



## **ST. THOMAS AQUINAS CHURCH**

**Address** 103 Center Street, Bridgewater, MA

**Phone** 508-697-9528      **Fax** 508-279-1859

**E-mail** stthomasaquinas@comcast.net

**Website** www.stthomasaquinas.com

**Pastor**—Rev. Bill D. Devine

**Parochial Vicar**—Rev. John D' Arpino

**Deacon**— Deacon Jerry Ryan, deacon.jerry@verizon.net

**Religious Education**—(508) 697-3652

Karen Geraghty—Grades 1-8

kgeraghty@stthomasaquinas.com

Debbie Hill-Administrator

dhill@stthomasaquinas.com

**Confirmation/Life Teen**—Aimee Manzoni

amanzoni@stthomasaquinas.com

### **MASS SCHEDULE**

**Saturday** 4:00 PM

**Sunday** 7:45 AM

10:00 AM

10:00 AM **St. Basil—BSU**

12:00 PM Life Teen

7:30 PM **St. Basil—BSU**

Weekdays M—F 7:00 AM & 9:00 AM

Saturday 9:00 AM

### **\*\*\*St. Basil Chapel—BSU\*\*\***

122 Park Ave. Bridgewater, MA 02324

**Phone (508)531-1346 FAX (508) 531-6188**

**www.bridgew.edu/Depts/CathCntr/**

**Barbara Henault**—Administrator,

b1henault@bridgew.edu

**Marlene DeLeon**—Campus Minister,

marlene.deleon@bridgew.edu

### ***MASS INTENTIONS***

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 28**

4:00 DEBBIE PINCOLINI-BARONI

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 29**

7:45 MASS FOR THE PEOPLE

10:00 LANZIKOS & POIRIER FAMILIES

10:00 KAY LYDON—ST. BASIL CHAPEL

12:00 LORRAINE T. SULLIVAN

**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 2**

7:00 RONALD LEDO

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 4**

4:00 KATHLEEN MELIERE

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 5**

7:45 MASS FOR THE PEOPLE

10:00 DORIS MULLEN

10:00 KATHLEEN MELIERE—ST. BASIL CHAPEL

12:00 JOSE & MESTIDIA LEAL

### Feast of St. Thomas Aquinas

January 28<sup>th</sup> is the Feast of St. Thomas Aquinas, our parish's patron saint. What is a patron saint and who is St. Thomas Aquinas? These and other questions will be answered during Mass this weekend. The Church allows parishes to deviate (which is very rare) from the normal Sunday readings in order to celebrate their patron saint especially if that feast day falls on a weekend. The Masses at St. Thomas and St. Basil this weekend will be seeking the intercession and prayers of St. Thomas Aquinas. Please use the specially printed program for the readings and songs.

### Diocesan Planning

As mentioned in a previous bulletin announcement the Archdiocesan Pastoral Planning Commission is proposing to reorganize the way the People of God are served in parishes. While no parishes will be closed or merged, there is a proposal to restructure the way parishes are served. The goal is provide greater ability to evangelize and move from focusing on maintenance to mission. The Cardinal wants parishes to be organized around a new mission of evangelization and outreach. In reality, less than 16% of Catholics attend church. Additional data indicates that, in ten years, we will go from 346 priests available for parish ministry to 178-185 (for 290 parishes).

After much consultation, the Cardinal is proposing to develop Pastoral Service Teams (PST) who would serve more than one parish. Two or three parishes will be served by one pastor assisted by parochial vicar (priest), deacons, and pastoral ministers. Each parish will keep its own identity however will be encouraged to work more closely with other parishes in various programs in an effort to avoid redundancy and duplication of pastoral services. Looking to the future, **St. Thomas Aquinas would collaborate with St. Ann's, West Bridgewater and St. John's in East Bridgewater.**

This proposal is in the process of being explained and soliciting input from priests and deacons, music and religious education directors, business managers and parish financial council members. These meetings have been beneficial because a number of concerns and issues have been brought to the attention of the Pastoral Planning Commission. In the upcoming months, area and parish presentations will be given so that everyone has an opportunity to better understand the benefits of the PST and to address challenges and concerns. For those who are interested I recommend [www.2012Planning.org](http://www.2012Planning.org). This web site provides more in depth information on this process and identifies the parishes who will be working together.

