

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: 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  
evecoult@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

(1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month.)

Email: gloria121@verizon.net

Phone 863-533-8578

Fax 863- 533-5090

[www.stthomasbartow.org](http://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*



# 14<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

## July 7, 2024



### Mass Intentions

Sat Jul 6	5:00 pm	For All Parishioners
Sun Jul 7	10:30 am	+Ann Marie Duceman By Family
Mon Jul 8	8:30 am	+Ronald Cauley By Theresa & George Cherry
Tue Jul 9	8:30 am	Christina Kjerrumgaard By Yvonne & Bill Kjerrumgaard
Thu Jul 11	8:30 am	All Souls in Purgatory
Fri Jul 12	8:30 am	+Ann Marie Duceman By Family
Sat Jul 13	5:00 pm	For All Parishioners
Sun Jul 14	10:30 am	+Charles Wiggins By Family

LECTORS	SME
7/6-5:00 pm	
Mike DeNeve Barbara Van Orsdale	Doug Van Orsdale Susan DeNeve
7/7-10:30 am	
Martha Laurent Carrie Brown	Maria Davila Martha Laurent
7/13-5:00 pm	
Mike DeNeve Evelyn Rivera	Susan DeNeve Pat Lowery
7/14-10:30 am	
Pat Lowery Caroline Picart	Theresa Cherry Pattie Scott

<u>Saint Thomas Collection</u>		
6/23	Regular	\$2811.00
	Father's Day	7.00
	Maintenance	283.00
<u>Saint Elizabeth Collection</u>		
6/23	Regular	160.00

### WOMEN'S CLUB MEETING

The Women's Club will meet immediately after Mass on Sunday, **July 14<sup>th</sup>**.

### Please Pray For.....

Stuart Andrews, Terry Ayres, Kristin Bing, Pete Byrne, Melvin Casey, Maggie Chiarini, Alan English, Rachel Gohlman, Dorothy Guptill, Delores Hart, Austin Heath, Zachary Heath, Ivette Hernandez, Jennifer Hoffer, Mark Jansen, Missy Jansen, Stuart Jones, Bill Kjerrumgaard, Leon LaClair, Sara Long, Aaron Mills, Adam Mills, Zachary Mills, Scott Mize, Lacey Pate, , George Pizano, Karlee Severns, Richie Southwell, Chuck Spencer, Rise' St. Arno, Gloria Stenger, Jeff Stidham, Murphy Stidham, Laura Webb

### *Please pray for our deceased diocesan priests*

July 1, 2023	Rev. John (Stan) Murray
July 7, 1988	Rev. Arthur Dunnigan
July 10, 2005	Rev. Joseph Achilles Nolin
July 14, 2018	Msgr. Valentine Sheedy
July 15, 2016	Rev. Frank Mutsko
July 18, 1992	Rev. Paul Couming
July 22, 2017	Rev. Felix Baños
July 26, 2022	Rev. Francis X.J. Smith

### GOD IS THE DIVINE AUTHOR OF THE BIBLE

All of the Bible's human authors were inspired by the Holy Spirit, the third person of the Holy Trinity.

**Because the Bible has one divine Author, this collection of books is unified by an incredible story.**

It's a story of God's love for us.

It's a story of love and loyalty, brokenness and betrayal.

It's a story that each and every one of us is a part of.

And it's the greatest story ever told.!

### CCD Bake Sales

CCD classes begin soon, and classroom books have been purchased. Religious education is so important for the children that no fee is charged. To help cover the cost there will be bake sales on July 13 & 14 and August 10 & 11 after Mass. Donations of items and cash greatly appreciated.

## WORLD YOUTH DAY CALLS



“Before World Youth Day, I was one way; after World Youth Day, I was another; and what came in between was Him — and World Youth Day facilitated that.”

### The Young Pilgrim

Of an earlier World Youth Day (WYD), namely, Sydney, Australia, in 2008, Brenden Thompson recounted how he journeyed there as a reluctant pilgrim. He went, he admitted, only because of pressure from his mother, who was concerned about her son’s lack of faith and an even greater lack of direction. Thompson had just failed his final high-school exams and had no idea what he was going to do with his life. He also had no idea of his Catholic faith, having long since given up any pretense at practicing it.

Thompson viewed WYD simply as an excuse to visit Australia. “I expected little,” he explained, “and got something unexpected, life-changing: the gift of faith.”

When pressed to identify the precise moment at WYD when this transformation occurred, he recalled two incidents. The first was a Holy Mass he attended with the youth group with which he had traveled from England. The Mass was to have been in a church, but, for reasons unknown, this proved impossible. Undaunted, the priest leading the group headed to a hotel to see if there was a space there where he could celebrate the Mass.

Alas, there was no room at the inn. The hotel proprietors, however, did tell the priest he could use a hotel corridor. As strange as this sounds, that is exactly what happened. That Mass, said in a corridor, was to prove decisive in the reversion of Brenden Thompson.

“It provoked a question about what my life was for, a question I am still answering today,” he said.

At that WYD, he also made a sacramental confession, and his life has never been the same since.

Today, Thompson is CEO of Catholic Voices, a British project to improve the Church’s representation in the media.

With one exception, he has attended every WYD since 2008. In contrast to his earlier reluctance to attend WYD, this year he will be going not just as a pilgrim but as a speaker, encouraging a whole new generation in their Catholic faith. Hearing of this remarkable transformation brought about by his 2008 WYD experience, what does his mother think today as her son prepares to speak at WYD 2023? “She says sending me to WYD in Australia was the best money she ever spent!”

### HOW DO WE MAKE JESUS’ VICTORY OUR OWN?

The answer: unconditional surrender. We often say that God loves us unconditionally, and it is true. God has gone to the greatest lengths to win for us the victory we never could have won for ourselves. The trouble is, we love God conditionally. We really misuse our freedom to set limits on his love, carving our territory in our souls that we don’t allow his grace to conquer. Sadly, we can sometimes behave like “Quislings” – professing loyalty to Christ and the Church, but collaborating with the enemy out of fear, weakness or hope of temporary gain.

What does unconditional surrender mean for us as followers of Christ? It means casting our cares upon the Lord. Owning up to our sins and weaknesses. Confessing our sins. Believing with all our hearts. Hoping against hope. Loving Him who loved us first. Embracing the freedom Jesus won so that we can love others, especially our spouses and families, but also those in need. Unconditional surrender means allowing Christ’s self-giving love to define us, to be the last word about who we are and what we do.

