

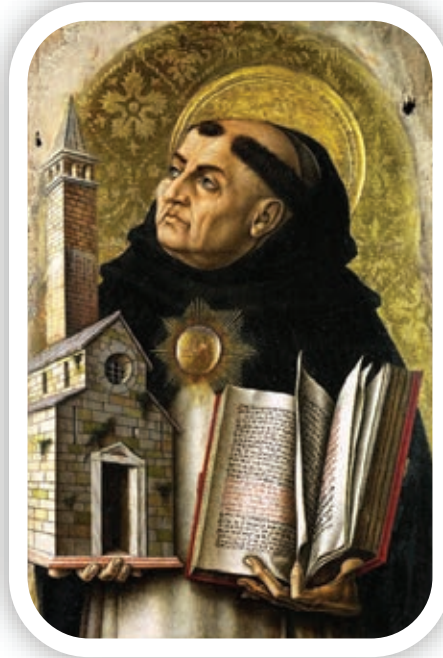
**St. Thomas Aquinas Parish** Established July 1, 2014  
**Joining The Parishes of**  
**St. Thomas Aquinas (1922-2014)**  
**& St. Elizabeth Ann Seton (1976-2014)**  
**601 Bristol Pike, Croydon, PA 19021**

**MASS SCHEDULE**

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

Monday-Friday: 8:30 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  
or by appointment

**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

*December 29, 2019*

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-Unity Dinner, and the Christmas Bazaar. Also, special thanks go to the church cleaners who painstakingly put the new missalettes into their covers. Finally, I wish to thank in advance all those involved in Christmas decorating—I write this letter on 3 December—and all involved in the Christmas Liturgies—especially our choir under the direction of Amanda Gentile.

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

- The Memorial of St. Blaise is Monday, February 3<sup>rd</sup>. Throats will be blessed on the weekend of February 1<sup>st</sup> /2<sup>nd</sup>.
- Then Holy Season of Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, February 26<sup>th</sup>. As usual, St. Thomas will offer Stations of the Cross, additional opportunities for Confession, Daily Mass, Adult Education, and Eucharistic Adoration. How do you plan to make a good Lent?
- On Sunday, March 15<sup>th</sup> The Most Reverend Michael Fitzgerald, our regional bishop, will administer the Sacrament of Confirmation during 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 Protestant and not like a Catholic!
- Designer Bag Bingo is back on Saturday, April 18<sup>th</sup>!
- Fr. Timothy Danaher, O.P. will be here April 26<sup>th</sup>, 27<sup>th</sup>, 28<sup>th</sup>, for our Annual 40 Hours/Parish Mission. Fr. Timothy is a Dominican priest—the same religious order as St. Thomas Aquinas—and parochial vicar at St. Patrick Parish in Philadelphia. The O.P. stands for Order of Preachers. Although parish obligations prevent him from speaking at the Masses that weekend, be assured that he is an outstanding homilist!
- Some of our children will receive their First Holy Communion at the 11AM Mass on Sunday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>. We will also honor Our Blessed Mother at all the Masses that weekend.

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

- Our October Count indicates that approximately 15% of our registered parishioners attend weekly Mass. Consider inviting your family and friends who live in the area to return to the practice of their Catholic Faith.
- For the fiscal year that ended in June of 2019 we ran a deficit of \$51,939. If you take the cost of the new air conditioning units that were purchased for the parish hall and church sound room out of the equation, we actually run a very small surplus!
- We are working on bringing the Elizabeth Ann Seton property up to Bensalem Township code. We hope to make settlement this month. Although the sale of the property will result in the elimination of our debt to the Archdiocese of Philadelphia, this will not happen immediately.
- We are working with the Redevelopment Authority of the County of Bucks in securing grants to demolish the school. If we are successful, the property will then be sold to a real estate developer. Although this will probably not generate much money for the parish, it will save the parish tens of thousands of dollars in maintenance costs each year!

