

ST. THOMAS AQUINAS PARISH

APRIL 19, 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.

PARISH INFORMATION

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

STATEMENT OF ARCHBISHOP HENNING ON POPE LEO'S PRAYERS FOR PEACE



"Peace be with you!" On the day of his election, Pope Leo XIV greeted the world with these words of the Lord Jesus. Pope Leo has made the summons to compassion and the longing for peace the central focus of his ministry as the Holy Father. He reminds us "blessed are the peacemakers," and challenges us to find solutions to conflict that uphold human dignity and protect the sanctity of all human life. He speaks in accord with the dignity of his office and in fidelity to his mission. Here in the Archdiocese of Boston, we pray for Pope Leo in every Mass, and we receive his teachings with respect and a listening heart. And we support and pray for our Holy Father in his service to God, to the Church, and to the world. May the peace of God reign in our hearts and in our world."

Hallow

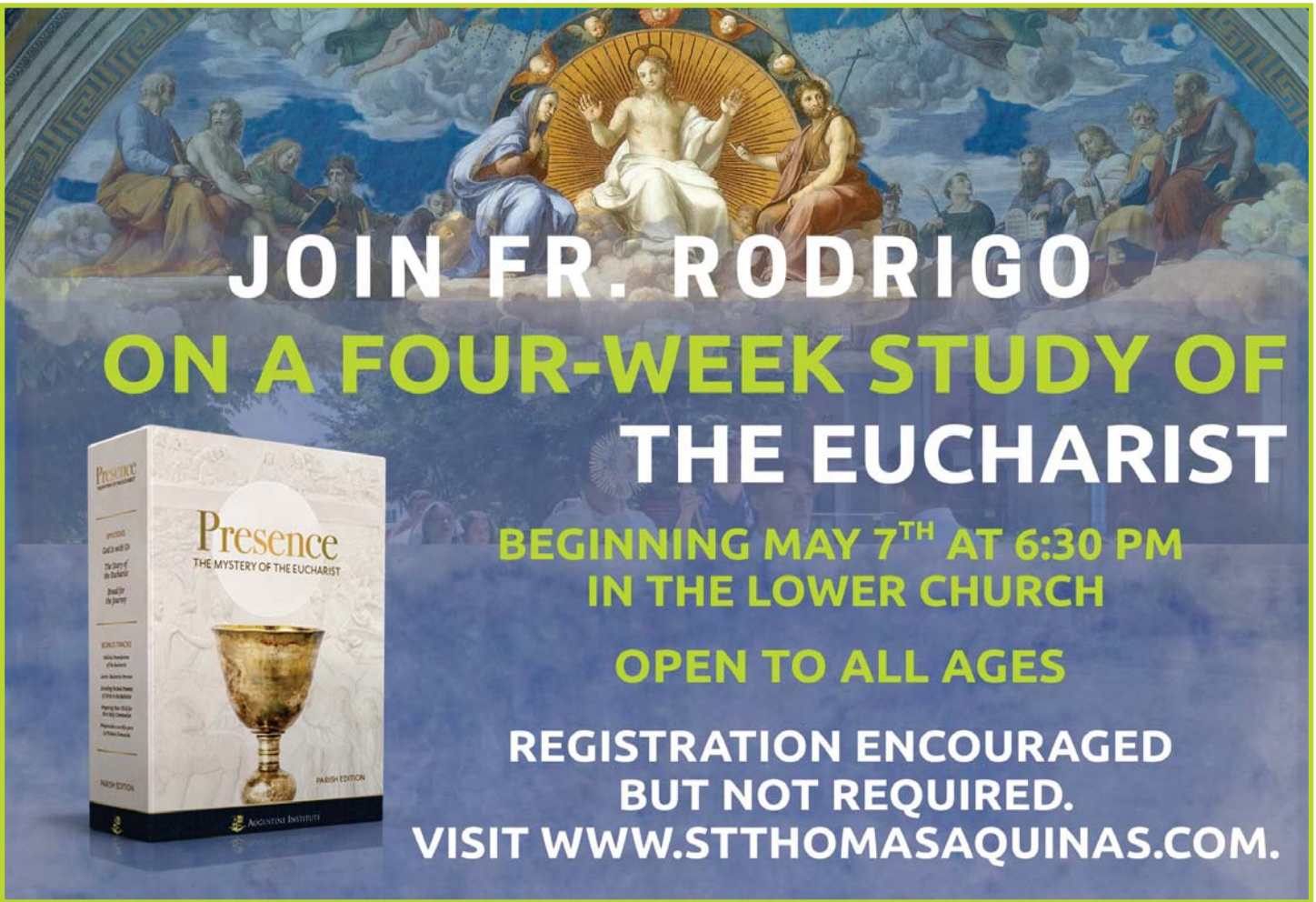
I want to thank all those who attended last Sunday evening's presentation to learn about the resources that are available on our parish page on the **Hallow app**. Over the past few weeks, many have shared how much they enjoy the ways that Hallow has helped them to pray and learn more about their faith.

