

Parish Office: 1594 Sara Rd SE
 (in Panorama Plaza)
 Rio Rancho NM
 (505) 892-1511 Fax 891-3044
 Church & Mailing Address:
 1502 Sara Rd SE, Rio Rancho
 NM 87124-1848
 Office Hours Mon-Fri 9 a.m.- 5 p.m.
 Directory & Mass Schedules page 8
www.stanm.org

St. Thomas Aquinas Parish

December 13, 2009

Third Sunday of Advent

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We live a
 dynamic orthodoxy
 that is a spirit-filled
 faithfulness to
 Jesus Christ
 and His Gospel
 and to
 His Catholic Church
 and its teachings.



Pastor's Corner

My dear family,



This week the **Christmas Novena begins on Wednesday, November 16th**. The Novena will be prayed with Mass every morning at 9 AM, and with Benediction every night at 7:30 PM.

At every Novena service all three priests will be present to hear confessions. Also, every evening there will be a fourth visiting priest for those of you who like to confess to a "strange" priest :-) !

Friends: **THIS IS YOUR OPPORTUNITY TO MAKE YOUR CHRISTMAS CONFESSION!**

Blessed are those who come early in the Novena. Woe to those who wait until the morning of December 24th!

(continued on page 2)

On the Inside

CHRISTMAS NOVENA

DECEMBER 16 - 24

**8:30 a.m. Confessions
 (Except Sunday)**

**9:00 a.m.
 Mass and Novena**

**7:30 p.m.
 Novena
 With Benediction
 and Confessions**

**10:45 p.m. Novena
 Christmas Eve**

All priests, including a visiting priest, will hear confessions each night during the Novena. The last confessions before Christmas will be December 24th at 8:30 a.m.

WELCOME TO ST. THOMAS AQUINAS

Let us Pray for our priests in the Archdiocese
December 13th– Rev. Joachim Cullotta OP, Parochial Vicar, Aquinas Newman Center, Albuquerque.
December 14th– Rev. Joseph Gabriel Cusimano OSB, Contemplative Monk, Abbey of Christ in the Desert Abiquiu.
December 15th– Rev. John Daniel, Pastor, St. Jude Thaddeus, Alb.
December 16th– Rev. Joseph Mary Deane CFR
December 17th–Rev. Vincent G. De Fazio, Retired.
December 18th–Rev. Vincent J. Deleers O. Praem, Santa Maria de la Vid Priory.
December 19th– Rev. Samuel Dennis OSB Oliv., Our Lady of Guadalupe Abbey, Pecos.

Also remember to pray for the priests who have died.

(continued from front cover)

Try to make the Novena - or at least a few days of it. Perhaps on the other days you could pray the Novena prayer at home, perhaps together as a family.

It is so important for us to make these days before Christmas spiritual. Try to make daily Mass or a daily visit to the Blessed Sacrament. Pray the joyful mysteries of the Rosary each day before Christmas. Intercede for fallen-away Catholics, so that they might return to Confession and Communion, to the Church, to Jesus Christ. In the midst of all the holiday preparations, let the Infant God be the center of our hearts!

A blessed Advent week!

Msgr. Doug Raun

ARCHBISHOP ROBERT SANCHEZ will be celebrating his 50th Anniversary of Ordination to the priesthood on Sunday, December 20th. Those of you wishing to send him a congratulatory message may do so in c/o Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary Church, 9502 4th St. N.W., Albuquerque, NM 87114. There will be no public celebration.

A PRAYER FOR PRIESTS

O my Jesus, I beg you on behalf of the whole Church: Grant it love and the light of your Spirit and give power to the words of priests so that hardened hearts might be brought to repentance and returned to you, O Lord. Lord give us holy priests; you yourself maintain them in holiness. O Divine and Great High Priest, may the power of your mercy accompany them everywhere and protect them from the devil's traps and snares which are continually being set for the souls of priests. May the power of your mercy, O Lord shatter and bring to naught all that might tarnish the sanctity of priests, for You can do all things. I ask You for a special blessing and for light, O Jesus, for the priests before whom I will make my confessions throughout my lifetime.



HOLY INNOCENTS' DAY

A special memorial Mass for aborted, miscarried, and stillborn children will be celebrated at **6:00 p.m. on Monday, 12/28/09.** Members of families who have thus lost children are invited to participate as part of their healing processes. Often, it is helpful to name these children. A special parish book of remembrance will be available to record their names and family members' reflections, if desired.



FUNERALS
Julia Martinez

Please call our Parish Office as soon as possible in order to coordinate liturgical services.

