

ST. THOMAS AQUINAS PARISH

SEPTEMBER 18, 2016



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.
Karen Geraghty, 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

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.

VOLUNTEERING.....

Volunteering in a ministry, organization or one of our parish events provides the opportunity for returning our gifts of time and talent to God. As well, it allows us the chance to share our faith with others, enrich the life of our entire Parish community, and experience the Lord's grace working in our life.

Volunteers Sign-Up Weekend - September 17-18th

This weekend is an open opportunity to sign-up for an event, join a ministry, or organization, or to simply learn more about what our parish has to offer. Most of these take less time than you would guess, and are flexible around your schedule. I ask everyone to prayerfully consider serving on one or more of the ministries listed below.

- Altar Guild
- Altar Servers
- Holiday Bazaar
- Baptism
- Bereavement
- Coffee & Donuts
- Lectors
- Candlelight Rosary Procession
- Catholic Financial Life
- Easter Egg Hunt
- Eucharistic Ministers
- Environmental Decorations
- Giving Tree
- Greeters & Ushers
- Offertory Counters
- Religious Education
- RCIA for Adults/Children
- Rummage Sale
- SVDP Food Pantry
- St Basil Food Pantry
- Social Committee
- Sen. Citz. Thanksgiving Dinner
- Troops & Veterans Support
- Womens Club
- VIRTUS Training
- Vacation Bible School
- Youth Group

Sign-Up Tables

There are Ministry tables located outside the church and inside the chapel after each mass. Ministry representative are available to assist you in signing-up for a particular group, and to answer any questions you may have.

New & Past Volunteers

We ask that BOTH new and past volunteers (regardless for how long you have been serving in that ministry) to sign up for a ministry.

Sign-Up Sheets (IMPORTANT!)

When you fill out a sign-up sheet to volunteer for a particular ministry, please print your name, email address and phone number. You will be contacted within the next few weeks by a member of that ministry. When you sign up you will receive a date/time to meet with that ministry for further information or training (Lectors and Eucharistic Ministers).

Archdiocese of Boston: Parish Volunteer Policy Requirements

The RCAB has mandatory requirements for all parish volunteers over the age of 18.

CORI

All volunteers (returning and new) are required to complete a CORI form every year. These forms are available in the lower church or chapel.

VIRTUS Requirements

All volunteers are required to attend VIRTUS (Protecting God's Children) Training that have not attended training in the past, OR have no certificate of completion. This three hours training is critical and mandatory for every volunteer and has received rave reviews from those who have attended. The Virtus Training will be held in the Parish Center on

Thursday, October 20, 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m., and Sunday, November 6, 1:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

These dates do not conflict with any Patriots games.

Fr. Bill

COFFEE & DONUTS - at St. Thomas Aquinas - beginning October 2nd

I'm very grateful that some parishioners have stepped up and offered to prepare and serve coffee and donuts in the lower church hall *after the 10 a.m. Mass each week*. I hope that everyone attending Mass will take this opportunity and time to come down briefly to meet other parishioners and enjoy coffee/juice or donuts.....before you head out to your vehicle. If successful, we will expand and offer coffee and donuts after the 7:45 Mass as well. We are still in need of more volunteers so that the responsibility can be shared and volunteers will only be asked every 4-5 weeks. If you're interested please contact the parish office.

Fr. Bill

ST. BASIL CHAPEL

"Mass on the Grass" - Sunday, September 18 at 10 a.m.

Weather-permitting, the annual "Mass on the Grass" will be on Sunday, September 18 at 10 AM outside of St. Basil Chapel. This is a unique, fun, and faith-filled opportunity to worship Jesus through whom the sun, stars, and all that fills the earth below them were created.

Sponsor a Sunday Pizza!

Would your family sponsor or co-sponsor one of the Sunday pizza nights for college students who gather after 5PM Mass in the Catholic Center lounge? Usually about six to 12 students stay for conversation. Please plan on a \$40 to \$70 contribution. A sign up sheet is outside the Chapel. St Thomas Aquinas church goers can choose a Sunday to sponsor, and then call **Rita Garufi 508 531 1346 or email r1garufi@bridgew.edu**.

