

ST. THOMAS AQUINAS PARISH

NOVEMBER 20, 2016



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 | 10:00 a.m.

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 | Suspended for the Summer

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

The Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

The Liturgical Year ends in glory. We proclaim that Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, is King of the Universe, but what does this mean for us, for the average person in the pew? How often do we think about Jesus, talk to Him in prayer outside of church, or mention Him in conversation? How often do we speak to others about feeling His unconditional love, His strength when we are weak, and His comfort in our sadness and in our trials? People have a right to know about Him. If we don't praise and proclaim His name, who will? Today also marks the end of the Jubilee Year of Mercy. The need – obligation – to be merciful- never ends. Continue to reach out to someone who needs a helping hand, a kind word or a phone call.

Thanksgiving 2016

This year, probably more than ever, we should stop and appreciate how fortunate we are and how thankful we should be. Despite the challenges we face as a nation and a world, we have so much more that unites us than separates us. Thanksgiving Day, for most, is filled with family reunions, dinner preparations, dinner, the Macy Day Parade, football games and for some Black Friday shopping. It's a day that could slip by without prayer. As families come together to celebrate Thanksgiving Dinner I encourage you to stop for a moment either in a prayer or silence to thank God for your blessings.

There is no better way for us to express our thanks to God and experience His love for us than celebrating the Eucharist. The word Eucharist comes from the Greek meaning "Thanksgiving." Please plan to attend the 9 a.m. mass at St. Thomas Aquinas Church.

I also encourage you to attend the Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service on Tuesday evening at 7 p.m. at the Episcopal Church on Main St. when clergy and parishioners from many of the Bridgewater churches, including St. Thomas, will join together thanking God of His many blessings. Further details found in this bulletin.

Parish Opioid Awareness

In order to address the growing opioid epidemic in the Archdiocese, the Cardinal's Opioid Task Force has asked every parish to designate two people to attend Care with Compassion: Opioid Overdose Prevention Training. Those who are trained will become a parish resource to help us better understand the factors, signs and symptoms of overdose, referrals for help and how to assist families who have been affected by this epidemic.

One person has already attended the training and will assist our parish in better understanding Opioid Addiction and treatment. If someone else has an interest in or would like to volunteer to attend training, please speak to Fr. Tom, me or call the Parish Office. Please note in this week's bulletin the Photo Voice Exhibit that will be displayed at St. Basil's next week.

Grand Annual Appeal

I continue to be very grateful for the generosity expressed by parishioners who have made contributions to our Grand Annual Appeal. For those who have donated....Thank You!!! If you have not made a donation and would like to donate to this Appeal, there are forms at the entrances of the church and chapel.

Parish Pastoral Council Openings

Once again I'm encouraging people to consider serving on the Parish Pastoral Council. I would like to ask you personally when I see you after mass but I'm often unable to because of other conversations. Consider this announcement a personal invitation to volunteer to serve on the council. The PPC is one of the primary advisory councils in our parish that not only provides information, feedback, support and ideas to me as pastor but just as importantly helps to develop future priorities and direction for our parish.

The PPC meets one evening every 2-3 months. Some people have expressed interest. If you OR someone that you know would be a good candidate, I ask you to please submit your name or theirs to Barbara Henault at 508-697-6407 or b1henault@gmail.com. I would like to have the names by the end of November.

Fr. Bill

Christmas Giving Trees

First: For those in Need...if you or anyone you know from our Parish or in Bridgewater needs assistance with Christmas gifts please make your request at the Parish office now. We respect the privacy of those who need assistance. We will be accepting requests for assistance until December 1st.

Second: There will be an opportunity to help families in need. Tags will be put on the Giving Trees Nov 26th and 27th and December 3rd and 4th. All gifts should be returned by December 10th.

Photo Voice Exhibit Sunday, November 27

Next Sunday Nov. 27th following the 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. Masses at St. Basil's you are encouraged to view a "Photo Voice" exhibit created by Bridgewater-Raynham High School students in response to what they learned about drug and alcohol addiction and abuse. These students voluntarily participated in an after school program to learn about this epidemic. They were then each given a camera and asked to photograph images that reminded them of something they had learned in class. These photos were then given a "voice." These photos will be on display next weekend. We intend to display these "Photo Voice" pictures at St Thomas Aquinas Church at a later date.

