

ST. THOMAS AQUINAS PARISH

SEPTEMBER 6, 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 - 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. 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

ANOINTING OF THE SICK

THIS SUNDAY, SEPT. 6 - 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 about anointing, please consult Fr. Devine or Fr. John.



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 Ginny at 508-697-7649.

**THE PARISH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED
THIS MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 7.**

Save the Dates!

**NEXT SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13:
THE 5:00 PM MASS RESUMES!
COFFEE AND DONUTS RESUME!**

**VOLUNTEER WEEKENDS
ARE FAST APPROACHING!**

**Ministry Tables will be set up after all Masses
at the Church and Chapel the weekends
of Sept. 19-20 and Sept. 26-27!**

**Check out all of our other events
also listed in this bulletin!**



**CANDLELIGHT
ROSARY
PROCESSION
in honor of
OUR LADY OF
FATIMA**

**NEXT SUNDAY
SEPT. 13
7:30 PM**

**SPEAKER: REV. JOE RAEKE
PASTOR, ST. PETER CHURCH
AND ST. KATERI TEKAKWITHA
CHURCH, PLYMOUTH
AND OUR LADY OF LOURDES
CHURCH, CARVER**

**LOCATION:
ST. THOMAS AQUINAS CHURCH
HELD RAIN OR SHINE**

FAITH FORMATION - SPIRITUAL POVERTY & SANDWICHES

Last Monday, Capuchin Brothers Paul and Anthony visited our Confirmation students to share their mobile ministry to Boston's homeless. Following St. Francis of Assisi's example, they remind those on the streets of their inherent dignity and worth. While sandwiches sustain the body, their real mission is relational, that is, to offer genuine human connection and witness to Christ's love. Material donations matter, but what our homeless neighbors need most is to be seen and valued as people. Like our own coffee and donut hour, their ministry uses simple hospitality as a bridge to faith and community. When people are reduced to what they have or don't have, spiritual poverty sets in. By stepping into that void with presence and care, we become instruments of faith and healing.

- Debbie Hill, Faith Formation Director



- Are you someone who was baptized Catholic, but never received any other sacraments and wish to do so?
- 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 with Fr. Devine or Fr. John, or contact Kevin Geraghty at (508) 954-8017 or Karen Geraghty at (508) 930-8280.

ADULT CONFIRMATION CLASSES

This program is for those who were baptized Catholic, received First Holy Communion, and would like to receive Confirmation. ***Please contact Fr. Devine or Fr. John prior to registering for one of the locations.***

Holy Family Parish, Duxbury: 5 Consecutive Tuesday evenings, beginning Tuesday, September 15 through Tuesday, October 13 from 7:00 – 8:15 PM. A candidate should be baptized and have already received First Communion.

Immaculate Conception Church, Weymouth: Begins with Mass at 4PM on Saturday, September 12, followed by class in the Msgr. Hackett Center until 6:15 PM. Class dates are Sept. 12, 19, 26; Oct 3, 10 and 17.

Adult Confirmation Ceremony: This Fall, it will take place at Sacred Heart Church, Quincy, Divine Mercy Parish on Monday, October 19 at 7:00 PM. Please register before the October date.

WALKING WITH PURPOSE FALL BIBLE STUDY FOR WOMEN

Make authentic friendships - Refuel and refresh - Strengthen your faith

Join us as we examine St. Paul's Letter to the Ephesians, exploring such topics as Christian identity, strength, and maturity through the Walking with Purpose Bible study ***Fearless and Free!*** This study provides a firm foundation to stand on, no matter what life throws our way. With an emphasis on healing and wholeness, Fearless and Free is the most personal and transformative study that Walking with Purpose offers. **The study guide is \$15 for the six-week course and will be given out at the first session.**

PARTICIPANTS MAY REQUEST ONE OF THESE SESSIONS:

Wednesdays (September 23 - October 28)

6:30 PM - 8:30 PM

Thursdays (September 24 - October 29)*

10:00 AM - 12:00 PM OR 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM

*Session preference will be accommodated as space allows. All studies to be held at the Parish Center.

To register, call Jane Centrella at 508-577-8689 by Wednesday, September 9.



Save the Date!



ALUMNI MASS

Celebrating Our Past. Embracing Our Future.

BSU HOMECOMING



SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2026



10:30 AM



ST. BASIL'S CHAPEL

122 Park Ave.
Bridgewater, MA 02324



BRIDGEWATER
STATE UNIVERSITY

*Join us in faith and fellowship as we give thanks for our
BSU community and the journey we share.*

Hallow

We are so encouraged that our parish page has 428 members! Haven't used the app yet? Download it to see what Hallow is all about! Questions about Hallow? Contact Tina in the office.

***HOW TO PRAY -
14 DAYS OF PRAYER
BEGINS ON SEPTEMBER 14!***



NEW TO HALLOW:

- Download the Hallow app.
- Rather than following the prompts to create your account, begin at the church icon in the top right corner.
- Search for our parish (use zip code if needed) & Join.
- Tap Claim Subscription at the top of the parish page.
- Fill out your information for the six-month trial and discount to be applied to your account.