### Proposed Housing Units across from the Parish Center

There is a motion before the town requesting permission to build 8 buildings on 2.94 +/- acres, consisting of 16, 2 bedroom town-house style housing units with 4 of those designated as affordable housing. These would be located on a site across from the parish center. These units would be built behind the existing houses at the intersection of Aldrich Road and Center Street. A road accessing these units will enter at this intersection directly across from the Parish Center. Needless to say, this is a highly trafficked area with many children who attend our parish programs. If this is approved parents and children will need to take special caution when walking or dropping off children or adults. As a reminder, there is no parking on Aldrich Road. If anyone has any concerns or questions I encourage them to attend a meeting at the Town Hall on February 7 at 7:30.

### Bored?

Some parents have mentioned that their children are "bored" during Mass. Not surprising, most of these parents stated that they sit in the rear/back of the church. If you stop and think of it, I would be just as disengaged if I were a young student. From their eye level all they see are people's backs or backsides! It's often a challenge for child or adult to focus on Mass from the back where they can be easily distracted. A number of parents have expressed to me that once they move up to the front/front half of the church, they and their children find Mass more "interesting" and become more engaged.....and less bored. Try it. It works.

### THANK YOU

I would like to thank the 10 new individuals who volunteered to count the weekend collections. These, joined with some of those who counted previously have been broken into three teams and will be counting the collection and filling out the required paperwork according to the Archdiocesan Guidelines. Fiscal responsibility and accountability are essential in all our parishes. I would also like to express my appreciation for those who have counted our collection over the past years.

~Fr. Bill

**JUNIOR HIGH HAPPENING**

Parents, are you looking for a high-energy, fun-filled, spiritual growth experience for your 7th/8th grader? If so, this is it!!! **SNOWCAMPS 2012** will be held on the weekends of **March 2-4 and March 9-11** at Camp Brookwoods in Alton, NH. Teenagers from throughout the diocese will be participating in what could very well be “the best weekend of their lives!” Sign up now as space for SNOWCAMPS is limited and will sell out quickly. For an application and more information visit [www.snowcampsparty.com](http://www.snowcampsparty.com)

**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2012**

Vacation Bible School is a week long summer program in which children ages 4-11 will have fun learning about God through crafts, snacks, games and bible adventures. The dates for this year's VBS will be July 23-27, 9am-12pm. This is the last full week in July. Registration will begin in spring. Our biggest need this year is for a **Preschool Director** who would be responsible (with assist of 2-3 adults/teenagers) for 20 preschoolers, their activities, crafts, etc. The program is already put together for you; you just need to carry it out. Further details can be provided for you. I am also looking for a co-director to assist me in the overall planning, registration, organization & set up for the week. In addition to these 2 people, I am in need of 10 adults to be station leaders for crafts, snacks, games, etc., as well as at least 20 teenagers (those who have completed 6th grade by July 2012 & up) to be crew leaders. There will be a meeting on **Tuesday, February 7<sup>th</sup> @ 7:30 pm in the parish center** for all who are interested in helping. If you feel called to this ministry and have any questions or concerns prior to Feb 7<sup>th</sup>, please contact Beth Peterson @ 508-697-7986 or [beth0109@comcast.net](mailto:beth0109@comcast.net)

**CATHOLIC SCHOOL NEWS****Coyle & Cassidy**

Winter Open House—DATE CHANGE

**Monday, Feb. 13<sup>th</sup>**

6:00 PM – 8:00 PM

2 Hamilton Street, Taunton

We are a community dedicated to excellence in the pursuit of the academic, emotional, physical, and spiritual development of our students. We foster social justice, service to others, and the recognition of the dignity of all people, as embodied in the teaching of Christ. Financial Assistance Available.

