

ST. THOMAS AQUINAS PARISH

OCTOBER 30, 2016

Tuesday, November 1st - ALL SAINTS DAY - Holy Day of Obligation



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.

WEEKNIGHT MASS

This Wednesday

November 2, 6:00 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

Upcoming Elections

A great deal of negativity, often very caustic, has been expressed during the debates, on social media, in the newspapers and television with regard to presidential candidates and the parties. It seems like we've all been affected and possibly influenced by this negativity whether we've wanted to or not.

While some voters are very supportive of their chosen candidate, many more are conflicted and unsure who to vote for or against. Some will vote for a candidate and others who are unhappy with both candidates will vote for the party platform. Despite how disappointed or frustrated we may feel, it's important to vote.

Whatever the outcome of this election we, as individuals and as a country, will need healing, encouragement, hope, strength, reconciliation and trust as we move forward. Our country is strong and resilient not only because of its leadership, but because of the determination, pride, resiliency and vision of our ancestors and our citizens.

Question 4

As citizens of Massachusetts we are being asked to vote on four issues. Hopefully voters have studied the pro's and con's of each petition and will make what they believe the best choice.

The Roman Catholic Bishops of Massachusetts join Governor Baker and many other elected officials along with the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) and the American College of Pediatricians (ACP) in opposing the legalization of marijuana. We urge the voters of Massachusetts to vote NO on Question 4 on November 8, 2016. Their reasoning can be found on line and is available on the blue cards available at the entrances of the church and chapel.

Pastoral Council Openings

Every parish in the Archdiocese of Boston is required to establish a Parish Pastoral Council (PPC). The purpose of the PPC and its members is to "assist the pastor in his leadership role of planning, organizing, initiating, promoting, reviewing and coordinating the evangelization, worship, religious education and service activities within the parish." The PPC is an advisory body to the pastor and as such assists me in assessing parish needs, fostering unity, developing a sense of community and promoting programs and activities within the parish.

Over the past five years our PPC has been indispensable in advising and supporting me. They created our Parish Mission Statement published in the bulletin, been instrumental in identifying needs and more specifically initiated our successful Growth in Stewardship Initiative, encouraged the post Mass Coffee and Donuts at the church, coordinated ministries, established the Lenten Parish Mission and encouraged youth ministry programs.

Our PPC meets one evening a week every 2-3 months. There are approximately 10 members each who serves for a period of three years. There are four openings on the council at this time. The parish in general and I, in particular need your ideas, vision, feedback and support as we continue to reach out to bring others to Jesus Christ. Please consider becoming a member.

Nominations are open for anyone 18 yrs. or older and is an active participant in the parish. You have up until November 20th to nominate yourself or someone else. A member of the council, Barbara Henault will be receiving nominations at b1henault@gmail.com or call 508-697-6407.

Grand Annual Appeal

Although you will receive an acknowledgement in the mail, I would like to thank everyone who has already contributed to the Grand Annual Appeal. I'm aware that you have received a lot of requests for donations and that your funds are limited, therefore I greatly appreciate your willingness to support our parish. Thank you.

I hope those who have not contributed to this Appeal will reconsider and make a donation this year.

Fr Bill

All Saints Day *Tuesday, November 1st - Holy Day of Obligation*

November 1st, Tuesday, is All Saints Day and a Holy Day of Obligation. As such the church asks all Catholics to attend Mass. On this day we not only remember the Communion of Saints, those who have been declared saints in heaven, but the fact that all of us have been called by our baptism to become saints.

MASS Schedule: November 1 (Tuesday)

7:00 a.m. & 9:00 a.m. St. Thomas Aquinas Church 7:00 p.m. St. Basil Chapel

All Soul's Remembrance

Most cultures and religions designate times and ceremonies to remember the dead. The Catholic Church sets aside November 2, All Souls Day and the month of November to remember and pray for all those who have died.

If you would like us to remember anyone in particular we encourage you to take an envelope found at the entrances of the church/chapel. Please write the names of those you would like to remember and return it in the collection next week. Offerings are greatly appreciated but not required. These envelopes will be placed on the altar throughout November.