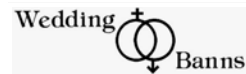
SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM



Matthew John Martin
Deymien Michael Sanchez
Timothy Michael Stewart

Every Sunday after 12:30 Mass.
Please call our Parish Office.

At St. John Vianney Mission
Every 2nd and 4th Sunday after the 8:00 a.m. Mass



1st Banns
Tiffany Beasley & Jonathan Zerangue

3rd Banns
Samantha Gardner & Ben Schaff
Please call our Parish Office four months prior to your wedding day to make arrangements and complete the paperwork.

LITURGICAL CALENDAR

December 24th Christmas Eve Vigil Masses, 4:00 p.m., 6:00 p.m., 7:30 p.m., 9:00 p.m. (10:45 p.m. Novena conclusion) 12:00 midnight Solemn Mass.
St. John Vianney Mission
5:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.
December 25th Christmas Day, 9:00 a.m. solemn Mass, 11:00 a.m., 12:30 p.m. (NO 6:00 p.m. Mass)
Saint John Vianney Mission
8:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m.
December 31st Vigil for Solemnity of Blessed Mother Mary 6:00 p.m.
Saint John Vianney - Vigil 7:00 p.m.

Next Week's Readings
December 13th - December 20th

- Sunday: Zep 3:14-18a/Phil 4:4-7/Lk 3:10-18
- Monday: Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a/Mt 21:23-27
- Tuesday: Zep 3:1-2, 9-13/Mt 21:28-32
- Wednesday: Is 45:6b-8, 18, 21b-25/Lk 7:18b-23
- Thursday: Gn 49:2, 8-10/Mt 1:1-17
- Friday: Jer 23:5-8/Mt 1:18-25
- Saturday: Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a/Lk 1:5-25
- Next Sunday: Mi 5:1-4a/Heb 10:5-10/Lk 1:39-45

ALTAR ROSARY SOCIETY

We are holding our **Annual Membership Drive during the month of December**. Membership is open to any woman parishioner who is at least 18-years-old and who practices her Catholic faith according to the teachings of the Magisterium of the Church. For a membership application or for more information, please call Saralee at 792-5516 or Lorraine at 792-0663.

The STA Altar and Rosary Society **will be selling prints of a beautiful reproduction painting done by Deacon Tom Burns of STA. The 8x10 prints of "La Madonna Nina" (aka The Madonna of the Streets)" will be sold for \$5 each at the A&RS Religious Articles Sales.** You can also call Saralee at 792-5516 to reserve your print.

HOLIDAY RAFFLE WINNERS

Congratulations to:

- Patty Dzek: 1st Prize - Taller Crystal Candlestick Set
- Lucille Tedesco: 2nd Prize - Pair of Vases
- Chris Reedy: 3rd Prize - Smaller Crystal Candlestick Set.

On behalf of Catholic Daughters of the Americas Court St. Thomas Aquinas, we wish to thank Everyone for supporting our fund raisers in 2009 for our charitable endeavors. God Bless You and Have a Blessed Christmas and New Year.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL

If you are interested in becoming a member of St. Vincent de Paul, please call the office at 892-0526

BOY SCOUT TROOP 1974 WILL BE SELLING CHRISTMAS TREES EVERY DAY FROM 5:00 P.M. TO 9:00 P.M. AND WEEKENDS FROM 9:00 A.M. TO 9:00 P.M. IN THE YARD AREA IN FRONT OF THE LIFE TEEN HOUSE. BEST PRICES IN THE AREA.

“DO YOU NEED A PLACE FOR A RECEPTION, A BIRTHDAY, OR FOR A MEETING?”

The Knights of Columbus in Rio Rancho rent out their hall for your receptions, meetings, birthday parties, and family gatherings. Please call 896-5599 or 792-0663 for more info.

Steven Woodbury 892-1511x105

Steven.Woodbury@stanm.org

ADORATION

"It is the beautiful task of Advent to awaken in all of us memories of goodness and thus to open doors of hope." - Pope Benedict XVI.

"Loving Lord, how many times have I not welcomed your Son when he came to me? Forgive me, and in your mercy make me attentive to every knock of your truth and love on the door of my heart, in what the Church teaches, in the Eucharist, and in my conscience." (taken from the Magnificat Advent Companion)

May this Advent season bring you joy and comfort, happiness, peace, and a closer walk with our Lord. Please consider this most blessed time of the year as a knock at the door of your heart to spend time with Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament. Please call the coordinators listed for more information.

