

**ST. THOMAS AQUINAS PARISH**  
**1719 Post Road Fairfield CT 06824**

Parish /Cemetery Office—203-255-1097 Office Fax—203-256-8177 Email: STTHOAQ@aol.com  
Religious Education Office—203-255-1984 School—203-255-0556 Youth Ministry—203-256-8962  
St. Thomas Prayer Line: email staprayerline@att.net  
Web page: stthomasfairfield.com

**New Parishioners**

Welcome to our Parish Community! Please register at the parish office and feel free to contact anyone on our staff regarding the Parish and its activities.

**First Friday Masses**

7 :00 am  
8:15 am (School Mass)  
12:10 pm

**Sanctuary /Blessed Mother Candles**

May be memorialized for a sick person, a deceased loved one, or in celebration of a special intention. Please call the parish office to reserve a date.

**Parish Center Rentals**  
Contact The Parish Office



**Baptisms and Marriages**

By arrangement with Parish Office.

**Pre Baptismal Instruction**

Required prior to Baptism.

**Pre-Cana**

Required prior to Marriage. Arrangements should be made at least 8 months in advance.

**Communion Visit for the Homebound**

Please call the parish office to request a visit

**Rev. Victor T. Martin**  
*Pastor*

**Rev. Lawrence A. Larson**  
*Parochial Vicar*

**Rev. Roger F. McDonough**  
*Retired-Resident Priest*

**Deacon Daniel J. Ianniello**  
*Retired-Parish Deacon*

**Mary Jane Edwards**  
*Pastoral Associate*

**Catherine T. Lopata**  
*Office Admin./Cemetery Mgr.*

**Gerrie Desio**  
*Office Receptionist*

**CHURCH SCHEDULE**

**Saturday**

Vigil Mass 5:00 pm

**Sunday**

7:00 am, 9:00 am, 10:30 am, 12 Noon

**Weekday Masses**

7:00 a.m. and 12:10 Noon

**Sacrament of Reconciliation**

Saturdays: 4:00 to 4:45 pm

**Jacqueline Herbert**  
*Dir. of Religious Ed*

**Dominique Johnson**  
*Religious Ed. Assistant*

**David E. Harris**  
*Organist/Music Director*

**Patricia E. Brady**  
*School Principal*

**Jessica Nayden**  
*Youth Minister*

**Patricia Grassi**  
*RCIA Coordinator*

**Jean Correa**  
*Parish Accountant*  
203-255-1097

**Mr. Richard Miller**  
*Parish Advisory Bd. Chair*  
203-259-0824

**Mr. Edward Dayton**  
*Parish Finance Bd. Chair*  
203-255-5141

**Mission Statement:**

For St. Thomas Aquinas Parish, prayer and liturgical worship is the essence of our faith community. The Gospel message is proclaimed by word and deed, nurtured by ongoing opportunities for religious formation, evangelization, social action and worship.

*Message from the Pastor*

**THE 4<sup>TH</sup> WEEK IS IMPORTANT TOO!**

Christmas is only a week away! On this Fourth Sunday of Advent, the readings turn to the immediate preparations for the birth of our Lord.

We too are finalizing our preparations for His birth into our hearts once again!

Let us pray today for the courage of St. Joseph to bear whatever burdens may be necessary, so that our world too, may be saved from its sinful ways.

All during the Advent season, we have repeated in prayer and song **“EMMANUEL” (GOD IS WITH US).**

My friends. Do we really believe this?

What is the path we follow, do we truly believe God is with us and whether or not we have chosen to walk in his ways or our own?



