

MASS SCHEDULE

MONDAY, December 26, 2011
NOON Christmas Mass Remembrance
TUESDAY, December 27, 2011
6:30am Christmas Mass Remembrance
NOON People of the Parish
WEDNESDAY, December 28, 2011
6:30am Christmas Mass Remembrance
NOON Adolphe & Genevieve Rogus
THURSDAY, December 29, 2011
6:30am Christmas Mass Remembrance
NOON Rita Kelly
FRIDAY, December 30, 2011
NOON Christmas Mass Remembrance
SATURDAY, December 31, 2011
8:30am Christmas Mass Remembrance
5:30pm Virginia Saponaro-Nott
SUNDAY, January 1, 2012
8:00am Purgatorial Society
11:30am Michel Jean



REMEMBER IN YOUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS

The Sick: Guy Fury, Theresa Stokes, Rita Tamaro, Noreen Charles, Thomas Toal, Christine Walker, Stacy Lapenna, Carlos Salcedo, Faye O'Malley, Ellen M. Lehane, Marie Collins, Norma Allongo, Nicholas Zambrano

A Time to Die- Ann Chisefsky

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

MEMORIAL GIFTS

Altar Bread & Wine- In memory of Blair Brooks donated by Parishioners of St. Thomas Aquinas

Altar Candles- In memory of Blair Brooks donated by Parishioners of St. Thomas Aquinas

Sanctuary Lamp- In memory of Blair Brooks donated by Parishioners of St. Thomas Aquinas

A VIEW FROM MY WINDOW

Dear Parishioners:

Do not be afraid; for behold I proclaim to you Good News of great joy to be shared for all the people. For today in the City of David a Savior has been born for you who is Christ and Lord. And this will be a sign for you: you will find and infant wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger.

The Christmas liturgy invites us to once again listen to the story of our salvation. While there are many, many books that describe the magic of Christmas, no Christmas story holds a candle to the original masterpiece found in Luke's gospel. In 320 words, the Christmas Gospel reveals the mystery of God's love for us.

In your Christmas prayer, may I suggest that you find something that makes you sing *GLORIA*-that makes you praise and give thanks to God.

I sing *GLORIA* in gratitude:

- To those whom Christ has given to me as companions at the manger-Father Gopaul, Monsignor Bennett, Sister Terry, Mrs. Allongo and Mr. McCutchan;
- The support staff of Saint Thomas Aquinas and all of the parishioners who come and worship with us each week;
- For the presence the Sisters in our Convent these past 13 years;
- For the children of our Religious Education Program and Midwood Catholic Academy who radiate the mystery of wonder and love for us all;
- For my family and friends who ground me in the precious gift of family.

It is my Christmas prayer that we share our Christmas peace and joy with each other on this day and throughout the year. May we be a community of faith that Sunday after Sunday after Sunday gather to give thanks to the Lord our God. Know that the staff here at Saint Thomas Aquinas stands ready to serve this day and throughout the year.

In closing, I wish to apologize to all of you for my failings this past year-I do so because you deserve my apology and I need it. May it help us all in some way to prepare for the Christ of Peace, the Prince of Reconciliation, on Christ Day and for the upcoming year of 2012.

Christmas peace!
Rev. Fr. Thomas V. Doyle

A CHRISTMAS WELCOME

We warmly welcome all who have come today to celebrate this glorious feast.

We welcome the stranger, the traveler and guest!

We welcome our students home from college for a good winter's rest!

We welcome parishioners who moved far away, but who join us today as old friends and guests!

We welcome all who have not been active of late in their Catholic faith and hope they will find new hope and inspiration this Christmas to come back again and again!

We welcome our faithful parishioners, loyal and true; may the Lord bless you for all you do!

Welcome to all: May our gathering this day gladden our hearts and deepen our bonds. We are after all one People of God-redeemed by the Light. May we walk by the Light and live by the Light-together in love.

Christmas Blessings!

Rev. Fr. Thomas V. Doyle

Rev. Fr. Antonius Peter Gopaul

Re. Msgr. Austin P. Bennett, JCD, PA

Sister Terry Agliardi, RSM

Mrs. Lisa Allongo

Mr. Kevin McCutchan

PRAYER FOR CHRISTMAS

Child of Bethlehem, grant that we may share with all our hearts in this profound mystery of Christmas. Put into our hearts the peace for which we sometimes seek so desperately and which you alone can give us. Help us know one another better, and live as brothers and sisters, children of the same Father. Reveal to us also your beauty, holiness and purity. Awaken in our hearts love and gratitude for your infinite goodness. Join us all together in your love, and give us your heavenly peace.

Blessed Pope John XCIII

A STEWARDSHIP MOMENT

In today's Christmas Mass at dawn we hear from the Gospel reading that God has entered quietly into the world. Not into the great city of Jerusalem, but into a small village about five miles south. Not into a noble family, but to an outcast couple keeping the newborn in a manger. Not announced by royal edicts, but to common shepherds, the first human heralds of Christ's birth.

