

ST. THOMAS AQUINAS PARISH

AUGUST 23, 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 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. John Saniuk, Parochial Vicar
FrJohn@sta-parish.org

Senior Deacon Leo Donoghue
donoghue.leo@gmail.com

PARISH OFFICE

103 Center St., Bridgewater

Monday - Thursday | 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Fridays | 9 a.m. - 12 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. John Saniuk, Campus Chaplain
FrJohn@sta-parish.org

SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL FOOD PANTRY AND FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

508-697-9528, then choose option 5

SUNDAY MASS

St. Thomas Aquinas Church

Saturday Vigil | 4:00 p.m.

Sunday | 7:30 a.m., 9:00 a.m., 12:00 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

Saturday: 9:45 - 10:30 a.m. & 12:00 - 1:00 p.m.
in the Lower Church or by appointment



- Are you someone who was baptized Catholic, but never received any other sacraments and wish to do so now?
- Are you someone who was raised in another faith tradition, Christian or otherwise, and are seeking conversion to the Catholic faith?
- Have you recently been asked to be a Godparent and need to be Confirmed?

We encourage you to explore our OCIA (Order of Christian Initiation for Adults) program. Speak to Fr. Devine or Fr. John after Mass, or contact Kevin Geraghty at (508) 954-8017 or Karen Geraghty at (508) 930-8280.



ADULT CONFIRMATION

This program is for those who were baptized Catholic, received First Holy Communion, and would like to receive Confirmation.

The preparation sessions will take place at **Holy Family Parish Center, Duxbury** from 7:00 PM – 8:15 PM on 5 consecutive Tuesdays from **September 15 through October 13.**

Interested? Please contact Jeanne Cregan, Pastoral Associate, at jcregan@holymfamilyduxbury.org or call 781-934-5055, ext. 114

The Fall Adult Confirmation ceremony will take place at Divine Mercy Parish in Quincy on Monday, October 19 at 7:00 PM.



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, SEPTEMBER 16th 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, please call Roberta at 774-240-0906 or Ginniy at 508-697-7649.



CHRISTMAS BAZAAR VOLUNTEER KICKOFF MEETING August 29th - 10:00 AM

As the summer days wane, we have started counting the days until the Christmas Bazaar on November 21! Please join us as we kick off our planning.

The first meeting will be on **Saturday, August 29th at 10:00 AM** in the **Parish Center**. Please join us if you'd like to be part of this great event!

Want to be involved but can't join the meeting? No worries! Contact me, Lisa Statkiewicz, at 508-345-1197 or ljstatk@gmail.com. There will be additional meetings in September and October. Thank you!

- Lisa Statkiewicz, Coordinator

RUMMAGE SALE DONATIONS

The Catholic Women's Club of St. Thomas Aquinas Parish is accepting donations on Thursdays from 9:00 - 11:30 AM at the parish center for the Fall Rummage Sale which is being held on September 26. **THE LAST DAY TO DROP OFF YOUR DONATIONS IS THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 3.** Clean clothing, toys, shoes, glassware and dishes are accepted. Please no furniture, VHS tapes, CDs, or DVDs. Please do not leave donations outside. Thank you!



ST. THOMAS AQUINAS JUNIOR YOUTH GROUP OPEN GYM

GRADES 6-8

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 11

7:00 - 8:30 PM

PARISH CENTER GYM

Theme: A Taste of Fall!

Apple cider donuts, cider, and a Fall craft!

Basketball • Volleyball • 9-Square • Video Games

**STUDENTS IN GRADES 6-8
ARE WELCOME TO JOIN OUR NEXT
YOUTH GROUP OPEN GYM NIGHT!**



Scan here to attend!

**ANY HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS
LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEER HOURS
ARE WELCOME TO SIGN UP!**



Scan here to volunteer!

Save the Dates!