Last Sunday evening, 24 people learned how to access the Hallow app and were led in a prayerful meditation using one of the resources. Thanks to the generous donation from our local Knights of Columbus, the resources on our Hallow parish page are FREE. Presently, 384 people are connected with our parish page.

We invite you, if you haven't already, to join the Easter Challenge on our Hallow parish page. In addition, we have added additional premium content to our page. Please explore the resources there to find the right fit for you. **Still haven't joined our parish page? Do you have questions? If so, contact Tina Larson in the parish office.**

- Fr. Devine

**THE PARISH OFFICES WILL BE CLOSED
THIS MONDAY, APRIL 20,
IN OBSERVANCE OF PATRIOTS DAY.**

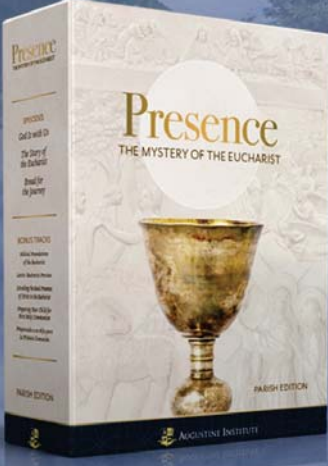


JOIN FR. RODRIGO
ON A FOUR-WEEK STUDY OF
THE EUCHARIST

BEGINNING MAY 7TH AT 6:30 PM
IN THE LOWER CHURCH

OPEN TO ALL AGES

REGISTRATION ENCOURAGED
BUT NOT REQUIRED.
VISIT WWW.STTHOMASAQUINAS.COM.



YOUTH GROUP MISSION TRIP BAKE SALE - THANK YOU!

With hearts full of gratitude, we extend a sincere thank you to all of our parishioners who supported our six bake sales last weekend. Your generosity is truly inspiring and a beautiful reflection of our faith in action. We are all called to be the hands and feet of Christ in the world. Some are called to serve directly, while others give through generosity. Both are powerful expressions of God’s love. Because of you, this mission is possible. This summer, 50 of our teens and chaperones will travel to North Haledon, NJ, where they will bring the love of Christ to those in need. They will serve veterans and assist in soup kitchens and Habitat for Humanity, as well as support many other nonprofit organizations. Please continue to keep our group in your prayers as they prepare to go forth and do God’s work. May we all continue to live out our call to love and serve one another. - Jennifer Rosher, Inspire Youth Group Coordinator



FAITH FORMATION UPDATE

First Holy Communion Retreat

Last Saturday, our mentors and volunteers guided 60 children through activities focused on the Mass and the Eucharist. The children wrote their own Prayer of the Faithful and created a prayer chain - be sure to look for it in the parish center! They also practiced receiving the host, and many shared that they liked the taste. As part of their learning, they created a picture using cut-outs of a chalice and host, with a lift-the-flap feature revealing Jesus' face to emphasize that He is truly present - Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity - in the Eucharist. In addition, they made banners that will be displayed on their pews on the day of their First Holy Communion. We hope this retreat was both enjoyable and meaningful. Your continued prayers and support of our program and its participants are truly appreciated.

