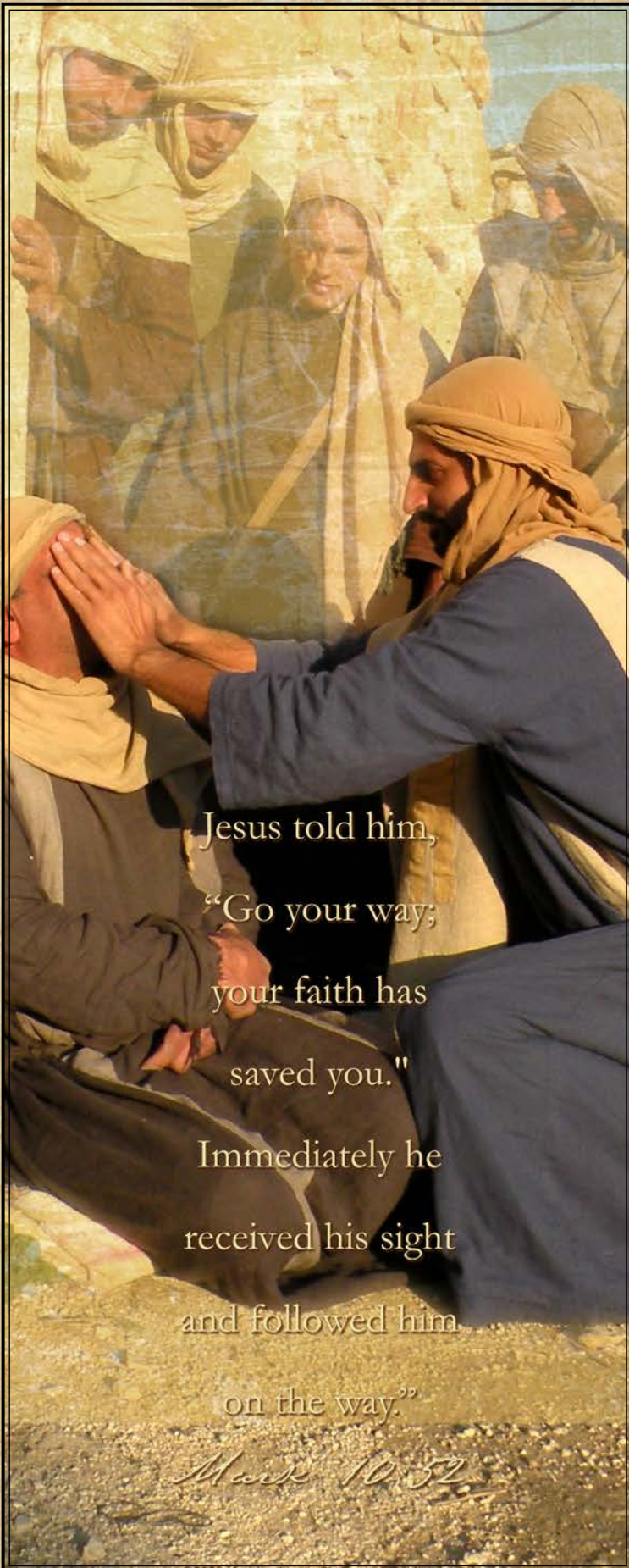


# SAINT THOMAS AQUINAS PARISH

October 25, 2015



Jesus told him,  
"Go your way;  
your faith has  
saved you."  
Immediately he  
received his sight  
and followed him  
on the way."

*Mark 10:52*

## St Thomas Aquinas

103 Center St, Bridgewater, MA 02324

website: [www.stthomasaquinas.com](http://www.stthomasaquinas.com)

Rev. Bill Devine, Pastor

Rev. Adrian Milik, Parochial Vicar

Jerry Ryan, Senior Deacon

Gina Lewis, Business Manager

Rob Ruth, Admin. Assistant

e-mail: [stthomasaquinas@comcast.net](mailto:stthomasaquinas@comcast.net)

Parish Office Monday - Friday 9am to 5pm

P: (508) 697-9528 F: (508) 279-1859

Religious Ed : Debbie Hill & Karen Geraghty

Office: (508) 697-3652

### Weekly Mass Schedule

SATURDAY	SUNDAY	WEEKDAYS
9:00 am	7:45 am	7:00 am
4:00 am	10:00 am	9:00 am
	10:00 am	
	12:00 pm	

