

ST. THOMAS AQUINAS PARISH

OCTOBER 5, 2025



Our Rummage Sale team - Saturday, September 27, 2025

OUR MISSION

Our mission is to be a welcoming community of believers 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

Welcome to visitors of our Parish, and to those who have recently moved into the area, and to those who are comfortable and nourished here - Welcome. Regardless of your status in the Church, 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.

ST. THOMAS AQUINAS PARISH

Rev. Bill Devine, Pastor
frbilldevine@gmail.com

Fr. Rodrigo Martinez, Parochial Vicar
frrodrigo@sta-parish.org

Senior Deacon Leo Donoghue
donoghue.leo@gmail.com

Parish Office

103 Center St., Bridgewater
Monday - Friday | 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
508.697.9528

www.stthomasaquinas.com

Peter Vitagliano, Finance/Operations
pvitagliano@sta-parish.org

Tina Larson, Administrative Assistant
tlarson@sta-parish.org

Music Director

Paul Hoffman, Music Director
phoffman@sta-parish.org

Faith Formation Office Staff

508.697.3652

Debbie Hill, Director
dhill@sta-parish.org

Maryann Ofstein, Secretary
faithformation@sta-parish.org

St. Basil, The Catholic Center

122 Park Ave., Bridgewater
Fr. Rodrigo Martinez, Campus Chaplain
frrodrigo@sta-parish.org

Saint Vincent DePaul Food Pantry / Financial Assistance

508-697-9528, then choose option 5

SUNDAY MASS

St. Thomas Aquinas Church
103 Center St., Bridgewater
Saturday Vigil | 4:00 p.m.

Sunday | 7:30 a.m., 9:00 a.m.,
12:00 p.m., 5:00 p.m.

St. Basil Chapel
122 Park Ave., Bridgewater
Sunday | 10:30 a.m.

DAILY MASS

St. Thomas Aquinas Lower Church
Monday - Saturday | 9:00 a.m.

CONFESSION

St. Thomas Aquinas Church
Saturday: 9:45 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. and
12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. in the Lower
Church or by appointment

Annual Appeal 2025...

Every year in October, following the publication and distribution of the Annual Financial Report, I ask your support in the Annual Appeal. While the financial report indicated that our collections increased over the past year, for which I'm very grateful, our operating expenses continue to far exceed what we take in our collections.

In the past, I've needed to use the proceeds of the Annual Appeal to fund major renovations and upgrades necessary for the longevity and safety of our parish facilities. Fortunately, and hopefully because of your generosity, most of the major repairs have been completed.

This year, the proceeds will be used to help balance our budget. I anticipate that next year our operational costs to be \$1,087,000. Over the years, our operational expenses continue to increase. Last year, our utilities alone were \$82,700 (an increase of over \$10,000 from the previous year), and I expect they'll increase again this year. Our Faith Formation Program is funded at \$102,000. Additionally, staffing, supplies, insurances and regular maintenance contribute to the increase in costs.

Our parish is growing. We had 40 new registrations in the past two week. 322 people volunteered to serve in ministries and of those 322, 62 were new volunteers. I want and need to keep up the momentum and continue to grow but with growth comes expenses. This year, even if we take in what we did last year and are conscientious about our expenses, I anticipate a **\$135,000 deficit**. In order to offset that deficit, I'm asking you to contribute to this year's Annual Appeal.

If you've contributed in the past, thank you! If you have not contributed, I'd ask you to consider contributing this year. Any amount is greatly appreciated. Let your ability and generosity be your guide.

You will receive a letter in the mail this week asking for your help. You can also contribute by visiting www.stthomasaquinas.com and clicking on the WeShare image. In addition, you may scan this QR code. Thank you again for your generosity.

- Fr. Devine



ANOINTING OF THE SICK

THIS SUNDAY, OCTOBER 5

1:30 PM



Every first Sunday of the month, we celebrate the Sacrament of the Sick here at St. Thomas Aquinas Church. Anointing of the Sick is not only a sacrament for those who are dying, but also for those who are facing a serious surgery, serious illness, or suffer from any other physical or emotional illnesses. If you have any questions, please consult Fr. Devine or Fr. Rodrigo.



THE BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS - THIS SUNDAY 1:30 PM

Saint Francis of Assisi, patron of all animals, we ask for your blessing on our pets today and to keep them safe from harm and sickness. Protect our pets who provide us daily companionship and joy. Heavenly Father, Creator of all creatures, big and small, wild and tame, allow us to show respect to all Your animals and be a true friend to our pets. Thank you for allowing our pets to enrich our lives with their friendship and loving ways. Amen.

