

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
evecoultter@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

Evelyn Rivera 863-370-4000

Religious Formation – Every Sunday
Sept thru May

Preschool thru 8th
Sun 9 am + **Mass**

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



19th Sunday in Ordinary Time August 10, 2025



Mass Intentions

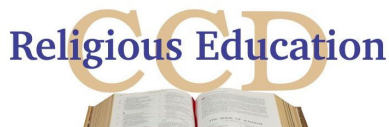
Sat Aug 9	5:00 pm	For All Parishioners
Sun Aug 10	10:30 am	
Mon Aug 11	8:30 am	
Tue Aug 12	8:30 am	
Thu Aug 14	8:30 am	All Souls in Purgatory
Fri Aug 15	8:30 am	
Fri Aug 15	7:00 pm	
Sat Aug 16	5:00 pm	For All Parishioners
Sun Aug 17	10:30 am	+Charles Wiggins By Family

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

Aug 3, 2023	Rev. Felicito Baybay
Aug 8, 2008	Rev. Sean Shine
Aug 26, 1993	Rev. Bronis Benesevich
Aug 28, 2013	Rev. Michael J. Hannon
Aug 28, 2022	Rev. Donald Mainardi



Registration for CCD will be
August 9th and 10th

The first day of class will be **August 10th**
9:00 am + Mass

LECTORS	EMHC
8/9-5:00 pm	
Ruth Palmer Barbara Van Orsdale	Pat Lowery Doug Van Orsdale
8/10-10:30 am	
Angelika Almanzan Luke Almanzan	Pat Lowery Maureen Leckie
8/15-8:30 am	
Martha Laurent Ann Slocum	
8/15-7:00 pm	
Maureen Leckie Pat Lowery	
8/16-5:00 pm	
Mike DeNeve Ryan Curtis	Ann Slocum Susan DeNeve
8/17-10:30 am	
Martha Laurent Rick Davila	Martha Laurent Theresa Cherry

Saint Thomas Collection

7/27	Regular	\$2357.00
	Maintenance	365.00
	Diocesan	5.00

Saint Elizabeth Collection

7/27	Regular	185.00
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SECOND COLLECTION

This week's second collection is a Diocesan Collection for Solidarity Fund for the Church in Africa and The Church in Latin America.

HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION



Thursday, **August 15th** is a Holy Day of Obligation, **The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary**. Mass will take place at 8:30 am and 7:00 pm.



EUCCHARISTIC REVIVAL

(continued from last week)

You really can't blame the majority of Catholics nowadays who mindlessly go up for Communion when the time comes simply because "it's just what you do at Mass." They are just ignorant since most modern-day priests no longer explain Church doctrine and the danger of receiving the Blessed Sacrament when one hasn't confessed a mortal sin. The Eucharist is not to be received in a routine manner, like children on Halloween night lined up outside a house, waiting for the homeowner to drop a snack-size candy bar into their outstretched bags and buckets. Sadly, Communion time too often resembles this in today's Church.

Modern Catholics need to hear from the pulpit an explanation of the words of St. Paul, who clearly wrote twenty centuries ago about the danger or unworthily receiving Communion: *Whoever, therefore, eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of profaning the body and blood of the Lord. Let a man examine himself, and so eat of the bread and drink of the cup. For anyone who eats and drinks without discerning the body eats and drinks judgment upon himself (1 Cor 11:27-29).*

Even fewer of today's Catholics have ever heard their priest recite the words of St. John Chrysostom: *I beseech, beg, and implore that no one draw near to this sacred table with a sullied and corrupt conscience. Such an act, in fact, can never be called 'communion,' not even were we to touch the Lord's body a thousand times over, but 'condemnation,' 'torment,' and 'increase of punishment (Ecclesia de Eucharistia).*

Nationwide, our clergy need to address to their flocks the aberrations of the Eucharist being distributed nowadays by lay persons regardless of extraordinary reasons and being received by Catholics who don't realize they may be doing so unworthily. Before Church leadership places utmost importance on a "revival party" where the laity can buy merchandise like at a rock concert and have to fly cross-country and spend more than a pretty penny for an entrance ticket, perhaps Church leadership should instead

encourage the faithful to read – at no cost – the ["Prayer of the Crusade of Reparation to the Eucharistic Heart of Jesus."](#)

There are four most fundamental acts connected with Communion that need reviving by the Church and educating of the laity: receiving on the tongue; receiving while kneeling, distributing only from the hands of an ordained minister; being in the state of grace before receiving. Instead of placing bets that an expensive, exclusive festival-like "Eucharistic Revival" will return the faithful to an understanding of and commitment to proper reverence toward the Blessed Sacrament, our clergy needs to be preaching from the pulpit why these four essential acts – that used to be undertaken by all Catholics for almost two millennia – must be resurrected. Only then can we hope for an enduring, authentic appreciation for the sacredness of the Eucharist.

IT IS TRUST IN GOD

To be very honest with you, I didn't have much of an appreciation for St. Faustina until I visited Poland. It was only in Krakow, getting to see the convent where she lived and praying at her tomb, that I was moved by her special insight into [Divine Mercy](#). That insight was a special grace given by Jesus through St. Faustina to the entire Church (not just Poland!).

In one of my favorite passages from St. Faustina's diary, Jesus reveals to St. Faustina: "(Let) the greatest sinners place their trust in My mercy. They have the right before others to trust in the abyss of My mercy. My daughter, write about My mercy towards tormented souls. Souls that make an appeal to My mercy delight Me. To such souls I grant even more graces than they ask." The part that I had always been missing is that embracing Divine Mercy requires trust!

It was trust in God that I needed, trust that I needed to pray for, trust that I needed to understand. Thankfully, St. Faustina's sisters helped me to realize this, and it's been an insight in the spiritual life that I've clung to since.

We have to trust that God will sow the right seeds. We have to trust that God will reap the harvest. We have to trust that God will transform our sins and failings. Today, let's pray with St. Faustina, "Jesus, I trust in you!"