

# SAINT THOMAS AQUINAS PARISH

## MARCH 22, 2015

### PASTOR

Rev. Bill Devine

### PAROCHIAL VICAR

Rev. Adrian Milik

### SENIOR DEACON

Jerry Ryan

### BUSINESS MANAGER

Gina Lewis

### MUSIC DIRECTOR

Regina Reale

Email: music.aquinas@yahoo.com

### ST. THOMAS AQUINAS CHURCH

103 CENTER STREET, BRIDGEWATER, MA

EMAIL: stthomasaquinas@comcast.net

WEBSITE: www.stthomasaquinas.com

### CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Friday

9am to 5pm

Office: (508) 697-9528

Fax: (508) 279-1859

### RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Office: (508) 697-3652

Coordinator Gr. 1-8: Karen Geraghty

Coordinator Gr. 9 & 10: Debbie Hill

### ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Nancy Nastari

### ST. BASIL CHAPEL, BSU

122 PARK AVE, BRIDGEWATER, MA

WEBSITE: www.bridgew.edu/Depts/CathCntr

### CHAPEL OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Friday

10am to 2pm

Office: (508) 531-1346

Fax: (508) 531-6188

### CAMPUS MINISTER

Marlene DeLeon

Office: (508) 531-1412

Email: marlene.deleon@bridgew.edu

### CAMPUS CHAPLAIN

Rev. Adrian Milik

### ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT ST. BASIL

Rita Garufi

EMAIL: rita.garufi@bridgew.edu



*"I was in prison and you visited me." Mt. 25:36*

### WELCOME

To visitors of our Parish, to those who have recently moved into the area and to those comfortable and nourished here—**Welcome to All**. Regardless of your status in the Church, your 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 at Saint Thomas Aquinas Parish.

### MISSION

To be a community of believers who are continually growing in our faith and in our love of Jesus Christ through worship, education, evangelization, and service within our local and broader community.

### WEEKLY MASS SCHEDULE

#### SATURDAY

9:00 am St. Thomas Lower Church

4:00 pm St. Thomas Upper Church

#### SUNDAY

7:45 am St. Thomas Upper Church

10:00 am St. Thomas Upper Church

10:00 am St. Basil Chapel

12:00 pm St. Thomas Upper Church

5:00 pm St. Basil Chapel

#### WEEKDAYS

7:00 am St. Thomas Lower Church

9:00 am St. Thomas Lower Church

#### CONFESSIONS

Saturday 3:00 - 3:45 or by appointment.

St. Thomas Aquinas Lower Church

**Opportunity to Serve through Prison Ministry**

This weekend we will be joined by Peg Newman, chaplain at the Bridgewater State Hospital, who will be speaking about the opportunity for parishioners to serve Christ in some of his most forgotten sons. She is looking for six volunteers to commit to visit men held at the institution who do not have anyone to visit them. She will be present at the 7:45, 10am, and noon Masses at St. Thomas as well as the 10am Mass at St. Basil. She will give a short explanation of the ministry and will be available to answer questions. Please join me in welcoming her and consider participating in this new ministry to some of the most forgotten members of our society. If you are interested or have questions please contact me at the parish office.

*In Christ,  
Fr. Adrian*

St. Thomas Aquinas is an active parish with a lot of programs happening every day and night. You will notice in this week’s bulletin the number of educational, support, outreach and worship activities that are available to help us not only to grow in our faith but express that faith in action. You will also notice the number of capital improvements that are continuing to be accomplished because of your generosity to the monthly Capital Improvement Collection.

As I meet new parents who are having their child baptized many have expressed their hesitation to come to church each Sunday because they are concerned that their child may make noise and disturb other worshippers. I assured them that we are a “kid friendly” parish and appreciate and respect their efforts to bring their children/family to Mass each week. The only way new individuals or families will know they are welcomed is if each person reading this bulletin lets them know that they are welcome by smiling, talking with them and introducing yourself to them. On Palm Sunday and Easter a number of people will be returning to church. This is our opportunity to make them feel welcome so that they will want to worship with us each week.

