

ST. THOMAS AQUINAS PARISH

April 24, 2016

MASS SCHEDULE

St Thomas Aquinas Church

Daily Mass

Monday - Friday | 7:00 a.m., 9:00 a.m.

Saturday | 9:00 a.m.

Sunday Mass

Saturday Vigil | 4:00 p.m.

Sunday | 7:45, 10:00, a.m., 12:00 p.m.

St Basil Chapel

Sunday | 10:00 a.m., 5:00 p.m.

PARISH INFORMATION

Website www.stthomasaquinas.com

St Thomas Aquinas

Rev. Bill Devine, Pastor

Rev. Adrian Milik, Parochial Vicar

Sr. Deacon Jerry Ryan

Parish Office Staff

103 Center St. Bridgewater, Ma 02324

Hours | Mon.– Fri. 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Rob Ruth, Administrative Assistant

E-mail | stthomasaquinas@comcast.net

Phone | 508 697 9528

Fax | 508 279 1859

Religious Education Office Staff

Phone | 508 697 3652

Debbie Hill, Coordinator of Religious Ed.

Karen Geraghty, Coordinator of Religious Ed.

St Basil, The Catholic Center

122 Park Ave. Bridgewater, Ma 02324

Hours | Mon.– Fri. 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Phone | 508 531 1346

Fax | 508 531 6188

Chapel Staff

Rev. Adrian Milik, Campus Chaplain

Marlene DeLeon, Campus Minister

Phone | 508 531 1412

marlene.deleon@bridgew.edu

Rita Garufi, Administrative Assistant

rita.garufi@bridgew.edu



Love one another
as I have loved you.

Welcome

To visitors of our Parish, and to those who have recently moved into the area, and to those comfortable and nourished here - *Welcome*. Regardless of your status in the Church, marital state, your ethnicity, your prior religious experience, your personal history, background, or sexual orientation, we hope that you will continue to worship with us each week.

Our Mission is to be a welcoming community of believers continually growing in our faith and in our love of Jesus Christ through worship, education, evangelization and service within our local and broader community.

Our Mission

Rummage Sale

On behalf of the parish I would like to express our appreciation to all the members of the Woman's Club for their help in organizing, pricing and selling articles during this Saturday's (April 23rd) Rummage Sale.

First Holy Communion

Fr. Adrian and I will celebrate four Masses for the reception of First Holy Communion for the students and their families on Saturday, April 30th and May 7th at 10:30 and 1 p.m. These students and their families are invited to take part in the May Procession to be held on May 15th after the 10 a.m. Mass.

Diaconate Ordination

Will Sexton, a third year seminarian at St. John's Seminary, who spent last summer and one afternoon each week during this past year in our parish will be ordained to the Transitional Diaconate next Saturday, April 30th at the Cathedral of the Holy Cross. His pastoral experience will continue in our parish during this summer and on weekends during the next academic year. May the Lord continue to bless him and his desire to serve the Lord in and through the Church.

Leaving Mass Early

I would ask everyone, especially those who sit in the rear of the church/chapel, to please remain in church until the priest has processed out. It's discouraging and frustrating for teachers and parents who are teaching their children to remain in church until the priest leaves when they see a significant number of adults leaving. I realize that there may be times when it's necessary to leave early however many who leave early remain talking in the parking lot. I encourage people to remain after Mass to spend some quiet time in prayer. It's probably the only quiet time you're going to have this week.

Children Welcome

I tell parents who are having their children baptized that we are a "kid friendly" parish. I know that many parents are very self-conscious that their small children may "bother" those around them. If the children are being disruptive and parents are uncomfortable, they are welcome to stand with them in the rear of the church. I also know that in order for parents to get their small children to church on time they had to begin 2-3 hours before Mass. It's not easy. I commend parents who want to do what is right and bring their children to Mass. I encourage parishioners to offer to assist a parent if you see him/her struggling with a car seat and children. We're glad you're here!

Fr. Bill

Discussion Groups on Mercy

When we had our parish mission last month, we said that it would be followed by discussion groups meeting monthly to continue thinking and praying about God's mercy and our own participation in it through the works of mercy. These groups will be informal things, coming together for about an hour to just talk over their experience of reading the book during the previous month, and what God might be calling them to next. A number of people have already signed to take part in these groups, but we want to give people another chance to get involved if they were not able to make it there for the last day of the mission. I think that our faith is never as nourished as when we come together as faithful Catholics in groups small enough to get to know each other, and so encourage one another in all the challenges of life and the faith.

There will be three sessions, one group will meet at each session.

Monday (during the day) / Tuesday evening / Thursday (during the day)

If you did not sign up for any of these groups on the last day of the retreat but would like to join, please contact me in the parish office (508-697-9528). We are hoping to have the groups meet for the first time in about two weeks, and meet a couple of times before taking a break for the summer and starting back up in the autumn. I hope you will take advantage of this opportunity.