We need adorers for these hours: Monday noon Friday 2:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m., Saturday 4:00 p.m.

Perpetual Adoration Contacts

- Pauline Salata: (Midnight-6 a.m.) at 892-0524
- Louie & Terry Santa Maria: (6-12 p.m.) at 896-0307
e-mail: flagshipsm12659@msn.com
- Paul & Anise Yarbrough: (Noon-6 p.m.) at 899-0981
e-mail: yarburro@msn.com
- Pat & Jolyn Murphy: (6 p.m.-12 Midnight) at 892-4931 or e-mail: jpmurphrc@msn.com

PILGRIM VIRGIN: To have the Pilgrim Virgin of Fatima in your home, and to receive Her Blessings in your life, call Gerri Hoover 892-0414

Virgin I: December 15 - 30 Ed & Mary Lou Lopez
Virgin II: December 15 - 30 Bob & Gerri Hoover

TABERNACLE FLOWERS: Please contact Betty Larson at 891-3577 or Elaine Jones at 922-9758 to reserve a week for your intentions. The weeks run from Saturday through Friday. The cost for two vases at the Tabernacle is \$50.00. You may share this cost with another person for both your intentions.

Adoration Chapel Candles: .

PERPETUAL EUCHARISTIC ADORATION TESTIMONIES

Posted in our Blessings Received Book Thank-you:

- For Family Unity & Peace**
- For giving me a room and a place to stay.**
- For blessings and protection.**
- For helping me adjust to my brothers death.**
- For another blessed day.**
- For the clean bill of health for my friend.**



BeFriender Ministry



Stressed out? Lonely? Holidays sometimes make us sad, rather than joyful. Need a companion for the Spiritual Journey? If you need someone to simply listen to you, give BeFrienders a call. We're a friend with a simple listening presence to walk with you through a difficult period. We're confidential and biblically-trained ministers commissioned by the Parish, who open our hearts and ears to your words. Feliz Navidad * Merry Christmas.

See our brochures on the literature racks at church entrances or call Gloria at 891-0388.

Bereavement Support Group

St. Thomas Aquinas Bereavement Support Group meets **Mondays at 5:00 p.m. in the St. Lucy Filipino room**, adjacent to the Parish office. For information contact Mary Davidson at 892-9886. If no response within two days, please call back.

Pre-Cana couples must attend **one introductory session on Natural Family Planning**. We suggest couples attend a session **4-6 months before their wedding** date. To schedule a session and for more information, contact Rosanne Sloan at 892-2927.

Culture of Life Corner

Keep in mind that we carry a little of Jesus with us every Day (in the Eucharist). We have received that precious gift of life with a purpose to fulfill and a responsibility to respect life.

We cannot be part of the world where " there is no respect of persons with God"(Col.3:25).

Submitted by Charles Griego

ONGOING WEEKLY MEETINGS **(Religious Education Building)**

Blue Army: Tuesdays, 10:00 a.m.; Kathy-898-5591, Joann-899-9647. (Call Kathy or Joann with your prayer petitions.)

Prayer for Vocations/Chaplet of Divine Mercy:

Wednesdays, after 9 a.m. Mass

Al-Anon: Thursdays, Noon, rm. 6

Charismatic Prayer Meeting:

Thursdays, 7:00 p.m. (St. Lucy Filippini Room)

St. Peter's Men's Apostolic Ministry

Thursday at 7:00 p.m. in the Parish Office

Rosary Makers: Fridays, 10:00 a.m.,
rm. 6, Religious Ed. Bldg., 896-6127

Bible Study: Jeannette, 892-1511 x104

S.T.A. GIRLS CHALLENGE

Challenge is a club for girls in virtue and practicing their Catholic Faith. A place to learn about themselves and to make a positive impact for family, friends and the world. **Friday meetings from 4:00 p.m.- 5:30 p.m.** Contact Cathy Casaus at 321-3236 for further information.

BIRTHRIGHT

Birthright Rio Rancho is seeking volunteers to help with everything from counseling pregnant women to answering the phone to sorting clothes. Counseling experience is not a requirement, but a willing heart is! **We especially need help during weekdays including Tuesdays 10 a.m.– 4 p.m., Wednesdays and Thursdays from 1 – 4 p.m. and Fridays 10 – 2 p.m.** Please contact Debbie Schaff at (505) 331-3132, birthrightofrr@aol.com; or drop in at 2704 Southern Blvd. Birthright Rio Rancho is a non-profit organization dedicated to assisting women with unplanned pregnancies.