ALREADY HAVE A HALLOW ACCOUNT:

- Open the Hallow app.
- Tap the Church tab at the bottom of the screen.
- Follow the prompts to complete your profile.
- Tap Explore, find our parish and Join.
- Tap Claim Subscription at the top of the parish page.
- Fill out your information for the 6-month trial and discount to be applied to your account

ALREADY HAVE A HALLOW SUBSCRIPTION:

- Cancel your current subscription (this does NOT delete your account or prayer history).

When your subscription ends/downgrades:

- Return to the parish page.
- Tap Claim Subscription AND Fill out your information for the discount to be applied

FAITH FORMATION CLASSES BEGIN SEPTEMBER 20!

**REGISTER NOW!
CLASSES FILL UP QUICKLY!**

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



A Student's Prayer

-St. Thomas Aquinas

Come, Holy Spirit, Divine Creator,
true source of light
and fountain of wisdom!
Pour forth your brilliance upon
my dense intellect,
dissipate the darkness which covers me,
that of sin and of ignorance.
Grant me a penetrating mind to understand,
a retentive memory,
method and ease in learning,
the lucidity to comprehend, and
abundant grace in expressing myself.
Guide the beginning of my work,
direct its progress,
and bring it to successful completion.
This I ask through Jesus Christ,
true God and true man,
living and reigning with You
and the Father, forever and ever.

Amen.



ATTENTION Grades 9-12!

STEP UP - 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 THIS Wednesday, September 9th from 6:00 - 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



ST. THOMAS AQUINAS JUNIOR YOUTH GROUP OPEN GYM

GRADES 6-8

THIS 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

\$5 DONATION TOWARDS SNACKS AND SUPPLIES OPTIONAL

**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!

NEW! 2027 CATHOLIC HEART WORK CAMP (CHWC) MISSION TRIP

The wait is finally over! Catholic Heart Workcamp has announced the dates and locations for our 2027 trip! We are going to **Royersford, PA from June 26 through July 2, 2027!** This is a new location for us. It is not the same place we went when we served in Philadelphia a few years ago. I'm excited to see what this new community has in store for us! Our bus is already filling up, so don't wait! I know many of you were waiting for the dates to be announced, and now they are finally here!

WHO CAN PARTICIPATE:

Youth members of our Parish who are entering 8th - 12th grade in September 2027 and adults who are interested in chaperoning.

HOW DO I SIGN UP?

- Complete the application found on the Youth Group page at www.stthomassaquinas.com and submit it to the Parish Office by September 17, 2025.
- Submit a \$150 non-refundable deposit (checks can be made out to St. Thomas Aquinas Parish).
- If you have a financial hardship, please contact Fr. Bill, Fr. John, or Jen Rosher.
- Participate in at least 6 youth group events and 3 fundraising events to raise money for the trip.

Total cost of the trip will be \$530 per teen and \$350 per chaperone for the first 10 chaperones; all other chaperones will pay full price. (This cost includes food/ lodging. We will be fundraising for transportation, Free Day, and other necessities.)

Questions: Email Jen Rosher at jenrosher@comcast.net if you have questions that need to be answered before making this commitment.

INSPIRE BRIDGEWATER MISSION WEEKEND

October 2 - 4, 2026

Our Inspire Youth Group recently returned from Catholic Heart Workcamp inspired to continue serving others - right here in Bridgewater! We will be working on small service projects for seniors, veterans, young families, nonprofits, or anyone who could use a helping hand. Thank you to those who submitted project requests - we have received them and will be in contact!

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 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.

WHY PARTICIPATE IN CHWC?

"It is more blessed to give than to receive." I couldn't be more appreciative for all of the amazing opportunities that I experienced. I was able to volunteer at a memory care home, working with some of the most inspiring residents; they were so joyful to pray with me and just feel seen. Surrendering everything to Christ this week was the most important part. We are called this week to leave our regular life at home and let God use you in any way He can. Jesus Christ can do so much in your life, you just have to let Him in. Coming on this mission trip was truly life-changing - from the amazing homilies and liturgy of the hours, praying the rosary, adoration, worshiping at program, and deepening connections or making new ones. But most of all, there was a skit that stuck out to me. It portrayed the struggles and sin that weigh us down. We all relate in our struggles more than we know. When we invite Christ into those struggles, you are inviting light into the darkness and you're no longer alone. Jesus loves you, He wants you. I encourage you to accept that invitation, it will change your life. - *Kate Meehan, student*



Five Catholic Heart Camps under my belt, and each one has been a unique blessing. This year, I was blessed to serve alongside 5 teens from St. Thomas Aquinas and 5 teens from other parishes. Watching these 10 young people form new friendships, serve with open hearts, and grow together in faith was truly special. My hope is that the bonds they built this week continue to strengthen in the years ahead. Witnessing them work, pray, and love so selflessly reminded me why this week is so meaningful every year. My heart is full, and I'm already looking forward to starting the countdown to Catholic Heart Camp 2027! - *Allyson Holland, chaperone*

