

News & Views

Summer 2003

St. Thomas Aquinas Church and Catholic Student Center

Page 1

HOLY WEEK & EASTER AT STA

2210 Lincoln Way
Ames, IA 50014

Keeping in Touch

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Rev. Ev Hemann:

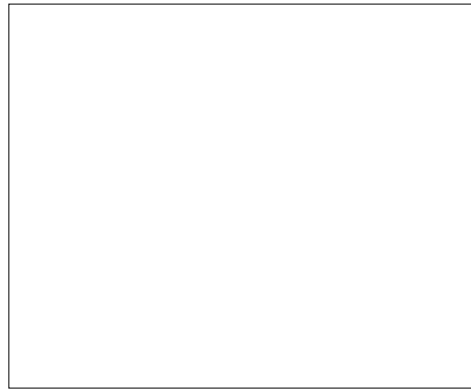
Ev@STAParish.net

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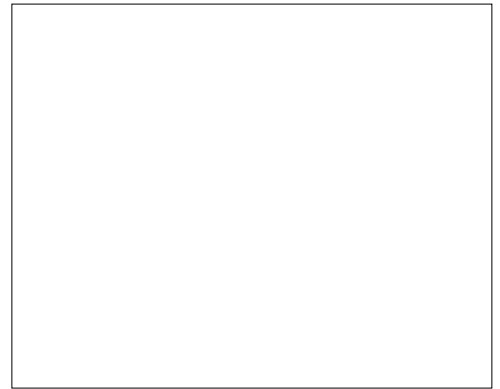
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Msgr. Supple's Address:

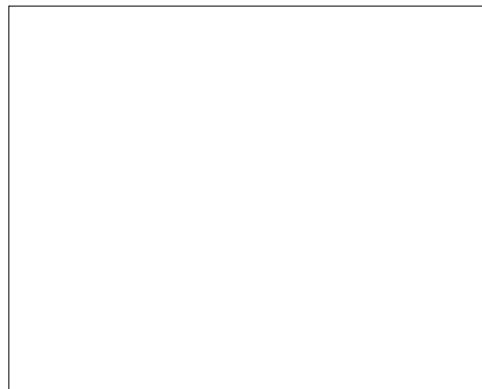
Msgr. James Supple
Bickford Cottage
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Ames, IA 50010
515-292-0425



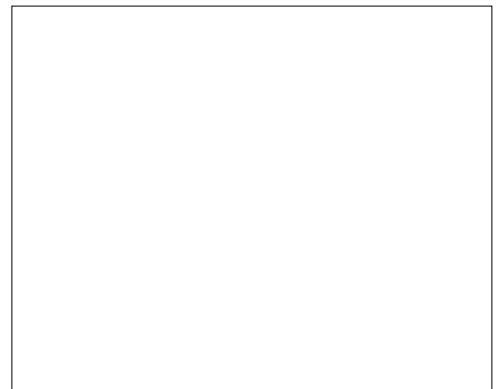
“Bless These Branches and make them holy...” (Palm Sunday/East Plaza)



“We worship you, Lord, we venerate your cross...” (Good Friday/Gathering Space)



“By your cross you have redeemed the world...” (Campus Stations/John Donaghy and students)



“I baptize you...” (Easter Vigil/Baptismal Font)

Please join us in celebrating Fr. Ev's 10 Year Anniversary at STA!!

When: Sun., September 7 after 10:30 Mass

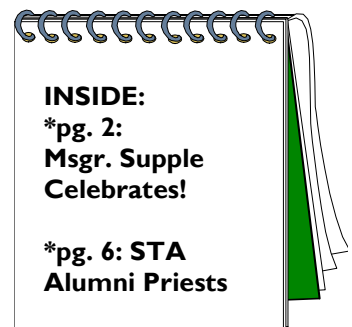
Brief program at 12:00 Noon

Where: STA Lower Lounge

Light Lunch Provided

Why: To celebrate Fr. Ev's 10 Years at STA!