### St Basil Chapel / The Catholic Center

Rev. Adrian Milik, Campus Chaplin

Marlene DeLeon, Campus Minister

Phone: (508) 531-1412

e-mail: [marlene.deleon@bridgew.edu](mailto:marlene.deleon@bridgew.edu)

Rita Garufi, Admin. Assistant

e-mail: [rita.garufi@bridgew.edu](mailto:rita.garufi@bridgew.edu)

Main Office M - F 9am to 2pm

P:(508) 531-1346 F:(508) 531-6188

### Mass Schedule

SUNDAY 10:00 am, 5:00 pm

*a word from Fr. Bill . . .***Priesthood Sunday**

This Sunday has been designated as Priesthood Sunday. Fr. Adrian and I are profoundly humbled and grateful for the gift of priesthood and the opportunity to serve the Lord and His Church. When I was ordained a priest I never imagined the parishes where I would serve or the places that the military would send me. I never imagined the situations where the Lord would use me to make His love present to those who needed it. . . . from baptizing children and adults, celebrating Mass in a cathedral in Japan or in the desert in Iraq, anointing those who are sick and those who are dying, being an instrument of the Lord's forgiveness and healing, celebrating with couples as they commit themselves to each other in the Sacrament of Marriage. I have learned that the message I bring is more important than the messenger. I've learned to rely more on the Lord's grace than my abilities. I've learned that the Lord works through the people I serve as well as through me. I've learned how important it is to pray in order to deepen my relationship with the Lord and my ability to serve and lead. As my faith in and love for the Lord continues to grow and I'm learning to be patient not only with myself but those I serve. I've learned that there is no perfect priest. . . . or is there? The following reflection was given to me years ago. . . .

**The Perfect Priest. . . . .**

The perfect priest preaches five minutes, but in that time manages to apply the scriptures meaningfully to each member of the congregation from the toddlers to senior citizens. He frequently speaks about the controversial issues of the day, but never upsets anyone. He works from 7:00 a.m. until midnight, but never gets tired or pressured. He makes \$60 a week, but manages to wear good clothes, buy good books and donates \$50 a week to the poor. The perfect priest never speaks about money, but miraculously manages to pay all the bills in addition to keeping up on repairs and improvements to the parish property.

The perfect priest is about 33 years of age, but has thirty years of preaching experience. He is a good shepherd who gives of himself completely to his flock, but never gets too close to anyone, lest he be criticized. The perfect priest speaks boldly on social issues, but never becomes politically involved.

The perfect priest can relate easily and respond effectively to the needs of the teenagers, but spends all his time with senior citizens. He makes 15 visits a day to the homes of parishioners in addition to his visits to the shut-ins and hospitalized. He commits many hours each day going out into the community to evangelize the unchurched, but is always in the rectory office when you need him.

If your priest does not measure up to this standard, simply send this bulletin notice to six other parishes that are tired of their priest, too. Next bundle up your priest and send him to one of those parishes. In one week, you will receive 12,643 priests. At least one of them should be perfect.

Have faith in this process. One parish broke the chain and got its old priest back in three weeks. I hope you welcome him warmly upon his return!

St. Thomas Aquinas Parish . Bridgewater, MA

**Welcome**

I welcome two seminarians Michael Rora and Brian Cullen from St. John's Seminary who will be speaking at the end of the 10 a.m., 12 p.m., and 5 p.m. masses this weekend. They will share their "vocation story" on their discernment of the Lord's call to priesthood.

**Mass Count**

Don't be too concerned if you see ushers walking down the aisles during Mass for the next couple of weeks. Every year at this time we are asked to take a count of the number attending Mass. Sit up straight so that you can be counted. Thanks.

**Appeal Thank You. . . . .**

I would like to thank those who have already contributed to the Grand Annual Appeal which only began two weeks ago! I am encouraged by your willingness and generosity. The Appeal will continue for the next two months. Copies of our Annual Financial Report and Grand Annual Appeal letter are available at the entrances of the church and chapel if you didn't receive one. Thank you for providing the resources needed to fund our ministries and operational costs. Total gifts & pledges received to date are \$15,230.00

**Music Director**

We are still in the process of searching for a Music Director. The job posting is on [BostonCatholic.org](http://BostonCatholic.org) and [CatholicJobs.com](http://CatholicJobs.com). I am indebted to the members of our parish search committee for their willingness and their patience in reviewing and interviewing prospective candidates. It's a slow process but one that is critical in order to identify the right person for this position. Please pray for us.

