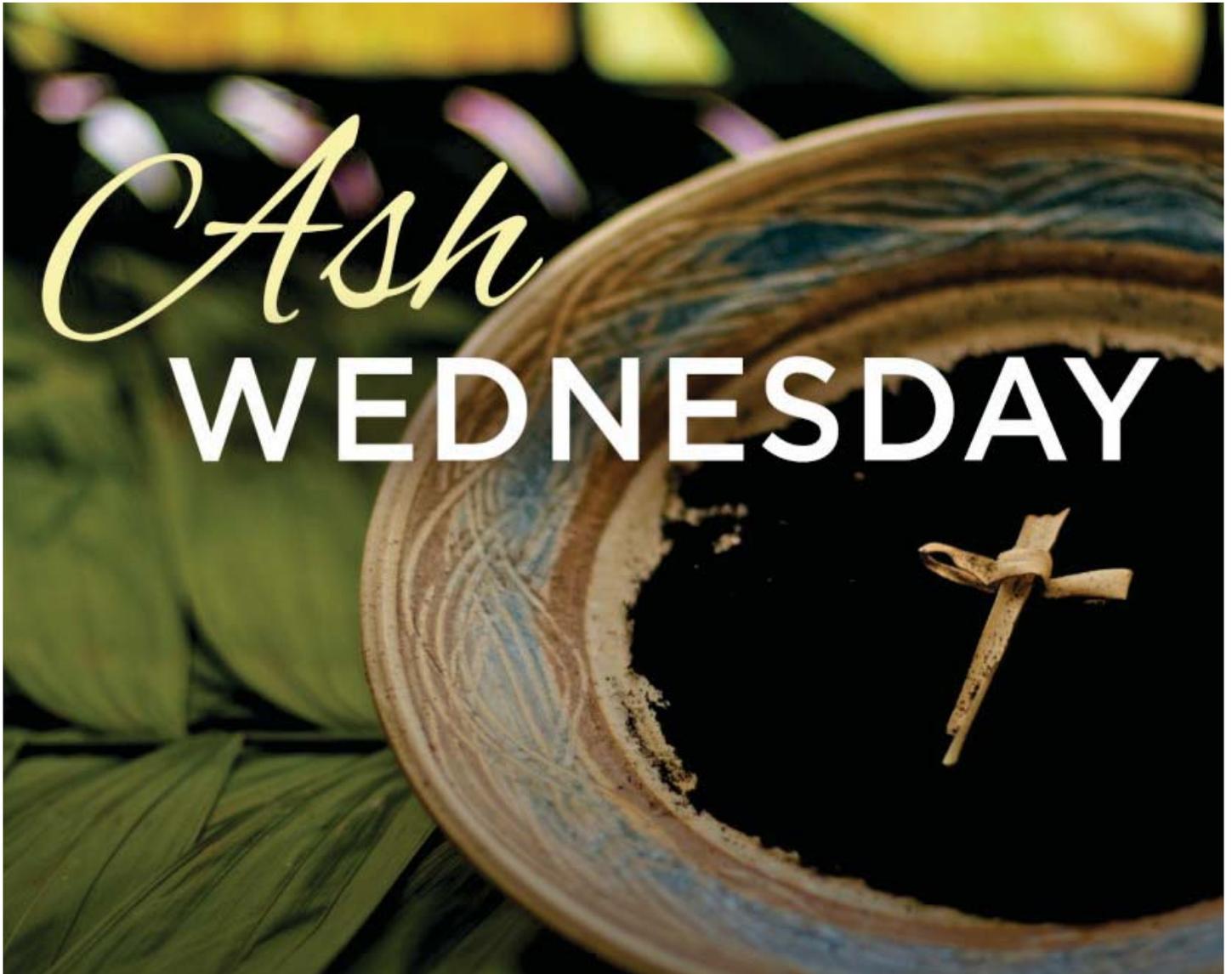


ST. THOMAS AQUINAS PARISH

FEBRUARY 15, 2026



Ash WEDNESDAY

WELCOME

To visitors of our Parish, those who have recently moved into the area, and 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
 tl Larson@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

Thank you and Hallow...

