

ST. THOMAS AQUINAS PARISH

MARCH 12, 2017



LENT
SECOND SUNDAY OF

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MASS SCHEDULE

St Thomas Aquinas Church

Sunday Mass

Saturday Vigil | 4:00 p.m.

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

Daily Mass

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

Saturday | 9:00 a.m.

St Basil Chapel

Sunday Mass

Sunday | 10:00 a.m.

5:00 p.m.

Weeknight Mass

Thursday, March 16

5:00 p.m.

PARISH INFORMATION

St Thomas Aquinas

Rev. Bill Devine, Pastor

Rev. Tom Olson, 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.

Peter Vitagliano, Business Manager

Rob Ruth, Administrative Assistant

E-mail | stthomasaquinas@comcast.net

Phone | 508 697 9528

Fax | 508 279 1859

Website

www.stthomasaquinas.com

Religious Education Office Staff

Phone | 508 697 3652

Debbie Hill, Cord. of Religious Ed.

Marie Masaitis, Cord. 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. Tom Olson, Campus Chaplain

Marlene DeLeon, Campus Minister

Phone | 508 531 1412

marlene.deleon@bridgew.edu

Rita Garufi, Administrative Assistant

rita.garufi@bridgew.edu

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.

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

Welcome

CATHOLIC APPEAL 2017

The Catholic Appeal helps to fund the many ministries that serve our parishes, schools, community programs, and other affiliated organizations throughout the Archdiocese. These ministries enable the Archdiocese to make the Gospel real and vibrant in the lives of the faithful and assists the Archdiocese in reaching out to those in need of spiritual, emotional, and physical care and support.

As I wrote in last week's bulletin and Fr. Tom and I spoke about at Mass, proceeds from the Catholic Appeal benefit our parish by making available resources which pertain to HR, legal, financial, religious education, marriage preparation, campus and prison ministry and youth ministry programs. As mentioned in last week's bulletin, 90% of donations are returned to programs and parishes within the Archdiocese.

Following a brief 2 minute audio presentation from Cardinal Sean, we will be asking parishioners to complete the commitment card found in the pews. Our parish assessment is \$42,697 and our goal is \$49,966 with 164 commitment cards being submitted. I again thank you for the generosity that you have shown in responding to not only parish needs but also the needs of the Archdiocese.

GROWTH IN STEWARDSHIP RENEWAL RESULTS

Three weeks ago we invited parishioners to make their annual renewal of Time, Talent and Treasure. Not surprisingly, people were once again very generous in all areas. I will provide the results of the Renewal Commitments in next week's bulletin.

SUNDAY COFFEE/DONUTS

I'd like to thank those who pick up the donuts and make and serve the coffee and supply the juice every Sunday after the 10 a.m. Mass at the Church and Chapel. Your generosity of time and talents enables parishioners to meet each other informally which in turn helps to strengthen our parish community. Thank you!

Fr. Bill

MARCH 17TH FASTING DISPENSATION.

Feast of St. Patrick, the patron saint of our Archdiocese, falls on a Friday during Lent. Given the importance of this feast in the life of the Archdiocese and in the lives of so many of our families, Cardinal Sean is granting a dispensation from the Friday Lenten abstinence on March 17, 2017.

However, the cardinal is urging those who take advantage of it to instead make some other act of Lenten sacrifice or charity. In his decree, the cardinal suggests participating in a public celebration of the Stations of the Cross in your parish; giving "the gift of your time in a charitable way"; spending time "in devout prayer" before the Most Blessed Sacrament; or praying the Archdiocesan Novena Prayer to St. Patrick for vocations, the Divine Mercy chaplet or the rosary.

A SPECIAL THANK YOU FOR A GIFT OF TIME & TALENT

I would like to take this opportunity to send out a special note of thanks to Aimie Vacher, who has built a new audio cabinet for St. Basil Chapel. Aimie was able to repurpose the pews removed from the lower church to create a true work of art and craftsmanship to house the audio equipment at St. Basil. Aimie's contribution is one more example of the many acts of generosity of time, talent and treasure given in our parish. We are truly blessed to have Aimie as a part of our parish family. Thank you Aimie!

Peter Vitagliano





TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD

Transfigure. The dictionary defines this: "to give a new and typically exalted or spiritual appearance to: transform outwardly and usually for the better." At the Transfiguration of the Lord, Peter, James, and John heard the voice of God: "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him." This message is for us. Listen to Him. Pray that you, too, will be transfigured not just in appearance, but as an authentic, courageous messenger of God's love.

