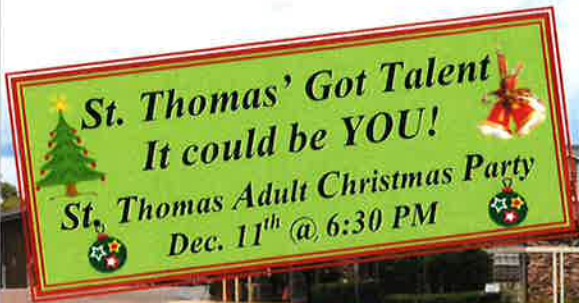


December 8, 2019 Second Sunday of Advent



St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Church
3117 W. 4th, Hattiesburg, MS 39401

Pastor: Fr. Mark Ropel 601-264-5192
ropesolt@yahoo.com
Associate Pastor: Fr. David Milton
601-264-5192
Deacon: Ralph Torrelli 601-310-0104
ralphint@aol.com
Deacon: Sean Fink 601-467-2433
sfink@biloxidiocese.org

Parish Administrator: Kim McCloskey
admin@stthomas-usm.org 601-264-5192
Parish Secretary: Cathy Englert
church@stthomas-usm.org 601-264-5192
Campus Minister: Martha Abadie
601-310-9320 usmcatholic@gmail.com
CCD Director: Renee Lichtenhan
601-329-6075 SaintThomasCCD@gmail.com
CYO: Mary Lou Sheffer: 817-372-4022
Prayer Line: Kathy Schimel: 601-270-4741
kathyschimel@gmail.com

St. Vincent de Paul : 114 Broadway Drive
Tues 9 – 11 & Wed from 9:30 – 11:30 AM

Webpage: Mary Englert
stac.usm.web@gmail.com

Facebook: Shar Drennan
shar.drennan@comcast.net

Bulletin Ads: Hilary Englert
601-818-5484 hilarysattic@hahoo.com

Altar Server Coordinators: Malia Lewis
850-363-3894

Baptism Class: Candee Goff 601-467-0914
Call to register. Next class is Jan. 13th at 6:30 PM.
Ultreya: 2nd Wed. of each month @ 6:45 PM.



Office Hours: Mon, Tues, Thurs 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM
Wednesday 10:00 AM – 6:00 PM
Friday 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM
Phone 601-264-5192 ~ Fax 601-264-0834
Emergency 601-467-7660 ~ Student Center 601-450-2520
St. Thomas on the Internet: www.stthomas-usm.org
Website email: stac.usm.web@gmail.com
Church email: church@stthomas-usm.org
Bulletin email: StThomasBulletin@gmail.com
St. Thomas Official Facebook Page:
www.facebook.com/pages/saint-Thomas-Aquinas-Catholic-Church/184997814860690

Mass Schedule

Confessions: Sat. 4:45 – 5:15 PM or by apt.
Vigil: Sat.–5:30 PM Sunday 8:00 & 10:15 AM & 6:00 PM
Weekday Masses:
Mon. – 5:30 PM, Tues. 8:15 AM, Wed. – 6:00 PM,
Thur. & Fri. – 8:15 AM

Sacred Heart Mass Schedule: Vigil: Sat. – 4:00 PM,
Sunday 8:00, 10:30 AM & 4:00 PM; 1:30 PM in Spanish
St. Fabian Mass Schedule: Vigil: Sat. – 5:00 PM, Sunday: 10:00 AM
Holy Rosary Mass Schedule: Sunday: 9:00 AM

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Last Week's Collection: \$9,907.30
Direct Deposit Weekly: \$2,397.50
Pickle Jar: \$46.87
St. Vincent DePaul Pharmacy: \$3,191.00

Upcoming Second Collections - 2019
Dec 8th Retired Religious Fund
Dec. 15th Building Fund
Dec. 22nd No-2nd Collection
Dec. 29th St. Vincent de Paul 5th Sunday



The Second Sunday of Advent

The Divine Child's Birth

Advent leads the Church to the Silent Night when God Himself is revealed as one of us. This season leads us to the joy of His birth. If God has joined His nature to ours, how can we ever allow our nature to be despised? If He has come to bring us Divine Life, and will return to take us to the skies, how can it be all right to throw people in the garbage? May His birth shed protection on all about to be born, and as we work to end abortion, may we "wait in joyful hope for the coming of Our Savior, Jesus Christ."

Adoration at St. Thomas

Monday Adoration ~ Hours are 2:00 – 9:00 PM. with a pause for the 5:30 Mass. For information contact Pat at 601-549-4620. Visitors are welcome. We will not have Adoration on Dec 23rd & 30th.