Bridging Lives - the Bridgewater segment of the Brockton Area Opioid Abuse Prevention Collaborative is working in this town and Raynham to try to teach children, students and adults about the dangers and results of alcohol and drug addiction. Please take a few minutes to stop by and learn.

Evelyn DeLutis, a member of the Bridging Lives committee, will be there to answer questions and provide you with take home information.

Advent Wreath Lighters Needed

Next Sunday we will begin every Mass with the Lighting of the Advent Wreath. We invite and encourage families or individuals to light the wreath at Mass. If you or your family would like to light the wreath there are signup sheets at the entrances of the church or chapel. Select church or chapel, date and mass you would like to light the wreath. Those who volunteer are asked to introduce themselves to the priest in the back of the church/chapel prior to the beginning of the mass.

We encourage families to make an Advent Wreath from the greens around your home and place three purple candles and one rose candle in the middle. The wreath is lite and prayer is said each night at dinner. The internet has a number of websites with information about making a wreath and the prayers that are said each day. What a great way to bring your family together or to start a new prayer tradition in your home. Guarantee the children....and adults will love it.

Thanks Spellman

Our parish would like to thank the 12 students from Cardinal Spellman High School who on Monday, November 1st spent the day cleaning our cemetery, the church benches and the parish center. This was done as part of their community Christian service to help others. Thank you!

Fall Cemetery Clean Up

This month we will be doing our annual Fall Clean Up in both of our cemeteries. We ask everyone who cares for a grave to remove any grave decorations that are broken, or falling apart, such as wreaths, silk flowers, wooden crosses, statuary, toys, vases, pots, as well as dead plants no later than November 21st. Fresh cut flowers are always permitted provided they are in good condition. Items that will not be removed include undecorated shepherds hooks, remembrance vigil candles, and solar lights. After the 21st these decorations will be removed and disposed. Thank you for helping us keep our cemeteries clean and places where we can remember and pray for our loved ones.

Apparel For The Needy - collection bins November 20 & 27

Chapter 278 Catholic Financial Life will be collecting new hats, gloves, mittens, scarves, and socks for men, women, and children. Collection bins for will be available inside the entrances of the church and chapel during the last two weeks of November. These will be donated to "Our Brother's Keeper". If anyone would like to make a monetary donation send a check to Chapter 278 Catholic Financial Life 102 Mt. Prospect St, Bridgewater MA 02324

Prison Holiday Help Needed - collection bins December 4 & 11

Bridgewater State Hospital is a psychiatric prison hospital where 300 men with very serious mental illnesses live - some for a very short period of evaluation and some for a lifetime. Though it is a hospital, it is also very much a prison. It can be one of the saddest places on earth during the holiday season. You can help to change that.

Every year the Catholic community at the hospital is permitted to give the patients as well as the 50 inmate workers, (men who have transferred from other DOC facilities to work in the kitchen, to maintain the grounds, do the laundry, etc.) holiday packages with a few basic items. This year the items we are hoping you will be able to help with are:

- stick deodarant
- shampoo
- deodorant
- soap

Celebration of Thanksgiving

Tuesday, November 22nd @ 7:00 pm

Trinity Episcopal Church, 91 Main Street

The Bridgewater Council of churches welcomes everyone as we gather together and share our blessings with one another.

“Choosing to be grateful”



- Participation by many in the Bridgewater Community
- Time of Fellowship and food following the service
 - Join the Community Choir – rehearsals are on Tuesdays, November 8 & 15 @ 6:00 PM at Trinity Episcopal Church
- Donations to be shared with The Bridgewater Food Pantry and the Fuel Assistance Program
- Please bring a donation of a non-perishable food

THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS Council 488

Cordially invites you to a

A Very Special Christmas Party

St. Thomas Aquinas Parish center

December 3, from 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM

The knights would like to invite special needs children to our annual children's Christmas party. Held at the St. Thomas Aquinas Parish center our festivities prove a supportive environment so their children can enjoy things like visiting Santa and Mrs. Claus at their own pace, engaging in crafts with necessary assistance, and generally enjoying time with the Knights and special needs families. The party is free to all special needs families, and siblings are welcome. Activities include: DJ with holiday music, games, crafts, gift from Mr. and Mrs. Claus, and pictures with Santa for those who would enjoy them.

