

St. Thomas Aquinas Church

5376 State Street • Saginaw, MI 48603

989-799-2460 • www.stasaginaw.org

Jesus said to him in reply, "What do you want me to do for you?" The blind man replied to him, "Master, I want to see." Jesus told him, "Go your way; your faith has saved you." Immediately he received his sight and followed him on the way.
Mark 10:51-52

Mission Statement

We, the St. Thomas Aquinas Parish Community, united by our love for God and one another, are called to evangelize through worship, service, life-long learning, promoting God's truth, peace and justice, and respecting all creation.

30
ORDINARY
TIME

Welcome Visitors & Friends

If you are worshipping with us for the first time or have visited before, We Welcome You! If you are looking for a church home in this community, we invite you to consider St. Thomas Aquinas Parish. Contact the Parish Office for more information on becoming a member.

Father Rick's Reflections . . .

Bartimaeus is sitting on the side of the road, not going anywhere. Jesus and his disciples approach and are going somewhere – on the way to Jerusalem. When Bartimaeus hears that Jesus of Nazareth is passing by, hope begins to germinate in the dust that is his own broken self as well as his sitting and begging place. He had been exiled into destitution by his blindness, probably fallen out of family favor because of the mistaken idea that physical disability was also indicative of a moral taint. Bartimaeus begs for more than alms. With eyes of faith, he shouts out to Jesus, using both his everyday name and a messianic title – “*Jesus, son of David, have pity on me!*” The crowd try to rebuke and scorn Bartimaeus – so often the response of those who have the courage to profess their faith, especially if they are regarded as unimportant, marginalized people. The blind Bartimaeus cannot find his way to Jesus only his longing again reaches out to him across the distance, begging Jesus to have mercy on him.

In the midst of the crowd, Jesus is aware of him, of the tattered man who is eager for personal contact with Jesus. Jesus will take the time and interrupt his journey. Jesus' command to the crowd, “*Call him,*” combined with the persistence of Bartimaeus seems to transform them from rebuking to encouraging Bartimaeus and their voices become a kind of resurrection chorus that urges him to have courage, rise up, and answer Jesus' call. Bartimaeus' response is an exultant physical leap and a leap of faith. He throws away his cloak, his last poor shred of possessions that served as his coat, sleeping pack and scrappy collecting rug for the few coins tossed his way. Nothing now matters to Bartimaeus, not even his dusty “*bit of turf*” that every begin who guard jealously. Bartimaeus is about to be clothed with the identity of a follower of Jesus, an eager beggar of the abundant riches that can be expected as a disciple.

Jesus asks this “*outside*” beggar the identical question that we heard him ask the two disciples last week: “*What do you want me to do for you?*” Last week, we heard the two disciples ask for the best places in the kingdom in the midst of Jesus talking about a suffering

and servant Messiah. Today, Bartimaeus asks only that he may see, addressing Jesus reverently as “*Rabbouni; Master.*” Jesus knows that the blind man as the seeing eyes of faith and he tells Bartimaeus that it is this faith that now restores his physical sight. “*Go our way; your faith has saved you,*” says Jesus. No longer confined to groping his blind way around the place, Bartimaeus can go wherever he wants to, but his choice is to follow Jesus “*on the way,*” the way that leads to Jerusalem, the city of passion, death, and resurrection.

Are we aware of our own blindness, of our inability to recognize Jesus who is passing through our everyday lives? From the depths of our spiritual poverty and disabilities, do we urgently ask for insightful faith so that we recognize who Jesus is? Are we reluctant to leave even the small, secure territory of our reputation or material comfort that we have staked out for ourselves and push forward to Jesus, ready to enter with him into whatever “*Jerusalem*” he will lead us into, with his promise of a share in his passion, death ... and resurrection?

It's hard to believe that October is almost over. Soon the children will be out and about for Halloween. Leaves will be gone leaving only barren trees. The days are getting much shorter. Keep in mind that we do not turn our clocks back until the weekend of November 6/7 so we have another week of Daylight Saving Time. (Oh, joy!) Along with these changes, just a reminder that we need to dial the 989 area code when making calls in our area. If you do not dial the full 10 numbers, your call will not go through. So, if you need to call the parish office, make sure you dial 989-799-2460. Have a great week.

