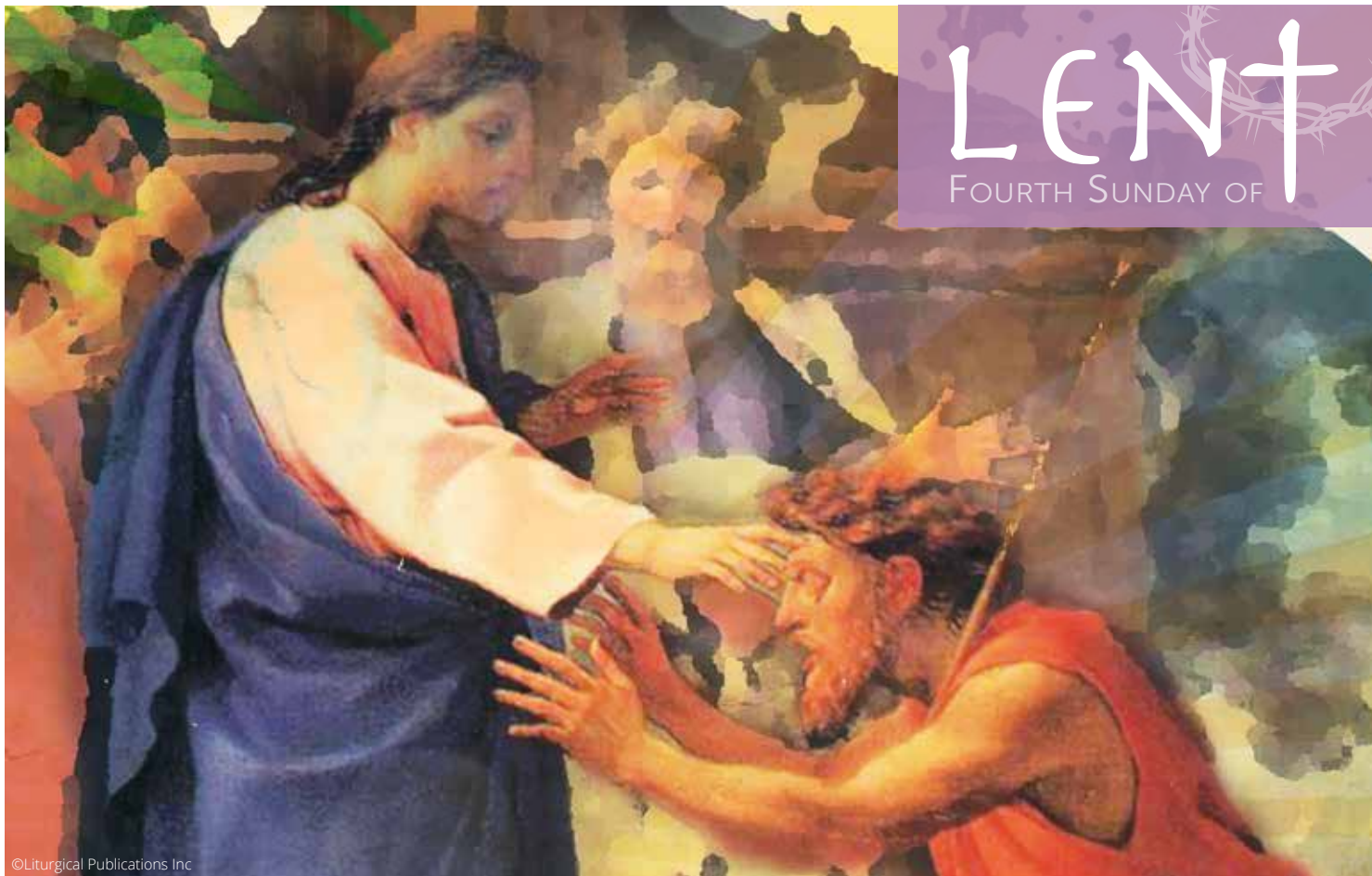


ST. THOMAS AQUINAS PARISH

MARCH 26, 2017



LENT
FOURTH 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 30

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

We are still accepting Catholic Appeal donations. The Catholic Appeal supports the work of the Archdiocese which, in turn, supports our parish. Your generosity is much appreciated. Catholic Appeal envelopes are available at the entrances of the church/chapel.

