

An Act of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that Thou art present in the Blessed Sacrament. I love Thee above all things and I desire Thee in my soul. Since I cannot now receive Thee sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. As though Thou wert already there, I embrace Thee and unite myself wholly to Thee; permit not that I should ever be separated from Thee. Amen.

- St. Alphonsus Liguori



St. Thomas Aquinas Roman Catholic Church

❖ "THE THINGS THAT WE LOVE TELL US WHAT WE ARE" ~ ST. THOMAS AQUINAS ❖

Mass Schedule - Live Stream

Join us on [Facebook](#) by following our page, or visit our website and watch the feed on the main page.

Weekday: 9:00 a.m.

Sunday: 9:30 a.m.

All Masses will be offered privately. Be assured that all currently scheduled intentions will be offered by our priests even if they are not all livestreamed.

Church Prayer

Monday – Saturday: 1:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Sunday: 11:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Confessions

Wednesday: 6:00 p.m.

Saturday: 4:00 p.m.

All confessions will be held outside the parish center. Please note that inclement weather may occur in the coming weeks, so have appropriate weather gear when waiting in the courtyard. The line will form on the sidewalk. Also, please maintain the appropriate 6 feet distance between you and other penitents as well as the priests.

Eucharistic Adoration will be held during Confession times so that you may offer up your penance in the presence of Our Lord. We ask that you make your penance inside your vehicle. The monstrance will be placed in front of the window of the Parish Center facing the parking lot.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Due to the nature of the pandemic, the office will be closed for the time being. The best way to reach the pastor and staff is by email:

For Father Matthew Codd: pastor@stacharlotte.com

For Father Matthew Bean: mpbean@charlottediocese.org

For sacramental needs and documents: Marie Aymar Watkinson - maymar@stacharlotte.com

For general inquiries, scheduling and Mass intentions: Valerie Gebhardt - vgebhardt@stacharlotte.com

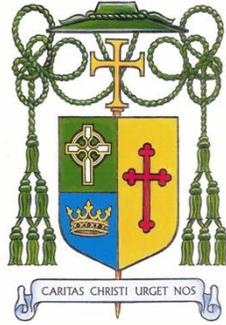
For financial questions: Gina Schafer – gschafer@stacharlotte.com

For general parish functions and operations: Tim Flynn – tflynn@stacharlotte.com

For online, newsletter, and Facebook communications & inquiries: Monica Bailey - volunteers@stacharlotte.com

For emergencies, call the parish office at (704) 549-1607 and follow the prompt to be directed to the emergency line.

1400 SUTHER ROAD, CHARLOTTE, NC 28213



OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

March 16, 2020

Dear Faithful of the Diocese of Charlotte,

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

In the past few days and weeks people from around the world and now our own communities are learning about viruses and community health. Like so many other groups and organizations that regularly meet and congregate, churches have been asked to meet the challenges set before us. Rest assured that your local priests and I are working hard to make responsible decisions about meeting the pastoral and spiritual needs of the faithful while exercising prudence. That you might better understand, I would like to share with you the thoughts guiding our decision-making process with respect to the Covid-19 virus provisions in place for the next few weeks.

As pastors it is our primary role to provide for the spiritual and pastoral needs of the faithful. Additionally, as members of the community we are committed to participate in the larger community response. These concerns have guided my decision to dispense from the obligation to attend Sunday Mass as well as canceling or curtailing all other liturgical events and gatherings according to CDC and state government guidelines while allowing local priests to provide for the needs of their parishioners within these parameters.

We understand these and similar measures to be temporary and are in no way a minimizing of the importance of sacraments in the lives of the faithful. It is both reasonable and responsible to comply with these temporary CDC guidelines. Because these temporary spiritual sacrifices are for the health and well-being of the physically weak and vulnerable, it is also a response to our Lord's command to love our neighbor. Without a community response our vulnerable family, friends and neighbors would be severely impacted. Therefore, as a diocese we will continue to follow the CDC guidelines. Please consult with your local parish as to how their schedule and operations have been affected.