IT'S YOUR LIFE

**Presented by noted psychologist,
speaker and author**

John Thurman L.P.C.

**Free—Saturday, January 16, 8:00 to noon
At St. Thomas Aquinas School**

This catholic seminar is a high energy class that will give you the tools needed to freely live a purposed filled spiritual life.

R.S.V.P. to parish office at 892-1511

JESUS IS THE REASON FOR THIS SEASON

"All were questioning in their hearts." Are you considering a vocation as a Religious Teacher Filipino? Call Sr. Mary Elizabeth Lloyd, MPF (793) 538-2886x124 or email:srmelloyd@gmail.com

TO REGISTER WITH THE PARISH, stop by or call the office (1594 Sara Rd, 892-1511) or send an e-mail to: Contact @stanm.org.

High School and Life Teen Justin Bucalo 896-8097

Justin.Bucalo@stanm.org



Life Teen

December 13th-Christmas Luau

Life Teen will resume January 10th.

Confirmation

Confirmation classes will not be in session December 21st & 28th. Classes will resume January 4th. **Teens if you have not turned in your Saint Report please do so ASAP.**

WORLD YOUTH DAY 2011 WILL BE IN MADRID SPAIN!!

Are you a young adult who is interested in coming to WYD in 2011? We will be going on an 14 day pilgrimage in August 2011. We will travel to France and Spain. If you missed the meeting and are interested in coming please contact us at 896-8097. We still have spots available. Please note that you must be over the age of 18 by August 2011 (unless accompanied by a parent or legal guardian) to attend. No exceptions.

Young Adults Catholic Group Deacon Little

890-6574 Deacon.Dave@stanm.org

Meets the **2nd and 4th Fridays** of the month. We meet each month at **my house**. We appreciate RSVPs so we know how much food to prepare.

For more information, call 890-6574.

The Young Adult Group We **will meet again January 8, 2010**. If you could please put this in the bulletin that would be wonderful.

Children's Religious Education

Phone - 892-1497 CRE@stanm.org

The Religious Ed office will be closed from December 22nd and will reopen January 5th.

NEW ACTS COURSE SCHEDULED!

What is ACTS? ACTS is our parish's Adult Catholic Theology School. Rick Torretto, a parishioner who holds a master's degree in theology, will present a special, seven-week, three-part course: Part I—"Spiritual Warfare and Angelology;" Part II—"Putting on the Armor of the Lord is an Offensive Act;" and Part III—"Deception and Discernment: the Devil's Poison and God's Antidote," Mondays, 1/4/10-2/15/10, 7:00-9:00 p.m., in Fr. D'Arco Hall. There is no charge for the course, but a free-will offering will be gratefully accepted. Registration is appreciated so sufficient handouts may be provided for each session. Call 892-1511, x104, to reserve your place.

Adult Ministries Jeannette Schlicher

892-1511 x104

AquinasAM@yahoo.com

ALPHA IS COMING!!!!

The Alpha Course is an **18-week course in basic Catholic/Christian teaching**. Participants share a meal, listen to a talk usually presented by one of our own parish clergy, and then discuss the current topic. Some of the topics are, "Who is Jesus?" "Why and How Do I Read the Bible?" and "Who Needs the Catholic Church?" All adults, whether Catholic or not, may participate in our Alpha Course. For people wishing to receive sacraments of initiation (Baptism, Confirmation, and First Communion) in the Catholic Church, Alpha serves as the first phase of their preparation to receive any or all of those sacraments in our parish. Attendance in "Alpha for Catholics" is free of charge, and we will provide you all necessary materials. Participants' donations to offset the cost of food are gratefully accepted whenever personal finances allow, however!

Our next Alpha session will begin in Fr. D'Arco Hall on Tuesday, 1/5/09, at 6:00 p.m., and will continue to meet on Tuesday nights. In addition, there will be two special events offered to participants: a Saturday retreat and a day of reflection on a later Saturday.

Contact Viana at vianasikes@yahoo.com for more information and to register.

RCIA

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) is the normal process by which the Catholic Church prepares adults who wish to become Catholic. At our parish, this process begins with The Alpha Course. **RCIA will begin on Sunday, 1/5/10, 10:30 a.m.-12:15 p.m., in the Religious Education Center, room 7. RCIA is only open to adults who have completed Alpha (or its equivalent), and their support people (spouses, sponsors, friends, etc.).**

If you completed Alpha prior to the 2008-2009 year, but have not yet participated in the rest of RCIA, and now wish to, please contact Jeannette, 892-1511, x104, or AquinasAM@yahoo.com, to register. If you participated in the pre- and early catechumenate at another parish, but now wish to complete the RCIA process here at St. Thomas Aquinas, please contact Jeannette about this, as well.

