# St. Thomas Aquinas

ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISH



## February 26<sup>th</sup>, 2023 I First Sunday of Lent

### **SUNDAY MASSES**

Sunday 5:00pm English 9:00am English 10:30am Italiano

> 12:00pm English 2:00pm Español 6:00pm English

### **WEEKDAY MASSES**

Monday to Saturday 9:00am

### **CONFESSIONS**

Saturdays 4:00pm or by Appointment

### **BAPTISMS - BAUTIZOS**

**Three months** in advance, please call the office.

Llamar a la oficina con **tres meses** de anticipación.

### **WEDDINGS - BODAS**

Please contact the office **one year** in advance. LLamar a la oficina con **un año** de anticipación.

### **CATECHISM & RCIA**

For the Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, First Communion & Confirmation), please contact the office and press **ext. 0** 

### **SICK CALLS**

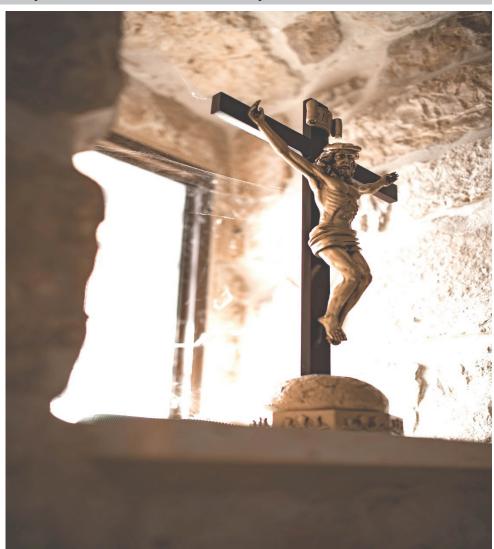
Please call the office for visits or Communion visitations to the sick.

### **DEVOTIONS / DEVOCIONES**

- **Holy Rosary:** Wednesdays & Saturdays at 8:30am
- **Eucharistic Adoration:** Fridays from 9:30 am to 11am.

### **OFFICE HOURS**

**Monday to Friday** from 9:30am to 4:00pm The office is closed from 12:00noon to 12:30pm



### **CATHOLIC SCHOOLS**

### **CATHOLIC FUNERAL HOMES**

Bernardo Funeral Home | 416-789-7661 Vescio Funeral Home | 416-656-3332

PASTOR Fr. Patrick Ezimora C.C.E.

**ASSOCIATE PASTOR** Fr. Peter Paul C.C.E.

## THIS WEEK AT ST. THOMAS AQUINAS

### From the Pastor's Desk

Dear parishioners of STA Parish,

The Lenten fitness program has already begun. Like with any serious human activity, this first Sunday equips us with the theory of how to arrive successfully to the finish line. Theory 1: I am God's wonderful handiwork. **T2:** The Lord God provided me with every good thing that I needed to be happy. T3: Evil and sin befell mankind because we did not trust God entirely, but rather let ourselves be enticed by the devil, father of lies. **T4:** The consequence of sin was the monopoly of suffering and death. **T5:** Jesus Christ, the new Adam, out of his love for us, endured the price of our iniquity with his obedience unto death. **T6:** The Word of God is the only power that can help us overcome and overthrow the dominion of sin and darkness. T7: The Holy Eucharist snatches us away from sin, both venial and mortal.

Now that you know the 7Ts of the Lenten fitness program, go forth and *live* (y)our victory everyday! Blessings!!

### **2023 LENTEN SCHEDULE**

- 1) Sacrament of Reconciliation/Confession is available every Friday during Lent, from 6:30pm to 6:50pm.
- 2) Evening Mass will be celebrated every Friday during Lent at 7pm.
- 3) Stations of the Cross will take place on Fridays at 7:30pm.
- 4) 5-minutes Lenten Reflection on the 5 Precepts of the Catholic Church every Sunday after the Concluding Prayer.



