

April 12, 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

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)

Mon Apr. 13	12:00pm (C)	Anne Feeney*
Tue Apr. 14	12:00pm (C)	For the Loved ones of the Paul & Barb Peiffer Family*
Wed Apr. 15	12:00pm (C)	Ray & Doris Weber*
Thu Apr. 16	12:00pm (C)	George & Tim O'Brien*
Fri Apr. 17	12:00pm (C)	Willard & Marie Noonan*
Sat Apr. 18	12:00pm (C)	Jim Krapfl & Frank & Rosalie Fah
Sun Apr. 19	12:00pm (C)	Charles & Loras Green and the Parishioners of St. Thomas Aquinas Pastorate*

***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.**

Easter Sunday, April 12, 2020

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From Father Loecke

Dear Parishioners,

First, I want to wish each of you a happy and joy-filled Easter. Even though this is a most unusual year, the message of Easter, a message of hope, a message that there is life beyond the grave remains true and something we can hold onto in times of difficulty.

Second, many thanks to all those who attended for the family blessing last Sunday after the Palm Sunday Mass. For me, it was so uplifting to see all of you again. This has been the hardest part for me during this time, not seeing or being connected with you. It feels like a huge part of my life is missing. However, last Sunday was just a great day to reconnect even if it was for just a few seconds.

I continue to offer the noon Mass every day and I hope that you are still taking time every day at noon to offer some kind of prayer that this crazy time in life will soon end. Take time to get outside and reflect on the goodness of God who is with us at all times.

May the blessing of Easter be yours in abundance,
Fr. Loecke



Pastorate

Caring for Your Marriage - Christ is risen! Celebrate new life today. Recall a hardship in your marriage that is now history. Take a moment to thank God for all the times your marriage has risen from difficulties. Remember this, and Jesus' Resurrection, in future tough times.

All Parish Cemetery Reminder:
Please remove any winter decorations on grave sites that will interfere with mowing and spring clean-up.

Sacred Heart, Fillmore

Sacred Heart Generosity: Apr. 4-5, 2020: Budget: \$1,620.00; Easter: \$1,100.00; Total: \$2,720.00

St. Patrick, Garryowen

St. Patrick Generosity: Apr. 4-5, 2020 – Budget: \$1,275.00; Easter: \$100.00; Total: \$1,375.00

St. Peter, Temple Hill

St. Peter Generosity: Apr. 4-5, 2020 – Budget: 200.00, Easter: \$300.00; Total: \$500.00

St. Matthias, Cascade

St. Matthias Generosity: Apr. 4-5, 2020 – Budget: \$8,365.00.00; Offertory: \$110.00; Easter: \$1,520.00; Cash Club: \$120.00; Total: \$10,115.00

Break Open the Tomb

Lord of Easter's Promise, I live in faith of the Resurrection, but such is the nature of my faith that so much of me remains entombed.

Break Open the Tomb

Where I've buried my compassion,
break open the tomb.
Where I've buried my sense of mercy,
break open the tomb.
Where I've buried my humility,
break open the tomb.
Where I've buried my humanity,
break open the tomb.
Where I've buried my love for my Heavenly Father,
break open the tomb.
Where I've buried my sense of joy,
break open the tomb.
Where I've buried my willingness to forgive,
break open the tomb.

Lord, in you I've found a Savior no grave can withstand. Help me to roll away this stone and find the miracle of new life. That I may live more fully in your saving grace.

AMEN.

Wishing You A Blessed Easter Season!!
From Fr. Loecke and the staff at
St. Thomas Aquinas Pastorate

Coronavirus Novena

(This Novena can be prayed at any time)

Pray this prayer daily:

Dear Heavenly Father,

We praise You for who you are – our good, good Father. We affirm that You are holy and almighty, and that You reign, Lord, over heaven and earth. Father, we come to You as Your children, concerned, distressed, and even frightened, about the coronavirus and its effects on all of us throughout the world. However, we also come to You in trust, for You have promised us, “I will never leave you; I will never forsake you” (Hebrews 13:5). We acknowledge our absolute dependence on You. O Lord Jesus, during Your ministry on earth, You healed in spirit, soul and body, people of all ages and stations in life. Please be present not to all affected by COVID-19. Have mercy on us and on the whole world.

