St. Thomas More Catholic Student Parish

421 Monroe Street Kalamazoo, Michigan

Holy Week & Easter Schedule

MONDAY, MARCH 25

Mass 5:15 p.m.

TUESDAY, MARCH 26

Chrism Mass 2:00 p.m. at St. Augustine Cathedral (No Mass at St. Tom's)

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 27

Mass 5:15 p.m. Reconciliation 6:00 - 7:00 p.m.

HOLY THURSDAY, MARCH 28

Mass of the Lord's Supper 6:00 p.m. Adoration following Mass until Midnight

GOOD FRIDAY, MARCH 29

Reconciliation 12:00 - 2:00 p.m.

Stations of the Cross 3:00 p.m.

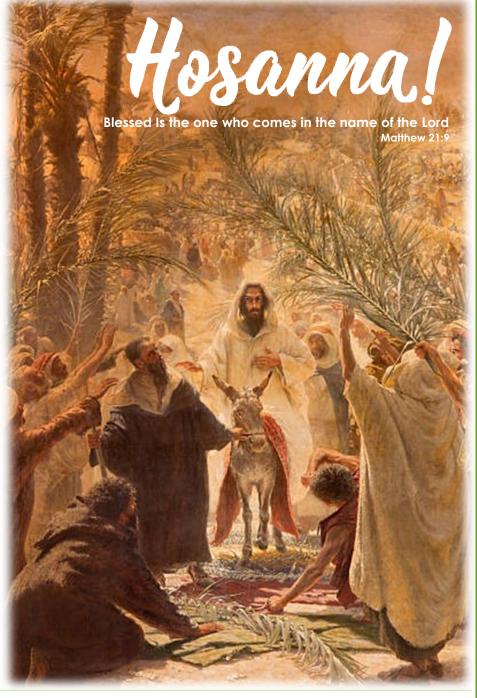
Liturgy of the Lord's Passion 5:30 p.m.

HOLY SATURDAY, MARCH 30

Easter Vigil begins at 9:00 p.m. (No 6:00 p.m. Mass)

EASTER SUNDAY, MARCH 31

Mass 8:30 a.m.; 10:30 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.



Parish Office located at 1333 W. Lovell Street Kalamazoo, MI 49006

Phone: 269-381-8917 email: sttoms@sttomskazoo.org website: www.sttomskazoo.org
Parish Office Hours: Mon. thru Thurs. 9:00-3:00; Fri. 9:00-1;00. Office Closed Friday March 29 & Monday, April 1

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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 Marriage & Baptism Prep. jhschmitt@charter.net

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

Deacon Frank Sila, Retired frank.sila@sttomskazoo.org

Michael Zutis Director of Music Ministry zutzutriot@gmail.com

Week of March 24

RCIA/OCIA

This is the big week for participants in the RCIA/OCIA. A week from today they will be Catholics! We've been walking with them and God since September. Please pray for them, the sponsors who have willingly helped in their formation, and the Team.

On Sunday, March 24, we will not be gathering for catechesis. Tonight is the night that sponsors will rehearse for The Great Easter Vigil.

For questions about RCIA/OCIA, contact Fr. Paul (frpaul@sttomskazoo.org) or Claire McSwiney (claire.mcswiney@att.net).

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, MARCH 23 — St. Turibius of Mogrovejo

6:00 p.m. **†** Joanie Carey

SUNDAY, MARCH 24 — Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

8:30 a.m. † Josefa Bellini by Sandy Borden

10:30 a.m. People of the parish

6:00 p.m. **†**Patty Richardson by Cindy Vieta

MONDAY, MARCH 25 — Monday of Holy Week

TUESDAY, MARCH 26 — Tuesday of Holy Week

5:15 p.m. Bishop Edward M. Lohse

No Mass @ St. Tom's [Chrism Mass 2:00 p.m. @ St. Augustine]

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 27 — Wednesday of Holy Week