September 4

First Friday Adoration

September 5

Block Party

September 6

Anointing of the Sick

September 9

Step Up and Be Inspired
Meeting

September 11

Junior Youth Group Open Gym

September 12

Public Safety Mass

September 13

5:00 PM Mass resumes
Coffee and Donuts resumes
Fatima Rosary Procession

September 19-20

Volunteer Sign-up Weekend

September 26

Rummage Sale

September 26-27

Volunteer Sign-up Weekend

INSPIRE BRIDGEWATER

October 2 - 4, 2026

Need a Helping Hand?

We are still looking for small service projects for seniors, veterans, families, nonprofits, or anyone who could use some extra help. Projects may include yard clean-up, organizing, light landscaping, or general household tasks and typically take 2 - 3 hours. Project Request Forms are available in the back of the church and chapel. Please return completed forms to the parish office. Forms are also available online.

Volunteers Needed!

Teens (8th grade +) and adults are invited to join us for a weekend of faith, friendship, and service. You do not need to attend the entire weekend - come whenever your schedule allows! Adults are welcome even if they cannot stay overnight. Teens can earn 10 hours of community service. More information is available on the application, or email Jen with questions.

Cost: \$50 (includes meals, T-shirt, and project supplies)

Applications are available online. Tuition can be paid by check, made payable to St. Thomas Aquinas and dropped off at the parish office with your application, or paid online through We Share. All adult volunteers (ages 18 and over) must complete VIRTUS Training and a current CORI. Contact Tina in the parish office for more information.

Want to Sponsor Inspire Bridgewater?

Businesses, families, and individuals are invited to sponsor the weekend. Businesses may submit their logo, while families and individuals may honor or remember a loved one on our T-shirts. A suggested donation is \$50 or more. Your support helps cover meals, T-shirts, supplies, and materials for our service projects. Donations can be made by check, payable to St. Thomas Aquinas and dropped off at the parish office, or paid online through We Share.

If you have any questions or to sponsor, contact Jennifer Rosher at JenRosher@comcast.net or 617-828-9147.



Saturday, September 12, 2026
4:00 PM

St. Thomas Aquinas Church
103 Center Street, Bridgewater

In conjunction with our local police and fire departments, our parish is pleased to sponsor our **2nd Annual Public Safety Mass** to acknowledge and pray for those who protect and serve us. **All faiths are encouraged to participate and support our local police and fire departments.**



Contact:
Chris Paze
cpaze@bridgewaterma.org



Contact:
Sean Peters
speters@bridgewaterma.org



Contact:
Joseph Locke
j1locke@bridgewaterma.org



FAITH FORMATION

CLASS REGISTRATION IS OPEN!

REGISTER NOW!

CLASSES FILL UP QUICKLY!

To register, scan this QR Code or
visit www.stthomasaquinas.com.



CAPUCHIN MOBILE MINISTRIES SERVICE PROJECT FOR INCOMING CONFIRMATION STUDENTS

Incoming Confirmation Students are invited (but are not required) to join us **NEXT Monday, August 31 from 6:00-7:30 PM in the Parish Center** for a fun and meaningful sandwich-making event!

Together, we will partner with Capuchin Mobile Ministries to **prepare fresh sandwiches that will be distributed to those experiencing food insecurity in the Boston area.**

Come make a difference and earn community service hours at the same time. This event counts as a opportunity to complete a community service project for Confirmation.

Visit www.stthomasaquinas.com to sign up!



ATTENTION Grades 9-12!

STEPUP and be INSPIRED!

Explore your faith & find your people

This year, STEPUP and INSPIRE are combining resources and energy to create an environment that answers the call to mission while meeting the needs of our youth who are seeking community, friendship, and a deeper relationship with God.

