

SAINT THOMAS AQUINAS PARISH

May 3, 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

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CAMPUS CHAPLAIN

Rev. Adrian Milik

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT ST. BASIL

Rita Garufi

EMAIL: rita.garufi@bridgew.edu



Please Join Us Candlelight Rosary Procession

Date: Wednesday, May 13th

Time: 7:30pm

Place: St. Thomas Aquinas Church

**Speaker: Rev. Bill Devine, Pastor
St. Thomas Aquinas Parish**

All are welcome and encouraged to join us in honoring our Lady of Fatima with a service including inspiring music and a candlelight procession.

Handicap accessible.

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.

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 Catholic Response to the Tragic Earthquake in Nepal

The tragic earthquake in Nepal has killed thousands of people and caused an immense amount of destruction. As the people of the region start to rebuild their lives, they need the help and support of the world, and as Catholics we cannot ignore such suffering happening in our world. We might not be able to solve all the problems that a natural disaster of this scale is causing, but we do have to unite ourselves with Jesus as he grieves all the suffering that the evil of this earthquake has created. The first way that we do that is through prayer. We have a duty to ask for the strength, protection, guidance, and healing that the people of the region need. We also have to examine whether our resources allow us to give to the people who have lost so much. There are already a lot of organizations working and helping in the region, with Catholic Relief Services being involved in a big way, as they are in so many other crisis points.

To help all those who want to make a donation to help the people of Nepal, our parish will be participating in the archdiocesan special collection for the victims of the earthquake. Next week we will be having a special second collection for this very important cause. There are no envelopes for this collection, but I invite you to be generous in reaching out to those who need help so very badly. If you would like to contribute by check, please make it out to St. Thomas Aquinas Parish, and put "Nepal earthquake" in the "for" line of the check. We will be sending a single check, collecting all the donations for that collection, to the archdiocese to pass on to Catholic Charities as they respond to the needs on the ground.

I know that we as a community will respond in a great way to this crucial collection. Thank you all for your love and generosity toward those in need, something we see in so many places throughout the year. May the Lord reward each of you greatly for your willingness to give of yourselves to serve Jesus in the person of those who are most in need.

*In Christ,
Fr. Adrian*



"The Gift of Hospitality"

*11th Annual Gathering for
Pastoral Visitors
Saturday, June 13, 2015
Pastoral Center, Braintree
Join us for a Breakfast Meeting
9:00 am to 12:00 noon
Presenter: Sister Maryanne Ruzzo, SC*

Registration form

Fee: \$10 Gathering time 9:00 am to 9:30 am

Please register by June 5. We require pre-registration since we cannot fill the meeting room beyond capacity due to safety concerns.

Mail to: Office of Chaplaincy Programs, 66 Brooks Drive, Braintree, MA 02184

NAME: _____

PHONE: _____

PARISH: _____

TOWN: _____

Please make out check to: *Office of Chaplaincy Programs. Thank you.*

Spring at St. Thomas Aquinas Cemeteries

Spring has sprung!

The extreme winter has left us in the position of playing catch up with spring! We are grateful for the volunteer efforts in the cemetery which have helped, but we still have a long way to go. Please be patient with us as our understaffed maintenance department undertakes the project of cleaning out old decorations, grading winter burials and seeding newer graves. As always, if you see any dead wreaths or worn out decorations you can place them in the provided barrels and we encourage reporting tipping stones or any dangerous conditions noted in the cemetery with calls to the Parish Office at (508) 697-9528.

This spring we will be moving through the final steps of our double deep project to correct the typical settling issues associated with an excavation project of this size. Please look to future bulletins for the announcement of a Double-Deep Spring Sale, coming soon!

Also new this spring is the start of a 3-year lawn improvement project. During a project like this, we should expect things to look worse before they look better. Unfortunately, weeds are green while dead weeds and dirt are brown. Please pardon our appearance as we move through the necessary steps to establish a healthy new lawn.

Blessings,
Gina



The St. Thomas Aquinas Women's Club is planning their slate of officers for the 2015-2016 season. There are presently two positions open on the Board of Directors. If you are interested in joining the Board, please call Lisa Folloni at (508) 697-5565.

Weekly Stewardship

Thank you very much to all who continue to give to the many needs of the parish. A breakdown of in-pew and online gifts is listed below. Please see Fr. Adrian's column about the special collection being taken next week to aid families who have suffered tragic loss during the recent earthquake in Nepal. We know that your outpouring of prayers will be followed by an equally beautiful demonstration of generosity that typifies the faithful of St. Thomas Aquinas and St. Basil.