MASS Schedule: November 2 (Wednesday)

7:00 a.m. & 9:00 a.m. St. Thomas Aquinas Church 6:00 p.m. St. Basil Chapel

Thank you Karen.... *Sunday, October 30th*

For many years Karen Geraghty was our Religious Education coordinator for grades 1-8 and assisted with the High School Confirmation Program. She left this position in August in order to accept a teaching position in Carver. This Sunday, Oct 30th during and after the 10 a.m. Mass at the church we will have the opportunity to publicly thank her for the all she did for the students and parents of our program.

Veterans Day Covers

We will be honoring our veterans, living and dead, during Masses on November 12th & 13th. It has been a tradition in our parish to have the veterans or active duty member's hats or covers at the foot of the altar during the masses. These covers are a visible way to remember our veterans.

We ask all veterans/active duty or any family members who have veteran's hats to drop them off at the parish office by November 11th (Veteran's Day). Please put your name/contact info in the hats so that they can be returned.

Prison Ministry Volunteer's Meeting

All those who are interested in or have already volunteered for prison ministry at Bridgewater State Hospital are asked to attend one of two informational meetings. Peg Newman, Catholic Chaplain at BSH, will give a presentation of the hospital/prison, the need, the ministry and process and answer any questions.

Meeting dates:

Sunday, November 13th at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, November 15th at 6:30 p.m. (lower church hall)

11th & 12th grade students - *Sunday, November 30th from 6:30-8:00 p.m.*

The first meeting for 11th/12th grade high school students will take place this Sunday, November 30th from 6:30-8 and be held once a month in the parish center. Learning about our faith doesn't stop at Confirmation. These classes are for those who would like to learn more about the Lord, the Bible, their faith, the Church and contemporary issues. These informal, interactive classes led by Fr. Bill will encourage discussion and questions.

October Mass Count

This is the final week we will be taking count of parishioner attendance at Mass. The results will be published in the next few weeks.

Coffee and Donuts - *St Thomas Aquinas lower church hall after the 10 a.m. Mass*

Coffee and donuts continues to be a great success. Hope you will join us.

RCIA - The Rite of Christian Initiation - *next class: Sunday, October 30th, 3:45 to 4:45 p.m.*

Raffle tickets - *Get Scratching!*

Raffle tickets for the Holiday Bazaar will remain at the entrances of the church till Nov 13. If you are interested please take some for yourself, or to sell. Ticket stubs & money must be returned by mail, offertory collection, or at the parish office/rectory by November 19th. 114 Mass State Lottery scratch tickets have been purchased for \$500.00. The following games will be available: 2 @ \$30.00 ea., 5 @ \$20.00 ea., 12 @ \$10.00 ea., 20 @ \$5.00 ea., 45 @ \$2.00 ea., 30 @ \$1.00 ea. Only one winner will be drawn for all 114 scratch tickets. For more information please call Joe Souto 508-697-6797

VIRTUS Training - *Sunday, November 6, 1:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.*

All those that volunteer for any parish ministry are required to complete VIRTUS training. If you have not yet received training please call the parish office to sign up.

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

Lector Training - *Final Training date - Sunday, November 13 at St Basil Chapel*

All volunteers (new or old) are asked to attend.

NEW VOLUNTEERS: Sunday, Nov. 13 at St Basil Chapel 2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

RETURNING VOLUNTEERS: Sunday, Nov.13 at St Basil Chapel 1:30 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Worldwide Marriage Encounter

“For you love all things that are and loathe nothing that you have made;” Celebrate the love of God for us and for each other by strengthening, renewing and rekindling our marriages by participating in a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend. The next WWME **Weekends are Dec 2-4, 2016 in Duxbury, MA and Jan 20-22, 2017 in Duxbury, MA.** For more information, call Stephen & Michelle O’Leary at 800-710-9963 or visit us at www.WWMEMA.org.

