

St. Thomas Aquinas University Parish

Catholic Campus Ministry

DECEMBER 17, 2017

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Web: www.catholicogs.com

FB: St. Thomas Aquinas University Parish

THIRD SUNDAY

OF Advent

As the earth brings forth its plants,
and a garden makes its growth spring up,
so will the Lord God make justice and praise
spring up before all the nations.

Pastor:

Fr. Andrew Hart.....aphart@uark.edu

Associate Pastor:

Fr. Jason Sharbaugh.....jsharba@uark.edu

Deacons:

Norm DeBriyn.....

.....ndebriyn@razorbackfoundation.com

Bud Baldwin.....

.....bud.baldwin@regionsinsurance.com

Campus Ministers:

Adam Koehler.....akoehler@uark.edu

Juliane Pierinijpierini@uark.edu

Music Minister:

Marguerite Martinez....

.....musicminister@catholicogs.com

Administrative Assistant:

Nora Bryant.....nbryant@uark.edu

Faculty Advisors

Dc. Paul Cronan.....cronan@uark.edu

Dr. Theresa Cronan.....thercron@uark.edu

Newman Center Hours

Sunday—Tuesday.....8:00am—9:00pm

Friday—Saturday.....8:00am—5:00pm

Mass Schedule

12/18 Monday.....No Mass

12/19 Tuesday.....12:00pm

12/20 Wednesday.....5:30pm

12/21 Thursday.....Reconciliation.....4:30pm
Mass.....5:30pm

12/22 Friday.....Reconciliation.....11:00am
Mass.....12:00pm

12/23 Saturday.....9:00am
Reconciliation.....9:30am-10:30am

12/24 Sun—Christmas Eve
Mass.....10:00am
Mass.....6:00pm
NO 8:00pm Mass

Administrative Office Hours

Monday—Tuesday.....8:00am—5:00pm

Friday.....8:00am—12:00pm

Saturday.....Closed

Sunday.....Closed



Today's Antiphons

Entrance Antiphon: Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice. /Indeed, the Lord is near.

Communion Antiphon: Say to the faint of heart; Be strong and do not fear. /Behold, our God will come, and he will save us.

Thank you!

St. Thomas is a contributing member of Cooperative Emergency Outreach (CEO), a faith cooperative located in Fayetteville composed of volunteer workers from many local churches serving those in need in southern Washington County. CEO provides a food pantry, as well as financial assistance with utilities, gasoline, clothing, rent, and bus transportation.

As a member, St. Thomas recently invited you to share in our support of CEO. You donated 198 bags of food and supplies.

Thank you for your wonderful generosity.

Maxine LeBlanc and Michele Delsol
Food Pantry Coordinators

Get aSpire, a free monthly e-mail newsletter covering the Catholic faith, Pope Francis and the Diocese of Little Rock. Brief, casual and entertaining -- it's news you might have missed, simple inspirations and useful tips for achieving an exceptional Catholic life. Sign-up at <http://www.arkansas-catholic.org/publications/e-letter>

Our Mission Statement

We are a Christian faith community with a unique mission and commitment to the students, faculty and staff of the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville. All in the Fayetteville area are welcome in this community. We prayerfully strive to be Christ-like by providing a source of guidance, spiritual growth and awareness of our Roman Catholic identity, a challenge to service and an enthusiastic spirit of worship. We are a sacrament and proclaim God's love with the message of hope, sacrifice, reconciliation and everlasting life. We encourage each other to accept the Eucharist as the Lord's invitation and the center of our lives.



Saturday, December 23—6:00pm, 4th Advent Vigil
Sunday, December 24—10:00am and 6:00pm, Vigil
Monday, December 25—10:00am

Sunday, December 31—10:00am and 5:00pm
Sunday, December 31—no 8:00pm Mass
Monday, January 1—9:00am

Additional Reconciliation Times for Advent

Thursday, December 21st, 4:30pm—5:15pm

Friday, December 22nd, 11:00am—11:45pm

Silent Directed Retreat at St. Scholastica

On January 4-7, 2018, St. Scholastica Retreat Center will hold its 3-day Silent Directed Retreat based on the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius. Retreatants will meet with a spiritual director each day to help them discern God's invitation and offer suggestions to guide them during their silence.

Cost: \$300.00 A \$50.00 non-transferable, non-refundable deposit is required at time of registration.

