

St. Thomas Aquinas Parish Established July 1, 2014
Joining The Parishes of
St. Thomas Aquinas (1922-2014)
& St. Elizabeth Ann Seton (1976-2014)

ST. THOMAS

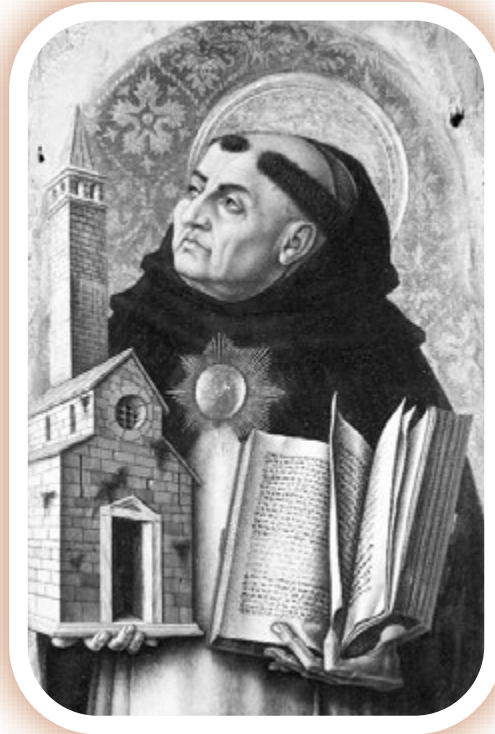
601 Bristol Pike
Croydon, PA 19021

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday Vigil: 4:30 PM
Sundays: 9:00 AM (SETON)
and 11:00 AM (St. Thomas)

Monday-Thursday: 8:30 AM
Saturday: 9:00 AM
(Chapel at 126 Walnut Ave.)

Holydays: 8:30 AM, 12 noon
AND 7:00 PM
(St. Thomas)



SETON

1200 Park Ave.
Bensalem, PA 19020

PARISH OFFICE

121 Belmont Ave.
Croydon, PA 19021
215-788-2989
Fax: 215-788-7626
Email: sta712014@gmail.com
Website: www.staq.org

**CONFESSION
SCHEDULE**

Saturday: 3:30-4:00 PM
(St. Thomas)

Served By:

Rev. David A. Fernandes, Pastor
Rev. Michael J. Lonergan, Pastor Emeritus, (Former St. Elizabeth Ann Seton)
Deacon John J. Gallagher

MARRIAGES

By Diocesan policy, a six month advance notice is required to allow sufficient time for the necessary marriage paper work and preparation. Deacons are permitted to witness marriages which are not celebrated during Mass.

BAPTISMS

First and Third Sundays of the month after 11:00 AM Mass. Attendance at Pre-Jordan class, on the 3rd Tuesday each month at 7:30PM, in the Cares Meeting Room (enter by rear door) at 121 Belmont Avenue, is a requirement. You must pre-register by calling the Parish Office at (215)788-2989.

PARISH MEMBERSHIP

In order to receive the Sacraments of Baptism, First Communion, Confirmation and Matrimony, and/or to receive a Letter of Eligibility to be a Godparent or Sponsor it is necessary for you to be registered in our parish and practice the Catholic Faith. Contact the Parish Office as soon as you move into our parish to schedule a registration meeting. Please call the Parish Office if you move, or change your address or phone number.

PARISH DEVOTIONS

Miraculous Medal Novena: Saturdays after 9:00 AM Mass (Chapel)
Rosary: Weekdays before 8:30 AM Mass (Chapel) and Saturday before 9:00 AM Mass
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament: Mondays 9:00 AM -3:30PM with Benediction at 3:30 PM (Chapel)
(September to May)

