

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

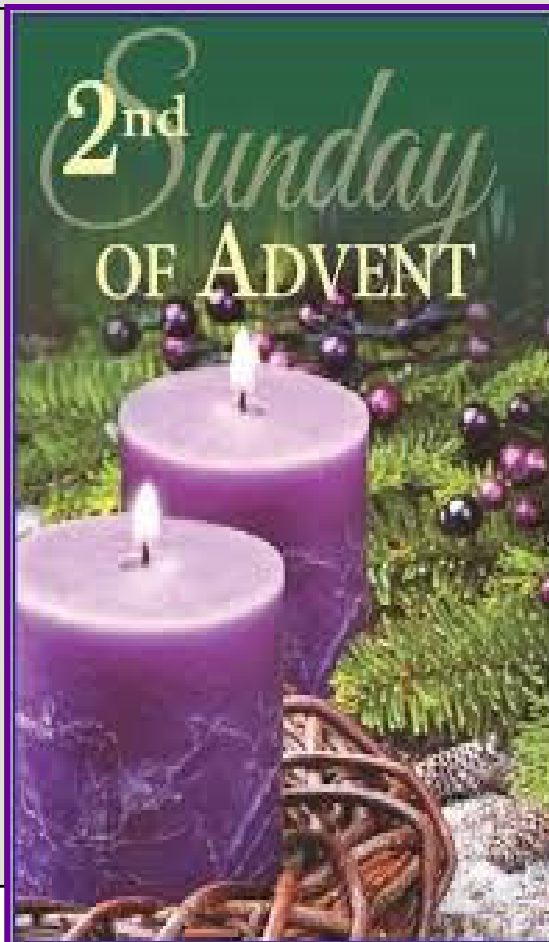
7 :00 am
8:15 am (School Mass)
12:10 pm

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

David E. Harris
Organist/Music Director

Stephen L. Anderson
School Principal

Jessica Nayden
Youth Minister

Patricia Grassi
RCLIA 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

PREPARE THE WAY OF THE LORD

Deserts and wilderness can be a beautiful place, but they have an element of danger as well. They're good places to get lost, for one thing, and in them you're vulnerable to forces of nature that are vastly more powerful than you.

Sometimes, though, you have to travel through the trackless wastes to get where you want to go, and that's true spiritually as well. To reach the Promise Land the Israelites had to walk through the desert; to return from exile in Babylon they had to journey back to Jerusalem.

John the Baptist called people out to the desert to repent. As you continue your Advent journey, remember that sometimes you have to walk through life's deserted stretches to arrive at the place where God is found.

Mass Intentions
FOR THE WEEK 

December 9 to December 17, 2017

Sat.	5:00 pm	The Marko Family
Sun.	7:00 am	For our Parish Family
	9:00 am	Margaret Halloran (1st)
	10:30 am	Joseph and Teresa Rabbia
	12:00 Noon	Robert Nevins
Mon.	7:00 am	Cynthia Stanco
	12:10 pm	Thomas Murray
Tues.	7:00 am	Catherine O'Brien (1st)
	12:10 pm	Mabel Relonian
Wed.	7:00 am	Elizabeth D'Agostino
	12:10 pm	Tolly O'Brien (13th)
Thurs.	7:00 am	Joseph Ostrosky
	12:10 pm	Anna Dunn
Fri.	7:00 am	Robert Ciotti Jr. (1st)
	12:10 pm	Bruno Primerano
Sat.	5:00 pm	John and Olga Smith
Sun.	7:00 am	For the Parish Family
	9:00 am	John Howard (5th)
	10:30 am	Vito and Lydia Lacerenza
	12 :00 Noon	Gloria Dellaera



NEWLY BAPTIZED

Our Parish Family welcomes the following who were recently Baptized.

