

SAINT THOMAS AQUINAS PARISH

June 7, 2015

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Rev. Bill Devine

PAROCHIAL VICAR

Rev. Adrian Milik

SENIOR DEACON

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Gina Lewis

MUSIC DIRECTOR

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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

Open Position

ST. BASIL CHAPEL, BSU

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WEBSITE: www.bridgew.edu/Depts/CathCntr

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CAMPUS MINISTER

Marlene DeLeon

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CAMPUS CHAPLAIN

Rev. Adrian Milik

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT ST. BASIL

Rita Garufi

EMAIL: rita.garufi@bridgew.edu

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.



PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

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 within our local and broader community.

WEEKLY MASS SCHEDULE

SATURDAY

9:00 am St. Thomas

4:00 pm St. Thomas

SUNDAY

7:45 am St. Thomas

10:00 am St. Thomas

10:00 am St. Basil Chapel

12:00 pm St. Thomas

5:00 pm St. Basil Chapel (resume in fall)

WEEKDAYS

7:00 am St. Thomas

9:00 am St. Thomas

CONFESSIONS

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

St. Thomas Aquinas Lower Church

Belated Thank You

In last week's bulletin I expressed my appreciation for many who work so hard to have our cemeteries look so good for the Memorial Day Weekend. In thanking them by name I inadvertently failed to mention Germaine Bouchard. Over the past few years Germaine has not only cared for her mother's grave but has maintained the landscaping and cleaned the area around the grotto. Thank you Germaine.

Mass in Portuguese on June 21st

There is a long tradition in our parish that on the third Sunday in June a Mass is celebrated honoring the Holy Spirit and Queen St. Isabel of Portugal. This Mass is followed by a parade from the Church to the Holy Ghost Society building on Broad Street. Following the parade and St. Isabel's example, a free meal of Portuguese Bread and Soup is provided by the members of the Holy Ghost Society. This year the **10 a.m. Mass on June 21st will be celebrated in Portuguese** by Fr. Jose-Paulo Machado from St. Michael, Azores.

The "Fathers" Thank You!

Fr. Adrian, our seminarians Tom and Will and I would like to thank all who have provided meals for us over the past two weeks. The meals have been GREAT! Thank you! If you would like to Feed the Fathers we ask you to sign up on line at www.mealtrain.com and sign in with *User ID: stthomasaquinas@comcast.net* and *password: meals2014*. Click on **My Meal Train** to view available dates and sign up for a meal. If you are uncomfortable signing up on line you can call the parish office and they can provide you the available dates.

Welcome

This weekend Fr. Adrian is away. I would like to thank Fr. Rick Gribble, CSC, a professor at Stonehill College for celebrating the 10 a.m. Mass at St. Basil's Chapel and the noon Mass at St. Thomas Aquinas.

Fr. Bill

When I was in Cologne, Germany for World Youth day back in 2005, toward the end of our Pilgrimage our group spent a few days in Belgium. A few of us opted to take a day trip to the Belgian city of Brugge, about a 2-hour drive from Brussels where we were staying. Brugge is a great, pretty much intact Medieval City. In the city square is the Basilica of the Holy Blood. It is called this because the Basilica houses a vial of, what for centuries many have believed to be Christ's Blood, the very Blood that was shed on the Cross on Calvary on Good Friday. I don't know if it was by chance or by an act of the Holy Spirit, but the vial of Blood, which was not scheduled to be on display for veneration on that day, was.

As we took the 2-hour drive back, we began talking about our experience. All of us remarked how truly awesome it was to have been able to reverence and venerate what we were told was Christ's actual blood. One of my friends, who had been sitting silently, spoke up. In a quizzical and challenging, yet uncondemning way, he said, "I'm a bit confused. As great an experience as today was, if we truly believe what we say we believe as Catholics regarding the Real Presence of Jesus' Body and Blood in the Holy Eucharist, this awe, this amazement, this emotion we're all feeling, is this not how we should approach Eucharist every time we receive Communion? Because if we truly believe what we say we believe, then there is no difference between the Blood we just venerated and the Blood we receive at Mass."

