

December 25/26, 2021

WELCOME TO OUR PARISH!

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE

919 E. Indiana Ave. Coeur d'Alene, Idaho
P. 208.664.9259 | W. stthomasda.org



SACRAMENTS

MASS:

MONDAY* - FRIDAY:

HOLY ROSARY 7:15 AM
DAILY MASS 8 AM
*MONDAYS - CHILDREN'S MASS

SATURDAY:

1ST SATURDAY 8 AM
VIGIL* 5 PM
*FELLOWSHIP IN MH AFTER MASS

SUNDAY:

THE LORD'S DAY 8 AM*
10 AM*
5 PM
*FELLOWSHIP IN PC AFTER 8 AM AND 10 AM
MASSES

CONFESSION:

THURSDAY 6 PM - 7 PM*
FRIDAY: 9 AM - 10 AM*
SATURDAY: 3 PM - 4:45 PM
*HOLY HOUR AS WELL

DEVOTIONS:

OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP!
TUESDAYS 8:45 AM

ADORATION:
TUESDAY 6 PM - 7 PM
THURSDAY 6 PM - 7 PM
FRIDAY 8:45 AM - 12 PM

1ST FRIDAY LITANY OF THE
SACRED HEART: AFTER MASS

1ST SATURDAY MASS FOR OUR
LADY: 8 AM

FOR ALL OTHER SACRAMENTS PLEASE
CALL THE PARISH OFFICE TO MAKE AN
APPOINTMENT



The Nativity, Giovanni Benedetto Castiglione, 1655

THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD - FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY

Christmas Reflection

"What goodness! What a paradise! Run, then, you famished, you avaricious and usurious people to whom money is dearer than God, and *buy without money and without price* [Is 55.1] the grain of wheat which the Virgin has brought forth this day from the storehouse of her womb. She brought forth a son. What son? God the Son of God."

~St. Anthony of Padua

Mass Intentions

12/25	9AM	People of the Parish
12/26	8AM	People of the Parish
	10AM	Intentions of Rita Carlson
	5PM	Intentions of Sheila Hughes
12/27	8AM	Intentions of Luella Briscoe & Family
12/28	8AM	† Frances Hughes
12/29	8AM	† Mark Lyford
12/30	8AM	† John Williamson
12/31	8AM	† Christine Douglas
1/1	8AM	People of the Parish
	5PM	† Miguel Romero
1/2	8AM	† Miguel Romero
	10AM	People of the Parish
	5PM	† Mike Reagan

Sacred Music Ministry

Sunday, January 2nd:

The Epiphany of Our Lord

Join us at the 5pm on
Sunday, January 2nd for a
Choral Mass celebrating the
Epiphany of Our Lord!



Faith Formation

It takes a whole community to raise children in the faith! Here are some ways that you can help the faith formation efforts at Saint Thomas:

- ~Sponsor the food at one of our Family Formation Sundays with a donation of \$150 (though any amount gladly accepted!)
- ~Share your teaching experience! Catechists are needed for all ages and the commitment is only once or twice a month!
- ~Offer administrative support through data entry and other light office tasks.
- ~Serve as a small group leader for youth group program.
- ~Contact the Parish Office for more information: 208-664-9259.



Holy Family Catholic School

Wishing you and yours a very blessed Christmas from the students, parents, faculty, and staff at Holy Family Catholic School!

Rite of Christian Initiation

Rodney & Bessie Geilenfeldt

RCIA@stthomasda.org

Are you interested in joining the Catholic Church? Then RCIA (Rite of Catholic Initiation for Adults) is for you! The RCIA process introduces you to the beliefs and practices of the Roman Catholic Church and prepares you to enter fully into our community of faith through Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist. We welcome all those who are new to the faith, the unbaptized or baptized, those that have not yet been confirmed in the Church and also those who are simply just searching for God.

We encourage you to contact us if you are interested in joining RCIA or simply want more information. Contact Rodney at 619-857-2804 or Bessie at 619-857-2803. You can also email us at rcia@stthomasda.org!

Staff/Contact Us

Parish Office: 208.664.9259 | Website: stthomasda.org

Office Hours: M 12PM-3PM, T-TH 9AM-3PM*, F 9AM-12PM *Closed for lunch.

