

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

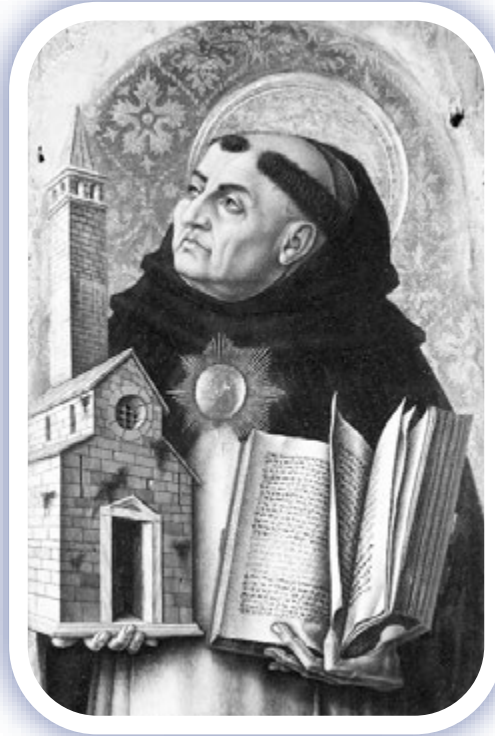
601 Bristol Pike
Croydon, PA 19021

MASS SCHEDULE

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

Monday-Friday: 8:30 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)

December 31, 2017

Dear Parishioners,

As the old calendar year draws to a close and a new one begins, I want to update you on the latest parish news. Before I do that, a few words of thanks go to some of the people who are so generous with their time, talent, and treasure. I am most grateful to all those who organized and participated in our many parish events: the Blessing of the Animals, Soup and Conversation, the Halloween Dance, the Parish Memorial Mass, the Giving Tree, the Christmas Community Dinner, and the Christmas Bazaar. Also, special thanks goes to the church cleaners who painstakingly put the new missalettes into their new covers. Thanks to the generosity of the Knights of Columbus and the Ladies Auxiliary of the Knights of Columbus we were able to purchase an ice machine for parish events and hall rentals. Finally, I wish to thank in advance all those involved in decorating STA and SEAS in preparation for Christmas—I write this letter on 7 December—and all involved in the Christmas liturgies—especially our choir under the direction of Mr. Michael Winstanley.

The New Year presents us with many opportunities to pray, play, and serve together:

- Sunday, January 28th is the Feast of St. Thomas Aquinas, our parish patron. Bishop Michael Fitzgerald, our regional bishop, will celebrate the 11AM Mass, and light refreshments will be served after Mass. On that day, there will only be one Sunday Mass. The 9AM Mass at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Church will not be celebrated that day. Please spread the word to alumni and former parishioners. Donations of baked goods would be greatly appreciated—and even more so if they are homemade! Please plan on attending this important parish celebration!
- Bowling Night returns on Saturday, March 24th. It's your chance to see if you can beat Croydon's finest bowler—at least that's what she tells me—Erica Schilling!
- Designer Bag Bingo is back on Saturday, April 7th.
- On Sunday, April 8th Bishop Edward Deliman will administer the Sacrament of Confirmation at the 11AM Mass. This is not a warning for you to attend another Mass but an invitation to be present as fellow parishioners are fully initiated into the Catholic Church! Sometimes you have to think like a Baptist and not like a Catholic!
- On April 14th we celebrate Tartan Day! According to my friend, Google, it commemorates the Scottish Declaration of Independence. It also recognizes the achievements of Americans of Scottish descent. Details of the celebration will be announced by the Scottish Society.
- Fr. Si of the Congregation of the Mission will be here April 15th, 16th, 17th to preach our 40 Hours/Parish Mission. Fr. Si is an outstanding preacher and I expect his preaching to equal that of last year's speaker. If we are lucky, he may bring his Gospel Choir with him for one of the evenings!

Before I sign off for the year, I leave you with the latest news:

- Our October Count indicates that approximately 20% of registered parishioners attend weekly Mass. On the recommendation of the Pastoral Council, a gentleman from the parish wrote a letter to our inactive members inviting them to return to full participation.
- The appeal against the merger continues! The case is before the Supreme Court of the Catholic Church—also known as the Apostolic Signatura.
- No reasonable offers have been made for the rental of the parish school.

On behalf of Deacon John Gallagher and the parish staff, I wish all of you a Blessed Christmas Day and Christmas Season and a happy, healthy New Year!

God Bless,
Fr. David

December 31, 2017

*Come and Celebrate
The Patronal Feast Day of Our Parish*



*Sunday, January 28, 2018
The Most Holy Sacrifice of the Mass
11:00 AM*

*The Most Reverend Michael Fitzgerald
Auxiliary Bishop of Philadelphia*

*St Thomas Aquinas Church
601 Bristol Pike
Croydon, PA 19021*

Light Refreshments to Follow

Mass Intentions
for the Week

Monday January 1, 2018
10:00 AM Dee Reichardt req by Gutherman Family

Tuesday January 2, 2018
8:30 AM Antonio Jabla req by Jet Jabla

Wednesday January 3, 2018
8:30 AM Joan Carmody req by Tom

Thursday January 4, 2018
8:30 AM Enrique Carrillo req by Marta Brackett

Friday January 5, 2018
8:30 AM Joan of Arc req by Marta Brackett

Saturday January 6, 2018
4:30 PM Barbara Puglese req by The Family

Sunday January 7, 2018
9:00 AM M/M Gualberto Castano req by Jet Jabla
11:00 AM John M Romer Jr req by Joe Williams & Nicole Szogi

