

CHRIST THE KING



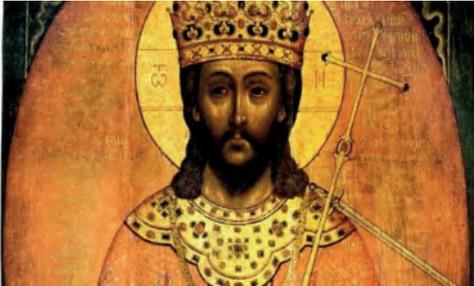
St. Thomas Aquinas Church

5376 State Street • Saginaw, MI 48603
989-799-2460 • www.stasaginaw.org

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 . . .



Today, we conclude our liturgical year with the feast of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe. We move to the gospel of John for our gospel this week and to the Passion Narrative. The gospel proclaims that in Jesus the reigning presence of God comes among us in the flesh. Rather than Jesus being put on trial by Pilate, it is the Roman Governor who is put on trial by the eloquent Word who stands before him bound as a prisoner, "Are you the King of the Jews?" asks Pilate, understanding kingship as political, with possibly religious implications, and therefore wary of any claim that could be a challenge to absolute Roman authority. Jesus replies with a question that seeks to confront Pilate with his own personal commitment as opposed to what "others" tell him about Jesus. The issue is no longer Jesus' guilt or innocence but whether Pilate will respond to the truth of Jesus' kingship. Three times Jesus speaks of what his kingdom is not. It is not of this world in the sense that it neither takes its origin from here, nor is it an earthly kingdom that would be a rival to Caesar and Roman imperialism. But it does belong in this world and its followers do have a role to play in human affairs of justice. Like Jesus, his followers are not power brokers or mercenaries defending their own "kingdoms" of political or religious power – violence, exploitation, and

opportunism have no part in the following of Jesus.

"Then you are a king?" pushes Pilate, and Jesus responds to what Pilate has called him by speaking of his power really is – the power of the truth John proclaimed in the Prologue: "And the Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us and we saw his glory, the glory as of the Father's only Son, full of grace and truth." (John 1:14) The life, death, and resurrection of Jesus testify to this truth, and all who listen to Jesus and commit themselves to his wisdom will belong to the truth and to his kingdom. Pilate can make no sense of this. His world is more concerned with illusions of grandeur than with truth.

On this day, we all stand not before Pilate but with him, to be interrogated by Christ the King. What power do we seek and how would we like to get it? Do we excuse ourselves of manipulating and exploiting others for the sake of safeguarding our own status or progress? How often do we strike out with the violent word or the cutting silence? Fr Timothy Radcliffe, OP, queries whether our fascination with the countless TV shows and books that are concerned with the "naked" something or other, with either self-revelation or the exposure of others, is an indicator of a frustrated hunger for truth? He goes on to comment that in Dante's *Inferno*, "the icy heart of hell was kept for those who undermined the human community of truth: the liars, the fraudulent, the flatterers, the forgers, and worst of all the traitors." Do we belong to the community of truth that listens to and follows Jesus?

This week, we gather to celebrate Thanksgiving Day, a day to be grateful for all the blessings and challenges that we have experienced in our lives. We are still collecting gift

cards and donations for the poor in our Thanksgiving Pie. Wednesday, between 8:00 am and 11:00 am, you can drop off the pies for the East Side Soup Kitchen luncheon to be held on Thanksgiving. We will have Mass on Thursday morning at 9:00 am to give thanks for what we have as a parish community. Finally, the parish office will be closed on Thursday & Friday this week.

Hopefully, by now, you have received our latest Parish Newsletter with the schedule of events for Thanksgiving, Advent, and Christmas season. One new addition to help everyone prepare for the celebration of Christmas is a Holy Hour each Monday during Advent starting November 29 at 7:00 pm. This is a great opportunity to spend some quiet time before the Blessed Sacrament to prepare for the celebration of Christmas. Also, contained in the mailing is the financial report for the past fiscal year. If you have any questions about the financial report, just give me a call.

I am trying to figure out if it is fall or summer yet in Michigan. Between the snow and near 60 degrees, I'm not sure. However, the snow reminds us that winter with its careful driving habits is soon upon us. Have a great week!

Fr. Rick



In Our Parish

Tuesday, November 23

8:30 AM Mass

Wednesday, November 24

8:30 AM Mass

Thursday, November 25

9:00 AM Mass

Saturday, November 27

4:00 PM Mass

Sunday, November 28

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.