May the Lord bless you, protect you, and give you peace.

In Pew \$5,648
E-Giving \$1,995
 Total \$7,643

Gifts to Military Archdiocese, Home Missions & Black and Native Americans totaled \$2,525.

Today's second collection is for the parish's Capital Improvement fund. Your donations will be used to help offset the ongoing maintenance costs of the church and chapel. Thank you.

Join our Baptism Ministry

Our ministry needs new volunteers to join us in our mission to welcome newly baptized children into the parish family. If you are interested in learning more about this rewarding ministry, please join us at our next meeting, **Tuesday, May 5, at 6:30pm** at the **parish center**. In an effort to accommodate our busy schedules, these meetings are held to an hour. We hope you will consider joining us.

If you are unable to attend, but would like more information, please contact Beccy Mugerini at (508) 697-4791.

Scripture for the week of May 3, 2015

- 3 SUN Acts 9:26-31/1 Jn 3:18-24/Jn 15:1-8
- 4 Mon Acts 14:5-18/Jn 14:21-26
- 5 Tue Acts 14:19-28/Jn 14:27-31a
- 6 Wed Acts 15:1-6/Jn 15:1-824
- 7 Thu Acts 15:7-21/Jn 15:9-11
- 8 Fri Acts 15:22-31/Jn 15:12-17
- 9 Sat Acts 16:1-10/Jn 15:18-21
- 10 SUN Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48/1 Jn 4:7-10/Jn 15:9-17

Religious Ed Wrap Up

With First Communions behind us and Confirmation happening at the end of the month, this year in the religious education program is slowly coming to an end. Looking back on our year we realize just how much we rely upon our many hard-working volunteers. We'd like to acknowledge our catechists who prepared weekly lessons and educated our children on our Catholic faith. We appreciate the flexibility of our substitutes and hall monitors who are ready to jump in and help with the many projects that come up.

New for us this year was the Children's Ministry at the 10:00 Mass for children ages 3-7. Our volunteers Charlene Frecero and Francine Littlejohn spearheaded this ministry using Pflaum's Gospel Weekly. Our music minister, Regina, led the children in song at the Liturgy of the Word when the children processed downstairs to learn about the Word of God using age appropriate materials.

The monthly Grade Level Liturgies continued this year with the helps of teachers who helped coordinate and organize each Mass. We'd like to recognize the following teachers: Julie Lynch (Gr 1), MaryEllen Wall (Gr 3), Liz Longo (Gr 4), Heather Breault (Gr 5), Beth Peterson (Gr 6), Kate Anderson (Gr 7) and Roberta Harvey (Gr 8). Thank you to the families who encouraged their children to participate as lectors, gift bearers and greeters.

Although we had some schedule interruptions due to snow, the majority of the children in our program attended a Teaching Mass at the church taught by either Fr. Bill or Fr. Adrian. Thank you to our priests for teaching the children about the beauty of the Mass. This is a great opportunity for our priests and children to come together outside the classroom.

Our Sacrament programs were as vibrant as ever. 108 Second Graders received both Sacraments of Penance and Eucharist this year. It's rewarding to watch everyone come together for this joyous celebration. Thank you to Lisa Folloini who helps us each year with rehearsals, parent meetings, and comes to each Mass to serve as Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion. This year we were approached by Cathy Broderick who offered First Communion portraits, \$25 of which was donated to our parish. Parents appreciated the beautiful portraits and we are grateful to Cathy for her generosity.

Approximately 100 students will be confirmed by Bishop Dooher on May 31st. We had a successful year using the YouCat Confirmation curriculum. This was our first year using this curriculum and we hope our students came to a deeper understanding of Jesus' love for them. We supplemented the program with monthly guest speakers as well as an all day retreat conducted by the Capuchins. If you would like to pray for a Confirmation student, please choose a name from the red basket at the back of the church.

Within the next month we will be attending two all day workshops at the Pastoral Center. We hope to come back with more ideas as we try to improve our program each year. Registration for next year will begin within the next month. Please prayerfully consider teaching. We'd love to have you on our team!

Karen & Debbie

Springtime Working Women's Afternoon
Facilitated by Stephanie Bronner

Are you feeling stretched thin with expectations and responsibility? Does it ever feel like you can never do enough, or never savor that feeling of being on top of everything? We invite you to come for an afternoon of prayer and soul connection--effectively pressing the "reset" button. Steph Bronner will offer brief talks, space for private prayer, and time for connecting with other women. Of course, a renewing compassion and courage will color these...a priceless spirit to bring home.

