

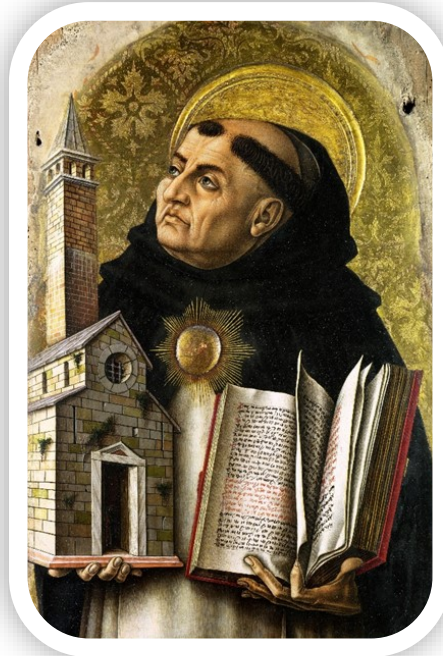
St. Thomas Aquinas Parish Established July 1, 2014
Joining The Parishes of
St. Thomas Aquinas (1922-2014)
& St. Elizabeth Ann Seton (1976-2014)
601 Bristol Pike, Croydon, PA 19021

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday Vigil: 4:30 PM
Sundays: 9:00 AM
and 11:00 AM

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

Holydays: 8:30 AM, 12 Noon
AND 7:00 PM



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

Served By:
Rev. David A. Fernandes, Pastor
Deacon John J. Gallagher

Roseann Spear
Adm Asst

Amanda Gentile
Music Director

Kathleen Gallagher
D.R.E.

Joseph Spear
Maintenance

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 Parish Meeting Room 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) (June to October)
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) During Lent

September 8, 2019



Monday September 9, 2019
8:30 AM Veronica McIntyre req by Schroeder & France Families

Tuesday September 10, 2019
8:30 AM Marian Jack Williams req by Wayne & Karen Murphy

Wednesday September 11, 2019
8:30 AM Joan Carmody req by Tom

Thursday September 12, 2019
8:30 AM Naomi Gallagher req by Deacon & Mrs Gallagher

Saturday September 14, 2019
9:00 AM Ricardo Andres req by Jet Jabla
4:30 PM Steve & Barbara Puglese req by Brogan Family

Sunday September 15, 2019
9:00 AM Crescencia Gilay req by Jugos Family
11:00 AM Shirley Brackett req by Marta & Don

Weekend Offerings

08/24	4:30 PM	\$ 1,063.00
08/25	9:00 AM	\$ 1,852.00
08/25	11:00 AM	\$ 1,535.00
Mail Ins/Parish Giving		\$ 761.00
Debt Reduction		\$ 55.00
Summer Maintenance		\$ 35.00
Other Collections (Parish)		\$ 50.00
Other Collections (Archdiocese)		\$ 86.00
Candles/Shrine		\$ 25.00
Poor Box		\$ 6.00

TOTAL for Parish for August 25, 2019 \$5,382.00
TOTAL for Other Collections (Archdiocesan) \$86.00

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

Lectors

September 14, 2019
4:30 PM C Ryan & P DeMichele

September 15, 2019
9:00 AM D Pierce-Bongart & C Del Puerto
11:00 AM M Kelly & R Kelly

Extraordinary Ministers

September 14, 2019
4:30 PM J Berna & T Litz

September 15, 2019
9:00 AM R Gutherman & J Shirley
11:00 AM A Scheck & D DiTommaso

Altar Servers

September 14, 2019
4:30 PM Nicholas Freer, Connor Freer

September 15, 2019
9:00 AM Ella Del Puerto, Jason Del Puerto, Katherine Bitting
11:00 AM Caleigh Brogan, Meghan Brogan

Sunday Scriptures September 15, 2019

Reading I: Exodus 32:7—11, 13—14 (132C)
Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 51:3-4, 12-13, 17, 19
Reading II: 1 Timothy 1:12—17
Gospel: Luke 15:1—32 or 15:1—10