Patriotic Rosary - *Tuesday, November 10th at 1:00 PM at St. Catherine of Siena Church, Norwood*

Come pray the beautiful Patriotic Rosary on Tuesday, November 10th at 1:00 PM at St. Catherine of Siena Church, 547 Washington St., Norwood, MA. Please join us as we pray for our Veterans and our Country. It is a rare opportunity to foster love of God and Country as we sing all of our patriotic songs.

For information, call Rita Russo, 781-762-4391 or email rita.a.russo@gmail.com

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 - *Informational meeting Sunday, Nov. 6th at 8 p. m. in the parish center.*

We are thrilled to announce that we are joining St. John's Parish in East Bridgewater for a service trip (June 24 - July 2) 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 9th-12th grades in the fall of 2017. Approximate cost \$650 - includes transportation, lodging and food - fundraising opportunities will be available.

Roller Skating - *for grades 6-8; Thursday November 10, 8 p.m.-10 p.m.*

See Youth Group page under ministries on parish website for more details and to sign up.

Jesus in Boston - *Young Adult Event, Friday, November 4th @ 7:30 p. m.*

All Young Adults and College Students are invited to join us on Friday, November 4th @ 7:30pm for our monthly “Jesus in Boston” event. This month, we will be at St. Leonard Church in Boston's North End. This is a great way to strengthen your interior life through the sacraments and to meet new people spending time in fellowship with other Catholic young adults. Join us for Eucharistic adoration, Mass, Confession, great food and even better people! For more information please email Mike Drahos at MDrahos@rcab.org.

Today's Gospel

You don't have to be rich, or short, or a CPA, or work for the IRS for Jesus to come to your house, just open your heart to Him. Zacchaeus was "seeking to see who Jesus was". The reward for this seeker was an encounter – one that got tongues wagging! Today, many people are seeking to see who Jesus is. Some may not be aware that He is what is missing in their lives. By sharing the importance of Jesus in your life and your encounter with Him daily in prayer, you can introduce Him to a seeker.

Christmas Drive For Troops & Veteran's – *First two weeks of November*

This weekend we will begin collecting for Christmas boxes for the troops in conflict areas and for the Brockton VA. Listed requested items and collection bins for our troops and for the Brockton VA are available inside the entrances of the church and chapel. The bins in the church will be available for the first two weeks of November while the bins at St Basil are available year round.

In addition to the collection of items, we again will be sending hand-knitted and/or crocheted Christmas stockings. There are patterns available at the Rectory and at St. Basil's and we ask that each stocking contain the colors red, white and blue – in whatever pattern you want. I would be happy to email a pattern, if that would be more convenient for you at sallynator67@yahoo.com.

Thank you for your continued support.

Apparel For The Needy – *Last two weeks of November*

Chapter 278 Catholic Financial Life will be collecting new hats, gloves, mittens, scarves, and socks for men, women, and children. Collection bins 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

Maintenance Position Available

St. Thomas Aquinas Parish is looking for a Part Time Maintenance worker. This is a 15-20 hour per week position with a flexible schedule. Responsibilities include assisting with the regular maintenance of all Parish buildings and grounds, helping with the set-up and take-down of all events in the Parish Center and other areas, and landscaping. If you are interested, please inquire at the Rectory office.

The 2nd Collections

• *This week - October 30* **Children's Liturgy of the Word**

Each week children ages 3-7 are invited to go downstairs during the 10 a.m. Sunday Mass. They are taught the scripture message of the week using arts/crafts. This Sunday's second collection enables us to purchase both the Program and the materials that are necessary support this very popular Sunday morning program. Thank you for supporting this ministry.

• *Next week - November 6* **Capital Improvements**

Our work continues on maintaining and improving all of the parish facilities and making them more functional and accessible for everyone. From maintaining the brick and stone work on the exterior of the church, to constructing a new common area in the lower church, to renovating floors, walls, and ceilings in the rectory, and upgrading the kitchen at St Basil. Your contributions are greatly appreciated and absolutely vital in making these projects possible, and we cannot thank you all enough for your continued support.