**Volunteers**

A month ago we had a tremendous response to our Volunteer Sign-Up Weekend. Everyone who signed up for a ministry should have been contacted by now and has met or will meet with the coordinator within the next few weeks. It's heartening to see not only those who have recommitted to a ministry but the number of new parishioners that are volunteering for the first time!

**Pastoral Council Openings**

We are seeking parishioners to fill positions on the Parish Pastoral Council to replace members who are ending their tenure. The Parish Pastoral Council meets bimonthly and assists the pastor in his role of planning, organizing, initiating and reviewing the parish's mission of evangelization, worship, religious education and service. Council members serve three year terms.

Parishioners who are interested in joining the Council should contact the parish office by November 13th with their contact information. You can volunteer yourself or provide the name of someone who you think would serve well on the Council. A Council member will be in touch with you or them in order to answer any questions and to invite them to the next Council Meeting.

[www.stthomasaquinas.com](http://www.stthomasaquinas.com)

## Homebound Ministers Training

Earlier this summer, I was asked coordinate to a two-part workshop for our Homebound Eucharistic Ministers of Holy Communion. When reading about the program, I realized I've lived this program first hand when my husband, Tom, and I were the caregivers for parents as they were coming to the end of their life in the last five years. We had the Home Health Care Providers, Physical Therapists, Meals on Wheels volunteers, Hospice workers and our Homebound Ministers in and out of our home on a daily basis. All these wonderful, caring, compassionate people helped make our parents' final years/ days a bit brighter and less frightening for them and our family.

At times when the Homebound Ministers were at the house, I would stand in my laundry room and listen to my parents share with the ministers of times when they were younger, healthier, and I would smile! I would also hear of their fears through the crack of the door and pretend NOT to listen, but listened, and sometimes watch our Homebound Minister understand and touch their hands with loving knowledge. The comfort and understanding they gave to Mom and Dad were treasured gifts to them and to me.

At the Homebound workshop, we will discuss Jesus' compassion, communication through listening and Love for all people. It is important to understand sometime we just need to listen and learn from the ill, old, and dying to help make their lives, as long or short as they may be, as comfortable and meaningful as they can be.

The workshops will be conducted by the Office of Health Care Ministry of the Archdiocese. All parishes in the area have been invited to attend.

**Session One:** Saturday, November 7, 9 a.m.- 3 p.m. at St. Basil's Chapel

**Session Two:** Saturday, November 14, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. at St. Thomas Aquinas Parish Center

Registration is required. \$40 fee will be paid by our parish. Please call 617-746-5843 or email [kfarrell@rcab.org](mailto:kfarrell@rcab.org)

Thank you. Pat and Tom Aiello

## Adult Baptism and Confirmation

RCIA is a program for adults wanting to be baptized and/or confirmed. Each year a new group of individuals decides the time is right to deepen their relationship with Christ, to become a more visible and active part of the parish community, and to strengthen their faith. Our RCIA team of mentors wants you to ask questions, share your faith, read Scripture and reflect upon it, and find yourself more in love with God and with your neighbor. This is the last opportunity to register for the program for the year.

**Monday evening  
6:30 to 8PM**

in the lounge of The Catholic Center  
Come October 26th with your heart, mind and spirit.

St. Thomas Aquinas Parish . Bridgewater, MA

## Faith Formation

Welcome to our 7th Grade students and families who join us to celebrate their Grade Level Liturgy at the 10:00 Mass. Thank you to those students who volunteered to participate and to our parent coordinator for this Mass, Margaret Donahue.

## Teaching Mass Update

We'd like to thank Deacon George Zarella, father of catechist Kim Sousa, who shared his understanding of the beauty of the Mass with our Monday students in Grades 1-6. Our Monday 7th and 8th Graders had the opportunity to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation from our parish priests assisted by Fr. Dan Crowley, Fr. Richard Crowley, and Fr. Jiwon Yoon. We appreciate and thank all our guests for giving our students this opportunity. Offering the Sacrament of Reconciliation to our middle schoolers is new to the program this year and we know that it will be a blessing for them to experience God's healing love as part of their religious education experience.