Please pray the prayer of the day and include your own requests.

In the name of Jesus, we resist the enemy of our souls according to God’s Word: “Resist the devil and he will flee from you” (James 4:7) We are confident, dear God that as we return to prayer and fasting, we will more clearly hear You speaking to our hearts. As we courageously decide for holiness, we believe we will experience deeper conversion in our hearts and families through the gentle grace of Your precious Holy Spirit.

Sacred Heart of Jesus, we place our trust in You.

Immaculate Heart of Mary, Health of the Sick, pray for us.

Most Chaste Heart of Saint Joseph, Patron and Protector of the Universal Church, pray for us.

Eternal Father, we make our prayer in Jesus’ name, and for His sake. Amen

Day 1:

Pray for people who are infected with COVID-19 or facing quarantine. Dear Jesus, please lay Your healing hands on all suffering from this virus, whether receiving treatment or under quarantine. Protect their families and friends, and bring Your serenity and peace to all.

Day 2:

Pray for people at higher risk of developing the disease.

Dear Lord, we lift up to You all those who are more susceptible to this virus—the elderly and those with chronic health conditions. Please send Your angels to protect them from harm and be their comfort in this time of uncertainty and, for some, isolation.

Day 3:

Pray for medical professionals, caregivers, and researchers responsible for fighting the coronavirus.

Dear God, healthcare workers and first responders are working longer hours with fewer supplies and more risk of contracting the virus themselves. Renew their energy and sustain them. Protect them as they work with patients. Please increase their supplies so they are able to work safely. Inspire researchers to develop better tests to diagnose the virus, create vaccines to prevent it, and identify protocols to eliminate its spread.

Day 4:

Pray for leaders responsible for making decisions about the coronavirus.

O Holy Spirit, grant us the spirit of wisdom. Be with our President, Governors, and all leaders making decisions that affect the lives of our families, communities, countries, and the wider world. We pray that they communicate clearly, truthfully, and calmly, and that their messages are received and heeded.

Day 5:

Pray for families adjusting to new ways of life.

Dear God, as many families adjust to everyone being home at this time, please give us grace for each other. Help us to listen attentively to one another. Help spouses and parents to speak works of kindness and encouragement. To each other and their children. Please help our children find creative ways to experience the beauty of all You have created and to continue learning.

Day 6:

Pray for business owners & families facing financial stress.

Lord Jesus, we thank You for Your faithfulness in guiding and equipping us in our jobs and providing for us in the past. As You know, Lord, it is easy to feel anxious and overwhelmed about how we will meet our financial obligations and provide for our families. As people feel financial strain during these uncertain times, please bring them comfort and peace, reminding them that You are there for them, Inspire those with means to help others.

Day 7:

Pray for grocery store workers and delivery drivers.

Dear God, thank You for all those who continue to work each day so that people are able to eat. We ask that You bless and protect them as they serve. Give them grace to handle unhappy customers when supplies are low. Keep them healthy and their vehicles running smoothly as they deliver needed supplies and food for all. Please protect them from becoming ill themselves.

Day 8:

Pray for the disease to stop spreading.

Dear Father, we affirm that everything is in Your sovereign control. Please stop the spread of the coronavirus. Help people decide to stay home instead of traveling or going out needlessly. Holy Spirit, remind us to wash our hands and stay sanitized. We ask Your special consolation for all who must keep their distance at this time from elderly or other high-risk family members.

Day 9:

For all spiritual leaders, wisdom to guide the People of God at this time.

Dear God, with full confidence we place ourselves and our Holy Father, Pope Francis, our bishops, clergy, and all spiritual leaders in Your hands. With one heart and soul, we pray for Your wisdom and anointing to come upon them and fill them with wisdom, grace, and compassion to shepherd Your children during this difficult time. Keep them safe from the attacks of the enemy, and help them to feel connected with their flocks spiritually until such time as we may join together again to worship You in spirit, soul, and body.