**Holy Family, Rockland Open House**

Sunday, January 29th, 10:30 a.m. to noon

For more information, please call the office at 781-878-1154 or visit our website at [www.hfsrockland.org](http://www.hfsrockland.org).

**Sacred Heart, Kingston Open House**

Sunday, February 12, 2012, 1-3 p.m.

Sacred Heart Elementary School and Early Childhood Center

329 and 251 Bishops Highway, Kingston

[www.sacredheart.mec.edu](http://www.sacredheart.mec.edu)**Taunton Catholic Middle School Open House**

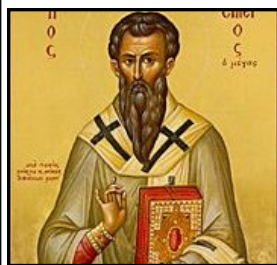
Thursday, February 2nd, 7:00-8:30pm.

TCMS provides a rigorous academic program, small class sizes, 100% state certified teachers, rich opportunities for extracurricular activities and sports all within a safe and secure environment. Financial assistance is available to those who qualify. Please visit [www.catholicmiddle.com](http://www.catholicmiddle.com) or contact the school office at 508-822-0491 for more information.

**Catholic Schools Week**

Begun in 1974, Catholic Schools Week is a joint project of the National Catholic Education Association (NCEA) and the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB). The theme for Catholic Schools Week 2012 is “Catholic Schools: Faith. Academics. Service.” The annual observance starts January 30 to February 4. Schools typically celebrate Catholic Schools Week with Masses, open houses and activities for students, families, parishioners and the community at large.

The theme focuses on three priorities that Catholic schools establish that make them stand out from other educational institutions. Children are taught faith – not just the basics of Christianity, but how to have a relationship with God. Academics, which in Catholic schools are held to very high standards, help each child reach his or her potential. Service, the giving of one’s time and effort to help others, is taught both as an expression of faith and good citizenship.



**ST. BASIL CHAPEL**  
**Weekly Events at St. Basil's**  
**Sunday, Jan 29, 2012**  
 Mass 10:00 a.m.  
 Mass 7:30 p.m.

**Weekly Events**

**Monday, January 30** – RCIA—7 to 9 p.m. L/R  
**Wednesday, February 1** – 5:30 p.m. Mass  
**Thursday, Feb 2** – 3:30-6:00  
 Student Volunteer Opportunity – Mainspring House  
 3:30-4:30—Community Service Meeting L/R  
 5:30 – 7:00—Daisy Scout meeting D/S

**Of Sauce and Meatballs....**

Thanks to Yvonne Chadwick & Marybeth Hanafin for the sauce & meatballs for last week's spaghetti dinner, the men of Phi Kappa Theta for helping set up, serve & take down and to Christine Mungovan & Kristen Howlett for supervising. This is truly a community effort and a favorite of the students on campus.

**The next dinner will be February 15<sup>th</sup>.**

**Of Sun and Service....**

Next Sunday, February 5<sup>th</sup> after the 10 a.m. Mass the students who went to Andre House in Arizona with our campus minister, Marlene DeLeon and Fr. John D'Arpino, for their Alternative Break, will share some of their experiences and pictures with the community.  
 Please join us for this enlightening program.



**Please pray for our Second Graders and their families as they make their First Penance this weekend and next.**

**NEXT MONTH REMINDERS**

Our **Grade 4 Liturgy** will be held on Sunday, February 4 at 10:00 at St. Thomas Aquinas. If you have a 4th grader interested in taking part, please email Kate Anderson at cnjanderson@comcast.net.

