

ST. THOMAS AQUINAS PARISH

JANUARY 25, 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.

CONFESION

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

THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD CANDLEMAS AND PROCESSION

The feast of the Presentation of the Lord has traditionally marked the end of the 40 days of the Christmas season. **On Monday, February 2nd, at the 9:00 AM Mass, we will be having the blessing of candles and a short procession. Bring your candles to be blessed!**

BLESSING OF THE THROATS - FEAST OF ST. BLAISE

AFTER ALL MASSES NEXT WEEKEND and after the 9:00 AM daily Mass on Tuesday, Feb. 3, you will have the opportunity to have your throat blessed. This traditional devotion occurs every year, around the feast of Saint Blaise, a Bishop and Martyr in the 3rd - 4th centuries who was credited with saving a person who was choking.



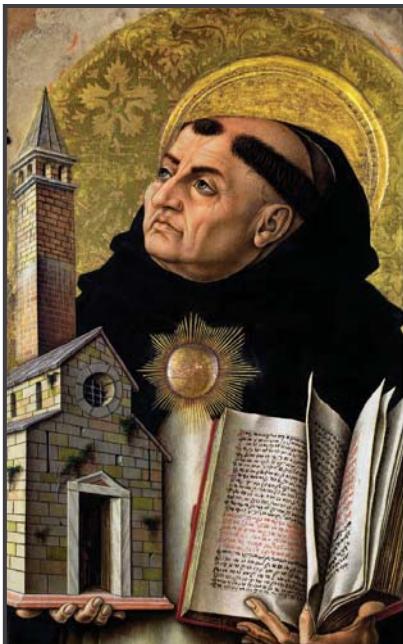
Welcome to the first edition of the *Evangelization Corner* produced by members of the *Evangelization Ministry*. Our hope is that these monthly articles comprised of inspirational quotes, reflections, Scriptures, and cited resources will aid you as you share your faith in God with others. Evangelization takes on many forms - direct preaching, faith sharing through conversation and good deeds, active prayer, church social events, and acts of charity.

As a parish, our Mission Statement drives us; it is at the heart of all we do. Evangelization is now and has always been a fundamental part of that mission, as evidenced by our many ministries and activities that create the welcoming community of believers we strive to be.

This year, we formed an Evangelization Ministry to aid in this parish-wide effort to bring Christ to others. Our team has published an outreach brochure, participated in community events, provided literature and prayer cards for parish activities, and staffed new registration tables. Recently, we were encouraged when a parishioner donated Matthew Kelly's book, *The Seven Pillars of Catholic Spirituality* to those attending Christmas Mass.

As our parish family continues to grow, we invite you to join us in this commitment to evangelization. With the understanding that each of us plays a unique and vital role in witnessing to Christ, our aim is to encourage you as you live your faith boldly and with great joy in the Lord!

“Evangelization, dear brothers and sisters, is not our attempt to conquer the world but the infinite grace that radiates from lives transformed by the kingdom of God.” (Pope Leo XIV, Vigil of Pentecost)
 - Jane Centrella and Anita Rodriguez, Co-Chairs



FEAST OF ST. THOMAS AQUINAS

JANUARY 28, 2026

This weekend, we celebrate the feast day of our parish's namesake, Saint Thomas Aquinas, recognized on January 28. Born in Sicily in 1225, St. Thomas became a Dominican priest against his family's wishes. He studied in Cologne, France, under St. Albert the Great and is considered the patron saint of students and universities due to his numerous scholarly theological writings. St. Thomas also composed the text to five hymns still in use today. Eucharistic in nature, these hymns were inspired by a miracle St. Thomas witnessed in which a consecrated host shed blood. When Pope Urban IV instituted the feast of Corpus Christi in 1264 in response to this miracle, he commissioned St Thomas Aquinas to compose these hymns. These are *Adoro Te Devote* (370), *Pange Lingua* (page 103), *Panis Angelicus* (373), *Tantum Ergo Sacramentum* (page 103), and *O Salutaris Hostia* (677). In honor of St. Thomas, we will incorporate some of his hymns at Mass this weekend. Translations of his poetry can be found in the *Breaking Bread* missal (see the numbers presented above).

JANUARY 31 MASS, ADORATION, AND CONFESSIONS

Archbishop Henning has requested a meeting on Saturday, Jan. 31 from 8:30 AM - 12:00 PM in Quincy for all pastors and parish councils. Because of that, we need to cancel the 9:00 AM Mass, Adoration and both Confession times.



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 adventure!

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.**



CEMETERY UPDATE

We will be starting our clean-up for spring, removing Christmas decorations and dead and broken planters from around graves. We will also be removing damaged and torn flags so that we can replace them as we get closer to Memorial Day. Cleaning around individual graves is very helpful, and allows us to move more quickly to complete our clean-up, so any help is always appreciated! We will begin removing all Christmas decorations on Monday, February 9th. If you want to save any decorations, please take them prior to that date. Thank you and God bless!

- Peter Vitagliano, Finance/Operations Officer

CALLING ALL SENIORS! SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITY

The Catholic Women's Club of St. Thomas Aquinas will be awarding two \$2,000 scholarships for qualifying high school seniors. Homeschooled seniors are also eligible to apply. Applicants must be active parishioners of St. Thomas Aquinas Church and/or St. Basil's Chapel. Applications have been sent to various high schools and also can be obtained at the parish office. The application deadline is April 10th. **Any questions?** Please contact Helen Cleary, Chairperson, at 774-222-0483.



HAS A LOVED ONE DIED RECENTLY?