## Confirmation News

### Challenge of the Week – Lesson 3

1. Make a cheerful sacrifice. Volunteer to do a sibling's chores for a day, help a neighbor with yard work, make a meal for your family, or babysit for free.
2. Create or find symbols of the Holy TRINITY. Explain the symbolism to someone in your family and write about it in the space below.
3. Choose a saint to research, and jot down three interesting facts to share with your class. (Confirmation II students may want to complete their saint name form.)

## Confirmation II retreat

will take place **Friday, November 6, 4:00-9:00 PM** in the parish center for the following classes: Mrs. Frazier/Mrs. Pearce, Mrs. Foley/Mrs. Daley, Mrs. Campbell, Mr. Craffey/Mr. Kennedy. Dinner will be provided.

## Offerings for week of October 18th

In Pew	\$6282
Online	\$3717
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$9999</b>

Thank you for your generous gifts which support the many ministries of St. Thomas Aquinas Parish. In addition to your regular gifts, your generosity to World Missions collection came to \$2660.

## Let Us Talk About the Power of Grace

Earlier this month I began meeting with some parishioners to talk about how a better understanding of the Scriptures can help us better understand the nature and meaning of marriage. We spoke what God created marriage to be and then how a genuine understanding of what love is helps us understand the role and responsibility of husband and wife toward each other. The group that met with me for those two sessions was small, but our conversation was fruitful and interesting. I hope that you will join us this week when we shift the conversation from the world of nature to the world of God's grace and begin to speak of marriage as a sacrament rather than just as a natural institution. The group meets at 7pm and our conversation goes for just about an hour. I hope that you will join us, even if you were not able to do so earlier in the month. After this week's meeting, there will be two more opportunities in November when we finish looking at the various aspects of this great gift that God gave us in the institution of marriage and the family.

**10/28 - Grace and Nature: on the Sacrament of Marriage**

**11/11 - What God has Joined: on Divorce and Annulments**

**11/18 - Different Gifts: on Marriage and Celibacy**

In Christ,

Fr. Adrian

## 50/50 Raffle

Raffle tickets will be handed out after all masses the weekend of October 24 & 25th. If you're interested please take some home for yourself, or to sell. Return stubs and money before 3 PM p.m. on November 21, 2015. Last year each winner won \$715.00 Good luck!

## New York Bus Trip SAVE THE DATE

Catholic Financial Life, Chpt. N278, has set a date for the trip to New York City on **Sat. November 14, 2015**. The bus leaves from the parking lot at St. Thomas Aquinas Church at 6 a.m. sharp and will return around 11:00 p.m. Proceeds go to St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry to help the needy in Bridgewater. The cost of the trip is \$58.00 per person. The bus stops in New York are Times Square and the 9-1-1 Memorial where the One World Observatory is now open. The Rocketts start their Christmas show that weekend. All tickets for any of these events and shows must be purchased by you directly. For reservations and more information contact

Joan Gambill at  
508-697-3425

email: [joangam@comcast.net](mailto:joangam@comcast.net),

or mail to

Joan Gambill, 20 Woodland Dr., Bridgewater, MA 02324.  
Reserve early to assure a seat on the bus. Catholic Financial Life will match a portion of the net proceeds.

St. Thomas Aquinas Parish . Bridgewater, MA

## Holiday Bazaar News:

Plans for Our **Annual Holiday Bazaar** are under way. The bazaar committee has a WISH LIST that we would like to share with you.

If you are interested in crafts or need supplies  
please call Nella at 697-8848

Theme Baskets

Plants

Jewelry and empty jewelry boxes  
(drop off at Parish Center)

Fudge, Candy, Baked Goods

*(Please deliver to Parish Center on Nov. 20 or 21)*

Knitted or sown items

Gently used or new toys *(drop off at Parish Center)*

White elephant items *(drop off at Parish Center)*

To help defray the cost of our luncheon  
the following:

soda, water, coffee, tea and cocoa

2 large cans of tomato sauce

meatballs and sub rolls

small bags of chips *(2 cases)*

cups, plates and napkins

Gift certificates for kitchen use

white, red or green rolled paper to cover tables

With your help and support we can be assured of another  
successful Bazaar.

Thank-you

Please call if you are able to donate

Becky 508-697-4791

## Youth Group Events

### Rollerskating (grades 6-8)

**Tues. Nov. 10, 8-10pm**

Carousel Family Fun Center

1055 Auburn St. Whitman, MA

**Private, chaperoned event. Transportation not provided.**  
Cost is \$13 (includes entry and skate rental). Snack bar extra.

