



ST. THOMAS AQUINAS
CATHOLIC CHURCH • BARTOW, FL
DIOCESE OF ORLANDO

ST. THOMAS ANNOUNCEMENTS

September 8, 2024

1. **PLEASE CONTINUE TO PRAY FOR PEACE IN THE UKRAINE AND ISRAEL.**
2. **Pilgrimage to Greece September 17 – 30** with Fr. George Dunne, SSS, sponsored by San Pedro Spiritual Development Center. Includes 4-night cruise and roundtrip airfare from Orlando. For information <https://static1.squarespace.com/static/5bfc3028b98a787cb513d4ab/t/65b7bddc63af444745dd97ab/1706540511009/Greece+Brochure+FINAL.pdf>. You may need to copy & paste the address if clicking on the link doesn't take you there.
3. **Pilgrimage to Italy November 4-12 with Fr. Jarek, St. John Neumann Church.** \$3,998.00 per person based on double occupancy. Contact Charles Hoey, Regina Tours, 1-800-CATHOLIC, X 251, or email at choey@groupist.com.
4. **The obligation to participate in the Eucharist in person on Sundays and other holy days of obligation was restored two years ago on Palm Sunday 2022.** Regular attendance at Mass is what fulfills God's commandment to "Keep holy the Sabbath Day". Our world is hurting. We all need healing yet many of us are separated from the source of our strength. Jesus Christ invites us to return to the source and summit of our faith: his Real Presence in the Eucharist.
5. Bishop Robert Barron has written a new book, *This is My Body: A Call to Eucharistic Revival*, to accompany the Eucharistic Revival currently underway in our country. Copies can be found in the narthex. Please take one and read it.
6. Our Parish bulletin can be viewed weekly online by clicking on the Bulletin button on our website at www.stthomasbartow.org. A new button has been added that you can also see the previous week's bulletin. If you do not have access to the internet, please let the office know, and copies can be printed. If you look at the bulletin on your phone, you can add an icon to your homepage by doing the following steps for an iPhone. 1. **Do a search for stthomasbartow.org.** 2. **When the page opens, Click** (touch) the small square with an arrow pointing up on the bottom of the screen. 3. **Scroll** down and (touch "Add to Home Screen". 4. **Click** (touch) "Add" in the upper right-hand corner. The next time you want to view the website, you only have to touch the new icon on your home page screen. If you need help finding the

website or creating the icon on your phone, call the office or stop in the narthex after Mass for help. If you have an Android phone, please call the office for directions.

7. **The *Catechism in a Year* Podcast is hosted by Fr. Mike Schmitz.** In these short podcasts, Fr. Mike will guide you through the entire Catechism of the Catholic Church in 365 episodes, providing explanation, insight, and encouragement along the way. Download your copy of the reading plan of *The Catechism in a Year* (with Fr. Mike Schmitz) at ascensionpress.com.
8. To subscribe to Bishop John Noonan's E-Scroll, news from the Diocese of Orlando go to www.orlandodiocese.org/e-scroll/. Just provide your name and email address.
9. Fr. Blake Britton, a priest in our Diocese, who is now at the Pontifical Institute of St. John Paul II in Washington DC for further studies, has written a book, *Reclaiming Vatican II, What It (Really) Said, What It Means, and How It Calls Us to Renew the Church*. If you would like to purchase the book, click on the following link: <https://books.wordonfire.org/reclaimingvaticanii>
10. Bishop Robert Barron, author, speaker, theologian and founder of Word on Fire, a global media ministry, is producing a Bible series. Volume I focuses on the Gospels, Volume II on Acts, Letters, and Revelation, and Volume III, The Pentateuch. All can be ordered at <https://wordonfire.org/bible>. There will be a total of seven volumes. If you would like to subscribe to Bishop Barron's newsletter, go to <https://wordonfire.org/#newsletter> and just provide your email address.
11. In honor of the 100th anniversary of the birth of Mother Angelica, foundress of EWTN Catholic television network, please consider a gift of \$10, \$20 or \$25 per month or any amount you choose.

Catholic Trivia

What are the Dead Sea Scrolls?

The Dead Sea Scrolls—discovered only recently—provide a fascinating link to Jesus' time. What is the story behind them?

In 1947, three young men from the Bedouin tribe in the West Bank were herding their goats and sheep near Qumran, a settlement on the northwest shore of the Dead Sea. One of the young men casually tossed a rock into a small cave tucked into a nearby cliff and heard a shattering sound. Surprised, the three young men entered the cave and found several large clay jars containing seven scrolls. This discovery launched a series of archaeological digs in this cave and the surrounding areas. From 1949 to 1956, fragments of 950 additional scrolls were discovered.



The Dead Sea Scrolls are the oldest known records of the Hebrew Bible, written as far back as the second century B.C. These texts contain pieces of nearly every book of the Old Testament. While many parts of the Dead Sea Scrolls are written in Hebrew, there are also parts written in Aramaic. Some of these scrolls include Greek translations of the Hebrew Bible.

A monumental find from the expeditions is the Isaiah Scroll, which contains the entire book of Isaiah. It is also believed to be the oldest scroll, written as early as 100 B.C. Another captivating text is the Copper Scroll, which was written on copper instead of parchment or papyrus like the other scrolls. The Copper Scroll lists sixty-four places where gold and silver were buried, making it essentially a treasure map.

In March 2021, Israeli archaeologists discovered about eighty new pieces of the Dead Sea Scrolls that include Greek text from the books of Zechariah and Nahum. These fragments were found in southern Israel in a cave known as the Cave of Horror, where the remains of Jewish refugees from the Bar Kokhba Revolt (132-136 A.D.) were discovered.