

April 26, 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 3<sup>rd</sup> 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  
Joyce Gibbs – 879-3271

### Liturgy Schedule

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

Mon Apr. 27	12:00pm (C) Bob Takes*
Tue Apr. 28	12:00pm (C) Janet Staner*
Wed Apr. 29	12:00pm (C) Stan Callahan*
Thu Apr. 30	12:00pm (C) Harold Hosch*
Fri May 1	12:00pm (C) Eleanor Burke*
Sat May 2	12:00pm (C) Andy & Helen Laban, Lois Gudenkauf & Wilfred McCarthy*
Sun May 3	12:00pm (C) Bill & Imelda Beringer 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.**

# Third Sunday of Easter, April 26, 2020

## From Father Loecke

Dear Parishioners,

Last week Monday, we were notified of all the assignment changes that will be taking place in July. There are quite a few changes taking place which I found rather surprising.

I wish to let you know that your new pastor effective on July 14, will be Fr. Mark Osterhaus. Fr. Osterhaus is from Maquoketa, where his family operates the local pharmacy. Fr. Osterhaus is 65 years old. He is a fine priest and has a good personality. He is currently the pastor of three parishes in the Waukon area.

As I mentioned in my letter to you about my upcoming transfer, the most important thing you can do is to be helpful and supportive of Fr. Osterhaus as you have been to me over the years. This is a great pastorate and so many good things have developed over the years. We have worked together for the good of souls and for the love of God. Moving for anyone is difficult. But it is especially difficult for a priest as he moves by himself leaving behind those he has come to know and love deeply.

My only hope is that before I leave and he arrives we will be able to celebrate Holy Mass once again in our churches. I cannot imagine just leaving on July 14th without the chance to see you in person.

### Pastorate

*We would also like to recognize your Pastorate RCIA candidates:*

*Alex Loes,  
Alex Schmelzer,  
Morgan Casey,  
Patrick Leitzen*

*Please keep them, their sponsors, and their families in our prayers.*

**Caring For Your Marriage** - "Stay with us," they implored Jesus on the road to Emmaus. They sensed something special about him, something they needed. Married couples too need Jesus' presence. Have you asked him lately, "Stay with us. Come into our home"? If not, try it today.

**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** – Opened every third Thursday from 3:00pm-5:30pm and every other Thursday from 4:00pm-6:00pm. Call Diana at 563-852-3285.

**Simplify your routine!** We offer Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) for your contributions to your Parish. Enrolling is easy - complete a simple form and your bank account will automatically be debited around the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month. Contact Kerri or Shellie at the Pastorate Office to enroll or for more information.

**FORMED** - During this time at home, this is the perfect time to log onto Formed. **FORMED** provides the very best **Catholic** content from more than 60 organizations to help parishes, families and individuals explore their faith anywhere. Supporting thousands of movies, children's programs, ebooks, audio, parish programs and studies direct to your browser, mobile or connected device.

**If you have already signed up for FORMED and haven't logged in for a while:**

- Go to formed.org
- You will go to sign in and they will prompt you to go to your email and from an email link, it will take you back to Formed

**If you are just signing up for FORMED for the first time:**

- Go to formed.org
- Click "Sign-Up" and find your Pastorate (St. Thomas Aquinas Pastorate and then enter your name, email address and desired password.
- If you have any problems with logging on, please call the Pastorate Office at 563-852-3524.

## Sacred Heart, Fillmore

**Sacred Heart Generosity:** Apr. 18-19, 2020: Budget: \$300.00; Easter: \$170.00; Spring Fling: \$100.00; Total: \$570.00

## St. Patrick, Garryowen

**St. Patrick Generosity:** Apr. 18-19, 2020 – Budget: \$160.00; EFT: \$475.00; Easter: \$660.00; Total: \$1,295.00

**St. Pat's Auction Reminder** – Since you and/or your kids are home- maybe you can get creative and make something or buy local gift cards for this year's auction.

## St. Peter, Temple Hill

**St. Peter Generosity:** Apr. 18-19, 2020 – Budget: 850.00, Easter: \$1,800.00: Total: \$2,650.00

## St. Matthias, Cascade

**St. Matthias Generosity:** Apr. 18-19, 2020 – Budget: \$2,870.00; Easter: \$2,960.00; Cash Club: \$2,970.00; Total: \$8,800.00

## THE ORIGIN OF THE CREED

By Father Larry Rice

If you ask most people what the longest prayer is that they pray at a Catholic Mass, most will probably respond with the Creed. The only problem with that answer is that the Creed isn't really a prayer.