Confirmation

This past year, our Confirmation program was blessed to have Patrick Barr, a seminarian for Providence, serve as a small group leader. Last Sunday, Patrick gave a presentation on the Beatitudes. He explained that, while they may seem confusing at first, they are in fact a blueprint for the Christian life that leads to true and lasting happiness. He shared that in the Beatitudes, Christ reveals who He is, and that by living them, we come to know Him more deeply. Patrick illustrated each Beatitude with the example of a saint who embodied it in a special way. He encouraged the students to remain open to the abundant graces God desires to give them by praying regularly, going to Confession, attending Mass each week, and reading Scripture. Sound advice for all of us! - *Debbie Hill, Director*



Seminarian Patrick Barr speaking to Confirmation students

SAVE THE DATE!

Last Confirmation class – April 26

Check your email & Google Classroom to sign up for Confirmation Mass.



APRIL IS CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH

Did you know... the five steps to safer environments...

The Archdiocese of Boston mandates that all people who work with children and youth in our parishes and schools must undergo child abuse prevention training through the VIRTUS program. Come to a **Protecting God's Children training** to learn about the warning signs of an inappropriate relationship with a child, and how to help keep all kids safe. The training details five steps to prevent child sexual abuse:

- Know the warning signs;
- Control access to children by carefully selecting the adults who work with children and youth;
- Monitor all programs for the safety of children and youth;
- Be aware of and sensitive to what is going on in the lives of children;
- Communicate concerns to the appropriate person in authority.

Did you know... child abuse can occur in every culture and every socio-economic demographic...

Peer reviewed research also indicates that the vast majority of child abuse occurs at the hands of someone known to the victim. You can protect children by respecting the safe environment protocols established at youth - serving organizations. More importantly, you can implement many of these protocols in your home and be observant and vigilant in all public and private settings.

Did you know... children of abuse long to hear the message of hope...

Throughout scripture there is evidence that we are ALL called to be ambassadors of hope and healing. Victims of crime, their family, and loved ones need to know that their voices are heard. Organizations throughout the nation are striving to share the message that He has risen and there is hope. Each of us has a unique ability to support individuals who are hurting, to promote healthy relationships, and to build communities that are safe from those who may want to do them harm. How has He called you to be an ambassador of hope and healing?

Did you know... what is happening in the Archdiocese of Boston to protect children...

- Adults and youth learn how to create a safe space, identify and avoid or respond to risk, and report concerns.
- All parish and school staff and volunteers must take safe environment training (PGC) to learn how to identify and prevent abuse!
- Staff in the Office of Pastoral Support and Child Protection can help parishes and schools to take all necessary steps to meet the child protection requirements. Just call and talk to any of us.
- The Office of Pastoral Support and Child Protection provides ongoing support for healing for those who were sexually abused in the Boston church and for their families.
- A volunteer Independent Review Board assists the Archbishop in reviewing new allegations of sexual abuse by priests and makes recommendations for moving forward.
- An audit is conducted by an independent firm to evaluate implementation of the Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People. Findings are incorporated with those of other dioceses and made available in an Annual Report.

FOR PARTICULAR HELP, YOU MAY CONTACT:

The Office of Pastoral Support & Child Protection

Pastoral Center of the Archdiocese of Boston

66 Brooks Drive

Braintree, MA 02184

Vivian Soper, Director:

617-746-5995 vsoper@rcab.org

SAVE THE DATE

Faith & Family Night

**SAT., MAY 16
AT 6:30 PM**

Vs.

**BROCKTON ROX VS. OTTAWA TITANS
CAMPANELLI STADIUM, BROCKTON, MA**

Archbishop Henning to throw out the first pitch!