Email:

Phone Extension:

Father John Mosier, Administrator	frjohn@stthomasda.org	x. 7
Fr. Hippolytus Ezenwa, Parochial Vicar	frhippo@stthomasda.org	x. 8
Deacon Andy Finney, Deacon	deacon@stthomasda.org	
Colleen Kolobow, Business Manager	businessmanager@stthomasda.org	x. 6
Caitlin Bowers, Secretary	secretary@stthomasda.org	x. 2
Ann Marie Shehan, Office Assistant	officeassistant@stthomasda.org	
Carla Loucks, Faith Formation	faithformation@stthomasda.org	x. 4
Matthew Loucks, Sacred Music	sacredmusic@stthomasda.org	x. 5
Jeff Clay, Maintenance Director	maintenance@stthomasda.org	
Kathy Krapfl, Bookkeeper	bookkeeper@stthomasda.org	x. 9
Tina Johnson, Cemetery	cemetery@stthomasda.org	x. 3
Rodney & Bessie Geilenfeldt, RCIA	rcia@stthomasda.org	
Prayer Chain:	stthomascdaprayerchain@gmail.com	

Church/Mission House Address:

919 E. Indiana Ave. Coeur d'Alene, ID 83814

Parish Center Address:

406 N. 10th Street, Coeur d'Alene, ID 83814

Church Calendar (liturgical calendar and facility use):
<https://stthomasda.org/facilityusecalendar>

For Parish News, Events & Sacramental Reminders
find us on Youtube, Facebook and Instagram @stthomasda

The bulletin deadline for
Current Events is the
Wednesday prior, by 9am.
Inserts must be submitted
2 weeks in advance. Thank you
St. Thomas family!





Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

“But who do you say that I am?” This question sits at the nexus of all time. The answer to this question transforms individual lives, families, and entire nations. The answer to this question demarcates all time for every human that has ever lived, regardless of their individual answer or belief. Our Savior Jesus Christ chose the setting in Caesarea Philippi (located in modern day Syria), then a center of pagan worship for centuries, to challenge his disciples with this question.

Peter, the first bishop and the rock upon whom the Christian Church is built, responds with the words our current Shepherd of Idaho, Peter Christiansen chose as his episcopal motto. “*Tu es Christus, filius dei vivi*”, translated, “You are Christ, son of the living God” (Matthew 16:16).

We are living today at a time in world and our Nation’s history when many long established objective truths are called into question. Concepts or ideas that are objectively true, meaning that they are true independent from anyone’s personal belief, are increasingly subject to debate or challenge. Ideologies and propositions based upon a denial of objective truth are often wrapped in a cloak of compassion, and then aggressively marketed to adults and children alike. The result is confusion, delusion, and lives mired in darkness and hopelessness.

We, the Christian world and Catholic Church look to the central objective truth of life that allays all confusion and destroys all darkness: “For a child is born to us, a son is given us; upon his shoulder dominion rests. They name him Wonder-Counselor, God-Hero, Father-Forever, Prince of Peace” (Isaiah 9:6). Born into the Faith in Christ through the sacrament of Christian baptism, we are rid of the primordial darkness that separates humanity from God, and are claimed by Christ for Christ. Our advancement through the Catholic Rites of Initiation transforms us. Through Confirmation we are configured to Christ, and we receive “an increased portion of the gifts of the Holy Spirit: wisdom, knowledge, right judgment, understanding, courage, piety, and fear of the Lord” (CCC #1303). Through the reception of our Lord’s real, true, and substantial presence in the Blessed Sacrament, we are intimately united to the divine life of God; we become the living body of Christ (CCC #1325).

Loved ones, stand firm in the Faith. Ring out with joy this Christmas season at the celebration of our Savior’s nativity. Jesus Christ came in to the world to save the world. He and he alone is the savior of humanity from eternal destruction. Through the overshadowing of the Holy Spirit, he was born of a woman. He is fully human and fully divine. He became man, was crucified, died and was buried. He rose again on the third day, and ascended in to heaven. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead. And his kingdom will have no end. Objective truth. There is no other.

This Christmas, let us ask again ourselves the question our Savior asks the world, “Who do you say that I am?”

A Merry Christmas to all! God bless.

Fr. John Mosier





Life is Worth Living/Let us Celebrate Life as we celebrate the birth of Christ.

There is no better time to reflect on life, the value of life and how much life should be jealously protected, than this time of Christmas. This is important especially in our world of today where a lot of things threaten lives and the way people live and enjoy their lives.

As we all know, Christmas is the time we celebrate the Incarnation of Christ the Son of God who took flesh to become like us; that is to have life. As the Canon (Eucharistic prayer) presents, the Virgin Mother longed for him with love beyond all telling and tried to protect him at every turn. Thus, Christ coming in flesh has great significance.

This underscores humanity, as God's special creation. It also tells us how important life is and how much life should be protected and celebrated. And so, when Mary who herself had become pregnant, came into the presence of Elizabeth, "the child in her womb leapt for joy," this means that the child who would be John the Baptist applauded the presence of God in the womb of Mary and continued to acknowledge him with great rejoicing when he showed up at River Jordan for baptism.

Thus, we celebrate life from the time of conception when a mother receives the news of her pregnancy and shares it with her husband and family members.

Thence, by the coming of Christ in the flesh, God Himself affirms the importance and the value life.