Again, I would like to thank everyone who made a commitment during our commitment weekend two weeks ago.

PARISH MISSION (RETREAT)

Our Lenten Parish Mission will be held on April 3-5, Monday through Wednesday evenings at St. Thomas Aquinas Church from 7-8 p.m. The three guest priests are familiar to most because they were assigned to our parish for pastoral training during their last years of their seminary training. Fr. Mark Murphy is presently assigned to St. Paul's Church in Cambridge and, in addition, is chaplain to the undergraduates at Harvard University. Fr. Jiwon Yoon is parochial vicar at St. Margaret's Church in Burlington. Fr. Tommy Sullivan is parochial vicar at St. Catherine's Church in Norwood. Each of these priests will give a presentation on each evening.

This parish mission provides an opportunity during Lent to grow in faith, spend time in prayer, go to confession and prepare for Holy Week and Easter. While you might think of reasons why you're not able to attend or why you're not interested, the Lord is inviting you to spend reflective time with Him.

AED-CAN YOU FIND THEM?

Three Automated Emergency Defibrillators (AED) have been installed in the church, chapel and parish center as part of Will Longo's Eagle Scout Project. Knowing where they are and how to use them could save a person's life! Please look for them and be familiar with their location at the entrances of these buildings in order to access them if needed. Will has trained eight parishioners on the correct use of them and will be offering another training in the upcoming months.

WILL SEXTON'S ORDINATION

Will Sexton has been approved or "called to orders" by Cardinal Sean O'Malley. His ordination will take place at the Church of the Immaculate Conception in Lowell on May 20th at 10 a.m. Everyone is invited and transportation will be provided. More information will be provided in the upcoming weeks.

OLD PALMS COLLECTED

Palm Sunday is April 9th. We will be collecting old palm branches in the next few weeks in a designated container at the chapel and church. These branches will be burned and the ashes distributed during Ash Wednesday services next year.

PARISH REGISTRATION

I have noticed that we do not have a number of parishioners in our parish census data bank or information has changed from those who registered previously. Being registered in the parish helps us to have a better understanding of our demographics for planning purposes as well as increasing our ability to reach out with information to make you better aware of what we are doing and hope to do. We will be sending out information in the next few weeks with regard to the Parish Mission (April 3, 4, 5th) and Holy Week schedules and would everyone to receive these cards.

Please....we ask you to register on line or pick up a form at the entrances of the church/chapel, complete it and return it to the parish office or collection the next week.

Fr. Bill



LENTEN ENCOURAGEMENT

• ABSTINENCE

No Meat allowed on Fridays - observed by all 14 years of age & older.

• DAILY MASS

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

• THE LIGHT IS ON FOR YOU

Confession Wednesday evening's 6:30-8:00 PM

• DEVOTION

Devine Mercy Holy Hour Thursday evenings 7:00-8:00 PM

• STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Mediatate on the Passion Friday evenings 6:30-7:00 PM

• SIMPLE SUPPER

Share a meal w/o meat & dessert Friday evenings 7:00-8:00 PM

• ADORATION

Worship the Lord of the Most Blessed Sacrament Saturdays 10 - 1 PM

• BEST LENT EVER DAILY DEVOTIONAL

This has been very popular.

Sign up for Best Lent Ever, a FREE, video-based email program featuring internationally acclaimed speaker and New York Times bestselling author Matthew Kelly. 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/>

DIVINE MERCY HOLY HOUR

Every Thursday evening from 7-8 p.m. in the lower church we offer the opportunity to spend some quiet time before the Blessed Sacrament when the Eucharist is placed on the altar for adoration. Additionally, the Divine Mercy Chaplet is prayed for a brief period of time. Many have discovered a sense of peace and strength during this one hour. We encourage you to set aside time this week to do yourself a favor and spend some quiet time with the Lord.