Miramar Retreat Center
121 Parks St., Duxbury, MA
When: Sunday, May 17th, 1-7pm
Fee: \$35 (dinner included)

For information or to register, call: (781) 585-2460

Have you experienced the loss of a loved one?
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

Adult Choir

Young adults and adults who worship at St. Thomas and St. Basil are invited to sing with our choir for the celebration of **Confirmation on Sunday, May 31**. Rehearsals are **Wednesday evenings at 7:00 pm** in the choir loft at St. Thomas.

**Ministry of Cantor**

What is the ministry of cantor? All liturgical ministers are, first and foremost, members of the Body of Christ. Through their baptism they are the "holy people and royal priesthood" whose right and privilege it is to participate in the ministry of Christ. Since the celebration of the Eucharist is the "action of the whole Church" (General Instruction of the Roman Missal, Introduction #5), everyone in the assembly has "an individual right and duty to contribute their participation" (GIRM #58). Some of the faithful are called to serve God's people in a more particular way through one of the many liturgical ministries that have flourished in the Church since the Second Vatican Council. This diversity of roles, functions and ministries enriches our celebrations and assists us in our prayer. Serving in one of these ministries is both an honor and a privilege.

As a member of the Body of Christ, you are encouraged to prayerfully discern if our God is calling you to the ministry of cantor. Guidance and support are provided.

For more information about the parish music ministries, including the children's and adult choirs, and instrumentalists, please contact Regina at music.aquinas@yahoo.com.

Have you experienced an Emmaus weekend yet?

Emmaus is a retreat program for men and women (ages 20+) seeking to grow in their relationship with Jesus Christ, regardless of their present level of faith and practice. We welcome you to share in an **Emmaus weekend at Cathedral Camp in E. Freetown, MA June 12-14th**. It is a wonderful opportunity to get away for a few days, unplug, hear some wonderful witnesses, meet other Christians, and grow in your spiritual life.

"My walk to Emmaus was one of the best spiritually renewal experiences which altered my life forever. It deepened my discipleship, and rekindled my gift as a Christian leader in my church and other communities. It is a life changing weekend that provides new friendships and a greater love for God." (Joe Tremblay)

For more information or an application, please visit: www.EmmausRetreats.com or call: Karen McAuley (508) 269-0946.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED to give homeless children a better tomorrow.

One in every 30 children in the U.S. becomes homeless each year. The stress and trauma of homelessness is emotionally and cognitively damaging to young children.

Do you have 2 hours each week to play with young homeless children in one of our shelter-based Playspaces? Right now we are in great need of volunteers to play with young children living in homeless shelters. Help a homeless child learn, play, and thrive. Your support helps us to continue making a positive impact on homeless children in Southeastern MA and Cape Cod. Our next training is **Saturday, June 6 in Brockton**. We have a critical need for volunteers in **Norwell, Middleboro, New Bedford, Fall River, Bourn, Falmouth & Hyannis**.

For more info visit www.horizonschildren.org or call 508 510-3250.

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**



Pray for Healing

Olga (Cassiani) Alberghini	Jim Geraghty
Christine Amaral	Alanna Gillis
Jean Andrade	Donald Guidoboni
Baby Valerie Belcher,	Beverly Guiffre
Olivia Bonfiglio	Kathleen Henderson
Jim & Jean Brennan	Tim Johnson
Caitlin Burnett	Fred Laham
Kim (Sweetman) Byrnes	Gregg Laskoski
Sandra Cable	Kevin Looney
Christine Cabral	Marjorie Mello
Bill Carey	Baby Chase Miceli
Jacque Cordaro	Alice Moniz
Matthew Costantino	Bob Morris
Michael 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
Jesus Galindo	

Weekly Mass Intentions

Saturday, May 2
 4:00 Mass for the People

Sunday, May 3
 7:45: Mass for the People
 10:00: William O'Rourke
 10:00 St. Basil: Leona & Alexander Gedutis
 12:00: John L. Carbone

Monday, May 4
 7:00 Lino & Angie Bonfiglioli

Saturday, May 9
 4:00 The Harrigan Family

Sunday, May 10
 10:00: Dante & Chiarina Folloni
 10:00 St. Basil: Arthur Lessard
 12:00: Antionette R. LeClair
 & Adeline "Dedee" T. Rawlings
 5:00 St. Basil: Mass for the People



Pray 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
 CPL, Brandon Jamieson, USA

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**
- ◆ **Wednesday, June 3, 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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