



St Thomas Aquinas Catholic Community

TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Week of September 13th, 2020

Mission Statement: *Saint Thomas Aquinas Catholic Community, through our cultural diversity, united in our expressions of faith, lives the Gospel message in our neighborhood through worship, education, service, and advocacy.*

Celebration of the Eucharist – Covid 19 Schedule

Saturday Vigil:

4:00PM (English)

6:00PM (Spanish)

Sunday:

8:00AM (Vietnamese)

10:00AM (English)

12:00PM (Indonesian)

Holidays:

8:30AM (Church)

Weekdays:

8:30AM (Church)

Saint Thomas Aquinas

1719 Morris St.

Philadelphia, 19145

www.staquinas.com

Rectory: (215) 334-2312

staquinasparish@gmail.com

Fax: 215-755.9369

School:(215) 334-0878

Aquinas Center:

215-334-2312

St Thomas Aquinas Parish Office will be run virtually (online) until further notice. The rectory will be closed during this time. The new phone number to call is: 267-388-1281

Message From Our Pastor

The message of today's Gospel is clear, to be forgiven we must extend forgiveness to others. In the prayer that Jesus taught us we pray: "Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us". We understand this to mean that the standard we use to forgive others will be the standard used by the Lord to forgive our own offenses. Jesus forgives out of love. Even on the cross Jesus was able to forgive those who had tortured him, crowned him with thorns, and carried out the unjust sentence against him.

How do we know with certainty that we are forgiven? How are we sure that God knows the sorrow we have on our hearts? How do we nurture the kind of love that include forgiveness "not seven times but seventy times seven times" (Mt.18:22)? Jesus left his church with many gifts. Among these gifts was the power to forgive sins which is always available to those who are sincere in their desire to be reconciled. Of the Eucharist, which Jesus instituted the night before he died, he said, "...this is my blood of the covenant, which will be shed on behalf of many for the forgiveness of sins" (Mt 26:28).

The Catechism of the Catholic Church teaches that Christ the Church to be instrument of the forgiveness that he acquired by his death on the cross (#1442). He empowered the apostles and their successors through the Holy Spirit saying, "whose sins you forgive they are forgiven them, and whose you retain are retained". This is our assurance that our failure to always follow the way of Christ will not condemn us to damnation. We have the means of forgiveness available to us through Christ's Church in the Sacrament of Reconciliation, Having been forgiven we, too, must be forgiving.

Reflection on the endless love God has for us can move us to contrition for our sins. At times it may be our fear of retribution, such as in today's Gospel, that moves us to be contrite. The resolve we make to avoid sinful acts is an act of our free will. From a simple human perspective, the voicing of our sinfulness and our desire to be rid of its burden is a freeing experience. Who better to assist us in this process than a representative of God and of our Church in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Truly, this Sacrament is a celebration of the grace of forgiveness God is waiting to give us. May God bless you all!

Fr. Dominic

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday September 12th

4:00PM Emily & Elvira Demurco By
Maria & Louise Chila

6:00PM Spanish Mass

Sunday September 13th

**TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN
ORDINARY TIME**

Sir 27:30-28:7; Psalm 103: 1-4,9-12;
Rom 14: 7-9; Matthew 18:21-35

8:00AM Vietnamese Mass
10:00AM Installation of Rev.
Dominic Tran Minh Duc
12:00PM Indonesian Mass

Monday September 14th

8:30AM People of the Parish

Tuesday September 15th

**FEAST OF THE NATIVITY OF THE
BLESSED VIRGIN MARY**

8:30AM People of the Parish

Wednesday September 16th

8:30 AM People of the Parish

Thursday September 17th

8:30AM People of the Parish

Friday September 18th

8:30AM People of the Parish

Saturday September 19th

8:30AM People of the Parish

Saturday September 19th

4:00PM Paul Nicholas by Linda
Stella

6:00PM Spanish Mass

Sunday September 20th

**TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN
ORDINARY TIME**

Isaiah 55:6-9; Psalm
145:2-3,8-9,17-18; PHIL 1:20C-24,
27A; Matthews 20:1-16A

8:00AM Vietnamese Mass
10:00AM CBC
12:00PM Indonesian Mass

Services Available For Our Parishioners

Mass Intentions: Please contact the rectory. We will try to accommodate your request the best possible way.

Yearly Memorial Candle: Remember your beloved deceased by keeping a memorial candle lite for them all year.

Prayer request for the sick: If you would like us to include the name of your intention in the bulletin for prayer please contact the rectory.

Leaving a Legacy: Please remember St. Thomas Aquinas Church, 1719 Morris St. (our legal title) in your will. Your legacy will help support our mission and allow us to serve future generations.

