

**St. Thomas Aquinas Parish** Established July 1, 2014  
**Joining The Parishes of**  
**St. Thomas Aquinas (1922-2014)**  
**& St. Elizabeth Ann Seton (1976-2014)**

**ST. THOMAS**

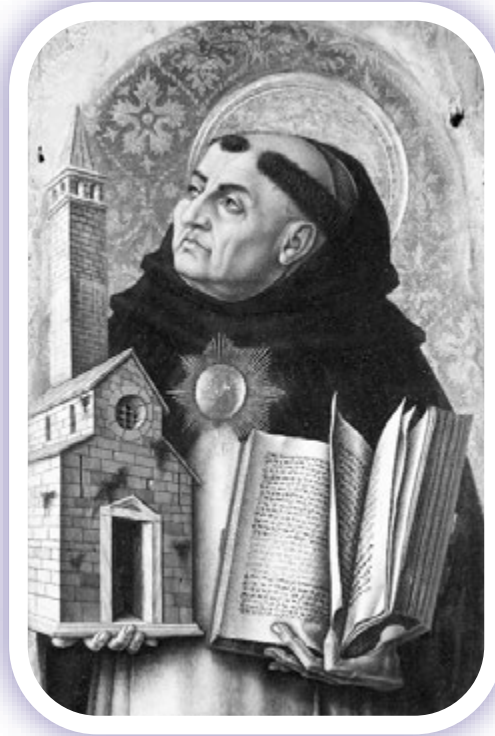
601 Bristol Pike  
Croydon, PA 19021

**MASS SCHEDULE**

Saturday Vigil: 4:30 PM  
Sundays: 9:00 AM (SETON)  
and 11:00 AM (St. Thomas)

Monday-Thursday: 8:30 AM  
Saturday: 9:00 AM  
(Chapel at 126 Walnut Ave.)

Holydays: 8:30 AM, 12 noon  
AND 7:00 PM  
(St. Thomas)



**SETON**

1200 Park Ave.  
Bensalem, PA 19020

**PARISH OFFICE**

121 Belmont Ave.  
Croydon, PA 19021  
215-788-2989  
Fax: 215-788-7626  
Email: sta712014@gmail.com  
Website: www.staq.org

**CONFESSION  
SCHEDULE**

Saturday: 3:30-4:00 PM  
(St. Thomas)

**Served By:**

**Rev. David A. Fernandes, Pastor**  
**Rev. Michael J. Lonergan, Pastor Emeritus, (Former St. Elizabeth Ann Seton)**  
**Deacon John J. Gallagher**

**MARRIAGES**

By Diocesan policy, a six month advance notice is required to allow sufficient time for the necessary marriage paper work and preparation. Deacons are permitted to witness marriages which are not celebrated during Mass.

**BAPTISMS**

First and Third Sundays of the month after 11:00 AM Mass. Attendance at Pre-Jordan class, on the 3rd Tuesday each month at 7:30PM, in the Cares Meeting Room (enter by rear door) at 121 Belmont Avenue, is a requirement. You must pre-register by calling the Parish Office at (215)788-2989.

**PARISH MEMBERSHIP**

In order to receive the Sacraments of Baptism, First Communion, Confirmation and Matrimony, and/or to receive a Letter of Eligibility to be a Godparent or Sponsor it is necessary for you to be registered in our parish and practice the Catholic Faith. Contact the Parish Office as soon as you move into our parish to schedule a registration meeting. Please call the Parish Office if you move, or change your address or phone number.

**PARISH DEVOTIONS**

Miraculous Medal Novena: Saturdays after 9:00 AM Mass (Chapel)  
Rosary: Weekdays before 8:30 AM Mass (Chapel) and Saturday before 9:00 AM Mass  
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament: Mondays 9:00 AM -3:30PM with Benediction at 3:30 PM (Chapel)  
(September to May)

*Mass Intentions  
for the Week*

**Monday December 11, 2017**  
8:30 AM Michele Hilderley req by John & Helen

**Tuesday December 12, 2017**  
8:30 AM Ida Davis req by Tom

**Wednesday December 13, 2017**  
8:30 AM Walter Rudzinski req by Carol Rodriguez

**Thursday December 14, 2017**  
8:30 AM Joseph Balz req by Deacon & Mrs. Gallagher

**Friday December 15, 2017**  
8:30 AM Ramona Carrillo req by Marta Brackett

**Saturday December 16, 2017**  
4:30 PM Rice & Wong Families req by Slater Family

**Sunday December 17, 2017**  
9:00 AM Robert Crosby req by Cousin Rita  
11:00 AM Jenna Richards req by The Family

*Weekend Offerings*

11/25	4:30 PM	\$2,468.00
11/26	9:00 AM	\$1,228.00
11/26	11:00 AM	\$1,950.00
Mail Ins/Parish Giving		\$ 824.00
Debt Reduction		\$ 27.00
Winter Maintenance		\$ 25.00
Other Collections (Parish)		\$ 25.00
Other Collections (Archdiocese)		\$ 100.00
Candles		\$ 42.00
Poor Box		\$ 32.00
TOTAL for Parish for November 26, 2017		\$6,621.00
TOTAL for Other Collections (Archdiocesan)		\$100.00