September 17, 2017



Dear Parishioners,

Welcome back from your summer holidays! Before I get to upcoming events, I must express my gratitude to those who labored during the summer months on behalf of the parish. Thanks to all those who weeded, planted, and watered our parish gardens. I especially enjoyed the tomatoes, peppers, and eggplants! Also, kudos goes to those who put together another successful Parish Picnic. Nothing like an organic-acorn fed, Mozart-loving pig! I am grateful to the anonymous donor who left us a check for \$50,000! Thanks to that very generous person we were able to reduce the operating deficit to only \$5,000 this past fiscal year. I would be remiss if I failed to mention the generosity of Neshaminy Electric who donated \$1000 towards the Parish Picnic, new parking lot lights, and new exit lights in both the Church and Fr. Crehan Hall. Finally, congratulations go to Mr. Michael Winstanley, our Parish Music Director, for winning the Ensemble de la Belle Musique (Ensemble of Beautiful Music) inaugural composition contest. Michael composed a piece entitled "The Ice Palace Waltz". This was an international competition, and Michael's work was selected from among thousands of applicants. He will be traveling to Singapore in December for the premier of his composition at the Esplanade Recital Studio on the 18th of that month. I hear he's not fond of flying!

There are plenty of events coming up in the next few months to keep everyone occupied:

- On Saturday, September 30th our St. Vincent de Paul Society will sponsor their third annual Friends of the Poor Walk. This is one of two major fundraising events for the Vincentians. Please make every effort to be present. Walk, sponsor a walker, or just support the event with your presence.
- The Rosary of Faith—better known as the Living Rosary—will be prayed after the 11 AM Mass on Sunday, October 1st. In a world that seems to be moving closer to the brink of nuclear war, the rosary is more necessary than ever!
- The Blessing of the Animals will take place Sunday, October 8th at 12:30 PM. Bring your dogs, cats, reptiles, bugs, and rocks. I'll be watching from the safety of my room!
- Saturday, November 4th at 4:30 PM is the Parish Memorial Mass—a time to remember and pray for the happy repose of the souls of those who have died in the last twelve months.
- On Sunday, November 5th the Ladies Auxiliary of the Knights of Columbus is sponsoring their annual Soup and Conversation. I can only dream that one day I will taste homemade pepper pot soup!
- The annual parish Christmas Dinner is Saturday, December 2nd. Only a little over three months till Christmas!

Before I conclude, here is the latest news:

- ◇ 23% of registered parishioners responded to our Increased Giving Campaign. Their pledges should raise our annual collection total by \$67,991.
- ◇ 503 lottery tickets were sold. After payouts are made, the parish should net over \$6,000.
- ◇ Nothing new to report on the status of the Seton appeal to Rome.
- ◇ No one has shown any interest in renting the school building.
- ◇ The future of bingo as a parish fundraiser looks doubtful at this time.
- ◇ In light of our challenging financial situation, I eliminated the positions Director of Religious Education (DRE) and Custodian. I thanked Mr. Nick Santiago and Mr. Jacob Marquart for their service to our parish and promised them our prayers as they transition to new things. Mr. John Brogan has already assumed their responsibilities. Although this was a difficult decision, it will save the parish about \$30,000 a year.

Welcome back! Get involved! Support your parish with your time, talent, and treasure, and pray for a return of the majority to the practice of their Faith!

God Bless,
Fr. David

September 17, 2017

Mass Intentions
for the Week

Monday September 18, 2017
8:30 AM Joseph Kavanaugh req by Dan Phillips

Tuesday September 19, 2017
8:30 AM Joan Carmody req by Tom

Wednesday September 20, 2017
8:30 AM William Incollingo req by Joe & Helen Gergo

Thursday September 21, 2017
8:30 AM Mary Nunes Decka req by Deacon & Mrs. Gallagher

Saturday September 23, 2017
9:00 AM Louis Wunsch req by Betty
4:30 PM John Gilbert req by Evelyn Manna

Sunday September 24, 2017
9:00 AM Carol McCauley req by Colleen & Fred Costello
11:00 AM Nicholas Simon req by Dan & Kim

Weekend Offerings

09/02	4:30 PM	\$2,739.00
09/03	9:00 AM	\$2,752.00
09/03	11:00 AM	\$1,635.00
Mail Ins/Parish Giving		\$ 922.00
Debt Reduction		\$1,438.00
Summer Maintenance		\$ 25.00
Other Collections (Parish)		\$ 0.00
Other Collections (Archdiocese)		\$ 60.00
Candles		\$ 31.00
Poor Box		\$ 12.00

