

ST. THOMAS AQUINAS PARISH

MARCH 29, 2026



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

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Paul Hoffman, Music Director
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Faith Formation Office Staff

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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

PARISH LENTEN MISSION

There was a great turnout for this past week's Lenten Mission. Msgr. Garrity's presentations were personal, informative, challenging, and affirming of God's love. Each night, as part of his presentation, he distributed a specific item that would capture the essence of his talk. His engaging presentations reflected his faith and understanding of the scripture as it manifests God's love and mercy. One of the many insights that Msgr. Garrity offered was reminding us that "the language of God...is silence."

I'm grateful not only to Msgr. Garrity but to all those who attended the Mission over the three nights. I'm also grateful for members of the Evangelization Ministry, who hosted each evening and coordinated the reception the final night. - Fr. Devine

TRIDUUM EXPLAINED

Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Holy Saturday are referred to as the Triduum, three of the holiest liturgical days in the Catholic year. These days celebrate the final days of our Lord's Passion leading up to His resurrection. **Although there are no morning Masses on these days, we encourage you to participate in praying the Liturgy of the Hours at 9:00 a.m. in the Lower Church.** These prayers are taken from the *Liturgy of the Hours* which ordained clergy and many Catholics pray through the day.

HOLY THURSDAY, April 2nd

7:00 p.m. The church celebrates the **Mass of the Lord's Supper** when we remember the institution of the Eucharist and the example of service that Jesus gave to his apostles by washing their feet. Immediately following the Mass, the Eucharist will be carried in procession to the lower church and available for private devotions and prayers until 10:00 p.m.

GOOD FRIDAY, April 3rd

3:00 p.m. We will pray at each of the **Stations of the Cross** recalling the last hours before Jesus' crucifixion.

7:00 p.m. The church celebrates the **Passion of the Lord**. During this service the Lord's Passion is read, specific intentions are offered and individuals have an opportunity to adore the Holy Cross and receive Holy Communion that was consecrated on Holy Thursday.

THE EASTER VIGIL, April 4th

8:00 p.m. This service is undoubtedly the oldest and one of the most significant services of the Christian faith. It begins with the lighting of the Easter fire followed by carrying the lit Easter Candle into the darkened Church. An ancient song, The Easter Proclamation (Exsultet), is sung, recognizing the importance of the candle and this night. The scripture readings trace some of the significant moments of our faith from the Old and New Testaments leading up to the Lord's Resurrection. The Easter water is then blessed and we will be asked to renew our own Baptism. The symbolism, drama, beauty and faith celebrated this night captures the history of our salvation and what it means to be a Catholic Christian. **I encourage everyone to attend, but caution those with small children that the Mass will be approximately 2-3 hours long.**

HOLY WEEK AND EASTER SCHEDULE

MARCH 30, MARCH 31, APRIL 1

Daily Mass: 9:00 a.m.

Confessions: 6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. (lower church)

HOLY THURSDAY - APRIL 2

Morning Prayer: 9:00 a.m.

Mass of the Lord's Supper: 7:00 p.m.

Adoration until 10:00 p.m.

GOOD FRIDAY - APRIL 3

Morning Prayer: 9:00 a.m.

Stations of the Cross: 3:00 p.m.

The Passion of the Lord: 7:00 p.m.

HOLY SATURDAY - APRIL 4

Morning Prayer: 9:00 a.m.

Solemn Easter Vigil Mass: 8:00 p.m. (No 4:00 Mass)

EASTER SUNDAY - APRIL 5

St. Thomas Aquinas Church

Masses: 7:30 a.m., 9:00 a.m., 12:00 p.m.

(No 5:00 Mass)

St. Basil Chapel - Mass: 10:30 a.m.

CONFESSIONS

Confessions will be held this week on Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday from 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM in the Lower Church. These dates are the last dates for Confessions prior to Easter.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Stations of the Cross will be held this week on Good Friday at 3:00 PM.

ABSTINENCE

Good Friday is a day of fasting and 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. Eating between meals is not permitted. Liquids are allowed. **ABSTINENCE** is observed by all who are 14 years of age and older. On days of abstinence, no meat is allowed. The law does not oblige when health or ability to work would be seriously affected. When in doubt concerning abstinence, please consult Fr. Devine or Fr. Rodrigo.

EASTER FLOWER ENVELOPES

Envelopes are available at the entrances of the church/chapel if you would like to donate towards our Easter flowers in memory of a loved one.