*Thank you for your generosity.  
May the Lord bless you.*

*Lectors*

**December 16, 2017**  
4:30 PM R Fallon & C Ryan

**December 17, 2017**  
9:00 AM T Berna & R Daubert  
11:00 AM R Andrews & R Dalessandro

*Extraordinary Ministers*

**December 16, 2017**  
4:30 PM K Schafer & D Schafer

**December 17, 2017**  
9:00 AM B Gutherman & E Callery  
11:00 AM R Kelly & M Kelly

*Altar Servers*

**December 16, 2017**  
4:30 PM Caleigh Brogan, Meghan Brogan,  
MaryRose Okwara

**December 17, 2017**  
11:00 AM Erin Moyer, Kelly Moyer,  
Bailey McCormick

**Sunday Scriptures December 17, 2017**

Reading I: Isaiah 61:1-2a, 10-11 (8B)  
Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 1:46-48, 49-50, 53-54  
Reading II: 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24  
Gospel: John 1:6-8, 19-28

## Remember In Your Prayers



### **Our men and women in the military:**

Many of our parishioners have family members serving in dangerous assignments around the world. **Please keep them in your prayers.**

**Our Sick:** Helen Amato, Lou Balot, Ynes Bruno, Stephanie Burris, Bill Campanelli, Tama Cary, Dolores DeBeaumont, Linda DeLuccia, Tony DiTommaso, Ruth Donnelly, George Doran Jr., Dolores Doran, Richard Fieramosca, Marcella Ghost, Cassidy Haines, Joseph Hailstone, Jean Hennessey, Tom Hynes, Luisa Jabla, Janet Jackson, Ruth Lang, Tara Lessard, Duncan Lewis, Connie Lombardo, Debbie Lyons, Kathy Maddaloni, Margaret McGrory, Gladys McLean, Carletta Minor, Gen Morrin, Richard Powers, Mary Beth Rea, Dawn Marie Rogers, Eileen Ryan, Jimmy Simon, Amanda Tees, John Tobar, Kim Vickers, Jermaine Williams, Denise Wilson, Elaine Wilson, Erin Wright, and all their relatives and friends.

**Our Deceased:** Michael John Payne, Frances Curry and all the deceased members of our parish and their relatives and friends.

### **Attention All Decorators**

We will be decorating the Church  
for Christmas on  
Monday, December 18th at 7:00 PM  
We invite and welcome all volunteers!

The Committee for the Christmas Bazaar would like to extend their sincere thanks to all of the volunteers who were involved in the Christmas Bazaar/Craft Show. Your support was greatly appreciated and the event would not have been possible without your help.

## St Thomas Aquinas Lottery Ticket Fundraiser

The results for Nov 29th to Dec 5th are as follows:

<b>Date</b>	<b>Winning #</b>	<b>Winners</b>
Nov 29	543	Unsold Ticket
Nov 30	800	C. Quattrocchi
Dec 1	000	Unsold Ticket
Dec 2	736	Unsold Ticket
Dec 3	026	Unsold Ticket
Dec 4	367	Mary Jo Fallon
Dec 5	464	Unsold Ticket

## Congratulations...

To the following students who received Second Honors at Conwell-Egan Catholic High School for the First Quarter:

Connor Ferry  
Madison Spor  
Madeline Tavernier

## Confessions during Advent

### **St Thomas Aquinas**

Wednesday Evenings:  
December 13th, 20th  
7:00 PM to 7:30 PM

### **St Charles Borromeo**

Saturday—December 16th:  
11:00 AM to 12 Noon  
3:30 PM to 5:00 PM  
Monday—December 18th—6:30 PM to 7:30 PM  
Thursday—December 21st—7:00 PM to 8:00 PM

### **St Ephrem**

Wednesday—December 13th—7:00 PM  
Wednesday—December 20th—7:00 PM  
Saturday—December 23rd—3:00 PM to 4:45 PM

### **Queen of the Universe**

Saturday—December 16th:  
9:00 AM, 3:00 PM, 5:00 PM  
Sunday—December 17th— 6:00 PM

