

March 29, 2020



St. Thomas Aquinas Pastorate

The mission of the St. Thomas Aquinas Pastorate is to use our love and faith to inspire and serve God's people by cultivating a welcoming Catholic Community – working as one and living as disciples of Jesus Christ.

Pastoral Directory

Pastor, Rev. Douglas Loecke (563)852-7805
E-mail dbqcm1@dbqarch.org
Deacon Marvin Recker (retired) (563)879-3448
Deacon Steve Strang (563)852-3435
Deacon Ray Noonan (563)852-3181
Deacon Joe Schockemoehl (563)852-3126
Director of Faith Formation -
Nicole Casey (563)852-3331
E-mail dbq023ff@dbqarch.org

Pastorate Office

408 3rd Ave. NW; PO Box 699, Cascade, IA 52033
Phone (563)852-3524
FAX (563)852-3528
E-mail dbq023sec@dbqarch.org
Website www.stapastorate.org
Hours Monday – Thursday: 8:30am-4:30pm
Friday: 8:30am – 1:00pm

Pastorate Support Staff

Business Manager, Kerri Takes
E-mail dbq023bm@dbqarch.org
Administrative Assistant, Shellie Schlemme
E-mail dbq023sec@dbqarch.org
Music Ministry, Becky Williams
E-mail dbq023s@dbqarch.org

Aquin System of Catholic Education

Aquin Catholic Elementary School (563)852-3331
Principal, Vicki Palmer
E-mail vpalmer@aquin.org
Aquin Little Angels Early Childhood Ctr 563-852-7020
Director, Jenny Recker jrecker@aquin.org

New Parishioners

Welcome! Contact the pastorate office 563-852-3524

Baptisms

Baptism class required. Next class–June 1, 2020, 7pm
Contact Ray & Carol Noonan at 852-3181 to register for the class.
Contact the pastorate office to schedule a baptism.

Weddings

Contact Fr. Loecke at least six months prior to the wedding date.

Pastorate Council

Chuck Shanahan - Chair
Bob Green – Vice Chair
Kevin Schockemoehl - Secretary
Karen Knepper, Mike Otting,
Chuck Noonan, Ed Stoll, Eric Vaske

Parish Council Contacts

St. Patrick – Wanda Loewen
Sacred Heart – Chuck Noonan
St. Peter – Kevin Schockemoehl
St. Matthias – Bob Green

Pastorate Committee Opportunities

Call the Pastorate Office for more info
Community Life, Faith Formation, Liturgy, Social Justice

Prayer Requests

Eileen Steffen – 852-7168
Anita Gudenkauf – 852-3043
Shirley Curoe - 563-599-3973
Joyce Gibbs – 879-3271

Liturgy Schedule

(Cascade-C; Fillmore-F; Garryowen-G; Temple Hill-T
W/C-Word & Communion Service)

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|-------------|--|
| Mon Mar. 30 | 12:00pm (C) Robert Peryon* |
| Tue Mar. 31 | 12:00pm (C) The Pete & Odie Boffeli Family* |
| Wed Apr. 1 | 12:00pm (C) Leon Kurt* |
| Thu Apr. 2 | 12:00pm (C) Lloyd Stecklein* |
| Fri Apr. 3 | 12:00pm (C) The Living & Deceased Members of the Catholic Daughters of the Americas Court 1926* |
| Sat Apr. 4 | 12:00pm (C) Michelle Molony Noonan & Rosemary Cahill and All Parishioners of the St. Thomas Aquinas Pastorate* |
| Sun Apr. 5 | 9:00am (C) Palm Sunday Stan Callahan and William & Mary Mehrl* |

***Father will say Mass each day at noon at St. Matthias. The church will not be open to anyone during this time, but you can also honor God in your home each day at noon with prayer to ask him for his help during this difficult time.**

Fifth Sunday of Lent, March 29, 2020

Pastorate

You should have received another letter from the Pastorate. If you didn't receive one, please call the office at 563-852-3524. The letter states that we will be live streaming Palm Sunday and Holy Week events on social media, assuming we will not be having public Masses during Holy Week. The Mass will be at 9:00am. Please begin to line up at 9:45am. Please stay in your car, and volunteers will give you the branches. I will sprinkle the cars as they pass by me with Holy Water. After we are finished at St Matthias, we will go to St Patrick's and do the same and should arrive there around 11:00am. Again, please line up and stay in your cars. Call Shellie at the Pastorate Office if you would like to help distribute the Palms. We only need about 6-8 people at each site. Shellie will let you know if we have enough people to help. There will be Palms available in the back of St Matthias, St Patrick, and St Peter's for pick up if you can't make it to one of these distribution times. Since Sacred Heart is locked, there will not be any available there.

