

ST. THOMAS AQUINAS PARISH

JULY 2, 2017

**HAPPY
4TH OF
JULY**



ONE NATION, UNDER GOD



Tuesday, July 4th There will be NO 7:00 AM Mass & Parish offices will be closed

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

Monday - Friday | 7:00 am, 9:00 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

SUNDAY MASS RERUNS.....

Have you ever heard a sermon, reading, or music at Sunday Mass that you wish you could hear again? Would you like to take some time at home to pray the Sunday Mass? The Sunday Mass is recorded and broadcast each week.

Our Sunday Mass at St. Basils/St. Thomas is available to watch on **BTV9 (Comcast channel 9)**. The televised Sunday Mass debuts each Fridays at 2 PM, and is shown again on Saturdays at 4 PM, Sundays at 9 PM, and Tuesdays at 9 AM.

You can also watch current and past services online, on demand, at **BTVAccess.com**, (**BTV Online ->Video Archive ->Religious**). When viewing online, there is a download button, if you wanted to save a copy as well.

TOWN PROCLAMATION

The Bridgewater Citizens for Civility and Respect (BCCR) was organized in the winter of 2015/2016 in response to two local incidents in which individuals were verbally accosted in public, apparently due to their appearance and perceived cultural identity. These events took place at local businesses.

An article about our group and these incidents appeared in the Brockton Enterprise on Tuesday, January 12, 2016 and can be found at <http://www.enterpriseneews.com/news/20160112/not-in-our-town-bridgewater-group-speaks-out-against-anti-islamic-incidents->

BCCR's goal is that Bridgewater should be a place of civility and respect, where intolerant speech and behavior is unacceptable, ensuring that our town remains a safe and respectful place to live, work, play, conduct business, and attend school. A Proclamation stating these goals was unanimously approved by the Bridgewater Town Council.

Because this goal is consistent with our Christian values and Gospel teachings we have placed a copy of the proclamation in the Church Entrance and Chapel Community Room.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

at the St. Thomas Aquinas Parish Center



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

visit www.stthomasaquinas.com for more information

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.

YOUTH GROUP EVENING OF FIRE & FUN

Please join the St Thomas Aquinas Youth Group and our seminarians, Colin & Phil, for an evening of fun and **S'MORES** as we take full advantage of the summer nights!



THURSDAY JULY 13TH, 6:30 PM

on the lawn **behind the rectory**.

All youth (ages 10 - 16) are welcome. *Parents are optional.*

Bring a lawn chair and a bathing suit if you want to partake in the awesomeness of a giant

SLIP-AN-SLIDE!!!

Please sign-up on our website so we can get a head count for food and soft-drinks.

ALTAR SERVER APPRECIATION DAY



What a day we had in the scorching sun at Canobie Lake Park last week. The altar-server appreciation day was great fun!

KNEE REPLACEMENT SURGERY

After two years of chronic knee pain I have decided to take my surgeon's advice and have a total knee replacement. I will be joining many parishioners who have similar surgeries. I will be having a total knee replacement surgery at New England Baptist Hospital on July 6th. My recovery time is expected to be between 4-6 weeks. Although I told the physical therapist that I wanted to celebrate Mass sooner, she gave me a reality check. So for the months of July and early August I don't expect to be able to assume any pastoral responsibilities. We have an excellent parish staff who should be able to accommodate any of your concerns or needs. In order to provide pastoral care and not over burden Fr. Giombetti I've made the following decisions.

1. All those who need pastoral assistance should call Rob, Admin. Ass't or Fr. Giombetti at the Parish Office. Our seminarians, Phil Scheer and Colin McNabb are also available to assist when possible. I will not be available to take calls or email messages during my recovery period.
2. **Beginning on Monday, July 10th and continuing during the months of July and August our daily Mass schedule will be changed. There will be ONE daily Mass celebrated at 8 AM. There will be NO daily Mass on Tuesdays. Our Saturday Mass followed by Adoration will remain at 9 AM.** If 8 AM is not convenient, we encourage those who attend daily Mass to avail themselves of Masses in neighboring parishes.
3. Fr. Giombetti & visiting priests from the diocese & Stonehill College will celebrate the regular Sunday Masses. I'm very grateful for their dedication and assistance.

Fr. Bill

REFLECTION by Colin McNabb

"Do not conform yourselves to this age but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and pleasing and perfect. (Romans 12:2)"

In my reflection several weeks ago, the main point I was trying to convey was the circuitous route which my vocation has taken. Without the guiding hand of God, I would still be blindly wandering in the dark. But this is only half the story as I mentioned a few weeks ago.

To continue, when I entered a church in London on Corpus Christi in 2004, I stopped seeing Mass as a burden, I saw it as what it is, a sacrifice. My time in London came to an end and I moved back to the United States. After some time working in the corporate world, I came back to work for my family company. But most of all I was back on the path toward my true vocation and into the seminary.