### **St Mark**

Wednesday—December 20th:  
3:30 PM to 4:30 PM and  
6:30 PM to 7:30 PM

### **Our Lady of Calvary**

Wednesday—December 20th:  
Christ The King 1:00 PM  
Our Lady of Calvary 7:00 PM

## The Advent Wreath

The Advent Wreath is part of our longstanding Catholic tradition. The symbolism of the Advent wreath is beautiful. The wreath is made of various evergreens, signifying continuous life. The circle of the wreath, which has no beginning or end, symbolizes the eternity of God, the immortality of the soul and the everlasting life found in Christ. Altogether, the wreath of evergreens depicts the immortality of our soul and the new, everlasting life promised to us through Christ, the eternal Word of the Father, who entered our world becoming true man and who was victorious over sin and death through His own passion, death and resurrection.

The four candles represent the four weeks of Advent. Three candles are purple and one is rose. The purple candles in particular symbolize the prayer, penance and preparatory sacrifices and good works undertaken at this time. The rose candle is lit on the third Sunday, Gaudete Sunday, when the priest and deacon also wear rose vestments at Mass; Gaudete Sunday is the Sunday of rejoicing, because the faithful have arrived at the midpoint of Advent, when their preparation is now half over and they are close to Christmas. The progressive lighting of the candles symbolizes the expectation and hope surrounding our Lord's first coming into the world and the anticipation of His second coming to judge the living and the dead.



# Parish Calendar of Events

Please join us for our **Church Breakfast** on **Sunday, December 10, 2017 from 8:00 to 11:30 AM** in Father Crehan Hall. Cost is \$5.00 per person.

The **STA Conference of St Vincent de Paul Society** will hold their next meeting on **Wednesday, December 13, 2017 at 7:00 PM** in Father Crehan Hall. For more information, please call (267) 554-7109.

**Separated/Divorced Support Group** will meet on **Thursday, December 14, 2017 at 7:00 PM** in Father Crehan Hall. For more information, please contact Peg Duffy at (215) 788-1947.

Please join us for our **Church Social** on **Sunday, December 17, 2017 at 12 Noon** in the Church Hall. If you would like to donate baked goods, you may drop them off at the Parish Office or contact Connie Lombardo at (215) 781-2318

The *STA Christmas Committee* has begun its advice of service to our parish families. The **“Giving Tree”** will be available for all parishioners to take an ornament. Please help us make another family’s Christmas brighter, especially the children. Gift Cards may be placed in the baskets or dropped off at the Parish Office. **Deadline to return all gifts is December 17th.** For additional information, contact the Parish Office at (215) 788-2989. All calls are confidential.

The next **Pre-Jordan Class** will be held on **Tuesday, December 19, 2017 at 7:30 PM** in the Parish Meeting Room. Parents and Godparents must attend. For questions or to confirm your attendance, please contact the Parish Office at (215) 788-2989.

The **Women’s Bible Group** meets every other Thursday at **7:00 PM** in the Parish Meeting Room. The Group is currently discussing the book “Walking With Purpose”. Their next meeting will be on **Thursday, December 28, 2017**. For more information, please contact Marie Kelly at (215) 788-3331.

The **Knights of Columbus Council #4765** will hold their next General Membership Meeting on **Tuesday, January 2, 2018 at 7:30 PM** in Father Crehan Hall. For information, please contact Wayne Freer at (215) 266-6423.

The **Bucks County Scottish American Society** meets the first Sunday of every month at **2:00 PM** in the Church Hall. Their next meeting will be on **Sunday, January 7, 2018**. New members are always welcome. If you are interested in joining the Society or would like more information, please contact Pam Hynd at (267) 770-1131.

St Thomas Aquinas **Prayer Shawl Ministry** is a combination of prayers and knitting for the ministry of others. We strive to bring God’s love to folks in need, through the comfort and warmth of our handmade shawls. Our next meeting will be on **Monday, January 8, 2018 at 7:00 PM** in the Parish Meeting Room. If you cannot attend but would like to make shawls for our ministry, please call Eileen Brown at (215) 785-6132.

Advocates for the Homeless & Those in Need (AHTN) is sponsoring a fundraising event to help save our missions for the homeless and those on the verge of homelessness.

**Christian Concert & Dessert on Friday, December 15, 2017** from 7:00 PM to 9:30 PM at Grace Point Church, 592 Washington Crossing Road, Newtown, PA 18940. Music provided by Right to Become Band. Cost is \$10/per person. Delicious desserts will be served. Great raffle basket items. Raffle tickets will be on sale at the event. To buy tickets visit <http://www.ahtn.org/home/concertrsvp/>.