We encourage you to join us for real faith, fun, and community! **Our first meeting will be September 9th from 6:00 PM - 7:30 PM in the Parish Center.** Mission trips are entirely optional. You can be part of our youth community without committing to travel. Our Youth Group brings together Bible study, fun activities, and meaningful fellowship, all centered on growing closer to Christ and serving others. - *Debbie Hill and Jennifer Rosher*



EAGLE SCOUT PROJECT THANK YOU

I would like to give a special thank you to our very generous parish for all of the donations and support during my bake sale fundraiser for my Eagle Scout project.

The fundraiser was a great success! Because of your generosity, I was able to raise \$3,162, which was enough money to paint all eight classrooms in the Parish Center with money left over. The funds that were left over will go back to the parish to paint the Faith Formation office of the Parish Center as well.

I am truly grateful for everyone who donated, supported my fundraiser, and helped me reach my goal. Your generosity means so much to me and will make a lasting difference in our parish. Thank you again for supporting my Eagle Scout project!

God bless, Owen Lynch, Troop 31





BLOCK PARTY

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 5

11:00 AM - 2:00 PM

All are welcome!
Rain or Shine!





\$5 PER PERSON INCLUDES ALL ACTIVITIES! KIDS UNDER 3 GET IN FREE!

PONY RIDES 11:30 - 12:30 (SIGN-UP REQUIRED FOR PONY RIDES)

PETTING ZOO 12:30 - 1:30

LUNCH AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE: 11:30 - 2:00

FREE ICE CREAM TRUCK TREATS AVAILABLE 12:30 - 1:30!

11:00 - 2:00:

DJ - TRAIN RIDES - BOUNCY HOUSE

KIDS' ACTIVITIES AND GAMES - AND MUCH MORE!





PURCHASE TICKETS AT WWW.STTHOMASQUINAS.COM

OR SCAN THIS QR CODE.

TICKETS MAY ALSO BE PURCHASED AT THE BLOCK PARTY (CASH ONLY).



VOLUNTEERS ARE STILL NEEDED FOR OUR BLOCK PARTY!

**WE CAN'T RUN THE ACTIVITIES
WITHOUT YOUR HELP!**

**HIGH SCHOOL/ADULT VOLUNTEERS
ARE NEEDED FOR:**

SATURDAY, SEPT. 5

9:00 AM - 11:00 AM - SET-UP

**11:00 AM - 2:00 PM- SHIFTS AVAILABLE
TO ASSIST WITH VARIOUS STATIONS/ACTIVITIES**

2:00 PM UNTIL COMPLETE - CLEAN-UP

**TO SIGN UP, VISIT UPCOMING EVENTS AT
WWW.STTHOMASQUINAS.COM!**





FOOD DONATIONS NEEDED FOR BLOCK PARTY!

Our block party is fast approaching!

We would greatly appreciate some donations
to go along with the hamburgers, hot dogs,
chicken and french fries we will be serving!

WE ARE IN NEED OF:

Bottled Waters

Soda

Hamburger and Hot Dog Rolls

Juice Boxes

Please visit www.stthomasquinas.com
for the specific items that are still needed.
Thank you in advance for your generosity!





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?
Check out our parish page on Hallow!**

We are so encouraged to see that our parish page has 428 members!
Haven't used the app yet? Download it to see what Hallow is all about!
If you have any questions about Hallow, please contact Tina in the office.

NEW CONTENT HAS BEEN ADDED TO OUR PARISH PAGE, INCLUDING:



TEENS CAN NOW HAVE THEIR OWN HALLOW ACCOUNT! JOIN THE 30-DAY "WALK WITH JESUS" CHALLENGE!

This 30-day walk is led by Catholic speaker Tanner Kalina and was created in partnership with NET Ministries, whose mission is to challenge young Catholics (like you!) to follow Jesus Christ and embrace a life of community in the Church. NET forms and sends out missionary disciples across the country so that young people can become a light for Christ in your generation. Learn more at netusa.org/30-day-walk



CONFESSION GUIDE

Return to the Sacrament of Reconciliation with encouragement and guidance from Fr. Frankie Cicero. He will walk you through the steps of confession, guide you through an examination of conscience, and pray with you after your time of penance. For a more information on Confession, visit hallow.com/confession



PRAY FOR US - SAINT STORIES

Find inspiration in saints who sinned, suffered, and struggled on their way to holiness. These stories are read by different guests and come from the book "Pray for Us," written by Meg Hunter-Kilmer. Learn more about the book here: avemariapress.com/products/pray-for-us.