LENTEN ENCOURAGEMENT

• ABSTINENCE

No Meat allowed on Friday's - observed by all 14 years of age & older.

• DAILY MASS

Come hear the word of God, pray & receive the Lord in the Eucharist.

• DEVOTIONAL

Devine Mercy Holy Hour Wednesday evening's 7-8 PM

• THE LIGHT IS ON FOR YOU

Confession Wednesday evening's 6:30-8 PM

• STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Mediatate on the Passion Friday evening's 6:30-7 PM

• SIMPLE SUPPER

Share a communal meal w/o meat & dessert Friday evening's 7-8 PM

• ADORATION

Worship the Lord of the Most Blessed Sacrament Saturday's 10 - 1 PM

• BEST LENT EVER DAILY DEVOTIONAL

Sign up for Best Lent Ever, a FREE, video-based email program featuring internationally acclaimed speaker and New York Times bestselling author Matthew Kelly. This program has been very popular throughout the country. From Ash Wednesday to Easter Sunday, Matthew will help you identify what stands between you and happiness . . . and what to do about it. Are you ready for your best Lent ever? <http://dynamiccatholic.com/bestlentever/>

FRIDAY NIGHTS AT ST BASIL

The Lenten Simple Supper is coordinated and provided by volunteers. These simple suppers forego meat and dessert.

Contact Francine Littlejohn at 508 345 1617 for more info and some simple food suggestions. You may sign up to bring foods through either (1) Sign -Up Genius on the parish website, or (2) the sign up sheet in the lounge of the Chapel.

BABY SHOWER FOR THE UNBORN

Our parish's BABY SHOWER FOR THE UNBORN will be held this year from March 4 - March 19, 2017. The baby items collected will be donated to FUND FOR THE UNBORN of the Archdiocese of Boston's Pro-Life Office. The baby shower is an effort to give pregnant women the help they need to choose life over abortion.

Unwrapped gifts may be placed in either of the cribs set up in the upper and lower church at St Thomas or at St Basil's. Any checks may be made payable to FUND FOR THE UNBORN.

Baby items needed: blanket sleepers (0-6mos., 6-12mos.) onesies (0-3 mos.), warm outfits (newborn, 0-3mos., 6-9mos.), disposable diapers (newborn and size 4), diaper bags, flannel receiving blankets, baby bottles (4 oz. and 8 oz.) (No equipment, furniture or food please.)

The Baby Shower for the Unborn ends next weekend March 18-19. Thank you for support to help promote the Gospel of Life.

FATIMA PILGRIMAGE

To celebrate the 100th Anniversary of the Apparitions of Our Lady of Fatima in 1917 a Pilgrimage to Fatima will be held from August 10- 21st, 2017. Cost is \$1,949.00 per person. For information contact Becky at 978-505-0126 (World Apostolate of Fatima Chairperson) or register with Crystal Travel and Tours at 888-327-2862. Flyers are available at entrances of church and chapel.

THE WORLD APOSTOLATE OF FATIMA

The Archdiocese of Boston, will sponsor a Mass and Consecration on the Feast of the Annunciation on Saturday, March 25th, 2017 at the Fatima Shrine in Holliston, MA. The Rosary will be prayed at 12:30pm followed by a 1:00pm Mass and Consecration. This will provide the opportunity for all who wish to make or renew their Total Consecration to Jesus through Mary according to the DeMontfort Way. Refreshments and viewing of the works of the Fatima Apostolate are held at 2:00pm. If you have questions please call 508-543-5725 or email Tuus13@aol.com.

BEREAVEMENT MINISTRY

The St. Thomas Aquinas/St. Basil Bereavement Ministers are pleased to announce our next series of Bereavement meetings to begin on Wednesday, April 12th at 6:30 P.M. They are expected to run for approximately 9 to 10 weeks.

The meetings will be at St. Thomas Aquinas Parish Center, 103 Center St., Bridgewater, MA 02324. With St. Thomas Aquinas/St. Basil, this ministry is co-sponsored by Prohett, Chapman, Cole & Gleason Funeral Home.

Participants in the present Bereavement Ministry session are willing to speak with anyone who would like more information. All who are grieving the loss of a loved one are invited to join this Christian based Bereavement Support Group. Please contact **Carol Martin** 508-697-2281 caroljimmartin@verizon.net

FAITH FORMATION

GRADE 2 PARENT MEETING

Parents of children making their First Communion gathered in the parish center for meeting on the importance of the Eucharist. Fr. Bill's talk included an audio clip of Matthew Kelly talking about the reasons why people don't like going to Mass. It's boring. The kneelers are uncomfortable. The music is loud. Did you check out the shoes the altar server was wearing? I couldn't see what was happening on the altar. Do any of these sound familiar? Fr. Bill stressed that the Bread and Wine are not merely symbols. Once consecrated by a priest, Jesus is truly present: body, blood, soul, and divinity.