It would be great if there were no more twists in my vocational path, it would be great if I just accepted the inevitability of the path that God has laid out for me...that is not what happened. I was getting more active in my home parish, I joined the Parish Pastoral Council, I was an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion, and I was

teaching Religious Education. I was back on the path that God had for me...and then I met a young woman.

Our first date was an accident. This was a little bump in my vocational journey, a six-year one. We dated and I was still involved in my parish and work, I ran for political office and was elected as a Selectman in my hometown. I had a good job, I was an elected official in my town, and I had a beautiful girlfriend. We had been dating for a long time and it made sense that we move to the next step, so I did it...I proposed and she accepted. As I was going down on one knee, I should have been in this moment of pure joy, in fact what was going on in my mind was; "what are you doing!" I was miserable.

I started spending more time at the Church than I was with my fiancé and she was becoming resentful of it. When we were taking a daytrip to Kennebunk Maine we drove by a monastery near the river, I nearly caused an accident pulling in so we could have a look. After we drove through I was waiting to pull out and she looked at me and said in a quiet voice; "are you going to leave me to become a priest?" She had asked me this before and as before I managed to respond to the question without answering her; "Don't be silly."

In reality, I was being unfaithful, the other woman in my life was the Catholic Church. We continued to move apart and then we finally decided that we just could not be with each other despite our love for each other. The night that we broke up I slept better than I had in years, it was like a weight had been lifted from my shoulders.

When I think back, I am even more grateful to God for allowing me the time to discern His will and conform to His will. As I am entering my third year of seminary, I am amazed at how merciful God truly has been to me, and how He will never give up on you.

Ad Maiorem Dei Gloriam.

CANDLELIGHT ROSARY PROCESSION

Tuesday, July 13, at 7:30 PM

St. Thomas Aquinas Parish, will host the third of the 2017 season's Candlelight Rosary Processions on Thursday, July 13, 2017, at 7:30 P.M. The guest speaker for July 13 will be **Reverend Leo Polselli, CSC, Holy Cross Family Ministries in North Easton.**

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** and **Indeed.com**

PROPER CHURCH ATTIRE

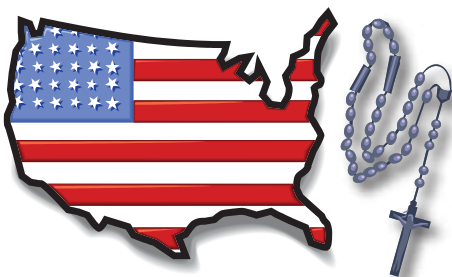
I'm aware that the church and chapel can, during the summer months, become very warm and humid. I addressed proper/appropriate Church attire in previous bulletins however it's been brought to my attention that I may need to be more specific what is not appropriate. Some dress as if they're going to the beach rather than Mass and that it's often a distraction. When we join others in expressing our faith, listening to the living Word of God and receiving the Holy Eucharist we should dress with dignity and respect.

While most of our parishioners dress very appropriately, over the past few weeks I have noticed, and a number of parishioners have brought to my attention that some are probably unaware that their clothing is inappropriate for Mass. After consulting with the Parish Pastoral Council we believe that the following are NOT appropriate for Mass.....excessively short shorts and skirts, shirts with vulgar or inappropriate designs, tank tops, baseball hats, gym shorts and fitness/beach apparel. This applies to adults as well as children, male and female.

I'm aware that some may disagree with me. I also understand that parents may and often do experience resistance. The fact that some may say that "at least they are there" is not a reason to dress down when we worship together. I encourage you to discuss the importance of proper dress and how your outer appearance reflects your inner attitude. High school sports teams and dancers have strict dress codes when traveling and attending functions. How much more important it is for us to dress with respect and dignity when we enter Church where Heaven and Earth are joined together at the Eucharistic Banquet.

Fr. Bill

PATRIOTIC ROSARY Monday, July 3rd, 1:00 P.M. Norwood Town Common



Come join us & pray the beautiful Patriotic Rosary for our Country
In case of rain we will use St. Catherine of Siena Church
For Information, call : 781-762-4391

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION REGISTRATION HAS BEGUN!

Check your email for the link or visit:
<https://st-thomasaquinas.weshareonline.org/>

PARISH COLLABORATION

Four years ago the Archdiocese, recognizing the need to combine limited resources (priests, finances and facilities) in order to strengthen the church's ability to evangelize established a Pastoral Plan called "Disciples in Mission." To this end, some parishes would be joined with others to combine resources, specifically one pastor. This has been done in phases.

The following area parishes have already been designated as a collaborative with one pastor.