Local parishes to sing the National Anthem

Tickets: \$5 and \$10 | Fireworks
(price doesn't include fees)

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EVANGELIZATION
AND DISCIPLESHIP
Archdiocese of Boston

Purchase tickets
[gofevo.com
/event/Faith620](https://gofevo.com/event/Faith620)

PARKING ALERT AT ST. BASIL'S CHAPEL FOR NEXT SUNDAY

The Special Olympics of Massachusetts has a swim meet at Bridgewater State University **NEXT Sunday April 26th** and it is an all-day event. The parking lot is expected to be full. Please allow extra time for parking for Mass. **Parking will be allowed on the CHAPEL SIDE** of Park Ave.

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. The upcoming date for this area is Saturday, May 16th. Locations are confidential. For more information, please contact Project Rachel at 508.651.3100 or help@projectrachelboston.com.

APRIL 19 ~ THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

In the gospel we meet two disciples on the road to Emmaus, a road that led out of Jerusalem, away from the place of Jesus' death. Their discouragement at his death led them to walk away. But Jesus meets them where they were, listens to them and opens their minds and hearts. Then he did something familiar - "he took bread, said the blessing, broke it, and gave it to them" In that simple act their eyes were opened. They recognized him. This encounter with Christ changed them forever. Jesus is with us at every Mass in the scripture we hear, in the breaking of the bread – in the Eucharist. Do we recognize him and know his presence? Like those early disciples, after receiving Christ in the Eucharist do we say, "Were not our hearts burning within us...?" Let us pray that our hearts will "burn within us" each time we receive Jesus in Holy Communion.

Single Mothers Retreat

Retiro Para Madres Solteras

"Experience Freedom in Christ"

Retiro "Experimenta la libertad en Cristo"

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SISTER OF LIFE
CANADA

SR. MARIA CHRISTINA
SISTER OF LIFE
ESPAÑA

SATURDAY
MAY 2, 2026
9:00 AM - 3:30 PM

*FREE EVENT
*Gratis

momentum

CATHOLIC SINGLE MOTHERS

St. Mary's Parish
30 Pond St. Waltham, MA 02451
Old Convent Building

Childcare & Light Lunch provided
Cuidado de niños & Almuerzo Liviano

Translation provided

Info: [Claudia 617-798-5795](tel:617-798-5795)

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LIMITED SPACE

REGISTER HERE
REGISTRO AQUI

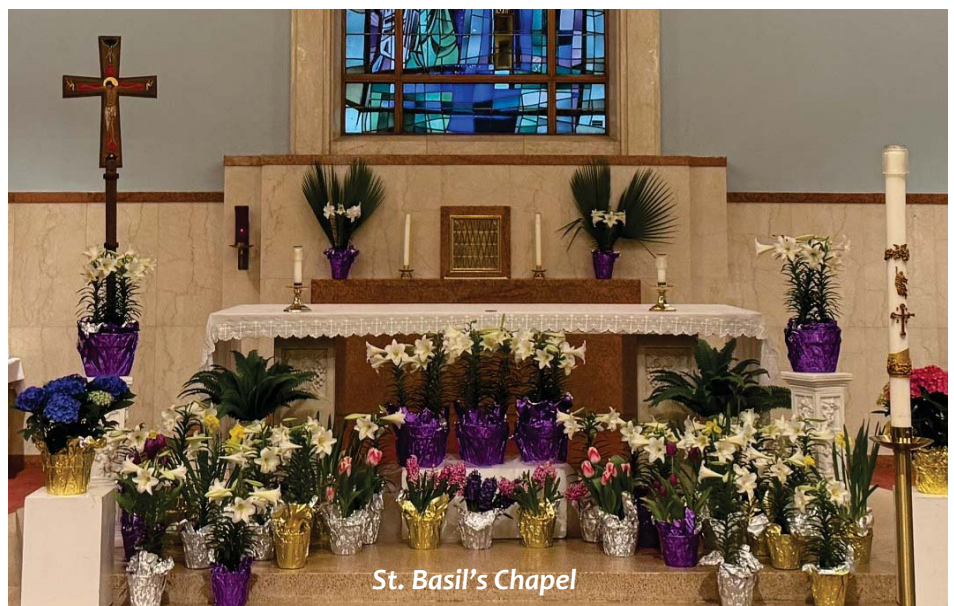
Sponsored by the Lazarus Center for Healing Shrine, Wakefield, MA

