



Mission Statement:

Saint Thomas Aquinas Catholic Community, through our cultural diversity, united in our expressions of faith, lives the Gospel message in our neighborhood through worship, education, service, and advocacy.



**St Thomas Aquinas
Catholic Community**

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER – May 10, 2025



Celebration of the Eucharist

Saturday Vigil Mass:

4:00PM (English)

6:00PM (Spanish)

Sunday:

8:00AM (Vietnamese)

10:00AM (English)

12:00PM (Indonesian)

5:00 PM Spanish

Holidays: 8:30AM (Church)

Weekdays: 8:30AM (Chapel)

St. Thomas Aquinas Parish

"Parking lot is Available"

**1719 Morris Street,
Philadelphia, PA 19145**

www.staquinas.com

staquinasparish@gmail.com

Rectory : 215 334-2312

Google phone Number : 267-388-1281

Fax: 215-755-9369

School: 215-334-0878

Aquinas Center: 215-334-2312

**MASS INTENTIONS FOR
FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
May 10, 2025**

Saturday May 10

4:00 PM In memory of Angel & Maximina Garcia by their family

Sunday May 11

Fourth Sunday of Easter

First Communions

8:00 AM Vietnamese Mass

10:00 AM Luigi Di Matteo by his wife & Sons

12:00 PM Indonesian Mass

5:00 PM Spanish Mass

Monday May 12

8:30 AM People of the Parish

Tuesday May 13

Our Lady of Fatima

8:30 AM For migrants and their advocates and caregivers

Wednesday May 14

8:30 AM People of the Parish

Thursday May 15

8:30 AM In thanksgiving to our Lady of the Rosary by Matilde Estrellado

Friday May 16

8:30 AM People of the Parish

Saturday May 17

8:30 AM John Anthony Manrique by Mr. & Mrs. Enrico Porchia

Saturday May 17

4:00 PM Canuto & Ceferina Caguaiat by Carolina Minoza and family

Sunday May 18

5th Sunday of Easter

8:00 AM Vietnamese Mass

10:00 AM CBC Mass of St. Thomas Aquinas Parish

12:00 PM Indonesian Mass

5:00 PM Spanish Mass

Services Available For Our Parishioners

Mass Intentions: If you wish to schedule a Mass for your loved ones, please contact our rectory, and we will try to accommodate your request in the best possible way.

Yearly Memorial Candle: Remember your beloved deceased by keeping a memorial candle lit for them all year.

Sanctuary Memorial Fund: Donations are assigned a week and posted in the weekly bulletin. Families will receive a memorial card with the week and donation received. Forms can be picked up at the Rectory.

Prayer request for the sick: If you would like us to include the name of your intention in the bulletin for prayer, please contact the rectory.

Leaving a Legacy: Please remember St. Thomas Aquinas Church, 1719 Morris St. (our legal title) in your will. Your legacy will help support our mission and allow

**Please Remember In Your Prayers
Those Who Are Sick**

Sr. Ellen Convey, Ivonne Gaskins, Sybil William Giovanna Ventura -Leon De Fulgentis - Deborah Brady, Joseph Hanlon, Henry McCallister, April DeMatto, Mike Tatersley, Dolores Smith, Linda Nowlin, Daria Ward, Lacey Terreri, Karen Scott Precise -Diane Barsuglia- Shondell Ayala-Copeland, Timothy Joseph McCloskey, Timothy Michael McCloskey, Isaac Davis, Maria Figueroa, Daniel Lorenzo Fernandez, Dwight Alexander - Phillis Alexander, Theresa Giosa, Concetta Parker, Ulises Lopes, Ana Colon, -Theresa Giosa, Stephan Todd-Ryan, Catherine Todd, Gwen Munson, April DeMatto, Adeline Ostobile, John Daniel, Virginia Tinkler- Moore, Robert Salvadore, Margaret Coleman, Ada Roebuck, Lilian Offord, David Anderson, Helen Zungolo, Bryan DeSanto.

PRAYER TO ST. MICHAEL

St. Michael the Archangel,
defend us in battle.

Be our defense against the wickedness and snares of the Devil.

May God rebuke him, we humbly pray, and do thou,
O Prince of the heavenly hosts, by the power of God,
thrust into hell Satan,
and all the evil spirits,
who prowl about the world
seeking the ruin of souls.

FROM THE PASTOR

As you listened to today's first reading, you may be emotionally uplifted. In addition, you may have felt challenged.

Paul and Barnabas have been traveling in the area north of Israel when they arrive at the city of Antioch. To all willing to listen they explain the wondrous news of the life and Resurrection of Jesus. On the Sabbath almost the entire city gathers to hear them speak about the Lord. The Jewish residents of the city, however, are filled with jealousy and violently contradict what Paul has to say. Paul tells them that the word of God came first to the Jews, but since they rejected it, "we now turn to the Gentiles. For the Lord commanded us: I have made you a light to the Gentiles, that you may be an instrument of salvation."