F. Rick



In Our Parish

Tuesday, October 26

8:30 AM Mass

Wednesday, October 27

8:30 AM Mass

Thursday, October 28

8:30 AM Mass w/ NCCE

Saturday, October 30

4:00 PM Mass

Sunday, October 31

8:30 AM Mass

11:00 AM Mass

Private Prayer Time

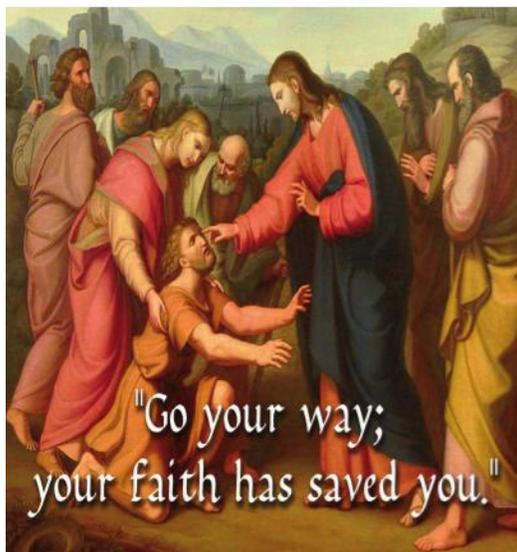
The church is opened Monday thru Friday, 8:00 AM - 3:00 PM for private visits.

Individual Rite of Penance

9:00 AM

Second and Fourth Saturdays
of the month

November 13 & 27



Scripture Readings

Readings for the Week of October 24, 2021

Sunday	Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time Jer 31:7-9; Ps 126:1-2, 2-3, 4-5, 6; Heb 5:1-6; Mk 10:46-52
Monday	Rom 8:12-17; Ps 68:2 and 4, 6-7ab, 20-21; Lk 13:10-17
Tuesday	Rom 8:18-25; Ps 126:1b-2ab, 2cd-3, 4-5, 6; Lk 13:18-21
Wednesday	Rom 8:26-30; Ps 13:4-5, 6; Lk 13:22-30
Thursday	Feast of Saints Simon and Jude, Apostles Eph 2:19-22; Ps 19:2-3, 4-5; Lk 6:12-16
Friday	Rom 9:1-5; Ps 147:12-13, 14-15, 19-20; Lk 14:1-6
Saturday	Rom 11:1-2a, 11-12, 25-29; Ps 94:12-13a, 14-15, 17-18; Lk 14:1, 7-11
Sunday	Thirty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time Dt 6:2-6; Ps 18:2-3, 3-4, 47, 51; Heb 7:23-28; Mk 12:28b-34

Dylan McKnight and Sara Myers were united in marriage on October 23 at St. Thomas Aquinas.

May their life be blessed in holy union with Christ and with one another.



Prayers



Please pray for all who have been commended to our prayer that they will respond to God's healing will, especially:

Aaron
Dennis
Larry S.
Jim & Pat D.
Ethan
Jack
Erin
T.C.
M.H.
Chris Radke
Tyler Mar n K.
John W.
Valarie C.
Allan B.
Gary H.
Rick K.
Jason M.
Harold G.
Pat W.
Al V.
Jake R.
Carol Kirkconnell
Helen M.
Ian
Monica
Sue C.

And those who are homebound and in assisted/nursing facilities.

We are happy to list names of those who request prayers for one month. The list will be purged again on October 29. Please remember to contact the office 799-2460 ext. 1 when a loved one's name no longer needs inclusion on the prayer list.

Special News

Pope Francis proclaimed a Year of Saint Joseph from December 8, 2020, to December 8, 2021. As part of the celebration of this year, you are invited to participate in a Novena from October 24, 2021 to November 1, 2021.



How to Participate

- Visit and pray the Novena to Saint Joseph at designated Diocese of Saginaw pilgrimage sites
- Participate in Mass at one of the various pilgrimage sites (Cathedral and parishes dedicated to Saint Joseph)
- Receive the Sacrament of Penance (Confession)
- Pray for the intention of our Holy Father, Pope Francis

More information and a detailed schedule of Masses visit www.dioceseofsaginaw.org.

In and Around Our Parish

Today is World Mission Sunday

We celebrate this day by remembering our baptismal call – to bring the Gospel to all! The collection today for the Society for the Propagation of the Faith supports the work and witness of the Mission Church, as it provides for priests, religious and lay leaders who offer the Lord's mercy and concrete help to the most vulnerable communities in the Pope's missions. Thank you for your generosity.