TOTAL for Parish for September 3, 2017 \$9,554.00
TOTAL for Other Collections (Archdiocesan) \$60.00

*Thank you for your generosity.
May the Lord bless you.*

Lectors

September 23, 2017
4:30 PM C Ryan & K Schafer

September 24, 2017
9:00 AM R Gutherman & T Marion
11:00 AM W Scenna & R Dalessandro

Extraordinary Ministers

September 23, 2017
4:30 PM T Litz & D Schafer

September 24, 2017
9:00 AM T O'Flynn & M O'Flynn
11:00 AM E Marra & C Mehaffey

Altar Servers

September 23, 2017
4:30 PM Mason McMahon, Effie McMahon,
Nicholas Freer

September 24, 2017
11:00 AM Caleigh Brogan, Meghan Brogan,
MaryRose Okwara

Sunday Scriptures September 24, 2017

Reading I: Isaiah 55:6-9 (133A)
Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 145:2-3, 8-9, 17-18
Reading II: Philippians 1:20c-24, 27a
Gospel: Matthew 20:1-16a

Remember In Your Prayers



Our men and women in the military:

Many of our parishioners have family members serving in dangerous assignments around the world. **Please keep them in your prayers.**

Our Sick: Helen Amato, Lou Balot, Ynes Bruno, Stephanie Burris, Bill Campanelli, Tama Cary, Caylonna, Amy Crandall, Dolores DeBeaumont, Linda DeLuccia, Tony DiTommaso, Ruth Donnelly, George Doran Jr., Dolores Doran, Richard Fieramosca, Marcella Ghost, Barbara Golden, Cassidy Haines, Joseph Hailstone, Jean Hennessey, Tom Hynes, Luisa Jabla, Janet Jackson, Ruth Lang, Tara Lessard, Duncan Lewis, Connie Lombardo, Debbie Lyons, Kathy Maddaloni, Margaret McGrory, Gladys McLean, Richard Powers, Dawn Marie Rogers, Eileen Ryan, Jimmy Simon, Sarah Simpson, Amanda Tees, John Tobar, Kim Vickers, Jermaine Williams, Denise Wilson, Elaine Wilson, Erin Wright, Robert Wyatt and all their relatives and friends.

Our Deceased: Helen Culp, John M Romer Jr, Genevieve Mitchell and all the deceased members of our parish and their relatives and friends.

The **second collection** this weekend, **September 16th—17th**, will be for the victims of Hurricane Harvey. Thank you for your generosity.

The **Shepherds of Bethlehem** will display their carvings after all Masses this weekend, **September 16-17, 2017**. Your purchase, however big or small, will be an act of social justice as well as provide an opportunity to own or give as gifts original folk art from Bethlehem.

St Thomas Aquinas Lottery Ticket Fundraiser

The results for Sept 6th to Sept 12th are as follows:

Date	Winning #	Winners
Sept 6	667	Unsold Ticket
Sept 7	391	Unsold Ticket
Sept 8	800	Cissi Quattrocchi
Sept 9	587	Unsold Ticket
Sept 10	770	Janine Matthews
Sept 11	989	Unsold Ticket
Sept 12	775	Unsold Ticket

The Knights of Columbus Football Sweeps

The Knights of Columbus are selling football sweeps tickets now through October 12, 2017. The tickets are \$10.00 each and good for 10 weeks.

How the sweepstakes works: Your ticket has four different football teams each week. If your four teams score the most or least points in any week—you are a winner. Tickets may be purchased from any Knight or in the Parish Office during regular business hours. You may also contact Wayne Freer at (215) 266-6423. Thank you for your support!!

Parish Calendar of Events

The next **Pre-Jordan Class** will be held on **Tuesday, September 19, 2017 at 7:30 PM** in the Parish Meeting Room. Parents and Godparents must attend. For questions or to confirm your attendance, please contact the Parish Office at (215) 788-2989.

The **Committee for the Christmas Bazaar** will be meeting on **Wednesday, September 20, 2017 at 7:00 PM** in the Parish Meeting Room. Volunteers are needed and welcome! For information, contact Pat Bercute at (215) 458-8355.