GREAT ADVENTURE BIBLE STUDY

A new, 24-session Great Adventure Bible Timeline study group is forming. This is the foundational Bible study course. It **will meet on Thursday evenings, 7:30-9:30 p.m., in the Religious Education Center, room 8, beginning 1/7/10**. You will need a Catholic version of the Bible and a copy of the Catechism of the Catholic Church. The optional (but strongly recommended) study kit will be \$30, payable the first night of class. Contact Jeannette at 892-1511, x104, or AquinasAM@yahoo.com, to pre-register.



Mass Intentions

Monday December 14th, St. John of the Cross

9:00 a.m. † Joan Cismoski by Irene Green
† Norman Mills by the Wityak family
Amy Scatena for health by the Wityak family

6:00 p.m. † Rebecca Baca by Deacon James Baca
Rev. Eugene Homrich by Lois Homrich

7:15 a.m. For those out in the cold.
STAS

Tuesday December 15th, Third week of Advent

9:00 a.m. † Millie Nather by Bob & Saralee Wisner
† William Lespier
Darcy Copland by Vickie

6:00 p.m. † John F. Coyle by Tom & Marie Coyle
† Sandy by Jean, Estelle & Megan

7:15 a.m. For us to remember the REAL reason for this season
STAS

Wednesday December 16th, Third Week of Advent

9:00 a.m. St. Anthony for favors received
by Mary Ann Fernandez
† George Sandoval by Elizabeth del Grande
James Barela birthday by the Johnsons

6:00 p.m. † Maria Ximenes by Deacon James Baca

8:15 a.m. For those still looking for work
STAS

Thursday December 17th, Third Week of Advent

9:00 a.m. Connie Lujan & family by Deacon James Baca
Bill Moyna for health by the family
Mike Saavedra by Kent Cantwell

6:00 p.m. Teodorita Segura de Tafoya by Deacon James Baca
Emily for her health by Mom
Charlie Jontz for his health by Donna

7:15 a.m. STAS

Friday December 18th, Third Week of Advent

9:00 a.m. † William Wisner by Bob & Saralee Wisner
Special Intentions by Deacon James Baca
Niemczak family for blessing by Stan & Iwona

6:00 p.m. † Alex Molnar by Deborah Kozerski
† Enrique & Higinia Serrano by family

8:15 a.m. For the children who donot have the opportunity to go to
STAS school.

SNICKERS AND GIGGLES

Out of the mouth of babes

Six year old Angie and her four year old brother, Joel, were sitting together in church. Joel giggled, sang and talked out loud. Finally, his big sister had had enough. "You're not supposed to talk out loud in church." "Why? Who's going to stop me?" Joel asked. Angie pointed to the back of church and said, "See those two men standing by the door? They're hushers."

Saturday December 19th, Third Saturday of Advent

9:00 a.m. Frances Sullivan by Henry
† José M. Avila 1st anniversary
by daughters Silvia & Patricia
To St. Jude in thanksgiving by S.R.

5:00 p.m. † Genevieve Konkol by Anne Lazar
† Ann Connolly by Phil & Lena Pizzo
† Bob Jeffery 10th anniversary by wife

4:00 p.m. For those families that will have a difficult time
@SJV paying their bills for lack of work.

Sunday December 20th, Fourth Sunday of Advent

7:00 a.m. † Peter Daniel Moyna by the Moyna family
† Francis Jeffrey Moyna by the Moyna family
† Susan Stamp by Geoffrey

9:00 a.m. For the People of the Parish
† Order sons of Italy deceased members
† Consuelo Romero by the Romero family

11:00 a.m. † Agatina Bonadonna by Mr. & Mrs. Brat Ariola
† Eulogio Serrano by family
† Zenovia Doak by family

12:30 p.m. For those suffering from tumors.

6:00 p.m. † Jesse Long
by Josh "Q", Seth, Ben, Carl, Victor, Carlo & Darren
† Abril Lerma by Lydia Lerma
Poor souls in purgatory

8:00 a.m. For the Parish
@ SJV

10:00 a.m. For our Priests
@ SJV

CHILDREN'S CHOIR
Is on the 1st, 2nd and 3rd Wednesday, of the month
4 p.m. to 5 p.m. In the Church.
NO pre-sign up required.
Just show up. Ages 3 and older.

