

The Roman Catholic Parish of Saint Thomas of Aquin

53 Kennedy Avenue . Ogdensburg, New Jersey . 07439-1251
Parish Office: 973.827.3190 Fax: 973.827.2885
E-Mail: stthomasofaquin@embarqmail.com
Website: www.stthomasofaquin.org
Parish Office Hours: Monday, Wednesday, Friday 8:30 AM - 4:00 PM

2017 Bishop's Annual Appeal

"...In Giving We Receive ..."



Your Gift to the 2017 Bishop's Annual Appeal funds the following ministries:

Catholic Charities

- These agencies offer a wide variety of service in Morris, Passaic and Sussex County just to mention a few: Day care & extended day care for working poor families, Family counseling, Group homes for adults with disabilities, Emergency Food Bank, Clothing Pantries.

School support

- Our Catholic elementary schools provide an outstanding and well-rounded education where the students grow academically and spiritually. The Bishop's Annual Appeal provides a significant portion of the funding to the Elementary School Subsidy Fund. These dollars have been allocated to many of our most needy elementary schools in the inner-city and provide grants for technology and for capital needs like new desks.

Seminarian Education and our Diocesan Priests' Retirement Residence

- The Education of our seminarians and Nazareth Village, our diocesan priests' retirement home in Chester, are funded by the Bishop's Annual Appeal. This is most important as the number of our seminarians has increased, along with the cost of their formation. Nazareth Village is a wonderful living option for our retired diocesan priests who have been such an important part of our lives and have served us so faithfully for decades.

A letter from Bishop Serratelli was mailed on Friday, September 8th to active supporters of the previous Bishop Annual Appeals. On the weekend of October 14th & 15th there will be a *In-Pew Commitment Weekend* throughout the Diocese, giving all members of the parishes an opportunity to considering making a pledge to the 2017 Bishop's Annual Appeal. The In-Pew Commitment Weekend was very successful last year. Please prayerful consider making a pledge. Remember that each day is God's gift to you. What you do with it is your gift to God!


Parish Rebates:

50% of the amount received over our **Parish Goal of \$15,675.00** will be returned to our parish for our own use. In 2016 we pledged \$22,885. The amount pledged over our goal was \$7,210. Saint Thomas of Aquin Parish received a 50% Cash Over-Goal rebate from the Diocese of \$3,605. So, not only does the Appeal support many worthwhile ministries throughout the Diocese of Paterson, it will also help Saint Thomas of Aquin Parish if we reach and exceed our goal! The rebate from the Bishop's Appeal will be used to assist us in paying the salary for the services of our Director of Religious Education.

Thank you for your continued generosity to Saint Thomas of Aquin Parish and I encourage you to please support of the 2017 Bishop's Annual Appeal.

In His Love,



Masses for the Week 
September 9th - 17th, 2017

- Sat. 5:00 P.M. Anna Williams - Birthday - req. of Marjory Lute
- Sun. 8:00 A.M. Stacy Ann Aley req. of Patricia Aley and John & Carmen Onder
- 10:30 A.M. Stanley Barron Sr req. of Joe & Rosemary Mora
- 12 Noon Patricia Dolan req. of Rich & Fran Green
- Mon. 7:30 A.M. For all the families affected by 9/11
- Tues. 7:30 A.M. Patricia Dolan req. of Marjory Lute
- Wed. 7:30 A.M. Bill Lewis req. of Gibson family
- Thurs. **No Mass Today**
- Fri. **No Mass Today**
- Sat. 5:00 P.M. Stanley C. Barron, Sr. req. of Betsy Sherlock
- Sun. 8:00 A.M. Patricia Dolan req. of Steve & Eleanor Macko
- 10:30 A.M. Richard Pilkington req. of Rowe family
- 12 Noon Gestrudes Batista req. of family



MASS INTENTIONS: Mass intentions are a wonderful way to remember a deceased loved one, celebrate a birthday or anniversary, or for any special intention you may have. The customary donation is \$10 and Mass Cards can be obtained by calling the Parish Office during business hours on Monday, Wednesday and Friday or by filling out the Mass Intention Envelopes that are available on the table at the entrance of the Church and dropping them into the collection basket.

*“Is anyone among you suffering? They should pray...
Is anyone among you sick? They should summon presbyters
of the church and they should pray over them.”
(James 5:13,14)*

Pray for those who are sick

Robert Devine, Joseph Squier, Barbara Cook, Katy Nicholson, Kennedy Thompson, Maryann Hughes, Kyle Sisson, Marie Squier, Karolee Destefano, Frank and Joan Traina, Jennifer Dinardo, Phyllis Veli, Joseph Sugar, Judy Gruber, Judy Sugar, Ann Keslo, Lynn Herndon, Robyn Cammarata, Vincent Lodato, John Ciser, Betty Washer, Margaret Alfano, George & Patricia Sabourin, Betsy & Tim Sherlock, Al DiSalvo, Mary Sanseverino, Kathi Mannion, Joan Stevens, John Bianco, Ralph Rojas

*“Indeed for your faithful, Lord, life is changed not ended,
and, when this earthly dwelling turns to dust,
an eternal dwelling is made ready for them in heaven.”
(New Roman Missal, Preface I for the Dead)*

Pray for those who have died

Pray for those buried in St. Thomas Cemetery and may God grant eternal rest to all the faithful departed, and to their families’ peace and consolation.

The *Sanctuary Candle*, a reminder of the Divine presence in the Eucharist, burns this week for **Josephine Ramirez** donated by Joe & Rosemary Mora.