Separated/Divorced Support Group will meet on **Thursday, September 21, 2017 at 7:00 PM** in Father Crehan Hall. For more information, please contact Peg Duffy at (215) 788-1947.

St Thomas Aquinas Choir Members. Rehearsals will be held every Thursday at **7:00 PM** beginning **September 21, 2017** in the Church Choir Loft. New members are always welcome! For information, contact Michael Winstanley at (215) 584-2981.

Our **Church Social** will resume on **Sunday, September 24, 2017 at 12 Noon** in the Church Hall. If you would like to donate baked goods, you may drop them off at the Parish Office, during normal business hours, or contact Connie Lombardo at (215) 781-2318.

The **Ladies of the Knights of Columbus** will hold their next meeting on **Monday, September 25, 2017 at 7:00 PM** in Father Crehan Hall. For information, contact Marie Kelly at (215) 788-3331.

The **STA Conference of St Vincent de Paul Society** will hold their next meeting on **Wednesday, September 27, 2017 at 7:00 PM** in Father Crehan Hall. For more information, please call (267) 554-7109.

St Thomas Aquinas Conference of the St Vincent de Paul Society will be participating in the national **"Friends of the Poor Walk"** on **Saturday, September 30, 2017**. The Friends of the Poor Walk is a national program that provides funding for local Society of St Vincent de Paul Conferences and Councils. Funds raised from these events remain local, allowing local SVdP Conferences/Councils to provide emergency assistance to those in need. The Walk will start at 10:00 AM. We will begin by attending the 9:00 AM Mass and then walk from St Thomas Aquinas to Croydon Acres Playground, and then return to Father Crehan Hall for refreshments. Online registration is now available. The website is www.svdpusa.net/walk/1642. Registration will also be available after all Masses on the weekend of September 17th. Registration fees are \$25.00/person, \$40.00/family and \$10.00/under 16 years old. Hats will be distributed to all registered walkers on the day of the event. For more information, please contact John Wrightson at (267) 554-7109.

St Thomas Aquinas **Prayer Shawl Ministry** is a combination of prayers and knitting for the ministry of others. We strive to bring God's love to folks in need, through the comfort and warmth of our handmade shawls. Our next meeting will be on **Monday, October 2, 2017 at 7:00 PM** in the Parish Meeting Room. If you cannot attend but would like to make shawls for our ministry, please call Eileen Brown at (215) 785-6132.

The **Knights of Columbus Council 4765** will hold their General Membership Meeting on **Tuesday, October 3, 2017 at 7:30 PM** in Father Crehan Hall. For information, contact Wayne Freer at (215) 266-6423.

St Ephrem Parish is hosting **Unlocking the Mystery of the Bible: An 8 Part Bible Study** on Thursday Evenings from 7:00 to 9:00 PM beginning **September 21st** at St Ephrem Marian Parish Center. Each session includes Prayers, Discussions and Videos. Instructor: Ann DeMarco. Cost is \$25.00 which includes all materials. Registration is now open. Early registration helps us ensure sufficient materials are available. Please call the Rectory at (215) 245-1698.

National Conference of the Flame of Love of the Immaculate Heart of Mary by Children of the Father Foundation—**Friday, September 22, 2017** from 1:00 PM to 9:00 PM and **Saturday, September 23, 2017** from 8:30 AM to 4:15 PM at the Renaissance Philadelphia Airport Hotel, 500 Stevens Drive, Philadelphia, PA 19113. Speakers: Tony Mullen, Hector Molina, Mark Mallet and Father Jim Blount. To register online, visit www.flameoflove.us/conference. Register by September 12th. For additional information call (610) 622-4257.

Join the Croydon Fire Company, 911 State Road, Croydon, as we host the 15+ local **LuLaRoe Consultants** on **Saturday, September 23rd** from 12 pm to 4 PM. Admission is Free. Come find your favorite patterns in your size! There will be a \$5 raffle with lots of chances to win LuLaRoe Leggings.