Also, the encounter of Jesus and John the Baptist, when John leapt for joy in his mother's womb tells us that life is worth celebrating. Again, the reality of Mary keeping her pregnancy, seeking for a safe delivery of her child and her painstakingly searching for him when he apparently was lost, tells us the extent the Holy Family would protect the young life God has given them to nurture and enhance so he could live to carry out his ministry at the appointed time.

The implication in what God Himself has done in the birth of His Son which we all celebrate at Christmas is that life has value and should be protected.

The message of this Christmas is that, in our world today where living our lives to the fullest can no more be taken for granted or guaranteed, due to pandemics, natural disasters and violence, we as Christians must embrace the culture of life over the culture of death and continue to show that life is worth living. Let us celebrate the joy that Christ has brought us by his birth, by celebrating our own lives and in charity save the lives of others. Let us remember that saving others involves charity and sacrifices of our comfort or convenience. Let us learn from Christ to sacrifice a little so that someone out there can live, so that together we can 'have life in abundance.'

Merry Christmas.

Fr. Hippolytus Ezenwa, SMMM



DECEMBER 25/26, 2021

News & Upcoming Events

- **Ushers are needed for the Sunday 8am Mass.** If you're interested in volunteering, please contact Gary Johnson at 208-651-4099.
- The **Parish Office will be CLOSED** from December 23rd through December 31st. The office will reopen on Monday, January 3rd.
- There is **NO 5pm Vigil Mass** on Saturday, December 25th.
- There will be **NO daily Mass at St. Thomas** from Monday, December 27th through Friday, December 31st. Regular Mass schedule will resume on Saturday, January 1st beginning with 8am Mass celebrating the Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of God.
- **STARS & STRIPES:** Stars and Stripes Ministry is pleased to announce that the **Permanent Veterans Monument** project is underway! If you wish to make a contribution, any donations should specify "Veterans Monument" in the memo line. Additionally, with the start of the new year we have new leadership, fresh ideas and welcome anyone who has a fondness for Veterans to join us at our **next monthly meeting** Wednesday, January 19, 9am in The Mission House.
- **JANUARY 1-2: St. Vincent de Paul** volunteers will be available after the weekend Masses to collect donations. Please give generously to this wonderful cause.
- **JANUARY 2: Feast of the Epiphany of the Lord.** Regular Sunday Mass schedule including a Choral Mass on Sunday at 5pm.
- **JANUARY 6: Faith Learning Group** presents "Relativism" by Chris Stefanick & "Anger/Forgiveness" by Bishop Barron. 7-8:15pm, Parish Center.
- **JANUARY 9: Family Formation Sunday @ 11:30am** in the Parish Center.
- **JANUARY 13: Knights of Columbus monthly meeting** at 6:30pm in the lower level of the Parish Center.
- **JANUARY 17: Family Skate Day** 11am-12pm at Frontier Ice Arena (3525 Seltice Way). This event is FREE for all families!
- **JANUARY 22: Annual Right to Life March and Rally** from 10am-11am at Candlelight Church & Skate Plaza parking lot on 95 and Dalton Avenue. All signs will be provided by the CDA Right to Life.
- **JANUARY 29: Idaho Catholic Men's Conference** at St. Paul's in Nampa. There is also a watch party taking place at St. Augustine's in Moscow. Go to www.idahocatholicmen.org or call 208.484.0898 for more information.

Pray for the Recently Deceased

Deacon Bob Cyr, Richard Green, Patricia C. Lillygren, Mike Fruechtel, Kellie Seiss, Milton Schauble, Miguel Romero, Helen Vanairsdale, Chris Bonagofski, Diane Hebbe, Leo Slapkauskas, Connie Brousseau

Contributions

Dec 5	\$10,626.50
Dec 12	\$9,616.70
Dec 19	\$10,810.02
Dec 26	

Income for December: \$31,053.22
Building Fund for December: \$445.00
Budgeted Monthly Income: \$50,000.00

Please note that amounts may change as online contributions get posted.

**Thank you for your generosity of
time, talent and treasure!**

Pray for the Sick

Mike Anderson, Kevin Diamond, Sr.,
Adam Aguirre, Karen Zande, Dave
Bartkowiak, Sharon Pace, Liam Scott,
Clarence Joerger, Imogen Sandborn,
Arne Noreide, Daryl Jacobson, Mary
Guidice, Coleen O'Connell, Luella Briscoe,
Terri Cyr, Emma Palmer, Cindy Palmer,
Janelle Wilson, Valerie Ordway, Monica &
Juan Martinez, Richard Centola,
Crescencia Bernal, Joseph Marrone,
Frank Quattrocchi, Tom Loudin, Mariah
Lowman

Find up-to-date calendar events and announcements at stthomascda.org/calendar

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