To register, or get more information, call 479.783.1135 or visit www.stscho.org/retreat-registration/.

Administrative Assistant for Catholic Immigration Services

Catholic Immigration Services in Little Rock seeks a full-time administrative assistant. Requires at least two years relevant experience, fluency in English and Spanish, exceptional organization and computer abilities, and the skills to manage multiple projects and maintain confidentiality. Competitive pay with benefits including health insurance, paid time off and retirement plan. Send cover letter and resumé to Paula Lattanzi, Human Resources Specialist, Diocese of Little Rock, 2500 N. Tyler Street, Little Rock, AR 72207 or e-mail to plattanzi@dolr.org.

REJOICE

Isaiah proclaims truly good news to us! God's coming brings not sadness, guilt, fear, wrath, or condemnation. No, God's coming is a source of comfort and joy. Saying it once is not enough, for today's readings are full of joy. Mary's Magnificat substitutes for our psalm today, and our second reading encourages us to rejoice, to give thanks and praise. This is the root meaning of the Greek word for eucharist. We are urged to rejoice and give thanks, because the coming of the Lord brings joy, healing, liberty, release, vindication. It makes the very earth spring up with new life! Good tidings!

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Bread of Life

Refrain

I myself am the bread of life.

You and I are the bread of life.

Taken and blessed, broken and shared by Christ
That the world might live.

This bread is spirit, gift of the Maker's love,
and we who share it know that we can be one:
a living sign of God in Christ.

Here is God's kingdom given to us as food.
This is our body, this is our blood:
a living sign of God in Christ.

Lives broken open, stories shared aloud,
Become a banquet, a shelter for the world:
a living sign of God in Christ.

Rory Cooney

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Holy Is His Name

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord
And my spirit exalts in God my Savior
For He has looked with mercy on my lowliness
And His name will be forever exalted
For the mighty God has done great things for me
And His mercy will reach from age to age

Chorus

And holy, holy, holy is His name

He has mercy in ev'ry generation
He has revealed His power and His glory
He has cast down the mighty in their arrogance
And has lifted up the meek and the lowly
He has come to help His servant Israel
He remembers His promise to our fathers

John Michael Talbot

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PROPER UNDERTAKING

Never undertake anything for which you wouldn't have the courage to ask the blessings of heaven.
--Georg C. Lichtenberg

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The Arkansas Catholic newspaper publishes death notices for parishioners, and former parishioners of Catholic parishes in the newspaper, twice a month, at no cost.

If you wish your loved one's name to be noted in the Arkansas Catholic, please submit a copy of the obituary to St. Thomas Aquinas at ccm@uark.edu, or fax the information directly to the Diocese of Little Rock at 501-664-6572.

You may also email a link to an obituary listed on a funeral home website or local newspaper. In the subject of your email, please denote it is an obituary and the name of the deceased person. Or, Email obit submissions to: Aprille Hanson (ahanson@dolr.org).

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

Last week, we looked at a form of nativity scene called a presepio, characterized by framing the crèche of Jesus with a vast array of personalities and a rich geographical context. The tradition was carried to the New World, and finds very rich expression in Latin America today. While in Europe the presepio was reserved mostly to the homes of wealthy nobles and great churches, in Latin America it was claimed by the poor and expressed the skills of native artisans. In Mexico, you can still find clay figures in every village market. In a way, the native people took the religion of Spanish rule and baptized it with their Indian culture by surrounding the crib of Jesus with local geography and people. In Brazil, where Christmas falls in summer, the figure of the baby Jesus is wrapped in gold and gems, and set on a hillside surrounded by flowers and animals of all kinds. Sometimes there is a double presepio, presenting both Nativity and Crucifixion.

In some places in Latin America, even non-religious people take care to have a presepio in the home, sometimes dedicating one whole room in the house or apartment to the scene. Some cities have markets where people from the countryside sell plants and figurines. In Cuzco, churches and families provide hot chocolate for the children of the poor who come down to help create the nativity scenes. In Paraguay, the baby Jesus grows--the small infant who arrives on Christmas Eve is replaced at New Year with a toddler Jesus who holds in one hand the globe and in the other a cross. Few Christmas traditions have the vitality and variety of presepios and crèches honoring the Nativity.

--Rev. James Field, Copyright (c) J. S. Paluch Co.