

MASS SCHEDULE

MONDAY, November 7, 2011

NOON All Soul's Mass
Remembrance

TUESDAY, November 8, 2011

6:30am All Soul's Mass Remembrance
NOON Shawn Maynard

WEDNESDAY, November 9, 2011

6:30am All Soul's Mass Remembrance
NOON Rev. Gary Rogers

THURSDAY, November 10, 2011

6:30am Ann Caroline Corda
NOON Louis A. Steiger Sr.

FRIDAY, November 11, 2011

9:00am Nerva Victor

SATURDAY, November 12, 2011

8:30am Hilda Bowen
5:30pm People of the Parish

SUNDAY, November 13, 2011

8:00am Purgatorial Society
11:30am Joseph DeMeo
5:30pm Zosimo Cabaque



FROM THE DESK OF FATHER DOYLE

Dear Parishioners:

It has been over a year that Saint Thomas Aquinas Parish conducted the Parish Support Program, designed to enhance the offertory collection of the parish. The participation and generosity of a number of parishioners during the program was inspiring. I would like to thank all the parish households who responded to the call for greater giving, I am deeply grateful for the continuous support you have provided your parish through your time, talent and treasure.

Please understand that this is not another formal request for increased financial contributions. It is simply a thank you and a gentle reminder to ask that you please continue your weekly support. Now, I understand that not every family was able to make an increased commitment last year, I ask that your prayerfully reflect upon your current level of giving and consider an increase as your means will allow this year. Before we know it the winter months will be upon us, and your support will be particularly important when fuel costs are higher.

The goal of the program was to strengthen our parish by increasing the number of registered parishioners, and increase our weekly collections; this meant an additional \$2.00 to \$4.00 each week for most families. For the upcoming months ahead I ask that you please remember Saint Thomas Aquinas Parish for each and every week, and continue to return your envelopes on a regular basis. Your consistent support to the weekly collection helps us better project our budget and prioritize our goals in the future and meet parish obligations.

I thank you for the sacrifice many of you have made to our wonderful parish. It has enabled us to accomplish and meet many different challenges.

Much peace!
Rev. Fr. Thomas V. Doyle

REMEMBER IN YOUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS



The Sick: Guy Fury, Theresa Stokes, Rita Tammaro, Noreen Charles, Thomas Toal, Christine Walker, Stacy Lappenna, Carlos Salcedo, Faye O'Malley, Hyacinth Khaleel, John Collins, Gladys Santiago, Ellen M. Lehane, Pfc Kevin Taunton, Marie Collins, Patricia Dillon Amenan, Susan McBride, Norma Allongo, Gertrude Singh, William A. Russo

A Time to Die— Louise Woodroff

Those in the Armed Services—in these difficult times, let us lift up in prayer our brave men and women who fight for our freedom all over the world.

MEMORIAL GIFTS

Altar Bread & Wine— In memory of
Father Gary Rogers

donated by Connie & Bob Vigueras Family

Sanctuary Lamp— In memory of **Rev. Gary Rogers** donated by Lou Cardiello

LITURGICAL ETIQUETTE

We often hear from parishioners and visitors who are concerned about some things that happen at Sunday Mass that disrupts the prayerful atmosphere that is important to the reverent worship of God. Let us all work on increasing the reverence due Our Lord. We ask all to be considerate of these things when attending Mass:

1. **Please arrive on time.** The Mass begins with the Entrance Procession. The Entrance and Penitential Act of the Mass prepare us to hear the Word of God and to receive Him in the Eucharist. When it comes to Mass, there is no such thing as being "fashionably late." **The same holds true for leaving early.** The Mass ends with the Final Blessing and the mandate to "Go in peace to love and serve the Lord."
2. **Observing quiet before and after Mass.** Many people come early or remain after Mass to pray before Our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament. We ask that any unnecessary conversations be brought to the vestibules.
3. **Kneelers.** Please be conscious of the noise when raising and lowering the kneelers. It takes only a small effort to reach down and quietly reposition the kneelers without banging them. Dropping the kneelers also causes damages to them in the long run.
4. **Litter.** You would not want people who visit you to leave liter, water bottles, or bags of foods on your living room sofa or on the floor around your dining room table; please extend the same courtesy when visiting the House of God.