"PRO LIFE ROSARY"

Come pray with us for our most vulnerable brothers and sisters, the pre-born. **sidewalk in front of the Planned Parenthood office in the NW corner of the Target mini mall West of Hwy 528.** We always pray the last **Saturday of the month from 10:00 a.m. -11:00 a.m.**

CHARISMATIC PRAYER MEETINGS

Everyone Welcome!

Come and share the love of the Father, by acclaiming the Lordship of Jesus the Son, through the power of the Holy Spirit.

Praise and Worship - Teachings

Intercessory Prayer

Fellowship

Thursdays at 7:00 p.m. in St. Lucy Filippini Room.

Bring your Bible. Bring a Friend.

Are you interested in encouraging young scientists? **St. Thomas Aquinas School is seeking qualified Science Fair judges for the school's Science Fair on January 26, 2010.** Please contact Mary Rogel at 948-0277 or email at mlrogel@hotmail.com . Thank you for supporting our school.

More Parish News and Around the Archdiocese

St. Thomas Aquinas School

Sr. Anne Louise Abascal 892-3221

1100 Hood Road www.stthomasaquinaschool.org

Where Faith & Knowledge Meet

Sr. Anne Louise Abascal, Principal 892-3221

Do You Give Gift Cards? Then Try SCRIP.

Get your holiday gift cards and support St. Thomas Aquinas School at the same time. SCRIP carries gift cards for over 100 retail businesses, and it is easy and convenient to use. How does it work? The many participating SCRIP retailers agree to sell gift cards to our school at a discount. Families like yours buy the gift cards for full face value, they redeem them for full face value, and our school keeps the difference as revenue.

How do you order?

You can order online at www.shopwithscrip.com. You'll need to setup an account, and you'll also need the school's enrollment code: E1A29FF51L639. Another way to order is by going to the school's website at www.stasnm.org and click on Support STAS. Under SCRIP Gift Card Orders you'll find printable order forms that you can complete and bring to the school office. If you have any questions, call the school office at 892-3221. Please consider using SCRIP for all your gift card needs. And thank you for your continued support.

Frassati Academy,

A new concept in Catholic homeschooling, **will continue to accept applications.** For more information call Janice Martinez at 352-0698 or Chris LaLonde 891-1488.

STILL HAVEN'T FOUND WHAT YOU'RE LOOKING FOR?

Have you ever considered becoming a Catholic Priest?

Without obligation or commitment, you are invited to attend a weekend retreat to learn about a priestly vocation.

**When: Friday, February 5 at 6:00 p.m.
Thru: Sunday, February 7, till 1:00 p.m.**

**Where: IHM Retreat Center, Santa Fe
QUESTIONS?**

**Call: Fr. Michael De Palma
831-8143**

Team Up With St. Thomas Aquinas School

There are many ways to support our Catholic school and one way you can help is by shopping at Smith's grocery store. This school year, Smith's will donate \$1,000,000 to local participating schools!

When you enroll in the Smith's Earn & Learn program and use your Fresh Values Card each time you shop, St. Thomas Aquinas School benefits. Smith's will donate a percentage of sales to St. Thomas Aquinas School at the end of the school year. To enroll you'll need your fresh values Card and an enrollment barcode.

You can print out a copy of the enrollment barcode by visiting www.stasnm.org or you can call the school office at 892-3221 and request a copy.

Magazines help our parish school!

You can help our school! Just renew any magazines that you are currently receiving through QSP.com and our school receives 40%! The prices are already rock bottom and up to 89% off newsstand prices.

For example...

Sports Illustrated (56 issues) newsstand price \$286, QSP.com price \$30, you save 89%.

Parents -1 year- newsstand is \$84, QSP.com price \$12, you save 86%

Family Fun -2 years newsstand \$79, QSP.com \$15, you save 81%.

Reader's Digest- 1 year newsstand \$47, QSP.com \$19, you save 60%

Easy: go to QSP.com, go to "just shopping" look up our school, St Thomas Aquinas and order. The best part is even if your subscription is not up for renewal yet, it automatically adds a year on to your expiration date. So you don't have to wait to renew. Over 1000 Magazines!

Thanks for your support!

RESPECT LIFE

The St Thomas Aquinas Respect Life Committee **meets on the third Saturday of the month at 10:00 a.m.** in the St. Lucy Filippini Room adjacent to the Parish Office. Our **next meeting will be December 19th.** Please come and join us. For information, please contact Felicie Truscio at 891-1304.