August 23 ~ Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time

Today's Gospel is so familiar that it may be easy to just let Jesus' question go unnoticed without taking the time to answer. Once again, Jesus is asking each of us, "Who do you say that I am?" Is your response like the enthusiastic answer of Peter, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God"? Does your response come more slowly, yet very sincerely? Your response will hopefully come from the depth of your relationship with Christ. This question that Jesus asks gives each one of us an opportunity to put into words the importance of our relationship with him. Find some time in the coming days to consider your answer and to speak it to Jesus.

CELEBRATING FIVE YEARS OF VACATION BIBLE CAMP

Five years ago, we began a journey with just 15 volunteers and 35 campers. Today, five years later, our Vacation Bible Camp has grown to an incredible 82 campers and 50 teen and adult volunteers! It has been a blessing to watch our camp grow, not only in numbers, but in faith, friendship, and love for God. Our journey began with **Monumental**, where we explored God's awesomeness and learned that God loves us no matter what, is always with us, is in charge, and is stronger than anything we face. The following year, we traveled into space with **Stellar**, where we learned to shine Jesus' light in dark times through hope, love, forgiveness, and joy. Then we went under the sea with Scuba, diving deep into a friendship with God and discovering what it means to know and trust Him. With **True North**, we learned that God is our ultimate guide. No matter where life takes us, we can look to God to lead us in the right direction. **This year, we learned that Jesus is our refuge and safe place.** Through every adventure, song, craft, lesson, and prayer, we have continued to discover just how much God loves us.

Vacation Bible Camp would not be possible without the incredible people who make it happen. A special thank you to **Fr. Bill** for supporting our camp each and every year and for always encouraging us in our faith. Thank you to **Paul Hoffman** for sharing his musical talents and helping make our music so special. Thank you to **Debbie Hill** and **Maryann Ofstein** for all of the countless hours spent printing. Thank you to **Sarah Raymond** for creating the most amazing decorations and helping transform our spaces into each year's adventure. Thank you to **Anne Moukalled** for overseeing cleanup and serving as our monitor, always making sure things ran smoothly. Thank you to **Melissa O'Neill** for taking on the enormous job of running snacks for more than 130 people each day! **Thank you to our wonderful teachers this year, Lily "Echo" Smith, Laura Alicea, and Loretta Beaulieu,** for sharing their time, talents, and faith. And, of course, thank you to **all 50 of our teen and adult volunteers.** You gave your time, energy, creativity, patience, and hearts to make this camp possible. You are the reason these children have had such a special experience.

Five years ago, we started with 35 children. This year, 82 children are part of this amazing camp community. The numbers are wonderful, but what matters most are the memories we have created, the friendships we have formed, the faith we have strengthened, and the seeds of God's love that have been planted in the hearts of our children.

- Alison Burns and Allison Moyer, VBC Coordinators



A SPECIAL THANK YOU!

Some of the greatest strengths of our parish are our ministries. They provide support to the priests, parishioners and staff, giving generously of their time and their talent. These ministries are vital to the health of our constantly growing parish and we cannot thank them enough for all that they do.

The Women's Club is one of the parish's most dynamic and active ministries. Members of the Women's Club volunteer frequently and are actively involved in social events and fundraising which support the Parish. They also support the community by providing scholarships to students.

We would like to take a moment to thank the Women's Club for their recent donations to the parish. One of their gifts will be used for Advent wreaths for the Faith Formation Program this year, and the other gift will be utilized where the parish needs it most. Thank You!

- Peter Vitagliano, Finance/Operations Officer

AMAZING ACTS OF GENEROSITY!