LAETARE SUNDAY

Laetare – Rejoice! We are nearing the end of our Lenten journey. How is your Lent? Saint Paul's letter to the Ephesians and the Gospel story of the man born blind talk about light and dark. We are two weeks into Daylight Savings Time, days are longer, but is the light of faith growing stronger in you? "You were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Live as children of light, for light produces every kind of goodness and righteousness and truth. Try to learn what is pleasing to the Lord." It's not too late. Prayer, fasting, almsgiving (charity) are the pillars of Lent. How can you make these pillars pleasing to the Lord during these last weeks of Lent? It's. Not. Too. Late.

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 5th 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

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.

YOUTH GROUP

Thank you to all who supported our very successful Spaghetti Supper on March 11. We had a great turnout, a lot of fun, and raised over \$1500 for the youth group. Special thanks to our students that volunteered their time to set up and serve at the event, and to our very generous sponsors Cake in a Box, Roche Bros., Crispis, Market Basket, Stop & Shop, Costco, and BJ's. We look forward to future fundraisers and hope to have your support once again.



FAITH FORMATION

• FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

Parents are reminded to discuss with their children the video that was shown at the parent meeting. Students will be watching this in class. Remember to help your child complete their packet.

Prospect Hill orders have arrived and can be picked up in the religious ed office.

• **MITE BOXES** from the Missionary Childhood Association that were handed out at the beginning of Lent and the bottle in the hallway is starting to fill. By our baptism we are all missionaries. While traveling to the missionary field may be impossible, we can pray for those who work in the missions. We can also support the missions as part of our Lenten almsgiving. Extra boxes are available at both churches and in the office.

• CONFIRMATION I

Students met last Sunday for a lesson about the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick. This sacrament imparts special graces that help the sick unite their suffering with the passion of Christ. It can bring physical and spiritual healing. They learned that we participate in Christ's saving work when we offer our suffering back to God.

• CONFIRMATION II

Students will meet this Sunday. They should have chosen one of the following challenges:

1. Write a paragraph on the relationship between greatness and humility.
2. Get a spiritual workout by asking the Holy Spirit to help you identify a vice that influences your bad choices/decisions. Think about the virtue that opposes the vice and two specific things you can do to grow stronger in that virtue.
3. Ask your friends and family to name the theological or Cardinal Virtues. Offer to do five push-ups or sit-ups for each one they name. If they can't name at least one, then they do the five push-ups or sit-ups!

Students are reminded to ask their sponsor to attend the last class on April 23rd. We are holding a special student/sponsor event. Forms should be turned in as soon as possible!

SAVE THE DATES

ORDINATION

10:00 am Saturday May 20th

Church of the Immaculate Conception
144 East Merrimack Street
Lowell, MA 01852

FIRST MASS OF THANKSGIVING

5:00 pm Sunday, May 21st

St. Mary of the Assumption Church
420 High Street
Dedham, MA 02026

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION SCRUTINIES

On Sunday, March 5 at Holy Cross Cathedral, Cardinal Sean O'Malley celebrated the *Rite of Election and Call to Continuing Conversion* which began this year's "Period of Purification and Enlightenment." During this period which typically occurs each year during Lent, all of us are reminded of our baptism and the fact that for our sins we must repent.

For those in our parish who have not yet been baptized but who are preparing to be baptized at the Easter Vigil and for those who, along with those who are not yet baptized, are preparing to receive at the Easter Vigil for the first-time Holy Communion and Confirmation, these weeks are especially sacred. Called "the elect," these persons during this time of preparation, we pray, will grow closer to the Lord who elects them to enter into full communion with the Catholic Church this Easter.

This year's elect are as follows: Lauren Marie Boyden, Christopher James Eastman, Scott J. Hyman, Erica Lynn Mastriani, Thomas Joseph Robado, & Jamie Kelly Soderbom. These elect include Tyler Aube who is undergoing this year the *Rite of Christian Initiation for Children* (RCIC).

Undergoing 3 scrutinies is part of their preparation. Beginning each year on the Third Week of Lent, the scrutinies are meant to "uncover, then heal all that is weak, defective, or sinful in the heart of the elect; to bring out, then strengthen all that is upright, strong, and good" (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults, #141). All 3 scrutinies will occur this year at the 5PM Sunday Mass at St. Basil.