If you would like something to be considered for the bulletin you can email me at Jeannie.Pinel@stanm.org

Parish Directory

Pastor (Ext. 107).....	Rev. Msgr. Douglas A. Raun
Vicar (Ext. 110).....	Rev. Fr. Scott Mansfield
.....	Rev. Fr. Michael DePalma, in residence
Deacons.....	Rev. Mr. Roger Ayers, James Baca, Tom Burns,Kenneth Hill, David Little, Leroy Sanchez, Frank Smith
Business Manager (Ext. 101).....	Martin Sedillo
Accountant (Ext. 108).....	Ana Martinez
Acct Asst (Ext. 111).....	Jeannie Pinel
Acct Asst (Ext. 109).....	Liz Large
Adult Ministries (Ext. 104).....	Jeannette Case Schlicher
Ayuda Español (Ext. 360).....	Deacon James Baca
Bulletin Editor (Ext. 111).....
Catholic Social Action (Ext. 112)	Deacon Frank Smith
Communications & Development (Ext. 115).....
Funeral Notices.....	Extension 353
Maintenance (Ext. 129).....	Gilbert Garcia & Manuel Fernandez
Marriage & Family Life (Ext. 103).....	Deacon Ken Hill, Director
Associate Director.....	Deacon Frank Smith
Music & Liturgy (Ext. 105).....	Steven Woodbury
Receptionist.....	Maria Harrington
Religious Education (892-1497)	Sr. Alma Blume MPF
Administrative Asst (892-1497).....	Laura Smith
Sacristan.....	Anne McCluskey
Secretary to the Pastor (Ext. 107).....	Kathy Girón
Special Mass Schedule.....	Extension 350
Weather Closures/Cancellations.....	Extension 359
Web Site.....	www.stanm.org
Youth Ministries (896-8097).....	Justin Bucalo
Assistant (896-8097)..... Rita Montano

Holy Sacrifice of the Mass

Saturday (fulfills Sunday obligation).....	5:00 p.m.
Sunday	7:00 a.m., 9:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m. 12:30 p.m. (Bilingual) & 6:00 p.m. (Life Teen)
Monday - Saturday	9:00 a.m.
Monday - Friday	6:00 p.m.

Eucharistic Adoration

**24 hours each day in the Adoration Chapel
located on the west side of the Church**

Mission Church St. John Vianney

1000 26th Ave N.E., Rio Rancho

Mass Times

Saturday.....	4:00 p.m.
Saturday Confessions	3:00 p.m.—3:45 p.m.
Sunday.....	8:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m.
Sunday Religious Education	11:15 a.m.

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Monday - Friday.....	8:30 a.m. & 5:30 p.m.
Saturday.....	8:30 a.m., 3:00 - 4:30 p.m., 6:00 - 7:00 p.m.

Around the Archdiocese

Every year the Metropolitan Detention Center, with the help of our community has generated enough toys to give to the children of incarcerated parent(s). However, the Children's Christmas Party, for families of incarcerated parent (s), has grown every year since its inception and therefore this year we are once again asking for new unwrapped toys for a child from the age of one to fourteen. **The toys can be taken to Risen Savior Parish, attn: Kathy Freeze located at 7701 Wyoming Blvd. NE, (821-1571). The deadline to drop off the toys is Wednesday, December 16th 2009.** We are grateful for your generosity. Thank you.

WATCH SPECIAL EWTVN CHRISTMAS PROGRAMMING

Christmas Eve and Christmas Day masses from Rome and the Basilica of the National Shrine in Washington, D.C., as well as inspiring musical performances, animated features, specials for children and teens, and new holiday presentations the whole family will enjoy.
Cable One 58, Direct TV 370, Dishnetwork 261.

ALBUQUERQUE AFRICAN AMERICAN CATHOLIC COMMUNITY will celebrate **KWANZAA** on **Saturday, December 26th from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at Rosario Hall, Our Lady of the Most Holy Rosary Catholic Community, 5415 Fortuna Road. NW, Albuquerque.** All are invited to attend. Side dishes to share will be appreciated. Please call (505) 836-3627 for more information.

SMALL-GROUP STUDY FOR MEN "That Man is You" now in session at 7:00 p.m., Thursdays, Fr. D'Arco Hall.