Added Weekday Mass at 5:00 p.m.

Beginning **Wednesday, September 7**, Mass will be celebrated on alternating Wednesday and Thursdays throughout the academic year at 5PM at St. Basil Chapel. It is my hope that, among other events and programs at the Catholic Center, the celebration of the Eucharist will help the Catholic students, faculty, and staff of Bridgewater State University and also Catholics from the surrounding community to deepen in the middle of each week their relationship with Jesus. As the "source and summit" of our Faith and a most powerful means by which Jesus becomes really and truly present to us, the Eucharist, I also hope, will draw others to the Catholic Center for its celebration who might be interested in becoming Catholic and also empower the Catholic Center to become for all a more vibrant and effective center of the "new evangelization."

YOUTH GROUP (*students in grades 6-12*)

SAVE THE DATE - Saturday September 24, at 3:30 p.m.

For students in grades 6-12. Come join us for a fun and exciting college football game when the UMass Minutemen take on the Mississippi State Bulldogs at Gillette stadium on Saturday, September 24th @ 3:30 p.m. Game tickets are \$12.00 per person. Cost does not include transportation. Details to follow.

SAVE THE DATE - Saturday October 1, 4:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Attention all students in grades 6-12! Please join us for 4 o'clock mass, followed by subs and sundaes in the parish center, as we kick off our second year of Youth Group! Come to share faith and fun with your friends! Learn about past events and help plan new ones. This year promises to be faith-filled and fun, but we need your help! We look forward to seeing you there. Stay tuned for more details and sign up information

THE RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION (RCIA)

Is the Lord calling you to something more? Have you thought about becoming Catholic? If your answer to these questions is "yes," then the Rite of Christian Initiation (RCIA) is for you!

By means of completing RCIA and receiving the sacraments of initiation at the Easter Vigil, thousands upon thousands of men and women in the United States and around the world each year are brought by the Holy Spirit into full communion with the Catholic Church.

Beginning on **Sunday, October 16**, RCIA will once again be offered here at St. Thomas Aquinas Parish. RCIA classes will meet in at the St. Basil Chapel – Catholic Center from 3:45PM to 4:45 PM every other week until Holy Week. Again, the first class is on Sunday, October 16.

For further details, please contact **Fr. Tom Olson at tmajorsolson@gmail.com or (774) 364-0567**.

Pregnancy Help

Pregnancy Help is a pregnancy resource center sponsored by the Archdiocese of Boston to provide alternatives to abortion. Trained and caring nurses and case workers are available to assist any woman experiencing a difficult pregnancy. Pregnancy Help provides free pregnancy testing, limited ultrasound, referrals, material assistance, and ongoing support. All services are free, confidential and available for English, Spanish and Portuguese speaking clients. For assistance call **888-771-3914, text 617-903-7960 or email help@pregnancyhelpboston.org**

Children's Liturgy - 10:00 a.m. Sunday Mass , St. Thomas Aquinas

At the 10 o'clock Mass children, aged 3 (potty trained) through first grade, are invited to the Children's Liturgy in the lower church. There they will have a lesson about the Gospel of the day and do an activity or craft to help them understand and remember the message. If you wish to send your child simply have them follow along as the children are led from the upper church at the beginning of Mass. They will remain in the lower church until after the Homily and be returned to the upper church in time for the Eucharist. If you wish to join your child in the lower church you are most welcome. The Children's Liturgy follows the CCD calendar so we will begin on Sunday, September 25th.

ATTENTION HIGH SCHOOL AND CONFIRMATION STUDENTS:

You may volunteer to help with the children at the 10 o'clock Children's Liturgy. Each Mass is one hour of community service and every 3 Masses is one service project for Confirmation.

Please email **Kathy Fava at kfava77@comcast.net** for more information about the Children's Liturgy or the community service opportunity.

And Confirmation students should watch your email for sign-up genius information. Confirmation is not only about answering the call as one who is chosen, it is also about choosing. How have you be chosen? How do you choose God?

Faith Formation

Grades 1-8

Who teaches CCD?

