

ST. THOMAS AQUINAS PARISH

May 1, 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

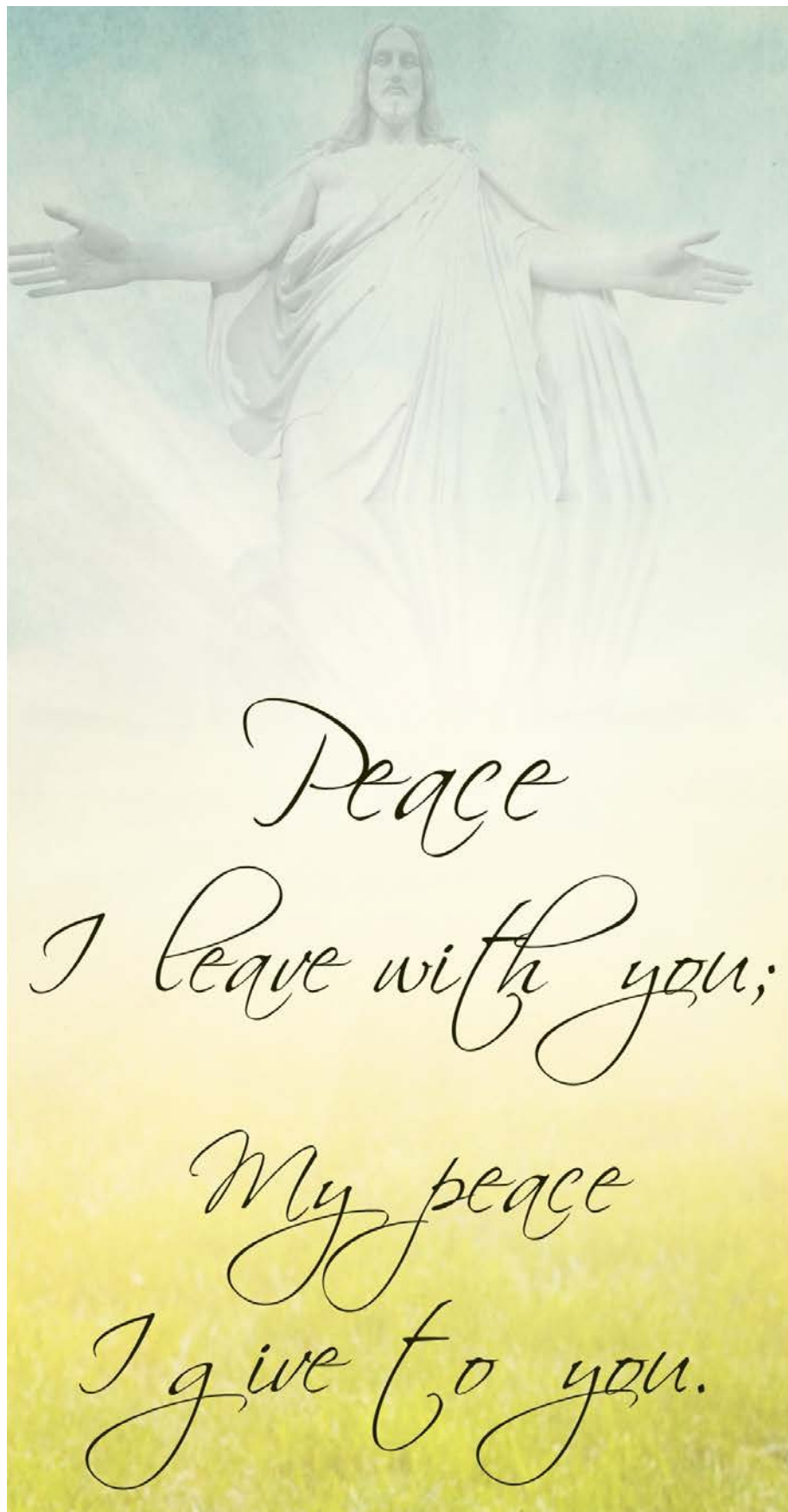
Marlene DeLeon, Campus Minister

Phone | 508 531 1412

marlene.deleon@bridgew.edu

Rita Garufi, Administrative Assistant

rita.garufi@bridgew.edu



Fr. Adrian

It is with mixed feelings that I announce that Fr. Adrian will be transferred to another parish assignment at the end of May. Fr. Adrian has been a blessing to our parish in general and to me personally. He came to our parish as a newly ordained priest and quickly demonstrated not only his faith in and love for the Lord and priesthood but a compassion and love for those he served. Over these past four years he became fully engaged in a myriad of ministries from campus ministry at BSU to inmates and patients at the Bridgewater Correctional Complex. He has celebrated baptisms, weddings, confessions, funerals and countless Masses at the church and in the chapel. He has worked with many teachers, parents and students in our religious education program as well as altar servers, lectors and Eucharistic Ministers. He has taught classes, planned liturgical services, visited homes and hospitals. Many have been inspired by his love and his faith.

Fr Adrian has also been an inspiration to me personally. We have prayed together for each other and for those we serve. I thank him for the support that he's given me over the past four years. I have come to value his objectivity, insights and his recommendations.

While I and many others are saddened to see him leave, I also believe that the Lord is leading him to new challenges that will enhance and mature his priesthood and for this I am happy. His new assignment should be announced in the upcoming weeks. Fr. Adrian will celebrate a **Mass of Thanksgiving on Sunday, May 22nd at 10 a.m. at St. Thomas Aquinas Church.** *Following this Mass we will have a reception for him at the Parish Center.* We invite parishioners to plan on attending this Mass and reception so we can express our appreciation for his priestly ministry in our parish.

Our parish will receive a replacement yet to be named for Fr. Adrian.

Fr. Bill

Preparing for a Change

