

MASS SCHEDULE

MONDAY, July 4, 2011

NOON Chester Brown

TUESDAY, July 5, 2011

NOON Thomas Ferguson & Jean Cipolla

WEDNESDAY, July 6, 2011

NOON Jores Louissaint

THURSDAY, July 7, 2011

NOON In Thanksgiving to the
Holy Family

FRIDAY, July 8, 2011

NOON In Thanksgiving

SATURDAY, July 9, 2011

5:30pm People of the Parish

SUNDAY, July 10, 2011

8:00am Purgatorial Society

11:30am Angela Baiori

5:30pm Moire, Patricia, & Joseph Ecock

REMEMBER IN YOUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS



The Sick: Father Gary Rogers, Guy Fury, Theresa Stokes, Rita Tammaro, Noreen Charles, Thomas Toal, Christine Walker, Stacy Lapenna, Carlos Salcedo, Faye O'Malley, Hyacinth Khaleel, John Collins, Gladys Santiago, Ellen M. Lehane, Melva Cordouar, Luis Loperna-Padilla

A Time to Die— Juanita Silva, Joan Mooney

Help us keep our sick list current; all names will remain on our list for three weeks unless notified otherwise. Please notify the Parish Office (1-718-253-4404) when changes occur. We enjoy hearing the good news of recovery.

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
Christino Gali donated by Maria Gali



PRAYER FOR THE 4TH OF JULY

Good and gracious God, watch over and protect us and all of the people of our land.

Strengthen the love which unites communities in peace and joy.

And grant that our community may know the peace and unity, which is a sign of your presence among us.

We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

PARISH OFFICE TO BE CLOSED

In observance of Independence Day (July 4th), the Parish Office will be closed on Monday. The Office will re-open on Tuesday, July 5th at 9:00am.

Have a safe July 4th holiday!

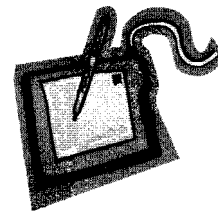
MASS ON TV

The Sunday Mass is produced by the Passionist Father and Brothers of New York City (The Passionist Community) is hosted by Father Edward Beck, CP, now airs on ABC Family from 6:30am to 7:00am each Sunday morning, in addition to all of our other channels that continue to bring the Sunday Mass to you. For more information consult the website at www.TheSundayMass.org.

THANK YOU MUSIC MINISTRIES

Last Sunday, our choir season of music came to a close. We wish to thank all those who have been involved in the Music Ministry here at Saint Thomas Aquinas, you all put great effort and love into singing and rehearsing for our parish liturgies. For each liturgical season your voices raised in prayer deepened our praise to God. Your dedication to this ministry is greatly appreciated by all the members of the parish. May God continue to bless all those involved in Music Ministry and the rich treasury and music program at St. Thomas Aquinas.

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK



Dear Parishioners:

Here is my favorite reflection on Independence Day:

July 4th Meditation

I was born on July 4, 1776, and the Declaration of Independence is my birth certificate. The bloodiness of the world run in my veins, because I offered freedom to the oppressed, I am the United States of America.

I am Nathan Hale and Paul Revere, Washington and Jefferson, Patrick Henry and John Paul Jones. I am Davy Crockett, Lee Grant and Abe Lincoln. When freedom called, I answered. I stood firm for equality and justice. And when reason failed, I left my heroic dead in Flanders field, in ocean tides, on bleak slopes, rocks and desert sands around the world.

I am the Brooklyn Bridge, the wheat fields of Kansas, the granite hills of Vermont. I am the coal mines of Virginia and Pennsylvania, the fertile plains of the west, the Golden Gate and Grand Canyon. I am Independence Hall, the Monitor and Merrimac, the White House, the Challenger.

On yes—I am big. I sprawl from the Atlantic to the Pacific—three million miles of land throbbing with farming and industry. I am forest, field, mountain and desert. I am quiet villages and towns. I am cities that never sleep. You can look at me and see Ben Franklin walking down the streets of Philadelphia. You can see Betsy Ross with her threads and needle. You can see Christmas lights, farmer's plows, summer beaches and the harvest as seasons turn.

I am Babe Ruth and the World Series, 170,000 schools and colleges. I am 300,000 churches where my people worship God as they choose. I am a ballot dropped into a box, a meeting at the town hall, the roar of a crowded stadium, the voice of a choir in a cathedral. I am an editorial in a newspaper, a letter to Congress. I am John Glenn and Neal Armstrong and their fellow astronauts who whirl through the spaces above my head. I am Eli Whitney, Stephen Foster, Tom Edison, Albert Einstein, John Cardinal Newman and Billy Graham.

Yes, I am the nation. I am conceived in freedom and, God willing, in freedom I shall endure for all my days. May I always possess the integrity, the courage and the strength to keep myself unshackled, to remain a citadel of freedom and a beacon of hope for all the world.

In Christ's peace!

Rev. Fr. Thomas V. Doyle

BEREAVEMENT GROUP

During the month of July, our Bereavement Group which offers support to those who are grieving the loss of a loved one, will meet on the 2nd and 3rd Mondays of the month (July 11th/18th). Please contact Sister Terry at 1-718-253-4404, ext 30 to arrange attendance at the meeting or for further information. The Bereavement Group does not meet during August and will resume on Monday, September 12th, the Monday after Labor Day.