5:15 p.m. **†**Lois Neidert

THURSDAY, MARCH 28 — Holy Thursday

6:00 p.m. Pope Francis

FRIDAY, MARCH 29 — Good Friday

5:30 p.m. Liturgy of the Lord's Passion

SATURDAY, MARCH 30 — Holy Saturday - Easter Vigil

9:00 p.m. †Deceased members

of the Coyne & Jako families

SUNDAY, MARCH 31 — The Resurrection of the Lord

8:30 a.m. Katelyn Rose Berard (living) by Rose Chaivre

10:30 a.m. †Jan & Maria van den Hombergh

by van den Hombergh family

6:00 p.m. People of the parish

MONDAY, APRIL 1 — The Octave of Easter

No Mass

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Sunday Mk 11:1-10 or Jn 12:12-16; ls 50:4-7;

Ps 22:8-9, 17-18, 19-20, 23-24; Phil 2:6-11;

Mk 14:1—15:47 or Mk 15:1-39

Monday Is 42:1-7; Ps 27:1, 2, 3, 13-14; Jn 12:1-11

Tuesday Is 49:1-6; Ps 71:1-2, 3-4a, 5ab-6ab, 15 and 17;

Jn 13:21-33, 36-38

Wednesday Is 50:4-9a; Ps 69:8-10, 21-22, 31 and 33-34;

Mt 26:14-25

Thursday Ex 12:1-8, 11-14; Ps 116:12-13, 15-16bc, 17-18;

1 Cor 11:23-26; Jn 13:1-15

Friday Is 52:13—53:12; Ps 31:2, 6, 12-13, 15-16, 17, 25;

Heb 4:14-16; 5:7-9; Jn 18:1—19:42

Saturday Gn1:1—2:2 or Gn 1:1, 26-31a; Ps 104:1-2, 5-6, 10,

12, 13-14, 24, 35 or Ps 33:4-5, 6-7, 12-13, 20 and 22; Gn 22:1-18 or Gn 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18; Ps 16:5, 8, 9-10, 11; Ex 14:15—15:1; Ex 15:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 17-18; Is 54:5-14; Ps 30:2, 4, 5-6, 11-12, 13; Is 55:1-11; Is 12:2-3, 4, 5-6; Bar 3:9-15, 32—4:4; Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11; Ez 36:16-17a, 18-28; Ps 42:3, 5; 43:3, 4 or Is 12:2-3, 4bcd, 5-6 or Ps 51:12-13, 14-15, 18-19; Rom 6:3-11; Ps 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23;

Mk 16:1-7

Sunday Acts 10:34a, 37-43; Ps 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23;

Col 3:1-4 or 1 Cor 5:6b-8; Jn 20:1-9



PASSION PLAY CAST

- Josiah Bildner Jesus
- Fr. Paul Redmond
- Caleb Bildner
 Fran Bruder
- Diana Godish Judi Pike Alexander Pinto



POPE FRANCIS HAS ASKED OUR PARISH TO SUPPORT THE PONTIFICAL GOOD FRIDAY COLLECTION, WHICH HELPS CHRISTIANS IN THE HOLY LAND.



Pope Francis has asked our parish to support the Pontifical Good Friday Collection, which helps Christians in the Holy Land. Your support helps the church minister in parishes, provide Catholic schools and offer religious education. The Pontifical Good Friday Collection also helps to preserve the sacred shrines. The pandemic hit particularly hard the Christians in the Holy Land. Most of them depend on pilgrimages to work. In these times of crisis, the Pontifical Good Friday Collection is also necessary to meet the basic needs of the People of God still living in this Land where the Church was born. When you contribute to the Pontifical Good Friday Collection, you become an instrument of peace and join with Catholics around the world in solidarity with the Church in the Holy Land, visit www.myfranciscan.org/good-friday.

For more information about Christians in the Holy Land, visit www.myfranciscan.org/good-friday

FATHER PAUL'S POST

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ.

