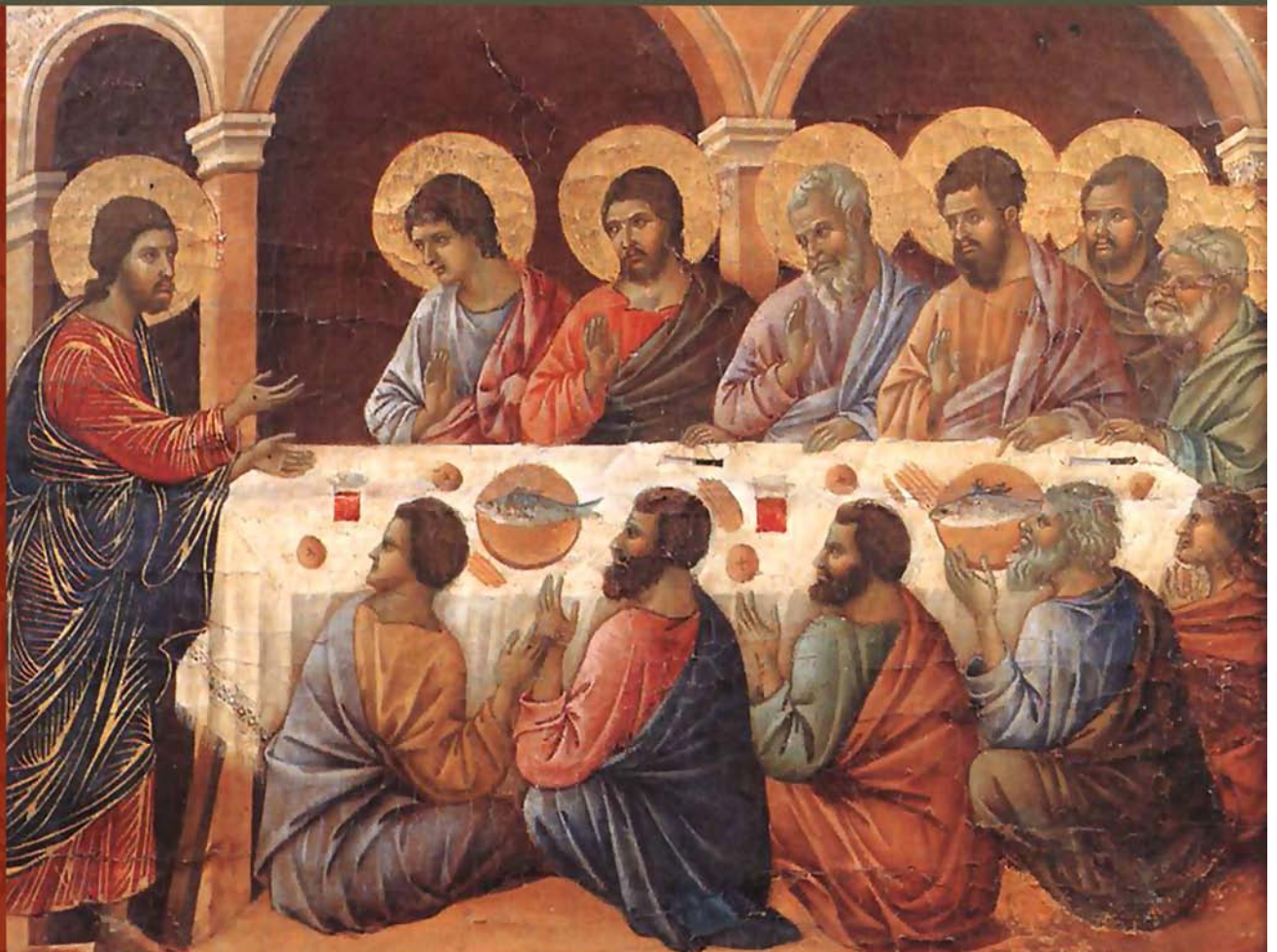


Saint Thomas the Apostle Parish  
Igreja São Tomé, O Apóstolo  
Salem Peabody Danvers  
April 19, 2015

*Peace*



**ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE PARISH  
3 MARGIN ST.  
PEABODY, MA 01960**



**Our Mission** as a parish is:

- To reach out to everyone with the joyful gospel of God’s saving love.
- To form one another as disciples who encounter Jesus Christ deeply through word, sacrament and service.
- To live as a Spirit filled, multicultural community of mercy, justice and compassion within the Catholic Church.