The Creed, after all, isn't addressed to God. It's a statement of beliefs which we recite together as an expression of our unity in the faith. It may be spoken reverently or even prayerfully, but that doesn't in itself make it a prayer.

So: where does the Creed come from? As a summary of the most central Christian doctrines, it arose from times when those beliefs were in question—

when various factions held different theological positions. The older version of the Creed is the Apostle's Creed, which traces its origin to the 4th Century. Although legend says that the Apostle's Creed was penned by the Apostles themselves, the earliest evidence we have is a letter from St. Ambrose, after the Council of Milan.

The creed we use most frequently at Mass is the Nicene Creed. Although its origins at the Council of Nicea in 325 place it in the same century as the Apostle's creed, the Nicene creed is longer, and more explicitly defines what we believe about the human and divine natures of Jesus Christ. This was in reaction to the Arian heresy, which denied Christ's divinity. The version of the Nicene Creed we use today includes additions made at the Council of Constantinople in the year 381.

The Creed was further revised based on other theological controversies. In the late sixth Century, the Latin-speaking Churches of the west, under the banner of Rome, added the words "and the Son" to the phrase explaining the giving of the Holy Spirit. The Orthodox Churches of the East believe that the Holy Spirit is sent only from the Father. While this may seem like a minor point to most of us today, literal battles were fought over this "filioque" controversy.

When we recite the Creed at mass, we're part of the Church's long theological Tradition, re-affirming the results of centuries of theological study and debate that has helped us understand with ever-greater precision who God is, and what He has done for us.

### **USCCB Responds to Coronavirus**

Archbishop Jose H. Gomez of Los Angeles, president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, has issued the following regarding Coronavirus (COVID-19):

With the worldwide outbreak of the coronavirus, we are confronted once more with the fragility of our lives, and again we are reminded of our common humanity; that the peoples of this world are our brothers and sisters, that we are all one family under God.

God does not abandon us, he goes with us even now in this time of trial and testing. In this moment, it is important for us to anchor our hearts in the hope that we have in Jesus Christ. Now is the time to intensify our prayers and sacrifices for the love of God and the love of our neighbor. Let us draw closer to one another in our love for him, and rediscover the things that truly matter in our lives.

United with our Holy Father Pope Francis, let us pray in solidarity for our brothers and sisters here and around the world who are sick. Let us pray for those who have lost loved ones to this virus. May God console them and grant them peace.

We pray also for doctors, nurses, and caregivers, for public health officials and all civic leaders. May God grant them courage and prudence as they seek to respond to this emergency with compassion and in service to the common good.

In this time of need, I invite all the faithful to seek

together the maternal intercession of Our Lady of Guadalupe, and I share this prayer with you:

**Holy Virgin of Guadalupe, Queen of the Angels and Mother of the Americas.**

**We fly to you today as your beloved children.  
We ask you to intercede for us with your Son, as you did at the wedding in Cana.**

**Pray for us, loving Mother,  
and gain for our nation and world,  
and for all our families and loved ones,  
the protection of your holy angels,  
that we may be spared the worst of this illness.**

**For those already afflicted,  
we ask you to obtain the grace of healing and deliverance.  
Hear the cries of those who are vulnerable and fearful,  
wipe away their tears and help them to trust.**


**In this time of trial and testing,  
teach all of us in the Church to love one another  
and to be patient and kind.  
Help us to bring the peace of Jesus to our land and to our hearts.**

**We come to you with confidence,  
knowing that you truly are our compassionate mother,  
health of the sick and cause of our joy.**

**Shelter us under the mantle of your protection,  
keep us in the embrace of your arms,  
help us always to know the love of your Son, Jesus.  
Amen.**

**"Sometimes we forget just how powerful God is. We spend so much time dwelling on the mountain standing before us that we lose sight of the fact that God is infinitely bigger than the mountain."**

**GARY ZIMAK**  
Stop Worrying & Start Living

 **Dynamic Catholic**