*December 29, 2019*

- Last month I floated the idea of a multilingual parish Mass to be celebrated in the Easter Season. While some people applauded the idea, only three parishioners volunteered to participate!
- Special thanks go to Donna Pierce-Bongart who is retiring as coordinator of the parish Giving Tree Program after 25 years of faithful service! The dynamic duo of Marybeth O'Flynn and Dawn Whelihan will continue this ministry for the next 25 years!
- Noelle Freer has volunteered to restart our Youth Ministry Program! Anyone interested in being part of this necessary undertaking is asked to please call the parish office.
- Before turning 75 years old in September and as required by Canon Law, Archbishop Charles Chaput submitted his resignation to Pope Francis. Archbishop Chaput expects that the Holy Father will accept his resignation and appoint a new Archbishop of Philadelphia in the next six months.

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



God Bless  
You In The  
New Year  
©JPPC

*December 29, 2019*



**Monday**      **December 30, 2019**  
 8:30 AM Richard Van Camp req by M/M Elliott Rodriguez & Sons

**Tuesday**      **December 31, 2019**  
 8:30 AM Rev Michael Sheehan req by Williams Family  
 4:30 PM Antonio Jabla req by Jet Jabla

**Wednesday**      **January 1, 2020**  
 10:00 AM Gert Kaelin req by The Family

**Thursday**      **January 2, 2020**  
 8:30 AM Anita Fratantaro req by Tom

**Friday**      **January 3, 2020**  
 8:30 AM JoAnn Foder req by Tony & Lois Cinkutis

**Saturday**      **January 4, 2020**  
 4:30 PM Angelo Lombardo req by Connie

**Sunday**      **January 5, 2020**  
 9:00 AM Antonio Jabla req by Jet Jabla  
 11:00 AM Gualberto & Perla Castano req by Jet Jabla

***Weekend Offerings***

12/14	4:30 PM	\$ 1,623.10
12/15	9:00 AM	\$ 1,499.00
12/15	11:00 AM	\$ 1,694.00
Mail Ins/Parish Giving		\$ 979.00
Debt Reduction		\$ 75.00
Winter Maintenance		\$ 120.00
Other Collections (Parish)		\$ 1,215.00
Other Collections (Archdiocese)		\$ 113.00
Candles/Shrine		\$ 28.00
Poor Box		\$ 74.00
TOTAL for Parish for December 15, 2019		\$7,307.10
TOTAL for Other Collections (Archdiocesan)		\$113.00

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

***Lectors***

**December 31, 2019**  
 4:30 PM J Berna & R Fallon

**January 1, 2020**  
 10:00 AM A Scheck & R Dalessandro

**January 4, 2020**  
 4:30 PM C Ryan & P DeMichele

**January 5, 2020**  
 9:00 AM E Callery & C Del Puerto  
 11:00 AM R Powell & D DiTommaso

***Extraordinary Ministers***

**December 31, 2019**  
 4:30 PM T Litz & J Berna

**January 1, 2020**  
 10:00 AM R Powers & E Marra

**January 4, 2020**  
 4:30 PM K Schafer & D Schafer

**January 5, 2020**  
 9:00 AM D Whelihan & J Shirley  
 11:00 AM M Kelly & R Kelly

***Altar Servers***

**December 31, 2019**  
 4:30 PM Chasity Gabriel, Chaston Gabriel

**January 1, 2020**  
 10:00 AM Caleigh Brogan, Meghan Brogan, Emily Le

**January 4, 2020**  
 4:30 PM Nicholas Freer, Connor Freer

**January 5, 2020**  
 9:00 AM Ella Del Puerto, Jason Del Puerto, Katherine Bitting  
 11:00 AM Chasity Gabriel, Chaston Gabriel