**Very Rev. John E. MacInnis, V.F.**  
Pastor

**Deacon Chuck Hall**  
**Deacon Simon Valentin**  
Deacons

**Sr. Janelle Sevier, SND**  
Pastoral Assistant

**Mrs. Lisa Ann Trainor**  
Coordinator of Religious Education

**Brother David Wiggin, CFX**  
Director of Finance

**Ms. Sheila Lynch**  
**Mrs. Tracy Palen**  
Administrative Assistants

**Mr. Henry Scibisz**  
**Mrs. Ivone Scibisz**  
Facilities Managers

**Rev. Steven Clemence**  
Parochial Vicar

**Deacon Russ Mower**  
Seminarian Intern

**Mr. Godfrey Musabe**  
Seminarian

**Ms. Regina Matthews**  
Music Director

**Mrs. Eileen Christiansen**  
**Mrs. Robin D’Amico**

**Ms. Amy Doucette**  
**Mr. Bill Thompson**  
**Mr. Brendan O’Brine**

**Ms. Anne Waters**  
Cantors

**Mr. Michael Beaulieu**  
Worship and Praise Band Director

**Parish Office Hours: Mon-Fri, 9am-12pm**

Telephone: 978 531 0224

Fax: 978 531 6517

Website: [saintthomasparish.net](http://saintthomasparish.net)

Email: [stthomas344p@comcast.net](mailto:stthomas344p@comcast.net)

# Mass Intentions...

<b>Sunday</b> 8:30AM	<b>April 19</b> Joseph J. Miaskiewicz +
10:30AM	Florence Pimenta +
<b>Saturday</b> 4:00PM	<b>April 25</b> Consecrated Life Mass
<b>Sunday</b> 10:30AM	<b>April 26</b> Pauline Dube + Joseph & Anna Guzowski +


Mass cards are available in the Parish Office after all Sunday Liturgies and during the week Mon.- Fri., 9:00 am-12:00 pm

**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

**Scripture Reading**  
**Page # 155**

**The Parish Office will be closed on**  
**Monday, April 20th-Patriot's Day**



Please remember Gladys M. Pigulski & Tyla Thibodeau Theriault, the deceased of our Parish and those who were buried from St. Thomas Parish during the past weeks. May their souls and the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen

**Schedule for Weekend Mass**  
*Please join us often!*

<b>St. Thomas the Apostle</b>	<b>St. John the Baptist</b>
Saturday, 4:00 PM	Saturday, 4:00PM
Sunday, 8:30AM, 10:30AM, 7:00PM Brazilian Mass	Sunday, 8:00AM, 10:00AM, 11:30AM(Spanish), 5:00PM
<b>Weekday Masses:</b> Monday & Friday, 8:30 AM	<b>Weekday Masses:</b> Monday - Saturday, 6:45AM
<b>Reconciliation:</b> Saturdays, 3:15PM	<b>Reconciliation:</b> Saturdays, 3:00-3:30PM

# Parish Activities

**Third Sunday of Easter**

Apr 20	8:30AM Mass—Chapel
Apr 21	6:15pm Girl Scouts Troop#361
Apr 22	6:15PM Girl Scouts Troop#233 7:00PM Bible Study—S.L.C.
Apr 24	8:30AM Mass—Chapel

 **Upcoming Dates to Remember**

April 18	Brazilian Dinner Dance- 6PM
April 25	Consecrated Life Mass- 4PM
May 3	1st Communion- 10:30AM Mass 1st Communion -7PM Brazilian Comm.
May 16	Yard Sale



For those who want to follow Fr Michael Alello as he runs the Boston Marathon, here is his information:

Bib # 27309  
Running in Wave 4/4, beginning around 11:30.

Anyone interested in going somewhere along the route to cheer him on? Contact Sr Janelle.

Receive alerts on where he is:  
<http://www.baa.org/races/boston-marathon/participant-information/att-athlete-alert.aspx>

**BRAZILIAN SECRETARY OPPORTUNITY**

We are looking to hire someone to work at St Thomas as a part-time secretary with the Brazilian Community. The person would spend 2 hours a week in the office (Monday or Thursday) answering phone calls, replying emails, putting together the worship aid. Besides the office hours, it is necessary that the secretary be available to work off site (email and phone calls) and to assist at the different events of the Brazilian Community. The secretary has to be fluent in Portuguese and English (both written and spoken). Please contact Fr Steven either by phone or email ([frsteven@gmail.com](mailto:frsteven@gmail.com))



This week, April 19, 2015

The First collection will be for the parish.