From the Pastor’s Desk

ARCHBISHOP OSCAR ROMERO PRAYER: A STEP ALONG THE WAY

It helps, now and then, to step back and take a long view. The kingdom is not only beyond our efforts, it is even beyond our vision.

We accomplish in our lifetime only a tiny fraction of the magnificent enterprise that is God’s work. Nothing we do is complete, which is a way of saying that the Kingdom always lies beyond us. No statement says all that could be said. No prayer fully expresses our faith. No confession brings perfection. No pastoral visit brings wholeness. No program accomplishes the Church’s mission. No set of goals and objectives includes everything. This is what we are about. We plant the seeds that one day will grow. We water seeds already planted, knowing that they hold future promise. We lay foundations that will need further development. We provide yeast that produces far beyond our capabilities. We cannot do everything, and there is a sense of liberation in realizing that. This enables us to do something, and to do it very well. It may be incomplete, but it is a beginning, a step along the way, an opportunity for the Lord’s grace to enter and do the rest.

We may never see the end results, but that is the difference between the master builder and the worker. We are workers, not master builders; ministers, not messiahs. We are prophets of a future not our own.

Have a good week!
In is Love,



“WE WILL NEVER FORGET”- SEPTEMBER 11, 2001

This coming Monday we mark the 16th anniversary of the September 11th attacks. It was a tragic day for all Americans as terrorist attacked our country taking the lives of thousands of innocent people. Please keep everyone who was touched by this tragic event in your prayers. Let us pray this prayer on this most solemn day:
Loving God, hear our prayer for those who lost their lives on September 11th, 2001. As we remember them and their families may our faith in the Resurrection of your Son Jesus, strengthen us. Renew the spirits of all who grieve. May our love continue to show forth in deeds, and our hope give us courage to persevere. We ask this though Christ our Lord. Amen.





Around the Parish

- **Mon., Sept. 11th** - Religious Education classes for grades 5-8 and Confirmation classes for Grades 9 & 10 begin from 6:45-8:00 PM at the Ogdensburg School.
- **Wed., Sept. 13th** - Religious Education classes begin for Grades 1-4 from 3:00-4:00 PM at the Ogdensburg School.

Weekly Collection

Thank you to all the members of our parish family who respond each week to the needs of our parish and who make their weekly offering a part of their budget. We know how difficult things are for families, so, too, is it to run a parish, as expenses continue to rise. The parish depends on income from the Sunday collections, which occasionally falls short of needed revenue. Your contributions are important to our parish. May God bless you for your continued generosity.

Through your generous donations the September 3rd Collection amounted to \$2,586.00
Budgeted: \$2,400.00

Contributions for our Diocesan Newspaper "The Beacon" amounted to: \$289.00

2017-2018 Diocesan Assessment: \$16,957.00

2017-2018 School Subsidy: \$3,447.00

Total Diocesan Assessment for 2017-2018: \$20,404.00

Collected to Date: \$3,327.50

We need to collect \$17,076.50 by June 30th, 2018 to meet this parish financial obligation.

PARISH MEMBERSHIP: A parishioner is one who belongs to our parish family. As such, he/she is a registered parish member and is committed to Saint Thomas of Aquin Parish through participation in the life of the parish community - Spiritually, Socially and Financially. We request that you register at the Parish Office when you move into our community, so that we may be of service to you. In order for Baptisms and Marriages to be administered, Sponsor Certificates and recommendations to be issued the recipient must be a registered and active member of the Saint Thomas of Aquin family for a least one year. Please notify us of any changes of address, or if you are moving out of the parish.



ON-LINE GIVING OPTION: Our parish website now has a link to sign up for On-line Giving. If you wish to take advantage of this option of supporting our parish go to www.stthomasofaquin.org and you will find the link. Click on it and follow the instructions. As always, thank you for your continued generosity and support to our parish.

Faith Formation

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES for the 2017/2018 School Year will begin for Grades 5 to 8 this Monday evening, September 11th, from 6:45 - 8:00 p.m. at the Ogdensburg School and for Grades 1 to 4 this Wednesday afternoon, September 13th, from 3:00 - 4:00 p.m. at the Ogdensburg School. Our **CONFIRMATION PROGRAM** will begin this Monday evening, September 11th for Grades 9 & 10 from 6:45 - 8:00 PM the Ogdensburg School.

For more information about our Religious Education Program (Grades K-8) please feel free to call Ms. Bridget Hanley at 973.864.4441. For more information on our Confirmation Program (grades 9 & 10) please contact the Parish Office (973-827-3190). Thank you for your cooperation!

Office Hours Our regular Parish Office hours resumed this past Wednesday, September 6th. The Parish Office will be open on Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 8:30 AM to 4:00 PM. Please conduct any business with the Parish Office during these hours. Thank You!



COFFEE DRIVE: Catholic Family & Community Services Franklin Food Pantry is once again in need of coffee - regular or decaf, ground or instant (no K cups). Our Social Action Ministry will be collecting coffee on the weekend of Sept. 23/24. Thank you for your generosity to our neighbors.



THE FIRST "PIZZA NIGHT FOR WOMEN" WITH BISHOP SERRATELLI will be held on Monday, September 25th from 7 - 9 PM at Pope John Paul XXIII High School. This event will be open to high school and college aged women discerning their vocation. For details, please contact the office of the Delegate for Religious at 973-777-8818 ext. 207, or kerry@patersondiocese.org.



TWEETS BY POPE FRANCIS

"When something masks us suffer, let us listen to the voice of Jesus in our hearts; "Do not fear! Go ahead! I am with you."."