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, Dolores DeBeaumont, April DiBenedetto, George Doran Jr., Dolores Doran, Maureen Fenton, Richard Fieramosca, Karen Gilbert, George Gilbert, Margaret Griffiths, Hunter Harris, Patsy Harris, Jayon & Cheryl Haulchild, Jean Hennessey, Bart Houck, Katrina Hudome, Rosemary Hynes, Jet Jabla, Luisa Jabla, Janet Jackson, Regina Lang, Fritz Lang, Tara Lessard, Duncan Lewis, Debbie Lyons, Kathy Maddaloni, Cassidy Grace McVan, Margaret McGrory, Therese McMahon, Maria Middleton, Carletta Minor, Gen Morrin, Bernadette O'Brien, Joanne Pritchard, Dawn Marie Rogers, Stephanie Rosenblatt, Eileen Ryan, Arden Saenz, Jimmy Simon, Amanda Tees, John Tobar, Veronica Vales, Kim Vickers, John Wallover, Jermaine Williams, Denise Wilson, Elaine Wilson, John Yankanich and all their relatives and friends.

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

The Knights of Columbus #4765 2020 Discount Cards

.....are now available for purchase. The cards are \$10.00 each. Many local and chain restaurants offer discounts or free appetizers. Cards may be used an unlimited number of times during the 2020 calendar year. Cards may be purchased from any member of the Knights of Columbus or in the Parish Office.

Sunday Scriptures January 5, 2020

Reading I: Isaiah 60:1—6 (20ABC)
Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13
Reading II: Ephesians 3:2—3a, 5—6
Gospel: Matthew 2:1—12

St Thomas Aquinas Lottery Ticket Fundraiser

The results for Dec 13 to Dec 18 are as follows:

Table with 3 columns: Date, Winning #, Winners. Rows show dates from Dec 13 to Dec 18 with winning numbers and 'Unsold Ticket' as winners.

\*\*Due to the early transmission of the bulletin all winners could not be posted\*\*

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 \$4,330.00 in the pot.

Due to early transmission of bulletin updated total will be announced

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:

Three horizontal lines for writing a family name.



## New Year Mass Schedule

### New Year's Eve

4:30 PM

### New Year's Day

10:00 AM

## 5th Sunday Rosary

*We hope you will join the Knights of Columbus on Sunday, December 29, 2019 after the 9 AM Mass for the 5th Sunday Rosary. Rosary guides and rings will be available.*

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

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 meet on **Monday, January 6, 2020 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.

*The Knights of Columbus #4765 will hold their next General Membership Meeting on Tuesday, January 7, 2020 at 7:00 PM* in Father Crehan Hall. For information, contact Al Scheck at (215) 499-1366.

The *STA Conference of St Vincent de Paul Society* will hold their next meeting on **Wednesday, January 8, 2020 at 2:30 PM** in the Parish Meeting Room. For information, please call (267) 554-7109.

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, January 9, 2020**. We are considering starting a new book entitled "*God with Us: Encountering Jesus in the Gospel of Matthew*" by Edward Sri. The cost of the book is \$22.95. Please contact Marie Kelly at (215) 788-3331 to reserve your copy of the book.

Please join us for breakfast and fellowship at our *Church Breakfast* on **Sunday, January 12, 2020** from 8:00 to 11:30 AM in Father Crehan Hall. Cost is \$5.00 per person.

*Separated/Divorced Support Group* will meet on **Thursday, January 16, 2020 at 7:00 PM** in Father Crehan Hall. For information, please contact Peg Duffy at (215) 788-1947.

The next *Pre-Jordan Class* will be held on **Tuesday, January 21, 2020 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.

*SETON Seniors and Curran Travel Inc* presents Resorts Casino in Atlantic City on **Thursday, January 30, 2020**. Trip includes: Departure at 9:30 AM, Arrive at Resorts at 11 AM and receive \$25.00 in Slot Play, Depart for home at 5 PM. Price per person is \$49.00. For information, contact Betty Keller at (215) 638-1594.

*Retrouvaille* is a healing program that offers a welcoming and loving space to married couples who have been living with the misery of a failing marriage. *Retrouvaille* offers hope that it is not too late for a different and better marriage. The next program begins the weekend of **February 21-23, 2020** at the Family Life Center in Malvern, PA. For more information or to register, call (215) 766-3944 or (800) 470-2230 or visit our web site at [www.HelpOurMarriage.org](http://www.HelpOurMarriage.org). All inquiries are strictly confidential.

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