Catherine Basso by family

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

10:00 a.m. †Carolyn Safina grandmother of Michael Zutix

6:00 p.m. People of the Parish

FATHER PAUL'S POST

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Our celebration of Christ's birth draws closer!! Joy is in the air! Joy is the theme of the third Advent candle!



We see joy in our readings as well! In the first reading from Isaiah, the prophet is speaking to his people. They have been in exile for 50 years! The exile was ending! The king of Persia sent them free. They were allowed to go home and rebuild their cities and temple! The prophet is rejoicing in what God is doing for them!

What is God doing in your life? Can you rejoice in what marvels the Lord has worked for you? It's a good thought to reflect on this week! May God bless you all!

Sincerely, *FR. Paul*

4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT MASS SCHEDULE:

Saturday, December 23 — 6:00 p.m.; Sunday, December 24 — 8:30 a.m.

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE:

Sunday, December 24 — 5:00 p.m.; 7:30 p.m.; 10:00 p.m.

Monday, December 25 — 10:00 a.m.; 6:00 p.m.

RCIA/OCIA

For those in the current RCIA/OCIA process, we have completed the first stage, Inquiry. During this time of prayer and discernment we have discussed the questions that our Inquirers have about The Catholic Faith as they decide whether this is the right path for them. After the New Year, we will be discerning the move into the Catechumenate and celebrating the Rite of Acceptance/Welcome. Please hold our Inquirers in prayer as we approach the first major Rite of the RCIA.

We will be having a social gathering, Sunday December 17, so there will not be a discussion that night.

Contact Fr. Paul (frpaul@sttomskazoo.org) or

Claire McSwiney (claire.mcswiney@att.net)

for information about the RCIA process.



COLLEGE STUDENT NEWS

More at Midweek, Student Holy Hour, and Mass at Kanley Chapel will resume the week of January 8th and Sunday Supper on January 14th! ENJOY YOUR BREAK FROM CLASSES!

SUNDAY SHUTTLE

Are you a college student who would like a ride to a Sunday Mass? If so, please contact Lisa at lisa@sttomskazoo.org to ride the Sunday Shuttle or be paired with another student driving into Mass.

SOCIALS

Follow us on Instagram @KalamazooCatholic or sign up for our weekly email or GroupMe to get info on new events first. Email Lisa@sttomskazoo.org to subscribe to our weekly email. Our GroupMe texting group can be found here: https://groupme.com/join_group/89335085/4QjZw0gK

HERE AT ST. TOM'S

WOMEN'S SOCIAL GROUP GATHERING

Join us on Monday, December 18 at 2:00 pm in the Cougar Room. This month we will be creating a Christmas decoration to take home! Even if you are not into making crafts, please come anyway and get more acquainted with the ladies of our church.

SUNDAY SUPPER SIGN-UP SCHEDULE

Is now available for next semester.

Thank you to everyone who has prepared meals, served and cleaned-up this semester.

REACH, STRETCH, RELAX

Join us for group chair exercise class that targets balance, flexibility, range of movement and breathing. The class meets every Wednesday 10:30-11:30 a.m. in the Cougar Room. This class is appropriate for "every body". Contact Matt Barretta at 343-7857 or 548-6837 for more information. Reach, Stretch, Relax will not meet December 27.