I recently found out that I will be moving on to my second assignment at the end of May. This is not unexpected since I am going to be finishing up the fourth year of an assignment here in Bridgewater that was originally supposed to be only three years long. Still it is going to be very difficult to have to end my time here since this parish has been such a blessed place to begin my priesthood. I have learned a lot from Fr. Bill and have been blessed to learn a lot from all the parishioners. Thank you to all of you who prayed with me and for me, as well as for welcoming me into your parish and your lives. Thank you all so much for your patience, your joy, your prayerfulness, and your willingness to challenge me and help me grow. I greatly appreciate it all.

Please pray for me over this next month as I prepare to say goodbye, and next month as I begin my assignment in another parish. I don't know who will take my place here in Bridgewater, but whoever it will be I know that they will be blessed to be able to experience the outpouring of love and support that I have encountered at this parish. May their ministry serve to bring the people of this parish even closer to our Lord and may grace repay all of you for your goodness towards me.

Thank you all so much.

In Christ,

Fr. Adrian

Important Dates

First Holy Communion Masses	April 30th and May 7 at 10:30 a.m. and 12:00 p.m.
Will Sexton's Ordination to Diaconate	April 30th at 10 a.m., Cathedral of the Holy Cross
Deacon Tom Sullivan's Priesthood Ordination	May 21st at 9 a.m. Cathedral of the Holy Cross (<i>bus trans. provided</i>)
Fr. Adrian's Mass & Reception	May 22nd at 10 a.m. at St. Thomas
Sacrament of Confirmation Masses	May 22nd at 2:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m. at St. Thomas
Deacon Tom Sullivan's Parish Mass & Reception	May 29th at 10 a.m. at St. Thomas

The Annual St. Thomas Aquinas Golf Tournament

This Friday May 6th the Annual St. Thomas Aquinas Golf Tournament will take place at Scotland Links. Once again, all team openings have been filled. We're hoping for great weather that day.

Rummage Sale

Our parish would like to thank all those who over the past six months have prepared, sorted and priced donated items for our Rummage Sale. We would like to acknowledge and thank Noreen Kilbridge for her leadership in coordinating all her volunteers. The picture demonstrates the number of people who make this sale possible every year. Proceeds from this sale provide funds for two college scholarships as well as Women's Club activities and charities. The funds collected in this Spring Rummage Sale totaled \$3,409. I'd also like to thank students from our Confirmation Program who helped do the "heavy lifting" preparing and taking down the items for the sale.