A month ago, we faced an equipment breakdown. Our 30-year-old speakers on the pole in the parking lot used for the Fatima Procession finally gave out. Not only were these speakers unique and hard to find, but also up on a pole out of reach without a bucket truck.

With only a few weeks to get them replaced, we were able to find new speakers, and with the help of Peter Proffetty, some electrical expertise, and his bucket truck, we were able to replace the speakers with new and updated ones...the day before the Procession! They have never sounded better!

These kind of upgrades and repairs wouldn't be possible without the support and selflessness of our parish family. A huge thank you goes out to Peter Proffetty and Proffetty Electric who helped make these repairs happen!

- Peter Vitagliano, Finance/Operations Officer



FINANCIAL BLESSINGS

SECOND COLLECTIONS:

NO SECOND COLLECTION

AUG. 22 - 23

NO SECOND COLLECTION

AUG. 29 - 30

WEEKLY OFFERTORY 8/11 - 8/17	St. Thomas / St. Basil
Weekly Collection (In-Pew)	\$ 6,842
Mail-in / Drop-Off	\$ 420
Online (WeShare)	\$ 3,802
OFFERTORY TOTAL	\$ 11,064
Mission Collection	\$ 3,738

AVERAGE WEEKLY EXPENSES FOR JULY = \$ 10,834



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or scan this QR Code!





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

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

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.

WEEKLY MASS SCHEDULE

SATURDAY, AUGUST 22

9:00 a.m. Jean Grebe
4:00 p.m. Peggy Sotera

SUNDAY, AUGUST 23

St. Thomas

7:30 a.m. Rosa, Joao, and Michael Pimentel
9:00 a.m. John Carbone
12:00 p.m. Gail Schnopp

St. Basil

10:30 a.m. Maria and Joe Roque

MONDAY, AUGUST 24

9:00 a.m. Kathryn Sullivan

TUESDAY, AUGUST 25

9:00 a.m. Krys Parnell

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 26

9:00 a.m. Maureen Finnerty

THURSDAY, AUGUST 27

9:00 a.m. Patricia Giovannello (living)

FRIDAY, AUGUST 28

9:00 a.m. Roger Giglio

SATURDAY, AUGUST 29

9:00 a.m.

4:00 p.m. Stephen and Thomas Boyd

SUNDAY, AUGUST 30

St. Thomas

7:30 a.m. Roland Boughton
9:00 a.m. Paul E. Barents
12:00 p.m.

St. Basil

10:30 a.m. Filippo Presti

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PRAYER LIST

A Time to be Born....

Avery Gillis

A Time to Die....

Diane Bernier
Loretta Pistone
Margaret Vacher

A Time to Heal....

Carolyn Allen	Marissa Lopes
Paul Battista	Lucie Lovell
Kathy Bennett	Anna Madigan
Jean-Marie Boustani	Riley McHardy
Sandra Cable	JoAnn Micalizzi
Mimi Conklin	Michael Mickiewicz
Michael Coscia	Elisabeth Mikush
Mary Cowan	Kathy Monahan
Jackie Davis	Chris O'Leary
Anthony DeSarpa	Peter O'Leary
Lourdes DeSarpa	Sean O'Leary
Marcus DiSalvo	Thomas O'Leary
Stephanie DiSalvo	Lane Poche
Matteo Disalvo	Jerry Putney
Evan Frye	Baby Carson Rosen
Joan Ward Fusco	Diane Russell
Brenda Gentili	Ruth Sandler
Patricia Giovannello	Tony Scalfaro
Thomas Groh	James Schneider
Gail Hatch	Deana Spingel
Tom Joyce	Jamison Spingel
Carol Kelley	Emily Stone
Julie Landry	Erika White

A Time for Peace....

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

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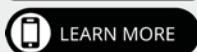
"Jesus Wept." *John 11:35*

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"Jesus Wept." John 11:35

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