If you were not able to attend the meeting, be sure to stop by the office to pick up your child's packet.

LENTEN GIVING

Students have the opportunity to give to the parish baby shower and to the Pontifical Missionary Childhood Association. Mite boxes can be filled and brought in weekly to be emptied in the jug in the hallway. By giving and sacrificing our students are missionaries who may not go out into the world, but make sure God's message goes out.

CONFIRMATION II

There is class this evening. Students should have completed one of the following and be prepared to share their results in class:

1. Get out of your comfort zone. Pick one small step you can take to become more like your hero.
2. Meditate on the Beatitudes in Matthew 5. (Download the Laudate app on your phone!)
3. Write about how your Confirmation saint lived the Beatitudes in his/her life.

SPONSOR FORMS & CONFIRMATION NAME FORMS

should already be turned in.

CONFIRMATION II SAVE THE DATES

April 7th – Retreat

April 24th – Sponsor Event – Ask your sponsor to attend!

YOUTH GROUP EVENTS

Spaghetti Supper - Saturday March 11, 5-8 p.m.

Open to all!! Join us after the 4pm mass for a traditional spaghetti supper and dessert, while being served by the youth of our parish. This event will act as a fundraiser for the Youth Group, with the majority of the proceeds going towards funding the Catholic Heart Work Camp mission trip to Richmond, VA in June. We already have 5 of our youth group committed to this trip! Please plan to come out and support their efforts. Tickets will be available at the door. \$5 children 6-12, \$10 adults, family max \$30.

SAVE THE DATES

- Parish Mission, April 3rd, 4th & 5th
- Spring Rummage Sale Saturday, April 29, 9:00 a.m.

JOB OPENING

Spring is coming fast, and the parish is looking for a Part Time maintenance staffer. This position will have a flexible schedule of 15-20 hours per week, and include regular maintenance of the parish and all buildings, landscaping of all parish properties including St. Basil chapel at Bridgewater State and both St. Thomas Aquinas cemeteries. We are looking for someone with some experience with basic maintenance and landscaping who will be able to operate our equipment including zero turn mowers and trimmers. If you are interested, please contact Peter Vitagliano in the parish office.

RESTROOM USE

Unfortunately the rest rooms in the church and chapel require those using them to walk through the church and chapel in order to access them. Walking through the church/chapel can be and often is a distraction to those who are praying. While the rest rooms are there to be used when needed, a number of times it appears that some use it to take a break or just to leave Mass. We encourage parents to have their children use the rest room before or after Mass...if possible. If using them, please teach the children not to run down the aisle when returning to the Mass.

WOMEN'S CLUB EVENTS

• SCHOLARSHIPS for high school seniors

The St Thomas Aquinas Women's Club will be awarding two \$1,000 scholarships for qualifying High School seniors. Applications can be obtained at the Rectory, CCD Office and various local High Schools. The application deadline is 4/14/2017. Any questions please call Helen Cleary 508-697-9175.

• MEETING

On Thursday, March 16th, 7:00 Lieutenant Tom Schlatz will speak at the Women's Club meeting on the topic of avoiding phone and internet scams. All women in the parish are invited to attend. The meeting will be held in the lower church.

SPRING RUMMAGE SALE - Saturday, April 23rd

The St. Thomas Aquinas Women's Clubs collecting donated items at the parish center. Items that are dropped off may only be left inside building. For more information please call the parish office.

ACCEPTED ITEMS

clothing, shoes, jewelry, books, small furniture, domestics, and miscellaneous items.

ALL ELECTRIC ITEMS

must be in working order.

NOT ACCEPTED ITEMS

televisions, computers, computer monitors, or computer related items.

ANNUAL COLLECTIONS

Over the past 6 months there have been a number of “special” or annual collections which seem to come one right after another. It can be confusing knowing how they are different from each other. The following outline may help you to better understand these collections. In addition to the weekly parish collection and the monthly Capital Improvement Collections the following are the designated annual collections.

ANNUAL COLLECTIONS FOR THE PARISH

- 1. Grand Annual Appeal** (October). This collection is a one-time donation to the parish. Proceeds from this collection are used to augment the weekly collection in order to cover operational costs (printed in bulletin each week), and fund major and minor improvements and repairs.
- 2. Growth in Stewardship Renewal** (January). In addition to asking parishioners to volunteer their time and talent, this annual renewal asks parishioners to determine their yearly financial commitment to the parish. It enables us to plan and budget our expenses for the year.