Discussion Groups on Mercy

As a follow up to the Parish Mission in March small discussion groups are in the process of being formed and will begin in the next few weeks. Using the book *Beautiful Mercy, Experiencing God's Unconditional Love So we Can Share It With Others* these groups will meet once a month to reflect on how to integrate the Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy into our daily lives. You have a choice to meet: Monday during the day, Tuesday evening or Thursday during the day. If you haven't signed up and would like to join one of these groups please contact the parish office.

Holy Day (May 5th) Ascension Thursday

This Thursday is **Ascension Thursday** and a holy day of obligation. All Catholic are asked to attend Mass this day in order to remember and celebrate the Lord's Ascension into Heaven which took place 40 days after his resurrection.

Ascension Thursday Holy Day Mass Times

7:00 a.m. and 9:00 a.m. St. Thomas Aquinas Church

7:00 p.m. St. Basil's Chapel

Holy Day Collection

Archbishop Sean has asked all parishes in the Diocese to take a collection for the **victims of the earthquake in Ecuador**. The proceeds from the Holy Day collection will be given to assist the victims of the earthquake.

Thank you.

Fr. Bill Neubecker, OMV.

The following letter is from Fr. Bill Neubecker, OMV. Fr. Bill was the guest speaker and leader of our parish mission that was held March 14-16. The second collection taken on the Sunday (March 20th) following the mission was given to Fr. Bill's religious community, Oblates of the Virgin Mary. Our parishioners donated \$3,000 to Fr. Bill's community in appreciation for conducting this mission.

Dear Parishioners,

I wanted to thank you for attending the recent parish mission for St. Thomas Aquinas Parish in Bridgewater and for your generous donation to the Oblates of the Virgin Mary. I appreciate and am grateful to you and thank you for your support to our religious community. Your gift helps to further the mission and ministry of our community.

I was very inspired by all who attended and felt blessed to be able to offer the mission and be a part of the week with you. I hope the graces of the parish mission helped to strengthen your own faith in these challenging times in which we live.

May God bless you and your family.

With my prayers and gratitude,

Fr. Bill. Neubecker, OMV

2nd COLLECTION this weekend is for CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT**Financial Blessings**

Summary of Collections April 19 - April 25	IN-PEW	ON-LINE	GRAND TOTAL
Weekly Offertory	\$6,795	\$138	\$6,933
Monthly Offertory	-	\$1,084	\$1,084
Capital Improvement	-	\$30	\$30
TOTAL	\$6,795	\$1,252	\$8,047

Military Archdiocese Collection	STB	STA	
TOTAL	-	\$45	\$45

Candlelight Rosary Procession

St. Thomas Aquinas Parish, Bridgewater, will host the first of the 2016 season's Candlelight Rosary Processions on **Friday, May 13, 2016, at 7:30 P.M.** The guest speaker for May 13 will be **Reverend Adrian Milik**, Parochial Vicar of St. Thomas Aquinas Parish Bridgewater.

The Processions, held on the 13th of the month from May through October, are in honor of Our Lady of Fatima. The service includes inspirational music, a Candlelight Rosary Procession led by a beautiful statue of Our Lady of Fatima, and Benediction. All are welcome to come—to pray for Peace in our troubled world at war and for our service men and women in the Armed Forces, and for their own personal intentions. We especially urge Families to attend this service—“The Family That Prays Together Stays Together.”

The church has ample parking and is handicapped accessible.

CARDBOARD CITY

This weekend! Saturday evening April 30th, come out to the parking lot (after the 4 p.m. Mass, or before 7:45 a.m. Mass) to visit our youth. See our students and adults in action raising awareness of homelessness and money for **Mainspring House, a homeless shelter in Brockton**. Please come show your support by buying an item or two from our bake sale. 100% of the proceeds will be donated. If you are not able to visit or make a donation, most importantly, please remember the youth of our parish, and all who are homeless in your prayers.

Sabbath Rest

As a priest I am blessed with being able to meet and talk with people in all sorts of different circumstances. I see them at important family events, I see them as part of their regular worship, and I run into them randomly at the store. I see them in the happiest of moments, such as weddings, and I see them in the saddest ones, such as funerals.