Blessed Sacrament's Candle and Flowers By the kind generosity of Rosa D'urzo

Thank you and God bless you. *Grazie. Gracias. Salamat po. Asante.* 

# Youth Ministry for Friday, March 4th Topic: Faith Formation

8pm to 9pm in the parish hall; refreshments will be provided. If you are interested, please register and pick up a flyer. We need sponsors for each youth night. Thank you in advance!

Bible Study for Wednesday, March 8th, 2023 From 7:00 PM to 8:30 PM following the Stations of the Cross

Topic: "The Chosen" Season 1, Episode 4: The Rock on Which it is Built

YouTube Video: Or download "The Chosen" App

Please bring along your Bibles, Catechism, and notebook.

Divine Mercy Sunday Pilgrimage Stockbridge, Massachusetts, USA April 14-17, 2023 |\$395 per person - 4 persons in a room. Please contact Edith at 416-420-5185.

### St. Vincent de Paul's Bundle Up Collections

On the weekend of <u>March 11/12</u>, there will be a Bundle Up collection for St. Vincent de Paul's charity at St. Claire Parish - 1118 St. Clair Avenue West Toronto, ON, M6E 3M6

The acceptable items include All Clothing, All footwear, Bedding, Drapery/Towel, Toys (new Toys only). Time: From 8am to 1:30pm on both days.

English and Spanish Copies of the Catechism of the Catholic Church available for sale in the Parish Office. The cost is \$15.

Visit & Follow us on Facebook by searching: St. Thomas Aquinas Parish Toronto (or click on link)

Visit & Follow us on Instagram by searching: staparishto (or click on link)



### MASS SCHEDULE AND INTENTIONS

### Feb 25th to Mar 4th 2023

### SATURDAY, Feb 25<sup>th</sup>

**9:00am** (available for intentions)

**5:00pm** For our priests and deacons, living and deceased who have ministered to us / + Agostino Barbuscio's first year death anniversary / Death anniversary of + Natividad Cabiguen / Thanksgiving for Aida Cayas

### SUNDAY, Feb 26<sup>th</sup>

**9:00am** For the soul of + Virginia Peralta Queñano and for the soul of all our departed loved ones.

**10:30am** + Mario Trevisan / Birthday blessings for Frank Carbone & special intention of Salvador Carpino

12:00pm + Clement & Maria Stephens

2:00pm Descanso del alma de + Julia Tejada Chotto, + Andrea Chevez, + Jose Ramos, + Flor de González, + Juana Ines Venegas, + Eliseo Murillo, + Heidi Park / Por la salud de Mary Wahba, Otto Rivera / Bendiciones en el cumpleaños de Sofia Eunice Tejada, Jacqueline Marisol Gomez, Lucy Dalsass

**6:00pm** For Our Lady's Intentions for Luke and Joseph

### MONDAY, Feb 27<sup>th</sup>

9:00am + Jeanette David & + Mary David / + Maria Madalena Ngu and all souls in purgatory TUESDAY, Feb 28<sup>th</sup>

**9:00am** Birthday blessings for Caridad Dabu /

+ Peter Andersen & + Vincent Tuong

### WEDNESDAY, Mar 1<sup>st</sup>

**9:00am** + Gioan Baotixita Dinh & + Maria Ngo / Thanksgiving for the Dequina family

### THURSDAY, Mar 2<sup>nd</sup>

9:00am + Vincent Nguyen and + Maria Dinh FRIDAY, Mar 3<sup>rd</sup>

**9:00am** + Vincent Nguyen & + Maria Dinh /
Birthday blessings, long life and good health for
Ann Mentore

### SATURDAY, Mar 4<sup>th</sup>

**9:00am** Circle of Prayers / Thanksgiving for the Legion of Mary

5:00 pm (available for intentions)

We are accepting Mass Intentions through the office during the week

## **Around STA and the Community**

# **1st Sunday of Lent** February 26, 2023

### Support our Lenten ShareLife Appeal

In this time of Lent, please reflect on the great needs of our brothers and sisters who are helped through your kind support of ShareLife.

