

# I AM THE VINE



*“By this is my Father glorified, that you bear  
much fruit and become my disciples.”*

*~John 15:8*

**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>Saturday</b> 4:00PM	<b>May 2</b> Elizabeth, Maria, Joaquim & Albert Cunha +
<b>Sunday</b> 8:30AM	<b>May 3</b> For the Parish Community
10:30AM	First Communion Mass
<b>Saturday</b> 4:00PM	<b>May 9</b> Anthony & Genevieve Kolodziej & Families + Hilda & Joseph Prata +
<b>Sunday</b> 8:30AM	<b>May 10</b> Anastasia Miaskiewicz +
10:30AM	For the Parish Community

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 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 15:1-8 24
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

**Scripture Reading**  
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Please remember Suzanne Ortins-Cashman-Sample, Gary Statenzi, 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

**Fifth Sunday of Easter**


May 4	8:30AM Mass—Chapel
May 5	6:15pm Girl Scouts Troop#361
May 6	6:15PM Girl Scouts Troop#233 6:00PM Haven from Hunger—S.L.C. 7:00PM Bible Study—S.L.C.
May 8	8:30AM Mass—Chapel

 **Upcoming Dates to Remember**


May 3	1st Communion- 10:30AM Mass 1st Communion -7PM Brazilian Comm.
May 6	Haven from Hunger Mtg.-6PM
May 12	Liturgy Committee Mtg—7PM
May 16	Yard Sale
May 21	Living Faith

 **MONTHLY FOOD DRIVE**


The St. Vincent de Paul Society will be holding their monthly Food Drive at all Masses this weekend, May 2nd & 3rd. Please leave your canned goods, cereals, toiletries, etc. at the entrance of the Church. We thank you for your support and your generosity!



Thank you to all who made our Celebration of Consecrated Life such a lovely event last week-end! We welcomed 35 Religious Sisters and Brothers and let them know we appreciate their commitment to the Church and God's people. Many of those who came have called or written to say how much they enjoyed themselves! From beginning to end, from the Liturgy through the reception, St Thomas Parish did itself proud! Congratulations on a job well done!



**St. Thomas Children's Closet**  
We are in need of boys & girls slacks, dungarees, jerseys, blouses sizes 5 to 16. Donations may be dropped off at the closet between 1-3pm on Saturdays.




**Green Thumbs**  
The Green Thumbs are cleaning up our church property. Anyone can join, just bring gloves and see John. He will show you where you can help out. No special training is needed. The Green Thumbs meet every Monday on the church property from 4pm to 6pm.  
If you can't make it on Monday's and would like to help give John Hayes a call at 978-745-0505 and he will give you your own area to spruce up. Come on down and meet your fellow parishioners and get to enjoy the sun, fun and fresh air.

**GIVING**

This week, April 26, 2015  
The First collection will be for the parish.  
The second collection will be for Flowers for Pentecost.  
**Apr 26th Collection:** \$5,154.00  
**Home Missions:** \$ 911.00  
Next week the first collection will be for the parish.  
The second collection will be for Catholic Communications  
Thank you for your generous sacrifice.

**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 May for the honor and glory of God in memory of Fr. David Bartley, The Sanctuary Lamp has been donated in memory of David & Mary Gabriel by the Gabriel family. The flowers on the Main Altar have been donated this weekend in memory of Patricia Murtagh by Fred Murtagh & family.

**Upcoming Liturgical Ministers Schedule**

May 9 - May 10: Sixth Sunday of Easter	Saturday, 4:00 PM	Sunday, 8:30 AM	Sunday, 10:30 AM
<b>Eucharistic Minister</b>	Sophia O'Brien - 1-Plate Joanne Mizioch - 2-Cup Sally Hayes - 3-Cup	Rose Statezni - 1-Plate Christine Capillo - 2-Cup Millie Moore - 3-Cup	Bob Burke - 1-Plate Bill Geary - 2-Cup Pat Laehn - 3-Cup
<b>Lector</b>	Mildred Gates Kevin Shea	Jennifer Puzzo Frank Herschede	Maria O'Toole Tony Porcello
<b>Altar Server</b>	Colleen Silva <i>-volunteer needed</i>	Matthew Sheldon Nathan Sheldon	Eddy Staco Kaitlyn McLaughlin



**The Saint Thomas Yard Sale is  
Saturday May 16th  
from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.**

As you are doing your spring-cleaning will you please look for items we could use at the yard sale. We will take and appreciate anything you can give us except TV's, monitors and printers. Without items to sell there will be no yard sale.

You may drop off items on Saturday May 9<sup>th</sup> from 2:00 – 4:00 p.m.

Sunday May 10<sup>th</sup> from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Monday May 11 through Friday May 15<sup>th</sup> from 4:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

We can really use your help, sign up sheets will be at the back of the church the weekends of May 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> and May 9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup>

Baker's we need your help because we will be serving coffee and pastries the day of the Yard Sale, there is a sign up sheet for you too.

Thank you!!!!

**“Liturgical Memorials”**

The following items used at liturgy are available as memorials or commemorations each month at St. Thomas the Apostle Parish.