RUMMAGE SALE THANK YOU!

The Thursday Group of the Rummage Sale team would like to send a huge thank you to all those volunteers who helped make our Rummage Sale a success. Also, a big thank you to the teenagers who volunteered on Wednesday, Thursday, and Saturday and set up tables, brought everything down from the 2nd floor, broke down all the tables on Saturday, and packed up all the leftovers. They worked very hard and we are so appreciative. Last but not least, thank you to all those who came to our rummage sale and supported us! We could not be successful without you! - Marianne Giovannoni, Coordinator

Faith Formation – Verso l’Alto – To the Heights!

Confirmation Parent Night featured guest speaker Jennessa Terraccino, who gave powerful insights on how to "reach the heights" of our faith. She held a trivia game of matching biblical characters to their mountaintop experience. These illustrate that God often reveals Himself when we step away from the noise and busyness of daily life. It can be difficult to make space for God in our lives. But, as Jennessa pointed out, we are only busy with things we want to do. The challenge isn't time, it's priorities. Faith must be one of them. It's easy to get caught up in the goals we set for our children such as academic success, sports, college admissions. A social media quote reminds us of a deeper truth: "It would be a tragedy if my child got into Harvard but not into heaven." Jennessa encouraged parents to help their children grow in small, virtuous ways that build a foundation for handling life's future challenges. She urged families to pray with and for their children, to spend time with Jesus in Adoration, intentionally seeking and nurturing their faith in the presence of Jesus. Ultimately, our efforts to climb higher with God are worth it, because we are worth it, and our children are worth it. - Debbie Hill, Director



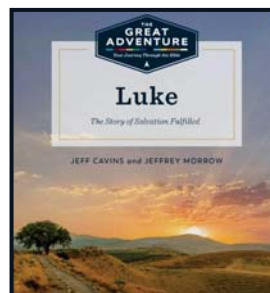
60 years
Saint Basil's
CATHOLIC CENTER
AT BRIDGEWATER STATE UNIVERSITY

Inviting all BSU Alumni

to a special Mass commemorating our 60th anniversary!

Sunday, October 19th - 12:30 PM

*Light reception to follow. Please confirm attendance
by emailing Fr. Rodrigo at frrodrigo@sta-parish.org.*



**DO YOU
WANT
TO LEARN
MORE
ABOUT THE
SCRIPTURES?**

*Seminarian Pat Earley will lead this beginner's
Video Bible Study exploring the Gospel of Luke.
This is for anyone who wants to learn
how to read and understand the Scriptures.
No experience necessary.*

**Tuesdays from 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM
in Classroom 1 at the Parish Center.**

**To register, please visit
www.stthomasaquinas.com.**



FATIMA ROSARY PROCESSION

MONDAY October 13th
7:30 PM

St. Thomas Aquinas Church

SPEAKER
Fr. Steven Restrepo, Parochial Vicar
St. Columbkille Parish, Brighton



St. Thomas Aquinas Youth Group Open Gym

THIS FRIDAY, OCTOBER 10
7:00 - 8:30 PM | GRADES 6-8
PARISH CENTER GYM

HALLOWEEN GLOW NIGHT
HALLOWEEN CANDY AND GLOW STICKS!
BASKETBALL • VOLLEYBALL
9-SQUARE • VIDEO GAMES





To register, visit
www.stthomasaquinas.com
or scan this QR Code!



INSPIRE

MISSION TRIP YOUTH GROUP

PIZZA . FUN . SERVICE

YOUTH ROOM SERVICE GYM TIME GAGA BALL!

OCT. 8 - WINE CELLAR PREP
NOV. 19 - HELP SET UP BAZAAR
DEC. 10 - FIELD TRIP

6:00 PM - 7:30 PM
PARISH CENTER

2026 CHWC MISSION TRIP
NORTH HALEDON, NJ
JULY 18 - 25, 2026



TO SIGN UP, VISIT WWW.STTHOMASAQUINAS.COM

QUESTIONS? CONTACT JEN ROSHER
AT JENROSHER@COMCAST.NET



Help the Bridgewater Police Department Recognize

NATIONAL FAITH & BLUE WEEKEND

In partnership with Saint Thomas Aquinas' Youth Group and My Brother's Keeper, the Bridgewater Police Department is inviting our community to join in our first "Stuff a Cruiser" event. **The BPD is asking for donations of new unwrapped toys, puzzles, games, books and clothing items for children and teens** to be placed inside a cruiser; hopefully overflowing it!!

All denominations are welcome!!

