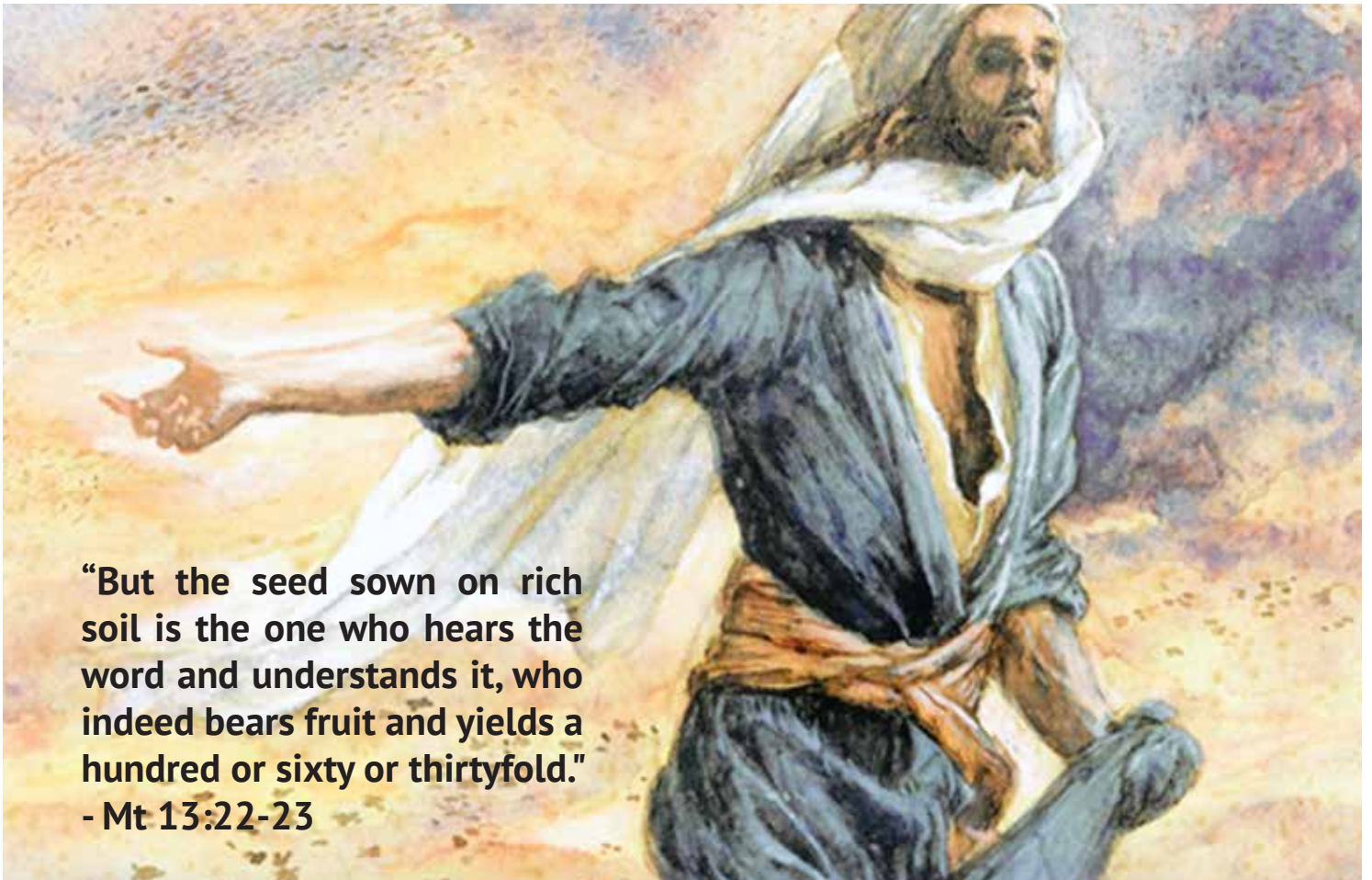


ST. THOMAS AQUINAS PARISH

JULY 16, 2017



**“But the seed sown on rich soil is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields a hundred or sixty or thirtyfold.”
- Mt 13:22-23**