Space is limited and registration is required.

Please RSVP by December 1st with:

- 1) full name of all children attending
- 2) sex of each child
- 3) age of each child
- 4) any gift considerations such as developmental age of child.

Please RSVP

to Karen Sullivan at MrsGumby56@comcast.net
or call (508) 697-1527

FAITH FORMATION

Grades 1-8

Our Christmas pageant is back! It will be held on **Saturday, December 17th at 5:30** in the gym. Students in Grades 1-6 will be the performers. We are still looking for angels to help lead the audience in singing Christmas carols. If your student is interested, please contact the office. We have a dedicated group of volunteers who have been working hard to organize this beautiful tradition and one we hope that you will be able to attend.

Confirmation

Half of our students in Confirmation II attended a retreat held at the Father Peyton Center in Easton. The parish provided bus transportation and during the ride the students recited the rosary. (Did you know that once you learn the rosary, you are called to teach others?) The retreat was led by parishioners Steve and Jen Riley. The students listened to talks, watched videos, heard a witness speaker, participated in activities, and went to Confession. The evening ended with Mass. It was beautiful for them to be together, to support one another, and have faith-filled fun! The spring retreat is scheduled for **Friday, April 7th**. Please continue to pray for our students.

All students are reminded to work on their service projects. Our parish is very busy and there are many opportunities. Check your email for sign up information.

YOUTH GROUP

For Students in grades 6-12

OUR MISSION:

“To bring our youth to the joy of the Church through Catholic centered events, community outreach, and social gatherings.”

Week Long Service Trip - June 24 - July 1, 2017

We are thrilled to announce that we are joining St. John's Parish in East Bridgewater for a service trip to Richmond, VA through **Catholic Heart Work Camp** a well-known, nationwide service organization.

St. Thomas Youth Group has reserved 10 spots, (2 chaperones, 8 students)

in addition to spots that St. John's has reserved.

- Open to students entering grades 9-12 (as of fall 2017)
- \$630 (approx.) includes transportation, lodging & food
- Fundraising opportunities will be available
- For more information contact Beth Peterson at beth0109@comcast.net or 508-331-0187

Lasalette Shrine - Fri. December 2nd 6-9:30pm

Please join us to view the **Christmas Festival of Lights** Transportation will be provided. Open to students in grades 6-12. To sign up, please visit the Youth Group page of the St. Thomas website under ministries.

WRAP *Presents* & BE PRESENT



We prepare for everything we consider important in life. And that includes Christmas. We shop for gifts, bake cookies, decorate our trees, and visit family and friends until we're ready to drop. This year, prepare for Christmas in a different way. Join Dynamic Catholic for Best Advent Ever: *Rediscover Christmas*. You'll receive daily emails with inspirational videos, practical tips, or free Christmas music that will help you slow down and focus on what matters most. You'll experience Christmas in a way you've never experienced it before. Are you ready for your best Advent ever?

To sign up, visit
BestAdventEver.com





Knights of Columbus Bridgewater Council #488
MEAT RAFFLE
 St. Ann's Church, West Bridgewater
Saturday, Nov. 26 1:00pm - 3:00pm
 Light refreshments served. All are Welcome!

Parish Giving Tree's

St. Basil Chapel
 Ornaments designating gifts for needy families will be available on November 27. These gifts will be given to Our Brother's Keeper, Easton to be distributed to needy families in the area.

St. Thomas Aquinas Church
 Ornaments designating gifts for needy Bridgewater families will be available on November 27. These gifts will be given directly to Bridgewater families in need of our support.

Identifying families
 If you or any family you know are in need of support during this Christmas Season we ask them to contact the parish office at 509-697-9528

Coffee & Donuts - at St Thomas Aquinas
 in lower church hall after the 10 a.m. Sunday Mass

Religious Ed Teachers Needed
 Grades 5 & 6 - Tuesdays @ 3:45 p.m. & 5:00 p.m.