Our next monthly hour of **Adoration for Families** from 6:00 – 7:00 PM will be on Dec. 9th. The nursery will be available during that hour.

Every Thurs/Fri for 23 hours from 9:00 AM Thursday until 8:00 AM on Friday.

Every 1st Friday from 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM.

~~~~~  
With Adoration there must be at least one person in front of Our Lord. He can never be left alone!

That is why we sign up 3 people per hour so your prayer partners can cover you if you cannot make your hour. Please let them know!

**St. Vincent de Paul** is in need of donations. Items needed are toys, clothing, coats, bedding & household items. SVDP thanks you for your generosity to help the needy this holiday season.

**Knights of Columbus** 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Rosary is on Dec. 29<sup>th</sup> after the 10:15 Mass. Please join us as a parish family in saying the rosary.



**Our CCD Program**  
**Family Formation Sunday**  
On Dec. 15<sup>th</sup> from 11:30 AM - 1:30 PM Parents with children from Pre-K through 12<sup>th</sup> grade will gather for our parish's monthly faith formation program. The Annual Visit with Santa will also take place.  
**Please Bring Something To Share At Our Potluck Lunch.**

**MERRY CHRISTMAS**

## RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) ~

**No Class until January 27<sup>th</sup>**

### The Prayer of St. Gertrude

*Eternal Father, I offer Thee  
the Most Precious Blood of  
Thy Divine Son, Jesus, in  
union with the masses said  
throughout the world today,  
for all the holy souls in  
purgatory, for sinners  
everywhere, for sinners in the  
universal church, those in my  
own home and within my  
family. Amen.*

**Ladies Cursillo** ~ Please pray for our ladies making a Cursillo this weekend.

**Sympathy** ~ We offer our sympathy to Norma Hernandez and family on the death of Recaredo Hernandez. May he and all the faithful departed rest in peace.

**Brothers In Christ Men's Prayer Group** this Tuesday is the Last meeting until January 21<sup>st</sup>. Have a Joyful Christmas season.

## Christmas Schedule



### Reconciliation Service:

Monday, Dec. 23<sup>rd</sup> 6:15 PM

### Masses:

**Christmas Eve:** 4:00 & 6:00 PM

& 12:00 Midnight

(Carols begin at 11:00 PM)



**Christmas Day:** 8:00 & 10:15 AM

**Holy Day – Solemnity of Mary**

**the Mother of God**



**December 31<sup>st</sup>:** 11:30 PM

**January 1<sup>st</sup>:** 9:00 AM & 12:00 noon

## Mass Intentions

M-Dec 9 Jax & Bianca – Sp Int  
T-Dec 10 Steven Waguestack – RIP  
W-Dec 11 Jax Fernandez – In Thanks  
T-Dec 12 Deacon Henry & Audrey Cassou – RIP  
F-Dec 13 Tito Rick – RIP  
S-Dec 14 Deacon Alex Seruntin – RIP  
S-Dec 15 8:00 Paul Curtis – RIP  
10:15 Parish  
6:00 Kenneth Dixon – RIP

## Readings for Dec 9<sup>th</sup> – Dec 15<sup>th</sup>

M GN 3:9-15, 20 EPH 1:3-6, 11-12  
LK 1:26-38  
T IS 40:1-11 MT 18:12-14  
W IS 40:25-318 MT 11:28-30  
T ZEC 2:14-17 LK 1:26-38  
F IS 48:17-19 MT 11:16-19  
S SIR 48:1-4, 9-11 MT 17:9A, 10-13  
S IS 35:1-6A, 10 JAS 5:7-10  
MT 11:2-11

## Poland Pilgrimage

Go on a **Pilgrimage to Poland** hosted by Father Adam Urbaniak & Fr. Mark Ropel.

**June 22, 2020 – July 2, 2020**

~ You will visit: ~

**Warsaw** (Royal Castle of Polish Kings & Monastery St. Maximilian Kolbe).

**Gdansk** (WWII Invasion Site & Solidarity Movement).

**Czestochowa** (Black Madonna & Spiritual Capitol of Poland)

**Krakow** (Divine Mercy Shrine, Salt Mines, Auschwitz & Hometown of Pope John Paul II),

For more information, contact:

Fr. Adam Urbaniak 228-762-1653 or  
Fr. Mark Ropel 601-264-5192

## Alter Servers Needed ~ If you

have a child in the 4<sup>th</sup> grade and up, through high school, they can serve on the altar. Altar servers are an important part of the mass and a great help to the Celebrant. We have scheduled **training on Sat., December 14<sup>th</sup> at 12:30.** If you plan to attend, please call **Malia Lewis at 850-363-3894** or **Kathy Schimel at 601-270-4741**, so we know how much pizza to order.

## LOOKING AHEAD

Dec. 11<sup>th</sup> Parish Adult Christmas Party  
Dec. 14<sup>th</sup> 12:30 Altar Server training  