Mind blown.

But my friend was and is absolutely correct. Whether or not the vial of Blood is authentic is not as important as our reactions to it were. We do not know if the Blood is real. We approached it as if it was the Real Blood of Christ, but there is no way to verify that is it or isn't. However, every time we attend Mass, we are explicitly given what we know and believe IS in fact the Real Blood of Christ. We know it is Real because Jesus Himself told us, "This *is* My Body, this *is* My Blood," and since its institution at the Last Supper, people have believed in the Real Presence in the Eucharist.

If, as Catholics, we truly believe what we say we do, that Communion *IS* the Real Body and Real Blood of Christ, then we should approach the Eucharist with the same awe, same love, and same emotion every time we receive Communion as the twenty of us did that July day in 2005. But how often do we? How often when we receive, myself included, do we truly think about the Real Presence, or do we just, go through the motions—"Amen" and then back to our seats? I've been there; Mass in the Seminary at 7:30am and for whatever reason, the cup of coffee at 6:30 hasn't kicked in yet. Before I know it, half asleep, I hear myself saying "Amen" without really having thought about what my, "I Believe" really means.

Today, Sunday, June 7, the Church celebrates the Solemnity of *Corpus Christi*—The Most Holy Body and Blood of Jesus. We celebrate the Real Presence of Christ in the amazing and undeserved Gift of the Eucharist. As we celebrate this Solemnity, I put before you the challenge to really examine how is that you approach the Eucharist. What do the words, "The Body of Christ" mean to you? There's a short prayer many priests pray before they celebrate Mass that is, *Lord, may I celebrate this Mass like it was my first Mass, my last Mass, and my only Mass*. Please allow me the liberty to change this dictum slightly and challenge you to make this prayer, *Lord, may I receive this Communion like it was my first Eucharist, my last Eucharist, and my only Eucharist*—the Real Presence of that same Body which was scourged and that Blood which was shed.

Will Sexton

Faith Formation

Online registration is up and running. Sunday and Monday classes are filling quickly. Parents are reminded to register before July 31 to avoid a late fee.

Every baptized Catholic is called to pass on the faith. One of the ways to do this is by becoming a catechist. Teaching is a symbiotic relationship; teachers and students learn from each other. By teaching the faith, you will have the opportunity to learn about your students, your parish, and your faith. You will become closer to Christ and his flock. We invite you to join us in this unique experience. If you would like to discuss the possibilities, please call the religious education office (508-697-3652) or sign up online.



Confirmation took place last Sunday. Students and parents alike were touched by parishioners who wrote palanca. We heard from some parishioners how they found this to be a prayerful and meaningful exercise, helping them to feel connected to the youth of the parish. Thank you again to all who participated. You are a blessing!

Due to pneumonia, Bishop Dooher was unable to preside over our Confirmation Masses. In his place, the Episcopal Vicar, West Region of the Archdiocese of Boston, Fr. Brian Kiely graciously stepped in to confirm 99 candidates during two Masses. Fr. Kiely connected not only with the congregation as a whole, but also with each candidate and sponsor. His homily was captivating and entertaining. He told jokes, stories, and used references to movies to help the confirmandi understand what it means to be like Christ in the world. It is not easy to be a Christian in today's world. It's not supposed to be easy. He talked about Pope Francis who told the youth at World Youth Day, Rio di Janeiro, that they are called to go out into the world, to not be afraid, and to love one another as Christ loves. Please keep Bishop Dooher in your prayers as he recovers.

REGISTER NOW by visiting our website: www.stthomasaquinas.com to complete an online form.

Registration has begun for next year, Grades 1-10. To receive your preference for day and time, register early. Register before July 31st to avoid a late fee. As mentioned in last week's bulletin, we are excited to be using *Chosen* as our curriculum for Confirmation. Prayerfully consider joining our team of catechists. We encourage team teaching—invite a friend!