Weekend Offerings

12/16	4:30 PM	\$1,957.65
12/17	9:00 AM	\$2,595.00
12/17	11:00 AM	\$2,420.00
Mail Ins/Parish Giving		\$1,001.00
Debt Reduction		\$ 101.00
Winter Maintenance		\$ 529.00
Other Collections (Parish)		\$1,715.00
Other Collections (Archdiocese)		\$ 50.00
Candles		\$ 55.00
Poor Box		\$ 11.00

TOTAL for Parish for December 17, 2017 \$10,384.65
TOTAL for Other Collections (Archdiocesan) \$50.00

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

Lectors

January 6, 2018
4:30 PM J Berna & J Brogan

January 7, 2018
9:00 AM T Berna & T Marion
11:00 AM A Scheck & R Dalessandro

Extraordinary Ministers

January 6, 2018
4:30 PM C Ryan & T Litz

January 7, 2018
9:00 AM R Daubert & J Shirley
11:00 AM T O'Flynn & M O'Flynn

Altar Servers

January 6, 2018
4:30 PM Erin Moyer, Kelly Moyer, Nicholas Freer

January 7, 2018
11:00 AM Caleigh Brogan, Meghan Brogan,
MaryRose Okwara

Sunday Scriptures December 31, 2017

Reading I: Genesis 15:1-6; 21:1-3 (17B)
Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 105:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9
Reading II: Hebrews 11:8, 11-12, 17-19
Gospel: Luke 2:22-40 or 2:22, 39-40

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, Kathy Cameli, Bill Campanelli, Tama Cary, Dolores DeBeaumont, Linda DeLuccia, Tony DiTommaso, Ruth Donnelly, George Doran Jr., Dolores Doran, Richard Fieramosca, Marcella Ghost, Joseph Hailstone, Jean Hennessey, Catrina Hudome, Tom Hynes, Luisa Jabla, Janet Jackson, Ruth Lang, Tara Lessard, Duncan Lewis, Connie Lombardo, Debbie Lyons, Kathy Maddaloni, Margaret McGrory, Gladys McLean, Carletta Minor, Gen Morrin, Richard Powers, Mary Beth Rea, Dawn Marie Rogers, Eileen Ryan, Jimmy Simon, Amanda Tees, John Tobar, Kim Vickers, Jack Williams, Jermaine Williams, Denise Wilson, Elaine Wilson, Erin Wright, and all their relatives and friends.

Our Deceased: All the deceased members of our parish and their relatives and friends.

January 1, 2018 (New Year's Day) is not a Holy Day of Obligation. Our Mass for Monday, January 1st will be at 10:00 AM at St Thomas Aquinas.

We will begin collecting your old palm. Please feel free to drop off your palm at the Parish Office during normal business hours.

St Thomas Aquinas Lottery Ticket Fundraiser

The results for Dec 13th to Dec 17th are as follows:

Date	Winning #	Winners
Dec 18	698	Unsold Ticket
Dec 19	135	Dave Beitz
Dec 20	182	Unsold Ticket
Dec 21	531	Maria Kent

Due to the early transmission of the bulletin all lottery winners could not be posted in this bulletin



Congratulations to the following couples who celebrated the Sacrament of Matrimony in 2017

Anthony Dale and Sarah Powell
September 23, 2017

Edwin Eifert and Kathleen Moore
November 18, 2017

Joseph Conte and Rebecca Gutherman
December 8, 2017



On behalf of
Father David
Deacon John Gallagher
and the
Parish Staff
We wish everyone a
Happy, Blessed and Healthy
New Year

Parish Calendar of Events

The **Knights of Columbus Council #4765** will hold their next General Membership Meeting on **Tuesday, January 2, 2018 at 7:30 PM** in Father Crehan Hall. For information, please contact Wayne Freer at (215) 266-6423.

The **Bucks County Scottish American Society** meets the first Sunday of every month at **2:00 PM** in the Church Hall. Their next meeting will be on **Sunday, January 7, 2018**. New members are always welcome. If you are interested in joining the Society or would like more information, please contact Pam Hynd at (267) 770-1131.

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, January 8, 2018 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 **STA Conference of St Vincent de Paul Society** will hold their next meeting on **Wednesday, January 10, 2018 at 7:00 PM** in Father Crehan Hall. For more information, please call (267) 554-7109.

The **Women's Bible Group** meets every other Thursday at **7:00 PM** in the Parish Meeting Room. Their next meeting will be on **Thursday, January 11, 2018**. For more information, please contact Marie Kelly at (215) 788-3331.

The next **Pre-Jordan Class** will be held on **Tuesday, January 16, 2018 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.

Separated/Divorced Support Group will meet on **Thursday, January 18, 2018 at 7:00 PM** in Father Crehan Hall. For more information, please contact Peg Duffy at (215) 788-1947.

The **Ladies of the Knights of Columbus** will hold their next meeting on **Monday, January 29, 2018 at 7:00 PM** in Father Crehan Hall. For information, contact Marie Kelly at (215) 788-3331.



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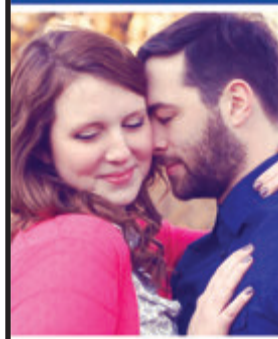


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