EASTER FLOWER OFFERINGS

Thank you to all who made a donation towards our Easter decorations in memory of living and deceased loved ones. During the Easter season, we will continue to remember and pray for your family and friends:

Augustus Andrews, Donna Andrews, Geraldine Andrews, Kathleen Andrews, Lisa Andrews, Frances Banks, deceased members of the Banks family, Maeghan Bernier, Alfred Bousquet, Irene Bousquet, Francis & Caroline Brogan, Daniel Buckley, Jr., deceased members of the Carbone family, Lena Chiappini, Richard & Joyce Chiappini, deceased members of the Chiocca family, deceased members of the Clark family, Elmer & Ruth Cloutier, Barry Coggeshall, Robert Colburn, Martin Connelly, Carl DeRocha, Angelo DiPlacido, Anthony L. Domingos, Anthony S. Domingos, Irene Domingos, Jeanne Downey, deceased members of the Downey family, Alcide Dubois, Margaret Dubois, Norman Dubois, deceased members of the Dunne family, Ida Elie, Wilfred Elie, Anna Fabin, Crispi & Florence Falconeiri, John Faria, Gregory Grillone, Rose M. Grillone, deceased members of the Grillone family, deceased members of the Harrigan family, deceased members of the Hassan family, Charlie Hathaway, Tracey Hathaway, Alice Heath, Branden Heath, Donald Heath, Lenny Heath, Marylou Heath, Norrine Heath, Reddick Heath, William Hedlund, Marilyn Holland, James & Ann Hynes, Mary Jones, Della Keeley, Paul Keeley, Patrick Keeley, Jr., Patrick Keeley, Sr., Edmond & Pat Kenneally, John & James Kenneally, John & Liz Kenneally, LuAnne Kenneally, Edward & Annette LaFrance, Edward & Emma LaFrance, deceased members of the Lamb family, deceased members of the LeClair family, deceased members of the Lepine family, deceased members of the Lunsford family, deceased members of the Maffei family, deceased members of the Mahoney family, Edward & Delia McMahan, deceased members of the Melagrano family, Peter Metherall, deceased members of the Michael family, Nancy Moran, Dr. John Moynihan, Margie and Millie Moynihan, Etta & Francis Naves, John Naves, William O'Donnell, deceased members of the O'Donnell family, deceased members of the O'Hare family, Anna & James Olean, deceased members of the Peters family, Maureen Peterson, deceased members of the Porchiazzo family, Lawrence Presby, deceased members of the Puliafico family, Philip Rainey, deceased members of the Revil family, Joe & Della Roque, deceased members of the Sarro family, deceased members of the Sgarbi family, John and Mary Signorello, Peg Sotera, John H. Stamler, Loretta Steidinger, deceased members of the Swarce family, Betty Tarentino, deceased members of the Teceno family, Angela Viera, John Viera, deceased members of the Wessman family, Ed & Rose Woronicz, Karen Woronicz, and deceased members of the Younie family.

Thank you to our church decorating volunteers for our beautiful Easter altars!





AED UPDATE!

Over the past few of weeks, we have updated everyone on the status of our AEDs at the Church, Chapel and Parish Center. We have identified new models to replace the older ones, and will install when we receive them.

In the meantime, we contacted the Bridgewater Fire Department and Emergency Medical Services and have been told that the current AEDs are still fine to use in the interim.

Through the amazing generosity of three parishioners, these AEDs will be paid for through their donations. We are truly blessed by our parish family! Thank you!