As Christian stewards we simply allow Christ to live in us no matter what our circumstances happen to be. We allow Christ to share his love with us and reflect that love to others. We now are the heralds of Christ's Incarnation. With an unimaginable gift from a generous Lord. Good stewards rejoice in this gift and give glory to God.

2012 CALENDARS

Through the generosity of two of the local Funeral Homes, McManus and Marine Park, calendars are available in the rear of the Church. Also available are pocket calendars from McManus Funeral Home. Please thank them for their generosity and support to Saint Thomas Aquinas Parish.

PARISH OFFICE TO BE CLOSED

In observance of the Christmas and New Year's holiday, the Parish Office will be closed today through Monday, January 2nd. The Office will reopen on Tuesday, January 3rd at 9:00am.

Have a Blessed Christmas and a Happy and Healthy New Year!

JUST THOUGHTS-CHRISTMAS

An unknown author writes: If, as with Herod, we fill our lives with things, and again with things. If we consider ourselves so important that we must fill every moment of our lives with actions;; when will we have the time to make the long, slow journey across the burning desert as did the Magi? Or sit and watch the stars as did the shepherds? Or brood over the coming of the Christ as did Mary? For each of us there is a desert to travel, a star to discover, and being within ourselves to bring to life.

CATHOLIC CHARITIES COLLECTION

On Christmas Day, we will once again be sponsoring the Catholic Charities collection to benefit the needy children and families in the Diocese of Brooklyn. It is important to remember that during the Christmas season, countless individuals throughout Brooklyn and Queens are struggling as not only they try to keep their jobs and their homes, but also to feed their families and care for elderly parents, many are failing.

Catholic Charities helps transform the lives of many:

- 1.5 million meals are received at pantries.
- 3 million meals prepared for those in need.
- 3,750 affordable housing units.
- 2,800 children are provided care in early childhood centers.
- 1,500 men and women seeking self-sufficiency of work, aided through work skill programs.
- 21 Catholic Charities residences for developmentally disabled adults.
- Assistance to 14,700 families.

YEAR-END REMINDERS

2011 Contributions-all payments on your 2011 commitment to Saint Thomas Aquinas, post-marked or deposited in the collection basket by December 31, 2011, will be recorded on your 2011 tax statement. Any payments received after December 31st will be credited to your contributions for 2012. We thank you for your financial support of this parish.

ROSARY SOCIETY ATLANTIC CITY TRIP

The Rosary Society is sponsoring a trip to Bally's Hotel in Atlantic City on January 5, 2012. 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 January 10, 2012 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.

SAINT THOMAS AQUINAS SPORTS

Intramural Basketball

Beginning on January 7th, lasting 12 weeks, we are offering Boys and Girls, In-house, Intramural Basketball on Saturdays, registration cost is \$75.00.

In-door Soccer

Also, we are thrilled to announce beginning in January, indoor soccer is back for athletes between the ages of 5-13. All games will be on Thursday evenings in Monsignor King Hall, this program will last 12 weeks, registration cost \$75.00.

So for all young athletes, finish your homework, turn off the TV. and unplug those video games, In-door soccer is fun for all!!

Registration for all above will be held in Msgr. King Hall on Saturday mornings between 10am-12pm. If you have any questions regarding St. Thomas Aquinas Sports Please e-mail: STAsportsguy@aol.com

BASEBALL CLINIC FOR BOYS AND GIRLS AGES 6 TO 13

To prepare for the 2012 Baseball Season, we will again be conducting an indoor clinic in the Saint Thomas Aquinas Gymnasium. The clinic will teach basic skills to younger ballplayers while honing the skills of the more experienced players. It will also help players get a jump start on the season while the weather is too cold for outdoor play. The program will be 6 consecutive Saturdays starting January 7th from 10:00am to Noon. The fee is \$35.00. Each child will receive a Saint Thomas Aquinas Baseball Clinic t-shirt.

Registration is at Monsignor King Hall from 4:30pm to 6:00pm Mondays and 10:00am to Noon on Saturdays. Checks are to be made payable to Saint Thomas Aquinas. If you have any questions, please email Robert Maffia at maffiar@aol.com.

LIGHTING THE WAY FOR CHRIST

We are grateful to all those who made the "Lighting the Way for Christ" possible and to those who sponsored a pew candle. Please remember them in your prayers:

In memory of Catherine J. Hayes donated by Jim Hayes & Children
In memory of Vincent P. Gatens donated by Rita Gatens
In memory of Patrick J. Cully donated by Catherine Cully
In memory of Lucianna Quaranta donated by Anthony Quaranta
In memory of Rose & Gaetano Patrizio & Dominick Pagnotta donated by Mr. & Mrs. A Patrizio
For Pasterak & Sicignano Families donated by the Pasterak Family
For Ana Maria Martinez & Ramiro Martinez donated by Ana Maria Sanchez
Living & Deceased members of the Kubis, Barracato, Salamme,
& DiPeri Families donated by Julia Kubis

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS

The Christmas Flowers, Wreaths and decorations were donated through the generosity of many parishioners and friends of the Parish of Saint Thomas Aquinas. Thank you all for your continued generosity to the parish and for helping decorate our Church, Rectory, Parish Center and Convent for Christmas.