Friends who are not members of St. Thomas are welcome!

Permission slips available on parish website,  
[stthomasaquinas.com](http://stthomasaquinas.com)

Please return in labeled envelope with payment to Rel. Ed.

**Office by Thurs. Nov. 5**

**For more information contact**

Steven Riley @ [steven.riley@maritime.edu](mailto:steven.riley@maritime.edu)

Pauline Lysko @ [lyskos@comcast.net](mailto:lyskos@comcast.net)

Beth Peterson @ [beth0109@comcast.net](mailto:beth0109@comcast.net)

[www.stthomasaquinas.com](http://www.stthomasaquinas.com)

## Volunteer Training & Meeting times Eucharistic ministers of holy communion

Training is required for both returning and new volunteers.  
New or returning volunteers only have to attend one training meeting.

**Sunday, October 26**

St. Thomas Aquinas Church

7:00 PM Returning volunteers

7:30 PM New volunteers

## Halloween pancake breakfast

The Phi Kappa Theta Fraternity of BSU will sponsor a Halloween pancake breakfast on

**Sunday, November 1, 11:15-1:00pm**

in the upstairs lounge of the Catholic Center.

Proceeds will go toward The Children's Miracle Network.

<http://childrensmiraclenetworkhospitals.org/About>

Their mission is to increase funds and awareness for local children's hospitals.

Donations have gone to support research and training, purchase equipment, and pay for uncompensated care, all to save and improve the lives of as many children as possible.

## Bridgewater Knights of Columbus Council #488

### Monthly Meat Raffle

St Ann's Church  
103 N Main St. Rte 28  
West Bridgewater

**Saturday, June 21, 2015**

**1pm to 3pm**

Light refreshments served. All are Welcome!

## FREE! Coffee and Donuts no strings attached

Join us, following the 10:00 AM Mass  
This Sunday, October 25,  
and every other Sunday  
at St. Thomas Aquinas Church  
in the Parish Center gym.

## Hats for the Homeless

This weekend is the last opportunity to contribute.

## Christmas Gifts for Veterans and Troops

The list of requested items for the Troops in Afghanistan and Veterans in the Brockton Medical Center for Christmas are available. Items maybe dropped off at St. Basil in the coffee room, or with Rita Garufi in the office anytime. Collection bins for St. Thomas Aquinas will be available

at the entrances of the church on the weekends of  
**Saturday, October 31 & Sunday, November 1**  
and

**Saturday, November 7 & Sunday, November 8**

Items need to be in by **Friday, November 20.**

Monetary donations to help with postage maybe made as well.

### items for our Troops

shampoo, deodorant  
tooth brushes & tooth paste  
dental floss (not the string kind),  
mouthwash, hand sanitizer,  
handy wipes, hand cream, lip balm  
Kleenex packets, AYR Nasal spray  
Band-Aids (kid's fun type)  
eyeglass cleaner, wash cloths, T-shirts  
headscarves (black, green, blue)  
warm socks (black or green)  
socks (black or green), foot powder  
foot warmers, dryer sheets  
pillowcases, stationary, sports items  
candy, gum, nuts/sunflower seeds  
beef jerky, cocoa, Ramen noodles,  
health bars, batteries (AA or AAA)

### items for our Veterans

Gift cards to:

Papa Gino's, I-HOP, Panera Bread, "99"  
Stop and Shop, Marylou's, Dunkin Donuts  
Showcase movie passes, shampoo,  
conditioner, bar soap, deodorant,  
Mach3 razors, tooth brushes/tooth paste  
dental floss (not the string kind)  
mouthwash, combs/hair brushes  
nail clippers, small cosmetic bags  
foot powder, eyeglass cleaner  
t-shirts (white & colors)(L,XL,XXL)  
socks, warm hats and gloves  
sweat shirts ( zip-up), lap-robos (soft)  
batteries (AA or AAA), wooden card holders,  
large print Sudoku, crossword,  
word finder books, cribbage games

**"A time to be born..."**

Anassa Alnatas, Brodie Graham Brunell, Harper Rose Cohen,  
Brady Daniel Cohen, Ava Judith Florence, Jacob Joseph  
Amaral, Jacob Collieran Winters, Aubry Elizabeth Enos

