

# SAINT THOMAS AQUINAS PARISH

April 19, 2014

## 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

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## CAMPUS CHAPLAIN

Rev. Adrian Milik

## ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT ST. BASIL

Rita Garufi

EMAIL: rita.garufi@bridgew.edu

## 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.



## Confirmation Retreat

Sunday, April 12

## 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.

## 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

**The Eternal Freshness of the Eucharist**

Looking around at the flowers starting to bloom and buds slowly appearing on the trees, it looks like the Spring has finally arrived (please tell me I didn't just jinx all of us). As we watch the beauty of new life sprouting all around us, it is appropriate that this is the time of year when we celebrate First Holy Communion in our parish. Over the last two weekends, we have had 108 of our parish children receive Jesus in the Eucharist for the very first time. It was incredible to see how excited and joy filled the children were as they came forward and were able to experience that closeness to Jesus that they had been taught about. There was a lot of joy in their faces as well as the faces of their families gathered to celebrate the big day with them.



That joy and that excitement will hopefully continue throughout their lives. After all, the fact that God himself chose to make himself really present to be with us in that amazing closeness of this Eucharistic Communion, should be just as incredible to us the millionth time as it was the first. These boys and girls, coming forward with smiles and excitement, are aware of something that some of us might have allowed to slip out of our consciousness over the years: God's love for us is simply incredible, and the opportunity to be united with him and receive the gifts of grace that will strengthen us for the week ahead is something to be celebrated.

I would like to thank all the people who have helped our children get to this great realization. The teachers that volunteered to share their faith with their students, the parents and other family members who taught them to pray and brought them to Mass, Ms. Reale for providing the music, the servers, Mrs. Geraghty and Mrs. Hill over in our religious education office who organized the program, and all those who encouraged the children over the years. I also want to extend my congratulations to the children and their families, you all did a wonderful job. We are very proud of you and know that God will bless you greatly through your continuing coming to him in Holy Communion. Hopefully all of us will have that same excited smile you had over the last two weeks as we come before the Lord in the Eucharist.

*In Christ,  
Fr. Adrian*

In this week's bulletin we have an announcement about this summer's Steubenville East Conference at UMass Lowell. This conference is a great opportunity for teens, ranging from those just about to enter high school to those who just graduated from it, to experience their faith in a fun and joyful way, surrounded by others who also take their Catholicism seriously. I invite you to prayerfully consider attending with your friends or encouraging teens in your family to attend the trip. Such a weekend can be a life-changing experience as well as being uplifting and fun. The parish is willing to assist any potential participants for whom the cost of the trip might be prohibitive through partial scholarships. I hope that a good number of our young men and women will be able to attend this conference and return energized in their faith.

*In Christ,  
Fr. Adrian*

**Notes on Our Appeals**

Last week we announced another tremendous success in support of our diocesan annual "Catholic Appeal" which supports all the parishes and multiple ministries of the Church of Boston. We can truly say that we are an engaged parish that takes responsibility for Christ's mission here in Bridgewater and beyond.

Looking inward to our own parish, we would like to thank all who have contributed to our parish's Grand Annual Appeal which began last fall. In recent years, this collection has been used to supplement operations as well as help fund major capital improvements. As of April 15th, \$56,540 has been given to this appeal and will be a huge help for our budget. Thank you to all who are currently sending in final installments on pledges made last fall. The appeal is still open if anyone would like to make a gift. Please be sure to indicate clearly whether your gift is intended for the parish or the diocese as things can get confusing in the spring.

I know I have said it before, but I will say it again . . . It is a privilege to serve such a generous community of believers.

*Blessings,  
Gina*

**Parish Dinner Show**

I would like to thank the Parish Social Ministry and Tom Caron in particular for planning and coordinating the Edwards Twins Dinner Show last Saturday night. This Las Vegas Show featured two impersonators whose performance brought about amazement, singing, hand waving and laughter among the 180 people who attended. The evening also provided a night out with family and friends and the opportunity to meet other parishioners. It was a great night. Thank you!

*Fr. Bill*

**Missionary Childhood Lenten Giving Update**  
**Mite Boxes**  
 During Lent, \$1667.15 was collected in support of the Pontifical Missionary Childhood Association. We brought the money to be counted by machine at the Bridgewater Credit Union. We received an itemized list of coins:

**11,205 pennies**  
**2016 nickels**  
**2,718 dimes**  
**2,660 quarters**  
**1 half dollar**  
**11 Sacagawea dollars**

Please share this information with your children so they can see that every penny matters. Congratulations to all who contributed!

**Daily Mass Change**  
**Monday, April 20th**  
**NO 7am Mass**

The parish offices at St. Thomas Aquinas & St. Basil will be closed in observation of Patriots Day. We remember and pray for all who died or were injured during the 2013 Boston Marathon. Please pray for the safety of who will be in attendance this year.