- St. Michael's Parish, Avon and St. Joseph's Parish, Holbrook
- St. James and Immaculate Conception Parishes, Stoughton
- St. John's Parish, East Bridgewater and St. Ann's Parish, West Bridgewater
- St. Joseph's Parish, Hanson and Our Lady of the Lake Parish, Halifax

The following area parishes will be in collaboration in 2018 (Phase 6)

- St. John's and St. Gerard Majella Parishes, Canton
- St. Edith Stein, Our Lady of Lourdes and Christ the King Parishes, Brockton
- Our Lady of Lourdes Parish, Carver, St. Kateri Tekakwitha, Plymouth and St. Peter's Parishes, Plymouth

It has been determined that our parish, *St. Thomas Aquinas*, will be a stand-alone parish which means that we will **NOT** be joined with or be in collaboration with any other neighboring parish. Part of the reason for this decision is due to the size of our parish (900 students in Religious Ed and 3,000 parishioners) as well as St. Basil's Chapel ministry to BSU students and faculty as well as our support of Catholic ministry at the Bridgewater State Hospital and Old Colony Correctional Complex.

We will enter into Disciples in Mission (Phase 8) in 2020. At that time we will engage fully in developing a Disciples in Mission plan and staff training.

If anyone has any questions or would like further explanation please contact Fr. Giombetti or Fr. Bill.

FR. BILL'S & MAINSPRING HOMELESS SHELTER

The *St. Thomas Youth Group* continues to show their support for the homeless local to our community. Take advantage of this opportunity to serve the homeless at Fr. Bill's & Mainspring Homeless Shelter a good meal in the early evening. This is open to middle schoolers currently in grades 6-8. Chaperoned by one of our volunteer parents, you will leave St. Thomas Parish Center at 3:30 PM and travel to the shelter located in Brockton. From 4-6 PM, you will serve the meal to guests, and return to St. Thomas by 6:30 PM. We are in need of 4 to 6 volunteers for each of the following nights: **Thursday July 6th, and Thursday August 3rd**. You may sign up through constant contact or the youth ministry website.

For questions, contact
Sheila Whitaker at jswhitaker@comcast.net.

PROTECTING OUR CHILDREN

CORI REQUEST FORM

This is a one page affidavit that must be completed EVERY YEAR by every volunteer in the parish. This authorizes the Archdiocese of Boston to check the background of all volunteers for any record of criminal activities, and restrict or limit a particular volunteer for the sake of maintaining a safe environment for our children.

VIRTUS TRAINING

This is a 2.5 hour training using up-to-date video presentations to enable volunteers to become more aware of and better understand inappropriate behavior with children as well as learn how to identify the signs of a child predator or if a child has been abused. This training is only done ONCE.

CODE OF MINISTERIAL CONDUCT

This document which is usually completed during Virtus Training states that the volunteer agrees to abide by the guidelines set forth by the Archdiocese of Boston. This is only done ONCE.

The Archdiocese of Boston scrupulously manages and records all of these documents. Our parish has made great strides in the past few years to be sure that every volunteer completes what is needed each year. While most of our volunteers are in compliance, our parish's biggest short fall are those who have not taken the Virtus Training. In order to be in compliance with the Archdiocesan Guidelines and protect our children and volunteers we are offering Virtus Training this month. Most volunteers who are deficient have been contacted however if you are in doubt, please contact the Parish Office.

VIRTUS TRAINING Monday, July 10th at 6 PM

As part of the *Protecting God's Children* program, the Archdiocese of Boston requires everyone who is involved in parish ministry to attend Virtus training. If you have volunteered, or plan to volunteer, please consider attending the training to be held on Monday, July, 10th, 6:00-8:00 in classroom 4 of the parish center. There is AC! Be sure to bring a valid driver's license. We would like to thank our summer seminarian, Colin McNabb, who is conducting this session.

PARISH MEN'S GROUP Thursday, July 6th

This week our parish men's group will meet Thursday, July 6th, in the lower church from 6:30 to 7:30 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.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT UPDATE

It has been a very busy Spring in the Parish. We have been making many repairs, upgrades and improvements to the church, rectory, cemetery and also St. Basil while the weather has been allowing us to.

In the church we are moving forward with our air conditioning project and are currently working with National Grid to iron out our power needs to ensure we have the electrical capacity to the church we need to power the units we are installing. We have also made repairs to the roofs of the church, rectory, parish center buildings and St. Basil.

Air conditioning has been completed in the rectory, and we have also installed new flooring and have repainted Father Giombetti's rooms. We have also installed a new sump pump in the basement to prevent basement flooding which has been an issue in the past.

In the cemetery, we have installed new water lines and repaired lines behind the church where needed.