**December 18 to December 25, 2016**

Sat.	5:00 pm	John and Olga Smith
Sun.	7:00 am	For the Parish Family
	9:00 am	James Maisano
	10:30 am	Vito and Lydia Lacerenza
	12:00 Noon	Gloria Dellaera
Mon.	7:00 am	Elizabeth D'Agostino
	12:10 pm	Eileen Krahe (1st)
Tues.	7:00 am	Bernard Lambert (15th)
	12:10 pm	Joseph and Teresa Rabbia
Wed.	7:00 am	Mildred Kotrady (6th)
	12:10 pm	Jack Luby (6th)
Thurs.	7:00 am	Mary Margaret Curran
	12:10 pm	Ruth Grant Jeter (1st)
Fri.	7:00 am	Bella Price-Sloode (1st)
	12:10 pm	Joseph Bryne
<b>Sat.</b>	<b>4:00 pm</b>	<b>Christmas Children's Mass</b>
	<b>6:00 pm</b>	<b>Christmas Children's Mass</b>
	<b>8:00 pm</b>	<b>Christmas Eve Mass</b>
	<b>12:00 am</b>	<b>Christmas Midnight Mass</b>
<b>Sun.</b>	<b>8:00 am</b>	<b>Mass For The Parish Family</b>
	<b>10:00 am</b>	<b>Christmas Day Mass</b>
	<b>12 :00 Noon</b>	<b>Christmas Day Mass</b>



*please pray for the sick*

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|----------------------|--------------------|
| Nancy Gianni         | Maria Ines Galindo |
| Amanda Morguelan     | Walter Murphy      |
| Laura Terranova      | Carl Collica       |
| Annette Ham          | Javier Sattler     |
| Susan Hasiuk         | Anna Skurja        |
| Leonor Sattler       | Chet Greene        |
| Mary Durkin          | Tom Lopez          |
| Rebecca Scalera      | Nancy Stevens      |
| Irene Ercolani       | Jane Harwood       |
| Betty Freddino       | James Rooney       |
| Rene Ercolani Molnar | Richard Martin     |
| Peggy Krotki         | Sally Cohane       |
| Mary Toth            | Ilene Ianniello    |
| Rosemarie Fowler     | Liam Crane         |
| Joseph Mitchell      | Veronica Hughes    |
| Noreen Hernandez     | Margaret Poulsen   |
| Rev. Charlie Allen   | Dennis Rich        |
| Frank Slovensky      | Luis Gonzalez      |



**Believe it or not**

Our Midnight Mass is at 12:00 Midnight! Fr. Martin has celebrated this Christmas Mass for the past 22 years as pastor for the Military men

and women who serve in defense of our American freedom.

**Please join us for our Choir Concert at 11:30 pm followed by the Mass of Midnight**



## Christmas 2016

### Christmas Eve Masses

**Saturday, December 24<sup>th</sup>**

3:45 pm Christmas Sing-a-long

4:00 pm Children's Mass

5:45 pm Christmas Sing-a-long

6:00 pm Children's Mass

8:00 pm Christmas Eve Mass

Adult Choir Concert 11:30 pm

12:00 am - Midnight Mass

### Christmas Day Masses

**Sunday, December 25<sup>th</sup>**

8:00 am, 10:00 am, 12 Noon

**Monday December 26<sup>th</sup>**

12:10pm Daily Mass only

**Feast of Mary, Mother of God**  
New Year's Eve - December 31<sup>st</sup>

5:00 pm Mass

**New Year's Day**

**Sunday, January 1, 2017**

8:00 am, 10:00 am, 12 Noon

### Parish Support

3rd Sunday in Advent 2016: \$10,634.61

3rd Sunday in Advent 2015: \$11,568.43

Retirement Fund for Priests 2016: \$ 3,335.40

Retirement Fund for Priests 2015: \$ 3,086.94

Immaculate Conception 2016: \$ 1,868.95

Immaculate Conception 2015: \$ 2,265.00

*Thankyou!*

## "ARISE AND SHINE," DIOCESAN YOUTH CHOIR CHRISTMAS CONCERT



**Sunday December 18th at 6:00pm.**  
**Klien Memorial Auditorium**

A Christmas Concert featuring 78-member Diocesan Youth Choir (C4Y) **What a better way of celebrate the Advent Season than in Song?** The concert will feature some of your favorite traditional and contemporary Christmas hymns, as well as prayers and scripture readings. Tickets are \$15 for Adults and \$10 for students can be purchased on line at [www.theklien.org](http://www.theklien.org) or phone at 800-424-0160.

## Mass of Gratitude

On Sunday January 8, 2017

(Feast of the Baptism of our Lord)

at the 9:00 am Mass

We will celebrate our annual Mass of Gratitude.

This mass is celebrated for all those who were baptized in the year 2016.

## THE SANCTUARY LIGHT WILL BURN THIS WEEK



*In Loving Memory of Bernard Lambert*

**THE BLESSED MOTHER ALTAR CANDLE  
IS LIGHTED THIS WEEK FOR**

*James Maisano*



**OUR ST. JOSEPH ALTAR CANDLE  
IS LIGHTED FOR**

*All those Unemployed*

*(Praying for job opportunities!)*



## DID YOU KNOW????

The Christmas season begins with the celebration of the Christmas Eve Masses (December 24, 2016) and is extended through the Baptism of the Lord on January 9, 2017.



### Knights of Columbus Council 2616

The Knights of Columbus on Unquowa Road have sold their building and have moved into our chapel in the Church.

The **3rd Degree** meets every First Tuesday of the month at 7:30pm.

The **4th Degree** meets every Second Tuesday of the month at 7:30pm.

The **Columbiettes** meet on the 4th Monday of every month at 7:30pm.

Men and women 18 years of age are invited to join.

#### **MOTHER'S PRAYER GROUP**

The group meets every Wednesday in the Chapel/Cry Room of the church at 8:30am. The Prayer group is open to all Parish and School Mothers. Any questions please contact Renee at 203-255-2409 or Regina 203-259-8170.

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#### **LECTORS ARE NEEDED**

Interested in joining the Ministry of Lectors to read at mass on the weekends? Please contact the Parish Office 203-255-1097

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#### **EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS ARE NEEDED**

Please contact the Parish Office at 203-255-1097 if you are interested in being a Eucharistic Minister at mass on the weekends.

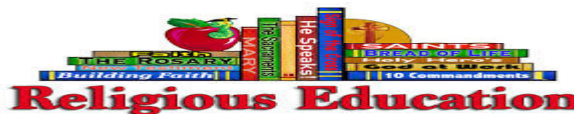
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#### **ON LINE GIVING**

St Thomas Aquinas parish has a method to accept your GIFTS to your parish without writing checks.

Through ELECTRONIC FUNDS TRANSFER your offertory contribution will be sent DIRECTLY from your checking account or credit card and eliminate the need to write checks.

Visit our website [www.stthomasfairfield.com](http://www.stthomasfairfield.com) and click the On Line Giving link



### Dec. 19th to Jan. 2nd 2017 Christmas Break Classes Resume on January 3, 2017

Questions please contact Jackie or Dominique at 203-255-1984 or

[stthoaqccd@aol.com](mailto:stthoaqccd@aol.com)

#### **Mass of Remembrance**

A Mass of Remembrance for the loss of a child will be held on the Feast of the Holy Innocents, Wednesday, December 28, 2016 at 7 p.m. at St. Ann Parish in the Black Rock section of Bridgeport. Father Perter Lynch, pastor, will celebrate the Mass.

For more information, email [OfficeofFaithFormation@diobpt.org](mailto:OfficeofFaithFormation@diobpt.org)



Sunday, December 18: Christmas Parties!!!  
Middle School from 4-5:30pm  
High School from 7-9pm

Questions? Contact Jessica Nayden at [StThomasFairfieldYouth@gmail.com](mailto:StThomasFairfieldYouth@gmail.com)

#### **FOOD FOR THOUGHT**

*“Advent a Time of Hope we go to encounter the Lord who comes to encounter us.”*

*December 11  
Pope Francis*