Our catechists come from varied backgrounds. We have stay-at-home moms who juggle not only their schedules but their friends' schedules as they help with carpooling. We have people who work and fight traffic to get here on time to teach. There are students who squeeze an hour into schedules that are packed with academics and activities. We have grandmothers and retirees whose lives are full not only with family commitments, but with volunteer organizations who depend on them. We appreciate all those who have answered God's call to hand on the faith. There is always room for you if you would like to join them! We currently need catechists for the following days/times listed below. Thank you for your prayerful consideration!

- Grade 4 Monday (3:45-4:45)
- Grade 5 Tuesday (3:45-4:45) (with a helper)
- Grade 6 Tuesday (3:45-4:45)
- Grade 5 Tuesday (5:00-6:00)
- Grade 6 Tuesday (5:00-6:00)
- Grade 3 Wednesday (3:45-4:45)
- Grade 8 Wednesday (3:45-4:45)

Confirmation I & II

Last week, our 9th Grade students began the first year toward receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation. Our 10th Grade students will begin tonight, September 18th. We welcome all our families, especially those who are new or returning to our program from Catholic schools. This year, our students will be learning what it means to be chosen by God. They are moving forward in their spiritual formation which is something that continues over a lifetime! Confirmation is not only about answering the call as one who is chosen, it is also about choosing. How have you be chosen? How do you choose God?

Permanent Diaconate Inquirers Program: Is Christ Calling You?

If you are discerning God's possible call to serve the Church as a minister of Charity, Word, and Sacrament as an ordained deacon in the Archdiocese of Boston, you and your wife are invited to take part in the upcoming Inquirer program. The program consists four sessions: Session I: Who is the Deacon and am I one who is called? All sessions are from 7:00-8:30 September 20, 2016 St. Jerome's Parish (South Region), 632 Bridge Street, Weymouth September 27, 2016 Our Lady of Lourdes Parish (South Region), 439 West Street, Brockton Session II: How does diaconate ministry fit into marriage and family life? Tuesday October 18, 2016, 7:00-8:30pm (Pastoral Center, Braintree)

The Permanent Diaconate, restored at Vatican II, is a ministry of service that is open to married and single men. As a servant of the sacramental life of the church, deacons preside at baptisms, assist at the Eucharist, bring the Eucharist to the sick and suffering, witness marriages, bury the dead, and preside at Benediction.

Job Openings

Our parish is in the process of searching for the position of a full time Organist/Music Director and a part time Youth Minister. These two job descriptions and application process can be found at www.bostoncatholic.org/Utility/Employment

New Altar Servers

St. Thomas Aquinas Parish invites boys, girls, and adolescents who have (1) been baptized and (2) received their First Communion to consider serving our parish as Altar Servers. This is a formative and worthwhile opportunity for young people to serve the Church and grow closer to Jesus.

Pope St. John Paul II once told altar servers who gathered in Rome for a General Audience: "The altar server occupies a privileged place in the liturgical celebration . . . You are much more than simple helpers of the parish priest. Above all, you are servers of Jesus Christ, of the eternal High Priest. Thus, you altar servers are called in particular to be young friends of Jesus."

All new altar servers are required to attend one (1) of the following 2 training sessions:

- *Sunday, September 18, 1:30 p.m.*
- *Sunday, October 2, 1:30 p.m.*

If your son(s)/daughter(s) is interested in deepening their friendship with Jesus in this very essential way, then please inform **Kate Anderson** of which training session your son(s)/daughter(s) will attend. **Kate's email is cnjanderson@com-cast.net.**

La Salette's Blue Mass - September 29, at 6:30 p.m. in the LaSalette Shrine Church

The Blue Mass dates back to September 29, 1934, when Rev. Thomas Dade started the service as part of his duties with the Catholic Police and Fireman's Society. The first mass was held at St. Patrick's Catholic Church in Washington, DC and has grown to a nationwide celebration. The September 29 service was timed to coincide with Michaelmas, the feast of Saint Michael the Archangel, the patron saint of police officers. (from Wikipedia)

We gather to pray for our many first responders to the crisis that happen in our country. We pray in thanksgiving for their willingness to serve and put their lives on the line. We remember the words of Jesus who said, "There is no greater love than to lay down one's life for one's friends." (John 15:13)

This is La Salette's second Blue Mass and we invite all to become part of this tradition