Charles Ivan Vega

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

*"How might YOU be a joyful
"herald of good news" this
Advent season?"*



Believe it or not

Our Midnight Mass is at 12:00 Midnight!
Fr. Martin has celebrated this Christmas Mass for the past 23 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*

*Please
pray for
the sick*

James McInerney	Joan McInerney
Barbara McShane	Amelia Mikulka
Maria Ines Galindo	Amanda Morguelan
Laura Terranova	Carl Collica
Annette Ham	Francis Xavier Edwards
Susan Hasiuk	Walter Murphy
Chet Greene	Tom Lopez
Charlie Capalbo	William Ceruzzi
Rebecca Scalera	Nancy Stevens
Irene Ercolani	Jane Harwood
James Rooney	Rene Ercolani Molnar
Luis Gonzalez	Patrick Carroll
Peggy Krotki	Sally Cohane
Mary Toth	Rosemarie Fowler
Liam Crane	Joseph Mitchell
Veronica Hughes	Noreen Hernandez
Dennis Rich	Frank Slovensky
Delores Weis	Kay Slovensky
John Lengen	Joseph Sciarrillo
Romano DeCastro	Mary Jane Edwards
Frank "Bud" Carroll	Margaret Carroll
Ed Zera	Edna Miller



Advent Penance Service

Tuesday, December 19th
7:30 pm

Fourth Sunday of Advent Masses

Saturday, December 23rd
5:00 pm

Sunday, December 24th
8:00 am and 10:00 am

Christmas Eve Masses

Sunday, December 24th

4:00 pm Children’s Mass
6:00 pm Children’s Mass
8:00 pm Christmas Eve Mass
11:30 pm Adult Choir Concert
12:00 am - Midnight Mass

Christmas Day Masses

Monday, December 25th
8:00 am, 10:00 am, 12 Noon

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

Saturday, December 30th
5:00pm

Sunday December 31st
7:00 am, 9:00 am, 10:30 am, 12:00 Noon

Vigil Mass for Feast of Mary Mother of God

Sunday December 31st
5:00 pm

Feast of Mary, Mother of God

New Year’s Day Monday, January 1, 2018
8:00 am, 10:00 am, 12 Noon

Parish Support

1st Sunday of Advent 2017: \$ 10,448.24
1st Sunday of Advent 2016: \$ 10,233.05

November Capital Fund 2017: \$ 930.00
November Capital Fund 2016: \$ 1,069.50

Thank you!

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 stthomasfairfielddyouth@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 please contact Jessica Nayden stthomasfairfielddyouth@gmail.com /740-424-4581 **Thank you in advance for your generosity!!**

THE SANCTUARY LIGHT WILL BURN THIS WEEK



Mary Ray Reasoner 1st Anniversary

THE BLESSED MOTHER ALTAR CANDLE IS LIGHTED THIS WEEK FOR



In Loving Memory of Durso and Tortorella Families

OUR ST. JOSEPH ALTAR CANDLE IS LIGHTED FOR



All those Unemployed (Praying for job opportunities!)



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.



Diocesan Youth Choir Sunday December 17th

Join Bishop Caggiano and the Diocesan Youth Choir for the annual Arise and Shine Christmas Concert at the Regina Quick Center on the campus of Fairfield University at 7:00 p.m. on December 17th . Tickets are general admission and are available online and at the box office for \$20. Please visit the diocesan website <http://bridgeportdiocese.com>

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.

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

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.



December News

Mon. Dec. 11th: Penance Service Grades 6 and 7 at 6:00pm at Church
No class for Grade 8

Mon. Dec. 18th: Penance Service Grade 8 at 7:00pm
No class for Grade 6 and 7

Tues. Dec. 19th: Penance Service Grades 3,4,5 at 4:00pm at Church.
No class for Grade 1

Wed. Dec. 20th: Penance Service Grades 3,4,5 at 4:00pm at Church.
No class for Grade 1

Dec. 22nd to Jan. 1st: No Class- Christmas Break Classes Resume on Tuesday January 2nd

Questions please contact Jackie at 203-255-1984 or stthoaqccd@aol.com



Sun Dec10: High School 6-8pm (Praise & Pizza)

Questions? Contact Jessica Nayden at StThomasFairfieldYouth@gmail.com

NEW DATE



The Ladies Guild Annual Christmas Dinner

Is on **Tuesday December 12th** at 6:00 pm at the LUIGI'S FAMILY RESTAURANT.

Menu - Appetizers: Bruschetta, Fried Calamari, Salad and Pasta. Entrees: Chicken Marsala; Stuffed Filet of Lemon Sole; New York Strip grilled to your preference. Dessert: Toasted Almond Cake or Cannoli Pie. A glass of Wine & Tea/Coffee, \$34pp.

Please RSVP to Bernadette 203-254-7569 or Pat 203 -254-2357 by December 11th .