**FIRST COMMUNION** Parent Meeting, Tuesday, February 7, 7PM in the upper church.

**LIFE TEEN**  
*Leading Teens Closer to Christ. ®*

**ROMAN MISSAL LINGO**

With the new translation of the Roman Missal, many new words have been introduced into our liturgical language. Each week we'll be giving you one new word and it's definition. Learning these words will help make understanding the new language a little easier (and you never know when you'll get quizzed on them in class!)

*Homage: The honor, respect, and reverence due to another. Homage is especially due to God, for he is eternal, all good, all holy, all loving.*

**Worried? Anxious? Try this....**

What do you worry about? Today's second reading talks of us being "free of anxieties" – I know, easier said than done, right? What about bringing all of your problems to prayer? In the words of C.S. Lewis, "Prayer does nothing to change God, but everything to change me". Come to our **Teen Adoration Hour** on Saturdays from 2-3pm - our anxieties lessen when we know that God is there with us.

**\*\*\*9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> Graders\*\*\***

Don't forget that the honor of your presence is requested and required at two Life Nights this semester.

**Welcome to Our Parish Family!**



**BAPTISM**  
*Baptism*

**Colleen Anne McSweeney**  
 daughter of  
**David and Lisa McSweeney**

**Another Senior Moment by Fr. Ed McLaughlin**

Well we have put away all of the Christmas decorations and I have for about the 75th. time (and I mean that literally) carefully put my little nativity set away, Mary, Joseph and the Baby Jesus go in the box first so they can be nestled carefully in the old packing chips and straw. Last but not least come the Three Wise Men. Since they *are* the Wise Men I feel that they can take care of themselves. After all they made the long journey to Bethlehem so they should be able to withstand a little jostling in the box. A long, long time ago I played one of the Wise Men in the Christmas Pageant. I can remember wanting my mother to make me a fancy turban and get me a gold box to carry my gift to the Baby Jesus. Well times were tough in those days and my mother had more to worry about than spending precious money on me and my desire to be a "fashionable" wise man. I tried to explain to my mother that I saw myself somewhat like a cross between Clark Gable and Ronald Coleman (Anyone remember him?) and I am sure any producer or director would dress those guys in resplendent costumes. I even asked if I could borrow someone's fancy jewels so my gift would look befitting the Baby Jesus. All of this was met with a distaining look and a quick lesson in humility. I remember so well my mother telling me that the finest gift I could give the Baby Jesus was all of the love in my heart. So needless to say I appeared opening night with probably some old part of a curtain wrapped around my head and a box covered in something like tin foil. But my mother beamed with joy partly because she knew that she had taught me that the Baby Jesus was only interested in what was inside the box and that was a heart full of love. I think of that now as I go out on these cold, wintry mornings to Mass. I go huffing and wheezing and sometimes a little short of breath. But I am reminded of what my mother taught me those many, many years ago. The most important thing is what is inside in my heart.



**LITTLE SISTERS of the POOR**

**EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY**

at Little Sisters of the Poor - Greater Boston

Full Time Nurse: **MUST** have

**LONG TERM CARE FACILITY EXPERIENCE.**

Please contact :

smhumanresources@littlesistersofthepoor.org  
or 617-776-4420 x318.

**Ash Wednesday  
February 22nd**

From February 12-19, we will be collecting old palms. Baskets will be available at both worship sites. These will be burned for use on Ash Wednesday.

**Adult Confirmation Classes**

Would you, or anyone you know, like to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation? Classes begin on Thursday, February 23, at 7:00 PM at the Catholic Center on Bridgewater State University campus – St. Basil's Chapel. Classes will be for six weeks. Please contact Deacon Jerry Ryan if you are interested. Contact info can be found on the front of the bulletin.

**WORDSEARCH**

Can you find and circle the words listed below the wordsearch grid?