**Weekly Stewardship
May 31, 2015**

In pew	\$6,540
Online	\$1,920
Total Offertory	\$8,460

Collection for grounds beautification came to **\$2,297**. In addition to helping to offset the cost of our spring landscape cleanups, these funds are helping us to attend to trees that need limbs removed or need to be removed altogether from both our worship sites and cemetery properties.

May God bless you for your faithful support.

**SERVERS NEEDED FOR MAINSPRING
IN BROCKTON**

Two or three servers are needed the first Thursdays in July, August and September from 4:00pm to 6:00pm. They will be serving guests donated prepared food from St. Thomas Aquinas Parish. If interested, please get in touch with Donna Kelly at dleclair70@comcast.net

Scripture for the week of June 7, 2015

- 7 SUN Ex 24:3-8/Heb 9:11-15/Mk 14:12-16, 22-26
- 8 Mon 2 Cor 1:1-7/Mt 5:1-12
- 9 Tue 2 Cor 1:18-22/Mt 5:13-16
- 10 Wed 2 Cor 3:4-11/Mt 5:17-19
- 11 Thu Acts 11:21b-26; 13:1-3/Mt 5:20-26
- 12 Fri Hos 11:1, 3-4, 8c-9/Eph 3:8-12, 14-19/Jn 19:31-37
- 13 Sat 2 Cor 5:14-21/Mt 5:33-37
- 14 SUN Ez 17:22-24/2 Cor 5:6-10/Mk 4:26-34

MEN’S BIBLE STUDY

Seminarian Tommy Sullivan will be continuing his Men’s Bible Study group from last summer. It will meet in the Parish Center on Tuesday evenings from 7:00 to 8:00, beginning this coming Tuesday, June 9th. The focus of the study will be the Gospel of St. Matthew. We hope those who attended last summer will come again and we strongly encourage new members to join us. This will be an introductory level group, so no previous study of the Gospels is necessary. Hopefully this will be an opportunity for the men of the parish to deepen their appreciation of Sacred Scripture and grow closer to Christ.

Help Wanted

St. Thomas Aquinas Parish is seeking an experienced full-time administrative assistant. The ideal candidate will have a strong service orientation, welcoming presence, and the ability to maintain productivity in a dynamic environment.

A full job description may be found in the sidebar of our website: www.stthomasaquinas.com along with a link to the official job posting on the archdiocesan job board. Resumes and cover letters may be submitted via the bostoncatholic.org employment page.

Please pray that the Holy Spirit be a constant source of guidance throughout the selection process.

Second Collection

June 7, 2015

Capital Improvement

FREE BROCKTON ROX TICKETS

Once again, the Prohett-Chapman, Cole & Gleason Funeral Home has generously provided our parish with free tickets to the Brockton Rox baseball game against the North Shore Navigators on Wednesday, July 8th at 6:35 PM. If you are interested, you can reserve seats for you and your family/friends by going on the parish website and following the provided link or by calling the funeral home at 508-697-4332. This will be a great night out for your family. Deadline to sign up is July 1st. Once reserved, tickets can be picked up at will call the night of the game. If you reserve seats, please, be sure to show up as tickets will have been paid for based on sign-ups.

25 DOWN and 25 TO GO

We are halfway to completing the quilting squares for the 50th Anniversary Commemorative Quilt of St. Basil Chapel and The Catholic Center.

Many thanks for the imaginative works of art that have already arrived. Please call Marlene DeLeon (508 531 1412) to say when your square will be ready. Or, if you prefer, we can find quilters for your piece.

Evelyn, Judy and Betty want to piece this together in June and July. Please reply to say when we will see either your unique contribution or the muslin.

The HEART Guild invites all women in our parish and community to a **Stress Relief Night on Tuesday June 9th at 7:00 p.m.** Dr. Melissa Samartano, a psychologist from Raynham will be leading the workshop with a holistic approach to healing. HEART stand for; holistic, enrichment and renewal together, so Dr. Melissa aligns perfectly with our mission!

Please bring a friend or two (adult beverages and snacks to share are welcome) and join us for another fun night! Please RSVP to papasodoro@comcast.net or 508-697-6741.