Scripture Readings

Readings for the Week of November 21, 2021

Sunday	Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe Dn 7:13-14; Ps 93:1, 1-2, 5; Rv 1:5-8; Jn 18:33b-37
Monday	Memorial of Saint Cecilia, Virgin and Martyr Dn 1:1-6, 8-20; Dn 3:52, 53, 54, 55, 56; Lk 21:1-4
Tuesday	Saint Clement I, Pope and Martyr; Saint Columban, Abbot; Blessed Miguel Agustín Pro, Priest and Martyr Dn 2:31-45; Dn 3:57, 58, 59, 60, 61; Lk 21:5-11
Wednesday	Memorial of Saint Andrew Dũng-Lạc, Priest, and Companions, Martyrs Dn 5:1-6, 13-14, 16-17, 23-28; Dn 3:62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67; Lk 21:12-19
Thursday	Saint Catherine of Alexandria, Virgin and Martyr Dn 6:12-28; Dn 3:68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74; Lk 21:20-28 Thanksgiving Day Sir 50:22-24; Ps 145:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9, 10-11; 1 Cor 1:3-9; Lk 17:11-19
Friday	Dn 7:2-14; Dn 3:75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81; Lk 21:29-33
Saturday	Dn 7:15-27; Dn 3:82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87; Lk 21:34-36
Sunday	First Sunday of Advent Jer 33:14-16; Ps 25:4-5, 8-9, 10, 14; 1 Thes 3:12-4:2; Lk 21:25-28, 34-36

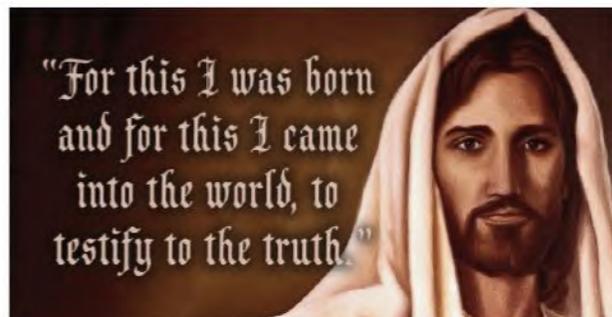
Thanksgiving Day Mass

**November 25
9:00 AM**



We welcome into the faith community through the waters of baptism **Kiera Aliese Kingry**, daughter of Bradley and Karen (vonReichbauer) Kingry.

May God bless her and her family as she becomes a Disciple of Christ.



Prayers

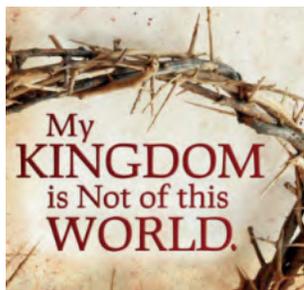


Please pray for all who have been commended to our prayer that they will respond to God's healing will, especially:

Jake R.
Carol K.
Helen M.
Monica
Sue C.
Harold G.
Sylvia T.
Jack S.
Larry S.
Dennis
Jim & Pat D.
Al V.
Betty T.

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 November 30. Please remember to contact the office 799-2460 ext. 1 when a loved one's name no longer needs inclusion on the prayer list.



In and Around Our Parish

Pie Drop Off • Wednesday 8:00—11:00 am

Please drop off the baked pies in the **church** for The East Side Soup Kitchen Annual Thanksgiving Dinner on Thanksgiving Day. As in years past, ESSK has been very grateful for the donations of pies that compliment the dinner.



Catholic Campaign for Human Development • November 20 & 21

Please be generous in this week's special collection for the Catholic Campaign for Human Development. In the United States, one in eight people lives in poverty. With this collection, you support programs that address the root causes of poverty and provide a sustainable future for those struggling across the country. In addition, 25% of the funds we collect remain in our diocese to fund local anti-poverty projects. Please prayerfully consider how you can support this collection and those working on the margins. More information about the Catholic Campaign for Human Development can be found at www.usccb.org/cchd.

Boy Scout #312 Annual Wreath Sale

Wreaths that have been previously ordered can be picked up before or after mass on the weekend of December 4 & 5. Thank You for Supporting our Scouts!

READER (Lector) Workbooks

Cycle C workbooks are available for pick up on the counter in the narthex. The new liturgical cycle begins on the First Sunday of Advent, November 28, 2021.

Food Program Outreach • Brown Bag Bunch • November 27 & 28

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.

Emmaus House Benefit • December 4, 2021 • 8:00 PM

The Kenny Rogers & Dottie West Tribute Show presented by Sheriff Bill Federspiel & Friends at the Temple Theater. General Seating \$35.00. Tickets available at Team One Credit Union, Emmaus House, Bill Federspiel or Sr. Mary Elizabeth Klier.



