



Annual Report

2014

Rev. Dan VolkertPastor

Mission Statement

St. Thomas Aquinas, a parish family united in the Eucharist, continues the mission of Jesus Christ. Through the varied talents found in our Christian community, we encourage lifelong spiritual and social growth committed to living our faith through service to others.

Membership Statistics

**Based on 2014 Status Animarum Report*

January 2014—December 2014

Registered Catholics ~ 1,105

Registered Households ~ 466

Newly Registered Households ~ 8

Households Moving from the Parish ~ 14



Sacramental Statistics

**Based on 2014 Status Animarum Report*

January 2014—December 2014

Baptisms ~ 11

First Reconciliations ~ 12

First Holy Communions ~ 14

Anointing of the Sick ~ 60

Confirmations ~ 15

Marriages ~ 3

Funerals ~ 11



St. Thomas Aquinas Parish Leadership

Trustees

Red Platz ~ Treasurer

Ron Nielsen ~ Secretary

Pastoral Council

Pastoral Council is a consultative and planning body in regards to pastoral activity. It strives to fulfill the pastoral mission of the parish. It does this by developing Catholic identity, promoting evangelization, and fostering stewardship. The council engages in a continuous process of pastoral planning, taking into account the needs and priorities of its parishioners, the Archdiocese, the broader community, and the world.

Fr. Dan Volkert ~ Pastor

Red Platz ~ Trustee * Ron Nielsen ~ Trustee

Larry Eberle ~ Chair * Linda Leibham ~ Vice

Bev Verhulst ~ Secretary

Bev Dippel * Mary Jo Jetzer * Cecilia Petrie

Finance Council

Finance Council is a consultative body in parish financial matters. The council provides advise and guidance to the Pastor in the administration of parish assets, monitors the financial condition of the parish and prepares the annual budget and reports.

Fr. Dan Volkert ~ Pastor * Red Platz ~ Chair

* David Bardon * Ron Nielsen * Chris Merklein

** Our fiscal year runs from July 1 through June 30.*

St. Thomas Aquinas Faith Formation Report 2014/2015

The goal of our Faith Formation program is to share our knowledge and experiences with our students, to provide them with a better understanding of Faith along with the tools and desire to connect their Faith to life.

Second Grade

Twelve students received 1st Reconciliation at our Communal Penance Service in December.

Fr Dan did a great job with the recognition of students and families were very pleased with the service.

First Eucharist was received at a 5:30 Mass in May which also went very well, parishioners and families were thrilled.

Grades 3rd – 9th

Students attended a two hour Lenten Retreat with families being able to choose either Saturday or Sunday. We had greater than 90% attend. The mornings went unbelievably well with the older students being assigned to the younger students a true learning experience for all. The highlight of the morning was the interactive Stations, lots of positive feedback from students and parent helpers.

Grades 7th – 10th,

We again paired up with SJB to bring the Net retreat team to town in January.

The students who attended were extremely pleased with the day and praised the NET Team at our following classes.

Confirmation,

We changed the attendance policy in January to allow no more than one absence. We also implemented the 1st year Confirmation program in January. This meant 10th graders were considered 1st year students and 11th graders were 2nd year. This gave us the option to have the students attend either Wednesday or Sunday Class which proved to be successful based on our new attendance policy. We purchased the Chosen Confirmation program through Ascension Press and I am really happy with it. The program contains so much valuable information and really draws the attention of the students. This purchase was money well spent and will continue to benefit students for years to come. We again participated in the Confirmation Retreat with SJB and as always it was awesome. I believe the students are a bit overwhelmed with how wonderful it is and how much they gain from the Retreat compared to the feelings they have when boarding the bus Friday evening.

Mission Trip June 2015,

To cut cost and try something new we worked with Group Mission instead of Catholic Heart Work Camp. The experience although very rewarding was not as well organized as CHWC and simply did not contain the same content. We are currently planning again with CHWC for June of 2016.

June 2015 - Mission Trip cost per student = \$550

June 2016 - Mission Trip cost per student = \$775 - \$825

A donors Dinner was provided at SJB with testimonials given by participating students. The evening was attended by less than 25% of those invited.

Along with the Chosen Program for Confirmation we purchased an additional projector for classroom use. Thank you again for these purchases they have been great teaching tools.

Lisa Gross

Director of FF

St. Thomas Aquinas Parish

2014 Building and Grounds Report

The Buildings & Grounds Committee evaluates the current needs of our parish properties and plans for current and future requirements. They study project and maintenance bids and make recommendations through the Finance Council. The committee monitors on-going building and grounds maintenance and provides business and/or trade knowledge and support.

Building and Grounds Committee Members

Fr. Dan Volkert ~ Pastor, Marlow Schubert, Mark Thielmann

Mike Willmas, Steve Holzmann

Major Repair, Maintenance and Capital Improvement Projects Completed

- * Replace gutters and downspouts (\$805).
- * Install 3 sets of double glass church doors (\$10,592).
- * Install a custom ceiling beam and projector screen with projector for church use (\$5,025).
- * Landscape around church and rectory (\$8,209).
- * Paint basement hall/one classroom/hallway (\$4,440).
- * Remove steel door in basement hallway and fill Bilco with concrete (\$3,400).
- * Replace Sensor and pump motor for church boiler (\$923).

2014 Cemetery Committee Report

The Parish Cemetery Committee oversees the operations and maintenance of St. Thomas Aquinas Cemetery. Committee members manage records, sale of lots and insure ongoing, long-term viability of the parish cemetery.

Cemetery Committee Members

Fr. Dan Volkert * Red Platz * Bill Neils * Al Gross

Income 2014: \$4,270

Expenses 2014: \$2,765

Statistics 2014: 4 Burial~St. Fridolin's & 7 Burials~Rhine Cemetery

2 Lots Sold ~ St. Fridolin's & 3 Lots Sold ~ Rhine Cemetery

Major Repair and Maintenance and Capital Improvement Projects Completed

- * Purchased a weed eater for Rhine Cemetery (\$213.)

ST. THOMAS AQUINAS FINANCIAL STATEMENT

	2014-2015	2015-2016
<u>INCOME</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>
Weekly Envelopes	\$122,482.34	\$145,000.00
Offertory Collections	\$31,886.88	\$40,000.00
Donations	\$11,402.69	\$3,000.00
Special Parish Collections	\$16,320.19	\$10,500.00
CF Tuition/Fees	\$5,360.06	\$5,780.00
Other Revenue	<u>\$30,669.91</u>	<u>\$24,000.00</u>
TOTAL	\$218,122.07	\$228,280.00
 <u>EXPENSE</u>		
Salaries & Benefits	\$ 121,211.69	\$ 132,258.00
Supplies/Purchased Services	\$ 24,708.62	\$ 31,100.00
Building & Grounds	\$ 35,279.13	\$ 35,800.00
Other Expense	<u>\$ 32,853.63</u>	<u>\$ 26,900.00</u>
TOTAL	\$ 214,053.07	\$ 226,058.00
 NET INCOME	 \$4,069.00	 \$2,222.00