PLEASE NOTE:

- Divine Mercy Holy Hour **THIS** Wednesday, April 1, will be held in the Upper Church.
- First Friday Adoration on Friday, April 3 is cancelled (Good Friday).
- Anointing of the Sick will be held **AS SCHEDULED** on Easter Sunday, April 5, at 1:30 PM.

Easter EGG HUNT

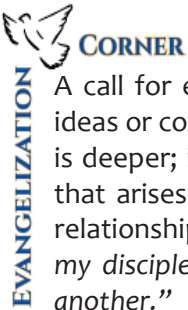
NEXT Sunday, April 5

10:00 AM in the parish center

Join us as we celebrate our Lord's Resurrection with a fun Easter Egg Hunt! Scan this QR Code or visit www.stthomasaquinas.com to sign up!

Last
chance
to sign
up!





A call for evangelization cannot proceed merely from the good ideas or convictions I wish to impress upon others. Evangelization is deeper; it proceeds from compassion for people - compassion that arises from our experience of God's love and our personal relationship with Jesus. "This is how all will know that you are my disciples," Jesus said in John 13:35, "if you have love for one another."

The Holy Spirit is essential in guiding our evangelization efforts. Only the Holy Spirit can bring about a conversion to Christ; alone we can do nothing. It is not about attracting people or convincing them with well-prepared arguments; rather, it is about leading people to a living experience of God's presence and love that transforms the heart through the work of the Holy Spirit. As we see in the events of Pentecost, it is the arrival of the Holy Spirit that enabled the apostles to successfully evangelize; their words piercing the hearts of those gathered. Thousands in attendance became followers of Christ as a result.

Like those gathered at Pentecost, today's men and women are searching for meaning in their lives. They want to know how best to live. As Catholic evangelists we do not hesitate in our answer to that age-old question. The answer? To follow the life and teachings of Jesus Christ! As we continue our Lenten pilgrimage to the cross and resurrection, may we be ever-mindful to invite the Holy Spirit into our own heart and allow the love of Jesus Christ to spill over to those we encounter. Come Holy Spirit!!

- Ron Daniels, Evangelization Ministry member

FAITH FORMATION UPDATE

Baby Bottle Drive

For students who did not already have one, baby bottles were sent home. One of our third grade students, Mackenzie Cleary, got off the school bus and immediately went around to her neighbors with her bottle.



Through her efforts, she collected \$75.00 to help support young families in our area. Her Lenten almsgiving was a beautiful example of using both her time and her cheerful spirit to help others. - Debbie Hill, Director

SAVE THE DATES!

First Holy Communion Retreat –

Saturday, April 11

GRADES 1 - 7 working on Session 25 Easter;

April in-person dates: April 6,7,8 & 13,14,15

CONFIRMATION April in-person dates:

April 12 & 26

VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION SOCIAL 2026

A great time was had by all last Saturday night at our Volunteer Appreciation Social. We had a huge turnout once again, with over 180 volunteers and spouses! We were so happy to be able to thank YOU, our volunteers, who make what we do possible! A big thank you to Johnny Macaroni's and Hardy's Catering for the delicious meals, Michael Devine for hosting a fun trivia contest, and the Haley School of Dance Irish Step Dancers for amazing entertainment!



Hallow

*Looking for ways to re-engage with your faith?
Not sure how to take the first step?
Interested in resources to strengthen your faith?*

**IF YOU ANSWERED YES TO ANY OF THESE QUESTIONS,
YOU ARE ENCOURAGED TO JOIN US FOR:**

*An Evening of Fellowship and Faith
Sunday, April 12 | 6:15 PM | Lower Church*

**A HALLOW REPRESENTATIVE WILL JOIN US TO LEAD US IN PRAYER
AND ASSIST ANYONE NEEDING HELP ACCESSING CONTENT ON HALLOW.
LIGHT REFRESHMENTS WILL BE SERVED.**

**THE LAST DAY FOR RUMMAGE SALE DONATIONS
IS THIS THURSDAY, APRIL 2. THANK YOU!**

GOOD FRIDAY COLLECTION HOLY LAND SHRINES

The Good Friday collection supports the sacred places as well as the educational, charitable, and peace-seeking ministries of the Church in the Holy Land. The collection is, in the words of Paul VI, “not only for the Holy Places, but, above all, for those pastoral, charitable, educational, and social works which the Church supports in the Holy Land for the welfare of their Christian brethren and of the local communities.”