CHRISTMAS FLORAL DEDICATIONS

You are invited to dedicate a loved one in prayer by offering beautiful Christmas plants for our worship spaces during the Christmas season. Members dedicated may be living or deceased. Donation is \$15.00 for each individual floral dedication naming one person, a couple, or family group. All names dedicated in prayer will be printed in a bulletin during the Christmas season, but will not appear on the plants.

STEWARDSHIP...A WAY OF LIFE

Our parish was saddened to learn this week of the death of one of our most valued members, **SOMEONE ELSE**. Someone's passing creates a vacancy that will be difficult to fill. Else has been with us for many years and for every one of those years, Someone did far more than a normal person's share of the work. Whenever there was a job to do or a meeting to attend, one name was on everyone's list, **LET SOMEONE ELSE DO IT**. Whenever leadership was mentioned, this wonderful person was looked for inspiration as well as results: **Someone Else can lead that project**. It was common knowledge that Someone Else was among the most liberal givers in our parish. Whenever there was a financial need, everyone assumed Someone Else would make up the difference. Someone Else was a wonderful person; sometimes, appearing superhuman. Were the truth known, everybody expected too much of Someone Else. No Someone Else is gone! We wonder what we are going to do. Someone Else left a wonderful example to follow, but who is going to follow it? Who is going to do the things Someone Else did? When you are asked to make a commitment this year, remember—**we can't depend on Someone Else anymore**.

Author Unknown

VETERAN'S DAY

On Friday, November 11th, we will stop as a nation to give thanks to the many men and women who have served in the Armed Forces, protecting the freedoms that we have. The Parish Office will be closed on Friday, November 11th.



Please remember that as we celebrate this civil holiday there will be only one Mass at 9:00am and that there will no Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament.

Have a safe holiday!

MASS BOOK 2012

The Mass Book for the weekday masses for the months of January 2012 through June 2012 will be opened on Tuesday, November 15th, 2011 during the following times:

Aquinas Center (2000 Flatbush Avenue): from 10:00am to 11:30am and from 2:00pm to 4:00pm—Tuesday to Thursday.

Rectory (1550 Hendrickson Street) from 5:15pm to 8:00pm—Tuesday to Thursday.

Please note that you will be only able to make arrangements for 4 weekday masses at this time. All intentions are \$15.00 per Mass.

The Mass Book for the weekend masses for the months of January 2012 to March 2012, will also be opened during this time. Please note that you will be only able to make arrangements for one weekday mass at this time.

ROSARY SOCIETY ATLANTIC CITY TRIP

The Rosary Society is sponsoring a trip to Bally's Hotel in Atlantic City on **December 1, 2011**. The bus leaves from in front of the Church at **8:30am**. For more information please call Noreen at 718-253-7824. Please leave a message. All are welcome.

HOLY NAME SOCIETY ATLANTIC CITY TRIP

The Holy Name Society is sponsoring a bus trip to Atlantic City on **November 15, 2011** to Showboat. The bus leaves from in front of the Church at **8:30am**. For more information please call Bill or Dorothy at 1-718-377-4061. All are welcome.

VIRTUS PROGRAM

Recently all the volunteers who minister here at Saint Thomas Aquinas received a mailing with information in regard to VIRTUS Training, Background Checks and Code of Conducts—all these materials are to be returned to the Rectory so that they can be processed by the diocesan office of Safe Environment.

Effective as of November 15, 2011 if you have not returned your paper work you will not be able to volunteer in the religious education program or sports program.

If you would like additional information please call Phyllis Dawson at 1-718-253-4404, extension 28.

BISHOP KEARNEY HIGH SCHOOL

Bishop Kearney High School, at 60th Street and Bay Parkway, will present the musical Hello Dolly, on Friday, November 11th, November 18th and November 19th at 7:30pm and on November 13th at 2:00pm. Tickets are adults \$13; Students and Senior Citizens are \$10; and children (6 and under) at \$8. To reserve tickets, please call 1-718-236-6363, extension 200.

