



# Grapevine

Volume 36, Number 1

April, 2016

**OFFICE HOURS**

Monday thru Friday  
8 am—2 pm

**Parish Administrator**

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(508) 813-3398 cell  
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**Sub Deacon** Sonia Hodge

**Organist/Choir Director**

Dr. Steven Young  
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**Sexton**

Paul Boudreau  
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**Junior Warden**

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**Clerk**

Robertha Dwuye  
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**Treasurer**

Elmer Holmes  
eholmesjr819@gmail.com

**Assistant Treasurer**

**Our Daily Bread Treasurer**

Eric Pearson  
eric.odv@verizon.net

**Vestry Members**

2017: Bob Wilbur, Mary Wargat  
Gordon Francis

2018: Lisa Benedetti, Raquel  
Holmes, Alan Dennen

2019: Michael Stagliola, Wayne  
Perkins, Amy Kazlauskas

## Join us for the Spring Retreat

Gayle Raposa



Are you hearing the call to get away to spend some time with God to **Reflect, Refresh and Renew** in prayer at a peaceful setting? What better way to deepen your connection with God and your community.

**The Miramar Retreat Center** in Duxbury will be the site of St. Thomas' first Spring Retreat.

Friday, June 10 (4 PM) to Saturday, June 11 (2 PM)

\$100/person double room or \$144.50/person single room

Price includes lodging, Friday dinner and Saturday breakfast and lunch

**A \$50 non-refundable deposit is required**

**Final count and balance is due May 15th.  
Space is limited to 25 max.**

Contact

Gayle Raposa (508) 496-3809 ~ Paul Boudreau (508) 823-2846.



**Miramar** In the course of its history, Miramar has been the training ground for the initial or on-going formation of priests and brothers, most of them Divine Word Missionaries. In addition, it has served literally thousands of lay people and religious who have come here seeking spiritual sustenance on their own journey of life.

The large tracts of land on which the seminary and retreat center are built were once the property of the Loring family. In 1876, Atherton Loring, an immigrant from England, built the original red brick mansion. Now known as Bay Farm, it is still in use today, although no longer owned by the SVD.

His Eminence, William Cardinal O'Connell of Boston, captivated by the location and view from the Loring mansion, purchased the property for use as a summer home. The property encompassed 27 acres and included three buildings. In September of 1922 he sold his property to the Society of the Divine Word for a high school seminary. This flourished for many years eventually becoming a two-year liberal arts college.

Already in 1945, with the idea of opening a center for prayer and quiet reflection, the SVD had purchased the 27 acres and country home belonging to the Belknap family, located on a hill sloping down to Kingston Bay just across the road from the seminary.

The first section of what was to become the Miramar Retreat Center was built in the early years of the 20th century. The Belknap family had spared no expense in appointing its rooms with rare woods from Asia and South America. Within months of its purchase, Fr. Joseph Ford developed a mission manor for guests that grew into a retreat house catering mainly to lay people from all walks of life.

**COMING SOON!**

**Lobster Roll Day 2016**



**June 2 ~ 6:00 PM**  
**June 3 ~ 5:00 AM**

**Help with mailings needed**



***Senior luncheons***

*Join us for lunch and entertainment*

*Thursdays*

*12 noon  
in the Parish Hall.*

# Lobster Roll Day

June 3, 2016

One of our largest fundraisers is our annual Lobster Roll Day.

**Lots of help is needed** for selling, picking, preparing, packing and delivering. We prepare and deliver an average of 2,000 rolls each year to the greater Taunton community.



*Friday night, June 2nd ~ 6 PM  
~ preparing lobster meat and packing coleslaw*



*Saturday morning June 3rd ~ 5 AM ~ preparing, packing and delivering rolls*

## HELP...

The office needs help with the four lobster roll mailings of over 650 envelopes. Lynn could use help labeling, stamping, stuffing and sealing envelopes. Please call her in the office at (508) 824-9595 to volunteer.

She will be forever grateful!

## Join the Joy of Living Seniors ~

*Ann LaFleur, Chair*

Join the Joy of Living Seniors for their special bingo with prizes. Thursday lunches. These catered luncheons are free for anyone over 55. The meal begins at noon and is followed by a short program usually about resources or events of interest to seniors. Generally, on the fourth Thursday of every month, we have a

The programs are organized and sponsored by the Joy of Living Seniors ministry at St. Thomas which also sponsors the Nature and Meditation Walks. Our Daily Bread provides the nutritious lunches offered each week..

