



Beverly Kimball, Editor

# Grapevine

VOLUME 37, NUMBER 8

December, 2017

**OFFICE HOURS**

Monday thru Friday  
8 am—2 pm

web page: [www.stthomastaunton.com](http://www.stthomastaunton.com)

**Rector ~ Bridge Priest**

Rev. Patricia Handloss  
[phandloss@gmail.com](mailto:phandloss@gmail.com)

**Parish Administrator**

Lynn Clifford  
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**Organist/Choir Director**

Dr. Steven Young  
[slyoung@bridgew.edu](mailto:slyoung@bridgew.edu)

**Sexton**

Paul Boudreau  
[paulboo67@yahoo.com](mailto:paulboo67@yahoo.com)

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Len Walker  
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**Junior Warden**

James Medeiros  
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**Clerk**

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**Treasurer**

Michael Stagliola  
[mvs31@comcast.net](mailto:mvs31@comcast.net)

**Assistant Treasurer  
Our Daily Bread Treasurer**

Eric Pearson  
[eric.od@verizon.net](mailto:eric.od@verizon.net)

**Vestry Members**

2018: Alan Dennen, Renee Vitale, Terry Ascì

2019: Wayne Perkins, Amy Kazlauskas, Aaron Le Beau

2020: Maureen Eldredge, Gayle Raposa, AnneMarie Amoedo

## From your Senior Warden

Thanks to all who volunteered to serve on the Search Committee for our next Rector. While we appreciate the offer to serve from so many, I believe we have formed a very qualified, diverse and educated group to do the work needed to find our next Rector. The first meeting, which will also include our Search Committee Consultant Bob Malone, will be the 2<sup>nd</sup> week of December here in the Coram Lounge. While these are closed meetings, one of the responsibilities of the group and those selected as co-chairs will be to keep the parish informed of their progress, and to reach out to all of us to get feedback on your concerns and desires for this place that we love. Those selected to serve are:

**Elizabeth Boudreau, Alan Dennen, Calvin Dwuye, Ethel Fraga, Maureen Eldredge, Marge Largey, Christina Latour, Sandi Mongiovi, Lou Raposa, Jacqui Schell**

Please take a moment to offer a thank you to your fellow parishioners who have offered their time and talents to work through this process for all of us.

Given Thanksgiving is this week, and on the heels of Rev. Patti's wonderful sermon this past Sunday about Gratitude, I thought I would offer what I am thankful for this Thanksgiving, 2017:

I am thankful for.....my Executive Committee who has agreed to meet whenever needed, including before and after Sunday services, to not only tend to the business of this church, but to leave their mark on making St. Thomas a place of which we can all be proud.

I am thankful for.....Rev. Patti Handloss. It's hard to believe I've only known her for a couple of months. In my mind she is already an integral part of our St. Tho-

mas family. From her eagerness to help wherever she can, to her message on Sundays, she has helped to make the start of our transition seamless in so many ways.

I am thankful for.....our Vestry, who is always supportive, inquisitive, fun-loving and determined to do a good job while they serve St. Thomas.

I am thankful for.....Lynn & Paul, who are the face of St. Thomas in so many ways. Whether it's a problem to be solved or a question needed to be answered, they are always available to do their job well and lend a hand if needed.

I am thankful for.....Dr. Steve and our choir. The music at the 10AM service is a blessing, and our choir sounds better and better as each week goes by. I find myself arriving early and staying late to hear Dr. Steve play our marvelous organ.

I am thankful for.....Renee Vitale and Annemarie Amoedo, who have begun a Sunday School program during the 10AM service. Seeing all the children come in after the Gospel brings a smile to so many faces. Thank you both for your hard work and commitment - looking forward to the Christmas Pageant!

I am thankful for.....my family, who supports me unconditionally, and that Christ has guided me to this place to serve him and the Gospel.

I am thankful for.....YOU, MY ST. THOMAS FAMILY! HAPPY THANKSGIVING ST. THOMAS!

Enjoy this week, hopefully take some time to rest, and I hope to see you at St. Thomas during the upcoming Advent season.

Len Walker, Sr. Warden

## A Message from our Treasurer

Michael Stagiola

Hello Fellow Parishioners!

There is so much happening at St. Thomas Church that I don't know where to begin. While we have a lot to celebrate, we also have some concerns to address which will become apparent in the statistics I am about to share with you. The main message I hope you will take away from my update is that I am grateful for all of you, and for all you've done for St. Thomas! The body of Christ is hard at work here in Taunton - thank you for sharing your time, talent, and resources to be an integral part of all this effort!