Jumping ahead to today there are Paul's words to each of us gathered here. We have been chosen to manifest the marvelous re-ordering of human thought and understanding expressed in the teaching of Jesus. Now let us admit it: it is nice to be chosen! Think back to a variety of occasions when you experienced the delight of being chosen. Maybe it is at work when you were offered a surprise promotion. Perhaps there was a time in your life when some award or recognition came your way. And of course, many of you here have been chosen as life partners in marriage. Certainly, we can remember the joy and satisfaction of being chosen.

However, now consider the second part of Paul's message which is that we are to be "a light to the Gentiles... an instrument of salvation" for others. Today's Gentiles are all those individuals with whom we come in contact—our families, friends, and workmates, the members of this parish, and even those who comprise our community and nation. We are challenged to shine forth the transforming and healing light of the resurrected Jesus!

Consider for a moment the metaphor we hear in today's Gospel. Jesus uses an example which his listeners would have easily understood. He explains, "My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me, and I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish. "Going beyond the words to the intent of Jesus, we, the sheep, are both delighted and challenged. When it comes to this challenge, just how are we doing? Is our discipleship so visible that others recognize us as the sheep of Jesus? Is our commitment so obvious that there is no doubt that we are instruments of salvation to others? We need to be both practical and specific in assessing our responses to these questions. To help us to do so, we can look at a few areas of our discipleship:

Do we value each person that we meet? Do we pause to genuinely listen to them, meeting them with loving attention? Are we agents of God's healing by refusing to enter

into gossip about others? Do we stand up against gossip suggesting that there may be unknown reasons for why others act as they do? How easily do we forgive others when they hurt us with the judgements and criticism? Do we refuse to hold grudges knowing that at times we also do not respond to others as we should? Are we clear supporters of the message of Jesus about nonviolence and peace? We speak against those policies of war or violence which bring so much harm to God's family. Do we voice our preference for alternative ways to solve international problems and conflicts?

These are just a few ideas to help us evaluate our acceptance of the challenge found in today's readings. Yes, we have been chosen to be "instruments of salvation to the ends of the earth." Let us pray for each other that we can increase and deepen our response to the challenge that God has given us.

May God bless you all
Fr. Dominic
Your brother in Christ

Parish Organizations

- *Blessed Virgin Mary Sodality : First Sunday of the Month (10:00 Am Mass.)*
- *Concerned Black Catholics: Third Sunday of the Month (10:00 AM Mass). Please call Daria Ward regarding the new breakfast service after their 10 AM monthly Mass.*

PASTORAL STAFF

Rev. Dominic Tran Minh Duc
Pastor

Rev. Wilmer Chirino-Gonzalez
Parochial Vicar

Rev. Markus Hermawan
Indonesian Ministry

Deacon Cristobal Chavac
Hispanic Ministry

Ms. Karina Fernandez
Parish Business Manager

Ms. Joanne Gledhill
Director of Religious Ed.

Mrs. Ruth Maldonado
Parish Secretary

SACRAMENTS

Baptism

Contact the Rectory for arrangements

Marriage

Arrangements must be made at least six months prior to the intended wedding date.

Confessions

Before every Mass or call the rectory for an appointment.

OCIA "Order of Christian Initiation of Adults"

Anyone interested in becoming Catholic is invited to participate in this process. Contact the rectory for details.

Parish Registration

New residents of our neighborhood are invited to join the parish by calling the rectory. Those that are moving out of the parish are asked to please inform the parish secretary.

**Congratulations to all the children of
St. Thomas Aquinas
who received their First
Holy Communion!**



May God bless each of you
and fill your hearts with the
light of His joy on this
special day.

**What is happening during spring time at
St. Thomas Aquinas Parish**

- **Asian Health Promoter Community Health Care Clinic May 17 / 2025 from 10 am - 1:00 pm St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Church 1719 Morris St Philadelphia, PA 19145**
Services : Penn Oncology Cancer Screening, Height, Weight, BMI Pulse oximetry & Blood pressure, Physical therapy & occupational therapy, Glasses Glucose & Cholesterol,
- Dental Screening and Supplies
- Prenatal Care, baby cribs, Vitamins and Narcan Distribution Residents on Site AND MORE!!!
More information at 215.334.2312
- **Join us in making our neighborhood safer! Please.** Attend a Town Hall meeting with a police representative from the **17th District of South Philadelphia on May 21 at 6 PM held at the Aquinas Center. Everyone is welcome!!**
- ***The month of May is dedicated to The Blessed Virgin Mary. Please join us to celebrate the month of our blessed Virgin Mary every weekend after each Mass in the Rosary Garden of the St. Thomas Aquinas Church.***
- ***May Our Lady intercede for us and bring us closer to Christ, her Son. Amen.***

Volunteers Needed! St Thomas Aquinas Parish has a beautiful garden space that can grow food for the community! If you would like to take care of Creation and Feed the Hungry, please call the rectory at 215-334-2312.

HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY !

Congratulations to all mothers, Grandmothers, stepmothers, and guardians...for nurturing their children with faith, love, and wisdom. We also give thanks and offer prayers for those beloved mothers who now rest in God. May God bless each of you with abundant love, good health, patience, and serenity, so you may continue to be a guiding light and a true example of faith for your sons, daughters granddaughters, grandsons, and loved ones!



