

ST. THOMAS AQUINAS PARISH

SEPTEMBER 4, 2016



Monday Sept. 5 the parish **office's will be closed** due to the holiday, There will be **NO 7:00 a.m. Mass**
The 5:00 p.m. Mass at St Basil Chapel will resume Sunday, September 18

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.**

***Seasonal - September to May
beginning 9/18/2016**

Welcome

To visitors of our Parish, and to those who have recently moved into the area, and to those comfortable and nourished here - Welcome. Regardless of your status in the Church, marital state, your ethnicity, your prior religious experience, your personal history, background, or sexual orientation, we hope that you will continue to worship with us each week.

If you are new to the parish please introduce yourself to one of our priests and ask how you can become a registered parishioner

Our Mission is to be a welcoming community of believers continually growing in our faith and in our love of Jesus Christ through worship, education, evangelization and service within our local and broader community.

Our Mission

A word from Fr. Bill

Ministry Heads Meeting - Saturday, September 10, 5:30-7 p.m.

There will be a meeting/social for all the heads of ministries next Saturday, September 10 from 5:30-7 p.m. in the parish center. ***I ask that ALL those who lead or coordinate ANY ministry to attend this important meeting.*** If, for any reason, the ministry head cannot attend I ask that they designate someone to take their place. The heads of all following ministries are expected to attend.

- Altar Guild
- Altar Servers
- Holiday Bazaar
- Baptism
- Bereavement
- Coffee & Donuts
- EMHC
- Candlelight Rosary Procession
- Catholic Financial Life
- Easter Egg Hunt
- Eucharistic Ministers
- Environmental Decorations
- Giving Tree
- Greeters & Ushers
- Lectors
- Offertory Counters
- Pregnancy Help
- 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

Karen Geraghty - Religious Education Coordinator

It is with mixed emotions that I announce that Karen Geraghty has left her position as Religious Education Coordinator of our Sunday Pre-School Program and coordinator of Grades 1-8. Karen has accepted a second grade teaching position in the Carver Public School System.

In addition to being a wife and a mother of three daughters, Karen working closely with Debbie Hill coordinated programs involving over 1000 children for the past 6 years. Karen coordinated the First Communion and First Penance parents meetings and was always available to listen and support children or families with any of their concerns. While I hate to see Karen leave, I and the rest of the staff, are pleased that her talents, experience and ability are recognized and she is able to have a full time teaching position.

You've probably heard the expression "when one door closes, God opens up another." Shortly after Karen submitted her resignation, Marie Masaitis applied for this position. Marie taught school for many years in the public schools in Brockton and most recently was Curriculum Coordinator for Trinity Catholic Academy in Brockton. As a teacher and administrator she brings a great deal of experience working with students, parents and curriculum. It's great to have Marie on staff. I know that working with the volunteer teachers, staff, parents and students that she will continue to develop our religious education program.

Welcome Marie!

Fr. Bill

A Note from Karen Geraghty

After six wonderful years as a Coordinator of Religious Education here at St Thomas Aquinas, I am stepping away from my position to return to full time teaching. I have accepted a second grade teaching position for the Town of Carver. Although I am excited for a new beginning, I will miss working with so many of you wonderful parishioners and your children. We are truly blessed to have a parish where the Holy Spirit is so active. Thank you to all the catechists with whom I have had the pleasure of working. The children of our parish are indeed fortunate to have so many willing volunteers who share the gift of their time, love, and dedication. Thank you so much for sharing your Faith. I have loved getting to know so many of you during my time working here and have always been grateful for your support of our faith formation program. I am confident that God will continue to bless our program and all the children of our parish.

Thank you all and God bless you.

Karen Geraghty

FAITH FORMATION

"All the world's a stage and all the men and women merely players. They have their exits and their entrances; and one man in his time plays many parts." (Shakespeare)

We are in need of volunteer catechists and classroom assistants to help spread the Good News and share the Catholic faith with our parish children. In today's world, more than ever, our children need to hear the Good News of Jesus. This is an opportunity to share God's love with our youngest generation of Catholics. We are in need of teachers for Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, times and grades listed below. Please consider sharing your faith with the children of our parish. If you are interested in helping to educate children in their Catholic faith please contact the Religious Education Office at 508-697-3652. We are also in need of volunteers to stamp the Mass attendance cards for the second and tenth graders. All catechists are invited to attend 10 o'clock Mass at St. Thomas Aquinas on Catechetical Sunday, September 18th.

- Sunday - Grade 7 (8:45am-9:45am)
- Monday - Grades 4&6 (3:45-4:45) Grades 3 &4 (5:00-6:00)
- Tuesday - Grades 5 &7 (3:45-4:45) Grades 5 &6 (5:00-6:00)
- Wednesday - Grades 2, 3, 4, 6, 7 &8 (3:45-4:45)

GOSPEL MEDITATION

"Anyone of you who does not renounce all his possessions cannot be my disciple." It's a modern misconception to think of Jesus as the ultimate nice guy who only said things that everybody loved to hear. Of course Jesus is the perfect model of charity and compassion, but he also gave some very challenging teachings. Today's Gospel is a case in point. Not many people are thrilled by Christ's lesson today that insists God must be first in our lives. Few are those who love to hear this instruction to renounce our beloved things as well as our beloved relationships. But Jesus does not mince words. We are to "hate" our "father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters," and even our own life.