**Flame of Love Advent Retreat** at Malvern Retreat House on **December 15-17, 2017**—5 PM Friday—12 PM Sunday. \$265.00 per person, including meals and a single room in the Main Retreat House. Receive the gift of spiritual joy to share with your family. Directed by Fr James Blount. To register, please call (610) 644-0400 or visit [malvernretreat.com/register](http://malvernretreat.com/register).

All are invited to a special **Mass and Christmas Social** on **Saturday, December 16th** at St Mary's Church and Hall—Elm and Oak Streets, Conshohocken. This event will benefit St Mary Polish American Society, a non-profit organization working to promote Polish heritage and culture in Montgomery County. The Mass will begin at 11 AM, with a delicious meal in the Polish Christmas Eve tradition of Wigilia immediately following Mass. All are welcome to attend the special Mass. Tickets for the Wigilia meal are \$15 per person. We are also taking orders for frozen pierogi for \$9 a dozen and cinnamon and cheese babka for \$15 each. For tickets, babka, and pierogi pre-orders, please email [stmaryconshy@gmail.com](mailto:stmaryconshy@gmail.com) or call Dorothy Swedkowski at (610) 630-0861. Ticket sales, as well as babka and pierogi orders must all be placed by Tuesday, December 12th.

*The Croydon Fire Company*, 911 State Road, Croydon, PA invites you to our **Annual Breakfast with Santa** on **Sunday, December 17th**, 8:30 AM to 12:30 PM. Cost is \$8 per person, \$5 for children ages 3-10, under 3 is free. Ticket price includes: holiday crafts for the kids, visit with Santa and Breakfast Buffet of eggs, sausage, ham, pork roll, pancakes, coffee and assorted drinks. We look forward to seeing you there!! Proceeds will benefit The Croydon Volunteer Fire Company.

*The Croydon Fire Company* invites you to our **New Year's Eve Celebration** on **Sunday, December 31st** from 8:00 PM to 1:00 AM. Tickets are \$40 per person/\$70 per couple. Must be 21 and over to attend. BYOB. Ticket price includes: Dinner Buffet, Beer, Soda, Entertainment, Party Favors, and Champagne Toast at Midnight! Tickets must be purchased in advance. See a member for more information or stop by the Firehouse on Tuesday and Friday nights from 6PM to 8PM for tickets. We look forward to seeing you there!! Proceeds will benefit The Croydon Volunteer Fire Company.

**Father Judge High School Winter Open House** on **Thursday, January 25, 2018** from 6:30—8:30 PM. Pre-register at [fatherjudge.com](http://fatherjudge.com) for a free gift. Mandatory **8th Grade Placement Test**. All students applying to Father Judge must take the Placement Test. Must pre-register at [fatherjudge.com](http://fatherjudge.com). Test Dates are **January 13th and January 20th** at 8:00 AM.

Christ the King Parish is offering the **Pre-Cana Program** on **Friday, January 26, 2018** and all day **Saturday, January 27, 2018**. Engaged couples of neighboring parishes who are planning to celebrate the Sacrament of Matrimony are welcome. For information, please contact [rgreen@christthekingparish.net](mailto:rgreen@christthekingparish.net)

**Maternity BVM Pre-Cana Session** is required for all engaged couples preparing to celebrate the Sacrament of Matrimony. Maternity BVM is located at 9220 Old Bustleton Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19115. They will be holding their Spring Pre-Cana on **Saturday, February 24, 2018**. Advance registration is necessary. To register, call (215) 673-8127.

Rediscover the Love in Your Marriage! Is your marriage going down the right road...or is it a little off track? Life can be difficult, and so can the challenges you face in marriage. Does the distance between you seem wide? Are you already separated? Looking for a better way? **Retrovaille** can help and offers hope for a better relationship. Retrouvaille is a peer ministry of volunteer couples that can help you to learn the tools of healthy communication, build intimacy and heal, just as they have done in their own marriages. Retrouvaille is Christian-based, and Catholic in origin, but welcomes couples of all faiths as well as non-religious couples. Retrouvaille can help get your relationship back on track. The next program begins on the **weekend of February 16** at the Family Life Center in Malvern, PA. For more information, call 1-800-470-2230. All inquiries are kept strictly confidential.

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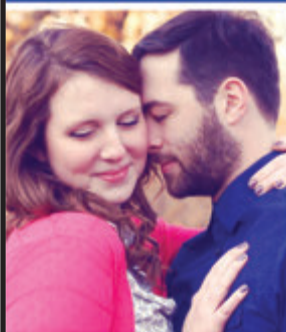


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