

ST. THOMAS AQUINAS PARISH

JANUARY 18, 2026



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.

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.

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

A Note from Fr. Devine...

Week of Christian Unity

Very often, the "Week of Christian Unity," January 18-25, gets ignored because of all the other celebrations and events on our parish calendar.

1,700 years ago, the division in the Christian Church was acknowledged and led to a common profession of faith, the Nicene Creed. For many years following, there was a unity of belief, however, in time and for different reasons, many left the Catholic Christian Church.

Today, there are 45,000 Christian denominations. One of the last things Jesus prayed for was unity.... "I pray not only for my disciples, but also for those who will believe in me through their word, so that they may all be one, as you, Father, are in me and I, in you... that they may be one as we are one. (Jn 51:64-22).

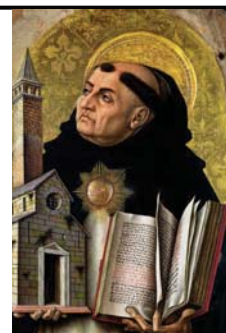
- Fr. Devine

The Graymoor Ecumenical and Interreligious Institute in Garrison, NY has published the following text about the Christian Week of Unity. The Graymoor Friars continue to serve at the Chapel of our Savior, Westgate Mall, Brockton.

The theme for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 2026 is taken from Ephesians 4:4, "There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling." These words of St. Paul see the unity of the community of believers as a vocation, a calling by the Holy Spirit. This requires conversion of heart, which is not possible without openness to reconciliation. This unity is linked to one hope and practiced in communal support, by embracing diversity while maintaining communion. This also means accepting the diversity of gifts exercised in ministry, the goal of which is building up unity for the whole. "And he gave some as apostles, others as prophets, others as evangelists, others as pastors and teachers, to equip the holy ones for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ" (4:11-12). This unity is guided by a mutual search for truth in a spirit of communal love. "Rather, living the truth in love, we should grow in every way into him who is the head, Christ, from whom the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, with the proper functioning of each part, brings about the body's growth and builds itself up in love." (4:15-16) It is in Ephesians 4 that Paul emphasizes the seven "unities" of the Church: Spirit, hope; one Lord, faith, and baptism; and the one God (4:4-6).

A Note from the Choir Loft...

As we approach the feast day of our patron saint on January 28th, we will honor St. Thomas Aquinas at all Masses NEXT weekend, Jan. 24-25, recognizing his important contributions to our liturgical music and celebrating him through our music selections. - Paul Hoffman, Music Director



HOLY HOUR FOR LIFE

THIS THURSDAY, JANUARY 22
4:00PM

SAINT BASIL CHAPEL

JOIN US FOR AN HOUR
OF ADORATION AS WE
COME TOGETHER WITH
THE ENTIRE NATION
TO PRAY DURING THE
NATIONAL RESPECT
FOR LIFE WEEK.



Step Away. Breathe Deep. *Begin Again.*

Life moves fast—emails, meetings, family, noise. When was the last time you gave yourself **space to rest and listen?**

Gonzaga Eastern Point Retreat House (a ministry of the Society of Jesus) invites you to a 3-Day Guided Silent Retreat—a gentle introduction to Ignatian spirituality and contemplative prayer, **designed for those who can't take a full week away but long for the peace of stillness. No experience is necessary!**

During this weekend, you'll enjoy:

- **Unhurried time** for rest, prayer, & reflection
- Daily meetings with a **spiritual director**
- Guidance in **contemplative prayer**
- Quiet moments along our **gorgeous Atlantic shore**
- **Daily Mass** and the Sacrament of Reconciliation are offered

Leave with a renewed sense of clarity, peace, and connection with God—and a glimpse of what a longer retreat can offer.

