

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

REJOICE SUNDAY

As we begin to celebrate the third Sunday of Advent, known as Gaudete or Rejoice Sunday. This name is taken from the entrance antiphon, which is itself a quote from St. Paul's Letter to the Philippians:

"Rejoice in the Lord always."

Our Advent season of preparation is already halfway over.

How have your preparations gone so far?

Have you made it to confession yet?

Our Parish Advent Penance service is on Tuesday of this coming week (December 13th) at 7:30 p.m.

It is never too late to prepare for the coming of God in our hearts.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

"Be faithful in small things because it is in them that your strength lies."

St. Mother Terese



Newly Baptized

Our Parish Family welcomes the following who were recently Baptized.

**Claire Rose Evans
Dylan Richard Korecki**



December 10 to December 18, 2016

Sat.	5:00 pm	The Marko Family
Sun.	7:00 am	For the Parish Family
	9:00 am	Cynthia Stanco
	10:30 am	John Howard (4th)
	12:00 Noon	Thomas Murray
Mon.	7:00 am	Elizabeth D'Agostino
	12:10 pm	Joey Kulaga
Tues.	7:00 am	Susan Carroll
	12:10 pm	Bruno Primerano
	7:30 pm	Parish Advent Penance Service
Wed.	7:00 am	Joseph Ostrosky
	12:10 pm	Martin Crowe
Thurs.	7:00 am	John Reilly
	12:10 pm	Katherine Seaman (2nd)
Fri.	7:00 am	Mary Tomchuk
	12:10 pm	Joseph Byrne
Sat.	2:00 pm	Wedding
	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



Nancy Gianni	Maria Ines Galindo
Amanda Morguelan	Walter Murphy
Laura Terranova	Carl Collica
Shirley Mongillo	Annette Ham
Javier Sattler	Susan Hasiuk
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	Anthony Mongillo
Ilene Ianniello	Rosemarie Fowler
Liam Crane	Joseph Mitchell
Robert DeVitto	Veronica Hughes
Noreen Hernandez	Margaret Poulsen
Rev. Charlie Allen	Dennis Rich
Frank Slovensky	Luis Gonzalez



Advent Giving Tree

It's that time of year again and the Advent Giving Tree.

This is an enormous project and every year the parish rises to the occasion. St. Thomas Aquinas families and parishioners share their generosity with many people in Fairfield and Bridgeport. Through the Advent Giving Tree, we provide specific gifts for individual families from St. Charles and St. Mary parishes in Bridgeport and Catholic Charities families, coats for Mercy Learning Center, warm weather clothing for patrons of the Ella Grasso Center, gift cards for Operation Hope, books and games for children of the Cardinal Sheehan Center, outfits for the Missionary Sisters' pre-school children, toys for the Daughters of Charity Convent, and we provide help for families in our own parish.

If anyone would like to “adopt a family” and purchase gifts for a family please e-mail stthomasfairfielddiyouth@gmail.com

Please take tags from the trees at the entrances of the parish and bring the item back, unwrapped, by the date on the tag. If you return your gift during the week, please bring it to the Parish Office where it will be secure. If you return your gift after a weekend Mass, please bring it to the boxes in the Church. If you are available to help deliver items to Bridgeport contact Jessica stthomasfairfielddiyouth@gmail.com 740-424-4581 **Thank you in advance for your generosity**

THE SANCTUARY LIGHT WILL BURN



THIS WEEK

Tortorella and Durso Families

THE BLESSED MOTHER ALTAR CANDLE IS LIGHTED THIS WEEK FOR

Bruno Primerano



OUR ST. JOSEPH ALTAR CANDLE IS LIGHTED FOR



All those Unemployed

(Praying for job opportunities!)



Christmas 2016

Christmas Eve Masses

Saturday, December 24th

- 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 25th

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

Monday December 26th

- 12:10pm Daily Mass only

Feast of Mary, Mother of God

New Year’s Eve - December 31st

- 5:00 pm Mass

New Year’s Day

Sunday, January 1, 2017

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

Parish Support

- 2nd Sunday of Advent 2016: \$ 10,182.75
- 2nd Sunday of Advent 2015: \$ 11,995.11
- November Capital Fund 2016: \$ 1,069.50
- November Capital Fund 2015: \$ 1,284.00
- December Annual Collection 2016: \$ 1,428.00

Thank You!



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.

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

Would you like to help a family build their new home? We have the opportunity to join with local churches to help a family in Bridgeport build their home on Sat, Dec 17. Construction skills not needed just a willingness to help. If you can work 1 or 2 or 3 hrs or all day, you are welcome to join us. It would be a great Christmas present! If you are interested, call Karen Ann Simmons 203-335-7432 for more information.

THOMAS MERTON CENTER HOUSE OF HOSPITALITY in need of volunteers

43 Madison Avenue
Bridgeport, CT 06604
203-367-9036
Monday-Friday 8:30am-1:30pm;
Saturday 9:00am-12:00pm.



Care Packages for Soldiers

Project from the Heart Mails packages to our Troops in Iraq and Afghanistan Over 11,000 to date. We are always in need of support to do so: either financial and/or supplies. Please know these well-deserving Troops need our Love and Support. They operate under very difficult situations. Contact Shirley Sambrook **203-259-5903**.

A box is located in the front lobby of the Church.

Thank you and God Bless America!



December News

Mon. Dec. 12th: Grades 6/7 Penance Service 6:00pm
No Class for 8th Grade

Tues. Dec. 13th Grades 3,4,5 Penance Service 4:15
No Class Grade 1

Wed. Dec. 14th Grades 3,4,5 Penance Service 4:15
No Class Grade 1

**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



"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 or phone at 800-424-0160.

YOUTH GROUP

December Meeting Schedule:

Sunday, December 11: High School
from 7-9pm
Sunday, December 18: Christmas Parties!!!
Middle School from 4-5:30pm
High School from 7-9pm

Questions? Contact Jessica Harris at
StThomasFairfieldYouth@gmail.com