

ST. THOMAS AQUINAS PARISH

SEPTEMBER 25, 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.
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

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.

WE WANT YOU!

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 24-25th

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
- Prison
- 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
- Administrative office

Sign-Up Tables

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

New & Returning Volunteers

We ask that BOTH new and returning volunteers (regardless of 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.

Ministry Training Dates

LECTOR Ministers Training

NEW Volunteers

Thurs., October 13 at St Thomas Aquinas Church
7:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Sun. November 13 at St Basil Chapel
2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

RETURNING Volunteers

Thurs., October 13 at St Thomas Aquinas Church
7:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

Sun. November 13 at St Basil Chapel
1:30 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.

EUCCHARISTIC Ministers Training

NEW Volunteers

Mon., October 17 at St Thomas Aquinas Church
7:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Sun. October 23 at St Basil Chapel
2:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.

RETURNING Volunteers

Mon., October 17 at St Thomas Aquinas Church
7:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

Sun. October 23 at St Basil Chapel
2:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Annual Report

Every registered parishioner should have received a copy of the Annual Report this past week. A number of parishioners have commented very favorably not only on the content but the presentation. A parishioner stated that "if he was not a parishioner and had received it, after reading it, he would want to be a parishioner."

I would like to thank *Peter Vitagliano*, our business manager and *Parish Finance Council* for the narratives and figures. I would like to thank and give credit to *Rob Ruth*, our Administrative Ass't, who designed the layout, presentation, pictures and graphics. A lot of hours went into creating this report because we believe it's important for you to know and understand our financial status and how your contributions are being spent. Thank you!!

We mailed out approximately 3,100 Annual reports. If you didn't receive one it probably means that you are not in our registered parishioner database. If so, we ask you to please register either on line or complete a parish registration form at the rear of the chapel and church. If you are registered and requested not to receive mailings, and would like a copy please call the parish office.

Prison Ministry

In addition to the ministries listed in this bulletin, we've added Prison Ministry. Those who volunteer for this ministry will be visiting and working with inmates and residents of the Bridgewater State Hospital (BSH). This institution has received a lot of attention over the past few years and is now undergoing some personnel changes. The Bridgewater Correction Complex is in our backyard but most people have never seen it. BSH is one of four institutions in this complex. *Peg Newman*, BSH Catholic Chaplain, is asking for volunteers who she would train and supervise. A date will be set up for those who are interested or volunteer when Peg will meet with you in the parish center to explain the need and the process.

Fr. Tom and I regularly visit the different institutions within the complex to counsel inmates, celebrate Mass, hear confessions and support the Catholic chaplain's programs.

VIRTUS Training

Every volunteer in the Archdiocese of Boston is required to complete a Virtus (Protecting God's Children) training. This training only has to be done once and you will receive a certificate that you have completed the training and are registered with the Archdiocese of Boston Pastoral Center in Braintree. Every parish is audited regularly to see if they are in compliance with this requirement.

If you have not taken the training or do not have a certificate we ask you to attend one of the two upcoming trainings in our parish. You can also attend trainings in other parishes. The training helps you to know the signs if someone is a predator or if a child has been approached by a predator. The DVD's are graphic, the material very informative and the discussion very lively. Many who have attended state that every parent or grandparent should attend, volunteer or not.

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.

COFFEE and DONUTS

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. We hope to begin within the next few weeks.

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

YOUTH GROUP - 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! Please visit the youth group page of our parish website to sign up (we need a head count for food purposes).

ST. BASIL CHAPEL**Sponsor a Sunday Pizza! - each week following the 5 PM Mass**

Six-12 BSU students gather for dinner and conversation. Sign up at St Basil, or call or email *Rita Garufi 508-531-1346* r1garufi@bridgew.edu.

Weekday Mass at 5:00 p.m.- Thursday, September 29**THE RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION (RCIA) - Classes begin Sunday, October 16**

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. This year, might Jesus also be calling you to become Catholic? Do you know someone who would like to be Catholic? The program is also for people who may have been baptized Catholic but never received First Communion or Confirmation.

Classes will meet at the St. Basil Chapel – Catholic Center from 3:45PM to 4:45 PM every other week until Holy Week.

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

Children's Liturgy - BEGINS Sunday, September 25th

At St. Thomas Aquinas Church 10 am 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 this Sunday, September 25th.

ATTENTION HIGH SCHOOL AND CONFIRMATION STUDENTS:

You may volunteer to help with the children at the 10 am 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: Religious Education classes begin Sunday, September 25**

Who teaches CCD?