MASS SCHEDULE

St Thomas Aquinas Church

Sunday Mass

Saturday Vigil | 4:00 pm

Sunday | 7:45 am, 10:00 am, 12:00 pm

Daily Mass (for July & August)

Monday 8:00 am

Tuesday **NO Mass**

Wednesday 8:00 am

Thursday 8:00 am

Friday 8:00 am

Saturday 9:00 am

St Basil Chapel

Sunday Mass

Sunday | 10:00 am

PARISH INFORMATION

St Thomas Aquinas

Rev. Bill Devine, Pastor

Rev. Jason Giombetti, Parochial Vicar

Sr. Deacon Jerry Ryan

Parish Office Staff

Peter Vitagliano, Business Manager

Rob Ruth, Administrative Assistant

Parish Office

103 Center St, Bridgewater MA 02324

Hours | Monday - Friday | 9 am - 5 pm

Phone | 508. 697. 9528

Fax | 508. 279. 1859

E-mail | stthomasaquinas@comcast.net

Website | www.stthomasaquinas.com

Religious Education Office Staff

Phone | 508. 697. 3652

Debbie Hill, Coord. of Religious Ed.

Marie Masaitis, Coord. of Religious Ed.

St Basil, The Catholic Center

122 Park Ave. Bridgewater, MA 02324

Hours | open by appointment only

Phone | 508. 531. 1346

Fax | 508. 531. 6188

Chapel Staff

Rev. Jason Giombetti, Campus Chaplain

Marlene DeLeon, Campus Minister

Phone | 508. 531. 1412

marlene.deleon@bridgew.edu

Rita Garufi, Administrative Assistant

rita.garufi@bridgew.edu

Cocktails & Catholic Teachings with Fr Giombetti



Have you ever wondered what the Catholic Church's stance is on a particular issue? Do you wonder why the Church teaches what it does? All adults are invited to come enjoy a night of cocktails and informal discussion of various Catholic topics hosted by Fr. Giombetti at the rectory on both **Thursday July**

20th and Wednesday July 26th at 7:00 p.m. If you have any questions or would like to sign up to attend one of the nights please contact Steven Riley. He can be reached at **339-225-0477** or at **steven.riley@maritime.edu**

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

at the St. Thomas Aquinas Parish Center



Join us July 24 - 28, 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.

for more info visit
www.stthomasaquinas.com



FEEDING THE HUNGRY

On Thursday, July 7th, Seminarian, Colin McNabb and a few members of the **St. Thomas Youth Group** volunteered to serve a hearty meal to our local homeless at Fr. Bill's & Mainspring Shelter in Brockton.

Our Mission

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.

Welcome

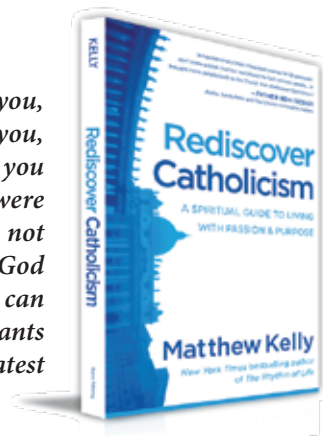
To visitors of our Parish, and to those who have recently moved into the area, and to those comfortable and nourished here - **Welcome**. Regardless of your status in the Church, marital state, your ethnicity, your prior religious experience, your personal history, background, or sexual orientation,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

SUMMER READING LIST

Read any good books lately? Have you read your copy of *Rediscovering Catholicism* by Matthew Kelly that you received at Christmas?

Just a few quotes....

"God doesn't want to control you, or manipulate you, or stifle you, or force you to do things you don't want to do. If that were God's desire, then he would not have given you free will. God wants you to become all you can be, and in the process he wants you to experience the greatest mystery of all: love" (pg 99).