**Please Join Us
Candlelight Rosary Procession**

Date: Saturday, June 13th
Time: 7:30pm
Place: St. Thomas Aquinas Church
Speaker: Sr. Deacon Jerry Ryan
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.

Music Ministry

A special note of appreciation to the adult choir, the cantors, and the contemporary ensemble for their offering of time and talents that so enriched the celebrations of Confirmation this past weekend.

Thank you! May our God continue to bless the newly confirmed of our parish.

Regina Reale

Relay for Life

The American Cancer Society's Greater Bridgewater **Relay For Life** will be held at Bridgewater-Raynham Regional High School on Friday, June 12th at 3pm until 8am on Saturday, June 13th. It is still not too late to have/join a team, or participate in the Survivors Reception and Ceremonies. The Survivor Reception begins at 4pm on Friday, followed by the Opening Ceremony at 6pm at which Fr. John Kearns will be speaking. The Luminaria Ceremony will be at 9pm. For further information please contact Monica Querzoli, 508-942-8485 maquerzoli@comcast.net.

Luminaria Remembrance

During the Luminaria Ceremony, candles are placed in bags in honor and memory of people who have been touched by cancer. At dusk, the luminarias are placed around the BRHS track. The Luminarias can be personalized with your own words and thoughts and will brighten the way for Relay for Life walkers throughout the night at Relay. The Luminarias will be available for a donation after the following Masses:

St. Thomas: Saturday, June 6—4pm; Sunday, June 7—10am St. Basil's: Sunday, June 7—10am

The parish office is presently being staffed by Rob Ruth and Patricia Aeillo until a full time Administrative Assistant is identified. We are grateful that Rob and Pat were able to provide assistance during this time of transition.

The **World Apostolate of Fatima** cordially invites you to attend their Annual Meeting/Day of Reflection to honor the Immaculate Heart of Mary on **Saturday, June 20, 2015** at the **Pastoral Center, 66 Brooks Drive, Braintree**. The day begins at 8:00 am with registration, coffee and pastries.

A DVD on Sister Lucia and the Message of Fatima follows. Reverend Edward Riley, Spiritual Director, will give a presentation. The Rosary will be prayed and mass is at 11:00am, with lunch following. The works of the Apostolate will be available as well as a presentation on First Saturday Devotions. Closing prayers at 3:00pm. Pre-registration is required, the fee is \$25.00 and registration is open until June 13th. To register contact Lynn at 508-378-7431 or email elk314@comcast.net.



SAVE THE DATE!
Vacation Bible School
St. Thomas Aquinas Parish Center
July 20 - 24, 2015



PRAY FOR HEALING

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

Blessed are the Peacemakers

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 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

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

◆ **Monday, July 6, 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 MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, June 6

4:00: The Maffei Family

Sunday, June 7

7:45: Debbie Pincolini Baroni
 10:00: Arthur A. Court
 10:00 *St. Basil:* John Vicente
 12:00: Harold Terpeny

Saturday, June 13

4:00: Geraldine Resmini

Sunday, June 14

7:45: Mass for the People
 10:00: Margaret T. Gori
 10:00 *St. Basil:* James Procaccini
 12:00: James F. Keane, 25th Anniversary

CHECK OUT CATHOLICTV JUNE PROGRAMMING!

USCCB SPRING ASSEMBLY

CatholicTV is pleased to air coverage of the annual Spring General Assembly, June 10-12, from St. Louis.

Archbishop Joseph E. Kurtz will present a summary on the consultation of U.S. dioceses for the 2015 Synod on the Family. Archbishop Charles J. Chaput, OFM Cap., will give an update on the World Meeting of Families in Philadelphia, which Pope Francis will attend on his September Apostolic Journey to the United States.

Please visit the schedule page of CatholicTV.com for air times.



Unleashed

Sun 12am
Mon 8:30am
Tues 4:30pm
Sat 9:30pm



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Vacation Bible School

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7:30am & 12:30pm

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"Jesus Wept."
John 11:35

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1 John 4:8

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