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)

Volunteers for the Senior Citizens Thanksgiving Dinner - Wednesday, October, 5, 7:00 p.m.

A meeting will be held October 5th at 7:00 p.m. in the parish Center for all those who wish to volunteer. The annual dinner will be held Sunday November 20th.

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 bostoncatholic.org/Utility/Employment

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS annual Tootsie Roll Fun Drive - Saturday & Sunday, October 1st & 2nd

On October 1st & 2nd, the Bridgewater Knights of Columbus will be conducting their annual Tootsie Roll Fun Drive, a charitable fund that assists those under the age of 21 with special needs. Members of council #488 will be present with their Tootsie Rolls to receive donations *after the masses on Saturday and Sunday*. Through this program, the Knights have been able to provide assistance to individuals with special needs in the three Bridgewater. The Knights are grateful for your generous support.

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

The Blue Mass dates 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)

New Altar Servers - Last scheduled training session: Sunday, October 2, 1:30 p.m.

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."

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@comcast.net.

Our 2nd Collection

• This week -September 25 - Religious Education Scholarship Fund

Our Religious Education 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!

• Next week -October 2 - Capital Improvements

At the beginning of every month, our second collection supports our capital improvements. We have explained the improvements we've made and continuing to make to our facilities. The Annual Report illustrated the expenditures required for capital improvements this past year as our facilities require constant upgrading and repairs. We are presently repointing the front of the church, repairing and painting an office room and dining room in the rectory, creating a meeting room in the lower church and in the process of installing a stove and ventilation in the chapel kitchen. Every penny of this collection goes to capital improvements.

Thank you again for your generosity.

FINANCIAL BLESSINGS

Summary of Collections September 6 -12	St Thomas	St Basil	Total
1st Collection (Parish)	\$4,774	\$1,062	\$5,836
2nd Collection (Clergy Benefit Trust)	\$2,557	\$281	\$2,838
Total	\$7,331	\$1,343	\$8,674
Online Giving			
WeShare	\$2,257	\$410	\$2,667
Parish Pay	\$25	-	\$25
Total	\$2,282	\$410	\$2,692
Grand Total	\$9,613	\$1,753	\$11,366

Weekly Mass Intentions

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

Wednesday, September 28

9:00 a.m. Paul F. Kilbridge

Saturday, October 1

4:00 p.m. John Hunter McCampbell

Sunday, October 2

7:45 a.m. Mr. & Mrs Yanuskiewicz

10:00 a.m. Paul F. Kilbridge

St Basil - 10:00 a.m. Theresa Nordberg

12:00 p.m. Mass For the People

St. Thomas Aquinas Women's Club

Pot Luck Covered Dish Supper

Thursday, October, 6, 6:30 p.m. in the parish center

The entertainment will be our own parishioner *Jack Phaneuf and his sister Barbara*. Come for the food, come for the music, and come for the fellowship.

Parish Rummage Sale

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

Donations may be dropped off INSIDE the St Thomas parish center front entrance Monday - Friday between 10:30 a.m. & 3:00 p.m. Please do not leave items outside.

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

Photos wanted for our bulletin & website

Most of the photos we receive are large group shots where everyone is standing still. As there isn't anything wrong with this type of image, we are looking for photos that capture our parishioners, ministries and events IN-THE-MOMENT. Help us to showcase our parish life. Photos must be digital, jpeg format, medium to hi-resolution, in-focus, with good lighting.

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..."

Elijah Abram Hoeffler, Damien Michael Hoeffler, William Gregory Hoeffler, Emilia Mae Jannini, Harlei Talia Wilson, Tanner Joseph Wilds, Micala Sofia Morales Wakin, Clara Elsbeth Brown

"A time to die..."

Abby Ghelfi, William D. Tardie, Lorraine Pereira, Joseph Bukin, Robert Bennett, Gerald T. Dennis, Michael Francis McSweeney, Jacqueline Wegman, Charles F. O'Connor, Joseph DeAndrade, Matilda Bradley

"A time to heal..."

Olga (Cassiani) Alberghini, Edward Albert, Jean Andrade, Christopher Barbosa, 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, 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, Kevin Looney, 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, Tom O'Donnell, Paul D'Olimpia, Glenn O'Neil, Ann Paulino, Carolyn Perry, Elaine Phaneuf, Jack Phaneuf, Josephine Trocchi Picone, Richard Piantoni, Dorothy Pope, Maria Presti, Andrea Proffetty, Joseph F. Puliafico, Rich Quigley, Camden Rivers, Martha Rooney, 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