Fr. Adrian

Save The Date

Catholic Financial Life is sponsoring a bus trip to Boothbay Harbor, Maine on Sat. Aug. 20, 2016. More details to follow.

BSU students: Classical Vocal Recital - Friday, May 6th, 7PM

Two talented BSU music students will present a free classical vocal recital at St. Basil Chapel. Please welcome Iris Jiaying Zhu, from the People's Republic of China, and Terry Doyan.

New Annulment Workshop

In this Year of Mercy, Pope Francis has created new norms for the processing of annulments. If you, or someone close to you, longs to be reconciled with this issue, a workshop presented by the Metropolitan Tribunal explaining this process and answering your questions, will be held at **7:00 p.m., Wednesday, April 27, 2016** at Holy Family Parish, Duxbury.

Visitation

If you know of anyone who is in a nearby medical care facility or confined to their home and would like to receive Holy Communion or the Anointing of the Sick we ask you to please contact the Parish Office so that arrangements can be made to visit and pray with them.

2ND COLLECTION: The Black and Indian Missions.

Since 1884, proceeds from the Black and Indian Missions Collection (BIM) are distributed as grants to dioceses supporting and strengthening evangelization programs, which would otherwise be in danger of disappearing among the Black, American Indian, Eskimo, and Aleute communities of the United States.

18th Annual St. Thomas Aquinas Charity Golf Tournament - Friday May 6, 2016

Believe it or not, golf season is almost upon us. The Eighteenth Annual St. Thomas Aquinas Charity Golf Tournament will be held May 6, 2016. Over the years, the total amount raised from the annual golf tournament is more than \$250,000. Through your tremendous generosity, last year a check was presented to Fr. Bill in the sum of \$17,000 which was used to repair some of the stained glass windows. The entry fee for this year's tournament is \$125.00 per person or \$500.00 per team. To sponsor a hole, the contribution is \$125.00. There will be a buffet, raffles and an auction immediately following the golf. If you wish to only attend the buffet, the cost is \$30.00 per person. Donations for new raffle or auction items are appreciated. For more details, you may contact Tom (508-889-2933), Steve (508-944-4272) or Mike (508-326-6355) Arrighi. In the past, the tournament has filled quickly, so we look forward to hearing from you.



Cardboard City - April 30th-May 1st

Sponsored by St. Thomas Aquinas Youth Group

"Tonight ... about 8,000 children will stay in emergency shelters or in hotels/ motel rooms in Massachusetts". Homelessness is a problem everywhere in our country, even here in Massachusetts. So what can we do about it? There is a role for each of us to play to help solve this problem of homelessness.

On April 30th we will have our own Cardboard City located on the grounds on the right side of the church. It will be inhabited by students, grade 8-12. Please join us! For one evening we will live as the homeless do, in cardboard boxes sleeping under the stars. We will have a full evening filled with the "Pursuit of Happiness" movie, personal accounts from our very own Bridgewater advocate for the homeless, a guest speaker from Fr. Bill's MainSpring Homeless shelter in Brockton, and fun activities. You will build your own cardboard shelter and we will feed you a simple supper and breakfast.

For all other families and parishioners, you can help by sponsoring one of our cardboard city students, you can contribute to our bake sale, buy some baked goods, and pray for our participants and the homeless men, women, and children the event is supporting. Members of the planning committee will be speaking briefly at the end of each Mass this weekend.

So please join us in supporting cardboard city as we try to make even a small difference for the homeless in Massachusetts.

Check out all of the information on our website: <http://www.stthomasaquinas.com/81>

100% of funds raised will go to help the homeless through MainSpring Homeless Shelter in Brockton.

<http://helpfbms.org/file/newsletter/FBMS-Fall-2015-Newsletter.pdf>

FAITH FORMATION

Grades 1-8

For our last week of classes students gathered in the gym to have ice cream and complete a craft. Our theme was St. Faustina and Divine Mercy. They made a Divine Mercy statue using the donated paper tubes. We hope this statue is a reminder of God's mercy and will encourage families to find out more about the Divine Mercy devotion. Pamphlets for the Divine Mercy Chaplet and the Year of Mercy are available at the back of the church and chapel. Please use these items to find out how you can celebrate the Year of Mercy in your hearts and in your homes.

Some suggestions from "56 Ways to be Merciful during the Jubilee Year of Mercy" aleteia.org

1. Resist sarcasm; it is the antithesis of mercy: "Set, O Lord, a guard over my mouth; keep watch O Lord, at the door of my lips!" Psalm 141:3
2. Call someone who is lonely, even if you understand why they are lonely. Especially if you do.
3. Write a letter of forgiveness to someone.
4. Plan a mini pilgrimage to a local shrine.
5. Be mindful of your behavior online. Is that post designed to improve your image and leave others feeling bad?