**Hosts & Wine:** to be consecrated at all Liturgies during the month (donation \$25.00).

**The Oil** used in the altar candles during the month (donation \$25.00).

**The Sanctuary Lamp** is the candle that burns constantly, except on Good Friday, before the Blessed Sacrament in the Tabernacle. For each month (donation \$30.00).

**Flowers, for the weekend only**, before the Main Altar and on the Side Altars for Saturday Vigil and Sunday Liturgies (Not during Lent). Main Altar (donation \$40.00), Side Altars (donation \$30.00).

Donations and donors will be listed in the Bulletin each week of the month.

If you wish to donate any of the above, please call Sheila or Tracy at the parish office Monday-Friday 9AM-12PM.

**Bible Study**

If you've been waiting to join the Bible Study, now is the time! We are beginning a new series this week. Join us Wednesday evenings at 7:00 pm in the Spiritual Life center at St. Thomas. We will be studying the Book of the Revelation each week. You can join us at any time even if you can't make it this week.

**Thank You**

New Beginnings Pre-School would like to thank the anonymous donor for the donation of toys. It was a wonderful surprise for our pre-schooler's on Monday, April 27<sup>th</sup> after returning from Spring Vacation.

Sincerely,  
Linda Cohan  
and Staff

**A Note from the Sisters of Notre Dame**

We, the Sisters of Notre Dame want to thank the following: Fr. John for being our celebrant at the Liturgy for Consecrated life, Sister Janelle, the Liturgy Committee and the Choir for planning the event and preparing the liturgy. We want to thank, as well, Fr. Steven and all the parishioners who joined us in prayer and celebration following the Liturgy. Another big “thank you” goes to our parish Social Committee for preparing the refreshments that were enjoyed and appreciated by all after the liturgy. It was wonderful to worship and celebrate together.

## Can we overcome violence with violence? A reflection on the marathon bombings.

Since the start of the trial of Dzhokhar Tsarnaev, it has been hard to read a newspaper or watch the news on TV or follow local or national news online without being drawn back into the drama and tragedy that unfolded two years ago at the Boston Marathon. We'll never forget the video footage and the photos of people who were killed or wounded. Many of us knew someone who was there, running or watching the marathon. You remember where you were when you found out it happened, much like September 11, 2001.

The news stories of trial not only brought it back but painted a much more detailed picture of the huge toll of suffering and loss that the two bombs inflicted. The victims were more than those who died or received physical injuries. They also include the families, relatives, friends, neighbors, and all those in the crowd who were shaken by the explosion and all they learned about it later. One can only imagine what has gone on in the minds and hearts of the jury and anyone in the court room. There was a part of me that simply wanted to turn the page or click the remote. Enough is enough. But there was also a part of me that needed to get closer to what it means to be human, to feel the pain of others, and by doing so to become more resolved not to inflict pain on others, and to become healers rather than executors.

There was no doubt from the beginning of the trial that Tsarnaev would be convicted of every count of killing and maiming people. The only hope of the defense is to spare his life. Everyone has an opinion about the death penalty. The facts of this case might give pause for some to ask themselves: is a case like this that rare exception to one's usual opposition to the death penalty, because the death and injury was so great and calculated to be so and because it is so clear that this young man did this?

The Church in our time, from popes to bishops, has become firmer and stronger against the death penalty. In a word, no crime warrants taking another human life. Not because there might be a doubt about the innocence or guilt of the person (in this instance, the guilt is unquestionable). But because killing one person doesn't somehow balance the scale of the killing of another or many others. Or to quote our American bishops: "When the state, in our names and with our taxes, ends a human life despite having non-lethal alternatives, it suggests that society can overcome violence with violence. The use of the death penalty ought to be abandoned not only for what it does to those who are executed, but for what it does to all of society." USCCB, *A Culture of Life and the Penalty of Death*.

People can and do argue against the death penalty for other reasons. For instance: that the death sentence would bring forth an endless series of appeals and these appeals would not bring any closure to suffering of victims and families. Or that death could be construed by terrorists as form of martyrdom. Or that death would be too easy a way out for someone who seems not to care about living or dying.

If there was some good that came out of hearing from the witnesses and loved ones, it may be that the stories remind us of the reality of both love and evil, of the intense cruelty which one person can inflict on another and of the heroism that inspires us in the midst of tragedy. Violence in film and video games has anesthetized us to the intense pain that real human feel. These forms of "entertainment" trivialize the immensity of human suffering that killing inflicts on others and the death of the soul of the killer himself. Are young people today, immersed in a dark fantasy world of violence, losing their sensitivity to human pain? Killing has become a sport played out in any one's home on a computer. I think about school shootings. We are surrounded by this pop culture of death. We legalize ending life just as it begins, and hasten death at the other end. Do we think executing criminals will change this culture of death or will it only contribute to it?

For me, faith gives us the final word. God's word in the gospels is both mercy and judgment. Only mercy can turn hearts from violence to peace. With God's grace, in this coming holy year of mercy, we might dedicate ourselves to believing more and more in the power of mercy and forgiveness to bring an end to more violence.

Believing in God's justice helps us to realize that in the end neither execution or a life sentence in prison will bring us to our ultimate accountability. In the end, we will stand before God and face the one who knows everything about us: every act, every intention, every motive in our hearts. At that moment, when our whole truth is made known, all of us will be given a sentence or a reprieve that is not measured in years but in eternity. God alone will be the final judge and jury.

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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