"Walking humbly with God means allowing God your Father to take you by the hand and lead you. But too often we want to race off ahead of our loving Father, tearing our hand from his and running frantically in all directions. We don't want to miss anything. We want to experience everything that this life has to offer, so we run here and there in search of happiness - but we are always left yearning for something more. If we will walk humbly with our God, he will lead us by the hand to exactly who and what we need, to those people, things, and experiences he has designed and intended just for us, and this alone will be the cause of our deep fulfillment and happiness." (pg 114-115)

"You don't become a great athlete by training only when you feel like it. You don't become a great writer by writing only when you feel inspired to write. And the saints did not become such fine ambassadors of God on earth by praying only when they felt like praying. In each case, a daily discipline is required." (pg 164)

PARISH MEN'S GROUP Thursday, July 20th

This week our parish men's group will meet in the lower church from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. for an hour of Eucharistic Adoration and the recitation of the Most Holy Rosary. Following this there will be time for good Catholic fraternity with refreshments provided. Please join us to worship together the King of Kings, Jesus Christ, and to form and build authentic fellowship in our parish.

FAITH FORMATION

If you are looking for a way to deepen your faith and support your parish at the same time, volunteering to teach the children of our parish could be the answer. Many of our volunteers have commented that they learn right along with the children. In Grades 1-8 we use the Faith and Life series which is user friendly for both students and teachers. The books contain sacred art which makes them visually appealing. Each lesson starts with a Bible verse related to the topic. Vocabulary words and comprehension questions help the students learn the main concept. The texts are accompanied by a workbook. There are four pages per chapter. The workbooks can be used to measure comprehension as well as review previous chapters. They also provide a way for students who might not speak up in class to participate in a way that is more compatible with their learning style. In Grade 1 students are introduced to the Holy Trinity, Mary, angels, and saints. They learn basic prayers. The aim is to help them grow to know, love, and trust God. If this sounds like the grade for you, we have an opening for Grade 1 on Mondays at 5:00.

Give us a call! 508-697-3652

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION REGISTER ONLINE NOW!

<https://st-thomasaquinas.weshareonline.org/>

DAILY MASS SCHEDULE

(for July & August)

| | |
|-----------|----------------|
| Monday | 8:00 am |
| Tuesday | NO Mass |
| Wednesday | 8:00 am |
| Thursday | 8:00 am |
| Friday | 8:00 am |
| Saturday | 9:00 am |

REFLECTION by Colin McNabb

"One who pays heed to the wind will never sow, and one who watches the clouds will never reap. (Ecclesiastes 11:4)"

Although not scriptural, the well-known cliché; "idle hands are the devil's workshop," is particularly fitting to the men in formation to become Roman Catholic priests. Many have asked me during my time here in Bridgewater; "So, what do you do at the seminary?" While that is not the easiest question to answer because of the way in which we are formed, the best that I can think of in the context of a bulletin article is to describe my schedule and the way in which we are formed overall.

At Saint John's Seminary, my day begins at 5:00am and ends at 7:00pm, during which I spend my days in prayer, in class, exercising, interacting socially with my brother seminarians, and performing various jobs and assignments given by the seminary faculty. It is rigorous to begin but as you get into the routine of the schedule of your day, or Horarium, you miss it when it is not present. We pray the "hinge" hours of the Liturgy of the Hours together as a community, chanting back and forth as if we were monks in some dark and contemplative monastery in the mountains of Europe. This romantic image is appealing to some, but we are doing the same thing that seminarians have done since the Council of Trent formalized seminary formation in 1545AD.

We are men being formed into catholic priests, all the while discerning whether the call we feel is a call by God to the priesthood. All of us, men and women alike, have a call from God, but a few men are called to the beautiful life of the priesthood. The word seminary is derived from the Latin word seminarium, which means "seedbed." As we grow, the Church is forming us into the next generation of priest, nurturing us, correcting us, and making sure that we thrive in whatever weather we encounter.

Ad Maiorem Dei Gloriam.

THE AMERICAN RED CROSS



WEDNESDAY, JULY 26, 2017

**St Ann's Parish, 103 N Main St, West Bridgewater, MA
2:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.**

Sponsored by
St Ann's Parish & the Knights of Columbus
Bridgewater Council 488

ALTAR SERVER APPRECIATION MASS

with Cardinal Seán O'Malley

Saturday, October 21th, 11:00 a.m.

St. Mary Parish, Waltham

At this Mass we will recognize in a particular way youth who have given exemplary service in their parish communities. We ask that you begin to think about who you would like to nominate for the St. Teresa of Calcutta and the Pope St. John Paul II Awards. More information to follow.

Pope St. John Paul II Award (for Young men)

This award is given to two Junior Servers and two Senior Servers who have shown exemplary service to their parish and their community by their imitation of Pope St. John Paul II.