At St. Basil, we have replaced all of the windows as part of the window dedication project, and have also repaired the pumps and boilers. New heaters are being installed as well in the Chapel that were damaged during the winter. Finally we are planning to re-carpet the entire altar area at St. Basil. We are hoping to have this done by the end of July.

As you can see, we are always working to improve our Parish to make it a more comfortable and welcoming place to gather and worship, and we cannot thank everyone enough for their wonderful generosity which allows us make these things happen.

Peter Vitagliano, Business Manager

THE 2ND COLLECTION *This week* - July 2 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT

| FINANCIAL BLESSINGS 6/20 - 6/26 | St Thomas | St Basil | Total |
|---|----------------|--------------|----------------|
| SUMMARY OF COLLECTIONS | | | |
| In-Pew Giving | | | |
| • Weekly Collection | \$4,796 | \$533 | \$5,329 |
| Online Giving | | | |
| • WeShare | \$1,254 | \$400 | \$1,654 |
| • Parish Pay | \$180 | - | \$180 |
| Total | \$1,434 | \$400 | \$1,834 |
| Grand Total | \$6,230 | \$933 | \$7,163 |
| Special Collection for the Archdiocese | | | |
| • Holy Fathe: Peter's Pence | \$1,858 | \$259 | \$2,117 |

WEEKLY MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY, JULY 1

4:00 p.m. Joanne Mantia & Marilyn Mederios

SUNDAY, JULY 2

7:45 a.m. Francisco Luis & Maria de Lurdes Botelho & Manuel Botelho, & all the Souls in Purgatory

10:00 a.m. Edmund J. Woronicz Sr.

12:00 p.m. Paulo Torres

TUESDAY, JULY 4 - HOLIDAY NO 7:00 AM MASS

WEDNESDAY, JULY 5

9:00 a.m. Deceased priest's of St Thomas Aquinas Parish

THURSDAY, JULY 6

9:00 a.m. Mimose Bonnet

SATURDAY, JULY 8

4:00 p.m. Wilfred & Dora Bois, Terry, Jan & Wayne Parris, and John Anderson

SUNDAY, JULY 9

7:45 a.m. Mass for the People

10:00 a.m. St Basil Marjorie Mendez, Ernesto Mendez & Margie Ackerman

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 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.

BAPTISM PREPARATION CLASS

Thursday, July 6 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 contract the parish office.

PRAYER LIST

"A TIME TO BE BORN..."

| | |
|---------------------|-----------------------------|
| Ryan Lillian Austin | Jack Brian Amaral |
| Maya Soares Oguttuh | Christopher Patrick Porazzo |

"A TIME TO DIE..."

| | |
|--------------------------|-------------------|
| Dale E. Shores | William Hatch |
| Edward A. McBride | Frances N. Dutra |
| Elaine P. Reid | Robert H. Bumpus |
| Judith E. Ludwig-Hopgood | Stacia Baranowski |

"A TIME TO HEAL..."

| | | |
|----------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------|
| Carolyn J. Allen | Beverly Giuffre | Kevin O'Neill Ann |
| Barbara Ahl | Dr. Francis Gendreau | Paulino |
| Olga (Cassiani) Alberghini | Jessica Kamaniski | Carolyn Perry |
| Ruthaleis Amaro | Carol Kelley | Dorothy Pope |
| Edward Albert | Tim Johnson, | Josephine Trocchi Picone |
| Jean Andrade | Daniel John | Elaine Phaneuf |
| Christopher Barbosa | Ava King | Paul Phaneuf |
| Jeffrey Bean | Jessica King | Maria Presti |
| Don Bergstrom | Debbie Kulick | Andrea Proffetty, |
| Loretta Beaulieu | Fred Laham | Rich Quigley |
| Jim & Jean Brennan | James LaFranchise | Camden Rivers |
| Michael Botelho | Howard Larsen | Ginny Rothwell |
| Kim Sweetman Carnello | Kevin Looney | Matthew Ryan |
| Sandra Cable | Bob Mackey | Dan Sante |
| Baby Chase | Aiden Mitchell | Paul Segreve |
| Teresa Capachione | Beverly Mitchell | Sarah Silvia |
| Mychal Joseph Cotone | Mary McClay | Deana Spingel |
| 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 |
| Marty Dickerman | Tom O'Donnell | Peggy Yanuskiewicz |
| Peter J. Farrell | Bob O'Hare | Mary Sweetman Zunino |
| Lee Fuller | Mary Edwards O'Keefe | Alexis, Jason & |
| Andrea Fitzgerald | Glenn O'Neil, | Nicole Zutut |
| Jesus Galindo | | |

"A TIME FOR PEACE..."

Gen. Joseph F. Dunford, USMC
 MGen Eric M. Smith USMC
 1st Lt. Karen Chouinard Holliday, USMC
 2nd Lt. 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, DJ. Jamieson, USA