Last year, ShareLife supporters like you enabled 1,900 young parents and their children to access programming, along with diapers, food and clothing.

Your support of ShareLife provides hope and support as they create better lives for their families. Please give generously once again this year.



Come & See Discernment

Weekend Retreat

March 17, 2023 – March 19, 2023

at St. Augustine's Seminary

The Office of Vocations will be hosting a Come & See Weekend Discernment Retreat for men 18 years and older, at St. Augustine's Seminary on *Friday, March 17 (6:30 p.m.) until Sunday, March 19 (2:30 p.m.).* This Retreat offers a way for men to discern a possible call to priesthood at our seminary. Thank you in advance for your assistance as we work together to build a culture of vocations.

Registration must be done online at

www.vocationstoronto.ca/comesee

### **ALL ABOUT FAITH**

### **Prayer Before the Crucifix**



Look down upon me, good and gentle Jesus while before Your face I humbly kneel and, with burning soul. pray and beseech You to fix deep in my heart lively sentiments of faith, hope, and charity; true contrition for my sins, and a firm purpose of amendment. While I contemplate, with great love and tender pity, Your five most precious wounds, pondering over them within me and calling to mind the words which David, Your prophet, said to You, my Jesus: "They have pierced My hands and My feet, they have numbered all My bones." Amen.



# Online Winter Women's Discernment Group For women Ages 18-29

From Tuesday February 28 - March 28, 2023.

The Office of Vocations is offering a weekly Online Discernment Group for single women aged 18-29.

They will be journeying with the book "Pray, Decide, and Don't Worry" by Fr. Mike Schmitz.

Books can be purchased through the Office of Vocation for \$10. Meetings will run from 7-9pm

Register Here

### Pray, Give, and Sacrifice



Giving up something for Lent, eating fish on Fridays and fasting from meat, almsgiving and penance throughout the forty days of Lent—these are some of the practices for which Catholics are known. But why do we as Catholics do this? Because through these commitments—known as "Lenten practices" or "Lenten disciplines"—the Catholic Church calls us each year to renew our discipleship in Christ. Specifically, each year during the liturgical season of Lent the Church asks us to pray, give alms, and fast.

### **Read More**



### The Lord is With You

And coming to her, he said, "Hail, favored one! The Lord is with you."

— Luke 1:26-28

### 3 Minute Retreat

**English** 

**Español** 

## LIVING YOUR FAITH

### Lent



Animated Children's Bible Stories

Children's Video

### 40 Podcasts for 40 Days



Ascension Press put together a playlist of podcasts for your Lenten journey and titled it **40 Podcasts for 40 Days**. Lent is a time for renewal. It's a season of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. This playlist will lead you into the wilderness with Jesus, teach you the true meaning of Lent, and supplement your other practices.

**Find Out More Here** 

# Pope moved by "living sermon" shown by children with rare diseases



During the audience, the Pope started his speech, but ultimately did not finish it, as he was interrupted by a child who approached him. The Pontiff then told him to come closer and gave him a rosary, while extending the invitation to the other children present. He greeted them one by one and asked them all their names. Reaching out for the microphone again, he expressed his delight at seeing the children "reaching out their hand to take the rosary."

**Read More** 

### **Should We Be Sad during Lent?**



Our Lenten sacrifice should be imbued with the hope of the Resurrection. Are you trying to figure out what to give up for Lent? What are some good things you're holding onto that you don't need? Whatever it is, it will pale in comparison to the hope, self-mastery, and freedom that will come from giving it to Christ this Lent.

**Short Video** 

"Lent is a season of intense prayer, fasting, and concern for those in need. It offers all Christians an opportunity to prepare for Easter by serious discernment about their lives, with particular attention to the word of God which enlightens the daily journey of all who believe."

- St. John Paul II

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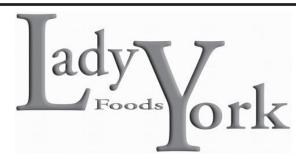
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