If you go to the pastorate Facebook page, St. Thomas Aquinas Pastorate, you will find reflections I have written with the hope of offering encouragement. You can also find the reflections on the parish website under the tab "Bulletins & Daily Meditation".

Donations for Easter flowers will be accepted through Monday, April 6, 2020. The requested donation is \$15. Please place your donation in an envelope and on a separate sheet of paper or on the outside of the envelope include the parish receiving the donation, your name and the name of the person(s) for whom the memorial is being made. If you are donating money for flowers to more than one church, please make separate checks to each church. We will still decorate the churches with Easter Lilies regardless if we have Mass or not. And the names of your loved ones will be listed in the bulletin the week after Easter.

Caring for Your Marriage - "And Jesus wept." (Jn 11:35)
Such meaning for so short a verse! Spouses share in each other's joys...and sorrows. Don't be afraid to weep together when heartbreaking things happen. Jesus showed us his love for Lazarus through his tears.

If you or someone you know is in need of food, we can help you get connected to free food in the area:

Kids 18 & Under – Curbside breakfast & lunch from Mon-Fri 11:30-12:30 at Cascade Elementary

Seniors – The Northeast Iowa Area Agency of Aging provides home delivered meals to anyone over 60 Monday-Friday in the greater Cascade Area. There is a fee associated with these meals. For more information or to sign up call 1-800-423-2449.

Cascade Food Pantry – They will be starting weekly hours (to be determined). Call Diana at 563-852-3285.

Six Ways to Evangelize during Lent:

1. Ash Wednesday
2. Abstinence
3. Fasting
4. Conversion
5. Symbolism
6. **The Journey of the Cross** – In some years, Good Friday occurs on the same day major league baseball teams have their "opening day" celebrations with games usually starting at 3:05pm. While everyone else is heading to the stand, eager for hot dogs and home runs, all those Catholics are walking quietly towards churches. Why?? Because at three o'clock on a Friday, on a hillside called Calvary, the Savior of the world took his last breath. All for love of us. "It was now about noon and darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon because of an eclipse of the sun. Then the veil of the temple was torn down the middle. Jesus cried out in a loud voice, "Father, into your hands I commend my spirit"; and when he had said this he breathed his last." (Luke 23:44-46) AT 3pm on Good Friday, we take the time to reflect on what Christ has done for us, not only by fasting, but also by the various devotions that our churches offer: veneration of the cross, the reading of the Passion and the Stations of the Cross. On Good Friday, we spend our afternoon walking with Christ to Calvary, immersed in his love and mercy...and that beats any baseball game, any time.

All St. Thomas Aquinas Pastorate Parishioners

should have received a letter from Fr. Loecke regarding no Mass and the days ahead. If you did not receive the letter, please call the Pastorate Office at 852-3524 and we will make sure that you receive one.

An Act of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus,
I believe that You
are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.
I love You above all things,
and I desire to receive You into my soul.
Since I cannot at this moment
receive You sacramentally,
come at least spiritually into my heart.
I embrace You as if You were already there
and unite myself wholly to You.
Never permit me
to be separated from You.
Amen.

Prayer to the Blessed Virgin Mary

Mother, I am yours now and forever. Through you and with you I always want to belong completely to Jesus.

THE SURRENDER NOVENA

Given by Jesus to Fr. Dolindo Ruotolo

Day 1

Why do you confuse yourselves by worrying? Leave the care of your affairs to Me and everything will be peaceful. I say to you in truth that every act of true, blind, complete surrender to Me produces the effect that you desire and resolves all difficult situations.