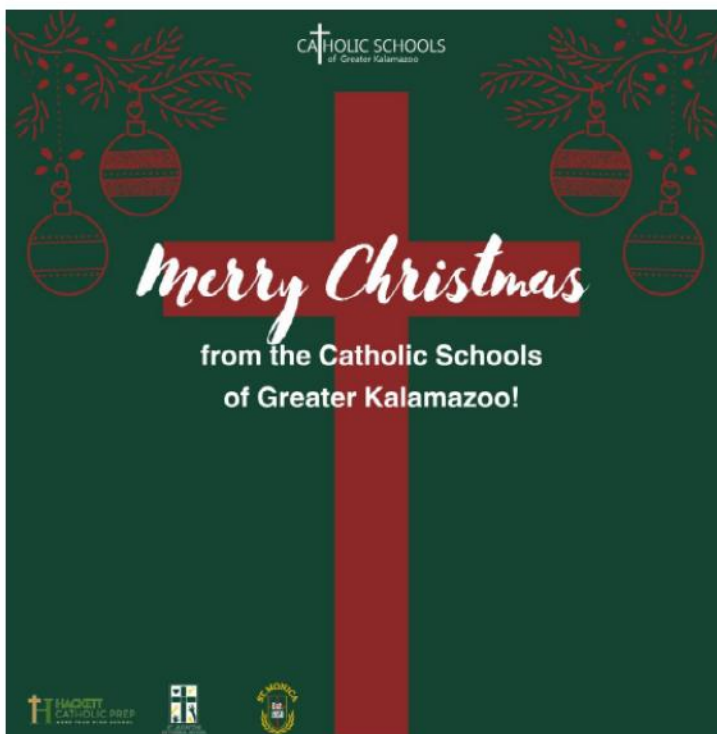
YOGA

Experience the benefits of yoga every Tuesday & Thursday, 10:00-11:00 am in the Cougar Room. Reduce stress, improve awareness, posture, strength, balance and flexibility. Uniting body, mind and spirit with instructor Gena Pezzoli. Bring a yoga mat if you have one. Suggested donation of \$10 to help our Feminine Care Product Ministry. Please note—yoga will not meet on December 26, 28, January 2 & 4.

TOILET PAPER MINISTRY

Toilet paper donations for those in need. The back door of the office garage is open Monday - Friday 9:00 am - 1:00 PM or bring to church When you come to mass.

FOAM RECYCLING — Foam accepted at the parish garage only. Either inside the garage or in the large brown bin outside the door. Please make sure all foam is clean and free of food.

**RACE MATTERS**

*Building Our
Beloved
Community*

THANK YOU to all who participated in our three fall Race Matters: Building Our Beloved Community programs. We've had some great conversations! Race Matters will be back in 2024 to continue our exploration of Racism in Our Community. Watch the bulletin and your email inbox for more information.

If you have questions, suggestions, or would like to be added to our email distribution list, please email: sttomssjm@gmail.com.

THANK YOU!

to all who baked cookies, donated items, and helped assemble the 80 Care Packages for WMU & KVCC student finals week.

DECEMBER 2023 SUNDAY COLLECTION

Target for December	70,755
12/3	9,580
12/10	9,807
12/17	
12/24	
Christmas	
12/31	
Electronic gifts for December	12,476
Total gifts to date for December	31,863

 <p>John D. Bradshaw, P.C. Attorneys at Law Parishioners 269-373-4400</p>	 <p>KEI ELECTRICAL CONSTRUCTION • MAINTENANCE 6185 W. KL Ave. 372-2035 www.keiecm.com</p>	<p>LAKELAND ASPHALT PAVING THE WAY SINCE 1959</p> <p>INDUSTRIAL MUNICIPAL RESIDENTIAL COMMERCIAL</p> <p>FOR ALL YOUR PAVING NEEDS</p> <p>M-DOT Pre-qualified</p> <p>FREE ESTIMATES Plant & Office 474 Avenue "A" Battle Creek</p> <p>964-1720</p>	<p>#1 Rated Funeral Home Read Our Google Reviews</p>  <p>Betzler Scott Betzler Catholic Funeral Director (269) 375-2900 BetzlerLifeStory.com</p>
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<p>EWTN.COM/RADIO</p>  <p>EWTN Global Catholic Radio</p>	<p>The Sisters of St. Joseph</p> <p>are currently inviting lay individuals to live with them in their residential complex at 2929 Nazareth Road in Kalamazoo.</p> <p>Assisted living apartments are currently available.</p> <p>For a tour contact Tammy Nelson, Marketing Director (269) 381-6290 or tnelson@csjoseph.org</p> <p>www.csjinitiatives.org/kalamazoo</p> 		<p>ADVERTISE HERE</p> <p>Promote your Business AND Support your Parish.</p> <p>Jeff Ingersoll ~ 616-299-2388 jingersoll@diocesan.com</p>
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