The first Scrutiny calls the elect to open their hearts to God's saving Word and receive it so that they can resist the promptings of the Father of Lies. To aid them in this, the elect are presented the Apostles' Creed or the Nicene Creed. The second Scrutiny invites the elect out of the darkness of sin and disbelief and into the light of Christ so that they, too, may possess the faith by which all are justified. The third Scrutiny calls the elect out of the slavery of sin and empowers them to "bear witness" (Rite, #175) to their new-found freedom. To aid them in this, the elect are presented the Lord's Prayer.

Please join me in keeping in our Lenten prayers Tyler, Lauren, Christopher, Scott, Erica, Thomas, and Jamie!

– Fr. Tom

HOLY HOUR AT GLASTONBURY ABBEY

The Benedictine Monks of Glastonbury Abbey in Hingham cordially invited you to a Compline and Holy Hour on Monday, March 27, 2017 from 7:45 – 8:45 p.m. to pray for vocations. Glastonbury Abbey is located at 16 Hull St. Hingham.

733 COURT STREET
BROCKTON, MA 02302
WWW.SPELLMAN.COM

CARDINAL SPELLMAN HIGH SCHOOL

KEYNOTE SPEAKER,
CHRIS PADGETT
PROFESSOR/AUTHOR

FAITH RALLY

March 29, 2017
6:00 PM

MASS LED BY FR. MATT WILLIAMS

LIVE MUSIC BY BEN WALTHER

Are you looking for something Eggcellent to do?

ST. THOMAS AQUINAS' 3RD ANNUAL Egg Hunt

Easter Sunday - April 16th
after the 10:00 am Mass
inside the parish center
ages 2-11

Candy Filled Eggs
Donuts - Games
Plus a surprise visit from
the EASTER BUNNY!

REGISTER BY APRIL 7TH
utilize the link at www.stthomasaquinas.com
or go to
www.signupgenius.com/go/4090b4aaaa72aa75-3rdannual



WHY DO WE DO THAT? - Catholic traditions explained

Question: Does God make people suffer because of their sins?

Answer: Let's use the analogy of parents. If your children did something wrong, would you make them suffer? In other words, would you make them feel pain just because they did something wrong? You might chastise them, and the punishment or correction might not be pleasant, but out of love for your children, you will not hurt them just to hurt them. Sometimes, they suffer the consequences of their actions and that is punishment enough. You hope they learn and grow from their choices, good and bad.

God is a loving Father. He allows us to suffer the consequences of our sins, so that we will turn to him for his love and forgiveness. God wants us to grow in holiness, in virtue, in grace. He gives us free will so that we can choose, and the choices we make either bring us joy or bring us suffering. From that, we learn and grow. God does not hurt us or make us suffer to get even with us. He loves us and wants the best for us. When we suffer, he suffers with us so that we know how much we need him and how much he loves us.

FINANCIAL BLESSINGS

	St Thomas	St Basil	Total
Parish Weekly Operating Costs for: 3/14 - 3/20	\$12,750	\$323	\$13,073
Summary of Collections for: 3/14 - 3/20			
Weekly Collection			
Total	\$5,514	\$1,424	\$6,938
Online Giving			
WeShare	\$2,612	\$690	\$3,302
Parish Pay	\$180	-	\$180
Total	\$2,792	\$690	\$3,482
Grand Total	\$8,306	\$2,114	\$10,420

WEEKLY MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, March 25

4:00 p.m. William "Bo" Ferioli

Sunday, March 26

7:45 a.m. the Woronicz Family

10:00 a.m. David William Driscoll

10:00 a.m. at *St Basil* Robert Fowkes

12:00 p.m. Helen Farrell

Monday, March 27

9:00 a.m. Lucilia Nunes

Wednesday, March 29

7:00 a.m. Margarida Garcia

Saturday, April 1

4:00 p.m. Maffeo Family

Sunday, April 2

7:45 a.m. Jose Moura

10:00 a.m. Francis Couet

10:00 a.m. at *St Basil* John Vicente & Laurentina Vicente

12:00 p.m. Marie Hennessey

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 (lower) church

- **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..."

Carolyn J. Allen, 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, Jesus Galindo, 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