

Father Eugene Grytner, SDS
Office hrs Mon-Fri 9 am to 12 pm
1305 E. Mann Road Bartow, FL 33830

MASSES

**Daily at 8:30 am - No Mass on
Wednesday and Saturday morning.**

Saturday: Vigil Bartow: 5:00 pm

Sunday: Ft. Meade 8:00 am

Sunday: Bartow 10:30 am

Sacraments

Confessions: Half hour prior to masses.

Marriage preparation: Arrangements must be
made four months in advance.

Baptism: Last Sunday of the month.
Call Evelyn Rivera 863-370-4000
evecoulter@aol.com

Sick calls – Anytime
Communion for Sick and Home Bound
Call the Church Office

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament - Every
Sunday 1:30 pm to 2:30 pm
Monday 8:30 am to 10:30 am

Religious Education Administrator
Jessica Whitmer 863-602-3837

Religious Formation – Every Sunday
Sept thru May

Preschool thru 8th - Sun 9 am to 10:15 am

High School Sunday 9:00 to 10:15 am
(1st and 3rd Sunday of the month.)

Email: gloria121@verizon.net
Phone 863-533-8578
Fax 863- 533-5090
www.stthomasbartow.org

NEW PARISHIONERS WELCOME!
Registration forms in church or office

Remember St. Thomas Church in your will

Saint Thomas Aquinas Catholic Church

2180 S. Kissingen Ave. Bartow FL, 33830

Diocese of Orlando



Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe November 26, 2023



Mass Intentions

Sat Nov 25	5:00 pm	
Sun Nov 26	8:00 am	For All Parishioners
Sun Nov 26	10:30 am	+Dave Dillman By Linda Dillman
Mon Nov 27	8:30 am	+Ozelle & +Missouri Johnson By Gerald Johnson
Tue Nov 28	8:30 am	Christina Kjerrumgaard By Yvonne & Bill Kjerrumgaard
Thu Nov 30	8:30 am	All Souls in Purgatory
Fri Dec 1	8:30 am	Special Intention
Sat Dec 2	8:30 am	
Sat Dec 2	5:00 pm	
Sun Dec 3	8:00 am	For All Parishioners
Sun Dec 3	10:30 am	+Guadalupe Blanco By Maria & Rick Davila

Please Pray For.....

Stuart Andrews, Terry Ayres, Kristin Bing, Pete Byrne, Melvin Casey, Alan English, Rachel Gohlman, Delores Hart, Austin Heath, Zachary Heath, Ivette Hernandez, Jennifer Hoffer, Mark Jansen, Missy Jansen, Mark Jones, Gail Kautz, Bill Kjerrumgaard, Sara Long, Aaron Mills, Adam Mills, Zachary Mills, Scott Mize, Lacey Pate, , George Pizano, Karlee Severns, Richie Southwell, Gloria Stenger, Murphy Stidham, Debi Tuck, Laura Webb



\$25 Walmart gift cards will be collected again this year to help needy children for Christmas. Please call the office to request assistance or if you know a family who might need assistance.

LECTORS	SME
11/25-5:00 pm	
Carolyn King Barbara Van Orsdale	Susan DeNeve Patti Scott
11/26-10:30 am	
Carrie Brown Maureen Leckie	Pat Lowery George Cherry
12/2-5:00 pm	
Barbara Van Orsdale Toni Hoffer	Doug Van Orsdale Toni Hoffer
12/3-10:30 am	
Carrie Brown Confirmandi	Maria Davila Kay La Clair

Saint Thomas Collection

11/12	Regular	\$1914.00
	Maintenance	251.00

Saint Elizabeth Collection

11/12	Regular	586.00
	Maintenance	232.00

COME TO PRAY

December 1 First Friday of the Month is dedicated to the Veneration of the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

December 2 First Saturday of the Month is dedicated to Veneration of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Prayers and benediction after Mass in monstrance.

Please pray for our deceased diocesan priests:

Nov 3, 2013	Msgr. John Caulfield
Nov 9, 1994	Rev. Charles Anderson
Nov 15, 1995	Rev. James Fahey
Nov 17, 2004	Rev. Thomas Bergin
Nov 20, 2000	Rev. George Moreau
Nov 29, 2021	Rev. Hugo Londono
Nov 30, 1994	Rev. William Killion
Dec 2, 2015	Msgr. Vidal Arboleda
Dec 5, 2008	Rev. Stephen Phillips
Dec 13, 1971	Msgr. William Mullally
Dec 21, 1997	Rev. William O'Farrell
Dec 22, 1981	Rev. Vincent Smith
Dec 22, 2010	Rev. Gerard Granahan



TECH PROFESSIONAL TURNED DOMINICAN PRIEST

Dominican Father Corwin Low tells how he went from a successful businessman to becoming a priest in a mendicant religious order.

I was raised as a Presbyterian, and we went to church without fail every Sunday. My parents were very concerned that my three siblings and I were imbued with good moral and ethical values.

They also wanted to give us the tools that were necessary to help us get ahead. There was no question that we would go to college and acquire degrees that would help us in our careers. I studied electrical engineering and computer science.

After a couple of years of working for IBM in Florida, I went to work for Paul Allen, who started Microsoft with Bill Gates. I eventually broke away from that and start another business in the field of computer network security.

Like so many others, I was turning into a workaholic, and this left little time to consider faith. Several developments, acquisitions, and start-ups later, I found that I could buy anything I wanted; I could go anywhere I wanted; I could set my own schedule. That's when the bigger questions started to surface: "How come I was not super-happy? What's this life all about? I have 'everything,' now what do I do? Do I continue to make more money, more money than I want or more money than I need?" I realized that's not going to fulfill me any more than what I've already attained. So I was stuck.

When I entered one day my intellectual property attorney's office, I immediately saw a crucifix and triptych on a credenza. I had a sense, but I casually asked him, "What's this?" He said that the shrine is a daily reminder, a constant reminder, of Who's in charge.

There was enough of my own background being raised as a Protestant that his words struck a chord. They are true! "Why doesn't He ever enter into my life on a regular basis? Why is He not at work with me?"

So that moment put me on this trajectory. Over the five years of developing a relationship with my attorney and his family, I realized that the most important things in his life were his faith,

then his family, and then his work — in that order. Most people don't have that set of priorities. But I saw this working out well in his life, giving him a real peace and fulfillment that transcended the ups and downs of the work week. And in my heart, I knew I wanted that, too. That was what intrigued me enough to want to "figure this thing out."

I decided to take a three-month sabbatical by moving to Rome. Three months turned into 13 months. That's because the number of graces that came my direction was like a book full of miracles. I started going to Morning Prayer and Mass. Even though I wasn't receiving Communion and it was in Italian, I was just so intrigued by this communal prayer. I made it part of my day. I also visited the Benedictines for Vespers every evening (their chanting is beautiful).

I decided to take instruction on the faith from a couple of American priests residing in Rome. The following year, 2001, I was confirmed at the Dominican Church Santa Sabina in Rome. It was one of the happiest days of my life.

I came back and I thought, "I'm a Catholic ... now what?" It took a few years to come to some conclusions, but to make a long story short, I eventually sold my company and took some time off to discern. A year later, I applied to the Dominicans, and I entered the novitiate in San Francisco when I was 42. In 2014 (eight years of formation later), I was ordained to the priesthood.

When I became Catholic back in 2001, it was abundantly clear to me in Silicon Valley that if you had any faith, you lived one life at home and another life at work. People actually work in fear that their faith might be "discovered" and that it will undermine their careers.

It was eight years into being a Dominican priest when my provincial called and said, "I think it's time for you to go back to the tech industry."

Yes, I'd like to work with Big Tech executives and leaders, helping them embrace principles that will drive real happiness and fulfillment for them and their teams, and cultivate real human friendships that inspire others and enhance productivity. After all, they can shape culture just by their decisions and their lifestyles.