In addition to making spiritual sacrifices, even in challenging situations like these there are spiritual opportunities. I recommend we take this opportunity to greater sympathize with those throughout the world who do not have regular access to the full sacramental life of the Church. We can create more space at home and in our daily lives for prayer and family devotion. We can reflect upon the things that truly matter and gain a greater sense of perspective and the true meaning of life. We can look beyond ourselves and ask how we can help others. We can reflect upon the interrelatedness of our lives with the larger community. We can focus our gaze on Christ, the one who brings true healing. In short, our experience throughout history and as reflected time and again in sacred scripture, God offers his people profound lessons in the most challenging of circumstances.

You and your family remain in my prayers. As Easter draws near, I look forward to celebrating the hope Christ brings with hearts renewed.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

+ 

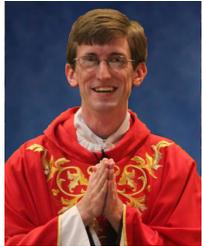
Most Reverend Peter J. Jugis
Bishop of Charlotte

Welcome to St. Thomas Aquinas Roman Catholic Church

PRIESTS

CAMPUS MINISTRY

FROM OUR PASTOR...



My dear parishioners,

As it is our goal to help keep people safe and healthy, we are committed to minimizing the financial impact on the parish. In addition, the well-being of our dedicated staff during this difficult time is a top priority as a responsible employer and, most importantly, as faithful followers of the Gospel. As such, measures are being taken to pay staff who are unable to work during this difficult time, while also continuing to meet all other financial obligations.

With this in mind, I ask that you continue your financial support of St. Thomas Aquinas parish if you are not adversely impacted by this crisis. I encourage you to mail your weekly offertory gift to the parish office at 1400 Suther Road, Charlotte NC 28213 or by online giving. You may access the parish's online giving platform here: <https://www.osvonlinegiving.com/1828>.

Be assured of my daily prayers for your well-being and for the world.

In Christ,

Rev. Matthew Codel

Fr. Matthew



TODAY'S READINGS: MARCH 22

First Reading — As the prophet Samuel anointed David with oil, the spirit of the LORD rushed upon David (1 Samuel 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a).

Psalm — The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want (Psalm 23).

Second Reading — You who were once darkness are now light in the Lord (Ephesians 5:8-14).

Gospel — The man who had been blind from birth proclaimed: The one called Jesus made clay with his saliva, anointed my eyes with it, and told me to wash (John 9:1-41 [1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38]).

The English translation of the Psalm Responses from Lectionary for Mass (c) 1969, 1981, 1997, International Com English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights

READINGS FOR THE WEEK: MARCH 23 - 29

Monday: Is 65:17-21; Ps 30:2, 4-6, 11-13b; Jn 4:43-54

Tuesday: Ez 47:1-9, 12; Ps 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9; Jn 5:1-16

Wednesday: Is 7:10-14, 8:10; Ps 40:7-11; Heb 10:4-10; Lk 1:26-38

Thursday: Ex 32:7-14; Ps 106:19-23; Jn 5:31-47

Friday: Wis 2:1a, 12-22; Ps 34:17-21, 23; Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30

Saturday: Jer 11:18-20; Ps 7:2-3, 9bc-12; Jn 7:40-53

Sunday: Ez 37:12-14; Ps 130:1-8; Rom 8:8-11;

Jn 11:1-45 [3-7, 17, 20-27, 33b-45]

SAINTS & SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: Fourth Sunday of Lent

Monday: St. Turibius of Mogrovejo

Tuesday: World Day for Truth Concerning Human Rights Violations

Wednesday: The Annunciation of the Lord

Friday: Abstinence

The needs of the poor will still need to be met during this difficult time.

Consider dropping off a

non-perishable item in our Share

Sunday bin in the Narthex the next

time you come by the church for private prayer.



FRATERNITY OF ST. JOSEPH MEN'S GROUP



The Fraternity of St. Joseph Men's Group, our STA- FSJ Journeymen, would like to encourage our STA family to join together with them, with a contrite heart, in vital prayer each day at 3 o'clock.

As our physical realm is separating us like never before, let's join together in our spiritual realm in a like manner. Let us pray 1 Our Father, 3 Hail Marys and 1 Glory Be, with the intent for our spiritual father, St. Joseph, to provide us with the security and peace of mind that only a loving father could instill in our journey forward.