This makes me aware of how busy people are. A lot of the time, as I am talking to people, I recognize that they have been running around pretty much non-stop. This is particularly clear when they talk about how hard it is for them to be patient with others and to really give their all to the things that they have to do. My response to that is always to encourage them to make time for rest and recovery, and make time for the things that give them life. After all, we can often do much better in accomplishing things and being there for people when we are at full energy and in a positive mood.

God knows this about us, after all He created us, which is why He commanded us to set aside a day to rest, have some healthy recreation, spend time together, and remind ourselves He needs to be in the center of our lives through worship. We've mostly gone away from the idea of the Sunday rest, now that day is just as full of activities; sports, work, shopping, and everything else. Allowing all that busyness to sneak into our Sundays ends up hurting us a lot of the time since it takes away that possibility of just resting and recharging our batteries for the week ahead. I encourage you to try to find at least a bit of time each Sunday to do something life-giving for yourself. Whether that is some time in nature, time relaxing with friends and family, reading a good book, or enjoying a hobby like art, I hope you make sure you do some of it every week. I also encourage you to make sure you find some time for praying that day, more than you usually do. It is so important to let God be at the center. I know that doing so will make everything else you do that day, and for the rest of the week a little bit easier and a little bit better.

In Christ,

Fr. Adrian

Faith Formation

Grades 1-8

Congratulations to our second grade students who made their First Communion this past Saturday, and to those who are making it next Saturday. They have worked hard this year preparing for this special day. We hope this is the first of many Communion that will strengthen them throughout their lives. Please keep them and their families in your prayers. Thank you to our second grade catechists who prepared these students for First Penance and First Communion. Our program would not be what it is without their donation of time, talent, and treasure.

Meghan Cleary	Lori Mikelus
Kristin Lambert	Jill Nunes
Joan Luiz	Colleen O'Donnell
Fiona Lunetta	Julia Popson
Maureen Lunsford	Lorena Rose
Julie Lynch	Carol Sotera
Carie McAuliffe	Brandy Thornhil

Confirmation I & II

Last Sunday our Confirmation students listened to a presentation given by Linda Thayer who taught science in the Boston Public School system for 35 years. Her love of science brought her to believe in the miracle of birth and brought her back to her faith. She used a slide show to visually and scientifically show that life begins at the moment of conception. Linda's presentation included a discussion about the word fetus which is a Latin word meaning "offspring." When society wants to make the idea of abortion acceptable, it uses the word "fetus." We appreciate Linda's commitment to keeping the youth of our Archdiocese informed about this important topic. Our ninth and tenth graders were very attentive and respectful during this 90 minute presentation. We hope they came away with a deeper respect for the sanctity of life.

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

Cemetery Clean Up

We are in the process of cleaning the cemeteries. As was mentioned in previous bulletins, we have begun and will continue removing Christmas or damaged decorations from the graves. If you would like to volunteer your time to help us in our clean up, please contact the Parish Office.

We will also begin the second year of a grass treatment project which will address insect damage and restore grass as needed. We will be adding loam and grass seed to graves that were opened during the winter.

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

Maintenance Positions Open

We are looking to hire a MAINTENANCE MANAGER full time for the parish. If interested please visit www.bostoncatholic.org. Click "Employment", next "Parish" and scroll down to "South Region Jobs":

We are also 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.

St Basil 5:00 p.m. Mass

The last 5:00 p.m. Mass at St. Basil's chapel before the summer break will be on Sunday, May 15, (Pentecost).

The 5:00 p.m. mass will resume again in the fall.

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 wine and hosts for the month
of May were donated with Love
from Patricia Boyle*

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 30

4:00 p.m. Mass for the People

Sunday, May 1

7:45 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 - 1st Anniversary

12:00 p.m. Barry Semas

Saturday, May 7

4:00 p.m. John L. Carbone

Sunday, May 8

7:45 a.m. Jose Curvelo Sr.

10:00 a.m. James J. Geraghty

St Basil 10:00 a.m. Cecelia and Santiago Abano

12:00 p.m. Jonathan Kelly & the deceased
members of the Kelly & Amaral families

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, Lloyd Nelson, 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

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