I have enjoyed tremendously the opportunity to visit the homes of some of our parishioners during Lent. I’ve had a chance to come to know better individuals I usually only see in passing after Mass. Please help me keep my Lenten resolution to visit 3 homes each week (30 min.-1 hour) of individual/families that I haven’t visited. Please call the parish office so we can set up a good time. I really want to come to your home.

*Fr. Bill*

**Parish Job Openings – Maintenance**

Come join our team!

We are now accepting applications for three, 10 to 15 hour/week maintenance positions, and one 30-hour/week summer cemetery/landscape position.

M-F 8am-2pm, Seasonal help  
M-F evening shift, Sept-May  
M-T day shift  
W-F day shift

Job Descriptions and Applications are available on our website at [www.stthomasaquinas.com](http://www.stthomasaquinas.com) or at the Parish Office and St. Basil office during regular office hours.

**Thank you for your donations to our parish.**

**March 15th**

Weekly Offertory \$10,296

There is no second collection today.

**Reality Check – Keeping up with Snow and Heat**

Recently our parish began designating the former monthly collection to specific needs in the parish in order to provide you with the ability to support initiatives and needs that you feel are of high importance.

The first Heat/Snow collection in February received a strong response, bringing in approximately \$5,650. Thank you for all the additional online and catch-up gifts to this collection! The second Heat/Snow collection will be taken up next week and we appreciate your continued generosity.

To help you scale up the cost of winter from a household to multiple commercial facilities, here are a few figures as we start off the new year:

|                           |                 |
|---------------------------|-----------------|
| Jan/Feb Heat              | \$10,442        |
| Jan/Feb Snow              | <u>\$ 8,251</u> |
| 2 Month Heat/Snow Expense | \$18,693        |

Your gift to next week’s second collection will help defray these winter expenses.

May God bless you for the many ways you share your blessings with our parish.

**Coffee And Donuts at St. Thomas Aquinas Parish Center**

We encourage all parishioners to join us in the parish center following the 10:00am Mass for free coffee and donuts every 2nd and 4th Sunday of the month. This is an ideal opportunity to come together to renew existing relationships and form new ones. We look forward to meeting all of our fellow parishioners from the St. Thomas Aquinas Community.

**Upcoming dates:** March 22, April 12 and April 26





## Direct from Las Vegas

Tired of the snow and rain? Since many of us can't afford a trip to Vegas to take in a show, a Las Vegas show, the Edwards Twins, celebrity impersonators will be coming to **St. Thomas Aquinas Parish Center on April 11th**. You can check out the Edwards Twins online [www.theedwardstwins.com](http://www.theedwardstwins.com). For more information about this adult (+21) dinner show or to purchase tickets online please visit [www.stthomasaquinas.com](http://www.stthomasaquinas.com). Bring your friends and reserve a table. Individual seats are available as well.

### Parish Maintenance Update

This past week another phase of our stained glass restoration was completed. During this phase, all the large windows in the nave underwent interior restoration as well as mechanical restoration on all moving parts so that vents now open and close properly. Major repairs were completed on two sacristy window at the stained glass studio. Exterior restoration and protective covering on the north face and one rosette in critical condition on the front of the church is expected to be completed later this year.



With the snow receding, renovations can finally begin on the rectory bathroom, which has been out of order for several months due to plumbing issues.

The Maintenance Council continues to work on gaining efficiencies, and recently approved recommendations proposed in an energy audit for the parish center and rectory as well as contracting with an alternate energy supplier to reduce electricity costs. Energy audits for the church and the chapel are also underway.