### April Luncheon Speakers

- April 7 ~ Springtime Chit Chat -Group
- April 14 ~ Hummingbirds, Butterflies & Bees -Lee Anne Araujo/Araujo Farms
- April 21 ~ Growing up in the Great Depression -Corrine
- April 28 ~ Bingo



*Thank you Avis, (pictured front right), for a wonderful St. Patrick's Day celebration—for the decorations, laughter and surprises!*



## CHALLENGE

The Committee is challenging each church group/committee to donate a themed basket for raffles.

Vestry  
 Finance Committee  
 Choir  
 Stitchers / Knitters  
 Altar Guild  
 Acolytes  
 Newcomer Welcoming  
 Building & Grounds  
 Others?

Pick a theme and ask each person on your committee to make a donation of an item or a monetary donation to purchase items.

Fill a basket!

**WHO WILL COME UP WITH THE MOST SUCCESSFUL BASKET?**

**We are looking for baskets before summer so we can advertise. PLEASE LET US KNOW YOUR PLANS ASAP!**

## HELP OUR "SPOOKTACULAR" BAZAAR

Jane Lopes at [janelopes@comcast.net](mailto:janelopes@comcast.net) or (508) 944-0944  
 Beverly Kimball at [bevdanek@outlook.com](mailto:bevdanek@outlook.com) or (508) 697-6667

**Bazaar Committee has been busy planning for this very important fundraiser, but we need the help of EVERYONE to make it a success.**

### BOOTHS AND CHAIRS/HELPERS

Bakery / Pies ~	Anna Loura / Terry LaRue / Judy McGuire
Bid Board ~	Cheryl Medeiros / Donna Francis
Cafeteria ~	Mike Stagliola / Aaron LeBeau
Children's Activities ~	Renee Vitale
Farm Stand ~	Alix McNamee / Elizabeth McNamee / Liz Silvia
Haunted Hayride ~	Trailer—Andrew Francis
	Narrator—
Jewelry & Jazz ~	Kim Avila
Knits & Stitches ~	Ginny Ames / Connie Capron
Raffles	
~ Chinese Auction	Jane Lopes
~ Lottery Tree	Wayne Perkins
~ Money Wreath	The Kimballs
~ Quilt	
Roll-ups	
~ Adult	Paul Boudreau
~ Youth	Susan Cameron
Vendors	Jane Lopes
White Elephant ~	Wayne & June Perkins, Bob Wilbur, Marge Largey, Dan Benjamin
Solicitors ~	Paul Boudreau, Jane Lopes, Dan Benjamin

### NEEDED:

- **NARRATOR FOR THE HAUNTED HAYRIDE**  
*(We will have the script—need someone with a loud voice)*
  - People to solicit items for Chinese Auction and Bid Board  
*(Help asking businesses around town for donations— take donation letter from church)*
  - People to help with White Elephant Room ahead of time and during fair  
*(Items need to be cleaned, organized and priced—beginning during summer)*
  - **DONATIONS** of items for White Elephant Room *(gently used and cleaned, please)*  
*(Please get items in early so they can be organized and priced—deadline October 9th.)*  
*(Please, NO vases or mugs)*
  - **FARM STAND ITEMS**—produce, eggs, jams, jellies, sauces, etc.
- 
- **All booths need donations of items and helpers during the fair.**
  - Please **DROP OFF ALL NON-PERISHABLE ITEMS EARLY!**
  - Please **BRING WHITE ELEPHANT ITEMS BEFORE/DURING SUMMER**
  - Please **BRING BID BOARD ITEMS EARLY SO WE CAN ADVERTISE** and encourage some competitive bidding.