ANNUAL ARCHDIOCESAN COLLECTIONS

- 1. Catholic Appeal** (March). Proceeds from this collection are given to Cardinal Sean to support the work of the Archdiocese. This support provides critical resources (legal, education, seminaries, youth, marriage, HR, financial, annulments, etc.) that our parish depends on.
- 2. Priest’s Health and Benefits Collection** (Easter, Christmas and Sept). These three collections are given to support the ongoing health, medical and retirement benefits of our priests.
- 3. Special Collections** (monthly). Recognizing our Christian responsibility and desire to help the needs of the universal church, we are asked to take up these collections throughout the year for special intentions (Foreign and Home Missions, Catholic Relief, Immigrants, Seminaries, Military Archdiocese, etc.)

As always, THANK YOU for being generous not only in supporting our own parish needs but also other special needs through out the Archdiocese.

NEW YOUTH MINISTER

On behalf of the parish I welcome Megan Moriarty as our new part-time youth minister. Megan, a parishioner and a graduate of Emmanuel College, will work with and develop our present youth ministry program which has focused on junior and senior high school students. I would like to thank a number of parents who over the past two years created a youth ministry program that incorporated the spiritual, service and social aspects of youth ministry. Hopefully they and Megan will continue to build a youth program that will help our young men and women to grow together in faith. Welcome Megan.

Gifts of Bread, Wine & Candles

We regularly receive requests from people who would like to make a donation that would cover the monthly cost of the alter candles and the Sanctuary Lamp that is lite near the Tabernacle to remind us of the Lord’s presence. We also receive inquiries from parishioners who would like to cover the cost of the hosts and wine that we use 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 have to call the parish office.

St. Thomas Aquinas Church	St. Basil’s Chapel
Candles \$100	Candles \$100
Wine / hosts \$225	Wine / hosts \$125

March Gifts

Candles for the month of February were donated in memory of the deceased members of the Amaral & Kelly families.

The 2nd Collection (Parish) • *This week* - March 12 Capital Improvement

FINANCIAL BLESSINGS

	St Thomas	St Basil	Total
Parish Weekly Operating Costs for: 2/27 - 3/6	\$16,280	\$3,350	\$19,630
Summary of Collections for: 2/27 - 3/6			
Weekly Collection			
Total	\$6,543	\$653	\$7,196
Online Giving			
WeShare	\$2,995	\$1,275	\$4,230
Parish Pay	\$675	-	\$675
Total	\$3,630	\$1,275	\$4,905
Grand Total	\$10,173	\$1,928	\$12,101

WEEKLY MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, March 11

4:00 p.m. James Keane

Sunday, March 12

7:45 a.m. Wayne Parris

10:00 a.m. Michael F. Lyons

10:00 a.m. at St Basil - Jane Keough & Nancy Bodwicz

12:00 p.m. Lorraine Paul

Tuesday, March 14

9:00 a.m. Denny Aiello

Friday, March 17

9:00 a.m. Andy Gattiglio

Saturday, March 18

4:00 p.m. Pamela Silvia

Sunday, March 19

7:45 a.m. William M. Tarentino Jr.

10:00 a.m. Tracey Hathaway

12:00 p.m. Manuel Torres

WEEKLY DEVOTIONS

Come and spend some quiet time with the Lord

- **ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT**

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

St Thomas Aquinas - Lower Church

- **IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY**

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

St Thomas Aquinas - Lower Church

- **DIVINE MERCY HOLY HOUR**

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

St Thomas Aquinas - Lower Church

SACRAMENTS

- **CONFESSION**

Saturday 3:00 p.m. - 3:45p.m. & Wednesday 6:30 p.m. - 8:00 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, April 6th at 7:00 p.m.
in the St Thomas Aquinas Parish Center

- **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

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.



"A time to be born..."

Kennedy Paige Piacente, Mason Paul Bailey

"A time to die..."

Phyllis A. Claudio, Margaret C. Davis, Frederick J. Pantano

"A time to heal..."

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

"A time for peace..."

General Joseph F. Dunford, USMC
1st LT. Karen Chouinard Holliday, USMC
2nd LT. Jeffrey Boyle, USMC
CPT Vincent Chiappini, USA
CPT, John Costantino, USA
SGT, Brandon Jamieson, USA
PFC, Christopher Ahl, USA
CPL, Kelly O'Leary, USA
PFC, Peter O'Leary, USA
PVT, D.J. Jamieson, USA