September 8, 2019

September 2019

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 our parish: Our lectors, ushers, cantors, Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, altar servers, altar society, and church cleaners continued their work of enriching our liturgical celebrations. The counters didn't get a summer vacation either—although there was significantly less money for them to count! The Knight of Columbus and Ladies Auxiliary of the Knights of Columbus were busy planning our upcoming social events. The St. Vincent de Paul Society met frequently to offer the needy in our area a hand up. Also, kudos goes to those who put together another successful Parish Picnic. Nothing like an organic acorn-fed, Iberico pig! Thanks also to Tom Litz who helped setup additional handicapped accessible seating in the back of church and also helped power wash the statue of St. John Neumann on the Walnut Avenue side of the property.

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

- Sunday Breakfast and Sunday Social will resume this month. Breakfast is usually the second Sunday of the month, and Social is usually the fourth Sunday of the month.
- PREP—our **Parish Religious Education Program** for public and charter school students—opens on Thursday, September 12th at St. Thomas Aquinas School.
- RCIA—the **Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults**—will begin again in late September. If you know of anyone who would like to become a Catholic or hasn't received all their sacraments of initiation, please ask them to call the parish office. Unbaptized adults are fully initiated into the Church during the Easter Vigil. Others can be received into the full communion of the Catholic Church during the Easter Season.
- **ALTAR SERVERS NEEDED!** We only have 7 children servers and four adult servers. We urgently need adults to serve funerals and kids for Sunday Masses. Please see Deacon John if you or your children are available.
- The Knights of Columbus will be running their annual golf outing on Saturday, September 14th at the Bensalem Country Club.
- The Blessing of the Animals will take place Sunday, October 6th at 12:30PM near the gazebo. Bring your dogs, cats, reptiles, bugs, and rocks. I'll be watching from the safety of my room!
- Parish Stewardship Sunday will be observed the weekend of October 19th/20th. Each organization will be asked to decorate and staff a table in the church basement. You are strongly encouraged to attend, learn more about your parish's organizations, and get involved!
- The Malvern Retreat Center is sending Jennifer Hubbard to conduct a Morning of Reflection on Saturday, November 2nd beginning with Mass at 9AM. Her reflections will focus on Learning to Forgive Amidst Heartache.
- Saturday, November 2nd at 4:30PM 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 17th the Ladies Auxiliary of the Knights of Columbus is sponsoring their annual Soup and Conversation.
- November is the month for our annual Christmas Bazaar. Shop till you drop!
- The annual parish Christmas Community and Unity Dinner is set for Saturday, December 7th. Only a few months till Christmas!

Before I conclude, here is the latest news:

- ◇ “Christmas in July” raised almost \$1540 which will be used for the needs of the poor in the area during December. I am grateful Donna Pierce-Bongart and Janice Fratantaro for the many years of hard work they have put into running the Giving Tree Program. After Christmas, they will both be “retiring”. If anyone is interested in taking over their responsibilities, please call the parish office.
- ◇ 350 lottery tickets were sold this year—fewer than the 450 sold last year. I suspect this will be the last year for the Parish Lottery.
- ◇ Some months ago I removed all the photographs from the military memorial in the back of church. I asked people to verify that their loved one was still serving in the military because the memorial has been up since the First Gulf War! To date, we only had one person verify that their loved one was still in the service. Another lady submitted a photograph of her grandson who recently enlisted. I would like to enlarge the memorial to include first responders who are your **relatives**. Please submit all photographs to the parish office in an envelope with your name, the name of the first responder, and your phone number.