St. Teresa of Calcutta Award (for young women)

This award is given to two Junior Servers and two Senior Servers who have shown exemplary service to their parish and their community by their imitation of St. Teresa of Calcutta.

Join us as we recognize and celebrate the many youth who serve our parishes throughout the Archdiocese. All Altar Servers, Parents, Priests, Volunteers and Staff are invited to attend.

**For more information, please contact
Fr. Daniel Hennessey: 617-746-5949 or**

25TH & 50TH

WEDDING ANNIVERSARY MASS

This year's Golden and Silver Wedding Anniversary Mass will be held on **November 19th at 3 p.m.** at Holy Name Parish, 1689 Centre Street, West Roxbury.

Cardinal Seán O'Malley, O.F.M. Cap. invites all couples of the Archdiocese of Boston who are marking their 25th and 50th wedding anniversary to join him for the annual celebration.

**For more information, please contact Liz Cotrupi
(cotrup_e@rcab.org, or 617-746-5756)**

- Mass will include a renewal of marriage vows by all participating anniversary couples.
- Family members and friends of the participating couples, as well as the general public, are welcome to attend.

Family and friends do not need to register, only anniversary couples.

A formal invitation (including general information and directions) will be mailed to the home of the anniversary couple.

GOSPEL MEDITATION

Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

15th Sunday in Ordinary Time

"But some seed fell on rich soil, and produced fruit, a hundred or sixty or thirtyfold." In the parable of the sower that Jesus tells in today's Gospel, the ideal is to be "the seed sown on rich soil" that yields an abundant harvest. As Jesus explains, this means we should strive to be "the one who hears the word and understands it."

So how do we place ourselves in this category? How do we assure that we will hear God's voice (i.e., the word) and actually understand what he's saying to us? The answer comes in the parable itself. Jesus explains what we need to avoid in order to make sure our seed bears fruit. First, we must beware of "the evil one" who comes and steals away the seed of God's word. Faithfully praying the Lord's Prayer, with its request to "deliver us from evil," is a good starting point here. Placing ourselves under God's protection every day is like taking up a shield against the forces that would seek to derail us.

Secondly, we must be committed enough to God's word that "tribulation or persecution" do not uproot us or make our faith wither and die. Here, too, sincerely praying the petition in the Lord's Prayer--"Thy will be done"--can prepare us to accept whatever comes our way without waffling or wavering.

Finally, we must be careful that "worldly anxiety and the lure of riches" do not "choke" us. Again, we turn to the Lord's Prayer and find an antidote built in: "Give us this day our daily bread." We pray not for a new car or a winning lottery ticket, but for our basic needs.

So let us embrace the prayer Jesus gave us, indeed the words he himself gave us to say, as we seek to truly hear and understand God's word.

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP

Recognize God In Your Ordinary Moments

Over the years I have wasted a lot: a lot of money, a lot of time, and a lot of talent. Sometimes I didn't realize I was wasting these things but, after reflection, I realized I could have done more and accomplished much greater things. Of course, I think that is part of our imperfect humanity. It truly is easier for us to waste our gifts than grow them into something more.

The parable of the sower speaks about the word of God that gets planted in our hearts. If the soil of our heart is rich, than the word will grow and change us. If that soil is rocky or full of weeds, the word will lie there without any impact, bearing no fruit.

This parable can be applied to living a stewardship way of life as well. As sowers, we have been given the seeds of our time, talent, and treasure. We have a choice of where to plant these gifts. As good everyday stewards, we are called

to plant them wisely and prudently. Oftentimes it is not enough to simply give away what we have. We need to discern the best places to sow these gifts so the maximum harvest can grow. This takes prayer, reflection, and study. Without a solid discernment process, we can find ourselves sowing seeds endlessly without much to show for it. But joyful is the person who has used one's gifts wisely, for the bounty of the harvest is great.

Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

LIVE THE LITURGY

Inspiration For The Week

We are reminded today that the seed that falls on good ground will yield a fruitful harvest. What kind of soil do we have? God's word needs to take root in our lives so that we can remain faithful not only when life is easy but when it gets challenging and difficult. Anxiety, worldly cares and concerns, personal challenges, experiences of loss and death, and even fear and disappointment can prevent us from trusting God's promise. We can even find ourselves doubting God's fidelity and lose touch with his presence. Our soil can easily become rocky, hard, and unyielding. Open your eyes and ears today and let all that is around you lead you to God's presence. Then, do all in your power to cultivate and nurture a life that is eager to receive him and fertile for growing the seeds of God's kingdom.

WHY DO WE DO THAT?

Catholic Traditions Explained

QUESTION: July 22 is the feast of Mary Magdalene. Who was she and is it true that she was a prostitute who followed Jesus around in his ministry?

ANSWER: Recent biblical scholarship has been trying for a long time to correct Mary Magdalene's misconstrued reputation as a prostitute. Biblical information reveals her as one of the most important disciples of Jesus, following and financially supporting him during his ministry. She is also a faithful witness both to the Crucifixion and the first to see the risen Jesus.

Her reputation as a prostitute arose from the misunderstandings of certain texts in Luke. Luke 8:2 reports Mary as being a follower of Jesus "from whom seven demons had gone out." This passage follows Luke's story of the sinful

woman, a prostitute, who bathed Jesus' feet with her tears and dried them with her hair. Since that woman is not named, there came to be an association of that woman with Mary Magdalene, "from whom seven demons had gone out." Thus Mary became known as a prostitute. The readings and prayers for her feast day make no mention of her reputation as a sinner. Rather, they emphasize and highlight her role as the first witness to the risen Lord, and the first one commissioned by Jesus to tell of the good news to the disciples. Let us continue to be Mary Magdalene to the world.

DATA ENTRY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The Parish is looking for volunteers to take on a data entry project in the office. We are continuing to build our cemetery database created through the fantastic work of Eagle Scout Nick Walsh, and we are ready to start the next phase of our project, which is transferring all of our cemetery record cards in the Parish office to our database file. This is a pure data entry job that can be done in the Parish offices in Microsoft Excel. All of the information that is on our current cemetery record cards has to be typed into our new cemetery database. Once completed, this will really help us to streamline cemetery record keeping, searches and inquiries and help us to modernize our cemetery record keeping. We are starting with the records for the cemetery directly behind the church, and once completed, we will start the process for the old cemetery down the street. Anyone interested in helping with this project can contact Peter V. at the Parish office. We will set up volunteers with a terminal and all of the tools needed to get started while you enjoy the new air conditioning in the Parish offices!

TWO NEW STAFF POSITION OPENINGS

1. Part time Youth Minister who will continue to build on parental efforts to establish a Youth Program that reaches out to Middle and High School Students.
2. Part time Pastoral Associate who will assist with pastoral planning, coordinating ministries and provide additional administrative support.
3. The job description for each of these positions & directions for applying can be accessed at **CatholicJobs.com**, **BostonCatholic.com** & **Indeed.com**

| FINANCIAL BLESSINGS 7/4 - 7/10 | St Thomas | St Basil | Total |
|---------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| SUMMARY OF COLLECTIONS | | | |
| In-Pew Giving | | | |
| • Weekly Collection | \$4,376 | \$892 | \$5,268 |
| Online Giving | | | |
| • WeShare | \$1,821 | \$630 | \$2,451 |
| • Parish Pay | \$675 | - | \$675 |
| Total | \$2,496 | \$630 | \$3,126 |
| Grand Total | \$6,872 | \$1,522 | \$8,394 |

WEEKLY MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY, JULY 15

4:00 p.m. Louise Proffetty

SUNDAY, JULY 16

7:45 a.m. Mass for the People

10:00 a.m. St Basil Carole A. Benya

12:00 p.m. Everett Bresciani

WEDNESDAY, JULY 19

8:00 a.m. Francisco & Maria J. Pimental

THURSDAY, JULY 20

8:00 a.m. Antonio Sousa & Maria dos Anjos, & their sons & daughters

FRIDAY, JULY 21

8:00 a.m. Stephanie & Matthew (newly married)

SUNDAY, JULY 23

7:45 a.m. Valentino & Esther Mortarelli

10:00 a.m. John, Lil, Ray, Skip & Judy Costa

WEEKLY DEVOTIONS

Devotions are held at St Thomas Aquinas in the Lower Church

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Every Saturday 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY

1st Saturday of the month 10:00 a.m.