St. Thomas Aquinas School : Enrollment* on - going PK to Grade 8. The earlier you register, the better changes of getting more scholarships. New families get a \$ 1000 credit .Learn more at imstomas.org/school-for-you /1631 S.18th St.,Philadelphia PA 19145 (215-334-0878)

Thank You, Tutors of St. Thomas of Villanova!

Last Saturday , we held an integration and refreshments gathering for tutors and children at the Aquinas Center. We would like to sincerely thank the tutors and coordinators for generously giving their time, expertise, and knowledge to support our After School Program at St. Thomas Aquinas. Your help is truly appreciated!

Interested in becoming a U.S. Citizen?

If you have had your Green Card for at least 3 years and speak English, you are eligible for an interview with Sr. Fran. She will return your call! Please contact the rectory for more information at 215.334.2312

- ***To view the bulletin, visit Saint Thomas Aquinas Catholic Community church. <https://www.church-bulletin.org/?i> /1719 Morris Street - Philadelphia, PA 19145/(215) 334-2312. If you would like to place your ad in this church bulletin, please contact us toll free at (800) 333-3166.***
- ***Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation Saturdays and Sundays before every Mass.***

CUARTO DOMINGO DE PASCUA MAYO 10, 2025

Reflexión del Cuarto Domingo de Pascua. “Mis ovejas escuchan mi voz, y yo las conozco”

Este IV domingo de Pascua, denominado tradicionalmente domingo del "Buen Pastor".

Cristo es el verdadero buen Pastor que dio su vida por las ovejas (por nosotros), inmolándose en la cruz. Conoce a sus ovejas y sus ovejas lo conocen a él, como el Padre lo conoce y él conoce al Padre (cf. Jn 10, 14-15). No se trata de puro conocimiento intelectual, sino de una relación personal profunda, es decir; un conocimiento del corazón, propio de quien ama y de quien es amado; de quien es fiel y de quien sabe que, a su vez, puede fiarse; un conocimiento de amor.

La voz de Jesús es única. Si aprendemos a distinguirla, Él nos guía por el camino de la vida, un camino que supera también el abismo de la muerte. Esto es un misterio profundo, que no es fácil de comprender: si nosotros nos sentimos atraído a Jesús, si su voz tranquiliza nuestros corazones, es gracias a Dios Padre, que ha puesto dentro de nosotros el deseo del amor, de la verdad, de la vida, de la belleza

Que María, nuestra Madre, nos ayude a reconocer cada vez mejor la voz de Jesús y a seguirla, para caminar por el camino de la vida. Amén.

Feliz día de las Madres Mensaje a todas las Madres de la Comunidad de Santo Tomas de Aquino y del mundo.

Este es un gran día en el que contemplamos un misterio, el de una mujer frágil, pequeña y pobre, que eres tú, que es toda mujer a la que se le ha dado el participar como protagonista en la obra de la creación.

Que María Santísima, la Madre del Amor Hermoso, la Madre purísima, te acompañe siempre en esta santa misión de ser madre y te alcance del fruto de sus entrañas, de su Hijo amadísimo Jesús, la gracia de seguir siendo, hasta el día de tu muerte portadora de amor y de vida. Amén.

Primeras Comuniones

¡Felicidades a todos los niños de Santo Tomás de Aquino en este día tan especial!

Que Dios bendiga a cada uno de ustedes y llene sus corazones con la luz de Jesús, Su amor y la alegría de Su vida.

Santa Misa en español :

Todos los Domingos 5PM . Todos son bienvenidos



.Actividades en la Iglesia de Santo Tomas de Aquino durante la primavera

- **¡Se necesitan voluntarios!** ¡La Parroquia de Santo Tomás de Aquino tiene un hermoso espacio de jardín que puede cultivar alimentos para la comunidad! Si desea cuidar de la Creación y alimentar a los más necesitados, por favor llame a la rectoría en 215-334-2312.
- **Clinica de la Salud; Mayo 17 de 10am a 1pm en el Lower hall .**
- **Charlas con la policia Distrito 17 de Filadelfia Mayo 21 en el Aquinas Center.**
- **Registraciones :** Necesita cartas de inmigracion o cartas de permiso para bautizos y confirmaciones ? pregunta en la rectoria por una forma para registraste como parroquiano . Es necesario que estes registrado para poder acceder a ester servicio. Gracias

SJU SAINT JOSEPH'S UNIVERSITY

EL PROGRAMA DE PROMOTORES DE SALUD ESTARAN DE NUEVO EN SANTO TOMAS DE AQUINAS
Sábado-17 de Mayo / 2025

10 :00 am a 1:00 pm Lower Hall

Santo Tomás de Aquino 1719 Morris St.
1631 S. 18th 19145 Philadelphia PA
Los servicios ofrecidos incluyen:Universidad
Para más informacion favor llamar al
215 334 2312. Todos son Bienvenidos
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