10
YEARS



Msgr. Supple Celebrates

91st birthday and 67 years of Priesthood!!



Fr. Mel Hemann, Msgr. James Supple, & Fr. Pat Geary



Msgr. Supple, President Gregory & Kathy Geoffroy

Appreciation from Msgr. Supple:

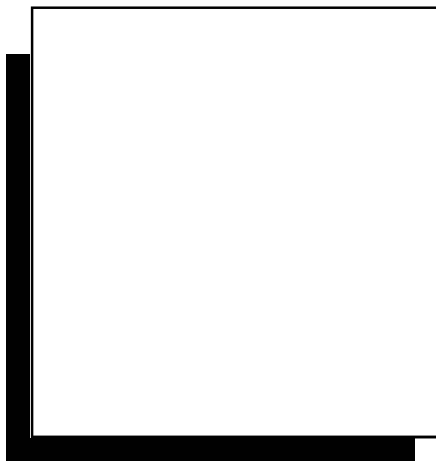
Words are not adequate to convey the deep feeling of gratitude that overwhelms me. You have been so generous on the occasion of my birthday (91) and the anniversary of my Ordination (67). You have been just wonderful and I pray that God will continue to bless you for your kindness.

I especially thank Fr Ev, Jennifer, and the people at St. Thomas who made this occasion so memorable. To have President Gregory Geoffroy and Roy Reiman speak was such an honor and I thank them.

Please pray for me.



1957 Alumnus Roy Reiman, MC for celebration



Msgr. Supple & Jennifer Fliehler



Msgr. Supple, Jim & Judy Amfahr

Bowling strikes and touching hearts

By Ray Reiman, Class of 1954

"**eeYOW!!!!**" That's the first remark I ever heard from Father Supple!

It was in the late 1940's when I was editor of the Nevada Evening Journal, before I went to Iowa State. I was bowling in the Ames Knights of Columbus League, and heard this shriek from the next lane!

I looked over, and saw an animated guy dancing around, shooting his fist into the air and shouting another "eeYOW!!!" I asked someone who this wild man was and was told that the new pastor at St. Thomas Aquinas had just bowled another strike!

Father Supple's been blowing strikes ever since--in the hearts of everyone he's met at STA and elsewhere.

As everyone who knows him agrees, it's not just his enthusiasm for life and sense of humor that brings souls to Christ, but the way he makes everyone feel important by remembering his/her name and some facts about them.

When I saw him two weeks after meeting him at the bowling alley, he immediately called me by name and asked, "How's everything over in Nevada?" He probably also recalled that I was originally from Carroll.

I started to occasionally attend Sunday Mass at STA and was impressed with how Father used humor to drive home his messages in his homilies. I also noticed that he greeted everyone by first name after Mass. I met some students and faculty and became increasingly attracted to the Christian atmosphere in the midst of a public university.

That environment was one reason I decided to study journalism at Iowa State eight years after graduating from high school. I knew I'd feel at home with such a charismatic priest at the helm of the Catholic Student Center.

Like hundreds of other students, I was drawn to the student center after daily classes by Father's magnetism and the warm Newman Club camaraderie. It was only

natural to also attend daily 5:10 p.m. Mass.

When brother Roy followed me at ISU, the first person I introduced him to was Father Supple--after Father stopped shuffling to "Tiger Rag" in the lounge.

As you'd expect, he immediately introduced Roy to a dozen students sitting in a semi circle--stating each one's name, where he or she came from, and what he or she was majoring in at Iowa State.

One time several of us tried to trick him at one of those circles by swapping a visiting identical twin for ISU student Junior Pavik. As usual, Father called everyone in the circle by name--until he got to Junior's identical twin. Without hesitating, Father said, "I haven't met *you* yet!" So much for trying to trick the master!

For all his well-known jovial nature, Father has always had his serious and prayerful side. He was a great personal mentor during my four years as editor of the monthly Newman News, and yet he'd tease me about "talking your way through college" because of my WOI

and WOI-TV broadcasting--and razz me if he'd catch me making a mistake on the air.