FINANCIAL BLESSINGS

Summary of Collections for: 10/18-10/24	St Thomas	St Basil	Total
1st Collection (Parish)	\$5,099	\$814	\$5,913
2nd Collection (World Mission Sunday)	\$2,194	\$347	\$2,541
Total	\$7,293	\$1,161	\$8,454
Online Giving			
WeShare	\$1,023	\$550	\$1,573
Parish Pay	\$200	-	\$200
Total	\$1,223	\$550	\$1,773
Grand Total	\$8,516	\$1,711	\$10,227

WEEKLY MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, October 29

9:00 a.m. Paul F. Kilbridge
4:00 p.m. Ursula Wilson

Sunday, October 30

7:45 a.m. Albert Querzoli
10:00 a.m. Henry J. Pistone

St Basil - 10:00 a.m. Mass for the People

12:00 p.m. John & Nina Carbone

Wednesday, November 2

9:00 a.m. Raymond Resmini

Saturday, November 5

4:00 p.m. The Rea Family

Sunday, November 6

7:45 a.m. Ester and Valentino Mortarelli
10:00 a.m. John Wagner

St Basil - 10:00 a.m. Lessard & Charron Morin

12:00 p.m. Victor O'Leary

WEEKLY DEVOTIONS

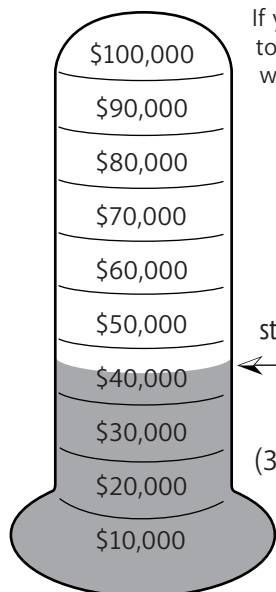
Come and spend some quiet time with the Lord

- **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

Baptism Preparation Class

Monday, November 7 at 7:00 p.m.
at the St Thomas Aquinas Parish Center

Grand Annual Collection



If you have not made a contribution to our Grand Annual Collection and would like to, you may give online.



st-thomasaquinas.weshareonline.org

As of Friday, October 21ST
106 of our 3,069 families
(3.45%) have pledged \$35,357

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR
GENEROSITY!**

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..."

Nolan Richard Kelly, Derek Robert Boyden,
Declan Michael Buchanan, Nevaeh Skye Elder
Gregorio Artur Grassa, Christian John Moore,
Scarlett Clare Wood, Amelia Jean Medas,
Jaxon John Daly, Enzo Antonio Nunes

"A time to die..."

Paul F. Kilbridge, Krista R. Connolly,
Jeremiah Collins, Lee M. Deane, Christine A. Cabral,
Eugene W. Bradley, Joseph F. Puliafico

"A time to heal..."

Olga (Cassiani) Alberghini, Edward Albert, Jean Andrade,
Christopher Barbosa, Jeffrey Bean, Jim & Jean Brennan,
Caitlin Burnett, 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, Bob Emord,
Andrea Fitzgerald, Lee Fuller, Jesus Galindo,
Florence Galligan, Beverly Guiffre, Tim Johnson,
Daniel John, Dorothy Keane, Ava King, Jessica Kamaniski,
Jessica King, Debbie Kulick, Fred Laham, James LaFranchise,
Nicole Lee, Kevin Looney, Bob Mackey, Beverly Mitchell,
Mary McClay, Taylor McLean, Kaleena McHardy,
Marjorie Mello, Baby Chase Miceli, Lauren Minchella,
Charles Monestere, Arlene Morin, Anna Nakouzi,
Lloyd Nelson, Antonio & Lucilia Nunes, Tom O'Donnell,
Paul D'Olimpia, Glenn O'Neil, 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
CPL Brandon Jamieson, USA
PFC, Christopher Ahl, USA
CPL Kelly O'Leary, USA
PFC Peter O'Leary, USA
PVT D.J. Jamieson, USA