I would like to thank the members of our local Knights of Columbus Council for funding our parish's page on the Hallow app. The Hallow app provides Catholic information for all ages and stages of faith. Because of the Knights' generosity, our parish page on Hallow now provides free access to many of the engaging, informative, challenging and spiritual resources. We will continue to add resources in the upcoming months. Since we first announced Hallow App last weekend, we have over 100 persons who have already signed on!!!! For access to Hallow, please see the information below.

In addition to funding the Hallow app, you will see the Knights, with their blue shirts, collecting clothes for the homeless, ushering at Mass and serving at our social functions. The Knights is fraternal organization that encourages other Catholic men to join them in service to the Church and God's people. - Fr. Devine

Hallow is here!

Hallow is a **Catholic app** with a huge variety of resources to engage you with your faith and share that engagement with our parish community if you so choose.

Hallow offers daily prayers, daily readings, Lenten challenges, audio-guided meditation, mental health content, sacred music, and more!

We invite you to download the **Hallow app** and **join our parish page**. Due to safe environment reasons put in place by the USCCB to protect minors, Hallow is only available for those 18 years old and older to download. Parents may participate in the Kid's Lenten Challenge with their children.

To download Hallow, follow these steps:

1. Download or open the Hallow app on your phone and create a free account.
2. Join the parish page.
 - Tap "Community" on the menu at the bottom of your screen.
 - Select "Join a Church."
 - Search for Saint Thomas Aquinas, Bridgewater.
 - Join the parish page.

3. Participate in the 40-day Lenten Challenge on our page!!

We have added several pieces of premium content to our parish page so be sure to check it out!

If you experience any difficulties when setting this up, please contact the parish office. A representative from the Hallow team will be here in April to speak more about Hallow.

Hallow information cards are available at the entrances of the church and chapel. Please take one on your way out of Mass.



ASH WEDNESDAY - FEBRUARY 18th

ASHES WILL BE DISTRIBUTED DURING MASS.

St. Thomas Aquinas Upper Church

7:00 a.m. | 9:00 a.m. | **4:00 p.m.** | **6:00 p.m.**

(note additional Mass time and Mass time change in red)

St. Basil's Chapel

12:15 p.m. (Parking will be allowed on Park Ave. for this Mass.)

NEW! 1:15 - 3:30 p.m. - Adoration and Confession at St. Basil's



STATIONS OF THE CROSS / SIMPLE SUPPERS

Every **Friday** during Lent at **6:30 p.m.** - St. Thomas Aquinas Upper Church

Lenten Simple Suppers are held in the lower church following Stations of the Cross.

CONFESSIONS

Confessions are held every Saturday in the Lower Church from 9:45 - 10:30 a.m. and 12:00 - 1:00 p.m., or by appointment.

FREE LENTEN DEVOTIONALS

It's hard to believe that Lent begins this week! This week's bulletin has a number of Lenten messages, reflections, and schedules. In addition to **fasting** and **abstinence**, we encourage you to make this a time of **renewal**. **This year's devotional, Not by Bread Alone, are available at the entrances of the church and chapel BEGINNING THIS WEEKEND.** These devotionals provide a simple daily Lenten reflection, story and prayer. There are also articles on spirituality and Lenten practices. **Please take one and keep it nearby so that it can be used every day.**

HALLOW LENTEN CHALLENGE

Join our parish page on the Hallow app (see instructions in the Hallow article in this bulletin), and participate along with your parish family in the 40-day Lenten Challenge!

LENTEN CALENDARS

The **United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB)** has created a Lenten calendar for you to use with your family as you go through your Lenten journey. They are available at the entrances of the church and chapel. Lent is a 40-day season of **prayer, fasting, and almsgiving** that begins on Ash Wednesday and ends at sundown on Holy Thursday.

ASH WEDNESDAY SPECIAL COLLECTION

This Ash Wednesday, a special collection will be taken up for Catholic Charities of Boston. Catholic Charities works to serve more than 200,000 families and individuals throughout the Archdiocese annually and help put them on a path to self-sustainability. Programs including food and utility assistance, adult education, temporary and transitional housing, at-risk youth development, child care, and refugee and immigration services provides support to individuals for their most basic needs while charting a path to a living wage. On behalf of those we serve, thank you in advance for your generosity. For more information, visit www.ccab.org.