UPCOMING 2026 RETREATS
March 5-8 • May 28-31 • August 20-23

Learn more and
register using the
QR code or at
easternpoint.org



ST. VALENTINE'S DINNER DANCE

Saturday, February 14th
5:00 PM - 9:00 PM
Parish Center Gym

**A great night for friends or couples
to share a catered meal, dance,
and celebrate love and life!**



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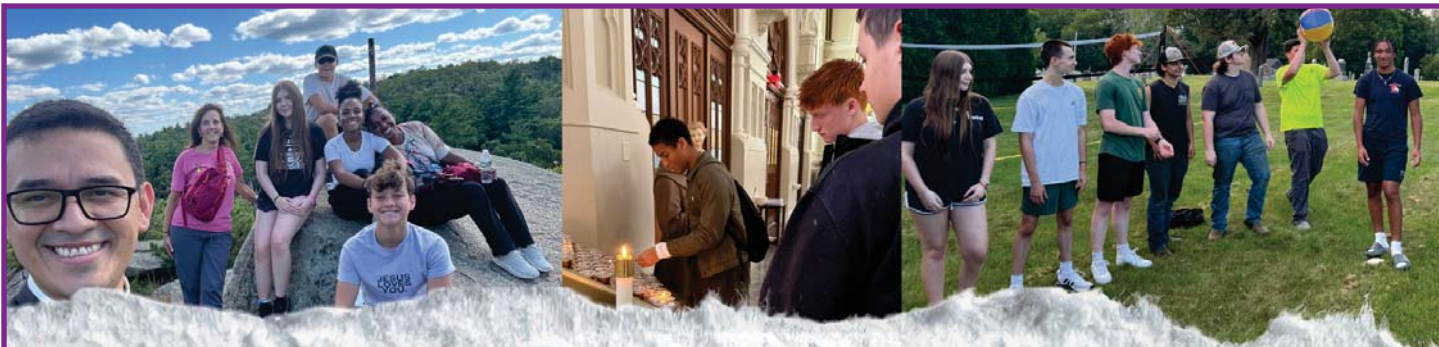


\$10 / student \$20 / individual

Free babysitting will be available!

DONATIONS NEEDED FOR FR. BILL'S / MAINSPRING HOUSE

The Knights of Columbus is requesting **NEW** winter clothing and toiletries for Father Bill's/ Mainspring House, Brockton. They are requesting winter hats, gloves, sweatshirts and toiletries, including toothbrushes, toothpaste, soap, deodorant, and shampoo. Any donations you bring will be greatly appreciated by those in need. Bins will be available at entrances of the church and chapel the weekends of January 24 and January 31. We thank you in advance for your generosity. - Yours in Charity, Grand Knight, Michael Craffey



STEP UP is our post-Confirmation youth group for 9th - 12th graders

who want to grow, connect, and have fun, while deepening their relationship with God. We meet every other week and bring faith to life through teen Bible study, prayer, service, and unforgettable experiences. It all began last summer with a post-Confirmation hangout that included volleyball, pizza, and s'mores around the fire. From that spark, a close-knit small group was formed, and we've been stepping up ever since! Our small-group model creates a welcoming space for teens to build friendships, pray together, and serve alongside peers who share their values. We've hiked the Blue Hills and celebrated Mass at the summit, and made a Jubilee Year of Hope pilgrimage, which included a trip to the Holy Cross Cathedral in Boston, Smashburgers, and adoration at the St. Francis Chapel in the Prudential Mall. Faith, fellowship, and fun. All in one journey.

Join us for our next adventures!

Monday, January 19: Movie Night: *David*

Tuesday, January 27: Teen Bible Study

**For more information, contact Fr. Rodrigo
at frrodrigo@sta-parish.org or Debbie Hill
at dhill@sta-parish.org.**



PROJECT RACHEL POST-ABORTION HEALING RETREATS

Are you – or someone you know – seeking peace after an abortion?