A VISIT FROM JESUS

We realize a lot of you are missing Mass, and receiving Jesus in Holy Communion. We want to do all we are able to do during this difficult time. With this in mind, on Sundays, the Fathers will be bringing Jesus in the Most Blessed Sacrament, exposed in the monstrance, to you!

If you are interested in having Jesus visit, please email us your name, street address, and parishioner id number to church@stacharlotte.com, and we will add your area to the route! **Note: Unfortunately, though the Fathers wish they could, we cannot bring you Holy Communion. But we can bring Jesus in the Most Blessed Sacrament! At this time, we can really only go to our parishioners, so if you are not a parishioner in our parish boundaries, please encourage your parish to do something similar.**

A real-time map will go active on Sunday at www.stacharlotte.com/visitfromjesus that will allow you to follow along to see how close Jesus is to you. If you are able to come out of your garage or front door, we will hopefully be able to stop, and Father can bless you with Jesus in the monstrance from the car! Please do not come to the road when we stop. Father will bless you from the car by the road, and you and your family can remain outside the garage or in the front porch area.

Please email us no later than Saturday at 12 Noon in order for us to have enough time to plan the route, and set everything up. Father will be departing St. Thomas on Sunday at 10:30 a.m. Can't wait to see you!

SNACK COLLECTION

As part of your Lenten sacrifice, please prayerfully consider supporting our Columbiettes Auxiliary in supplying snacks for the Levine & Dickson Hospice House in Huntersville.



Requested items are granola/protein/cereal bars, potato chips, 100 calorie packs, Ritz Bitz, Goldfish, CheezIts, pretzels, Chex Mix, cookie packs, fruit snacks, snack size packs of peanuts, Lance crackers (particularly peanut butter), snack-sized apple sauce/fruit cups, fun-sized candy bars, mini muffins, and juice boxes. The Hospice House will not accept gum, hard candy, microwaveable popcorn or frozen meals. Collection boxes will be in the narthex from March 21 through March 29. Thank you very much for your generosity and have a fruitful Lent!

WEEKEND MOUNTAIN RETREAT: UNPACKING HOLY MASS



Come and delve into the richness of the Sacred Liturgy in this informative and enjoyable retreat, offered by parishioner Michael Coyle, who holds a theology degree from Franciscan University of Steubenville, and has been enthusiastically teaching religious education for nearly 40 years.

The 5 p.m. Friday through 11:30 a.m. Sunday retreat will be held on September 25-27, at Living Waters Catholic Reflection Center in Maggie Valley, NC. The cost is \$200 per person, which includes two nights lodging and five delicious meals, as well as the Saturday Vigil Mass. Register with a \$25 paid deposit by August 28 at <http://www.catholicretreat.org>.

DIOCESAN SUPPORT APPEAL 2020

On behalf of those who benefit from the Diocesan Support Appeal, thank you for your generosity. Remember, "Our Faith In Action" - putting our faith into action to support the diocesan ministries that serve those in need, bring the light of Christ to those in the dark, and encourage vocations.

Please complete a pledge envelope and place in regular offertory basket, return it to the Parish Office, or scan the QR code.



PARISH GOAL:
\$112,550.00

PLEDGE
BALANCE:
\$53,337.80

PAID TO DATE:
\$37,433.16

OF DONATING
HOUSEHOLDS:
256



FREE OR DISCOUNT CATHOLIC RESOURCES AND WEBSITE FOR AT-HOME DEVOTIONS

Magnificat: <https://us.magnificat.net/free>

EWTN: <https://www.ewtn.com/tv/watch-live>

Stations of the Cross: [St. Alphonsus Liguori](#)

DAILY MASS STREAMING

LIVEMASS.NET

[EWTN](#)

[St. Mark Catholic Church](#)

[St. Matthew Catholic Church](#)

[St. Thomas Aquinas Church](#)

[Ss. Trinita dei Pellegrini \(Rome—Extraordinary Form\)](#)

PRIEST MASSES & REFLECTIONS

[Fr. Noah Carter](#)

[Fr. Joshua Voitus](#)

[Fr. Paul Buchanan](#)

PRAYERS FOR OUR TROOPS

“Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you preserve my life; you stretch out your hand against the anger of my foes, with your right hand you save me.” – Ps. 138: 7
Please pray for those serving in our military.