Catholic **ALBUQUERQUE AFRICAN AMERICAN** men, you are invited every Thursday evening 7:00 p.m. in Fr. D'Arco Hall, for "That Man is You" (TMIY), an interactive Bible study focused on the development of men in the modern world. It combines the best research from science with teaching of the Catholic faith and the wisdom of the saints to develop the vision of authentic men capable of transforming society. TMIY seeks to form men who are fully alive by harmonizing what has typically been referred to as the Three Wisdoms of the Catholic Church: knowledge (secular knowledge including medical and social science); understanding (theology, including Scripture, the Magisterium, and Sacred Tradition); and wisdom (contemplative or mystical knowledge found primarily in the writings of the saints **Online website registration at www.thatmanisyou.org (Click on "Find a Location" to view)**

Are you a youth minister or a director of confirmation classes? Are you looking for an interactive way to teach students about poverty and social justice? The Catholic Campaign for Human Development intern, Alicia Sedillo, is available to all parishes in the diocese to give presentations about poverty in the U.S. and how students can help their communities break the cycle of poverty through service learning.

8 Contact Alicia at 505-831-8235 or justice2@archdiosf.

St. Thomas Aquinas Ministries

Altar & Rosary Society: Saralee Wisner - 792-5516
Altar Servers: Cindy Keaveny - 892-5649
Apostolate Our Lady of Fatima: Gerri - 892-0414
BeFriender: Gloria Hultine - 891-0388
Bereavement: Mary Davidson - 892-9886
Caring 4 Kids: Victoria at 261-1488
Catholic Daughters of America: Mary Chambers - 896-0256
Charismatic Prayer Group: Nila Baker
Counseling Center: 417-2467 or Dn. Tom Burns - 892-1511, ext. 113
Elizabeth Ministry: Rhonda Neel - 899-3817
Eucharistic Adoration: Ben & Gaylene Bitonel - (806) 676-0333
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion:
Doug & Karen Taylor - 896-7985
FAMILIA: Phil & Cathy Casaus 890-3222
Finance Council: 892-1511 ext.101
Home & Hospital Ministry: Eileen Walling - 891-1775
Catholic Homeschoolers: Andrea Bass - 323-9222
Girl Scouts: Joyce Sypher - 896-1205
Holy Cross Association: John & Penny Marselle - 400-7245
Knights of Columbus #6696: William M. McCarty II- 681-0570
Lectors: Maria Burns—771-2005
Life Teen Liturgical Coordinator: Jeanette Mata - 250-5489
Natural Family Planning: José & Elvira Guillén - 892-5783
Nursery: Aud Walaszek - 792-8716
Parish Social Committee: Debbie Hanko - 379-0561
Pastoral Council: Coleen Maddy - 404-1392
Pre-Cana: Michael & Michelle Beglau 270-6137
Public Affairs Committee: Felicie Truscio - 891-1304
Respect Life: Felicie Truscio 891-1304
Rosary Makers: Jim Tauer - 896-6127 or Jane Ricci - 892-9260
Venture Scouting: Mike Jacobs — 962-2126

St. Peter's Men's Apostolic Ministry: Jacob Tafoya - 892-2322

Usher/Greeter: NA

Welcoming Team: John & Mecki Kahrs - 890-6534

Young Adult Catholics: Deacon Dave Little - 890-6574

Crisis & Immediate Help

Albuquerque Rape Crisis Center: 266-7711

All Faith's Receiving Home: 271-0329

Catholic Charities: 724-4670

Child Abuse/Neglect: 841-6100 or 1-800-797-3260

Haven House: 896-4869 or 1-800-526-7157

Missing Children's Hotline: 1-800-587-4357

National Runaway Switchboard: 1-800-621-4000

S.A.F.E. House 247-4219

Suicide Crisis Hotline: 247-1121 or 266-7711

Support & Other Groups

AIDS Hotline: 1-800-342-2437

Ala Teen or Al Anon: 262-2177

Alcoholics Anonymous: 266-1900

Birthright Rio Rancho: 891-1430

Blue Star Mother: 792-4552

Boy Scouts: Cathy or Rick Dobbins at 896-2467

Children, Youth & Families: 841-4482

Concerned for Disabled: 892-6467

Consumer Credit Counseling: 884-6601

Cub Scouts: Bob Schick at firnum@aol.com

Gamblers Anonymous: 260-9899

NAMI (Mental Illness): Betty Rivera 867-1087 or Lee Stevens 792-8871

NM Commission for the Blind: 841-8844

Overeaters Anonymous: 896-1359

St. Felix Pantry: 891-8075 - Food & Clothing Support

St. Thomas Aquinas Counseling Center: 417-2467 or 892-1511 ext. 113

Society of St. Vincent de Paul: 892-0526

United Way Information & Referral Help Line: 247-3671