FINANCIAL BLESSINGS

COLLECTIONS:

NO SECOND COLLECTION MARCH 28 - 29
HOLY LAND SHRINES - GOOD FRIDAY APRIL 3
CLERGY TRUST APRIL 4 - 5

Collections Summary 3/17 - 3/23	St. Thomas / St. Basil
Weekly Collection (In-Pew)	\$ 6,969
Mail-in / Drop-Off	\$ 775
Online (WeShare)	\$ 2,693
OFFERTORY TOTAL	\$ 10,437

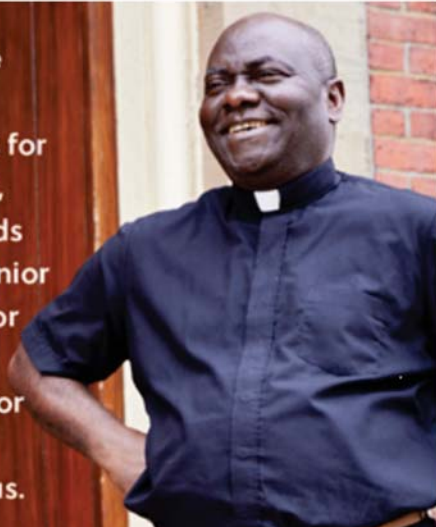
AVERAGE WEEKLY EXPENSES FOR FEB. = \$ 17,408



The only collection taken at our Easter Masses benefits the Clergy Trust, which supports priests in good standing in the archdiocese. For information, visit clergytrust.org.



Your support for the Clergy Trust parish collections provides for the health, wellness, and retirement needs of our active and senior priests. Thank you for your generosity to this collection and for helping us care for those who care for us.



WEEKLY MASS SCHEDULE

PALM SUNDAY MASSES BEGIN 15 MINUTES EARLY

WITH THE BLESSING OF THE PALMS OUTSIDE RECTORY/CHAPEL

SATURDAY, MARCH 28

9:00 a.m.

3:45 p.m.

SUNDAY, MARCH 29

St. Thomas

7:15 a.m. Patricia Silva - 9th Anniversary

8:45 a.m.

11:45 p.m. Margarida & Mario Garcia

4:45 p.m.

St. Basil

10:15 a.m.

MONDAY, MARCH 30

9:00 a.m. Tony Lima

TUESDAY, MARCH 31

9:00 a.m. Maria Presti

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 1

9:00 a.m. Krys Parnell

THURSDAY, APRIL 2

9:00 a.m. Morning Prayer

7:00 p.m. Mass of the Lord's Supper

FRIDAY, APRIL 3

9:00 a.m. Morning Prayer

3:00 p.m. Stations of the Cross

7:00 p.m. The Passion of the Lord

SATURDAY, APRIL 4

9:00 a.m. Morning Prayer

8:00 p.m. Solemn Easter Vigil Mass

SUNDAY, APRIL 5

St. Thomas

7:30 a.m.

9:00 a.m.

12:00 p.m.

St. Basil

10:30 a.m.

Alleluia!
He is Risen!

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.

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...

Callum Neff

A Time to Die...

Michael Benya

Paul O'Connor

Ellen O'Leary

John Pupek

Karen Sullivan

Charles Trainor, Sr.

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
Michael Coscia	Chris O'Leary
Anthony DeSerpa	Ellen O'Leary
Lourdes DeSerpa	Peter O'Leary
Marcus DiSalvo	Sean O'Leary
Stephanie DiSalvo	Thomas O'Leary
Matteo Disalvo	Jack Phaneuf
Antonio Fernandes	Lane Poche
Evan Frye	Jerry Putney
Joan Ward Fusco	Joanne Robicheau
Brenda Gentili	Baby Carson Rosen
Patricia Giovannello	Diane Russell
Thomas Groh	Ruth Sandler
Gail Hatch	Tony Scalfaro
Joseph Inacio	James Schneider
Rosa Inacio	Deana Spingel
Tom Joyce	Jamison Spingel
Carol Kelley	Emily Stone
Julie Landry	Erika White
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 Roshier 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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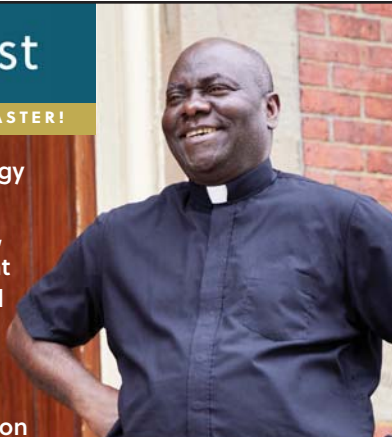
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