

## MASS SCHEDULE

### MONDAY, May 26, 2014

9:00am William Reid

### TUESDAY, May 27, 2014

6:30am Anthony D'Elia

NOON Paul Mathew

### WEDNESDAY, May 28, 2014

6:30am Carmen Ana Zambrano

NOON Edouard Pierre-Pierre

7:30pm John, Irene & Michael Carroll

### THURSDAY, May 29, 2014

6:30am Roger Granjean

NOON Leone Bazin Pierre-Pierre

### FRIDAY, May 30, 2014

NOON Philip & Florence Wells

### SATURDAY, May 31, 2014

8:30am Marian Albano

5:30pm Elza Michel

### SUNDAY, June 1, 2014

8:00am People of the Parish, Purgatorial Society, Mary O'Loughlin, Carmen Ana Zambrano

11:30am Thanksgiving to the Folk Group

5:30pm Alancia & Montes Pierre

## REMEMBER IN YOUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS

**The Sick:** Christine Walker, Stacy Lapenna, Ellen M. Lehane, , Edwin H. Walsh, Joseph F. Galli, Ed Morrissey, Baby John Richard Delfino, Angelo Sciannameo, Carl Nott, Susan Olsen, Gail Monsegue

**For those who have died:** John V. Panagakos

**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 and Wine**— In memory of **Vanier Bain** donated by Marie Bain

**Altar Candles**— In memory of **Vanier Bain** donated by Marie Bain

## MEMORIAL DAY PRAYER

*Heavenly Father, on this Memorial Day, we pray for those who courageously laid down their lives for the cause of freedom. May the example of their sacrifice inspire in us the selfless love of your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ. Bless the families of our fallen troops, and fill their homes and their lives with your strength and peace. In union with people of good will of every nation, embolden us to answer the call to work for peace and justice, and thus, seek an end to violence and conflict around the globe. We pray through Christ our Lord. Amen.*

## PARISH OFFICE TO BE CLOSED

In observance of the civil holiday of Memorial Day in America, a day of remembrance for those who have died in our nation's service. The Parish Office will be closed on Monday, May 26th to all business. The Parish Office will reopen on Tuesday, May 27th at 9:00am.

## OFFICE HOURS

Office hours for St. Thomas Aquinas Parish are 9am-12pm & 1pm-5pm (Aquinas Center) and 5pm-8:15pm (Rectory.) **The Parish office is closed from Noon-1:00 pm., so the parish staff can have lunch. As of Tuesday May 27th** office hours will resume at 2000 Flatbush Avenue (Aquinas Center). From the hours of 9:00am – 12pm & 1pm-5:00pm.

## HOLY NAME SOCIETY ATLANTIC CITY TRIP

The Holy Name Society is sponsoring a trip to Atlantic City on **June 17, 2014** to **Showboat**. The bus leaves from the front of the church at 8:30am. For more information please call Bill or Dorothy at 1-718-377-4061. All are welcome.

## ROSARY SOCIETY ATLANTIC CITY TRIP

The Rosary Society is sponsoring a trip to **Showboat** in Atlantic City on **June 5th, 2014**. The bus leaves from in front of the Church at **8:30am**. For more information please call Noreen at 917-991-8362. Please leave a message. All are welcome.

### **MASS BOOK IS OPEN**

According to an old tradition, Catholics may offer a contribution to the Church and request an intention for a particular Mass. This custom invites the faithful into a deeper celebration of the Eucharist by uniting their sacrifice with that of Christ. It also helps to support the work of the Church. Because of this latter reason, the contribution is called a "stipend." We encourage you to remember your deceased loved ones by making an offering. You may also make an offering for the living, especially the sick, those celebrating birthdays or anniversaries, or for any particular intention.

The offering or stipend for each Mass celebrated at Saint Thomas Aquinas is \$15.00 (this stipend is determined by the Diocese of Brooklyn). There is a multi-intention Mass on Sundays at 8:00am.