Dec 15<sup>th</sup> 11:30 – 1:30 Family Formation  
& Visit with Santa  
Dec. 17<sup>th</sup> Last Chance for Directory Pictures  
Dec. 19<sup>th</sup> 9:00 Decorate the church  
Dec. 23<sup>rd</sup> 6:15 Advent Penance Service  
Jan. 8<sup>th</sup> 7:00 PM Going away for Fr. David

The Irish Italian Festival will be on March 21, 2020. Sign up posters will be available soon for each family to sign up for at least 2 hours to help make the festival a success. Watch the bulletin for details.

## Our Adult Christmas Party

will be held on **December 11<sup>th</sup>**, following the 6:00 PM Mass. Since there is so much talent in our church, you could be the entertainment for the evening. We are planning a talent show, and would like your participation. If you would like to sing, dance, or whatever your talent may be, please call Kathy Schimel at 601-270-4741 to sign up, or ask any questions. This will be a fun evening.



ONE LAST CHANCE to be included in our new Directory. Make Up Day is scheduled for **Tues., Dec. 17<sup>th</sup>, 2:00 - 8:00 PM**. Don't be left out of our Directory! You can schedule your appointment on line.  
<https://booknow-lifetouch.appointment-plus.com/b0emjeeq/>  
or call Kathy Schimel at 601-270-4741. All participants receive a Free Directory & Complimentary 8X10 Portrait from **Lifetouch**.

New to Our Parish ~ We welcome Renee Brett ~ Mary Jensen and sons Nikalas & William ~ Mary Eileen Legg. To register simply fill out the cream colored Parish "Census Data Form" located at the back of church.

## *Annual Adult Christmas Dinner/Party on Dec 11<sup>th</sup>*

*If you plan to attend our Christmas dinner please sign up at the entrances of the church. The dinner is Pot-Luck. The church is providing the meats & potatoes. Please bring casseroles, salads or desert. We need to know how many too prepare for.*

## In Our Library

We now have on display in our Mini and Main Libraries books, CDs, programs, and movies to help adults and children celebrate Advent and Christmas. For information contact Pat at 601-549-4620.

Carenotes ~ While the Christmas season brings joy and happy times for most of us, some people may be grieving those they have lost, suffering from illness, dealing with stress from the holidays, or the loss of a job. We have provided free pamphlets addressing some of these issues believing that they might bring comfort and hope. The pamphlets can be found in the church foyer.

Year End Giving ~ As the end of 2019 draws to a close we have had questions about "charitable giving". Many people enjoy using Christmas and year's end as a special time to give to their Church. Celebrate this Holy Season by giving in the true spirit of the season and make that special gift to St. Thomas and/or the St. Thomas Building Fund! Don't forget donations dated before Dec. 31<sup>st</sup> are tax deductible for the year!

## Next Week

### LECTORS & COMMENTATOR

Dec. 14<sup>th</sup> ~ 5:30 John Perry  
Dec. 15<sup>th</sup> ~ 8:00 Jeff Hammond  
10:15 Teresa Odom

### EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

#### SATURDAY 5:30 P.M.

December 7 Martha Abadie  
14 Camille Soulier  
21 Bob McCarthy  
28 Karen Kern  
\*\* Cindy Thames  
\*\* John Lee  
Alt: Noel Anne Bennett


#### SUNDAY 8:00 A.M.

December 1 Michele Myers  
8 Kathy Schimel  
15 Reggie Blackledge  
22 Vann Jones  
29 Chris Brown  
\*\* Robbin Jones  
Alt: Betty King

#### SUNDAY 10:15 A.M.

December 1 Valerie Acocella  
\*\*\* Joe Lichtenhan  
\*\* Sara OR Gary Gretzinger  
\*\* Blanca Meek  
\*\* Ronnie Parker  
\*\* Joan Trago  
\*\* Justin OR Trisha Westervelt  
\*\* Felix Diaz  
\*\* Ame Diaz  
\*\* Britney Diaz  
Alt: Pam Bigelow

## Business Sponsor Spotlight

 Dr. Greg Hairston and family are proud parishioners of St. Thomas. He and his wife, Allison, have two wonderful children, Caroline and John Paul. Dr. Hairston is experienced in treating complicated spine conditions with life changing results. He also does second opinion evaluations for patients who have been recommended spine surgery. Dr. Hairston is an expert in treating the spine using non-invasive treatment. No referral is needed - 268-8805.

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