DIVINE MERCY HOLY HOUR

Wednesdays 7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

SACRAMENTS

CONFESSION

Saturday 3:00 p.m. - 3:45 p.m. in the Lower Church, or by appointment.

BAPTISM

Ordinarily celebrated on the 2nd and 4th Sunday of each month at 1:30 p.m. 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.

BAPTISM PREPARATION CLASS

Monday, August 7 at 7:00 p.m.

St Thomas Aquinas parish center. Please No children.

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.

PRAYER LIST

"A TIME TO BE BORN..."

| | |
|---------------------------|-----------------------|
| Paxton James Aloma | James Robert Kave |
| Ava Carmille Andrade | Ava Jayde LaBree |
| Ainsley Catherine Boyce | Violet Ann Munise |
| James Sullivan Connolly | Vivian Grace Rebolo |
| Owen Albert Dangoia | Anna Louise Rooney |
| Gavin James Hegarty | Jack Leo Smith |
| Anthony James Oliari Hile | Oliver Santa Palmieri |

"A TIME TO DIE..."

Edward A. McBride, Joseph C. Barbour, John A. McCourt

"A TIME TO HEAL..."

| | | |
|--------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------|
| Carolyn J. Allen | Beverly Giuffre | Ann Paulino |
| Barbara Ahl | Dr. Francis Gendreau | Carolyn Perry |
| Olga Cassiani Alberghini | Jessica Kamaniski | Dorothy Pope |
| Ruthaleis Amaro | Carol Kelley | Josephine Trocchi Picone |
| Edward Albert | Tim Johnson, | Elaine Phaneuf |
| Jean Andrade | Daniel John | Paul Phaneuf |
| Christopher Barbosa | Ava King | Maria Presti |
| Jeffrey Bean | Jessica King | Andrea Proffetty, |
| Don Bergstrom | Debbie Kulick | Rich Quigley |
| Loretta Beaulieu | Fred Laham | Camden Rivers |
| Jim & Jean Brennan | James LaFranchise | Ginny Rothwell |
| Michael Botelho | Howard Larsen | Matthew Ryan |
| Kim Sweetman Carnello | Kevin Looney | Dan Sante |
| Sandra Cable | Bob Mackey | Paul Segreve |
| Baby Chase | Aiden Mitchell | Sarah Silvia |
| Teresa Capachione | Beverly Mitchell | Deana Spingel |
| Mychal Joseph Cotone | Mary McClay | Al Sullivan |
| Jacquie Cordaro | Taylor McLean | Linda Sullivan |
| Matthew Costantino | Chase Miceli | Kim Sullivan |
| Michael Costantino | Kaleena McHardy | Donna Sullivan |
| John Conley | Marjorie Mello | Betty Tarentino |
| Joanna Crabtree, | Charles Monestere | Jennifer Tosches |
| Michael Crowley | Jerry Muller | Patrice Tuffo |
| Jannine Dawicki | Anna Nakouzi | James Toy Jr. |
| Maria I. DeAndrade | Lloyd Nelson | Anna Vrana |
| Mary DeLeon | Antonio Nunes | Don Weiner |
| Fr. Bill Devine | Tom O'Donnell | Rosemarie Whalen |
| Marty Dickerman | Bob O'Hare | Peggy Yanuskiewicz |
| Peter J. Farrell | Mary Edwards O'Keefe | Mary Sweetman Zunino |
| Lee Fuller | Glenn O'Neil | Alexis, Jason & |
| Andrea Fitzgerald | Kevin O'Neill | Nicole Zutaut |
| Jesus Galindo | | |

"A TIME FOR PEACE..."

Gen. Joseph F. Dunford, USMC
 MGen Eric M. Smith USMC
 1st Lt. Karen Chouinard Holliday, USMC
 2ndLt. Jeffrey Boyle, USMC
 CPT, John Costantino, USA
 MAJ, Robert "Dusty" Dossman USAF
 SGT, Brandon Jamieson, USA
 PFC, Christopher Ahl, USA
 PFC, Peter O'Leary, USA
 CPL, Kelly O'Leary, USA
 PVT, D.J. Jamieson, USA