### **SUMMER MASS SCHEDULE**

Please be aware that our Summer Mass schedule that will start on Tuesday, July 1, 2014 will be as follows:

Monday—Friday 9:00am (**There will be no noon Mass**).

Saturday— 9:00 am  
5:30 Vigil

Sunday— 8:00am, 11:30am, and 5:30pm

### **WE ARE ON FACEBOOK**

Like us on Facebook @ St. Thomas Aquinas, Flatland's and check out our new website.

[www.stthomasaquinasbrooklyn.com](http://www.stthomasaquinasbrooklyn.com)

### **XXIV KUJENGA LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE**

July 25-27, 2014, 2014  
(Fri. Sat. Sun.)

Seminary of the Immaculate Conception  
Huntington, Long Island

Sponsored by the Vicariate of Black  
Catholic Concerns (VBCC)  
Diocese of Brooklyn/Queens

For information, please call Father Davis 718-253-4404 or Email: [blackcatholicconcern@diobrook.org](mailto:blackcatholicconcern@diobrook.org)

The Kujenga weekend is designed as an intensive experience of leadership training with a focus on evangelizing peers and emphasize the importance of a Christ-centered life in moral and ethical development.

A Rite of Passage Ceremony will be held for the High School Graduates of 2014

Early Bird Special Deadline -  
June 30th- \$185.00

After deadline date- \$225.00

Cost includes Transportation, room, meals  
& workshop materials

**Final Deadline July 15, 2014**

Open to Age Groups: 14 - 18 Years

A Talent Show & BBQ

### **WOULD YOU LIKE TO RECEIVE THE SACRAMENTS AS AN ADULT?**

It is never too late to prepare for Baptism, Eucharist and Confirmation. The "Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults" (RCIA) is for adults who have never been baptized as well as baptized Christians who desire to receive First Eucharist and Confirmation. Now is an excellent time to inquire about the process. It is a journey of faith, tailored to the individual needs of each person. Get in touch now for information about becoming Catholic or supporting someone on the journey. Our next meetings are on Thursday June 12, at 7:00pm and Thursday June 19, at 7:pm in the rectory office. Please call the Parish Office (1-718-253-4404, extension 30) to leave your name, address and telephone number.

### **THANK YOU AND GOD SPEED**

The Parish of Saint Thomas Aquinas would like to express its sincere appreciation to Mr. Robert Ruggerio for his dedication and faithful ministry to the children of Saint Thomas Aquinas Parish these past two years. Mr. Ruggerio will be leaving Saint Thomas Aquinas Parish and his position as Director of Faith Formation at the end of August and we wish him much happiness in all of his future endeavors. May God bless you always.

### **HELP KEEP YOUR PARISH UP TO DATE!**

Summer is time for moving for many families. If you are new to our parish, please register at the Parish Office. If you have a new address or are moving from the parish, please contact the Parish Office as well. We would appreciate it!

### **DO YOU HAVE A 2014 GRADUATE IN YOUR FAMILY? LET US KNOW!**

We will be recognizing this year's High School, College & Graduate School graduates from the Parish of Saint Thomas Aquinas in an upcoming bulletin. Please send us your graduate's name, the name of the Institute from which they graduated and for college grads the degree they received. We will need names by June 15th, 2014 for inclusion in a July bulletin.

### **COMMUNION TO THE HOMEBOUND**

If you know of a parishioner who is unable to attend mass on the weekend, or are unable to attend yourself, please contact Ms. Elizabeth Mathew at 1-718-253-4404, extension 30. She will arrange a visit and then assign an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion to visit on a regular basis. Homebound parishioners are very grateful to be able to receive communion in their homes. Please keep our homebound members in your prayers.

### **BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP**

Grieving is the painful experience of loss of a loved one. One way or other many of us have experienced loss which is still fresh in our heart and mind. More times than often, we are expected to be strong, taking care of others who are grieving or suffering from illness, or other life situations. What about us? St. Thomas Aquinas bereavement ministry invite you to set aside an hour of your time for yourself. Sharing the suffering that accompanies grieving, usually assists us in realizing how typical our experience is and how much the support of others helps us in recovering from our losses. We meet on the 1st Mondays of every month at 7:00pm and on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesdays of every month at 2:30pm at Aquinas Center. 2000 Flatbush Avenue. Please use the entrance through the School yard.