Confirmation I & II

April 24, 6:30 -8:00 – Speaker for Confirmation I & II, Last class for Confirmation I

May 1 – Confirmation II class

Palanca – Letters of Prayerful Support

Parishioners are invited to pray for a Confirmation student by taking a yellow card from the red baskets. Be sure to note your name and phone number on the clipboard. Letters can be returned to the red baskets, dropped in the rectory mail slot, or brought to the Religious Ed office. Thank you for your support of this project!

First Communion Portraits

St Thomas is happy to announce that once again this year Cathleen Broderick Photography will be offering First Communion Portraits. A portion of the cost will be donated to our parish. There are 3 available dates, and the sessions will take place at Cathy's Studio in Whitman. For more information, visit <http://www.cathleenbroderick.com/communion.png> and to book your session, visit <https://directory.bookedin.com/cathleen-broderick-photography>

Missionary Childhood Lenten Giving

Missionary Childhood Lenten Giving Update During Lent, \$2,133.69 was collected in support of the Pontifical Missionary Childhood Association. One of the countries that benefits from our donations is Malawi. Located in southern Africa, Malawi is the size of the state of Pennsylvania. Most Malawians are Christian. About one third of them are Roman Catholics. Infant mortality is very high and life expectancy at birth is very low. Life expectancy is about 50 years old. This is due, in part, to the high level of HIV/AIDS infection which has left over one million orphaned children. Because of support from MCA, 42 local projects provide homes for orphans and street children. These homes are connected to schools and health centers. Last year Missionary Childhood members in Malawi sacrificed \$3,325.50 for their brothers and sisters. They know there are people in the world who do not know Jesus and who need to learn how much he loves them. We pray for them and they pray for us! Our students made the MCA monthly newsletter because Mrs. Heil was impressed with our students who signed a poster committing themselves to be missionaries.

Financial Blessings

Summary of Collections April 12 - April 18	IN-PEW	ON-LINE	GRAND TOTAL
Weekly Offertory	\$5,252	\$867	\$6,119
Monthly Offertory	-	\$1,425	\$1,425
Capital Improvement	\$30	\$320	\$350
TOTAL	\$5,282	\$2,612	\$7,894

Military Archdiocese Collection	STB	STA	
TOTAL	\$456	\$2,295	\$2,751

Continuing Capital Improvements

The repointing of the church continues after this winter break. We have pointed the damaged mortar and bricks on the lower right and front side the church and now work has begun on the left front side and buttress. Because many of the bricks were cracked and mortar was missing there has been some significant water damage.



Bringing Forward Your Gifts

We encourage all individuals and families, both young and old, to take the opportunity to bring up the gifts for each of our Masses. The gifts being brought forward represent the prayers, hopes, and lives of the community gathered together to worship, so it is a beautiful sign to have all sorts of people come forward to participate in this part of the Mass. If this is something that you would be willing to help with, please see an usher before the start of Mass. Thank you for your willingness to represent the community in this way.

Post Abortion Support

Are you or someone you know carrying the grief and sorrow over past abortions? Project Rachel is the confidential post-abortion ministry of the Catholic Church to help those dealing with the pain of abortion. For more information, contact **Project Rachel at 508-651-3100** or **help@projectrachelboston.com** or visit their website at **www.projectrachelboston.com**. Trust in the tender mercy of God!

WANTED

We are looking to hire someone temporarily to mow the parish & cemetery lawns. Work will be up to 40 hrs a week. Please contact Rob at the Parish Office for more info.



MEAT RAFFLE



Bridgewater Knights of Columbus
Council #488
St. Ann's West Bridgewater
Saturday, April 30, 2016
1pm to 3pm
Light refreshments served. All are Welcome!

The Social Committee is hosting

TRIVIA NIGHT

SATURDAY, MAY 14, 2016

COME JOIN THE FUN!

Bring your own team, join a team or just come watch!

Doors open @ 7:00 pm Games start @ 7:30 pm

BYOB/BYOS (snacks) STA Parish Center

Register on parish website WeShare

\$5.00 per person

Gifts of Bread, Wine and Candles

We regularly receive requests from people who would like to make a donation that would cover the monthly cost of the altar candles and the Sanctuary Lamp that is lit near the Tabernacle to remind us of the Lord's presence. We also receive requests for a donation that would cover the cost of the hosts and wine that we use at Mass each month. Some would like to make these donations anonymously and others in memory of someone who has died. The following are lists of the average monthly cost these items and the donation requested. Those who would like to make a donation are asked to call the parish office.