Archdiocesan Holy Land Pilgrimage. Walk where Jesus walked. Pray at the site of Jesus's conception at Nazareth's Basilica of the Annunciation and His birth in Bethlehem's Church of the Nativity. Sail on the Sea of Galilee. Walk the Via Dolorosa to the Church of the Holy Sepulchre. Share the trip of a lifetime with Christians from the Holy Land and fellow pilgrims from the Archdiocese of Philadelphia from February 1-11, 2018. Find out more about this amazing pilgrimage and the opportunity to be a Pilgrimage Promoter by attending an **Information Night and Social** on **September 27** (Archdiocesan Pastoral Center Auditorium, 222 N. 17th Street, Philadelphia) or **October 19** (St Mary Center Community Room, 701 Lansdale Ave, Lansdale), all beginning at 7:00 PM. To register for an Information Night, email Heather at heather@select-intl.com. For more information about the itinerary, pricing, and registration, visit www.selectinternationaltours.com.

The Bucks County Catholic Charismatic Prayer Communities will hold a **Charismatic Healing Mass** on Friday, **September 29th** at Assumption BVM Church, 1900 Meadowbrook Road, Feasterville, PA 19053. Prayer & Praise: 6:45 PM, Liturgy: 7:15 PM, Celebrant: Rev. Michael Davis, Homilist: Rev. John Kelly, Music Ministry: Martha's House Music Ministry. Confessions available beforehand 6:15—6:45 PM. Wheelchair accessible. For more information, call Bob/Jean Ambs at (215) 355-4974.

The **15th Crusader Classic 5K Run** to benefit the Lt. Robert Neary Scholarship Fund will be held on **Sunday, October 1, 2017** at 9:00 AM at Father Judge High School. For details, please call Dennis at (215) 333-7648 or visit <http://www.friendsoffatherjudge.com/crusader-classic>. Runners and Sponsors welcome.

St Timothy Parish in Mayfair, Philadelphia, rich in a vibrant heritage and strong tradition, will be commemorating the **90th Anniversary** of its founding with a year-long celebration, beginning in October 2017 and ending in October 2018. The opening of our 90th Anniversary observance will take place on **Sunday, October 1, 2017**, with a Solemn Mass celebrated at 12:00 Noon in the upper church. The principal celebrant and homilist will be Archbishop James P Green, who is the Apostolic Nuncio to Sweden and Iceland and is a son of St Timothy's. A reception will follow in the school gym for all who attend. We cordially invite and encourage all present and former St Timothy parishioners, as well as all graduates of St Timothy School, to join us for this momentous occasion. Please call the rectory at (215) 624-6188 to let us know if you will be attending. For more information on all the events of our 90th Anniversary year, please visit www.st-tims.org.

Rachel's Vineyard Ministries is hosting a **Post-Abortion Healing Retreat on October 6, 7, 8, 2017** in Malvern-Frazer, PA. This retreat is designed to help you focus on the buried emotions of the past and begin healing in a non-judgmental, safe, loving, and confidential environment. For information call Lauren at (215) 720-5828 or Priscilla at (215) 906-6337. All inquiries are strictly confidential.

New Alzheimer's Caregiver Support Group at Juniper Village at Bucks County, Village Conference Center, 3200 Bensalem Blvd, Bensalem. The group meets the 2nd Friday of every month. The group is designed to provide emotional, educational and social support for caregivers through regularly scheduled meetings. They help participants develop methods and skills to solve problems. The group encourages caregivers to maintain their own personal, physical and emotional health, as well as optimally care for the person with dementia. The next meeting will be **October 13th**. For more information please contact Joyce Shreffler at (215) 752-2370 Ext 1144. Must RSVP to attend.

Creative Parenting Classes. A special hour for moms and tots, ages 16 months thru three years. Children enjoy interactive playtime, songs, stories, themed crafts, exercise, parachute play and bells. Spend quality time with your child. Meet other parents and learn some new ideas. New session now forming. For more information call (215) 322-5755.

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2 Corinthians 9:7

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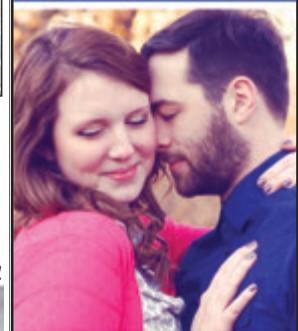
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