Need any information please call 718 253-4404 ext. 30.

### **RELIGIOUS EDUCATION INFORMATION**

#### **Sunday Classes**

Classes resumes on June 1st and ends June 8th.

#### **Closing Mass and Awards**

Our Religious Education Year ends with our closing Mass (and Awards Ceremony) on Sunday, June 8th for all Students in Sunday, Wednesday, and Summer Programs. Following Mass all our Religious Education families are welcomed to our annual barbecue in the Aquinas Parking Lot. Please contact the Religious Education Office for further information at 718-253-4404.

## **CELEBRATING BAPTISM**

Baptism, the first of the initiation sacraments, is truly a celebration of God's love and welcomes us into the extended family of the Church. Baptism brings with it great joy, and also responsibilities. Most of us were baptized as infants, and our parents chose to accept those responsibilities and to nurture us in a life of faith and love. Parents today continue to make the choice to baptize their children, accepting those same responsibilities.

### **How do we celebrate Baptisms at Saint Thomas Aquinas?**

There are several steps in our Baptism program:

1. A meeting with a parish priest.
2. Wednesday prior to Baptism a Parent Meeting at 7:30pm.
3. The celebration of the Sacrament of baptism with family and the parish.

This process takes time, so parents are asked to contact the parish Office to begin the process at least two months prior to the hoped date of Baptism. The process may begin before the baby is born.

### **Requesting Baptism**

By requesting to have a son or daughter baptized, parents are acknowledging their role of being the primary religious educator of their child. The most important preparation for this responsibility is to consider one's own faith. Children will learn so much from parents in many different areas. Being in touch with the meaning of faith in one's own life will help parents to share that faith with their child.

At the Baptism of their child, parents will be asked what they are seeking for their child. The answer is faith or Baptism. But the underlying questions to be considered is why? ***Why are you choosing to ask to have your child baptized? What aspects of your faith are most important for you to share with your child?***

## **What about Godparents/Sponsors?**

During the Baptism ceremony, Godparents/Sponsors are asked to commit to helping the parents live out their faith responsibilities to their children. Godparents, then, are very special in the life of their godchild. They are people whom you choose with great care, for they will be examples and role models for years to come. To help parents make wise choices for the privilege of bring Godparents, the Catholic Church has specific requirements:

- Godparents must be fully initiated Catholics (having received Baptism Confirmation and Communion), 16 years of age or older and who are actively living their Catholic faith.
- Godparents must return a completed, signed Sponsor form.
- If there are to be two godparents (only one is required), one must be male and one female.
- A baptized non-Catholic Christian may act as a sponsor along with one Catholic godparent. This person is called a "Christian witness", not a godparent.
- A non-baptized person may not be a godparent or a Christian witness. This is not a judgment on personal integrity or goodness. During the Baptism, godparents and Christian witnesses commit to believing in and living out the Christian faith. A non-baptized person cannot commit to this.
- Once the Baptism has occurred, the choice of godparents cannot be changed. It is important to take time to reflect carefully on your choices. It is not just an honor, but also a key responsibility.

So parents are invited to reflect on: ***Have you considered whom you might ask to be godparents for your child? Do you trust that they will help your children grow in faith through love and witness?***

**THE CARRIBIAN –WEST INDIAN  
APOSTOLATE**

The Diocese of Brooklyn and Queens cordially invite you , your family and friends to:

Our 30th Annual  
Caribbean American  
Liturgical Celebration

At

Our Lady of Miracles R.C. Church  
757 East 86th Street, Brooklyn, N.Y.  
(Glenwood Rd. & Flatlands Avenue)

On

Sunday, June 1, 2014  
4:00pm

Principal Celebrant & Homilist  
Father Dwayne Davis