It's important to understand that the use of the word "hate" here does not mean to despise anyone or treat them unkindly. It means rather to prefer something-or Someone-else, namely, God, to these important relationships. Taken in the context of the Gospel as a whole it is clear that Jesus is not advocating cruelty or animosity. On the contrary, just a few weeks ago we heard from Luke 10:27 as Jesus instructed us to love our neighbors as ourselves. However, in putting God first, inevitably something else must take second place. It is a kind of hatred of family, self, and "stuff" when we don't allow these things to become mini-gods in our lives. Instead, we keep God as God.

What does this mean for us? It means not allowing a family member to prevent us from practicing our faith to the fullest, and also not putting our trust in gadgets and gizmos. It means, instead, putting all our trust in God, whatever the cost may be.

ALBERT FAMILY MISSION UPDATE

“Go therefore and make disciples of all nations”

What has happened in the past 5 years?

- Formed a missionary community of both American's and Haitians and established an intense rhythm of prayer.
- Formed and trained dozens of Haitian young adults to do quality youth and young adult ministry in their parishes.
- Hosted over 1,000 American short-term mission group missionaries to live into and experience our mission life, sent back to their homes and parishes on fire for missions, with a new zeal for the Gospel.
- Reached out to over 10,000 teens through Bible studies, youth nights, prayer meetings and adoration nights, youth conferences and one on one discipleship.
- The amount of people who have given their life to the Lord is innumerable. Young men have joined the seminary, families have left behind voodoo and witchcraft, couples are making the decision to get married in the Church after decades of just living together, etc.



Dear Parishioners,

Five years ago, Anna and I walked away from everything: family and friends, our jobs, and our amazing parish community in Bridgewater to answer a call that the Lord placed on both of our hearts to serve Him and His people in the poorest of the poor in Haiti and to make more missionary disciples and help advance the kingdom of God here on earth. As teens and young adults, Anna and I were both mentored, disciplined and loved so well by our community. The Gospel that we received had to be shared. For us that meant in Haiti: discipling, mentoring, and loving teens and their families.

Thank you for the ways you have supported us in the past. It is with great humility that we ask for your continued support and prayers as we commit to another year of mission in Haiti. To make a donation, go to donate.lifeteen.com/albertfamily. or make checks payable to “Life Teen Missions” with “Paul and Anna” in the memo line and mail to:

Abby Hofman
9 The Pines Ct. Ste C
St Louis, MO 63141

In Christ,
Paul, Anna, Nathaniel, Thérèse, Michael, & baby Albert

Holiday Bazaar Volunteers - Saturday September 10, 10:30 a.m.

Our Holiday Bazaar is fast approaching. To prepare for Sat. Nov. 19 we need your help. Our first organizational meeting is on Sat. Sept. 10 at 10:30am at the Parish Center. This meeting generally lasts no more than 1 and a half hours. New ideas for the day are always appreciated, so please plan to join us. If unable to attend but would still like to be involved, please feel free to call Beccy at 508-697-4791.

Women of St. Thomas - SAVE THE DATE - Sunday, September 11, 10:00 a.m.

Mass will be said at St. Thomas Aquinas for the living and deceased members of the St. Thomas Aquinas Women's Club. *All women of the parish are welcome to join a coffee and donuts social following the Mass.*

Candlelight Rosary Procession Tuesday, September 13, 7:30 p.m.

St. Thomas Aquinas Parish will host the fifth of the 2016 season's Candlelight Rosary Processions on Tuesday, September 13, 2016, at 7:30 P.M. The guest speaker for September 13 will be Reverend Edward Riley, Director of the Office of Pastoral Formation at St. John's Seminary in Brighton.

YOUTH GROUP (students in grades 6-12)**SAVE THE DATE - Saturday September 24, 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 2nd Collection

for this week (September 4) **The Annual Appeal for Catholic University of America**
for next week (September 11) **Capital Improvements**

FINANCIAL BLESSINGS

Summary of Collections August 23 - August 29	St Thomas	St Basil	Total
1st Collection (Parish)	\$4,161	\$654	\$4,815
2nd Collection (Music Ministry)	\$1,778	\$308	\$2,086
Total	\$5,939	\$962	\$6,901
Online Giving			
WeShare	\$477	\$220	\$697
Parish Pay	\$25	-	\$25
Total	\$502	\$220	\$722
Grand Total	\$6,441	\$1,182	\$7,623

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

Weekly Mass Intentions

Saturday, September 3

4:00 p.m. George, June, & Alfred Ahl

Sunday, September 4

10:00 a.m. Francis Morast

St Basil - 10:00 a.m. Edward and Helen O'Reilly

Wednesday, September 7

9:00 a.m. Thomasina Aiello

Saturday, September 10

4:00 p.m. Joseph, Josephine, and Joseph B. Leandres

Sunday, September 11

7:45 a.m. Jose Curvelo Sr.

10:00 a.m. The living and deceased members of the St Thomas Aquinas Catholic Women's Club

12:00 p.m. Mass For the People

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.

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

Baptism Preparation Class

Tuesday, September 6 at 7:00 p.m.
at the St Thomas Aquinas Parish Center

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., 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