

MINISTRY OF PRAISE

St. Casimir Parish

January, 2020

Almighty God,
grant that with the help of St. Casimir's intercession
we may serve you in holiness and justice.

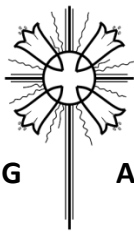


Mary, Mother of God

January 1st

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE FOLLOWING INTENTIONS

- ***That Christians, followers of other religions, and all people of good will may promote peace and justice in the world.*** (January Papal intention)
- That we defend our freedoms when they are threatened.
- That people are moved to help the migrants of the world in their need.
- That people of good will work together to oppose threats to religious liberty.
- That those to be baptized this year will find happiness and peace in the sacrament.
- That God bless Father Bacevice and the Pastoral and Finance Councils in their efforts to secure the future of St. Casimir Parish.
- That all parishioners recognize their responsibility to St. Casimir Parish's future through financial support, commitment to parish activities, sharing ideas, and most importantly prayer.
- That human trafficking may be ended.
- That husbands and wives will be blessed with the grace to live with fidelity, holiness, and joy.
- That those who pray be validated in their belief of its power.



WHAT'S HAPPENING

AT ST. CASIMIR PARISH

- Jan. 1st **Feast of Mary, Mother of God**, Holy Day of Obligation
- Jan. 3rd **First Friday Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament**, 8:00 - 9:00am in Church
- Jan. 14th **Second Tuesday Holy Hour**, 6:00-7:00pm
- Jan. 18th **Trivia Night fund raiser** (Lithuanian Club), 7:00-10:00pm

SAINT FOR JANUARY

ST. THOMAS AQUINAS

Priest and Doctor

(1225 - 1275)

January 28th



Thomas was born in the Kingdom of Sicily in Italy. He came from a wealthy, ruling family. At age five he was sent to a Benedictine monastery at Monte Cassino. When the monastery was turned into a fortress by the military, Thomas was moved to the University of Naples. There he came into contact with the Dominicans.

The Dominican life style of prayer and study attracted Thomas, and he wanted to join them. His family did not want Thomas, who was a nobleman, to join a group of poor friars. He was confined in the family castle for a year but would not change his mind. In 1244 he joined the order and gave his energy to studying, teaching, and writing.

Thomas was ordained a priest at Cologne, Germany in 1248. He taught in Paris, Rome, Naples and other cities. His greatest contribution to the Church is his philosophical and theological writing. His greatest writing is the *Summa Theologica*. The unity, harmony, and continuity of faith and reason, of revealed and natural human knowledge, pervades his writings. He saw the whole natural order as coming from God the Creator, and he saw reason as a divine gift to be highly loved.

Thomas was very learned, but he was also a man of great humility and holiness. He had been an advisor to kings, a writer of masterpieces, a counselor to popes, and a teacher of classics. But most of all, Thomas was a servant of God. He died in 1274, was canonized in 1323, and proclaimed a Doctor of the Church by Pope Pius V in 1567.

Sources: SAINT OF DAY, Leonard Foley, O.F.M., editor; SAINTS AND FEAST DAYS, Loyola University Press;
IN HIS LIKENESS, Rev. Charles E. Yost, SCJ, STL



THOUGHTS FROM THE CATECHISM OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

Faith and Reason

#44 Man is by nature and vocation a religious being. Coming from God, going toward God, man lives a fully human life only if he freely lives by his bond with God.

#46 When he listens to the message of creation and to the voice of conscience, man can arrive at certainty about the existence of God, the cause and the end of everything.

REFLECTION



MAKING VISIBLE OUR GOOD WORKS

by Saint Thomas Aquinas

Christ is coming to give us a life of grace in the present and in the future a life of glory. Thus we read in Jn 10:10: *"I have come, so that they may have life,"*; namely, a life of grace in the present; and since a just person lives from faith (Gal 3:11), [he adds:] *"and that they may have it more abundantly,"* namely, a life of glory in the future through love. Hence it says in John: *"We know that we are transferred from death to life, because we love our brothers and sisters"* (1 Jn 3:14), so let us live through good works. Likewise, we read in Jn 17:3: *"This is eternal life, that they know you, the true God, and him whom you have sent, Jesus Christ."*

Source: MAGNIFICAT, Vol. 17, No. 11/January 2016; from *Thomas Aquinas: The Academic Sermons*, The Fathers of the Church, Mediaeval Continuation, Vol 11, Mark-Robin Hoogland, C.P., Tr., 2010, The Catholic University of America Press, Washington, DC. (Used with permission.)

THE SOLEMNITY OF MARY

Mary made an unconditional gift of herself to God in faith. The Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God, celebrates her faith and trust in God alone. This feast honors her because she was the faithful, believing daughter of the Kingdom of God.

The oldest Christian greeting of Mary was announced when Elizabeth called her "Mother of my Lord." When Elizabeth welcomed Mary, she proclaimed Mary's great faith. No one heard the Word of God and believed it more than Mary. For centuries Mary has been praised because she believed. She is Mother of God because of her faith in God. The Church wants us to call on Mary, Mother of God, and ask her to help strengthen our faith.

Source: SAINTS AND FEAST DAYS, Christ Our Life Series, Loyola University Press, p.64