## FAITH FORMATION

**Please continue to empty your mite box donations into the jar found in the main hallway at the parish center.**

### First Communion Updates

Our students are getting ready to receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion by coloring their family pew markers and by practicing the music for the Mass. Our music minister Regina Reale, has been visiting the classrooms to practice the songs. Some of our CCD teachers as well as Regina, have burned CDs for the families to help their children learn the music. We ask that families make this day extra special by singing the songs, praying, and practicing how to receive the Lord in a reverent and holy way. Everyone should receive the Body of Christ using the following steps:

- Process toward the altar with prayer hands.
- Bow before the priest with prayer hands.
- Hold hands in a "throne" with dominant hand on bottom.
- Respond clearly with "Amen" after the priest says, "Body of Christ".
- Step to the side to consume the Body, and return to the pew with prayer hands.
- Once in the pew pray and contemplate on having Jesus within you.



The more prepared a child is, the less nervous they will be, and the more special the day will be. Thank you in advance for making this a priority in your family's faith life.

**Second Grade Mass Attendance Cards are due the last week of classes: March 29<sup>th</sup> – April 1<sup>st</sup>.**

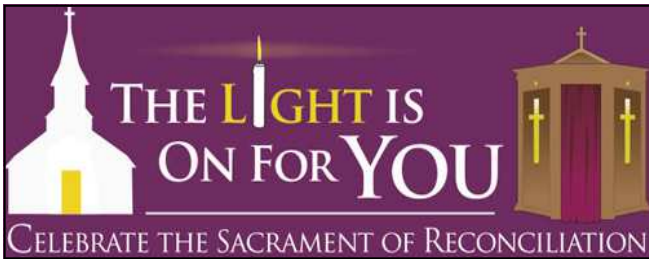
### Confirmation Updates

Last Sunday night Fr. Bill spoke to our Confirmation II students about the Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist. He began by asking, "How do we know that Jesus is really present in Holy Eucharist?" This is something that many Catholics do not realize, and this is sets our religion apart from other Christian dominations. He explained the history of the Eucharist dating back to the Old Testament in the stories of Abraham sacrificing a lamb instead of Isaac, the Passover meal of the Israelites, and how God kept his covenant with them by giving them Manna in the desert. Christ's coming was prefigured in these stories and comes to fruition at the Last Supper. The early Christians recognized that Christ's coming to us in forms of bread and wine were foretold in the Old Testament. Until the Protestant Reformation in 1510, Christians believed in the Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist. While they believe the bread and wine are only symbols of Christ's presence, Catholics believe he is really and truly present; body, blood, soul, and divinity. At the end of the evening, students completed an evaluation form and many admitted that this information was new to them. As young adults in the Catholic Church, they are called to share this knowledge with friends and family as their way of evangelizing.

**Forms are due: Confirmation Name, Sponsor and Community Service. All forms need to be brought to class this weekend.**

*Debbie & Karen*





**SAINT THOMAS AQUINAS CHURCH**  
Every Wednesday during Lent from 6:30-8:00pm.

**SAINT BASIL CHAPEL**  
Wednesday, April 1st 6:30-8:00 p.m.

**Communal Penitential Prayer Service**  
To prepare our hearts for the Sacrament of Reconciliation, St. Basil Chapel will offer a Communal Penitential Prayer Service on Thursday, March 26th, 6:30PM. Individual confessions will follow at 7PM.

**Monthly Prayer Requests for Priests (MPRP)** is an international apostolate founded to encourage people to support Catholic priests by prayer and sacrifice. Free calendars for April/ May will be available at the church entrances which list a "priest of the day" from the Archdiocese of Boston. Unite your prayers with 3,000 others each day to pray for our priests.

**A GREAT BIG "THANK YOU" to all those who participated in any way to make our recent Parish Baby Shower for the Unborn such a great success!** Generous monetary donations came from the Knights of Columbus, St. Vincent de Paul Society, the Catholic Women's Club, and St. Basil's Chapel, as well as many generous anonymous donations. The numerous gifts of all types – from pacifiers to diaper bags, blankets, sleep and play wear – all were deeply appreciated. Our total monetary donations, \$1,055.00 greatly exceeded last year's proceeds – TERRIFIC! These gifts will certainly help the Unborn and their mothers. Thanks to the volunteers and to our Confirmation students who helped set up and break down the cribs and gather gifts – great job! All proceeds will be donated to FUND FOR THE UNBORN, of the Archdiocesan Pro-Life Office. May God bless all for their overwhelming response to God's "Little Ones" and for enabling women to CHOOSE LIFE!



**Stations of the Cross**

This Friday evening devotion commemorates the Lord's final hours leading to his crucifixion. Many of these events are similar to our own experience. The final Stations of the Cross will be offered this Friday at St. Basil Chapel at 6:30pm.



**Lenten Simple Supper**

Following the Stations of the Cross St. Basil's Chapel will offer a Lenten simple supper, coordinated by Francine Littlejohn. The menu for this Friday is seafood, which will be provided for all who attend. **Side dishes are requested.** If you would like to participate please contact Francine with the number of people attending. All are welcome whether or not you bring food.

Francine Littlejohn:  
(508) 345-1617  
france3761@hotmail.com.

**Have you experienced the loss of a loved one?**

**Change of Seasons Bereavement Program**  
**Tuesday, March 31st at 12:30pm**  
**Conant Center - 5 Wally Krueger Way - Bridgewater MA**

A seminar will be held to assist those who lost a loved one to understand the emotional aspects of living with grief and to provide ideas to enhance healthy living and grieving. There is no cost for this seminar and all are welcome. Pre-registration is required as seating is limited. Please call (508) 697-4332 or e-mail [bridgewater@ccgfuneralhome.com](mailto:bridgewater@ccgfuneralhome.com) to reserve your seat. Thank you to Prohett-Chapman Cole and Gleason Funeral Home for sponsoring this seminar.

**Hope Floats Bereavement Programs**

Hope Floats Healing and Wellness Center in Kingston provides a number of free bereavement programs specific to various types of loss such as the loss of a parent, a child, a spouse, or a loved one to suicide. The program has been recommended to us by a parishioner who found it very helpful dealing with her own pain and loss. If you, or somebody you know, is grieving a loved one, please consider attending a group that might make the process easier. More information, the dates when the various groups are meeting, and registration, are available on their website: [www.hopefloatswellness.org](http://www.hopefloatswellness.org)

**Parish Easter Egg Hunt!**

Looking for something Eggs-ellent to do with the kids on Easter? St. Thomas will be holding an Easter Egg Hunt for children ages 2 to 11 after 10:00 a.m. Mass on Easter Sunday! We hope you can "hop" on over to the Parish Center and join us for this fun family event! As the last of the snow holds on, we will have the Egg Hunt indoors to ensure everyone stays dry and enjoys finding those Eggs.



Stay tuned for more details and a sign up on the St. Thomas Aquinas website as well as Facebook and the electronic newsletter!

**PALMS**

The parish will be collecting palms until March 29th. (Palm Sunday) If anyone has palms from last year, we ask that you bring them to the church, chapel or parish center. Collection boxes designated for palms will be available at all locations. Thank you.

**Children's Choir**

**The children's choir rehearses weekly immediately following the Sunday 10:00 am Mass in the lower church.**

**The choir sings on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month at the 10:00 am Mass.**

**All children grades 1 - 6 are invited.**

**Women's Retreat**

Seeking Joy! A retreat day for Women with Real Life Radio Host, Allison Gingras. How can we find JOY in the midst of sorrow, stress or busyness? Discover true JOY through Saints, Sacraments and Scripture.

**Date:** Saturday, May 30

**Time:** 9 am to 3 pm

**Place:** St. Basil Chapel, BSU,  
122 Park Ave, Bridgewater, MA

**Fee:** \$25 (includes lunch)

**For more information or to register . . .**

**Visit:** [seekingjoystbasil.eventbrite.com](http://seekingjoystbasil.eventbrite.com)

**Call:** Allison Gingras 508-243-1133.

**Mail:** name, contact info, lunch choice (tuna, turkey, ham) and fee to Reconciled To You, PO Box 784, Raynham Ctr, MA 02768.

**Scholarship Opportunities**

The St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Women's Club will be giving out two \$500 scholarships for high school seniors. Applications are available at the Parish Office, CCD Office and various High Schools. Application deadline will be 4/15/15. Questions may be directed to Helen Cleary, Scholarship Chairperson at 508-697-9175

**The 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Monsignor Pitaro Scholarship Award of \$500.00 will be given to a graduating 8<sup>th</sup> grader who will be enrolling in a Catholic High School in September 2015.**

Applicants must submit a letter of at least 300 words on "Why I should receive the Monsignor Pitaro Award." This letter must be typewritten. The letter should include accomplishments and involvements in your parish, school and family. This letter is due no later than April 17<sup>th</sup>. The recipient will be notified no later than June 9<sup>th</sup>.

Applicants should include their name, address, telephone number, and the name of the school they are presently attending.

**Mail applications to:**

S.K. John Drane, Chairman  
Scholarship Committee  
5 North Worcester Street  
Norton, MA 02766-2026

**FOUND**

A pair of men's gloves were recently found at St. Basil Chapel. You can contact Rita Garufi at 508-531-1346, if you think they might be yours.



Rummage Sale

**St. Thomas Aquinas Parish  
Spring Rummage Sale  
Saturday, April 18, 2015  
Parish Center  
9am - 4pm**

The St. Thomas Aquinas Rummage Sale Committee is gratefully accepting the following items for our Spring sale. Your efforts to assure that donations are in working order, clean and in good salable condition is greatly appreciated and helps us tremendously in our efforts to prepare.

Clean Clothes . Bric-a-Brac . Domestics . Jewelry . Books . Houseware items . Small Furniture Items . Electronics

**We are unable to accept TVs and Computers.**

Donations can be dropped off at our parish center,  
Tuesday – Friday, 11am– 3pm

**“To everything there is a season . . .**

**A time to be born . . .**

|                           |                      |
|---------------------------|----------------------|
| Parker Alexander Bourque  | Kali Mary Riley      |
| John Michael Calef        | Liam James Scully    |
| Emmett Matthew Kupiec     | Hailey Jeane Wheeler |
| Anthony Paul Porazzo, Jr. |                      |

**A time to die . . .**

|                    |                      |
|--------------------|----------------------|
| Jeffrey Allen      | John Kiley           |
| Andrew Anacki, Jr. | Clarence A. Levy     |
| Richard Bellew     | Richard McCloskey    |
| Thomas Benyue      | John Meadows         |
| Sarah Brown        | Elizabeth Palleschi  |
| Grace Coleman      | Charles W. Pincolini |
| James Comita       | Adeline Rawlins      |
| Anita DePaolis     | Carolyn Traynor      |
| Eileen Doyle       | Alexander Ward       |
| Deryl Hadlock      | Jane Zimmer          |

**A time to heal . . .**

|                            |                        |
|----------------------------|------------------------|
| Olga (Cassiani) Alberghini | Jesus Galindo          |
| Christine Amaral           | Jim Geraghty           |
| Jean Andrade               | Erin Geraghty          |
| Baby Valerie Belcher,      | Alanna Gillis          |
| Olivia Bonfiglio           | John Gomes             |
| Jim & Jean Brennan         | Donald Guidoboni       |
| Caitlin Burnett            | Beverly Guiffre        |
| Kim (Sweetman) Byrnes      | Kathleen Henderson     |
| Sandra Cable               | Tim Johnson            |
| Christine Cabral           | Fred Laham             |
| Bill Carey                 | Gregg Laskoski         |
| Lucie Chabot               | Kevin Looney           |
| Jacquie Cordaro            | Marjorie Mello         |
| Matthew Costantino         | Alice Moniz            |
| Michael Costantino         | Bob Morris             |
| Sophia Costantino          | Bob Morse              |
| Baby Mychal Joseph         | Paul D’Olimpia         |
| Cotone                     | Glenn O’Neil           |
| Joanna Crabtree            | Ann Paulino            |
| Sandra Croall              | Carolyn Perry          |
| Mark Denault               | Richard Piantoni       |
| Marty Dickerman            | Maria Presti           |
| John Feeny                 | Andrea Proffetty       |
| Mary Filippetti-           | Betty Tarentino        |
| Markey                     | Sarah Silvia,          |
| Joseph Kelly               | James Toy, Jr.,        |
| James LaFranchise          | Don Weiner             |
| Robert McClay              | Mary (Sweetman) Zunino |
| Rylee Fontes               | Alexis Zutaut          |
| Lee Fuller                 |                        |