NEXT SATURDAY, OCT 11, 2025
9:00 AM - 1:00 PM

BRIDGEWATER POLICE DEPARTMENT
220 PLEASANT STREET
GARAGE/OUTBUILDING BEHIND STATION

Learn more at www.faithandblue.org.



COVERED DISH SUPPER

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 16
6:30 PM - PARISH CENTER

Please join the St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Women's Club as we begin our year on **Thursday, October 16 at 6:30 PM** in the Parish Center with our annual covered dish supper. We welcome all current and new members. Annual dues of \$20 can be paid here.

Bring your favorite dishes, appetizers, or desserts to share. Text or call Theresa Toppan at 508-245-0325 to let her know what you plan to bring. And, of course, bring your appetite!

THE MEN'S GROUP HAS RETURNED!

Every Wednesday at 7 PM

Parish Center - Classroom 2

The St. Thomas Aquinas Men's Group presents the new video series **Be A Man!** with Fr. Larry Richards. Join us!

ATTENTION! ST. BASIL'S PARKING NOTICE

If you are planning on attending Mass at St. Basil's Chapel on Sunday, October 19, please be advised that that is **Homecoming Weekend** at BSU (Oct. 17-19).

PARKING WILL BE EXTREMELY LIMITED.

DIRECTOR OF MINISTRIES AND PROGRAMS POSITION

We are still in the process of searching for a Director of Ministries and Programs. If you or someone you know may be interested, visit www.stthomasaquinas.com to review the job description and apply if you believe you could be a fit for this position. Thank you!

PART-TIME HOUSEKEEPER NEEDED!

We are currently looking for a PT Housecleaner for the Rectory and Parish Offices. This position has a flexible schedule, with approximately 3 - 5 hours per week. If you are interested, please contact Peter Vitagliano at 508-697-9528.

FINANCIAL BLESSINGS SECOND COLLECTIONS:

HOLY FATHER / APOSTOLIC WORKS
CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT

OCT. 4 - 5
OCT. 11 - 12

Collections Summary 9/22 - 9/29	St. Thomas	St. Basil	Total
Weekly Collection (In-Pew)	\$ 6,296	\$ 526	\$ 6,822
Mail-in / Drop-Off	\$ 462	\$ 0	\$ 462
Online (WeShare)	\$ 2,463	\$ 627	\$ 3,090
OFFERTORY TOTAL	\$ 9,221	\$ 1,153	\$ 10,374

AVERAGE WEEKLY EXPENSES FOR AUGUST = \$ 16,291

THIS WEEK'S SECOND COLLECTION will support the Holy Father's "Peter's Pence" collection that provides funds for **emergency and disaster relief**. This collection also provides support to The Catholic University of America (CUA) that educates priests, lay people for ministry, and will assist the **Inner-City Parishes** of the Archdiocese of Boston. Your generosity will assist the Holy Father as well as the various Apostolic works at home and abroad. Thank you!

2025 Christmas Bazaar Committee Planning

We're thrilled to bring back our beloved Christmas Bazaar, and we need YOU to make it magical! Thanks to everyone who signed up over the past weekends – your enthusiasm is contagious. No crafting skills required; just your wonderful energy and willingness to help create something special for our community.

Important Dates & Meetings (all meetings at the Parish Center)

Oct. 23, 6:00-8:00 PM - WREATH MAKING:

Get your hands a little piney and let's create beautiful decorations together!

Nov. 8, 10:00 AM - PRE-EVENT CHECK-IN:

Final preparations and last-minute coordination.

Nov. 22 - CHRISTMAS BAZAAR:

All hands on deck!

QUESTIONS OR CAN'T MAKE A MEETING?

Contact Lisa Statkiewicz at ljstatk@gmail.com or 508-345-1197.

*Can't wait to see you all
and create some
holiday magic together!
Let's make this year's
Bazaar unforgettable!*



VENMO

**@stthomasaquinas-bridgewater
OR SCAN THIS QR CODE!**



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Aquinas, Bridgewater, Massachusetts**



**to our YouTube Channel! Saint Thomas
Aquinas Church, Bridgewater, Massachusetts**

WEEKLY MASS SCHEDULE

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 4

9:00 a.m. Dorothy Brown
4:00 p.m. Claire and Linda Tousignant

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 5

St. Thomas 7:30 a.m.
9:00 a.m. Victor O'Leary and James Bertram
12:00 p.m. Deceased members of the Terpeny and Lavalley families
5:00 p.m.
St. Basil 10:30 a.m. Erin O'Malley