St. Thomas Aquinas Church

Candles \$100
Wine / hosts \$225

St. Basil's Chapel

Candles \$100
Wine / hosts \$125

*The Sanctuary Candles for the month
of April were donated with Love
from Antonio & Lucilia Nunes*

WEEKLY DEVOTIONS

Come and spend some quiet time with the Lord

Adoration Saturdays 9:30 am to 1:00 pm

St Thomas Aquinas - Lower Church

Divine Mercy Holy Hour Wednesdays 7 pm - 8 pm

St Thomas Aquinas - Lower Church

Weekly Mass Intentions**Saturday, April 23**4:00 p.m. James F. Sullivan, Alice T. Sullivan, &
Caroline R. Healy**Sunday, April 24**

7:45 a.m. Ernesto Pacheco & Enes Carreiro

10:00 a.m. Olivia, John & Emily O'Donnell

St Basil 10:00 a.m. Jason Hardiman -- 13th Anniversary

12:00 p.m. William F. Bythrow Sr.

Tuesday, April 26

7:00 a.m. Ernie & Anne LaFranchise

Thursday, April 28**NO 7:00 a.m. or 9:00 a.m. MASSES****Saturday, April 30**

4:00 p.m. Mass for the People

Sunday, May 17:45 a.m. Maria de Lurdes Botelho, Francisco Luis &
Manuel Botelho

10:00 a.m. David L. Flynn

St Basil 10:00 a.m. Ernest Procaccini -- First Anniversary

12:00 p.m. Barry Semas

SACRAMENTS**CONFESSION**Every **Saturday 3:00 p.m. - 3:45p.m.**
*in the Lower Church, or by appointment.***BAPTISM**

Ordinarily celebrated on the 2nd and 4th Sunday of each month at 1:30 pm. Please call the parish office 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 parish office 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 parish office.

May Baptisms

Because our parish will celebrate the Reception of the Sacrament of Confirmation on May 22 at 2 p.m. and 5 p.m. May baptisms will be held on May 8th and May 15th at the usual time.

Baptism Preparation Class**Tuesday, May 3 at 7:00 PM**

in the St Thomas Aquinas parish center

Can we pray for you?If you would like to add someone to our *prayer list* please contact Rob at the parish office. Individuals are prayed for by name every Saturday morning during Mass.**Help us keep our prayer list up to date**

If you notice a name of someone who no longer needs to be on our list due to a healing or death, please contact Rob at the parish office.

"A time to be born..."Charlotte Reis Fletcher, Lucy Susan Hitchins,
Zachary Michael Orłowski, Connor Ryan Tracey,
Cole Randall Savaria, Zoe Cleary Moyer,
Lilly Fennell, Alexis Kelsey Large**"A time to die..."**Shirley Pratti, Michael Lyons, Marie A. Welch,
Manuel Torres, Faith M. Montefusco,
Maryalice Trotter**"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, Teresa Capachione,
Jacquie Cordaro, Matthew Costantino,
Michael Costantino, Baby Mychal Joseph Cotone,
Joanna Crabtree, Jannine Dawicki,
Joseph DeAndrade, Mary DeLeon, Roger Denault,
Marty Dickerman, Bob Emord, James LaFranchise,
Rylee Fontes, Lee Fuller, Jesus Galindo, Ben Gallo,
Alanna Gillis, Beverly Guiffre, Fred Laham,
Daniel John, Kevin Looney, Alanna Gillis,
Tim Johnson, Jessica King, Dorothy Keane,
Bob Mackey, Beverly Mitchell, Taylor McLean,
Kaleena McHardy, Marjorie Mello,
Baby Chase Miceli, Lauren Minchella,
Charles Monestere, Alice Moniz, Arlene Morin,
Anna Nakouzi, Antonio & Lucilia Nunes,
Paul D'Olimpia, Glenn O'Neil, Ann Paulino,
Carolyn Perry, Elaine Phaneuf, Richard Piantoni,
Dorothy Pope, Maria Presti, Andrea Proffetty,
Rich Quigley, Matthew Ryan, Dan Sante,
Paul Segreve, Sarah Silvia, Deana Spingel, Linda Sullivan,
Kim Sullivan, Donna Sullivan, Betty Tarentino,
James Toy Jr., Don Weiner, Margaret Yanuskiewicz,
Mary (Sweetman) Zunino, Alexis, Jason & Nicole Zutaut**"A time for peace..."**General Joseph F. Dunford, USMC
Captain Vincent Chiappini, USA
1st LT. Karen Chouinard Holliday, USMC
Captain John Costantino & USA
CPL Brandon Jamieson, USA
Army PV2 Harry Terpeny
PFC, Christopher Ahl, USA
CPL Kelly O'Leary