Women's Club - Save the Date!
Tuesday, December 6th the Christmas luncheon will be held at Meadow Brook in Hanson.
 More details to follow.

WEEKLY DEVOTIONS
 Come and spend some quiet time with the Lord

- **ADORATION**
 Saturdays 9:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
St Thomas Aquinas - Lower Church
- **DIVINE MERCY HOLY HOUR**
 Wednesdays 7 p.m. - 8 p.m.
St Thomas Aquinas - Lower Church

The 2nd Collections

- **This week - November 13 Retired Religious Sisters**

This weekend the Archdiocese will take up the Collection for Retired Sisters. Since 1988, the collection has provided needed financial support for religious communities who have served the Archdiocese of Boston as educators and health care and social service providers. Please give generously in recognition of the Sisters' years of dedicated service. For more information, please contact Sister Marian Batho, CSJ, Delegate for Religious at 617-746-5637 or Sr_Marian_Batho@rcab.org.

- **Next week - November 27 No 2nd Collection**

FINANCIAL BLESSINGS

Summary of Collections for: 11/8-11/14	St Thomas	St Basil	Total
1st Collection (Parish)	\$4,890	\$961	\$5,851
2nd Collection (World Mission Sunday)	\$1,711	\$325	\$2,036
Total	\$6,601	\$1,286	\$7,887
Online Giving			
WeShare	\$528	\$420	\$948
Parish Pay	\$25	-	\$25
Total	\$553	\$420	\$973
Grand Total	\$7,154	\$1,706	\$8,860

WEEKLY MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, November 19

4:00 p.m. Louis & Louise Resmini

Sunday, November 20

7:45 a.m. Jose Coelho

10:00 a.m. Albert "Abby" L. Ghelfi

10:00 a.m. (*St Basil*) John Vicente

12:00 p.m. Denise, Leslie & Charlene Gleba

5:00 p.m. (*St Basil*) Don Wheeler & Shirley Courtney

Monday, November 21

7:00 a.m. All the Holy Souls in purgatory

9:00 a.m. Betty Gattiglio

Tuesday, November 22

9:00 a.m. Paula Balboni

Saturday, November 26

4:00 p.m. Catherine McGeough

Sunday, November 27

7:45 a.m. Lena & Napolian Carroll

10:00 a.m. Mass for the People

12:00 p.m. "Bruno" Berlandi

5:00 p.m. (*St Basil*) Billy Gabriel – Prayers for New Seminarian

SACRAMENTS

• CONFESSION

Every 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, December 1 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.

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.



"A time to be born..."

Peter Wyatt Chandler, Olivia Leigh Wasik,
Grayson Robert Losche, James Michael Wyman,
Aubreigh Lynn Dolbeare, Alexandra Rae Hargrove

"A time to die..."

Janet Mattson, Dorothy Keane, Rena Pomeroy,
Irene Paglierani, Helen Munise, Florence Martelli

"A time to heal..."

Olga (Cassiani) Alberghini, Edward Albert, Jean Andrade,
Christopher Barbosa, Jeffrey Bean, Jim & Jean Brennan,
Kim (Sweetman) Carnello, Sandra Cable,
Teresa Capachione, John Conley, Jacquie Cordaro,
Matthew Costantino, Michael Costantino,
Baby Mychal Joseph Cotone, Joanna Crabtree,
Michael Crowley, Jannine Dawicki, Joseph DeAndrade,
Mary DeLeon, Marty Dickerman, Paul D'Olimpia,
Andrea Fitzgerald, Lee Fuller, Jesus Galindo,
Florence Galligan, Beverly Giuffre, Tim Johnson,
Daniel John, Ava King, Jessica Kamaniski, 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, Arlene Morin, Anna Nakouzi,
Lloyd Nelson, Antonio Nunes, Tom O'Donnell,
Bob O'Hare, Glenn O'Neil, Kevin O'Neill,
Ann Paulino, Carolyn Perry, Elaine Phaneuf,
Josephine Trocchi Picone, Richard Piantoni,
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, Peggy Yanuskiewicz,
Don Weiner, 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
2nd LT. Jeffrey Boyle, USMC
Captain 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