I can't say enough about the tremendous effort parishioners put forth to make the Annual Fair a success after raising \$10,145! I decided to look back at our other main fundraising events and found the Yard Sale raised \$4,549.73, and Lobster Roll Day collected \$9,677.74. Together, all three fundraisers earned just over \$24,000. That's spectacular!! It's amazing what we can do when we set our minds to it.

Thankfully, we have been using less Endowment (Church Investment) dollars this year — primarily driven by not having to pay a Rector. To date, we have withdrawn \$55,000 in comparison to previous years when withdrawal amounts ranged between \$70,000 - \$110,00 each year to maintain the Operating Account. Another benefit we have received is that the stock market has done well this year, enabling our investments to yield just over \$15,000 — more than the last three years combined!

This year's Annual Appeal is winding down and a portion of the necessary commitments were collected at last Sunday's "In gathering," or collecting of pledge commitments for 2018. The Operating Account is where we collect all contributions

and pay the routine bills such as payroll, utilities, and building repairs. These expenses require withdrawals of at least \$140,000 a year from the Operating Budget to maintain our Church. To date, we have almost \$73,000 in commitments from parishioners to support the 2018 Operating Budget. If you committed a 2018 pledge to St. Thomas, thank you. If not, I invite you to make a pledge commitment to our Church.

Over the past month, St. Thomas has earned an income totaling \$27,450.31 but spent \$31,066.67 on expenses, resulting in a deficit of over \$4,000. These figures clearly show the church is short every month, thereby making your ongoing financial support essential in sustaining the life at St. Thomas Church.

The Vestry is closely monitoring where we are spending money to close the gap within the deficit. In addition, we are evaluating our revenue streams. One example of how we are doing this is by reinstating the Rental Committee this year — a St. Thomas ministry in which several people review property contracts. After reviewing three contracts, the Rental Committee identified an opportunity to increase revenue and tighten contractual language.

I recognize this article describes a mixed financial message, but it also celebrates a very strong effort by the parishioners of St. Thomas Church throughout this year! Your continued fundraising efforts, Annual Appeal commitments, and ministry work allow St. Thomas to continue doing the important work we do so well while also providing the Taunton community with sustenance and a sense of hope — all in the name of Jesus Christ!

Thank you!

Peace,



Help us keep  
YOU informed...

**E-MAIL REQUEST** If you have not been receiving the news and announcements we send electronically, please send your email to [lynncifford1@comcast.net](mailto:lynncifford1@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.



# Notes from the Organ Console

Dr. Steven Young

**REHEARSALS:** Wednesdays, 7:30 PM (chapel) ~ Sundays, 9:00 AM (church)

**DECEMBER ANTHEMS:**

- December 4 Keep you lamps trimmed and burning William Allen Pasch
- December 11 And the glory of the Lord GF Handel
- December 18 Ave, ave, the angel sang Robert C. Lau
- December 24 O Magnum Mysterium Thomas Luis deVictoria
- December 24 The King shall come when morning dawns Timothy Shaw
- December 31 O Little Town of Bethlehem, Love came down at Christmas, Ave, Ave, the angel sang, O magnum Mysterium, What is this lovely fragrance



18-voice  
a cappella  
ensemble to  
perform  
  
Sunday  
December 3  
3:00 PM

## A British Christmas -

Concert by the Briarwood Ensemble

Under the direction of our Organist/Choirmaster Dr. Steven Young, the Briarwood Ensemble will present its annual holiday concert at St. Thomas Church.

This 18-voice a cappella ensemble will perform music by a variety of British composers of the twentieth and twenty-first centuries including Benjamin Britten's *A Hymn to the Virgin* and John Rutter's *Nativity Carol*. They will also perform newer works that will surely become holiday favorites.

Please come support the music program at St. Thomas and the hard work of these talented voices. Invite your family and friends.

~ Sunday, December 3, 2017 ~ 3:00 PM ~

*(A wine and cheese social will follow the concert)*

## Sexton's Christmas Wish List

Paul Boudreau



Commercial electric vinyl electrical tape	6 @ \$0.79/ea
6 ft. extension cord	1 @ \$9.57
Bleach	6 @ \$2.99/bottle
AA batteries ~ 36-pack Energizer	1 @ \$15.98
Dust pan (upright)	1 @ \$14.97
Mopheads, Rubbermaid blend mop refill (2-pack)	2 @ \$14.97/ea
Paint rollers (6-pack)	1 @ \$9.78/ea
DeWalt 20V cordless drill kit	1 @ \$199.00
Rubbermaid roughneck 32-gal. black round trash can w/lid	4 @ \$14.97/ea
Road Runner granular ice melt (40-lb bag)	6 @ \$10.97/ea
3M blue painters' tape (4-pack)	1 @ \$28.59/ea
Gorilla glue (8-oz wood glue)	1 @ \$3.97/ea
Gorilla glue (1.75 oz. clear glue)	1 @ \$5.97/ea
Paint brushes (3-pack)	1 @ \$10.97
DeWalt 24-inch wrecking bar	1 @ \$14.97
Grip-rite 2-inch Philips Head coated screws (1-lb box)	1 @ \$8.38

**HOME DEPOT GIFT CARDS WILL ALSO GET THE JOB DONE!**

## Join us at Church School

Renee Vitale / Annemarie Amoedo



### The Child

Why I came I know not;  
How I came I know not.  
I am curious;  
I am interested.

I am the Child.  
You hold in your hand  
my destiny.  
You determine, largely,  
whether I shall succeed  
or fail.  
Give me, I pray you,  
those things that make  
for happiness.  
Train me, I beg you, that  
I may be a blessing to  
the world.

*Mamie Gene Cole*

**Leaders:** Annemarie Amoedo & Renee Vitale  
**Assistants:** Steve Lombardi & Jacqui Schell  
**Location:** Chapel  
**Start Time:** 10:00 AM  
**End Time:** 10:45 AM (at Peace) Children will be escorted to church

We need **students** - admission is rolling - show up/sign up! Guests always welcome. Bring a friend!

We still need **teachers** and **assistants**. Many hands make light work. We will completely train, so there is no need for previous experience. Please see Annemarie Amoedo or Renee Vitale for more information.

### Church School Topics for November include

December 3 Advent I  
December 10 Advent II  
December 17 Advent III & IV  
December 24 (5:00 PM) **Living Nativity Christmas Pageant**  
(All children meet in Chapel for costumes and to prepare for the event)  
**(There will be no church school at the 9 AM service)**  
December 31 Family/Youth Sunday - no church school



## A Message from Rev. Pattie Handloss



Dear Friends,  
Advent. A time of preparation and a time of waiting but for whom do we wait, for what do we prepare?

It is stunning that in England a

baker replicated the nativity scene and replaced the infant Jesus with some sort of sausage. What was more stunning was that there was no outcry from Christians that maybe the ad was just a tiny little bit offensive, if not hugely offensive.

We Anglicans and Episcopalians are very quiet in our faith expressions, something I appreciate. We hesitate to join those with a more evangelical and loud voice when they proclaim a Christian faith that denigrates or denies the other person—the one who is not like us. I abhor that sort of faith that determines who is and who is not welcomed into the Community of Christ with razor sharp precision. That is not the community of God for which I prepare, nor to which I have given my life.

Yet, if a baker in this country decided to replace the Infant Jesus with a sausage, I would protest. I certainly would not buy the product and I would speak out. I know our sisters and brothers from other faith communities would speak out if their faith symbols were denigrated. And so must we.

The One for whom we prepare our hearts and souls this Advent is the One who brought love to this world, who brought mercy to justice. It is the in-breaking of God for which we yearn and wait and prepare. It is our most holy hope.

Let us treat this holy waiting time with compassion and expectant joy for in that manger we will find not a crass advertisement nor a judge who finds creation wanting but One who loves us more than we can ever imagine. It is for this One, the Christ Child, that we wait and pray and hope. It is the in-breaking of God into our lives.

A blessed Advent to the Family of St. Thomas'

Pattie+



## With Much Gratitude

**MANY  
THANKS**

Thank you! Thank you! Thank you! Sandi Mongiovi and Paul Boudreau and your team for making the rectory cozy and comfortable. I am very grateful.

With gratitude  
Pattie+

## Newcomers' Lunch Held

On November 19th a luncheon was held in the beautiful and historic Rectory for those who are new to our parish. Parishioners old and new joined to welcome them, tell them about who we are as the St. Thomas family and hear about them. We look forward to greeting them each Sunday.



## More Sunday School Pictures



## Serious Cell Uterine Cancer ~ Women take notice

Any and all women over 50 years of age need to know this cancer. It represents 10 per cent of Uterine cancers but 80 percent of the deaths from Uterine cancer. It has no symptoms until a woman is in stage 3 or 4 at which point there is no successful treatment. The cases of this cancer are rising rapidly. It is important we women know about it.

Please visit the website: [www.uterineserouscancer.org](http://www.uterineserouscancer.org) to find out more. There is an inexpensive blood test that will show a rise if a woman has serous cell Uterine or ovarian cancer. It is called CA125. It is not perfect but it is all we have for now. Thank you for taking note of this, Pattie+

## Joy of Living Senior Lunches

Ethel Fraga

People 55 and older are invited to meet for Joy of Living Luncheons at 12 Noon on Thursdays in St. Thomas Parish Hall. Lunch is sponsored by St. Thomas Senior Ministry to develop community among senior citizens. The lunch is free of charge and all are

welcome to attend. Voluntary Offerings will be accepted for our Soup Kitchen Ministry.

Lunch is served at 12 noon followed from 12:30 to 1 by an occasional program, fellowship or group conversation.

### DECEMBER SPEAKERS INCLUDE:

**December 7 ~** Lunch but no speaker

**December 14 ~** Almetta Hudson: Preparing for Christmas during the 60's in Pimmonsville, South Carolina

**December 21 ~** Lunch and Christmas Party

**December 28 ~** NO LUNCHEON

For more information, contact Ethel Fraga in the church office (508) 824-9595

## The Gratitude Walk ~ Boyden Wildlife Sanctuary

Ethel Fraga

A "Gratitude Walk" was enjoyed at Boyden Wild Life Sanctuary on Saturday, November 18th. Pictured (*left to right*), Lisa Maciejowski, Lou Raposa, Ethel Fraga. Watch for details on the next walk and plan to join them. For more information, contact Ethel Fraga through the church office at (508) 824-9595.



"Walking Gratefully! Lisa, Lou, and Ethel. Come walk with us!"

I love to think of nature as an unlimited broadcasting station, through which God speaks to us every hour, if we will only tune in.

*George Washington Carver*



### Pastoral Care Team

Please pray for all who are sick & shut-in...

Robert Lacasse  
Craig Babcock  
Jean Nicholson  
Kaitlyn Funk  
Arline Masters  
Dominic Vitale  
Kris Costa  
Ray Wordell

Please contact the church office with any pastoral emergencies. Be sure to inform Lynn 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.

Our Mission is  
to Welcome and  
Grow in Love !!!



## 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  
Christopher French  
Rick Dray  
Alex Bolton  
Scott Larson  
Brendan Clifford  
Justin Medeiros

## Bless the Marriage

*Caitlyn Pond and Michael Pollard*

United in Holy Matrimony ~ November 11, 2017

(Michael is the grandson of Audrey Pollard)

## Join us in Prayer for a New Rector

Ethel Fraga

**Please join us in saying this prayer daily during our search for a new rector.**

Lord, help us to be a caring congregation and to find a new rector who will be caring, capable and devoted to Gospel values.

Lord, you are wise, powerful, merciful, loving and a healer. We turn our will and our lives and all of our needs over to you.

Ethel Fraga

## Healing Prayer Ministry

Ethel Fraga

Healing Prayers will be offered the 1st and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays of each month at the 10 o'clock service, Serviceman's Altar, during Communion.

Members of the congregation may come to pray for spiritual or emotional, physical healing for self or loved ones, for grace needed on the journey, and to give thanks for blessings received. See Ethel Fraga or Donna Francis.

**GREETER SCHEDULE**

**December 3**

Terry Ascì  
Josephine Dwuyè

**December 10**

Maureen Eldredge  
Jacqui Schell

**December 17**

*(need volunteers)*

**December 24**

**9:00 AM**

Christina Latour  
Maureen Eldredge

**5:00 PM**

**10:00 PM**

**December 31**

Renee Vitale  
Steve Lombardi

**COFFEE HOUR  
VOLUNTEERS  
NEEDED**

Coffee Hour is a good time of fellowship and a chance to meet old friends, welcome new members and visitors. Without our volunteers, this is not possible.

Please consider taking one or two Sundays a year.

Contact Lynn in the church office at (508) 824-9595

**EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS/LAYREADERS**

**December 3**

8:00 AM Avis Leary  
10:00 AM Marge Largey, Lector  
Linda Belenger, Chalice  
Terry Ascì, Prayers/Chalice

**December 10**

8:00 AM Janet White  
10:00 AM Beverly Kimball, Lector/Chalice  
Wayne Perkins, Prayers/Chalice

**December 17**

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

**December 24**

9:00 AM Janet White, Lector/Chalice  
5:00 PM Sonia Hodge, Lector/Chalice  
Beverly Kimball, Prayers/Chalice  
10:00 PM Len Walker, Lector/Chalice  
Sarah Walker, Prayers/Chalice

**December 25**

**Christmas Day**

10:00 PM Sonia Hodge, Lector/Chalice

**December 31**

**Lessons & Carols**

8:00 AM Avis Leary  
10:00 AM Calvinne Dwuyè, Condoleezza Dwuyè, Linda Belenger, Alix McNamee, Terry Ascì, Wayne Perkins, Marge Largey, Lisa Benedetti, Paul Boudreau

**ACOLYTE SCHEDULE**

**December 3**

Crucifer Stephen Rose  
Candles Kloie Butler / Laila Butler  
Gospel Vienna Martin  
Back Cross Julia Boudreau

**December 10**

Crucifer Douglas Francis  
Candles Karissa Murray / Kassidy Murray  
Gospel Dillon Auger  
Back Cross Elijah Figueroa

**December 17**

Crucifer Julia Boudreau  
Back Cross Mason Badger

**December 24**

**9:00 AM**

Crucifer Elijah Figueroa  
Candles Kloie Butler, Laila Butler  
Gospel Vienna Martin

**December 24**

**5:00 PM**

**Christmas Pageant**

Crucifer Julia Boudreau  
Candles Logan Frank, Mason Badger  
Gospel Dillon Auger

**December 24**

**10:00 PM**

**Christmas Eve**

Crucifer Douglas Francis

**COFFEE HOUR**

**December 3**

Birthday & Anniversary

**December 10**

Tad Largey  
Marie Largey

**December 17**

Dane Kimball  
Beverly Kimball

**December 24**

No coffee hour

**December 31**

Joan Andrade  
Carol Crepeau

**FINANCE COMMITTEE**

*(4th Tuesdays)*

December 22

Meetings start at 7:00 PM  
in the Rector's Office

**December 25**

**Christmas Day**

Crucifer - Stephen Rose  
Candles -  
Condoleezza Dwuyè  
Mason Badger

**December 31**

**Lessons & Carols**

Crucifer - Douglas Francis  
Candles -  
Elijah Figueroa  
Kassidy Murray  
Gospel - Karissa Murray



## Home Plate Fundraiser

**Home Plate ~ Bay Street Grille**  
**December 12, 2017**

Enjoy lunch or dinner with your family and friends and present this ticket with your bill. St. Thomas Church will receive 20% of your bill. This offer is good on sit-down meals, take-out orders as well as gift certificates purchased.

This ticket should be cut out, copied and given to your family and friends, and take one with you to Home Plate. **NOTE: No tickets are allowed to be distributed at Home Plate Restaurant at any time.**

**SEE YOU THERE!**

TICKET



Supports  
**Episcopal Church of  
 St Thomas**

Bring this ticket to  
 Home Plate Bay St. Grill on  
**Tuesday,**  
**December 12, 2017**

Good for dine-in, take-out  
 and gift card purchases.  
 Tickets cannot be distributed  
 at any time at Home Plate.

**20% of your bill  
 will be donated to**

Episcopal Church of St Thomas

### HELP NEEDED

- Altar Guild
- Coffee Hour
- Choir
- Newcomers
- Building/  
Grounds
- Greeters
- Acolytes
- Brown Bag
- Church School
- Healing Prayer

**Join us in  
serving God**

**Take this ticket with you and  
present with your bill.**

**Copy and give to your friends  
and relatives.**

**DO NOT HAND THEM OUT  
ON THE RESTAURANT  
PROPERTY!**

## On-line pledging and donating available

- o Pay your pledge directly from your checking account or by credit card
- o Donate to all the other events throughout the year

Visit our St. Thomas webpage at [www.stthomastaunton.com](http://www.stthomastaunton.com). Click the blue “donate” button in the upper left hand corner of our web page. That will lead you to our online giving page where you can create a user ID and password and select how often you'd like to pay your pledge (one time, weekly or monthly).

~ GRAPEVINE DEADLINE ~ *December Grapevine - November 20.*

*Send articles to Beverly Kimball*

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

Save the Dates

On-Going Events ~ Save the Dates

Saturdays (1st)	6:00 PM -	Senior Ministry—Coram Lounge
Sundays (1st)	11:30 AM -	Newcomer’s Meeting—Coram Lounge
Sundays (1st)	11:30 AM -	Executive Committee
Sundays (1st & 3rd)	10:00 AM -	Healing Prayer ~ Serviceman’s Altar ~ Ethel Fraga/Donna Francis
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 (last Sunday)	10:00 AM -	Youth Sunday
Sundays (4th Sunday)	11:30 AM -	Building & Grounds Committee—Coram Lounge
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
Wednesdays (4th)	8 AM -	Brown Bag Program - Parish Hall
Thursdays (weekly)	12:00 N -	Senior Luncheon—Parish Hall
Fridays (2nd)	10:00 AM -	Knitters meet in the Coram Lounge

Upcoming Events ~ Mark Your Calendars

December 3	3:00 PMA	British Christmas - Briarwood Ensemble Concert
December 10	11:30 AM	Fall Fair Wrap-up Meeting - Coram Lounge
December 12	All Day	Home Plate Fundraiser

Facility Rentals

Silver City Teen Center	Mondays	3 PM - 7 PM	Parish Hall
	Wednesdays	3 PM - 5:30 PM	Parish Hall
	Fridays	3 PM - 7 PM	Parish Hall
	Saturdays	1 PM - 4 PM	Parish Hall
Champion Youth	Tuesdays	5 PM - 8 PM	Parish Hall
New Life Church	Tuesdays	6:30 PM	Chapel
	Saturdays	6:30 PM - 7:30 PM	Chapel
	Sundays	12 Noon - 2 PM	Chapel
7th Day Adventist	Thursdays	7 PM - 8:30 PM	Chapel
	Friday	7 PM - 8:30 PM	Chapel
	Saturday	9 AM - 1:30 PM	Chapel & Classrooms
		4 PM - 7:30 PM	Chapel & Parish Hall
	Sunday	5 PM - 7 PM	Classrooms
		7 PM - 8:30 PM	Chapel
Boy Scouts	Wednesdays	6 PM - 7:30 PM	Parish Hall
Christ Community Church	Saturdays	10:30 AM - 1 PM	Parish Hall
Greater Taunton Community Service	3rd Tuesday	7 PM	Coram Lounge

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**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 McKinstry 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.

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## On-Going Committees

Consider joining one or more of these committees

Acolytes—Lisa Benedetti, Elizabeth Boudreau,  
Altar Guild—Anna Loura  
Archives—Marge Largey  
Audit Committee—Susan Cameron,  
Kirk Cleathero  
Brown Bag Program—Lynn Clifford  
Building & Grounds—Jr. Warden & Paul Boudreau  
Capital Fund Drive -Mike Stagliola/ Wayne Perkins  
Centering Prayer—Ethel Fraga  
Christian Education—Renee Vitale  
Coffee Hour - Lynn Clifford  
Counters—Sarah Walker  
Fair— Committee  
Finance Committee— Mike Stagliola, Treasurer  
Budget -  
Insurance—  
Investment -  
Stewardship— Christina Latour/Terry Ascì  
Flower Committee—Cheryl Medeiros  
Fundraising Committee—Paul Boudreau / Vestry  
Golf Tournament—Len Walker

Grapevine—Beverly Kimball  
Greeters—Terry Ascì  
Healing Prayer Ministry— Ethel Fraga, Donna Francis  
Hospitality - Sarah Walker  
Historian—  
Lobster Roll Day—Paul Boudreau / Vestry  
Mission Trips— Paul Boudreau, Lisa Benedetti, Andrew Francis, Kim Avila  
Haiti Micah Fund—Paul Boudreau  
Music Committee—Dr. Steven Young  
Newcomer Welcoming—Len Walker, Lynn Clifford, Rector  
Our Daily Bread—Rene Cantin  
Pastoral Care Team— Avis Leary, Alan Dennen,  
Maureen Eldredge  
Property Rentals—Paul Boudreau  
Scholarship Committee—Kirk Cleathero  
Senior Ministry—Avis Leary  
Spiritual Development—Ethel Fraga  
Visitations—Avis Leary, Alan Dennen, Maureen Eldredge  
Waldron-Gibson House (School Street) —  
Wine & Cheese Reception Coordinator—

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