# Pray for our Dearly Departed

May light perpetual shine upon them

**Elizabeth (Betty) Bisio**

*Called home March 3, 2016*

Betty was a long-time faithful member



## Pastoral Care Team Prayer List

*Please pray for our sick & shut-ins...*

*Please contact Fr. Rich with any pastoral emergencies. Be sure to inform him if you know of anyone in the parish who is ill and/or in the hospital.*

*In addition to keeping you on our prayer list, our Pastoral Care Team is available, upon request, to visit and take communion to those who are sick/shut-in or hospitalized.*

## Prayer for our Mission

O gracious and loving God, you work everywhere reconciling, loving and healing your people and your creation. In your Son, and through the power of your Holy Spirit, you invite each of us to join you in your work. We, young and old, lay and ordained, ask you to form us more and more in your image and likeness, through our prayer and worship of you and through the study of your scripture, that our eyes will be fully opened to your mission in the work. Then, God, into our communities, our nation and the world, send us to serve with Christ taking risks to give life and hope to all people and all of your creation. We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.

## Pray for our Military

- Daniel Snowdall
- Megan Drewniak
- Adam Dyke
- William Marsh IV
- Donald Souza
- Noel Souza
- Ryan Vohnoutka
- Alex Paull
- Christopher French
- Rick Dray
- Alex Bolton
- Scott Larson
- Brendan Clifford

## Pray for our sick and shut-ins

- Malcolm Baker
- Lauren & Patrick
- Christopher McGuire
- Cathy Bettencourt
- Andy Marshall

**WEB PAGE... Check us out:** [www.stthomastaunton.com](http://www.stthomastaunton.com)

~ **GRAPEVINE DEADLINE** ~ *May deadline is April 20, 2016*

*Send articles to Beverly Kimball*

*(h) (508) 697-6667 ~ e-mail: [bevdanek@outlook.com](mailto:bevdanek@outlook.com)*

**WANTED**

Youth in Grades 3 through High School to serve as Acolytes...

- Gospel Carriers
- Candle Bearers
- Crucifers
- Readers

Youth will process in and may then join their Church School class, returning to church for the Eucharist and recessional.

Contact Fr. Rich or Lynn in the church office to be added to the schedule

**WANTED**

Coffee Hour Volunteers

Volunteers are assigned to just two Sundays each year to prepare coffee and light refreshments following the 10 AM service.

Contact Lynn in the church office if you would be willing to help.

**ACOLYTE SCHEDULE**

**April 3**

- Gospel Condolezza Dwuye
- Crucifer Steven Rose
- Front Candles Julia Boudreau / Elijah Figueroa

**April 9**

Nathan and Jade Holmes

**April 10**

- Gospel Kloie Butler
- Crucifer Christopher Francis
- Front Candles Karissa Murray / Kassidy Murray

**April 17**

- Gospel Condolezza Dwuye
- Crucifer Julia Boudreau
- Front Candles Douglas Francis / Steven Rose

**April 23**

Quincy Sylvia-Jones and Joey Kazlauskas

**April 24**

- Gospel Kloie Butler
- Crucifer Christopher Francis
- Front Candles Karissa Murray / Kassidy Murray
- Readers Camden & Parker Cleathero

**EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS/LAYREADERS**

**April 2**

Renee Vitale

**April 3**

- 8:00 AM Sonia Hodge
- 10:00 AM Beverly Kimball, Lector/Chalice
- Ashley Figueroa, Prayers/Chalice

**April 9**

Raquel Holmes

**April 10**

- 8:00 AM Michael Stagliola
- 10:00 AM Linda Belenger, Lector/Chalice
- Mary Wargat, Prayers/Chalice

**April 16**

Brenda Neugeboren

**April 17**

- 8:00 AM Avis Leary
- 10:00 AM Marge Largey, Lector
- Len Walker, Prayers/Chalice
- Sarah Walker, Chalice

**April 23**

Terry Larue

**April 24**

- 8:00 AM Michael Stagliola
- 10:00 AM Wayne Perkins, Lector/Chalice
- Will Waytes, Chalice
- Monica Shearer, Prayers

**April 30**

Renee Vitale

**COFFEE HOUR VOLUNTEERS**

**April 3**

Birthday & Anniversary

**April 10**

Renee Vitale & Steve Lombardi

**April 17**

Alix McNamee

**April 24**

Youth Group

**FINANCE COMMITTEE SCHEDULE**

*(4th Tuesdays)*

April 26

May 24

Meetings start at 7:00 PM in the parish hall.

# Altar Guild Bake Sale

Profit \$412.00



8:00 AM

Altar Guild Bake Sale

10:00 AM



The Altar Guild had a busy weekend preparing for their annual Palm Sunday bake sale AND preparing for the Bishop's visit setting up a beautiful "Tea" under the direction of our Directress, Anna Loura. Both were very successful. Anna writes: "The Altar Guild would like to thank all those who baked for the Annual Bake Sale. It was a great success, and we raised approximately \$412.00. We are very grateful for all who bought the baked goods and made such generous donations.



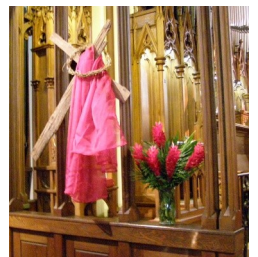
"I want to also give special thanks to those who came and spent all day Saturday cleaning the parish hall, washing dishes, polishing the silver, setting up the tables and decorating both the church and parish hall for the Bishop's visit to St. Thomas."

A special thank you to Esther Wilbur, Sandi Mongiovi, Cheryl Medeiros, Janet White and Anna Loura as well as Bob Wilbur and Paul Boudreau who worked hard to make everything so beautiful!



## Palm Sunday Bishop's Visit — The Right Rev. Alan Gates

~~~~~  
The Altar Guild is looking for new members. If you are willing to serve God at His Altar, please speak to Anna Loura at 8 AM or Esther Wilbur at 10 AM.  
~~~~~



## Christian Education Corner

Renee Vitale



It's not too early to think about summer camp! We have a couple of children attending Barbara Harris Camp during week of July 11th. Anyone else interested in attending please contact Ms. Renee, Ms. Lisa or Ms. Raquel.

### **Saturday church school** meets

April 2 and April 16  
5:00 PM in the Chapel

**Sunday School** meets weekly at 10:00 AM in the upstairs classrooms in parish hall. The last Sunday of each month is Youth Sunday—children go directly to church for special youth services.

### **WANTED:**

Teachers  
Assistant Teachers

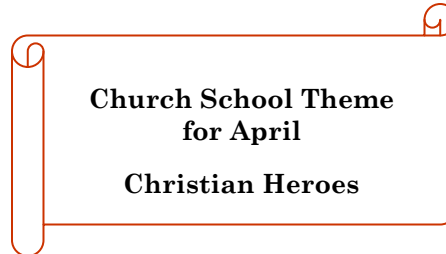
### **Electronic Distribution**

*If you are receiving this Grapevine in the mail and would like to receive it via e-mail, please send me your e-mail address.*

*Benefits: pictures are in color and you receive it sooner.*

**Send e-mail to:**

***bevdanek@outlook.com***



**Church School Theme  
for April**

**Christian Heroes**

## Scholarship Committee Annual Update

Kirk Cleathero

The Scholarship Committee is responsible for administration of the Tom Crum scholarship and oversight on the other scholarships provided to the Taunton Community during the year. Included in these are the Douglas Lemaire and Buzz Perrin Memorial Funds.

The Reverend Tom Crum served as Rector of the Episcopal Church of St. Thomas between 1959 and 1988. In 1982, members of the parish, local citizens of Taunton, and family and friends began a fund in his honor with an initial donation of \$1000.00 from Nancy Farrar Popella. Over the years the fund continued to grow and is now able to provide scholarship money to active members of the Episcopal Church of St Thomas. During the past year the committee was able to award scholarships to nine deserving members of the church to help defray the cost of higher education.

The following individuals were awarded scholarships:

Aimee Avila (Wheaton College); Bailey Avila (Wentworth Institute of Technology); McKayla Bento (George Washington University); Andrew Francis (Wentworth Institute of Technology); Benjamin Francis (Colorado State University); Rachael Grady (Bridgewater State University); Hugh Largey (Massachusetts Maritime University); Shannon Largey (University of Massachusetts- Amherst); Kaylee Mason (University of New Hampshire)

2015 new recipients – Elizabeth Boudreau (Massachusetts College of Pharmacy & Health Sciences); Rebecca Francis (New England Institute of Technology)

For those members of the church who will be attending college in the fall, you can apply for the Crum scholarship. Applications available through the church office are due NOW. The Scholarship committee will be meeting in the spring to consider all candidates based on active participation and contribution to the church, it's mission and the community.

**COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS** are available through the Thomas Crum Scholarship Fund for active members of St. Thomas Church. For information, or to apply, contact the scholarship committee: Kirk Cleathero, Chair at [dawnnkirk@verizon.net](mailto:dawnnkirk@verizon.net).



## Upcoming Events ~ Save the Dates

**NEW**

**After Sports Mass**

Sundays—5:00 PM

Musician  
Jeff Paquette

**Spooktacular**

**NEXT BAZAAR**

**PLANNING MEETING**

**SUNDAY**

**April 10**

~ ~ ~

**Plan early**

**OCTOBER**

**WILL COME QUICKLY**

**June 18, 2016**

**8:00 AM**



Saturdays (weekly)	5:00 PM - Come as you Are service—Chapel
Saturdays (1st)	6:00 PM - Senior Ministry—Coram Lounge
Sundays (1st)	11:30 AM - Newcomer's Meeting—Coram Lounge
Sundays (1st & 3rd)	10:00 AM - Healing Prayer offered during Eucharist—Serviceman's Altar
Sundays (2nd)	11:30 AM - Christian Formation Meeting
Sundays (weekly)	9:00 AM - Choir Rehearsal—at the organ
Sundays (weekly)	10:00 AM - Church School
Sundays (weekly)	1—6 PM - Nothing But the Truth—Coram Lounge
Sundays (weekly)	5:00 PM - After Sports Mass— <b>Begins February 28th</b> —Chapel
Sundays (last Sunday)	10:00 AM - Youth Sunday
Sundays (4th Sunday)	11:30 AM - Building & Grounds Committee—Coram Lounge
Mondays (1st & 3rd)	10:00 AM - Assisted Living (Raynham) Women's Club
Mondays (3rd)	
Tuesdays (2nd)	7:00 PM - VESTRY—Coram Lounge
Tuesdays (4th)	7:00 PM - Finance Committee Meeting—Counting Room
Wednesdays (weekly)	7:30 PM - Choir Rehearsal—Chapel
Wednesdays (1st)	6:30 PM - Mindfulness Group—Coram Lounge
Thursdays (weekly)	12:00 N - Senior Luncheon—Parish Hall
Fridays (weekly)	7-10 PM - Nothing But the Truth—Parish Hall
Fridays (2nd)	10:00 AM - Knitters meet in the Coram Lounge
Fridays (3rd)	2:30 PM - Taunton Nursing Home

April 3	6:00 PM	What is the Bible—McKinstrey House (Rectory)
April 7	7:00 PM	Bazaar Stitchers—Coram Lounge
April 8	10:00 AM	Prayer Shawl Knitters—Coram Lounge
April 9	10:30 AM	Confirmation / Reception—St. John's Franklin
April 10	11:30 AM	Acolyte Training—main church
April 10	11:30 AM	Bazaar Planning meeting—Coram Lounge
April 10	6:00 PM	What is the Bible—McKinstrey House (Rectory)
June 2	6:00 PM	Lobster preparation for Lobster Roll Day
June 3	5:00 AM	Lobster Roll Day
June 5		Taunton River Deanery Meeting—Grace Church N. Attleboro
June 10/11	4:00 PM	Retreat overnight at Miramar Retreat, Duxbury, MA
June 18	8:00 AM	FOXWOODS Bus Trip
October 22, 23	All Day	2016 FAIR ~ <b>Spooktacular Bazaar</b>

## Join us for the Foxwoods Bus Trip



**June 18, 2016**  
**Tickets \$30.00/person**  
 (price includes \$25 back in incentives -  
 \$15/food and \$10 Keno)  
**CASH BINGO ON THE BUS**

**Bus leaves St. Tomas parking lot at 8:00 AM ~ leaves Foxwood at 4:00 PM**

**The bus trip is a joint fundraiser with Our Daily Bread**

## Join the Bazaar Stitchers

April 7, 2016—7 PM—Coram Lounge

### BAZAAR STITCHERS

April 7—7:00 PM

Coram Lounge



### IF YOU CAN....

Bring your sewing machine, needles, thread and scissors  
Bring material cut as follows:

- 9" squares (front & back) - pot holders (*we have padding*)
- 4" squares (3 ea.) - stem glass coasters (sets of 4 different)
- 18" x 21" (fabric or dish towels) - plastic bag storage

...or just COME—we will have supplies and machines

All levels of ability (or none at all) are welcome to join us for work, fun and refreshments.