He still retains his phenomenal name recall. When I visited St. Thomas Aquinas long after graduating in 1954, I introduced him to my wife, Geri. On our next visit a year later, he called out, "Hey Geri, it's good to see you again!" as she came out of the elevator and before he saw me!

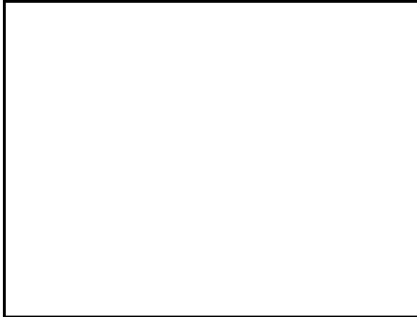
He has always been a great sports fan, and loved playing softball at Newman Club picnics. He still favors Notre Dame. When Geri and I visited him he was watching the Irish on TV. He exclaimed excitedly as he opened the door, "Notre Dame just scored a touchdown from the red zone for the first time this year!"

Having just reached his 91st birthday, Father Supple is still bowling strikes for Christ as he leaves his positive impact on the hearts of everyone he meets. The world is much better because of "James from Ames." We hope he continues to bless everyone with his charismatic presence for many years to come. "**eeYOW!!!!**"

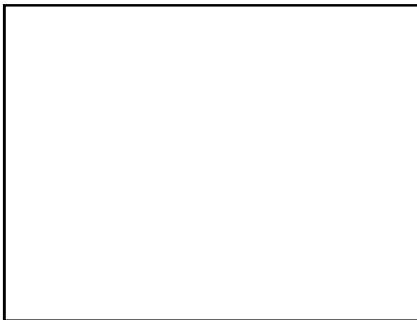
Msgr. James Supple, Geri & Ray Reiman (ISU, 1954)

Friends and Alumni

Notes



L to R: Bobby, Dave (ISU, 1996), Susan (ISU, 1996), & Marian Bailey



L to R: Kathryn, Ken, & Stephen Karsh, Elsie Beaudine, & Marlys Beaudine Karsh (ISU, 1964)

Dave & Susan (Schouten) Bailey (1996) write: “We would like to introduce our newest family member, Marian Karen JoyLynn Bailey born January 14, 2003. She is a delightful little girl, and we are blessed to have her. We have recently moved to Kasson, MN. Dave is still working at IBM, and I am at home with the kids. We hope to visit sometime soon.” (photo above)

Tony & Nicole (Heide) Bretey (2001) continued to live in Ames until May of 2002 when Nicole accepted an engineering job with OPPD (nuclear plant) in Ft. Calhoun, NE. Tony accepted a position with the Washington County Extension service in Blair, NE where they presently reside. He works with the 4-H youth of the county. Tony has taken the required courses and now serves as Eucharistic Minister at their home parish.

Marlys Beaudine Karsh (1964) thinks of St. Thomas with fond memories. Three years ago she retired from Federal Service as the Civilian Personnel Officer for 301st Fighter Wing in Ft. Worth, TX. Now Marlys works part-time and enjoys her free time. Marlys married Ken Karsh in 1977 and has two children. They are both students at Louisiana State University. Kathryn works at Christ the King Catholic Student Center on campus. Marlys states: “Life is good....Enjoy your newsletters.” (photo at left)

Sara Hicks (1986) & Mike O’Connell (B.S. 1987 & M.S. 1990) live in suburban Kansas City. They are busy starting up a new parish in a rapidly growing area of Kansas City. Mike is on the Parish Council of St. Michael

the Archangel Parish. Their six year old son, Michael, looks forward to attending first grade there when it opens in the fall.

