

Saint Thomas Aquinas Catholic Church

November 27, 2016/First Sunday of Advent

PASTOR'S CORNER

This weekend we begin a new season of the Church's year—and in fact, a new year entirely. The Church always begins her *annus Domini*, year of the Lord, four Sundays prior to the celebration of the Nativity of the Lord, which is invariably the last Sunday in November. The first season of the new liturgical year is of course Advent, and Advent is a time rich in meaning for us. "Advent" means "approach" or "coming," and of course we read the moving passages of the Old Testament concerning Israel's long expectation for the Christ (-Messiah). We as Christians—who believe in the Messiah who has already come, suffered, died, and rose again—enter sympathetically into Israel's holy waiting. But precisely because we believe he has indeed come already, we no longer wait his first coming, but his second. Jesus' return in glory is one of the articles of the Creed that we confess. And that future coming is in fact something we celebrate *already*—and especially at Christmas. At Christmas we celebrate not just the historical fact of the Lord's birth in human flesh (his first coming) but also his glorious return as judge of the world (his second coming). By virtue of God's truthfulness in fulfilling his promise to send a Savior, we already are confident and celebrating that same divine truthfulness in his promise to return.

But Jesus asks during his preaching: "when the Son of Man returns, will he find faith on the earth?" We can only answer that question for ourselves, not others. Let us hold fast to the faith that has been given to us, and pray every day to be found vigilant when Jesus comes again..

Tommaso d'Aquino was born in 1225 in Roccasecca, Italy, of a noble family. At the age of five he was brought to the Benedictine Abbey of Monte Cassino to receive a thorough monastic education in view of his becoming a future abbot. But he discovered the Order of Friars Preachers and left the Abbey to join the recently-founded mendicant Order. His parents resisted and even abducted him and held him prisoner for a year. Unable to break his will, they released him and he went on to study under St. Albert the Great (also a Dominican) and eventually take the degree of Master of Theology at the University of Paris and later assume the Dominican chair of Theology. He taught at other universities in major cities as well (Rome, Cologne, Bologna) and was a participant in many theological controversies of his day. His written works are numerous, the most well-known being his theological synthesis *Summa theologiae*. That work he left unfinished when he died March 7, 1274 en route to the Council of Lyons. He was declared a saint in 1323 and a Doctor of the Church in 1567. He is the patron saint of universities and Catholic schools.

PARISH MEMBERSHIP All parishioners should participate fully in parish life (*this especially means worshipping at Mass on all Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation*), be registered here, and contribute to the support the parish to the extent possible. We often get requests for recommendations and permissions for parishioners to serve as godparents and sponsors. If we don't know you, we can't give that testimony on your behalf. You may have been baptized here (or gone to Catholic schools) but you need to be currently practicing and registered in your local parish (children are obviously registered with their parents; adults need to make their own arrangements). The Church requires that baptisms and marriages be celebrated in one's own parish. If one is not an active parishioner, problems could arise at those important times.

Baptisms Usually 1st and 3rd Sundays. Contact the pastor to schedule. First-time parents please also schedule a "pre-Jordan" preparation class—offered the 2nd Wednesday of each month, at 7:15 p.m. in the parish center.

Weddings Active parishioners contact the parish office no later than six months prior to the desired wedding date. Marriage preparation normally includes several meetings with a priest, several meetings with a mentor couple of the parish, a weekend of conferences offered by the diocesan Office of Marriage and Family Life, NFP training, and FOCCUS diagnostic. *If someone in your family is planning to get married*, please encourage them to speak to their pastor. The marriages of Catholics (whether or not they're marrying other Catholics) need to be conformable with Church law, and that requires that they receive suitable catechesis in preparation for marriage, and marry according to a certain rite.

Eucharistic exposition Wednesdays following the noon Mass until 7:00 p.m. Benediction. For information, and to volunteer to take hours of adoration, contact Regina Cano at (614) 582-8588.

Knights of Columbus Contact Trinidad Cano at (740) 819-8002. The K of C offer a hot breakfast every 4th Sunday following morning Masses, and lead the Rosary after the 11:00 Mass on 5th Sundays.

Choir We're always in need of more voices in the choir. Contact the parish office or the choir director Mrs. Adams. Weekly rehearsals are Wednesdays, after Benediction.

Funeral luncheons Contact Mary Margaret Murphy at (740) 452-4454.

Rental information To reserve Rosary Hall or Activity Center (i.e. the school gym) contact Mary Ann Ewart at maewart@gmail.com or (740) 319-2449.

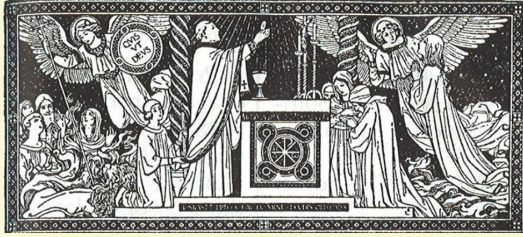
Pregnancy counseling Heartbeat Family Center/Pregnancy Distress: (740) 450-5437, www.heartbeats.org.