The second collection will be for  
Fuel & Utilities

**Mar 29th Collection:** \$4,960.00  
**Landscaping Needs:** \$1,424.00

Next week the first collection will be for the parish. The second collection will be for Home Missions/ Black & Native Americans.

Thank you for your generous sacrifice.



*This year has been designated by Pope Francis as the "Year of Consecrated Life."*

NEXT Saturday, on April 25<sup>th</sup>, at the 4 o'clock Mass, we will have a special celebration with those women and men religious who have been part of our lives. We encourage parishioners to invite family members or friends who are consecrated religious to join us for this Mass, and a reception to follow. This is **our** opportunity to celebrate with them the special way of life they lead in response to God's call and in service to the People of God.

There are invitations available for you to send to religious you may want to invite. Please see Sr Janelle for copies or stop by the Parish Office. Please let us know by April 20th how many guests you will have joining us.

**Thrift Shop**

Thank you to everyone who has supported the Thrift Shop. We need Jewelry, pots, pans, kitchen wares, small appliances, toys, old tools, rugs, men's toiletries, just about anything you don't need. As usual you can drop things off on Saturdays between 9am to 1pm or call Bob & Sylvia at 978-977-9672 to arrange a time. God's blessing to all of you. Please remember we cannot accept T.V.'s, microwaves, etc.



***Liturgy Memorials***

The Altar wine & hosts have been donated for the month of April for the honor and glory of God in memory of Cathleen Morency by Pat & Moes Florida friends, The Sanctuary Lamp has been donated in memory of James Cronin by Mary Cronin & family.

**Upcoming Liturgical Ministers Schedule**

<b>April 25 - April 26: Fourth Sunday of Easter</b>	<b>Saturday, 4:00 PM</b>	<b>Sunday, 8:30 AM</b>	<b>Sunday, 10:30 AM</b>
<b>Eucharistic Minister</b>	Sally Hayes - 1-Plate - 2-Cup - 3-Cup	Cynthia Victory - 1-Plate Paul Carlin - 2-Cup Ed Mendonca - 3-Cup	Judith Grondin - 1-Plate Elsie Moynihan - 2-Cup Mark Harrison - 3-Cup
<b>Lector</b>	Special Mass for Consecrated Life		Mike Beaulieu Tony Porcello
<b>Altar Server</b>	Bob Burke Colleen Silva	Joshua Mendonca Veronica Mendonca	Paul Carlin <i>-volunteer needed</i>

## **The Time Has Come to Worship Together**

Over the past three years, as pastor of both Saint Thomas and Saint John Parishes, I have been seeking and implementing ways that both of our parishes can work together with a view toward the future that is soon upon us. As you know, Cardinal Sean has mandated all parishes to be part of a plan to evangelize better through collaboration. Our two parishes have been collaborating by sharing programs and resources. We have combined some of our religious education programs and adult faith formation programs. Members of both parishes have spent significant time together on ACTS retreats and visiting our sister parish in the Dominican Republic. For three years both parishes have participated in a successful parish mission. Our Parish Pastoral Councils have prayed and shared our vision of the future and ways to go there. Both parishes are served by two priests: myself and Fr. Steven, and by two new deacons, Deacons Chuck and Simon. Now the time has come to take an important next step: worshipping together. I am confident that we can do this and do it well.

### **What is going to happen and when?**

At Saint Thomas, two things are happening which will affect the weekend Mass schedule there. The first relates to the best time for a family Mass. Having tried 8:30 as the time for a family Mass and discovering that families with young children were not getting up early to go to this Mass, we will be moving back to the first Mass time at **8 am**. To have religious education lead into Mass, the family Mass will be at **10 am** and religious education classes will precede it from 8:50 am to 9:50 am.