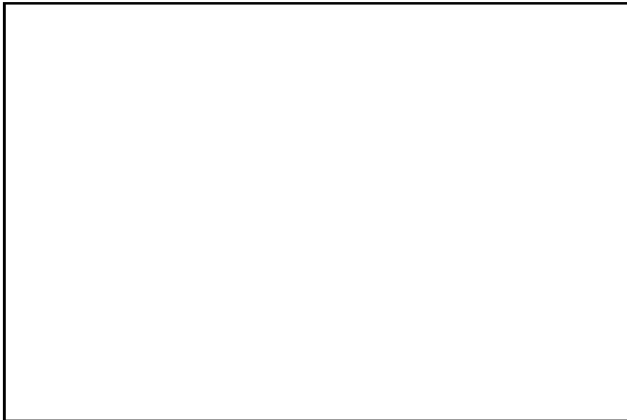
Martha A. (Shaffer) Stolar (1957) writes: “My life is rather quiet but I now have seven grandchildren. My youngest daughter, Mary, and her husband, Tom, had a second child born September 10, 2001. My oldest granddaughter is 16 and thinking about college. I do volunteer work with a Horticulture Therapist with Senior Day Care Centers. It is interesting and rewarding. I’ve been learning more about the computer and email friends in different areas. It’s a great way to keep in touch. I hope Fr. James has a great gathering and that he lives to be 100. Best wishes and good health to him.”

Patricia (Tricia) Walker (2000) finished her Masters degree in Biomedical Engineering. She is working in Plymouth, MN as a R&D Engineer for Catheter and Disposables Technology, Inc., a division of Cardiotech International, Inc. Tricia continues to carry all of the wonderful memories of St. Thomas Aquinas with her and is grateful for all the love and support she received at STA.

Attention Friends & Alumni: If you would like to be included in these “notes”, please fill out the information sheet on the back of this newsletter and return it to St. Thomas Aquinas.

A SHORT RESUME OF THE LIFE OF FR. TOM MANEY, MM

By Fr. Tom Maney, MM



Msgr. James Supple & Fr. Tom Maney, MM, at Fr. Tom's 40th Anniversary of Priesthood Celebration in Ames in 1996.

I will begin by stating that over a third of my life has been taken up by schooling, starting with my years at Iowa State College Nursery School. My education concluded in 1988 with a semester of study in the Holy Land sponsored by St. John's University in Collegeville, MN. Throughout this period I spent two years as a cadet and commissioned officer in the US Army Airforce during WWII and three years studying Industrial Economics. Next, I spent two years at Loras College finishing my Economics Degree and studying philosophy for the Catholic priesthood. I spent another six years on Theology preparation for ordination as a Catholic Foreign Missionary Priest. I then spent a half year studying Spanish at the Maryknoll Language School in Cochabamba, Bolivia and five summer school sessions at Loyola University. In the late 60's and early 70's, I earned a second Masters degree in Pastoral Theology.

My pastoral experience began in 1956 upon my ordination as a missionary priest of the Catholic Foreign Mission Society of America (The Maryknoll Fathers and Brothers) and was assigned to the Talca Diocese, in Licanten, a rural parish in the coastal area of Chile, South America. During my 11 ½ year tenure there, I began as an assistant priest, became pastor, and

was named dean of the seven coastal parishes, Episcopal Vicar, President of the Priest Organization, Secretary General of the Diocese of Talca and Vicar General of the diocese. My last title was that of Monsignor.

In 1975, my life took a radical change, which started with my being named a delegate of Chile to the Latin American Catholic Charismatic Conference (ECCLA) in Puerto Rico. There I met Sister Joan Gerads, Franciscan sister of Little Falls, MN and a missionary in Venezuela since 1969. I resigned from my position at Talca, with the permission of the Bishop, and embarked on a mission to work with the poor in Latin America. With Sister Gerads I founded an International Team for the Formation of Basic Church Communities, a group dedicated to forming and revitalizing neighborhood parishes. Since 1975, I have been able to work full time forming these church communities, second level of Church.

I am thankful to God for helping pull me through many trying times in my life, such as the many times I have faced death. My near death experiences include bombing missions in Japan, illness, and accidents. I am still here and, at 78 years of age, continue to work full time out of our Evangelization Center in Cumbaya Quito, Ecuador.