Rosary Altar Society Contact Lori Gnau at (740) 453-8501

Prayer requests (740) 453-8397, (740) 297-7164, (740) 588-0314, or (740) 704-3136

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Mass Intentions

It is a holy and pious thought to pray for the dead.
cf. 2 Maccabees, 12.

Sunday, November 27

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

5:00pm (Sat.)	Raymond & Dorothy Lasure Family
7:00am	Ryan & Andrea Fitzpatrick
9:00am	Homer Davy (+)
11:00am	Josie Basalla (+)
6:00pm	People of the parish

Monday, November 28

Advent Weekday

8:00am	Lela Beatty (+)
12Noon	Frank Yerman (+)

Tuesday, November 29

Advent Weekday

8:00am	Joseph Daniel Cano
12Noon	Jim Hofer (+)

Wednesday, November 30

ST. ANDREW, APOSTLE (F)

8:00am	Gerry Kuhn (+)
12Noon	Mike Harnetty (+)

Thursday, December 1

Advent Weekday

8:00am	Joe Jamiolkowski (+)
12Noon	Earl C. Norris (+)

Friday, December 2

Advent Weekday

8:00am	Eusebio Tan
12Noon	Anna Morosco Labaki (+)

Saturday, December 3

St. Francis Xavier, Priest

9:00am	Joanne Strohl (+)
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Sunday, December 4

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

5:00pm (Sat.)	Bob Wetzal and Family
7:00am	Mary and Roy Miller (+)
9:00am	Ernest Noll (+)
11:00am	Marianna Russo (+)
6:00pm	People of the parish

Nota bene: Incense may be used at any Sunday Mass except the 7:00 a.m. & 6:00 p.m. Masses

Our parish subscribes to FORMED—use it!

*Go to www.formed.org and sign in
using our parish password: DHDYBY*

Problems? E-mail Kandy Longstreth : kanlongs@gmail.com

MASS READINGS

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

(found on p. 53 of Perw Missal)

First Reading:	Isaiah 2: 1-5
Psalm:	Psalm 122
Second Reading:	Rom 13: 11-14
Gospel:	Mt 24: 37-44

LITURGICAL MINISTERS SCHEDULE

November 26-27

5:00 P.M.

Lector	Mary Ann Ewart
EMHC	Mike Morris

7:00 A.M.

Lector	Sue Maxwell
EMHC	Carol Griffin
Servers	Kaitlyn Dosch

9:00 A.M.

Lector	Joe Steiger
EMHC	Martha Newsom
Servers	Larissa Lynch, Lexanne Lynch

11:00 A.M.

Lector	Jillian Von Gunten
EMHC	Sharla Rose Kenily, Robert Fedorke, Jerry Lynn, Ruth Ann Lynn
Servers	Joe Thornton, Ben Thornton, Tai Labish

December 3-4

5:00 P.M.

Lector	Amy Morris
EMHC	Mike Morris

7:00 A.M.

Lector	Linda Baughman
EMHC	Carol Griffin
Servers	Kaitlyn Dosch

9:00 A.M.

Lector	Ed Buckhan
EMHC	Martha Newsom
Servers	Drew Mirgon, Eve Gordon

11:00 A.M.

Lector	Andrea Hoffman
EMHC	Linda Dudas, Rusty Montgomery, Paul Hoffman, Helen Fedorke
Servers	Joseph Thornton, Michael Thornton, Tai Labish

(EMHC = Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion)

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V. Looking from afar, behold I see the power of God coming, and a cloud covering all the land: * go ye to meet him and say: * Tell us if thou art the one, who art to rule in the people of Israel.

V. All you that are earthborn, and you sons of men: both rich and poor together, go ye out to meet him and say: * Tell us if you art the one, who art to rule in the people of Israel.

V. Give ear, O thou that rulest Israel: thou that leadest Joseph like a sheep; tell us if thou art the one. * Who art to rule in the people of Israel.

V. Lift up your gates, O ye princes, and be ye lifted up, O eternal gates: and the King of Glory shall enter in, * who art to rule in the people of Israel.

V. Glory be unto the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Tell us if thou art the one, who art to rule in the people of Israel.

V. Looking from afar, behold I see the power of God coming, and a cloud covering all the land: go ye to meet him and say: * Tell us if thou art the one, * who art to rule in the people of Israel.



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Weekly Calendar

Sunday, November 27

Coffee and doughnuts after 9 & 11 a.m. Masses

Monday, November 28

7:00 p.m. Scouts (parish center)

Tuesday, November 29

2:00 p.m. Bible Study with Fr. Luke (Gospel of John)

6:00 p.m. Rosary for Life (church)

7:00 p.m. Catechism (Rosary Hall)

Wednesday, November 30

Eucharistic Adoration (following noon Mass)

Benediction: 7:00 p.m.

Choir rehearsal (Church): following Benediction

Thursday, December 1

Bible Study (Parish office) 6:30 p.m.