- Peter Vitagliano, Finance/Operations Officer

ROOFING REPAIRS UPDATE

Over this past harsh winter, the Classroom building sustained roof damage from high winds and snow. Next week, the repairs will be started to replace the roof where it had been damaged. Supplies and materials were dropped off this week, and we look forward to a new and waterproof roof! - Peter Vitagliano, Finance/Operations Officer



2026 CATHOLIC APPEAL UPDATE

The Annual Catholic Appeal is a call for support throughout the Archdiocese. Every parish receives support and guidance from the Diocese for a wide variety of needs, so the Diocese in turn needs the financial support of all of the parishes to sustain, grow and develop the many offices and ministries that all parishes rely on every day. The Catholic Appeal is a call for **ALL parishes as One** to help. Many in our parish have already given, and we cannot thank you enough for your generosity! To date, we have received \$37,694, which is 51% of our goal.

Giving is easy, whether from our website, stthomasaquinas.com, bostoncatholicappeal.org, or simply scan this QR Code. Your gifts are vital to the sustaining the support we receive from the diocese. Thank you for your continued support of the Catholic Appeal.

- Peter Vitagliano, Finance & Operations Officer



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

FINANCIAL BLESSINGS

SECOND COLLECTIONS:

NO SECOND COLLECTION

APRIL 18 - 19

NO SECOND COLLECTION

APRIL 25 - 26

Collections Summary 4/6 - 4/12	St. Thomas / St. Basil
Easter Collection (In-Pew)	\$ 7,376
Mail-in / Drop-Off	\$ 450
Online (WeShare)	\$ 2,823
OFFERTORY TOTAL	\$ 10,649
CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT	\$ 3,379

AVERAGE WEEKLY EXPENSES FOR MARCH = \$ 22,773



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St. Thomas Aquinas RUMMAGE SALE



**SATURDAY,
APRIL 25**



9 AM - 3 PM



FROM 2-3 PM, FILL A BAG FOR \$3



**STA Parish Center
103 Center St,
Bridgewater**



**CLOTHING & ACCESSORIES - TOYS -
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WELLNESS ITEMS - CRAFT SUPPLIES - FINE
CHINA & GLASSWARE - AND MORE!**



**COME EARLY FOR A GREAT
SELECTION OR COME LATE FOR A
GREAT BARGAIN.
SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE!**

WEEKLY MASS SCHEDULE

SATURDAY, APRIL 18

9:00 a.m. Jonathan G. Kelly

4:00 p.m.

SUNDAY, APRIL 19

St. Thomas

7:30 a.m.

9:00 a.m. Tommie O'Leary and James Bertram

12:00 p.m. Sarafim Arruda

St. Basil

10:30 a.m.

MONDAY, APRIL 20

9:00 a.m. David Melley

TUESDAY, APRIL 21

9:00 a.m. Paul O'Connor

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 22

9:00 a.m. Samuel and Carmela Corrente

THURSDAY, APRIL 23

9:00 a.m. Rema and Heinz Lenser

FRIDAY, APRIL 24

9:00 a.m. David McCormack - 1st Anniversary

SATURDAY, APRIL 25

9:00 a.m. Filippo and Maria Presti

4:00 p.m. Joao Vieira - 2nd Anniversary

SUNDAY, APRIL 26

St. Thomas

7:30 a.m.

9:00 a.m. Ernesto Pacheco and Ines Carreiro

12:00 p.m. John and Rosa Ralli

St. Basil

10:30 a.m. Katherine and Patrick Madigan

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. 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...

Jacob Moore

Ethan Quirk

A Time to Die...

John Bozza

Paul Lanoue

Josephine Chartier

Christopher Peter

Gerald Gillespie

Elizabeth Repetti

Henry Hayes

Bryan Stevens

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

CPL Connor Bresciani, USMC

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

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If your marriage needs renewal —our program can help.

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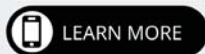
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Headlines
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Cathy Hellige
508-378-1359
Cell 508-326-1300
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