September 8, 2019

- ◇ We are putting the finishing touches on the sale of the property at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton. Details of the sale will be presented after settlement. The sale will result in the full payment of our debt to the Archdiocese of Philadelphia and in a significant reduction of expenses. Unfortunately, it will also result in lower collections and a reduction in rental income because not everyone will move to the 9AM Mass at St. Thomas and the rectory and Seton Hall will no longer be ours to rent.
- ◇ With the impending sale of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Church, we are looking at ways to make St. Thomas Aquinas Church more handicapped accessible. I have written to our elected officials asking them to consider designating handicapped parking on the Walnut Street and Bristol Pike sides of the church—near the elevator. Also, I'm exploring the possibility of a vertical lift on the parking lot side of the church. Another elevator seems out of the question because its total cost might be as much as \$400,000!
- ◇ We are still negotiating with potential buyers concerning the sale of our school building. The biggest challenge is finding adequate parking for ourselves and new neighbors. I have become increasingly convinced that the best way forward is demolition. Although this will be expensive—over \$100,000—it will end up paying for itself because upkeep costs for the school will be completely eliminated. The land could then be used for additional parking or sold to a real-estate developer.
- ◇ Although I am grateful to all those who help maintain our parish gardens, their number is too few and the work is too much. This summer I ended up weeding the gardens in front of the office and cutting off dead roses myself. I also enlisted the services of a landscaper to do gardening around the rectory. I think that two things are needed. First, we need to eliminate some garden areas and turn them back into lawn—especially on the sides of the rectory. Second, we need more people to weed the remaining garden areas. If you can help with weeding, please call the parish office.
- ◇ Although you may have taken a summer vacation, the parish expenses didn't! They include:
 - * Partial Roof Replacement on the Office Building: \$11,500
 - * Air Conditioning bills are still coming in from one of the hottest years in recorded history!
 - * Parking Lot Repair in front of the Office Building: \$2700
 - * Plumbing work to allow the water to drain properly on the Walnut Street side of the church in the amount of \$4900. When the township installed new curbs some years ago, they failed to provide openings for proper drainage.
 - * Plumbing work to replace deteriorating pipes in the rectory basement: \$1295.
 - * Al Scheck was recently elected Grand Knight by the Knights of Columbus. His new office makes him an ex officio member of the parish Pastoral Council. As a result, I've asked his wife, Karen, to step down from the Pastoral Council. Also, Marta Brackett is resigning from her position on the Pastoral Council. Therefore, I am asking you to nominate people to take their places.
 - * Michael Winstanley recently took a full-time position with a disco band. Understandably, the demands of his new job—among other things—have resulted in him being less available to us. As a result, we have had to bring in a few different musicians to fill the void. However, I soon realized that our liturgical program was not best served by this patchwork arrangement. Therefore, I have hired Amanda Gentile to serve as our new Music Director. Amanda is a wife, mother, educator, talented musician, and a committed Catholic. At the same time as we extend a warm welcome to Amanda, we bid a fond farewell to Michael in gratitude for his many years of service to this parish both as an employee and as a volunteer!

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 Catholic Faith!

God Bless,

Fr. David

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: Dave Beitz, Ryan Beitz, Francis Breuer, Loretta Cameron, Bill Campanelli, Maddox Carmona, Tama Cary, Jennifer Clements, Richard Clements, Dolores DeBeaumont, April DiBenedetto, George Doran Jr., Dolores Doran, Maureen Fenton, Richard Fieramosca, JoAnn Foder, Jayon & Cheryl Haulchild, Jean Hennessey, Bart Houck, Katrina Hudome, Rosemary Hynes, Luisa Jabla, Janet Jackson, Tessie Jaen, Regina Lang, Fritz Lang, Tara Lessard, Duncan Lewis, Debbie Lyons, Kathy Maddaloni, Margaret McGrory, Therese McMahon, Maria Middleton, Carletta Minor, Gen Morrin, Bernadette O'Brien, Louise Pepe, Mary Beth Rea, Dawn Marie Rogers, Eileen Ryan, Rex Russell, Jimmy Simon, Diane Taylor, Amanda Tees, John Tobar, Veronica Vales, Kim Vickers, Mary Walker, John Wallover, Jermaine Williams, Denise Wilson, Elaine Wilson and all their relatives and friends.

Our Deceased: Loretta Gosner and all the deceased members of our parish and their relatives and friends.

Memorial Fund.....

We would like to thank
Tony & Lois Cinkutis
and

Ed Zaccaria

for their donations

In Memory of Joseph Cochran

ATTENTION ALL CHOIR MEMBERS

There will be Choir Practice on Thursday, September 12th from 7:00 PM to 8:30 PM in the Choir Loft. If you cannot attend, please contact Amanda Gentile at (973) 229-5736.