**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's at St. Thomas and St. Basil (see cover for hours)

**Scripture for the week of April 19, 2015**

19 SUN Acts 3:13-15, 17-19/1 Jn 2:1-5a/Lk 24:35-48  
 20 Mon Acts 6:8-15/Jn 6:22-29  
 21 Tue Acts 7:51-8:1a/Jn 6:30-35  
 22 Wed Acts 8:1b-8/Jn 6:35-40  
 23 Thu Acts 8:26-40/Jn 6:44-51  
 24 Fri Acts 9:1-20/Jn 6:52-59  
 25 Sat 1 Pt 5:5b-14/Mk 16:15-20  
 26 SUN Acts 4:8-12/1 Jn 3:1-2/Jn 10:11-18

**Weekly Stewardship**

This week's regular offertory was \$10,943 (*excluding the Confirmation Mass*)

Capital Improvement: \$2947

Please note that online gifts were accidentally omitted in reporting the Palm Sunday Collection last week. Palm Sunday: \$8683.

Thank you to all who have made a commitment to the parish with faithful gifts. We hope you know how deeply appreciated you are.

We ask also that you pray for our Administration and the Parish Finance Council that we may be guided by the Holy Spirit to use your gifts wisely for the mission of the church and the good of the worshipping and extended communities.

Today's second collection will help support our parish's outreach ministry and Saint Vincent de Paul. As we rejoice in the resurrection of Christ and his willingness to give up his life out of love for us, please consider sharing some of your blessings with the less fortunate.

**Next Week's Second Collection**

At the request of the Archdiocese of Boston, the proceeds from next week's second collection will be divided amongst the Military Archdiocese, Home Missions and Black & Native American collections. Please give as generously as you can. Thank you.

**Do You Desire Greatness For Your Teen?**

St. Augustine famously said "Our hearts are restless until they rest in you, O Lord".

These words often describe the spiritual angst that teenagers experience throughout their high school years. Every teen has the desire to achieve something great and to *be* someone great.

This July, let your teen learn what it takes to be great in this life at the Steubenville Catholic Youth Conference at UMass Lowell. Teens (high school freshmen through outgoing seniors) will come to experience a relationship with Christ that can radically transform everything in their life. The goal of this youth conference is for teens to open their hearts to Jesus Christ who desires their lives to be fulfilling, exciting and joyful. The hope of such a conference is to strengthen and inspire teens, youth groups and those training the youth, in their collective journeys to Christ.

Come and experience thousands of teens, just like you, who are opening their hearts through prayer, fellowship and the Gospel message . Come and listen to a great lineup of speakers and awesome, inspiring music. See these young adults get fired up and ready to go out into the world and live the message of Christ.

The conference will take place the weekend of **July 17-19.**

**Cost: \$215.00** - (includes the conference and all meals)

There is no dorm space, but the diocese is working with St. Marguerite D'Youville for some sleeping arrangements in their church hall (which has some showers!)

**The full cost of the conference will have to be paid in full by June 1, 2015.**

There will need to be a 1:5 ratio of adults to youth - which is independent for the boys and girls. So, we may need some parents to also sign up and enjoy the conference. It will be a way for you to renew yourself spiritually in your walk of faith with your teen.

**If interested, a \$50.00 deposit will be required for both teens and adults by April 25, 2015.**

**For questions and info, please call:** Carol Bresciani (508) 697-0243

To see more of what the conference is about go to <http://lifeteen.com/events/steubenville-east/> and see why **you** should go to a Steubenville conference.

**St. Thomas Aquinas Charity Golf Tournament**

**Date:** May 8, 2015

**Place:** Olde Scotland Links

**Start Time:** 8:30am

**Entry Fee:**

- \$125.00 per person
- \$500.00 per team.
- \$125.00 hole sponsor



There will be a buffet, raffles and an auction immediately following the golf. If you wish to only attend the buffet, the cost is \$30.00 per person.

**Donations for raffle and auction items are needed and would be greatly appreciated.**

For more details please contact:  
Tom Arrighi (508) 889-2933  
Steve Arrighi (508) 944-4272  
Mike Arrighi (508-326-6355

In the past, the tournament has filled quickly, so we look forward to hearing from you soon.

**Junior Music Boosters**

**Candy Drive**

**25/26 April**

Members of the Junior Music Boosters (Bridgewater chorus and band members in grades 4 - 8) will be selling Hilliard's Candy bars after the Masses next weekend at St. Thomas and St. Basil (4/25 & 4/26). In June the students will be attending a competition in Springfield followed by a visit to Six Flags. They are selling candy to help reduce their costs. Candy bars will be sold for \$2 each. They will be available at every Mass, unless they sell out early! Thank you for your support. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Kate Anderson 508-353-9780.



FAITH FORMATION

First Communions

This is the last weekend of First Communions. Congratulations to all of our students who received the Lord for the first of what will hopefully be many times. Special thanks to Regina, the altar servers, the lectors and teachers. They all contributed to a beautiful Mass.

May Procession (May 3)

We would like to have all the First Communion children wearing their regular or First Communion attire participate in the Crowning of Mary. If your child will participate please contact the Religious Ed office (508-697-3652). A boy and girl will be selected to crown the statue of Mary.

Confirmation Retreat

As part of Confirmation programs throughout the diocese, students take part in retreats. This is an opportunity for them to devote time to their personal relationship with the Lord. Last Sunday, the Capuchin Youth and Family Ministries ran a retreat on discipleship in our Parish Center. The day was made up of large and small group discussions, witness talks, lunch, and outdoor activities. Fr. Marvin Bearis OFM, two Franciscan brothers, three youth ministers and 11 parishioners guided the retreat. The Capuchins complimented our students on their active participation. We are very grateful for the following volunteers: *Mat Baillargeon, John Boyle, Meghan Cleary, Barbara Creighton, Jason Deramo, Cathy Frazier, Ellen Gasson, Maggie Madden, Andrea Papasodoro, Missie Pearce, Beth Peterson, and Jen Sullivan.* Thank you to all our families for their donations of salads and baked goods. This was a huge undertaking that would not have been possible without the time and talent of everyone involved. We are blessed to have so many people who are willing to support this program!



Confirmation Palanca

Palanca is a Spanish word that means “lever.” In this case, palanca helps lift someone’s spirit. It is a letter of encouragement given to someone on their spiritual journey. If you would like to show your prayerful support to our students being confirmed May 31st, by writing a letter (palanca) for one of them, feel free to take an envelope attached to the cross at the front entrance of the church. Each envelope contains a student’s name as well as instructions for writing and returning your palanca. Be sure to sign the clipboard letting us know who has taken an envelope. It must be returned on or before May 26th. If you take an envelope with a student’s name, it is vitally important that you submit a letter. We don’t want anyone to be left out! Please continue to pray for these students.

Debbie & Karen

**Are you celebrating your 25th and 50th WEDDING ANNIVERSARY?**

*His Eminence, Seán Cardinal O’Malley, OFM invites all couple celebrating their 25<sup>th</sup> or 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary in 2015 to the Silver and Golden Wedding Anniversary Mass at the Cathedral of the Holy Cross. The Mass will be celebrated on **June 14<sup>th</sup> at 11:30** and will include a renewal of vows. Family members and friends are welcome to attend. For more information and to register, please visit [bostoncatholic.org/WeddingAnniversaryMass](http://bostoncatholic.org/WeddingAnniversaryMass). Please register by June 1 to have your name included in the printed list of anniversary couples. A formal invitation and more information will be mailed to each registered couple in May. Congratulations on your anniversary!*



The 2015 World Meeting of Families

This fall the world Church will gather in Philadelphia, PA, at the Pennsylvania Convention Center from Tuesday Sept. 22nd through Friday Sept. 25th, with the Pope scheduled to visit over the weekend (Sat. Sept. 26th and Sun. Sept. 27th). The congress will feature speakers from around the world, including Fr. Robert Barron, Deacon Harold Burke-Sivers, Professor Helen Alvare, and Dr. Scott Hahn.

The World Meeting of Families is held every three years and is sponsored by the Holy See’s Pontifical Council for the Family. Each one is an opportunity for Catholic families to gather and discuss a theme to help us grow in our understanding of family life in the light of faith. This year’s theme is “Love is Our Mission: The Family Fully Alive,” emphasizing the impact of the love and life of families on our society.

The Archdiocese of Boston is offering hotel and travel packages for families and individuals who would like to attend. **For package details and registration visit: [www.BostonCatholic.org/WMF](http://www.BostonCatholic.org/WMF)**



**Prayer Requests**

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

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  
 CPL, Brandon Jamieson, USA

**Weekly Mass Intentions**

**Saturday, April 18**

4:00 Guido Rea

**Sunday, April 19**

7:45: Rev. Frank O'Keefe

10:00: Richard, Patricia & Raymond Downing

10:00 St. Basil: Patricia Wilder

12:00: Danny Nastari (living)

5:00 St. Basil: Mass for the People

**Tuesday, April 21**

7:00 Cardinal Spellman Students (Mission Trip)

**Wednesday, April 22**

7:00 Ron Daniels (living)

**Saturday, April 25**

4:00 Albert & Virginia and Jay Sexton

**Sunday, April 26**

7:45: Manuel C. DaSilva

10:00: Evangelina & Jose and Margarida Sousa  
 and All Souls in Purgatory

10:00 St. Basil: Jason Hardiman

12:00: William F. Bythrow, Sr.

*Life is Changed . . . Not Ended*

**SACRAMENTS**

**Confessions:**

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

**Baptisms:** Ordinarily celebrated on the 2nd and 4th Sunday of each month at 1:30pm. Please call the Rectory to speak with a priest prior to making any arrangements. Parents are welcome to attend classes during the pregnancy if it is more convenient.

**Upcoming Baptism Preparation Classes:**

**Parish Center: 7pm**

◆ **Tuesday, May 5, 2015**

**Marriage:** Please call the Rectory 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 Rectory.

**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

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John 11:35

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