## Join the Prayer Shawl Knitters

### PRAYER SHAWL KNITTERS

April 8th ~ 10 AM

Coram Lounge.



Prayer shawl knitters began in January of 2002 when Rev. Bailey Whitback approached Eunice Short with the idea. Following Eunice, Betty Bisio coordinated the group followed by the present coordinator, Ginny Ames. The group averages about eight knitters each month. Though many different knitters have participated over the years, there are six: Ginny Ames, Connie Capron, Judy Lincoln, Eunice Short, Beverly Farrow and Ellie Penheiro, who have been knitting prayer shawls since the beginning. Over 300 shawls have been knit, blessed at the Altar, and delivered to sick and shut-ins.

New knitters are always welcome to join the group on the **second Friday of each month.**

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**Taunton River Deanery**

- Attleboro
- Bellingham
- Bridgewater
- Brockton
- East Bridgewater
- Easton
- Foxborough
- Franklin
- Mansfield
- Middleborough
- North Attleboro
- North Easton
- Norton
- Plainville
- Raynham
- Taunton
- West Bridgewater
- Wrentham



**If you like to sing,  
Join the choir...**

*Rehearsals*

Wednesdays, 7:30 PM

Sundays, 9:00 AM



# Taunton River Deanery Report

Ann Lafleur, Deanery Rep.

The **March 2016** meeting of the Deanery was hosted by Trinity Episcopal Church in Wrentham, with many representatives from other churches in attendance.

## Update on the Mission Strategy for the Diocese

The listening team for the development of a Diocesan Mission Strategy is currently compiling themes from various forums and surveys into an Initial report. In April, the Initial Report will be issued, with an open response period. In May, the revised report will be presented to the mission strategy drafting group appointed by Diocesan Council and Bishop Gates. The Diocesan Council should receive the proposed mission strategy which will be presented to the Diocesan convention in November.

Much of this information is available in the FYI newsletter from the Diocese. You can view the FYI on line at [www.diomass.org](http://www.diomass.org) and click on newsletters.

The food ministries at many of the churches were discussed. There are many different ways to work in this ministry. It is important to include those who are served by these ministries in the planning and serving so that it will be a joint effort.

The Rev. Paula Toland announced plans for a trip to the holy land in 2017. She hopes to have a group of 25, and all are invited to join the trip.

The Rev. Phillip Kutta discussed a diocese in Tanzania in need of expert assistance in engineering projects to improve life of the Anglican Church and the community.

He would like to develop an irrigation system which would not only improve daily living but also provide the church with a source of income. He also envisions assistance in developing a city plan for the area. He is hoping to develop contacts with experts in these fields who could help.

**Next meeting is scheduled for June 5 at Grace Church, North Attleboro.**


## Notes from the Organ Console ~ *Dr. Steven Young*

### April Offertory Anthems include:

April 3	Great and marvelous	A O Gibbs
April 10	Draw us in the Spirit's tether	H. Friedell
April 17	The Lord is my Shepherd	J. Rutter
April 24	O voice of the beloved	G. Ives

## Donations Needed

Paul Boudreau

 Our Sexton, Paul Boudreau, has acquired a good price for the painting of the inside of the main church (the Nave) and is looking for donations to cover the cost. This is not a budget item, so he needs YOUR help! If you can make any size donation, please give your check to Paul (mark "Paul church painting" on the envelope). This is a "winter price" so please see Paul ASAP!



# Home Plate Fund Raiser

Paul Boudreau



**E-MAIL REQUEST** If you have not been receiving the news and announcements we send electronically, please send your email to Fr. Rich at [FrRich64@aol.com](mailto:FrRich64@aol.com) or to [Lynnclifford1@comcast.net](mailto:Lynnclifford1@comcast.net), so that we can make sure you get updated information.

This is important not only because we send the most up to date information on our activities via the Internet, but also because we give notice by email in the event of a weather cancellation.

Also, if you have changed your e-mail address, please be sure we have your current one. Send to church office or print on sheet in the church.