ROSARY SOCIETY ATLANTIC CITY TRIP

The Rosary Society is sponsoring a trip to Bally's Hotel in Atlantic City on **July 7, 2011**. The bus leaves from in front of the Church at **8:30am**. For more information please call 1-718-253-9058. All are welcome.



HOLY NAME SOCIETY ATLANTIC CITY TRIP

The Holy Name Society is sponsoring a bus trip to Atlantic City on **July 19, 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.

CATECHISTS WANTED FOR SEPTEMBER 2011

Are you someone who would like to share your faith with the young people of Saint Thomas Aquinas?

Do you have the following qualities:

- An open heart to share your faith,
- Patience to listen to our young people,
- And ability to laugh and a willingness to give it a try?

If you answers yes to any of the above questions, we have a place for you in our program. The pay isn't great, but the rewards are plentiful.

Please contact Mr. McCutchan at 718-253-4404, extension 31.

2011-2012 REGISTRATION FOR THE RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM



In order to properly plan for the Religious Education Program needs for the 2011-2012 school year, we are now accepting registrations for new and returning students. For new registrations, please call Mr. Kevin McCutchan (1-718-253-4404, ext. 31) to set up an appointment. For returning students, registration forms have been mailed. Please either mail the re-registration forms back or drop them off in the Parish Office. Re-registrations need to be completed by July 30th, 2011. A late fee per family will be charged after that date.

DIOCESAN RAFFLE TO BENEFIT WORLD YOUTH DAY

Because we are sending seven of our parish youth to World Youth Day in Spain, the Diocese has included us in a Diocesan Raffle to benefit the young people attending World Youth Day. The raffle tickets are a chance to win a 7 day trip for two to Fatima, Portugal. The trip includes airfare, hotel, breakfast and dinner daily, tours of Fatima, and roundtrip care service to an from the airport. The drawing will take place on August 6th, the winner does not need to be present. Tickets are \$10 each or 3 for \$25 and are available after Mass.

WORLD YOUTH DAY PRAYER REQUESTS

The youth and young adults of Saint Thomas Aquinas Parish who are attending the World Youth Day celebrations in Madrid, Spain this August are continuing their preparations and invite the parish to offer any prayers you would like our group to bring with them as they pray with the Holy Father, Pope Benedict XVI. Prayer request slips will be available throughout the Church for you to fill out. Please place in the basket under the statue of Saint John the Baptist in the front of the Church.

All petitions will be complied and carried by our pilgrims from August 12th through August 22nd. Please keep our pilgrims in our prayers as they will be praying for us.

A STEWARDSHIP MOMENT

One of the most well known and beloved passages in scriptures is the gentle invitation of our Lord in today's Gospel reading: ***Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened, and I will give you rest.*** When we need physical rest, we sleep or take a nap. When we need emotional rest, we sometimes take a vacation. But how do we find spiritual rest? How do we discover Christ's peace as we grapple with the complex issues of life deep in our hearts? Good stewards find their rest in the Lord. Reflect this week on what you do to welcome the peace of Christ.

DIVINE MERCY NOVENA

During the months of July and August there will be no public recitation of the Divine Mercy Novena, all are asked to pray this prayer privately. There will also be no public veneration of the Divine Mercy image. More information in upcoming bulletins.

SIDEWALK REPAIRS TO BEGIN

A contract has been signed and work is to begin on July 6th on the sidewalk on Flatbush Avenue from the Chapel to the corner of Flatlands Avenue and from Flatbush Avenue to Hendrickson Street, along Flatlands Avenue. There is no time frame for the work to be completed, so please be patient as work continues on the property of Saint Thomas Aquinas.

REPAIRING THE ENTRANCES TO THE CHURCH AND CONVENT

Years of freezing and thawing has led to the need to repair the entrances of the Church and the Convent. We need to coordinate the main entrance of the church with the concrete contractor, so there may be a time when the main entrance of the church will not be accessible. Thank you for your patience and understanding.

WORLD YOUTH DAY 2011 GET TO KNOW OUR PILGRIMS

As we get closer to the World Youth Day in Madrid this August, we would like you to get to know the seven pilgrims who will represent Saint Thomas Aquinas. We ask you to keep them in your prayers and, if you haven't done so yet, consider supporting them with a donation, marked "World Youth Day Pilgrim Donation" and placed in the collection basket or at the Parish Office.

Renee Marcellus

My name is Renee Marcellus and I just finished my freshman year at Williams College in Massachusetts. I've been a part of Saint Thomas Aquinas Parish for as long as I can remember. I was an altar server, I sing with the Folk Group and I'm a member of the STA Theatre League. I also worked in the rectory for some time.

I am incredibly excited to go to World Youth Day. I think it's an amazing opportunity for me to travel to another part of the world and celebrate my faith with the Pope and proud Catholic youth from all different backgrounds. I've realized that as people get older and get caught up in the stress of family life, it's easy to stray from God; through this experience I want to better self reflect and continue to grow spiritually and strengthen my relationship with God, so that doesn't happen to me. When I return to Saint Thomas Aquinas, I want to share my experience with those in our parish and encourage them to continue to support our youth as they hopefully continue to participate in World Youth Day in the years to come.