Our 2nd Collection

• *This week -September 18 - Clergy Health and Retirement Trust*

The diocese-wide collection today will support the Clergy Health and Retirement Trust which cares for the health and well-being of our priests. In the Archdiocese of Boston, we are blessed to have 614 men including Fr. Bill Devine who have devoted their lives to serving Christ and His family. Your gift to this collection will help provide our priests with an appropriate level of care and quality of life so they can continue sharing the good news, performing good works, and spreading good faith. Remember the priests who have been there in your time of need, and consider honoring them with a generous gift to this special collection. You may also make your gift online at clergytrust.org or text the word PRIEST to 56512 (msg. & data rates may apply). Thank you for your generous and prayerful support of our priests.

• *Next week -September 25 - Religious Education Scholarship Fund*

Our Religious Ed. program averages approximately 1,000 students each year. Some families are unable to afford tuition, but we believe no child should be prevented from participating. Your contribution to this collection will assist us in providing financial aid to these families. Thank you!

FINANCIAL BLESSINGS

Summary of Collections September 6 -12	St Thomas	St Basil	Total
1st Collection (Parish)	\$4,543	\$985	\$5,528
2nd Collection (Capital Improvement)	\$3,383	\$390	\$3,773
Total	\$7,926	\$1,375	\$9,301
Online Giving			
WeShare	\$1,816	\$470	\$2,286
Parish Pay	\$125	-	\$125
Total	\$1,941	\$470	\$2,411
Grand Total	\$9,867	\$1,845	\$11,712

Weekly Mass Intentions

Saturday, September 17

4:00 p.m. Beth Edwards

Sunday, September 18

7:45 a.m. Margarida Sousa, Evangelina & Jose Sousa, and all the souls in purgatory

10:00 a.m. Manuel Fernandez

St Basil - 10:00 a.m. William Wilder

12:00 p.m. Elena Rea

St Basil - 5:00 p.m. Mass For the People

Monday, September 19

7:00 a.m. Manuel & Angelina Coelho

Tuesday, September 20

7:00 a.m. Richard, Patricia, and Raymond Downing

9:00 a.m. Filippo Montalto

Wednesday, September 21

9:00 a.m. Paul F. Kilbridge

Saturday, September 24

4:00 p.m. Lorraine Faria

Sunday, September 25

7:45 a.m. Manuel Perry

10:00 a.m. Manuel Torres

St Basil - 10:00 a.m. Joan & Jim Healy

12:00 p.m. Barbara Crean

Fall Rummage Sale - Saturday, October 15, 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

This fall our Annual Rummage Sale will take place on Saturday, October 15, 9-4. The St. Thomas Aquinas Women's Club is collecting the following donated items clothing, shoes, jewelry, books, toys, tools, CD's, DVD's, small furniture, domestics, and miscellaneous items. Items not accepted: televisions, computers, computer monitors or computer related items. *Donations may be dropped off inside the St Thomas Parish Center front entrance, Monday - Friday 10:30 a.m.-3:00 p.m.* Please do not leave items outside. All electric items must be in working order.

Baptism Preparation Class

Thursday, October 6 at 7:00 p.m.
at the St Thomas Aquinas Parish Center

IN LOVING MEMORY

The sanctuary lamps, hosts & wine at St Thomas Aquinas for this month were donated in loving memory of Francisco & Maria Joste and Victor & Florence Smith



Bridgewater TRIAD Presents

Drug Recognition Workshop

"Why is my grandchild acting like that?"

"My medication is missing"

"I noticed that his eyes looked funny.

His pupils were so small!"

Tuesday, September 20, 2016

at the Bridgewater Cole -Yeaton Senior Center

10 Wally Krueger Way

Registration is required by September 13th

(508) 697-0929

Complimentary lunch @12:00

Presentation to follow by bridgewater police officer Scott Hile. Presentation to include an overview of 5-7 drug categories and the common signs and symptoms of a person under the influence.

MEAT RAFFLE

St. Ann's Church, West Bridgewater

Saturday, September 24

1:00pm - 3:00pm

Light refreshments served. All are Welcome!



Knights of Columbus
Bridgewater Council #488