Before I close, I'd like to share some of my Ames and St. Thomas Aquinas highlights with you. In my senior year at Ames High School I placed third in State in cross country and went on to captain the Iowa State cross country team. In 1947, I had the privilege of welcoming Fr. James Supple to the Catholic Student Center. In 1948, I went on a weekend retreat, where I made the decision to go to seminary at Loras College. In 1998, I had the great honor of being named Ames High School Alumnus of the Year.

STA Alumni Priests

By: David E. Nantais, S.J.

"Those who are enlightened by faith judge things in a very different way from those who have only their senses to guide them and ignore the inestimable treasures they conceal." Jean-Pierre de Caussade

It is a mystery how people choose the life path they do. Some just go with the flow and find themselves doing something they love. Others fret and attempt to calculate the best option and end up hitting a dead end. Big decisions like these can be stressful! During their college years, most young adults try to figure out what they want to do with their lives. Most often they envision a future with a spouse and children, a good job and a nice home. But some take a very different route and decide to enter a seminary or religious life. Student parishioners at STA cannot major in "pre-seminary" at Iowa State, and yet there have been an extraordinary number of men from STA parish going on to study for the priesthood. What is it about STA that encourages priestly and religious vocations?

Fr. Scott Bullock, currently an associate pastor of three parishes near Dubuque, IA, had thought about the priesthood as an undergraduate in Michigan, but decided to come to ISU to study Statistics in preparation for a career in teaching. As a parishioner at STA in the mid-80's, he began to think more seriously about priesthood. He was very impressed by the priests at STA during his time (Frs. Geary, Ament, and Tilp). He also found support for his discernment through daily Mass and the Antioch retreat. Fr. Bullock is extremely grateful to STA for the care he felt. "It is a certain joy to do whatever I can to support the efforts of STA, which was such an important place of faith and discernment for me. It is a sacred place in my faith life, one that I want to be available for others following in my footsteps. The choice that I was able to make with the help of STA to leave my career and serve as a priest has brought inestimable peace and joy. I pray that more of the students and alumni of STA can know this joy!"

Fr. Dan Krettek recalls that his first inklings about becoming a priest came while driving back to ISU after Easter, his sophomore year, as a Forestry major. He felt something missing. "I wanted a life to live and not just a job to do." Fr. Krettek also points to the priests at STA as playing an integral role in his discernment. "I saw the priests at STA living lives of service, and personally experienced the value/blessing of that service as I participated in the life of the parish. I spoke with STA priests, Fr. David Manders and Msgr. Dan Tarrant (rip), about my interests, and those conversations directly supported my decision to apply for seminary."

My own decision to enter the Jesuits was strongly influenced by STA. I attended a Jesuit university for my undergraduate

studies (University of Detroit), and I had thought seriously about entering the Jesuits after graduation, but I needed an experience of living on my own away from my family before I could make such a big decision about my life. Iowa State gave me a generous graduate assistantship and it was far away from Detroit, Michigan! One of the first things I did when I arrived in Ames was introduce myself at STA. The first two people I met, John Donaghy and Fr. Jon Seda, would play a substantial role in my vocation discernment.

Fr. Seda organized a vocations group with 12 guys who met monthly to talk about priesthood, religious life, and the joys and struggles of pursuing a life of ordained ministry. When a man is thinking about priesthood, he can often wonder if he is the only one, or if it is a crazy notion. The STA discernment group provided a wonderful opportunity to meet other guys considering priesthood, and who were rational, intelligent, and talented. This group helped me believe that my desires for religious life were not as crazy as I had thought!

John Donaghy's Justice and Peace ministry forced me to expand my world-view. I had volunteered before coming to STA, but it never challenged my comfortable lifestyle. Over Thanksgiving my first semester at ISU, John led a group on an inner-city immersion trip to Des Moines, where we lived in a homeless shelter for a few days. We encountered many people that those of us in middle class America do not often see. John encouraged us to see Christ in them. It was a powerful experience of theological reflection on service that I still utilize to this day.