Christ's Mission Appeal - CMA

All questions regarding the Appeal, please call Pat Messing in the parish office, 989-799-2460 ext. 4. Thank you.

Parent Baptism Preparation Class

The next preparation class will be **Monday, November 22 at 7:00 PM**. Please contact the Parish Office to register at 989-799-2460 ext. 4. Parents are required to attend the preparation session and should be registered St. Thomas Aquinas parishioners attending Mass regularly.

Food Program Outreach • Brown Bag Bunch • October 30 & 31

The food collection for next weekend will be for the **EAST SIDE SOUP KITCHEN**. Thank you for your continuing support. ESSK is in always need of the following items: #10 cans of Corn, Green Beans, Carrots, and Peas, Peaches, Pears, and Fruit Cocktail; Applesauce, Pork & Beans; Juice/Kool-Aid Pouches, Small Bottled Water, Yams/Sweet Potatoes, Pudding & Fruit Cups any kind of Packaged Cookies and Cooking Spray. Monetary donations can be sent directly to 940 E. Genesee, Saginaw, MI 48607, checks payable East Side Soup Kitchen.

Boy Scout Troop 312 • Annual Wreath Sale

The time is upon us to place an order for the beautiful, fresh, balsam pine wreaths from Boy Scout Troop 312. The Scouts will be in church to take orders November 6 & 7 and 20 & 21. Wreaths measure 22", 32" and 42" in diameter, decorated with pinecones and your choice of bow color and begin at \$25.00 per wreath. Payment is due at time ordered. Order forms are available in the parish office or in next weeks bulletin. The wreath sale is our major fundraiser; with all funds going to the troop. Thank You for Supporting our Scouts!



The Financial Stewardship for October 16 & 17 will be listed in next weeks bulletin due to publication deadlines. Thank you.

Please remember St. Thomas Aquinas in your estate planning.



Sponsor of the Week

Snow Funeral Home

To view the full ad see the back of the bulletin. Be sure to patronize all of our businesses as their generosity allows us to provide the bulletin to you at no cost to the Parish.

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www.stasaginaw.org

Welcome to Our Parish

If you are a visitor to St. Thomas Aquinas, we want you to know how welcome you are. If you wish to become a member of our parish, please call the parish office.

Parishioner Info: If you are moving, changing phone numbers or need to update family status, kindly notify the parish office.

Parish Staff

PastorFr. Richard Bokinskie
rickb@stasaginaw.org

Parochial Vicar Fr. Kevin Wojciechowski
kevinw@stasaginaw.org

Pastoral Associate Sr. Ann deGuise, OSF
annd@stasaginaw.org

Parish Secretary Dawn Drago
dawnd@stasaginaw.org

BookkeeperPat Messing
patm@stasaginaw.org

Director of Music Deborah Kraklow
debk@stasaginaw.org

Baptism & Funeral Coordinator & RCIA DirectorKaren Bartels
starcia@stasaginaw.org

Eucharistic Liturgies

Saturday4:00 PM
Sunday.....8:30 & 11:00AM
(June • July • August)
Tuesday - Thursday8:30 AM
First Friday.....8:30 AM
(In the event of a funeral on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday or First Friday, morning Mass will be cancelled.)

Sacrament of Reconciliation

2nd & 4th Saturday 9:00-10:00 AM
(Or by Appointment)

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (R.C.I.A.)

Anyone seeking information about the Catholic Faith should contact the parish office for more information. Sessions meet from September through Spring.

Baptisms

Baptisms will be scheduled after the required Baptism Preparation Class. Parents are required to be practicing Catholics and attending Mass regularly. Call the parish office to register.

Marriage

Individuals must be registered in the parish at least six months before scheduling a wedding. A wedding date can only be set after meeting with the parish priest.

Care of the Sick • Pastoral Visits

Please notify the parish office when seriously ill at home, in the hospital or a nursing/assisted facility. Also, If you or a loved one has had a hospital stay and are recovering at a rehab facility or moving into an assisted living facility and wish a pastoral visit.

Watch Mass On-line

[ps://stasaginaw.org/live-streamed-recorded-masses](https://stasaginaw.org/live-streamed-recorded-masses)

Recorded Mass for Sunday

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Susan Webber
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