

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
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

Thursday 7:00 pm

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: office@stthomasbartow.org

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



14th Sunday in Ordinary Time July 6, 2025



Mass Intentions

Sat Jul 5	5:00 pm	+Reane Brazell
Sun Jul 6	10:30 am	For All Parishioners
Mon Jul 7	8:30 am	Fr. Gabriel Kamienski
Tue Jul 8	8:30 am	
Thu Jul 10	8:30 am	All Souls in Purgatory
Fri Jul 11	8:30 am	
Sat Jul 12	5:00 pm	For All Parishioners
Sun Jul 13	10:30 am	+Charles Wiggins
By Family		

Please Pray For.....

Stuart Andrews, Terry Ayres, Kristin Bing, Pete Byrne, Melvin Casey, Debbie Coffman, 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, Kathleen Morris, Lacey Pate, , George Pizano, Karlee Severns, Richie Southwell, Chuck Spencer, Murphy Stidham, Rita Taylor, 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

"It would be easier for the world to survive without the sun than to do so without the Holy Mass."

St. Padre Pio

LECTORS	EMHC
7/5-5:00 pm	
Ruth Palmer Evelyn Rivera	Maureen Leckie Evelyn Rivera
7/6-10:30 am	
Barbara Woodard Oziemar Woodard	George Cherry Theresa Cherry
7/12-5:00 pm	
Ann Spencer Barbara Van Orsdale	Pat Lowery Doug Van Orsdale
7/13-10:30 am	
Alina Gutierrez Rick Davila	Bill Leckie Maureen Leckie

Saint Thomas Collection

6/22	Regular	\$1356.00
	Maintenance	4298.00

Saint Elizabeth Collection

6/22	Regular	10.00
------	---------	-------



"The Eucharist is God's response to the deepest hunger of the human heart, the hunger for authentic life, for in the Eucharist Christ himself is truly in our midst, to nourish, console, and sustain us on our journey."

Pope Francis

SUMMER FUN WITH JESUS

WEDNESDAY'S 5:00-7:00 Pm

JUNE 11 - JULY 9

Pray, Play, Games, Helping Others, Crafts
-Food, Drinks, Snacks, Provided-

FREE
Ages 4-18

Matthew 19:14 "Let the children come to me, and do not prevent them; for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these"

Register in person
Any Questions Please Call
863-327-2607- Martina

St. Thomas Aquinas Basilica

RUMMAGE SALE

Saturday, July 19 8:00-12:00

THE CONSCIENCE OF AMERICA

Revisiting Ronald Reagan's 1983 essay 'Abortion and the Conscience of the Nation.'

In the 1980 presidential election, Ronald Reagan defeated President Jimmy Carter in a landslide victory, amassing 489 electoral votes to become America's 40th president. Four years later, he was re-elected, defeating Walter Mondale, carrying 525 electoral votes. Reagan captured every state except Minnesota, Mondale's home state.

In the decade of the '80s, Reagan **R** was truly America's president. It might be said that he personified the conscience of the country he was chosen to lead. Three years into his first term, he wrote [Abortion and the Conscience of the Nation](#), in which he stated his firm commitment to the sanctity of life. That included those human beings residing in their mothers' wombs.

In 2024, Kamala Harris **D** ran for president stating forcefully and univocally that a national abortion law was first and foremost on her agenda. She accorded it top priority over economic and foreign policy concerns. Her running mate Tim Walz **D** shared her view on abortion and argued for a national abortion right, stripping all states of their right to decide the abortion issue in the voting booth. When he was president, Barack Obama **D** was a forceful proponent of abortion while President Joe Biden **D** promoted abortion as if it were the most important thing in the world. He called the perfectly legitimate overturning of *Roe v. Wade*, "outrageous."

In the 40-some years between Reagan and Harris, has the conscience of America undergone such a proportionate change in its attitude toward the sanctity of life? It may be of some interest to revisit Reagan's essay and assess how far apart one president and a presidential candidate are over a span of 40 years on the issue of the sanctity of life. Culture is dynamic, constantly shifting in its attitudes and convictions. The change concerning the attitude toward the sanctity of life can serve as a barometer indicating where the nation is headed.

Time magazine noted, "An essay by a recent sitting President is rare." But is even more rare for a president to make a strong pronouncement on a moral issue. Reagan was concerned that his essay might be judged as pontificating on a single issue. With this possible criticism in mind, he explained, "Abortion concerns not only the unborn child, it concerns every one of us." And indeed it does, being intimately involved with marriage, the family, the medical and law professions, education, society in general, as well as posterity. Abortion bears upon the future.

It was appropriate that the president should release his statement on the 10th anniversary of *Roe v. Wade*. It was an auspicious time for Americans "to pause and reflect." The infamous 1973 decision was not voted for by the American people nor was it enacted by their legislators. At that time not a single state permitted unrestricted abortion.

The *Roe v. Wade* decision did not reflect the conscience of the nation. "Make no mistake," Reagan added, "abortion-on-demand is not a right granted by the constitution." The 1973 ruling was, in the biting phrase of Justice Byron White, "an act of raw judicial power."

In the field of medicine, the unborn child is regarded as a patient. This is a fact that should not be ignored.

In one remarkable case, an unborn child underwent brain surgery six times during the months before his birth. "Who is the *patient*," Reagan asks, "if not that tiny unborn human being who can feel pain when he or she is approached by doctors who come to kill rather than to cure?"

The abortion mentality presents a slippery slope that slides into infanticide. In the case of Baby Doe, which was brought to national attention, a child was allowed to die even though a routine surgical procedure would have saved his life because he had Down syndrome. A doctor, testifying during court procedures, stated that Baby Doe would have a "nonexistent" possibility for "a minimally adequate quality of life."

*Please note the **R & D**

(To be continued next week)