The second thing that will happen at Saint Thomas will involve Saint John's. Both of our parish councils have discussed a proposal from me and given their support to take this important step this summer. During the summer months - and the exact dates are yet to be determined - we will combine our two 4 PM Saturday Masses and two 8 AM Sunday Masses. On any given weekend, the 4 PM Mass will be in one church and the 8 AM Mass will be in the other. We will alternate where we will celebrate these Masses, so that people will have opportunities to go to their regular Mass in their own church on some weekends and in the other church on other weekends. Keep in mind that we are looking at the coming summer only to see how we can implement this plan of worshipping together. We need to be sure that people know where the Mass will be celebrated.

### **Will parishioners have an opportunity to share their views and concerns?**

Definitely. We want to know your thoughts, especially if doing this creates difficulties for you to go to Mass. We are going to provide multiple ways that you can give us feedback, including in-pew questionnaires, a suggestion basket, website updates including suggestions and surveys. Another may be an online response. We are blessed to have two very beautiful churches, each of which is completely accessible to persons with disabilities. Our churches are only about five minutes apart by car. We will provide whatever directions or information needed to help you find your way around both parish facilities. As this happens, volunteers familiar with the process will be on hand after Masses to answer your questions.

### **Will I be able to provide support to my parish when I attend another?**

Yes. This is important. And we want to encourage and make it as simple as possible for you to make your contribution to your own parish. In fact we already do this by sending any envelopes collected in one church to the parish where those donors belong. For those who do not use printed envelopes we will have some on hand at both churches for you to use. Additionally we are reviewing online giving programs that would serve both parishes.

*Continued on next page*

## **Why are we doing this?**

You need to know that there are a variety of reasons why all parishes are being asked to study their Mass attendance and when possible combine Masses. For many years the number of priests available to serve in parishes has been dwindling. Out of respect for the priests and to maintain the reverence that is due when they celebrate Mass, church law limits a priest to celebrating two masses in one day and a third only when necessary. In our parishes we have funerals and wedding Masses on Saturdays and so our priests have had to celebrate six or seven Masses a weekend. Father Steven and I want to lead you, our people, in worship rather than having to bring priests from other places who do not know the parish or its people or its life on a day to day basis. And in fact, the death of retired priests such as wonderful Father Louis Bourgeois makes us even more painfully aware of the shortage of priests capable to doing ministry.

Another reason for combining Masses is to gather a larger number of people together to celebrate. A small number of people scattered around a large or even medium size church lacks the vitality of a community which we experience when we worship in larger groups. Sadly people have become accustomed to sitting alone and apart from others when Mass should be a time for experiencing our closeness not only to the Lord but to one another. Nearly empty churches only feed people's belief that faith is dying. We need to strengthen one another's faith by coming together with a feeling of a family that wants to be together. There are obvious factors such as reducing what is spent on heat and electricity.

Yet another reason is what it means to be a Catholic and to be church. Scripture tells us over and over again that we come to God as a community not as isolated individuals. Worship of God is only enhanced by the presence of more and more people praying, singing and coming to communion together.

## **What can help us as collaborating parishes to enter into this change effectively?**

More than anything else, the success of collaboration among parishes depends on the openness and willingness of people of faith to acknowledge what it means to worship and glorify God. Putting the praise of God first means recognizing that being a disciple of Jesus involves much more than just having my own pew, in my own church, at the time I want. Certainly we want to keep our churches open because of all they mean to us. But the only reasonable way to do this is to share what we have and what others have and build up a stronger sense of new, wider community that we are becoming.

I ask you to look at what we are about to do as an expression of our belief that the Lord is truly risen. Think about the mystery which all Christians embrace at this holy time of year. The resurrection of Jesus meant a new life for him and for us. The crucified body of Jesus was transformed so that now he could be present in the church for his mission to the world. So now we must, as Saint Paul writes, "be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and pleasing and perfect." (Romans 12:2)

## **Evangelization – bringing Christ to others near and far –is our mission today!**

We need to evangelize a world that only divides people and diminishes their future. We need to show the world that the risen Christ has made a difference. He is making us who were once apart, closer to him and to each other. Our coming together will show others that the risen Christ is moving us away from being strangers to becoming friends, neighbors or even better, brothers and sisters in the family of God.

May God bless our parishes as we commit ourselves more and more to the mission of his Son, Jesus, through the intercession of Mary, Mother of our Lord and Mother of the Church! Fr. John

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Rachel mourns her children; She refuses to be consoled, because her children are no more. Thus says the Lord: "Cease from your cries of mourning. Wipe the tears from your eyes...There is hope for your future."  
Jeremiah 31:15-17



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