This is my second year and yet this has been my favorite year so far. Especially with meeting the residents of the DPD, they always made me smile, along with meeting many new people from different parishes, I am truly going to miss this place and all we did. - *Jamari Moreno, student*



This has now been my third mission trip! All I can say is it just gets better every year. Not only have I been able to make close friends through my parish, but I also got to meet some amazing people from other states. The work group I had was beyond compare, and it was incredible to be around such like-minded people. If you have never been on a mission trip, I pray you will think about it because it changed my life for the better. As soon as I leave, I look forward to the next one. - *Maggie Farrell, student*

Catholic Heart Workcamp - blessings! This week we were told and shown that being blessed is not having a ton of money or getting everything you've ever wanted, but it's getting to do the good work of God and being able to have a relationship with our Father in heaven. This week and this mission trip is life-changing. You help, serve, and love like Jesus with the work you do for the people that God created so intentionally, and that is being blessed. CHWC makes you see, live, be, and believe God's love through the work, the people, the fun, and the love that is all around you. God bless. - *Sienna Ruth, student*



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.

We are honored to have Bagpipers and Color Guard
add dignity to our celebration.

NEXT Saturday, September 12, 2026

4:00 PM

St. Thomas Aquinas Church



Contact:
Chris Paze
cpaze@bridgewaterma.org



Contact:
Sean Peters
speters@bridgewaterma.org



Contact:
Joseph Locke
j1locke@bridgewaterma.org

ATTENTION ALL MEMBERS OF THE CATHOLIC WOMEN'S CLUB

NEXT SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13TH
12:00 PM MASS

Please join us on Sunday, September 13th at the 12:00 PM Mass to pray for our living and deceased members. It is a special way to begin our year. After Mass, we will meet at Good Days Restaurant in West Bridgewater for a luncheon. Members are responsible for their own meals. We hope you can join us for the Mass and luncheon!

Also, a reminder for old and new members to sign up to join the Women's Club during the upcoming volunteer weekends. Please consider joining us. The Women's Club provides fellowship to women through social events and we raise funds to help support parish activities. Some of the activities we have run are: the bi-annual rummage sale; sock, underwear and hat drive; baby bottle drive; and annual scholarship for high school seniors for college.

In addition, we have donated funds to purchase four pop-up canopies to be used at parish events; new blinds for the parish center; new folding chairs for the parish center; funds to the evangelization committee for their events; to support the annual Catholic Heart Work Camp Mission Trip; and many other parish activities. We support our vibrant parish community and its events. Please help us to continue our mission!

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





SEEKING PEACE AFTER ABORTION?

Project Rachel retreats offer hope, healing and forgiveness.

Fall 2026 Dates:

Saturday, September 19
Saturday, October 24
Saturday, November 14

Locations are confidential.
Call 508-651-3100 for details.

*"The Project Rachel retreat gave me hope...
I received back the grace of God within me and
felt a true sense of peace and self-forgiveness."*



If you are burdened by the spiritual and emotional pain of a past abortion, contact Project Rachel for more information about attending a retreat or getting a referral to a specially trained priest for sacramental Reconciliation. All services are free and confidential.
508-651-3100 or help@projectrachelboston.com
Sponsored by the Project Rachel Ministry of the Archdiocese of Boston

FINANCIAL BLESSINGS

SECOND COLLECTIONS:

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT

SEPT. 5-6

NO SECOND COLLECTION

SEPT. 12-13

**LAST WEEK'S OFFERTORY WILL BE PUBLISHED
IN NEXT WEEK'S BULLETIN.**

WE APOLOGIZE FOR ANY INCONVENIENCE.

AVERAGE WEEKLY EXPENSES FOR JULY = \$ 10,834



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WEEKLY MASS SCHEDULE

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 5

9:00 a.m.

4:00 p.m. Joseph, Josephine, and Joseph B. Leandres

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 6

St. Thomas

7:30 a.m.

9:00 a.m. Angelina Pimentel

12:00 p.m. Maria Matos Tavares

St. Basil

10:30 a.m. Ignatius McCann

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 7

9:00 a.m. Patrick and Della Keeley

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8

9:00 a.m. Paul Keeley and Patrick Keeley, Jr.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9

9:00 a.m. Attilio Pulsinelli and Camilla Pantaleo

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 10

9:00 a.m. Jeanne Devito

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 11

9:00 a.m. Krys Parnell

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 12

9:00 a.m.

4:00 p.m. Gerry Gesner - Public Safety Mass

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

St. Thomas

7:30 a.m.

9:00 a.m. Manuel Melo and Maria dos Anjos

12:00 p.m. Living and Deceased Member's of the Women's Club

5:00 p.m.

St. Basil

10:30 a.m. Jose and Etelvina Curvelo

SACRAMENTS

To receive information about the Sacraments or 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 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....

Timothy Rydzewski

A Time to Die....

Louis Almond, Jr.

Catherine Sellers

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 DeSerpa	Peter O'Leary
Lourdes DeSerpa	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 Giovanniello	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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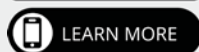
"Jesus Wept." John 11:35

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