Stay Informed at St. Thomas Aquinas with Evangelus

We have adopted a new way of communicating parish news, events and more with you. Coming soon, you may receive a message from the new system of our parish, Evangelus. This is not spam. We encourage you to open the message and follow the link to create a profile and select your preferred form of contact. There will also be groups for you to join. If you are a part of an existing parish group, please join the group on Evangelus. Visit eva.us/stasaginaw to sign-up and let us know if you prefer to receive emails, text messages or both from us.

SERRV Fair Trade Sale • November 27 & 28

SERRV merchandise will be available before and after Mass in the lower level of the church to shop for yourself or for holiday giving. Please share this date with you family and friends. All are welcome to shop.



Today's second reading reminds us that the sacrifice of Christ frees us from sin and makes us a royal nation of priests in the service of God. How am I using my gifts to serve God and others?

November 13 & 14, 2021

Envelopes.....	\$8,568.00
Loose.....	\$805.00
Electronic (ACH).....	\$5,578.00
CCHD Campaign Human Development	\$211.00
Total.....	\$15,162.00

Please remember St. Thomas Aquinas in your estate planning.

Sponsor of the Week

REMER Plumbing Heating & Air Conditioning, Inc.

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.

St. Thomas Aquinas Church

5376 State Street
Saginaw, MI 48603
(989) 799-2460
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

Bookkeeper.....Pat Messing
patm@stasaginaw.org

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

Eucharistic Liturgies

Saturday4:00 PM
Sunday.....8:30 & 11:00AM
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

<https://stasaginaw.org/live-streamed-recorded-masses>

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BEFORE and AFTER all Masses
November 27 & 28**

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November 2021

News & Notes



The Bernardine Franciscan Sisters have served St. Thomas Aquinas Parish since 1956 in the ministry of education at both the parish and the school. Currently, two BF Sisters continue their work by serving in the school and the



parish. The Christian Service Committee is committed to the sharing of our resources as stewards of God's goodness to us.



In gratitude for the many years of dedication and service to STA, the committee has chosen the Bernardine Center which was founded in Chester, Pennsylvania in 1986. The Bernardine Center is an outreach social service agency founded by the Bernardine Franciscan Sisters to help access the nutritional challenges of food-insecure families by distributing emergency and supplemental food and supplies. Families receive ten days of supplemental take home food each month. Brunch meals are served three days/week. Educational programs are also



offered to families in need. Sr. Sandra Lyons BFS is the current director of the center.



In gratitude to the Bernardine Franciscan Sisters for their service to the Diocese of Saginaw and to the universal Church, a donation of \$2000 will be made by St. Thomas Aquinas Parish.



Bernardine Center
2625 West Ninth Street • Chester, PA 19013
610-497-3225 (voice) • 610-497-3659 (fax)
www.bernardinecenter.org

November 6, 2021

St. Thomas Aquinas Parish
% Christian Service
5376 State Street
Saginaw, MI 48603

Dear Sister Ann Therese, Pari Sitarski and Members of Christian Service,

As I ponder the ancient history of November as a somber month signaling the beginning of winter and a time to store the harvest and prepare food and homes for survival throughout the coldest season, I am grateful for what I have and the beauty of the ever changing colors of trees and the persistently strong daisies that populate flower beds. I don't need to hunt and gather for survival. I have friends and family who share, shepherd, and support me as I do them.

In everyone's life, at some time, our inner fire goes out. It is then burst into flame by an encounter with another human being. We should all be thankful for those people who rekindle the inner spirit. Albert Schweitzer

Thank you for "rekindling" my spirit with your generous October 26th grant of \$2,000 for use with our food pantry and brunch service clients. What and where would Bernardine Center be without your support and sharing? You are special and your generous gift will help to provide supplemental food for those food-insecure families among us who have so much less. They will be delighted to have Thanksgiving take-home meals this year. Thank you!

May you be safe and blessed this Thanksgiving!

With daily prayer for you,

Sister Sandra

Sister Sandra Lyons, OSF
Director

2021

St. Thomas Aquinas R.C.I.A.



Baptism



Confirmation



The Eucharist

Rite of
Christian
Initiation
of Adults

In preparation to receive the Easter Sacrament of Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist, the Candidates are participating in several service projects and are requesting your assistance.



They are collecting the following items which will be shared with the residents of Community Village and the guests of the Cathedral Neighborhood Breakfast.

The Candidates will be collecting the items
DECEMBER 4TH & 5TH
at all Masses

HELP US ~ HELP OTHERS!
THANK YOU



Combs / Hair Brushes

Shampoo

Deodorant F / M

Body Wash F / M

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Toothbrushes

Toothpaste

Mouthwash

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M. James Robinson Family
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Rose Martino
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Chris Gunther Family
Doyle Family

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Midcalf Family
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Miller Family
Tim Janetsky Family
Susan Webber
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Ederer & Chronowski Families

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