Friday, December 2

Sunday, December 4

Coffee and doughnuts after 9 & 11 a.m. Masses



"Can you not watch one hour with me, and pray?"

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Wednesdays, following noon Mass

until 7:00 p.m., with Benediction.

Parish Finances

Due to the Thanksgiving Day schedule, no information about last week's collection was available When this bulletin went to print. Collection information for the weekends of Nov 20 and 27 will run in the Dec 3 bulletin.

Upcoming special collections

December 11Retirement Fund for Religious

December 18St. Vincent de Paul Society

December 25Diocesan Charities

Handel's "Messiah" The 87th annual performance of *Messiah* by Georg Friedric Handel in the Zanesville area will take place Sunday, December 11, at 6:00 p.m., at Central Trinity United Methodist Church, 62 South. 7th Street.

Baskets of Love Catholic Social Services (CSS) and the Muskingum County Center for Seniors will be working together making gift baskets to give to seniors for Christmas. Please consider buying some items to fill the baskets. Needed items include bath & hand towels, non-skid rugs, phone cards, pens, lined stationary, and postage stamps. The deadline is December 23. Individuals wishing to donate baskets may drop them off at the CSS on Main Street, or the Muskingum County Center on 4th Street. For further details call the parish office at (740) 453-3301.

Bishop Rosecrans Athletic Boosters will be having a **Casino night** on November 26th at the Knights of Columbus Hall at 6:00 pm. The cost is \$30.00 per person and their will be a buffet meal. The jokers wild game and other card games will be played and a silent auction. Tickets on sale at the Knights of Columbus, Paul's Farm Market. any coach, or trustee member. The Athletic Boosters are also selling **Mania tickets** for next year. First drawing is in January. For any Boosters-related issues, contact Marvin Paul at (740) 453-4482.

**Please remember
Saint Thomas Aquinas Church
in your will.**

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Please pray for the home-bound of the parish:

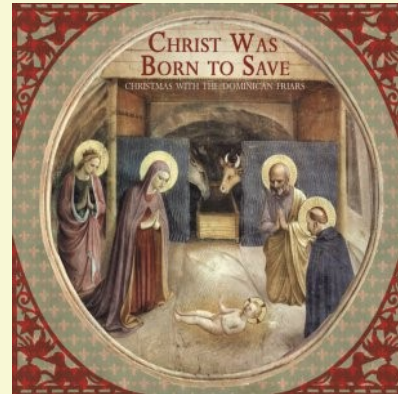
Margaret Gladys Abbott, William & Jan Barry, Mary Batteiger, Gertrude Bell, Madelyn Bronkar, Mathilda Clark, Bart & Josephine Cooper, Mary Cowden, Herman Crock, Michael Curtis, Ernestine Dailey, Jeanne Dittmar, Ralph Dosch, Betty Fedor, Jenni Finnen, Beverly Foley, Isabel Gilchrist, Mary Ellen Grafton, Florence Herbert, Carol Hoffman, Patricia Huck, Eileen Johnston, Henry Long, David Macenko, Dolores Mahon, Josephine Marshall, Patricia Perone, Alice Pitcock, Mary Polascak, Mary Postlewaite, Mary Rosta, George and Barb Ridenour, Joe and Barbara Ritchey, Mary Lou Scott, Barbara Schumacher, Loretta Silfko, Theresa Tracey, Theresa Woods, Terri Woods

Have you noticed our website changes?
Check us out at
www.aquinaszanesville.org

Catechism of the Catholic Church Tuesdays, 7:00 p.m., Rosary Hall

This Tuesday, Nov. 29, we will continue studying the Holy Spirit and the Church. Please read through **paragraph 987**.

New Album of Christmas Music from the Dominican Brothers in Washington, DC



The student brothers of the Dominican Province of St. Joseph have released a new album in time for Christmas purchases, *Christ Was Born to Save*. With Christmas classics such as "Hark, the Herald Angels Sing," "Silent Night," and "Away in a Manger" the schola of the Dominican House of Studies praises the awesome mystery of the birth of the Son of God. Your support of this album will aid the formation of the many Dominican student brothers in Washington, DC. This album could be a great way for you to receive the Christmas spirit and to share that spirit with family members and friends through Christmas gifts. Giving them this gift communicates the truth we celebrate at Christmas: *Christ Was Born to Save*. CDs can be purchased for \$15 through the brothers' daily blog at <http://www.dominicanajournal.org/music/>. Thank you for your generosity.

Christmas Schedule

Venite, adoremus Dominum!

December 18th, Fourth Sunday of Advent

Lessons and Carols 3:00 p.m.

Christmas Eve, December 24th

Masses 5:00 & 7:30 p.m.

Lessons and Carols 11:00 p.m.

Christmas Day, December 25th

Masses 12 midnight, 7:00, 9:00, & 11:00 a.m.

No 6:00 p.m. Mass Christmas Day.

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God, January 1, 2017

Masses 6:00 p.m. (vigil), 8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m., & 12:00 noon

No 6:00 p.m. New Year's Day.