MONDAY, OCTOBER 6

9:00 a.m. Stella Wagner

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 7

9:00 a.m. Jose Coelho

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 8

9:00 a.m. Margaret Carr

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 9

9:00 a.m. Anne McCaw

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 10

9:00 a.m. Jimmy Ashe

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 11

9:00 a.m. Denny White
4:00 p.m. Patrice Genchauskas

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 12

St. Thomas 7:30 a.m. Ann Flannery - 4th Anniversary
9:00 a.m. Manuel Fernandes
12:00 p.m. Antonio and Tony Lima
5:00 p.m.
St. Basil 10:30 a.m. Deceased members of the Vicente family

SACRAMENTS

To receive information about the Sacraments, or to schedule an appointment with a priest, call the office at 508-697-9528.

BAPTISM

If you wish to have your child or yourself baptized, call the office. Baptisms are ordinarily celebrated monthly on the 2nd & 4th Sunday at 1:30 p.m., or during Mass. Dates subject to change.

MARRIAGE

If you wish to be married in our parish, call the parish office at least 8 months in advance. **Marriage Preparation instruction is required.**

ANOINTING OF THE SICK

If you or anyone you know would like to be anointed because of serious illness or surgery, anointings are held on the first Sunday of the month at 1:30 p.m., or you may contact the office to schedule a time.

CONFESSIONS - LOWER CHURCH

Saturdays: 9:45 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. and 12:00 - 1:00 p.m., or by appointment.

DEVOTIONS

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Saturdays 9:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m., Lower Church

DIVINE MERCY HOLY HOUR

Wednesdays 7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m., Lower Church

FIRST FRIDAY EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

1st Friday of the month: 9:30 a.m. - 6:00 p.m., Lower Church

FIRST SATURDAY DEVOTIONS

1st Saturday of the month: 10:30 a.m., Lower Church

PRAYER LIST

A Time to be Born...

Genevieve Cyr Emerson Silva

A Time to Die...

Robert Benvissuto Marietta Lopes
Barbara Henault Kathleen Sautter

A Time to Heal...

Carolyn Allen	Lucie Lovell
Kevin Balf	Juliet Magargal
Kathy Bennett	Mary
Pamela Bumpus	Riley McHardy
Sandra Cable	Charles Micalizzi
The Caldarola Family	JoAnn Micalizzi
Thomas Chiappini	Kathy Monahan
George Cowan	Maureen Mosher
Anthony DeSerpa	Chris O'Leary
Dave Dorrer	Ellen O'Leary
Kash Doughty	Peter O'Leary
Claire Easter	Thomas O'Leary
Joan Ward Fusco	John J. "Mickey" Pina
Brenda Gentili	Maria Presti
Patricia Giovanniello	Joseph Sarro
Barbara Gothage	Tony Scalfaro
Joanne Hamer	James Schneider
Caroline Hayes	Steven
Peter Hayes	Sarah Silvia
Tom Joyce	Deana Spingel
Jeanne Keane	Emily Stone
Regina Keane	Claire Sullivan
Carol Kelley	James "Leo" Tuite, Jr.
Judy Knight	Jason Zutaut
Stephen Knight	Nicole Zutaut
Julie Landry	

A Time for Peace...

SFC Kelly Berrier, USA
Warrant Officer 1 James Berrier, USA
CPL Connor Bresciani, USMC
LT David Campo, CHC, USN
SGT Joseph Cannistraro, USA
SRAMN Thomas J. Guzman, USAF
CAPT Jimmy Lysko, USMC
CAPT Jarod Mockus, USA
2nd LT Jimmy Peterson, USA
2Lt Brian Rosher, USA
GEN Eric M. Smith, USMC
PFC Harry Terpeny, USANG
STAFF SGT Nicholas Walsh, USA

Boston Marian CONFERENCE

JOIN THE FIVE STONES OF MARY FOUNDATION (501C3)

Boston Marriott Quincy Hotel

Nov. 1-2, 2025

FOR A WEEKEND THAT WILL ENRICH YOUR FAITH,
INSPIRE & FILL YOU WITH HOPE & HEALING

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Fr. Dan Reehil



Ivan Dragicevic



Immaculée
Ilibagiza



Fr. Leo
Patalinghug

and also...

Archbishop Richard G. Henning, Bishop Cristiano
Guilherme Borro Barbosa, Fr. Michael Grzesik, Magnus
MacFarlane-Barrow, Fr. Rick Martignetti,
Fr. Michael Della Penna, and Colleen Willard with
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- “I loved the talks, loved the healing services, loved it all!”

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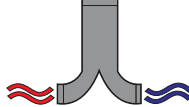
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