Please Remember In Your Prayers Those Who Are Sick

Daniel Lorenzo Fernandez, Alexander Dwight-Theresa, Giosa Concetta Parker, Ulises Lopes, Ana Colon, Elza, Phillips Alexander, Stephan Todd- Ryan, Catherine Todd, Gwen Munson, April DeMatto, Louise Mento, Adeline Ostobile, Oscar Martinez, John Daniel, Virginia Tinkler-Moore, Robert Salvadore, Margaret Coleman, Evelyn Emmanuel Daniel, Ada Roebuck, Deacon Fred Poellnitz, Lilian Offord, David Anderson, William Jackson, Helen Zungolo-William Cirino

Please Pray For The Intentions Of:

Sandra Evertt and Family, Latrice & Sierra Brooks, Ralph Berarducci,

Announcements of the Week

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!!

On Saturday September 12th at 10:30AM, we will be cleaning the area around campus. We are in need of volunteers to help. If you can spare an hour or more of time to help, please meet by the rectory garages on Saturday 9-12-20 @ 10:30AM. You don't need anything but yourself and a mask. Thanks for keeping our grounds beautiful!

- We are re going to receive 300 hot meals for distribution starting the week of August 24. If you know a family that could benefit from that please contact the rectory 267-388-1281.
- We are having a diaper distribution site starting September 4. If you are interested or know someone that will benefit from the program please contact the rectory at 267-388-1281
- Do you need help with ITIN? Please contact us.
- English classes ESOL start soon. Please register <https://staquinas.com/esol/>
- If you need help filling the application for rent assistance with the City please give us a call. We will be able to help you.



St Thomas Aquinas
Catholic Community

Santo Tomas de Aquino
através de su diversidad
cultural, unida en su
expresion de fe, vive el
mensaje del evangelio en
nuestra comunidad a
traves de oración,
educación, servicio y
abogacia.

***Covid-19 Horario
de Misa***

Sábados 6:00 PM

Covid-19 - Teléfono

oficina virtual

(267) 388-1281

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Mensaje de Nuestro Pastor - Septiembre 13, 2020

VIGESIMO CUARTO DOMINGO

TIEMPO ORDINARIO

El mensaje del evangelio de hoy es muy claro. Para poder ser perdonados debemos extender el perdón a otros. En la oración que Jesus nos enseñó rezamos: “Perdóna nuestras ofensas así como nosotros perdonamos a los que nos ofenden”. Entendemos que el significado de esto es el estándar que usamos para perdonar a otros y el estándar que el Señor usa para perdonar nuestras ofensas. Jesús perdona por amor. Aun en la cruz Jesus era capaz de perdonar a aquellos que lo torturaron, lo coronaron con espinas y lo condenaron a una sentencia injusta.

Como podemos saber con seguridad si hemos sido perdonados? Como podemos saber si Dios sabe el dolor que llevamos en nuestros corazones? Como podemos alimentar la clase de amor que incluye perdón “no siete veces sino setenta veces” (Mateo 18:22)? Jesus deja a la iglesia muchos regalos. Dentro de esos regalos estaba el poder de perdonar los pecados que siempre está disponible para aquellos que son sinceros en el deseo de ser reconciliados. El de la Eucaristía, que Jesus instituye la noche antes de morir, el dijo “...esta es mi sangre de la alianza, que sera derramada para el perdón de los pecados” (Mateo 26:28).

El catecismo de la Iglesia Católica nos enseña que Cristo la Iglesia es un instrumento de perdón que el adquiere con su muerte en la cruz (#1442). El da poder a los apóstoles y a sus sucesores a través del Espíritu Santo diciendo. “Aquellos a quienes perdones sus pecados le serán perdonados y aquellos pecados que le retengas le serán retenidos”. Este es nuestro seguro que de nuestra falla en siempre seguir a Cristo no nos conducirá a la perdición. Tenemos la posibilidad del perdón disponible para nosotros a través de la Iglesia de Cristo en el sacramento de la Reconciliación. Y cuando hayamos sido perdonados, tambien, tenemos que perdonar.

La reflexión sobre el amor infinito que Dios tiene por nosotros puede llevarnos a la contrición por nuestros pecados. A veces puede ser nuestro miedo a la retribución, como en el Evangelio de hoy, lo que nos mueve a estar contritos. La determinación que tomamos de evitar actos pecaminosos es un acto de nuestro libre albedrío. Desde una simple perspectiva humana, expresar nuestra pecaminosidad y nuestro deseo de deshacernos de su carga es una experiencia liberadora. Quién mejor para ayudarnos en este proceso que un representante de Dios y de nuestra Iglesia en el Sacramento de la Reconciliación.

Verdaderamente, este sacramento es una celebración de la gracia del perdón de Dios que esta esperando para darnos. Que Dios los bendiga a todos!!!

Su Hermano en Cristo,

Fr. Dominic