- | | |
|--|-----------------------------------|
| Lt. James Brian Barker, 101st Airborne Division, US Army | PFC Alex Jerome |
| Major Brian J. Burke | Lt. Thurman Chad Howell – US Navy |
| Sr. Airman Charles Broadway, US Air Force | PFC Ryan Cameron Keistler, USMC |
| Sr. A C Meghan Cabaniss, US Air Force | E-3 Jason Kline |
| Col. Patrick Frank | LCDR Matthew Keidel, U. S. Navy |
| Dominic DeLaRosa – US Navy | Veronica Magallon U.S. Army |
| Jacob Flynn – USMC | SS C. Newman |
| Jamison Flynn – USAF | General John W. Nicholson |
| Jesse Flynn – U.S. Army | SSgt. Benjamin M. Pake, US ANG |
| Jonah Flynn – U.S. Army | Lt. Jeffery Platoon |
| Army Lt. Alec Forezzi | CPL Nicholas E. Rosario |
| Daniel Frazier, Charlie Troop 4-73 82nd Airborne Division, US Army | AFC Joshua Runfola |
| LCPL Mario Griffith, USMC | MSgt. Ronald Ryckman |
| RAML Gregory Harris, Navy | Sgt. Michael James Sanchez |
| Ensign Connor M. Harris | AFC Sean Scheuerman |
| Captain Jonathan Mark Harris | S.Sgt. Matthew Simono, USAF |
| US Marine Corps | A1C Christopher Robert Smith |
| Major William Joseph Hinchey USAF | SFC Christopher T. Smith |
| Tyler Hornsby, USMC | Major Jeffrey P. Sparrow, USMC |
| AFC Adam Christian Hunt, US Air Force | PFC Brandon G. Taylor, US Army |
| | 1st Sgt. Aloma Sosa –Turner |
| | Ryan Adam Stein – USAF |
| | Lt. Vincent Vu US Army |
| | AFC Alonda West |
| | PFC Medic, Patrick Wyllie |
| | Johnathan York USMC |

PRAYER REQUESTS

“I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people” – 1Tim 2:1

- | | |
|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| Mary Angebranntd | Kathryn Blackmar Miller |
| Sharon Carter | Emilio Nye |
| Kate Calhoun | Cookie Ouellet |
| Joyce Colella | Vivian Perry |
| Bill & Michelle Cloonan | Andrea Pope |
| Mary-Claire Dempsey | Ann Marie Ramjohn |
| Joe Fitzgerald | Carl Ramjohn |
| Norma Forde | Bill Schubert |
| Daniel & Margie Frascella | Merissa Sherrill |
| Christine Goldman | Al Siano |
| Jalen Gregory | Garrett Toenjes |
| Stephen Johnson | Ashley Turner |
| Johnson Family | Kathy Watkinson |
| Porter Jordan | |
| Jones Family | |
| Luke Juday | |
| Donna Kenny | |
| Michael Manz | |
| Meghan McDonough | |

*Please notify the Parish Office to have yourself or a family member placed on the Prayer List. Names will appear for **one month** and cycle through this column. If needed, we will gladly continue in one month increments as often as you request.*

MASS INTENTIONS

These intentions will be offered privately

Date	Time	Intention
Mon., Mar. 23	8:30a.m. 12:15p.m.	David Gabriel Kien Pham Family
Tues., Mar. 24	8:30a.m. 12:15p.m.	†Mya McKenzie Nguyen My Dung Nguyen
Wed., Mar. 25	12:15p.m. 7:00p.m.	Fr. Michael Carlson †Raymond Bonilla
Thurs., Mar. 26	8:30a.m. 12:15p.m.	†Robert McKenna John Nguyen – Birthday Blessings
Fri., Mar. 27	8:30a.m. 12:15p.m.	Helen Goldman Byron Bonilla – Birthday Blessings
Sat., Mar. 28	10:00a.m. 5:30p.m.	†Sang Ngo †Conrado Yoshisaki
Fifth Sunday of Lent		
Sun., Mar. 29	7:30a.m. 9:30a.m. 11:30a.m. 5:00p.m.	<i>Pro Populo</i> †George Aymar †Mya McKenzie Nguyen Peace for the World