The Project Rachel ministry of the Archdiocese of Boston extends a special invitation to women experiencing regret from a past abortion to attend a Come to the Waters of Healing one-day retreat. Upcoming dates are Saturday, February 28 (Greater Boston), Saturday, April 11 (Merrimack Valley), and Saturday, May 16 (Boston/South). Locations are confidential. For more information on the retreats or other services, contact Project Rachel at 508.651.3100 or help@projectrachelboston.com.

RUMMAGE SALE DONATIONS

The Women's Club is accepting donations on Thursdays from 9:00 AM - 10:30 AM at the Parish Center for the next Rummage Sale. They accept clean clothing, shoes, pocketbooks, jewelry, glassware, dishes and household goods in good condition. No VCR or DVDs; only small electrics and **no furniture**. Please do not leave anything outside. Thank you!

CHRISTMAS FLOWER DONATIONS

We received more Christmas flower donations after the last bulletin was printed. We will remember and pray for the deceased members of the Chiocca, Clark, Dowling, and Mahoney families, in whose memory flower donations were made.



ANNUAL APPEAL UPDATE

\$ 204,384

\$ 200,000

\$ 190,000

\$ 180,000

\$ 170,000

\$ 160,000

\$ 150,000

\$ 140,000

\$ 130,000

\$ 120,000

\$ 110,000

\$ 100,000

\$ 90,000

\$ 80,000

\$ 70,000

\$ 60,000

\$ 50,000

\$ 40,000

\$ 30,000

\$ 20,000

\$ 10,000

Our Annual Appeal is beginning to wind down, however It's not too late to donate! For all who have given to the Annual Appeal...**THANK YOU!** If you have not yet made a contribution and would like to help support our parish and ministries we ask you to consider making a donation in the upcoming weeks.

There are several ways for you to contribute:

1. Via WeShare, on our website at www.stthomasaquinas.com,

2. Send or bring your donation to the parish office (pledge cards are at church/chapel entrances)

3. Scan this QR Code

- OR -

4. Venmo:

@stthomasaquinas-bridgewater.



STATISTICS AS OF JANUARY 5, 2026

Total registered families:	2772
Total \$ received to date:	\$ 204,384
# of families that have donated:	414
% of families that have donated:	14.9%
# of families that have increased their donation over last year:	209
# of New Donors this year:	37
# of WeShare Donors:	83
Average \$ Per Donor:	\$494

HOUSEKEEPER NEEDED!

We are looking for a **part-time Housecleaner** for the Rectory and Parish Offices. This position has a flexible schedule, with approximately 3 - 5 hours per week. Interested? Contact Peter at 508-697-9528.

THE PARISH OFFICES WILL BE CLOSED MONDAY, JANUARY 18, IN OBSERVANCE OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY.

ARCHDIOCESE CATHOLIC APPEAL

In the coming week, if you have not already, you will be receiving a letter from the Archdiocese of Boston asking for your support for the **Archdiocese's Catholic Appeal**. This is different from our Annual Appeal. Our Annual Appeal funds stay within our parish. The Archdiocese's Catholic Appeal funds support the Archdiocese's many ministries and services, which benefit ALL parishes in the Archdiocese. We thank you for your generosity in both of these collections.

FINANCIAL BLESSINGS

SECOND COLLECTIONS:

NO SECOND COLLECTION
CHURCH IN LATIN AMERICA

JAN. 17 - 18
JAN. 24 - 25

Collections Summary 1/4 - 1/11	St. Thomas	St. Basil	Total
Weekly Collection (In-Pew)	\$ 6,901	\$ 418	\$ 7,319
Mail-in / Drop-Off	\$ 589	\$ 0	\$ 589
Online (WeShare)	\$ 2,258	\$ 673	\$ 2,931
OFFERTORY TOTAL	\$ 9,748	\$ 1,091	\$ 10,839

AVERAGE WEEKLY EXPENSES FOR DEC. = \$ 24,839



venmo

GREAT NEWS!

WE ACCEPT VENMO!