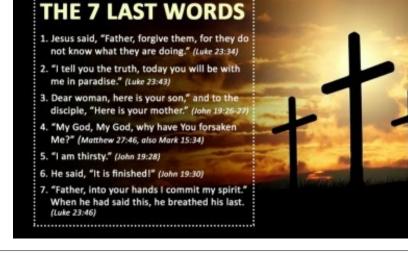
In his book, Life of Christ, Bishop Fulton Sheen wrote a powerful observation on the last seven words of Christ. He states, "Our Lord spoke seven times from the Cross; these are called His Seven Last Words. In the Scriptures, the dying words of only three others were recorded: Israel, Moses, and Stephen. The reason perhaps is that no others are found so significant and representative as these three. Israel was the first of the Israelites; Moses, the first of the legal dispensation; Stephen, the first Christian

martyr......Our Blessed Lord left His thoughts on dying, for He—more than Israel, more than Moses, more than Stephen—was representative of all humanity.....There was never a preacher like the dying Christ; there was never a congregation like that which gathered about the pulpit of the Cross; there was never a sermon like the Seven Last Words." (Chapter 49, page 273)

As we enter this Holy Week, I would invite you to read and reflect on these Seven Last Words of Jesus. They are taken from the gospel of Luke and John. If one is looking for a way to follow the way of the cross, this could be a good meditative exercise.

Have a blessed and safe Holy Week.

Sincerely,



HERE AT ST. TOM'S

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.

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.

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.

THANK YOU FOR THE GENEROUS DONATIONS OF BLANKETS, SHEETS, AND TOWELS FOR MIGRANT MINISTRY.

As always we appreciate our parish family!!

BLOOD DRIVE



THURSDAY, APRIL 4 11:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

In the social hall

Register to donate by using the QR Code or the link below.



https://donate.michigan.versiti.orgdonorschedulesdrive_schedule/157389



IT'S TIME TO RETURN YOUR RICE BOWLS

You may put them in the basket on the table at the entry in the narthex.

MARCH 2024 SUNDAY COLLECTION

Target for March	70,755
3/3	14,904
3/10	7,464
3/17	10,066
2/04	

3/24

Easter Sunday

Electronic gifts for March 18,972
Total gifts to date for March 51,406

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.

NEWS AROUND THE AREA

REFUGEE FAMILIES COMING!

Kalamazoo is welcoming more refugee families this spring! Ongoing needs are these:

HOUSEHOLD ITEMS: Pots and pans, dishes and drinking glasses, queen and twin comforters, shower curtains, new queen and twin bedsheets and bath towels: TAKE TO PRINCE OF PEACE CHURCH on Milham in Portage

FURNITURE: especially queen and twin bedframes (no mattresses), dressers, dining tables and chairs, sofas and chairs: CALL SAMARITAS to plan pickup or bring to Prince of Peace Church

CLOTHING and SHOES for children and adults, especially men's and boys: TAKE TO CONGREGATION OF MOSES on Stadium Dr in Kalamazoo .

Questions? Call Elsie Romano at 269-373-4348 or email at elsieromano@att.net.

CIRCLE OF FRIENDS

This gathering for adults with cognitive/developmental disabilities is a time of fellowship, activities and reflection on the Sunday readings and a simple dinner. We will gather on the 4th Wednesday of the month from 6:00 – 7:30p.m in the Fellowship Room in the Stanley Centre at St. Catherine of Siena, 1150 W. Centre St., Portage. All are welcome! Upcoming gatherings are Mar. 27, and Apr. 24. Contact Lisa Irwin, lisairwin@ccdok.org or 381-9800 x227 to RSVP or for more information.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

The diocese is seeking volunteers to assist with various office tasks at its Diocesan Pastoral Center located in downtown Kalamazoo. Volunteers should be available during diocesan office hours of 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. (various partial, half and full day shifts available); should be knowledgeable about the Catholic Church; and proficient in standard office procedures (mailing, answering phones, etc.). Various shifts may be available. Please complete the volunteer submission form at diokzoo.org/volunteer for consideration.

RETURN OF THE PRECIOUS BLOOD THIS JUNE

The regular distribution of the Precious Blood at Mass will return to Parishes across the diocese on June 23rd. Parishes will participate in three Sundays (June 9, 16, 23) of catechesis prior to the return. More information will be available on the diocesan website.