M/M Joseph Allen	M/M Frank DiDio	Ms. Marie T. Jules St'Fort	Mr. Michael O'Neill
M/M Richard Ancona	Concepcion C. Dionson	M/M Frank Kancso	Mr. Thomas O'Neill
Marie Alexander	Ms. Julia Diorio	Gloria Kates	Mrs. Angela Pagnotta
M/M Merlin Andre	M/M Julien Dolisca	Lydia King	Mr. John Panagakos
Frank Asprea	M/M Thomas F. Donahue	Ms. Angelina Kubis	Anita Panopio
M/M Peter Barbarotta	Mrs. Ann Dormody	Mr. Dennis Labisi	Amy Pasterak
Otilia Barthold	M/M Patrick Durkin	Mr. Daniel Lamarre	Frank Pasterak
M/M Glen Bartholomew	Mr. Joseph Dwyer	Marie Langone	Sally Pasterak
M/M Arthur W. Batson	M/M Gary Emmanuel	Mrs. Mary Anne Latham	M/M William T. Pasterak, Jr.
M/M James Behan	Flora Espiroza	M/M Nick Lauriello	William T. Pasterak III
IWM Paul Blum	Mrs. Antonine Etienne	Mr. Arthur LeClair	Dr. Mario Patlingrao
Mrs. Maria Boffa	Johnathan Evans	M/M John Ledwith	M/M Anthony Patrizio
Mrs. Margaret Boyle	M/M Thomas Faherty	M/M Salvatore Leone	M/M Francisco Perez
Miss Joan V. Burke	Mr. Charles S. Fay	M/M Ronald Lespinasse	M/M Anthony Quaranta
Mary Cahalan	Dorothy Ferguson	Miss Catherine Liberatori	Karen Rajbaly
M/M Carmello J. Calamera	Mrs. Margaret Fitchett	M/M Isidro Loperena-Padilla	Mrs. Frances Rapisarda
Ms. Aida Calpito	Alfred Flaherty	M/M Michael Louie	Genevieve Reilly
M/M Mario Capuano	Mrs. James Flynn	John & Beth Lynagh	M/M Louis Remy
Mr. Louis B. Cardiello	Ms. Marie Fontus	Frances Lynch	Lydia Robriguez
Ms. Nichole Charles	Miss Sandra Foster	M/M James Mahaney	Mrs. Lina Rodriguez
Mr. George Cetta, Jr.	Yolanda Francis	M/M Vito Martino	M/M Manuel Rodriguez
M/M Jean Raymond Chenet	Erlinda Franco	Nancy Martinez	Barbara Rogus
Ms. Lourdes Christophe	M/M Christino Gali	Miss Theresa Marvelli	M/M Peter Rose
Yolanda Cintron	M/M Francis Garland	Mrs. Eleanor Marzano	M/M Ronald Russo
M/M Stanley Clements	M/M Vincent P. Gatens	M/M Michael McDonald	Miss Deborah Sankey
Ms. Maureen Clifford	Ronnie Giardino	Carol McFarlane	Mrs. Mildred Sankey
Jean Coimin	Ms. Elizabeth Graziano	Ms. Barbara McGrath	Mick Saint-Pierre
Mrs. Mary Colucci	M/M Joseph Guerra	M/M Richard Mc'Grath	Michael A. Serrone
M/M Joseph Corda	M/M Daniel R. Hafford	Maureen McGroarthy	Miss Mildred Sikorski
M/M Gilberto Craig	Mrs. Joan Heaney	M/M Jerome McKinney	M/M John Sloan
Ms. Catherine Cully	M/M Stanley Henriquez	Ms. Yovane F. Michel	Ms. Maina Small
Mrs. Ann Darrowx	Ms. Merlyn Hewitt	M/M Dennis Moonsammy	Ms Sonia Small
Mrs. Anne Davitt	Mr. Peter Hickey	Tina & Edward Moore	M/M Christopher Spinelli
M/M Kenneth Dean	Maria Paz Hontiveros	M/M Joseph Murphy	Gertrude Steiger
Angela DeLessio	Mrs. Rose Mary Hughes	F. Nau	Mr. Joseph Stile
Joseph Dellutri	M/M Melvin B. Hugo	M/M Charles Nelson	M/M James Tobin
Gina Destin	M/M Fred Iovino	M/M Edward G. Nestor	M/M Daniel Walsh
Jacqueline Destin	M/M Eddy Javier	M/M Jean Odenat	M/M Robert Walsh
Myriam Destin	Sonia Jean-Baptiste	Mona Olivier	M/M Matthew Williams
M/M Nicola DeVito	Chantalle Jones	M/M Brian O'Neill	Mr. Ronald Woodroffe
M/M Mickle DeVito	Ms. Eileen Jordan		M/M William Young