M	B	P	R	O	P	H	E	T	C	A	E
W	O	M	L	F	D	E	S	T	R	O	Y
G	I	S	H	I	S	H	R	I	E	K	S
J	K	F	E	N	S	O	M	L	I	D	P
R	Q	F	E	S	P	T	E	A	C	H	I
V	O	I	C	E	G	V	E	U	T	S	R
B	W	R	X	B	O	D	Y	N	Z	Y	I
C	U	E	B	A	O	W	O	R	L	D	T
E	D	S	F	K	D	G	O	Q	P	N	J
I	H	L	Y	M	U	N	C	L	E	A	N

PROPHET  
MOSES  
LISTEN  
VOICE  
FIRE

TEACH  
DESTROY  
SPIRIT  
UNCLEAN  
SHRIEK

BUSY  
WIFE  
BODY  
WORLD  
GOOD

**SACRAMENTS**

**Confessions**-Saturday 3:00 - 3:45 PM or by appointment

**Baptisms**-1:30PM on the 2nd and 4th Sundays

Please call the Rectory to make arrangements to speak with a priest. The class for February baptisms will be on Wednesday, February 8th, 7PM in the Parish Center.

**Marriage**-Please call the Rectory at least one year in advance. Attendance at Marriage Preparation Course is required.

**Anointing of the Sick**-If you wish to receive the sacraments at home or in the hospital due to an illness, a handicap or age, please contact the Rectory.

**DEVOTIONS**

Adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament—First Fridays 9:30 to 10:30 AM only, and every Saturday 9:30 AM - 3:00 PM.

Perpetual Novena to Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal—9:30 Mondays.

Candlelight Rosary Procession in Honor of Our Lady of Fatima—13th of the month from May - October at 7:30 PM.

Queen of Angels Prayer Group—Fridays 10:00AM

K of C Rosary Devotion for Pro-Life—1st Friday, lower church at 6:30 PM.

Divine Mercy Holy Hour— Tuesdays at 7:00PM, lower church



**Keep our service members in your prayers....**

- CW4 Thomas Ahl , USA
- PFC Jonathan Benson, USMC
- SN Kyle Gomes, USCG
- LCPL Daniel Preach, USMC
- SSGT Joseph Hasson, USA
- PFC Joseph Burchill, USMC
- PFC Tayla A. Luiz, USA
- PVT Efrain Vargas, USA
- PFC Christian Vargas USA
- LTC Bill Gormley USA
- SGT Matthew Pepin USA
- SPC Ashley Pepin USA
- MAJ Jeffrey DiMarzio USA



**January 22**

- St. Thomas Aquinas \$4,927.00
- Monthly Offertory \$3,517.00
- St. Basil \$1,050.00
- Monthly Offertory \$220.00

This week's second collection is for the **Church in Latin America.**

This week's second collection is for the **Church in Latin America (CLA)** which provides support for pastoral projects in financially poor dioceses in Latin America and the Caribbean. CLA funds catechetical and lay leadership programs, youth ministry, evangelization programs, and formation programs for religious, priests and deacons. CLA is making it possible for the Catholic faithful in the western hemisphere to help each other.

Visit: [www.usccb.org/latinamerica](http://www.usccb.org/latinamerica)

**Next week's second collection: Capital Improvement**



Tired of forgetting to bring your envelope to Mass? ParishPay can help. ParishPay is convenient, secure and user friendly. Visit [www.parishpay.com](http://www.parishpay.com) to set up your account.

**Remember those in need of prayer.**

- Andrea Proffetty, Jane Cox,*
- Kevin Looney, Evan Frye,*
- June Ahl, Richard O'Hare,*
- Louis Resmini, Sandra Cable,*
- Alexis Zutaut, Germaine Lanzikos,*
- Olivia Bonfiglio, Eleanor Bumpus,*
- Liz Palleschi, Anna Piantoni,*
- Fr. Ed McLaughlin, Joanna Crabtree,*
- Manuel Amaral, Mary Filippetti Markey,*
- Victor O'Leary, Normanda Torres,*
- Kristi (Henault) Wheeler,*
- Nora Onanian, Kathryn Monestere,*
- Carolyn, McAdams, Robert Motroni*