FASTING AND ABSTINENCE

This coming Wednesday, Ash Wednesday (February 18) and Good Friday are days of fast and abstinence. **Fridays of Lent** are also days of abstinence. **FASTING** is to be observed by all 18 years of age and older, who have not yet celebrated their 59th birthday. On a fast day, one full meal is allowed. Two other meals, sufficient to maintain strength, may be taken according to each one's needs, but together they should not equal another full meal. Eating between meals is not permitted, but liquids, including milk and juices, are allowed. **ABSTINENCE** is observed by all 14 years of age and older. On days of abstinence, no meat is allowed. Note that when health or ability to work would be seriously affected, the law does not oblige. When in doubt concerning fast and abstinence, please consult Fr. Devine or Fr. Rodrigo.

PARISH LENTEN MISSION

March 23, 24 and 25

Msgr. Paul Garrity

Schedule coming soon!



SAVE
THE
DATE!

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FAITH FORMATION UPDATE

First Reconciliation Over the past two weekends, Grade 2 students and parents received the Sacrament of Reconciliation (see pictures to the right). One of our visiting priests, Fr. Anthony Medeiros, shared a story from his childhood about getting lost. He had to find his way home. Sometimes we become lost in our spiritual lives and need help finding our way back to Jesus. In Reconciliation, He is always there for us, ready to offer mercy and healing through His priests. Thank you to our volunteers for giving their time: Alison Burns, Nancy Chiappini, Jean Monti, Anne Moukalled, and Theresa Toppan.

Confirmation

Students were asked to complete a Mass survey. The results were very encouraging! When asked if they found Mass boring, most replied, "no." A few said "yes" and said it was because they were too lazy to be engaged, couldn't pay attention, or didn't understand. In their descriptions, they used the words miracle, celebration, thanksgiving, worship, relationship, learn, and community. Students appreciate the peace and quiet of the Mass. One student described it as, "a light leading you through dark or hard times." Another said it was a "holy obligation where people of all backgrounds come together to worship God." Still another said, "Mass is the most beautiful thing on earth." - *Debbie Hill, Director*

Save these Dates!

Grades 1-7

Gr. 1-7 – catch-up week! No session.

February in-person dates: February 23,24,25

March in-person dates: March 9,10,11 & 23,24,25

Confirmation

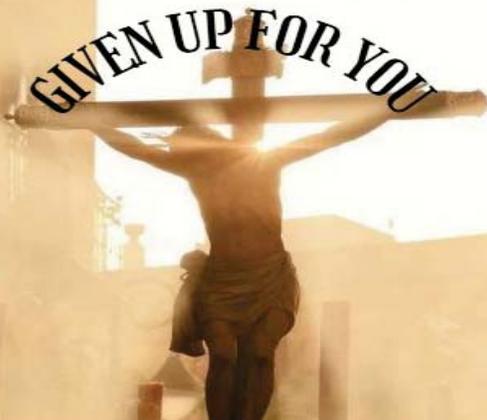
Saturday, March 7 – All day retreat

March in-person dates: March 1, 15, 29



JOIN US!!

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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 **February 28** (Greater Boston), **April 11** (Merrimack Valley), and **May 16** (Boston/South). Locations are confidential. For more information on the retreats or services, contact Project Rachel at help@projectrachelboston.com or 508.651.3100.

THE PARISH OFFICES WILL BE CLOSED ON MONDAY, FEBRUARY 16, IN OBSERVANCE OF PRESIDENTS' DAY.

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

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

 **WE ACCEPT VENMO!**
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YOUTH CHOIR RETURNS!

New members welcome! Come join the group as we prepare music for the season of Lent and Easter Sunday to sing at the 9:00 AM Mass. **Rehearsals will resume on February 23 and are held on Mondays at 4:15 pm in the church choir loft.** Please contact Paul Hoffman for more information at phoffman@sta-parish.org.