O Jesus, I surrender myself to You, take care of everything!
(10 times)

Day 2

Surrender to Me does not mean to fret, to be upset, or to lose hope, nor does it mean offering to Me a worried prayer asking Me to follow you and change your worry into prayer. It is against this surrender, deeply against it, to worry, to be nervous and to desire to think about the consequences of anything. It is like the confusion that children feel when they ask their mother to see to their needs, and then try to take care of those needs for themselves so that their childlike efforts get in their mother's way. Surrender means to placidly close the eyes of the soul, to turn away from thoughts of tribulation and to put yourself in My care, so that only I act; saying "You take care of it."

O Jesus, I surrender myself to You, take care of everything!
(10 times)

Day 3

How many things I do when the soul, in so much spiritual and material need turns to Me, looks at Me and says to Me; "You take care of it, then closes its eyes and rests." In pain you pray for Me to act, but that I act in the way you want. You do not turn to Me; instead, you want Me to adapt to your ideas. You are not sick people who ask the doctor to cure you, but rather sick people who tell the doctor how to. So do not act this way, but pray as I taught you in the Our Father: *Hallowed be Thy Name*, that is, be glorified in my need. *Thy kingdom come*, that is let all that is in us and in the world be in accord with Your kingdom. Thy will be done on Earth as it is in Heaven, that is, in our need, decide as You see fit for our temporal and eternal life. If you say to Me truly: Thy will be done, which is the same as saying: You take care of it. I will intervene with all My omnipotence, and I will resolve the most difficult situations.

O Jesus, I surrender myself to You, take care of everything!
(10 times)

Day 4

Do you see evil growing instead of weakening? Do not worry; close your eyes and sty to Me with faith: "Thy will be done, You take care of it." I say to you that I will take care of it, and that I will intervene as does a doctor; and I will accomplish miracles when they are needed. Do you see that the sick person is getting worse? Do not be upset, but close your eyes and say, "You take care of it." I way to you that I will take care of it, and that there is no medicine more powerful that My loving intervention. By My love, I promise this to you.

O Jesus, I surrender myself to You, take care of everything!
(10 times)

Day 5

And when I must lead you on a path different from the one you see, I will prepare you: I will carry you in My arms; I will let you find yourself, like children who have fallen asleep in the mothers' arms, on the other bank of the river. What troubles you and hurts you immensely are your reason, your thoughts and worry, and your desire at all costs to deal with what afflicts you.

O Jesus, I surrender myself to You, take care of everything!
(10 times)

Day 6

You are sleepless; you want to judge everything, direct everything and see to everything and you surrender to human strength, or worse—to men themselves, trusting in their intervention; this is what hinders My world and My views. Oh how much I wish from you this surrender, to help you; and how I suffer when I see you so agitated! Satan tries to do exactly this: to agitate you and to remove you from My protection and to throw you into the jaws of human initiative. So, trust only in Me, rest in Me, surrender to Me in everything.

O Jesus, I surrender myself to You, take care of everything!
(10 times)

Day 7

I perform miracles in proportion to your full surrender to Me and to your not thinking of yourselves. I sow treasure troves of graces when you are in the deepest poverty. No person of reason, no thinker, has ever performed miracles, not even among the saints. He does divine works whosoever surrenders to God. So, don't think about it anymore, because your mind is acute and for you it is very hard to see evil and to trust in Me and not think of yourself. Do this for all your needs; do this all of you and you will see great continual silent miracles. I will take care of things. I promise this to you.

O Jesus, I surrender myself to You, take care of everything!
(10 times)

Day 8

Close your eyes and let yourself be carried away on the flowing current of My grace; close your eyes and do not think of the present, turning your thoughts away from the future just as you would from temptation. Repose in Me, believing in My goodness, and I promise you by My love that if you say, "You take care of it." I will take care of it all; I will console you, liberate you and guide you.

O Jesus, I surrender myself to You, take care of everything!
(10 times)

Day 9

Pray always in readiness to surrender, and you will receive from it great peace and great rewards, even when I confer on you the grace of immolation, of repentance and of love. Then what does suffering matter? It seems impossible to you? Close your eyes and say with all your soul, "Jesus, you take care of it." Do no be afraid, I will take care of things and you will bless My name by humbling yourself. A thousand prayers cannot equal one single act of surrender, remember this well. There is no novena more effective than this:

O Jesus, I surrender myself to You, take care of everything!
(10 times)