SPRING CLEANING? ST VINCENT DE PAUL NEEDS DONATIONS

of household items: dishes, working appliances (microwaves, toasters, mixers, radios, etc), religious items, jewelry, and always men's boxer underwear. Drop off times are Tues, Thurs, & Sat, 10-2 p.m. at their thrift store at 513 Eleanor St, Kalamazoo.

We are also in need of volunteers.

If interested

please drop by the store or

call us at 269-388-4544.

SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITY FOR FAITH-FILLED COLLEGE STUDENTS

The Keeping the Catholic Faith Scholarship Fund held at the Catholic Foundation of Michigan provides scholarships to incoming college students who desire to live, grow and share their Catholic faith after high school. Thanks to the generosity of a local Kalamazoo family, the fund will provide a \$1,000 financial scholarship. The application process will open on March 1 and will close on April 1, 2024.

To learn more or apply, please visit www.bit.ly/KTCF or use the QR code.





COLLEGE STUDENT NEWS



MORE AT MIDWEEK

The triduum is a special time in our liturgical year, and with it coming up we offer for you to come hear about it from Quinn at More at Midweek. We will start at 7:00 p.m. with praise and worship, then will head into pizza and hearing the talk.

STUDENT HOLY HOUR

Come for an hour of silent prayer, beginning and ending with a couple of traditional songs and prayers. Bring some spiritual reading, a prayer, journal, your a rosary, or anything else that helps you to connect with the Lord during this time. Come for the whole hour or 5 minutes in the Worship Space at St. Tom's on Thursdays 6-7 PM. Confession is normally available.



FRIDAY MASS AT KANLEY CHAPEL

There will be no Mass at Kanley Chapel on Good Friday, March 29. There will be a service at St. Tom's at 5:30 p.m.

SUNDAY SUPPERS:

Sunday Suppers are a homemade meal hosted by our parishioners for college students in the Social Hall after the 6:00 PM Mass. Entree, salad, drinks, and desserts are served.





SUNDAY SHUTTLE

Are you a college student who would like a ride to a Sunday Mass? If so, please contact Devin at devindettman@gmail.com to ride the Sunday Shuttle or be paired with another student driving into Mass.

ROMERO ROOM KEYCARD

We have keycard access for the Romero Room! There are blue forms available in the church to apply for a card. The Romero Room is a room we have open for students to use to hang out and study. It is complete with places to work, lounge, a TV, snacks, hot and cold drinks, and a full kitchen. It is located in the bottom floor of the brick building next to the church building. Park in the main church lot, walk up the hill to 409 Monroe Street, swipe your keycard at the front door, and go down the stairs to find the room. Access is available from 8 AM-10 PM Monday through Saturday.

BLESSED SACRAMENT CHAPEL KEYCARD:

Did you know you can get 24/7 prayer access with keycard to the Blessed Sacrament Chapel? Get direct access in and out of outside door near the main doors to the church. The paper application for the card is available in the rotating info stands in Narthex. Submit to the parish office or put in collection basket.

KALAMAZOO CATHOLIC YOUTUBE CHANNEL:

Missed the retreat but still want to hear the talks? All talks are being uploaded on YouTube! Find recordings from this semester's retreat "Together at One Altar", along with recordings from previous retreats and More at Midweeks. Check it out with the link: https://youtube.com/@kalamazoocatholic6074?si=QlTaCGYJ0TfSFQdg

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



BACCALAUREATE MASS

Are you graduating this semester or over the summer? We would like to honor our (almost) graduates by hosting a baccalaureate Mass and reception for you and your family and friends on Friday, April 26 at 7:30 PM. If you are interested, please respond to this email or email sttoms@sttomskazoo.org with your name, photo, degree/program, and number of guests by or before Monday, April 22. Please also indicate if you would like to have a role in the Mass—reading, sharing your St. Tom's experience, music ministry, or something else. Dress code: You can wear your cap and gown/dress up or whatever you would typically wear to Mass.

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