VETERAN'S DAY PRAYER

Loving God, have mercy on your people, and open our hearts to peace and love. Reward all who have died for their country, and grant that all nations may continue to work for peace and justice.

Bless us in your service, and help us to follow Jesus Christ, who is our Savior and our Lord for ever and ever. Amen.

IS GOD CALLING YOU?

For we are God's co-workers. How are you being called to build the kingdom of God as his co-worker? Consider the generous service of priesthood or consecrated life. Call the Vocation Office of the Diocese of Brooklyn at 1-718-827-2454, or write: vocations@diobrook.org.

BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE

It is our custom at Saint Thomas Aquinas to invite parishioners and friends to write the names of deceased loved ones in our Book of Remembrance, located under the image of Saint John the Baptist.

At every Mass in November, we will especially remember those whose names are written in our book as we pray for the dead. Please take an opportunity throughout the month to add the names of those for whom you would like the parish to pray for in our Book of Remembrance.

A STEWARDSHIP MOMENT

Jesus' parable of the ten virgins, some prepared, others unprepared, is dedicated to those who profess to be believers in Christ and await his return. His teaching is not directed to unbelievers. The stewardship issue turns on spiritual preparedness for the Lord's return. Good stewards prepare for Christ's return daily, in their life of prayer, worship, and acts of compassion and generosity. A stewardship reflection for the week: ***Are we preparing ourselves for the Lord? Are we open to the Holy Spirit's work within us? Are we ready?***

WORLD KINDNESS WEEK NOVEMBER 8TH THROUGH 14TH

Kindness toward others should be extended everyday, but the World Kindness Movement has selected one week in November to encourage people worldwide to weave a kinder approach into daily life. The purpose of **World Kindness Week** is to urge people to look beyond themselves, beyond the boundaries of their country, culture, race, and religion; and realize they are citizens of the world. The week culminates into **World Kindness Day**, November 13th, where we are especially encouraged to be kinder, more considerate, friendlier and more generous.

PREPARING FOR THE ROMAN MISSAL

It is in and through the Eucharist that we Catholics experience ***Christ's saving sacrifice***. This mystery asks each of us to give thanks with Christ to the Father, not so much with words as with our very lives united with his. Of course, the most evident dimensions of the Eucharist is that it is a meal. As such, it expresses the fellowship which God wishes to establish with us and ***which we ourselves must build with one another***.

This is our understanding and teaching about the Eucharist:

1. The Eucharist has a profoundly and primarily sacrificial meaning. Christ make presents to us anew the sacrifice offered one, for all, on

the cross. Present in the Eucharist as ***the risen Lord*** he nonetheless bears the marks of his passion.

2. The Eucharist is a sacred meal in which we carry our Jesus' command: "Take and eat, this is my body. Take and drink, this is my blood. Do this in memory of me."
3. The Eucharist impels us toward the future, when Christ will come again at the end of history. As the apostle Paul said: "When we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the death of the Lord until he comes in glory."

These dimensions of the Eucharist come together in one aspect which makes a demand on our faith: the mystery of the "real" presence. It is precisely Christ's presence which gives the other aspects of the Eucharist-as memorial sacrifice, as meal and as foretaste and pledge of future glory, a significance which goes far beyond mere symbolism. The Eucharist is the fulfillment of Jesus' promise "to remain with us always." The exquisite gift of the Eucharist, as celebrated within the Mass, requires a celebration that is both dignified and carried out in a deeply prayerful manner. A well-celebrated Eucharist is carried out:

- In accordance with **established liturgical norms**;
- With the **full, active, conscious participation of the assembly**;
- **With the presence of ministers who carry out their assigned tasks**;
- And with a concern that **singing and liturgical music be suitably sacred**.

Our participation in the celebration of the Mass is a powerful way to experience what we mean by the **Communion of Saints**; that as those baptized into Christ we are belong to the priestly, royal, holy people of God.

May we keep in mind the purpose for which Jesus instituted this sacrament and celebrate in a worthy manner the great gift he gave to us which is the source and summit of the life and mission of the church.