STA parish has nourished many priestly vocations over the years. Many other stories could be added to mine. One thing they have in common is that STA has inspired every person to grow in their faith and love for Jesus Christ. Whether one becomes a priest, brother, sister, or finds their happiness in the married life, it is impossible to be involved at STA and not grasp the message that Your Faith Matters! The various programs and the supportive STA staff encourage students to understand that their faith transcends sitting in a pew on Sunday. Faith engages our entire lives and informs our actions. This lesson is the greatest gift STA gave to me. Undoubtedly, my brothers in the religious life and priesthood agree!

David E. Nantais, S.J.

From the Pastor

Dear Alumni & Friends:

Spring has sprung, the academic year is over and we are into weddings! I am finishing ten years at STA and it gets better every year. Of course, I am getting older and don't remember so well anymore.

The St. Thomas gardens are beautiful. The planning, planting and care provided by many volunteers provide a wonderful environment to welcome students and visitors alike. The next time you are in town, stop by.

St. Thomas Aquinas Alumni Priests, Brothers & Seminarians

Alumni Priests & Brothers:

Fr. Ernest Bayer	Fr. Paul J. Kelly
Fr. Gary Bernhardt	Fr. Jerry Kopacek
Fr. Scott Bullock	Fr. Theodore Koster, OSB
Fr. A.L. Conrad	Fr. Daniel Krettek
Fr. Don Czaplá	Fr. Charles Lang
Fr. Joseph B. Denning	Fr. Tom Maney, MM
Fr. James Dubert	Fr. Neil J. Manternach
Fr. Chris Fontanini	Fr. Michael McLaughlin
Fr. Rey A. Garcia, S.J.	Fr. Patrick McLaughlin
Fr. Gordon Gittins	Fr. John Moser
Fr. Ken Glaser	Fr. Troy Richmond
Fr. David F. Hitch	Fr. Dave Schatz
Fr. Leo R. Huber	Fr. Dennis Sefcik
Fr. Bill Joensen	Br. Neil Kieffe, FSC
	Br. Jim Holub, S.J.

Alumni Seminarians:

Mr. Greg Bahl, Dubuque
Mr. Ryan Larson, Joliet
Mr. Nick March, Dubuque
Mr. David E. Nantais, S.J.
Mr. Dustin Long Vu, Dubuque
Mr. Jeremy Wind, Sioux City

If you are an alumni priest, brother, or seminarian and are not on this list, please email jennifer@STAparish.net

The year of ministry was good. According to departing graduates, we continue to provide a nurturing and challenging faith community which helps them grow in faith during their years at ISU. I look at STA as a "teaching parish." Here we form leaders for the Church throughout the world. Each Sunday we have people from six continents celebrating Mass (Antarctica is not represented because ISU does not accept penguins).

I am proud of the many alumni who are church leaders, as lay and ordained. In this issue we focus upon ordained alumni. We continue to provide a priest discernment group for men and religious discernment for women. But that is just one of many activities to help ALL students... "to understand that their faith transcends sitting in a pew on Sunday. Faith engages our entire lives and informs our actions."

We have 34 couples being married here this year, and we prepare another 80 to be married elsewhere. The love we nurture and bless spreads throughout a world much in need of love.

Fr. James Hayes was on academic leave this semester to finish a Doctorate. He has completed his research and writing and will be granted the degree in August. He has requested a personal leave for discernment of his future. We thank Jim for his many years of ministry in the Archdiocese and here. We welcome Fr. Scott Boone in July.

God bless our many benefactors, who continue to generously support our work even in unusual economic times.

Rev. Everett Hemann, Pastor



**ST. THOMAS AQUINAS CHURCH
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SHARE WITH US YOUR NEWS & VIEWS*

NAME: _____

CLASS OF: _____

UPDATE ON YOUR LIFE: _____

* Your update will be included in a future newsletter.

Please return to St. Thomas Aquinas, 2210 Lincoln Way, Ames, IA 50014-7184.

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