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, FEB. 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.

NATIONAL MARRIAGE WEEK

In recognition of National Marriage Week, we invite all married couples to renew their marriage vows during Mass **THIS WEEKEND, February 14th and 15th.** In addition, in celebration of National Marriage Week, visit www.foryourmarriage.org for marriage resources & activities.



SCOUT SUNDAY

THIS Sunday, Feb. 15th, Bridgewater Scouts will be celebrating at the **10:30 a.m. Mass at St. Basil's Chapel.** Catholic Scout Awards will be presented following Mass.

FINANCIAL BLESSINGS

SECOND COLLECTIONS:

- NO SECOND COLLECTION FEB. 14 - FEB. 15
- CATHOLIC CHARITIES (ASH WEDNESDAY) FEB. 18
- SUPPORT OF CHURCH AROUND THE WORLD FEB. 21 - FEB. 22

Collections Summary 2/2 - 2/8	St. Thomas / St. Basil
Weekly Collection (In-Pew)	\$ 5,989
Mail-in / Drop-Off	\$ 370
Online (WeShare)	\$ 3,252
OFFERTORY TOTAL	\$ 9,611

AVERAGE WEEKLY EXPENSES FOR JAN. = \$ 21,144

WEEKLY MASS SCHEDULE

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 14

9:00 a.m. Marilia Rebelo
4:00 p.m. Don Swarce - 1st Anniversary

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 15

St. Thomas

7:30 a.m.
9:00 a.m. Irene Bevacqua
12:00 p.m. Raffella Moscato and Jovanna Melograno
5:00 p.m.

St. Basil

10:30 a.m. Scout Sunday

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 16

9:00 a.m.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 17

9:00 a.m. Rosa Nogueira (living)

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 18

ASH WEDNESDAY 7 AM, 9 AM, 12:15 PM, 4 PM, 6 PM

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 19

9:00 a.m. Evangelina and Jose deSousa

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 20

9:00 a.m. Carlos Alberto Baganha

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 21

9:00 a.m. Susana Resendes
4:00 p.m. Tracy and Charles Hathaway

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 22

St. Thomas

7:30 a.m.
9:00 a.m. Yvonne Grondin
12:00 p.m. Elena Rea
5:00 p.m.

St. Basil

10:30 a.m. Jonathan Kelly - 10th Anniversary

SACRAMENTS

To receive information about the Sacraments or to schedule an 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.

CONFESSIONS - LOWER CHURCH

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

PRAYER LIST

A Time to be Born...

Nora Wallace

A Time to Die...

Margaret "Peg" Joyce Joan Shurtleff

A Time to Heal...

Carolyn Allen	Riley McHardy
Kathy Bennett	Charles Micalizzi
Jean-Marie Boustani	JoAnn Micalizzi
Carole Brunke	Elisabeth Mikush
Mimi Conklin	Kathy Monahan
Anthony DeSerpa	Chris O'Leary
Lourdes DeSerpa	Ellen O'Leary
Marcus DiSalvo	Peter O'Leary
Stephanie DiSalvo	Sean O'Leary
Matteo Disalvo	Thomas O'Leary
Antonio Fernandes	Jack Phaneuf
Evan Frye	Lane Poche
Joan Ward Fusco	Jerry Putney
Brenda Gentili	Joanne Robicheau
Patricia Giovanniello	Baby Carson Rosen
Thomas Groh	Diane Russell
Joseph Inacio	Ruth Sandler
Rosa Inacio	James Schneider
Tom Joyce	Deana Spingel
Carol Kelley	Jamison Spingel
Julie Landry	Emily Stone
Lucie Lovell	

A Time for Peace...

SFC Kelly Berrier, USA
Warrant Officer 1 James Berrier, USA
SGT Joseph Cannistraro, USA
SRAMN Thomas J. Guzman, USAF
CAPT Jimmy Lysko, USMC
LTJG Theresa Lysko, USN
A1C Timothy O'Leary, USAF
2nd LT Jimmy Peterson, USA
2nd LT Brian Rosher Jr., USA
GEN Eric Smith, USMC

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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