

May 3, 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.  
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 May 4	12:00pm (C)	Brian Kurt*
Tue May 5	12:00pm (C)	Ellen Marie Shanahan*
Wed May 6	12:00pm (C)	Living & Deceased Members of Catholic Daughters of the Americas Court 1926*
Thu May 7	12:00pm (C)	Rusty Finn & the Finn & Takes Families*
Fri May 8	12:00pm (C)	Scott Koob*
Sat May 9	12:00pm (C)	Bill & Rita Martin, Elmer Breitbach and the Leo & Hilda Kurt Family *
Sun May 10	12:00pm (C)	Dianne Knepper, Sam, Harriet, Joe & Pam Knepper 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.**

# Fourth Sunday of Easter, May 3, 2020

## Pastorate

**Caring For Your Marriage** - "I came so that they might have life and have it more abundantly," says Jesus. (Jn 10:10)  
Parents, grandparents, godparents, and guardians: how can you help those entrusted to your care experience abundant life?

**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.

**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.

## Sacred Heart, Fillmore

**Sacred Heart Generosity:** Apr. 25-26, 2020: Budget: \$470.00; Easter: \$100.00; Total: \$570.00

## St. Patrick, Garryowen

**St. Patrick Generosity:** Apr. 25-26, 2020 – Budget: \$950.00; Offertory: \$300.00; Easter: \$100.00; Total: \$1,350.00

**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. 25-26, 2020 – Budget/Total: 200.00,

## St. Matthias, Cascade

**St. Matthias Generosity:** Apr. 25-26, 2020 – Budget: \$2,870.00; Easter: \$525.00; Cash Club: \$1,500.00; Total: \$4,895.00

## Letter from The Bishops of Iowa

Our Dear People:

Since the arrival of the coronavirus pandemic, Catholics in Iowa have been obliged by civil, scientific, and church authorities to sacrifice the opportunity to receive sacraments and worship in common.

With the lifting of restrictions against certain public gatherings, including religious assemblies, by Governor Kim Reynolds, members of the faithful are understandably renewed in their hope that they might safely return to church and resume some form of regular parish life. Yet the spread of the COVID-19 disease remains a real and present danger. In particular, the health and survival of the elderly and other vulnerable populations is still a grave concern. Many parishioners and priests fall within these groups.

In light of the expectation that positive cases of COVID-19 will peak in Iowa in the next few weeks, we have decided it would be most prudent for now to continue to follow the liturgical restrictions we have in place, including the suspension of public Masses. Without an effective vaccine or widespread testing and contact data that justifies a change in course, we simply are not at a place where we can resume our previous prayer practices.

The suspension of the Sunday Mass obligation remains in effect statewide, and all vulnerable persons, the sick, and those may who have been exposed to the virus are asked to look after their own welfare with the support of those who care for them. We ask parish, school and diocesan staff to continue to minister to the faithful, and the faithful to each other, in ways other than meeting in groups during this difficult time of the pandemic. We strongly encourage parishioners to visit the website and social media outlets of the parishes and schools to stay in touch as we look forward to gathering in person.

We will continue to closely monitor the statewide and respective regional situations through the weeks of May and beyond. When the time comes that we can gather in greater numbers while observing social distance, safe hygienic practices and other precautions without placing one another at serious risk, public Masses and other sacramental celebrations will be allowed to resume.

These days are not easy. We understand that many of you are frustrated with this situation; so are we. We want to celebrate Mass with our parishioners and get back to "normal." However, we take the advice of Paul: "Rejoice in hope, endure in affliction, persevere in prayer" (Romans 12:12). Take comfort in knowing that Jesus is with us and with you, our faithful.

Your Brothers in Christ,

Most Rev. Michael Jackels - Archbishop of Dubuque  
Most Rev. R. Walker Nickless - Bishop of Sioux City  
Most Rev. Thomas Zinkula - Bishop of Davenport  
Most Rev. William Joensen - Bishop of Des Moines



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## We honor Mary in the month of May:

### The Litany of The Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of Life

The Response is: **Mary, pray for us.**

Mary, Mother of all Life,  
Help us to respect human life from the  
moment of conception  
to the moment of natural death. (Response)

Mary, Mother of Compassion,  
You showed us how valuable a single life can be;  
Help us to guard and protect the lives of all  
people entrusted to our care. (Response)

Mary, Mother of the Child Jesus,  
with St. Joseph you formed the Holy Family.  
Guard and protect all families in this earthly  
life; (Response)

Mary, Mother Most Holy,  
You sanctified the vocation of motherhood;  
Pour out your heavenly aid on all mothers and  
help them to be holy. (Response)

Mary, Mother of Sorrows,  
Simeon's prophecy foretold that a sword of  
Suffering would pierce your heart;  
Bring comfort and hope to all mothers who  
suffer over their children. (Response)

Mary, Full of Grace,  
You had a choice in responding to God's call;  
Help us always to say "Yes" to the will of God  
in our lives,

And strive always to do whatever he tells us. (Response)

Mary, Comforter of the Afflicted,  
Pour forth your heavenly grace on all who are  
In need of God's healing,

Especially those involved in abortion;  
Help them to experience the love and mercy of  
Christ, your Son. (Response)

Mary, Intercessor and Advocate,  
We life up the poor, the displaced, the  
Marginalized and vulnerable members of society;  
Help them to never abandon hope, but to place  
their trust in the God who gave them life. (Response)  
Mary, Mother of the Word Incarnate, you bore  
In your womb him whom the heavens cannot contain;  
Help us to bear witness to Christ by the example of our lives  
And show the world the extravagant love of God. (Response)



### Prayer of Renewal

Lord Jesus, You are the Savior of my life! \* With my whole heart I desire to live in Your radiant light. \* I wish to enjoy forever the fellowship of Your saints. \* I firmly reject the dominion of darkness and beg You by the Power of Your blood shed on the cross \*to forgive my sins and cleanse me from all my guilt. \* I promise with Your gracious help\* to follow You ever more closely, \* trusting only in Your abundant mercy. \* Stir up the gifts of the Holy Spirit in my soul \* that I may cry out with You, "Abba, Father!" \* Grant that I may find inspiration and strength through prayer, \* that I may experience Your abiding presence in the Sacraments, \* that I may be guided by the truth of Your Word \* which comes to us in Scripture and Tradition. \* Help me to forgive and serve others \* as You have forgiven and served me. \* Help me to use the gifts You have given me \* to build up Your one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. \* In all my trials, help me to trust that You will never abandon me. \* Lord Jesus, when my life on earth is complete, \* send Your Holy Mother Mary to lead me \* to the eternal home of our Heavenly Father \* together with St. Joseph and all Saints. \* I ask all this in Your holy glorious Name \* Who live and reign forever and ever. Amen.