Thank you to the many who participated in this fundraiser and enjoyed a delicious meal at the Home Plate Bay Street Grill. A profit of \$240 was realized from the raffle. At this writing, we are still waiting for the check for the profit on the meals, but we had a great showing of St. Thomas friends and family! Home Plate gives us 20% of the money we spent on both eat in and take out. Thank you Home Plate!!!!

## EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS

111 High Street  
Taunton, MA 02780



The mission of the church is to restore all people to unity with God and each other in Christ.

*To Welcome and Grow in Love.*

**BRIEF HISTORY**—Thomas Coram, a wealthy sea captain and philanthropist, arrived from England in the 1690's and established a successful shipyard on the Taunton River. He returned to London in 1703 and left behind 59 acres of land in trust and a substantial collection of books to help found a Church of England in Taunton.

Twenty-five years later Thomas Coram's intent was carried out. In 1728 a congregation of lay persons gathered and a small church was built on the outskirts of town near the Three Mile River on what is now Tremont Street. Although the land trust was no longer available, Coram's library of books became the basis for the young parish's ministry. The church was named St. Thomas.

During the Revolution, St. Thomas Church, like most Episcopal Churches, fell upon hard times and was closed for a number of years as were many others in the area. The building itself stood unused and blew down in the Gale of 1815. In 1820 the parish was incorporated. In 1828 the Vestry voted to seek a minister who was called and then a new building was erected in the center of Taunton on High Street across from the present building.

The church grew rapidly leading to the enlargement of the building in the 1840's and this, too, was soon outgrown. The third and present structure designed by Richard Upjohn was consecrated in 1859. A chapel was added in 1869. A fire gutted the Church sanctuary in 1898, but it was rebuilt with the addition of a large three-manual Jardine organ in 1899.

The historically significant 1759 McKinstrey House (present rectory) adjacent to the church was purchased in 1907 for use as a Sunday School. In 1910 Mr. & Mrs. Walter Cabot Baylies donated a Sunday School building. This parish house has proven to be of immeasurable value throughout the years to the church and to the entire community. In 1960 ground was broken for an addition to the parish house which completed the complex of buildings as we know it today.

## On-Going Committees

Acolytes—Julia Boudreau  
Altar Guild—Anna Loura  
Archives—Marge Largey  
Audit Committee—Susan Cameron,  
Kirk Cleathero, Steve Perry  
Brown Bag Program—Lynn Clifford  
Building & Grounds—Paul Boudreau  
Capital Fund Drive—Jane Lopes  
Centering Prayer—Fr. Rich, Ethel Fraga  
Christian Formation—Lisa Benedetti  
Coffee Hour -  
Counters—Sarah Walker  
Fair—Jane Lopes, Beverly Kimball  
Golf Tournament—Len Walker  
Greeters—Sonia Hodge  
Finance Committee—Elmer Holmes  
Budget - Treasurer  
Insurance—Susan Cameron/Norm Dunphe  
Investment -  
Stewardship—  
Flower Committee—Cheryl Medeiros  
Fundraising Committee—Paul Boudreau  
Grapevine—Beverly Kimball

## Consider joining one or more of these committees

Healing Prayer Ministry—Jane Lopes  
Historian—Norm Dunphe  
Lobster Roll Day—Paul Boudreau  
Mission Trips— Paul Boudreau, Lisa Benedetti, Andrew Francis, Kim Avila  
Haiti Micah Fund—Paul Boudreau  
Cranwood House—Raquel Holmes  
Music Committee—Steven Young  
Newcomer Welcoming—Sarah Walker, Mary Wargat  
Our Daily Bread—Rene Cantin  
Parish Life Team—Fr. Rich  
Pastoral Care Team— Fr. Rich, Robin Miller, Mary Wargat, Frank Capron, Sonia Hodge  
Property Rentals—Andrew Francis  
Scholarship Committee—Kirk Cleathero  
Senior Ministry—Ann LaFleur  
Spiritual Development—Ethel Fraga  
Visitations—Robin Miller, Sonia Hodge  
Taunton Nursing Home ~ Sonia Hodge  
Assisted Living Facility ~ Sonia Hodge  
Waldron-Gibson House (School Street) —Chris Hannon  
Wine & Cheese Reception Coordinator—Brittannya Figueroa  
Women's Club—Joan Blake, Beverly Farrow