**St Thomas Aquinas
Lottery Ticket Fundraiser**

The results for Aug 28th to Sept 3rd are as follows:

Date	Winning #	Winners
Aug 28	943	Unsold Ticket
Aug 29	962	Unsold Ticket
Aug 30	262	Unsold Ticket
Aug 31	868	Unsold Ticket
Sept 1	699	Unsold Ticket
Sept 2	015	Unsold Ticket
Sept 3	419	Ziggy Dos

St Thomas Aquinas 50/50

Our December 50/50 started July 8th. Remember, you may enter as many times as you wish. Additional envelopes are available in the Parish Office and the back of Church. Donation is \$5.00. The drawing will take place on December 29, 2019 after the 11:00 AM Mass. **To date, we have \$1,420.00 in the pot.**

PASTORAL COUNCIL NOMINATION

As I stated in my letter, I am seeking nominations to replace two Pastoral Council members. Please complete the form below and return it via the collection basket, mail or the Parish Office. The Pastoral Council advises the pastor on "spiritual" matters. The current members are: Penny Daniels, Dan DiTommaso, Bob Gutherman, Marie Kelly, Cheryl Rizzo, Al Scheck, Dawn Whelihan, John Wrightson.

My nomination for the Pastoral Council is:

1. _____



We hope you will join us for breakfast and fellowship at our **Church Breakfast on Sunday, September 8, 2019 from 8:00 to 11:30 AM** in Father Crehan Hall. The cost is \$5.00 per person.

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 group will resume meeting on **Monday, September 9, 2019 at 7:00 PM** in the Parish Meeting Room. If you cannot attend but would like to make shawls for our ministry, please contact Eileen Brown at (215) 785-6132.

It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas... The **Christmas Bazaar Committee** will hold their first meeting on **Tuesday, September 10, 2019 at 6:00 PM** in the Parish Meeting Room. All are welcome to attend. For information, contact Pat Bercute at (215) 458-8355.

The **STA Conference of St Vincent de Paul Society** will hold their next meeting on **Wednesday, Sept. 11, 2019 at 2:30 PM** in the Parish Meeting Room. For more information, please call (267) 554-7109.

PREP CLASSES

PREP Classes will begin on **Thursday, September 12, 2019**. This year classes will be held in St Thomas Aquinas School. Information has been mailed to all registered families. If you are new to the Program and wish to register, please contact the PREP Office at (215) 788-2989 or email at stadre43@gmail.com

The next **Pre-Jordan Class** will be held on **Tuesday, September 17, 2019 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/Divorce Support Group will meet on **Thursday, September 19, 2019 at 7:00 PM** in Father Crehan Hall. For information, please contact Peg Duffy at (215) 788-1947.

The **Women's Bible Group** meets at **7:00 PM**, every other Thursday, in the Parish Meeting Room. Their next meeting will be on **Thursday, September 19, 2019**. The Bible Group will be starting a new book entitled "Everybody Needs to Forgive Somebody" by Allen R Hunt. The cost of the book is \$5.95. Please contact Marie Kelly at mariekelly0623@msn.com or (215) 788-3331 to order your copy of the book.

SETON Seniors and Curran Travel Inc presents **Sands Casino-Resort Bethlehem on Thursday, September 26, 2019**. Trip Includes: Departure from SETON Parking Lot at 9:30 AM, Arrival at Sands Casino at 11:00 AM and Receive \$25 in Slot Play, Depart for home at 4 PM, Arrive home approximately 5:30 PM. Price per person is \$43.00. For information, contact Betty Keller at (215) 638-1594.

The Ladies of the Knights of Columbus will hold their next meeting on **Monday, September 30, 2019 at 7:00 PM** in Father Crehan Hall. For information, please contact Marie Kelly at (215) 788-3331.

The Knights of Columbus #4765, are sponsoring "Nominate a Family for the Month". The winner will receive a gift card and recognition at the Mass they attend. You do not have to be a member of the Knights of Columbus or have children. Please complete the form below and return to the Parish Office or place in the collection basket.

I (we) nominate the following family:
