



Beverly Kimball, Editor

# Grapevine

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January/February, 2018

## OFFICE HOURS

Monday thru Friday  
8 am—2 pm

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

## Rector ~ Bridge Priest

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## Parish Administrator

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## Assistant Treasurer

## Our Daily Bread Treasurer

Eric Pearson  
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## 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

It is with pleasure that I announce that the Vestry has approved the Bishop's recommendation of Rev. John Beach to serve as our Interim Priest, effective February 14, 2018. Most recently Rev. Beach served as rector of St. Paul's Church on Nantucket, MA. Prior to St. Paul's, Reverend Beach served as Rector at Emmanuel Church in Geneva, Switzerland, and at Church of the Ascension in Montreal, Canada. Rev. Beach has also served in the role of Chaplain at Trinity College, University of Toronto, and at Florida State University in Tallahassee, Florida.

Reverend Beach and his wife Denise are traveling in New Zealand with friends until the end of January, then moving to an apartment in Taunton. He is also looking forward to being closer to his mother, Marge Beach, who resides in Rhode Island and was a fellow parishioner of mine for many years at the Cathedral of St. John in Providence. Please join me in welcoming Rev Beach to St. Thomas.

While we are excited to welcome Rev. Beach, I for one will be sad to see Reverend Patti Handloss leave us. She has settled in here so well in so many ways, I can't imagine our transition being any more seamless. Her pastoral care, wonderful way with the children, and her unending desire to help wherever she can will be sorely missed. Here's hoping she will find

her way to visit us from time to time. We are projecting Patti's last Sunday will be February 11, the same Sunday as the Annual Meeting. I hope you'll make it a point to join us then for not only the Annual Meeting, but also to bid a fond farewell to Rev. Patti.

Speaking of the Annual Meeting, we have a qualified slate of candidates who are considering election to the Vestry. We have 4 spots to fill, along with the Jr. Warden's position. If you have an interest in serving, please reach out to Paul or Lynn, one of your Executive Committee members, or one of the Nominating Committee members (Cheryl Medeiros, Steve Lombardi, Renee Vitale).

Last, I hope everyone survived the cold spell we've had over the last two weeks or so. Staff and parish came together in so many ways - snow plowing/shoveling on Saturday, pastoral visits to those sick in the hospital, 10AM service in the parish hall due to late oil delivery, many discussions/information regarding possible service as a shelter which in the end we decided not to do for numerous reasons, first communion classes, etc.

I thank you all for your dedication to St. Thomas, and wish you and your family a Happy New Year.

Len Walker, Sr. Warden

# A Message from our Treasurer

Michael Stagiola

*If you have  
not  
committed a  
pledge to  
St. Thomas  
for 2018,  
please do!*

Happy New Year!

Thank you for your financial support of St. Thomas in 2017!

The Finance team was busy during the past month. Here are a few highlights. The 2017 books were reconciled and closed, we gathered 2018 Pledge Commitments, and the 2018 budget was drafted for our Annual Meeting, I am in the process of updating the property rental spreadsheet for the Vestry, and we are preparing to send out 2017 fourth quarter Contribution Statements. In addition, we are working on financial Transition documents for the Diocese and preparing to start work on the 2017 Parochial Report to the Diocese.

I want to thank the “Counters” for their time and efforts this year as we transitioned into a new computer-based financial program. The Counters are comprised mostly of Vestry and Finance Committee members. With the change in computer programs, they are able to count offerings and other financial gifts to St. Thomas then prepare the bank deposit in about 30 minutes on a regular Sunday morning.

I’m anticipating asking the Parish to support another deficit budget for 2018. St. Thomas used approximately \$55,000 from Endowments to support the general budget, with another \$40,000 in outstanding liabilities. The good news is our 2017 Investments made almost as much as we used from Endowments. If you have not committed a pledge to St. Thomas for 2018, please do!

I will be drafting my Annual Report and presenting the 2018 budget at the Annual Meeting. Please plan to attend. I look forward to answering questions and discussing 2018 goals.

God Bless You! Mike

## Youth Group Goes Bowling

Photos by Bolade Kingsworth





# Notes from the Organ Console

Dr. Steven Young

**REHEARSALS:** Wednesdays, 7:30 PM (chapel) ~ Sundays, 9:00 AM (church)  
New members are always welcome to join us.

**JANUARY/FEBRUARY ANTHEMS:**

January 21	How Can I Keep from Singing	John Abdenour
January 28	Sing Hallelujah, Praise the Lord	Raymond H. Haan
February 4	Laudate Dominum	W. A. Mozart
February 11	Swing Low, Sweet Chariot	Stephan Casurella
February 14	Lord, for Thy Tender Mercies' Sake	Richard Farrant
February 18	Jesus, So Lowly	Harold Friedell
February 25	Lord of the Dance	John Ferguson

18-voice  
a cappella  
ensemble per-  
forms at St.  
Thomas.

## A British Christmas -

Photos by Bolade Kingsworth

Under the direction of our Organist/Choirmaster Dr. Steven Young, the Briarwood Ensemble presented its annual holiday concert at St. Thomas Church. A wine and cheese social followed. Thank you to Dr. Young for a wonderful start to the holiday season and to the many who supported this wonderful group of singers.



## 4H Group Looking for contributions

**NEEDED**  
Infant / Toddler  
Clothing  
(newborn through 2T)  
....to benefit  
Birthright of Taunton

Two of our young people, Oliver LeBeau and Isaac Amoedo, along with their 4H group - The Wild-4-Ragers, are looking for contributions for a drive to benefit Birthright of Taunton. Birthright assists pregnant woman as they navigate an unplanned pregnancy.

**Needed:** All sizes of new clothing for boys and girls from newborn through 2T, diapers of all sizes, wipes, onesies, baby wash, lotion, etc, crib sheets, wash cloths, receiving blankets, and baby toys. They also love to recycle gently used items. Please bring the gifts unwrapped.

The drive will finish with a "baby shower" in the auditorium of the Taunton Public Library on **Saturday February 10, 2018 at 10:00 am**. If you cannot make it on that day, you may also drop off items in the boxes placed at Heart Beets Farm, Berkley; Taunton Public Library (Children's Room); Old Colony YMCA, Taunton; or Raynham Public Library.

At church on Sundays you can drop off items with either the LeBeaus or Amoedos at the 10 AM service. **Please help support Oliver and Isaac and their 4H group with this project.**

Oliver and Isaac  
are looking for your  
help!

### 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*

## Join us at Church School

Renee Vitale / Annemarie Amoedo

**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



### Church School Topics for January include:

January 7 The Good Shepherd and World Communion  
1st Communion for many Sunday School attendees  
January 14 Mindfulness Training with guest presenter Ethel Fraga  
January 21 Baptism  
January 28 No Church School - Family/Youth Sunday

### Church School Topics for February include:

February 4 The Parable of the Good Samaritan  
February 11 The Mystery of Easter  
February 18 The Faces of Easter I (Jesus Birth and Growth)  
The Faces of Easter II (Jesus Lost and Found)  
February 25 No Church School - Family/Youth Sunday

**1st Communion Class** ~ On Saturday, January 6th, five children participated in their first Communion Class which began with a Godly Play Activity, (The Good Shepherd and World Communion). Rev. Pattie then explained the importance of this great meal with Jesus and how to receive this special gift. Students received the host and dipped it into the chalice and tasted for the first time. We all learned that the cookies, (practice communion provided by Patti) and the donuts provided by the LeBeaus were far tastier than the host.

On Sunday the children will review their Godly Play lesson and practice receiving communion. They, along with their family, will be invited to receive communion first, followed by the rest of the congregation. It was planned that during her sermon, Rev. Patti would invite the children to the altar to see the gifts up close; however, this was postponed until next week when we are back in the main church for our worship. (Lack of heat in the church moved us to the parish hall this week.)

**Note** from Rev. Pattie... "The children were extremely interested in the piece that Renee did with the Godly Play material. We had great material and a fabulous teacher. Thank you Renee!"

*Photos courtesy of  
Rev. Pattie Handloss*





**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.



## A Message from Rev. Pattie Handloss



Dear Friends,

Last weekend's Arctic blast presented a scenario that would challenge any worship service:

The doors were frozen shut so we could not get into the church but even if we could have gotten in, there was no heat. None. Zero. It was a balmy -2 degrees outside and no doubt almost equal to that inside the church and chapel. Paul, our wonderful Sexton had no magic to fix this. If Paul can't fix it—well—you all know fixing is out of reach.

Our gorgeously decorated Church which the Altar Guild had made beautiful for the Christmas season was not going to be seen again this year for Sunday worship.

What to do? The Parish Hall was the answer. There were adult concerns about worshipping in the hall for the younger children's first communion. Maybe we should put off their 1<sup>st</sup> communion till we were in a more sacred setting, but the children and their parents had met on Saturday under the wonderful teaching of Renee to learn about communion. We had been talking about this important part of their young lives in Christ. We could not postpone that for which they eagerly awaited.

Paul, Lisa, Len and Mike and maybe others made the hall into a suitable

space and the Altar Guild did what they do so well, they made beautiful what had been just the parish hall. Cheryl, Anna, Janet, and Paul brought the Altar together—and it was lovely. We were ready for Camp St Thomas.

The Verger, John, verged, the acolyte, Julie, lit candles with a gas lighter normally used for outdoor grills, and Avis at 8 and Wayne and Alix at 10 read and led us through the lessons with their usual skill and love.

The sharing of the peace in the more intimate space of the hall was an ongoing feast. The intimacy of the space worked.

And then it was time for the children to take communion—These 5 little one's hands outstretched, eyes wide open and smiles—O the smiles mixed in a delightful way with great solemnity on their faces. They knew something good and Holy was wrapping them in love beyond the intellect. They were one with Christ Jesus.

What a knock down glorious day it was—in the parish hall in below freezing temperatures. Loving our beloved, being held in love by Our Lord.

O my. —It was the best of us at St Thomas in what might have been the worst of situations—THE BEST.

Praise be! And congratulations to Oliver, Max, Hans, Jocelyn and Johnny.

Thank you all.  
Blessings and Love, Pattie+

### ANNUAL MEETING

February 11, 2018 ~ 11:30 AM

*Reports and election of Jr. Warden and 4 Vestry members*

**POT LUCK LUNCHEON ~ BRING A DISH TO SHARE**

# Musings from Our Daily Bread Soup Kitchen

by Maureen Eldredge, Volunteer



“Did you have a nice Christmas” he asked me, and politely I asked about his. Smiling he said, “I found an empty doorway Christmas Eve and I celebrated Christmas there!” There are those in society, amongst us, who wonder

why the poor seem lazy and unwilling to improve their lot. Poverty breeds bad decision making. How can one concentrate on becoming self-sufficient, self-aware, and self-motivated if Christmas Eve is spent in a doorway? My days volunteering in Our Daily Bread Soup Kitchen in the bottom of our Parish Hall with the homeless, elderly, needy, lonely, and disadvantaged have brought my world a sense of perspective and personal growth. My new motto is, “There for the Grace of God go I.”

Offering breakfast, lunch and a take-away bag lunch daily to approximately 120 “quests”, requires a sense of comradery, cooperation, and a constant sense of humor as one day I was asked to make oatmeal. Thinking I was using Quaker Oat packets then adding water, I was horrified to learn one makes oatmeal from “scratch.” Pouring into boiling water anything and everything I could think of, I asked both my volunteer friend, Dave, and the Assistant Director, Jay, to taste the results. Dave said, “I think this would be great for patching the potholes in the parking lot” both of them laughing hysterically. No “thin-skinned” need apply!

No operation such as “Our Daily Bread” could transpire without the leadership, devotion, and passion of a dedicated Director. Maribeth Ferreira’s vision of what would not only nourish stomachs, but dignity as well, has resulted in far-reaching interventions. With a social work component added, featuring licensed social workers and interns from neighboring colleges, the capacity for integration of assistance with housing, clothing, insurance, employment, and other needed areas, has offered the “guests” the ability to achieve a sense of self-improvement. One of

the local community colleges has visited, and through their generosity, computers will be added enabling the “guests” to build their own blocks in building skills for success.

The expression, “It takes a village to raise a child,” appropriately applies to the functions of Our Daily Bread which would not exist without the caring actions of the Board of Directors that hail from Taunton businesses and the surrounding communities. The expertise provided by each member’s field of endeavor adds to the planning and attention to the well-being of each “guest.” As the liaison from the Vestry to this Board, I have witnessed first-hand their hard work and dedication to advancing the self-affirmation of the “guests” who make the Soup Kitchen such a vibrant haven from their plight. Last Fall, through the tireless efforts of one member of the Board, a Wine-Tasting event took place at Forekicks in Taunton. Working the trays in the kitchen that night, I witnessed high school students asking what to do next and business owners mingling with neighbors and friends, all in atmosphere laden with goodwill and philanthropic energy.

As a Social Worker, I have witnessed the “human condition” in all its forms whether homelessness, mental illness, poverty, neglect, abuse, and all other detriments to well-being. What I have seen is that everyone has “strengths” that allow them to function using good judgment and decision-making skills. The “guests” of Our Daily Bread have these also, but theirs are blinded by the conditions of their existence. Knowing that their inner strength is compromised, everyone from the Board of Directors, the Director, Assistant Director and the volunteers, all contribute to the removal of stigma to the arrival of self-affirmation thus allowing for personal value.

It is my honor and privilege to be a Volunteer at Our Daily Bread.

## 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.

### JANUARY / FEBRUARY SPEAKERS INCLUDE:

January 4	Conversation: Sharing of Holiday Survival Tips
January 11	William Bell: Sunday School Picnic
January 18	Rev. Patricia Handloss: "One of the First Women Priests"
January 25	No speaker - Bingo with prizes

February 1	Conversation: " <b>Things I Have Learned</b> "
February 8	Carol Doherty; "Women in Public Office"
February 15	Valentine's Day Party
February 22	Ethel Fraga "Building Kindful Community"

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

A sub-zero winter day and no heat in the church building so... a warm cozy Eucharist celebrated in the parish hall



## Children Receive First Communion



Receiving their First Communion on January 7th were:

- Oliver A LeBeau
- Maximilian X. LeBeau
- Hans R. LeBeau
- Jocelyn J. Cameron
- John P. Cameron V



### Pastoral Care Team

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

Robert Lacasse  
 Craig Babcock  
 Jean Nicholson  
 Kaitlyn Funk  
 Ray Wordell  
 Judy Lincoln  
 Bill Dowd  
 Max LeBeau

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.

## 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  
 Dominic Vitale  
 Kris Costa  
 Jordan Leech

O Lord, thou knowest that which is best for us.  
 Let this or that be done, as thou shalt please.  
 Give what thou wilt, how much thou wilt, and  
 when thou wilt.

Thomas A Kempis

## 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.

**EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS/LAYREADERS**

**January 21**

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

**January 28**

**Youth Sunday**

8:00 AM Janet White  
 10:00 AM Linda Belenger, Prayers/Chalice  
 Alix McNamee, Chalice  
 Readers: Condoleezza & Calvinne Dwuye

**Christmas Pageant 2017**



Photos Courtesy of Dane Kimball and Bolade Kingsworth

**ACOLYTE SCHEDULE**

**January 21**

Crucifer Julia Boudreau  
 Candles Kloie Butler / Laila Butler  
 Gospel Vienna Martin  
 Back Cross Logan Frank

**January 28 Youth Sunday**

Crucifer Elijah Figueroa  
 Candles Condoleezza Dwuye / Stephen Rose  
 Gospel Calvinne Dwuye  
 Back Cross Douglas Francis  
 Youth Readers Condoleezza Dwuye / Calvinne Dwuye

**February 4**

Crucifer Julia Boudreau  
 Candles Kloie Butler / Laila Butler  
 Gospel Vienna Martin  
 Back Cross Elijah Figueroa

**February 11**

Crucifer Douglas Francis  
 Candles Karissa Murray / Kassidy Murray  
 Gospel Calvinne Dwuye  
 Back Cross Elijah Figueroa

**February 18**

Crucifer Julia Boudreau  
 Candles Kloie Butler / Laila Butler  
 Gospel Vienna Martin  
 Back Cross Logan Frank

**February 25 Youth Sunday**

Crucifer Elijah Figueroa  
 Candles Condoleezza Dwuye / Stephen Rose  
 Gospel Calvinne Dwuye  
 Back Cross Douglas Francis  
 Youth Readers Condoleezza Dwuye / Calvinne Dwuye

**GREETER SCHEDULE**

**January 21**

**January 28**

Renee Vitale  
 Steve Lombardi

**February 4**

**February 11**

**February 18**

**February 25**

Renee Vitale  
 Steve Lombardi

*Greeters are needed,  
 Please see Terry Asci if you  
 would like to volunteer.*

**COFFEE HOUR**

**January 21**

Esther Wilbur

**January 28**

Donna Francis  
 Terry Asci

**February 4**

Birthday & Anniversary

**February 11**

Annual Meeting

**February 18**

Maureen Eldredge

**February 25**



*Please consider signing up to be a Greeter/Usher during our worship services.*

*Greeters welcome parishioners and guests at the door, hand out pamphlets, take the sacraments forward during communion and release the congregation for communion.*

*There is a sign-up sheet at the entrance to the church. You will be trained. If you have any questions, Terry Ascii will be glad to assist you.*

*We need YOU!*

## Home Plate Fundraiser



**Home Plate ~ Bay Street Grille**

**March 20, 2018**

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!**

**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!**

# TICKET



**Supports  
Episcopal Church of  
St Thomas**

Bring this ticket to  
Home Plate Bay St. Grill on

**Tuesday,  
March 20, 2018**

**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

## 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 ~ March - February 20.

Send articles to Beverly Kimball

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

February 4	11:30	2018 FAIR Organization Meeting	Coram Lounge
February 11	11:30	ANNUAL MEETING	Parish Hall
February 11	11:30	<b>Pot Luck Luncheon</b>	Parish Hall
February 20		NEXT GRAPEVINE DEADLINE	
February 14		Rev. John Beach ( <i>Interim Priest</i> )	
March 20	All Day	Home Plate Fundraiser	Bay Street Grille

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

## 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.

## 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—