**"A time to love..."**

David Scully and Amanda Craffey

**"A time to die..."**

Thomas Balboni, Michael LeClair, Vincent J. Stratoti,  
William Wilder, Janusz Sliz, Diane L. Messaline,  
Frances L. Bukin, Edith Shepard, Richard B Moore,  
Janet Mantia, Janet Marie Rey Rowbottom,  
Jeffrey A. Rys

**"A time to heal..."**

Olga (Cassiani) Alberghini, Edward Albert, Jean  
Andrade, Jeffrey Bean, Baby Valerie Belcher, Olivia  
Bonfiglio, Jim & Jean Brennan, Caitlin Burnett, Kim  
(Sweetman) Carnello, Sandra Cable, Christine Cabral,  
Kelli Callahan, Bill Carey, Jacquie Cordaro, Matthew  
Costantino, Michael Costantino, Baby Mychal Joseph  
Cotone, Joanna Crabtree, Sandra Croall, Jannine  
Dawicki, Mary DeLeon, Mark Denault, Marty  
Dickerman, John Freoney, Joseph Kelly, James LaFran-  
chise, Rylee Fontes, Lee Fuller, Jesus Galindo, Ben  
Gallo, Jim Geraghty, Alanna Gillis, Beverly Guiffre,  
Fred Laham, Daniel John, Gregg Laskoski, Kevin  
Looney, Alanna Gillis, Beverley Guiffre, Tim Johnson,  
Beverly Jufree, Bob Mackey, Kaleena McHardy,  
Stephen McNally, Marjorie Mello, Baby Chase Miceli,  
Charles Monestere, Alice Moniz, Arlene Morin, Bob  
Morris, Bob Morse, Anna Nakouzi, Antonio & Lucilia  
Nunes, Paul D'Olimpia, Glenn O'Neil, Ann Paulino,  
Carolyn Perry, Richard Piantoni, Dorothy Pope, Maria  
Presti, Andrea Proffetty, Rich Quigley, Matthew Ryan,  
Dan Sante, Paul Segreve, Sarah Silvia, Deana Spingel,  
Kim Sullivan, John Swan, Betty Tarentino, James Toy  
Jr., Anna Vrana, Don Weiner, Margaret Yanuskiewicz,  
Mary (Sweetman) Zunino, Alexis Zutaut,

**"A time for peace..."**

General Joseph F. Dunford, USMC  
CW4 Thomas Ahl, USA  
Captain Vincent Chiappini, USA  
1st LT. Karen Chouinard Holliday, USMC  
Captain John Costantino & USA  
PFC, William Vey, USA  
CPL Brandon Jamieson, USA  
Army PV2 Harry Terpeny  
PFC, Christopher Ahl, USA

**"And a time for every  
purpose under heaven..."**

The people on our prayer list are prayed for by name  
each Saturday at the 9 AM Mass.  
Please continue to keep them in your prayers.

**Weekly Mass Intentions****Saturday, October 24**

4:00 p.m. Norman Cummings

**Sunday, October 25**

7:45 a.m. Mass For The People

10:00 a.m. Victor O'Leary

12:00 p.m. Marcia Borges and

All the souls in Purgatory

**Wednesday, October 28**

7:00 a.m. Joanie Mantia

**Saturday, October 31**

4:00 p.m. Donna Lanzikos

**Sunday, October 25**

7:45 a.m. Esther & Valentino Mortarelli

10:00 a.m. Mass For The People

12:00 p.m. Edward Farrell

**Sacraments**

**Confessions:** Every Saturday 3:00 p.m. - 3:45p.m. in  
the lower church or by appointment.

**Baptisms:** Ordinarily celebrated on the 2nd and 4th  
Sunday of each month at 1:30 pm. Please call the  
Rectory to speak with a priest prior to making any  
arrangements. Parents are welcome to attend classes during  
the pregnancy if it is more convenient.

**Marriage:** Please call the Rectory at least eight  
months in advance. Attendance at the Marriage  
Preparation Course is required.

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

**Weekly Devotions**

We encourage all parishioners to spend  
some quiet time with the Lord

**ADORATION**

Saturdays 9:30 am to 1:00 pm

**DIVINE MERCY HOLY HOUR**

Thursdays 3:00 pm

St Thomas Aquinas - Lower Church