The Saint Thomas Aquinas Bereavement Ministry is pleased to announce that our next series of support meetings will begin on

**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 25TH
AT 6:30 P.M. IN THE PARISH CENTER.**

This session runs for 9 weeks. All those grieving the loss of a loved one are encouraged to join. **ADVANCE REGISTRATION requested.** To register, call Roberta at 508-697-4184 or Ginni at 508-697-7649.

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 are available at entrances of the church and chapel this weekend and next weekend.** We thank you in advance for your generosity. - Yours in Charity, Grand Knight, Michael Craffey

FAITH FORMATION: SAVE THE DATES!

Grades 1-7

- Grades 1-7 working on Session 17.
- January 31 & February 7 - First Reconciliation
- February in-person dates: Feb. 2,3,4 and Feb. 23,24,25

Confirmation

- January 25 – Sponsor and Saint forms due!
- February 1 – Class
- February 22 – Sponsor Night

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!***



**TO PURCHASE
TICKETS, SCAN THIS
QR CODE, STOP IN
THE PARISH OFFICE,
OR VISIT OUR WEBSITE!**



\$ 20 / individual \$ 10 / student

Free babysitting will be available!

ANNUAL APPEAL UPDATE

Our Annual Appeal is winding 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! **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.](https://venmo.com/stthomasaquinas-bridgewater)

STATISTICS AS OF JAN. 19, 2024

Total registered families:	2772
Total \$ received to date:	\$ 205,874
# of families that have donated:	417
% of families that have donated:	15
# of families that have increased their donation over last year:	211
# of New Donors this year:	38
# of WeShare Donors:	86
Average \$ Per Donor:	491



GREAT NEWS!

WE ACCEPT VENMO!

Find us at:

[@stthomasaquinas-bridgewater](https://venmo.com/stthomasaquinas-bridgewater)
or scan this QR Code.



ARCHDIOCESE CATHOLIC APPEAL

You may have received 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:

CHURCH IN LATIN AMERICA	JAN. 24 - 25
NO SECOND COLLECTION	JAN. 31 - FEB. 1

Collections Summary 1/12 - 1/18	St. Thomas	St. Basil	Total
Weekly Collection (In-Pew)	\$ 6,584	\$ 378	\$ 6,962
Mail-in / Drop-Off	\$ 316	\$ 0	\$ 316
Online (WeShare)	\$ 2,764	\$ 604	\$ 3,368
OFFERTORY TOTAL	\$ 9,664	\$ 982	\$ 10,646

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

SECOND COLLECTION THIS WEEKEND

This week's second collection supports various pastoral projects throughout Latin America and the Caribbean. The Collection for the Church in Latin America funds the work of evangelization, formation of laity, religious and seminarians, as well as youth ministry and catechesis. Please visit www.usccb.org/catholicgiving/opportunities-for-giving/latinamerica/index.cfm for more information.

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.



to our YouTube Channel!

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Bridgewater, Massachusetts



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WEEKLY MASS SCHEDULE

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.

MONDAY, JANUARY 26

9:00 a.m. Florence Murphy

TUESDAY, JANUARY 27

9:00 a.m. Cal O'Malley (living)

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 28

9:00 a.m. Dorothy Brown

THURSDAY, JANUARY 29

9:00 a.m. James Brown

FRIDAY, JANUARY 30

9:00 a.m. Joseph Brown

SATURDAY, JANUARY 31

9:00 a.m. NO MASS
4:00 p.m. Guido and Antonio Rea

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 1

St. Thomas

7:30 a.m.
9:00 a.m. Antonio Almada
12:00 p.m. Joseph and Christine Amaral
5:00 p.m.

St. Basil

10:30 a.m.

SACRAMENTS

To receive information about the Sacraments or to schedule a meeting with a priest, 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. Please call the office at 508-697-9528 **one month in advance**.

MARRIAGE

To be married in our parish, call the office at least 8 months in advance. **Marriage Preparation instruction 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.

CONFESIONS - LOWER CHURCH

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



ANOINTING OF THE SICK

NEXT SUNDAY, FEB. 1

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.

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 at 508-697-9528 or tlarson@sta-parish.org.

A Time to Die...

Elizabeth Cadigan	John Gomes
Maria Batista	Domenica Munafò
Barbara Gothage	Maria Presti

A Time to Heal...

Kathy Bennett	Charles Micalizzi
Anthony DeSpera	JoAnn Micalizzi
Lourdes DeSpera	Elisabeth Mikush
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
Patricia Giovanniello	Thomas O'Leary
Joseph Inacio	Jack Phaneuf
Rosa Inacio	Joanne Robicheau
Margaret Joyce	Ruth Sandler
Tom Joyce	James Schneider
Carol Kelley	Deana Spingel
Julie Landry	Jamison Spingel
Lucie Lovell	Emily Stone
Riley McHardy	

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
2nd LT Brian Rosher Jr., USA
GEN Eric Smith, USMC

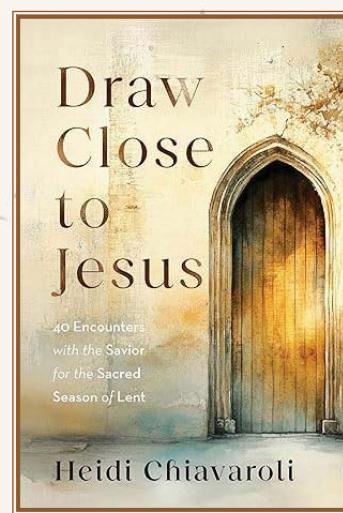
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"Jesus Wept." John 11:35

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