**A time for peace . . .**

General Joseph F. Dunford, USMC  
 CW4 Thomas Ahl, USA  
 Captain Vincent Chiappini, USA  
 2nd LT. Karen Chouinard Holliday, USMC  
 Captain John Costantino & USA  
 PFC, William Vey, USA

**. . . And a time for every purpose under heaven”**

**Weekly Mass Intentions**

**Saturday, March 21**

4:00 David William Driscoll

**Sunday, March 22**

7:45 Francisco Luis, Maria Lordes Botelho,  
 Manuel Botelho & All Souls in Purgatory  
 10:00 Tracy Hathaway  
 10:00 St. Basil: Julie Mack  
 12:00 Nathan Childs

**Tuesday, March 24**

7:00 Frances Maloney

**Thursday, March 26**

7:00 Elma Franch

**Saturday, March 28**

4:00 James F. Sullivan, Alice T. Sullivan  
 & Caroline R. Healy

**Sunday, March 29**

7:45 Deceased Members of the Woronicz Family  
 10:00 John, Rosa, Romano & Mary Ralli

**Weekly Devotions**

**ST. THOMAS AQUINAS LOWER CHURCH**

**ADORATION**

Saturdays 9:30 am to 1:00 pm

We encourage all parishioners to spend some quiet  
 time with the Lord.

**DIVINE MERCY HOLY HOUR**

Thursdays 3:00 pm

**Easter Flower Donations**



Offering envelopes for Easter flowers  
 have been placed at the entrances of  
 the church and the chapel for anyone  
 who would like to make a donation  
 toward the Easter flowers in memory of  
 a loved one and assist with the cost of  
 the flowers.

All envelopes with the names of your loved ones will be  
 placed near the tabernacle as a reminder for us to  
 remember them in prayer. Thank you.

**Scripture for the week of March 22, 2015**

|    |     |                                                                          |
|----|-----|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 22 | SUN | Jer 31:31-34/Heb 5:7-9/Jn 12:20-33                                       |
| 23 | Mon | Dn 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62 or 13:41c-62/Jn 8:1-11                    |
| 24 | Tue | Nm 21:4-9/Jn 8:21-30                                                     |
| 25 | Wed | Is 7:10-14; 8:10/Heb 10:4-10/Lk 1:26-38                                  |
| 26 | Thu | Gn 17:3-9/Jn 8:51-59                                                     |
| 27 | Fri | Jer 20:10-13/Jn 10:31-42                                                 |
| 28 | Sat | Ez 37:21-28/Jn 11:45-56                                                  |
| 29 | SUN | Mk 11:1-10 or Jn 12:12-16/Is 50:4-7/Phil 2:6-11/Mk 14:1-15:47 or 15:1-39 |



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**Evangelization Focus**

"Evangelization must be the first focus of our Church. Then, the corporal and spiritual works of mercy, which result from living and sharing the Gospel, will transform the culture around us. We have the mission 'to repair the world,' what the Jews call *Tikkun olam*."

~Cardinal Sean O'Malley

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"Jesus Wept."  
John 11:35

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"God is Love"  
1 John 4:8

"I didn't know how we would pay for mom's funeral. What a blessing!"

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