Venmo may be used for the **ANNUAL APPEAL, WEEKLY OFFERTORY, and ANY OTHER DONATIONS!** If you are using Venmo, please indicate on your donation what it is for so we may allocate it properly.

Look for us at : @stthomasaquinas-bridgewater, or scan the QR Code. Thank you! - Peter Vitagliano, Finance/Operations Officer



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to our YouTube Channel!

Saint Thomas Aquinas Church,
Bridgewater, Massachusetts

You Tube



Follow us on Facebook! Saint Thomas Aquinas, Bridgewater, Massachusetts

WEEKLY MASS SCHEDULE

SATURDAY, JANUARY 17

9:00 a.m. Antonio Rebelo
4:00 p.m. Jaime Braga and Maria da Luz

SUNDAY, JANUARY 18

St. Thomas

7:30 a.m.
9:00 a.m. Donna Patton
12:00 p.m. Rodolfo and Betina Famularo
5:00 p.m.

St. Basil

10:30 a.m. Antonio Almada

MONDAY, JANUARY 19

9:00 a.m. Alfred and Irene Bosquet

TUESDAY, JANUARY 20

9:00 a.m. Richard Sergi

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 21

9:00 a.m. Rose Woronicz - 7th Anniversary

THURSDAY, JANUARY 22

9:00 a.m. Maria Nazareth Borges and Manuel Medeiros

FRIDAY, JANUARY 23

9:00 a.m. Carlos Alberto Baganha

SATURDAY, JANUARY 24

9:00 a.m. Abel Rebelo (living)
4:00 p.m. Raffella Moscato

SUNDAY, JANUARY 25

St. Thomas

7:30 a.m.
9:00 a.m. Kathleen Kyer
12:00 p.m. Christopher McCallum - 7th Anniversary
5:00 p.m. David McCormack

St. Basil

10:30 a.m.

SACRAMENTS

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

BAPTISM

Baptisms are ordinarily celebrated monthly on the 2nd & 4th Sunday at 1:30 p.m., or during Mass. (Dates subject to change.) Baptisms are only scheduled following a meeting with one of our priests. Call the office at 508-697-9528 **one month in advance.**

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 - 10:30 a.m. and 12:00 - 1:00 p.m. or by appointment.

January 18 ~ Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

In our gospel, John the Baptist gives testimony about witnessing Jesus' baptism. John was clear that God's will for him was to point to Christ and proclaim that Jesus is the Son of God. Our faith and Sacred Scripture confirm the truth that Jesus is the Son of God. God's will for each one of us **is to speak the name of Jesus and tell of His work in our lives. That is our calling and that is what being a disciple involves. Ask for the courage to see when and how you can testify - talk about - Jesus.**

PRAYER LIST

As we do every January, we removed names from the prayer list. If you would like to have a name remain on the prayer list, contact Tina in the office at 508-697-9528 or tlarson@sta-parish.org.

A Time to Die...

Barbara Gothage	Domenica Munafo
John Gomes	Maria Presti

A Time to Heal...

Kathy Bennett	Riley McHardy
Anthony DeSerpa	Charles Micalizzi
Lourdes DeSerpa	JoAnn Micalizzi
Marcus DiSalvo	Kathy Monahan
Stephanie DiSalvo	Chris O'Leary
Matteo Disalvo	Ellen O'Leary
Antonio Fernandes	Peter O'Leary
Joan Ward Fusco	Sean O'Leary
Joseph Inacio	Thomas O'Leary
Rosa Inacio	Joanne Robicheau
Tom Joyce	Ruth Sandler
Carol Kelley	James Schneider
Julie Landry	Deana Spingel
Lucie Lovell	Jamison Spingel

A Time for Peace...

SFC Kelly Berrier, USA
Warrant Officer 1 James Berrier, USA
SRAMN Thomas J. Guzman, USAF
A1C Timothy O'Leary, USAF
2nd LT Jimmy Peterson, USA

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

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