

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
Thursday 7:00 pm

Religious Education

Evelyn Rivera 863-370-4000

Religious Formation – Every Sunday
Sept thru May

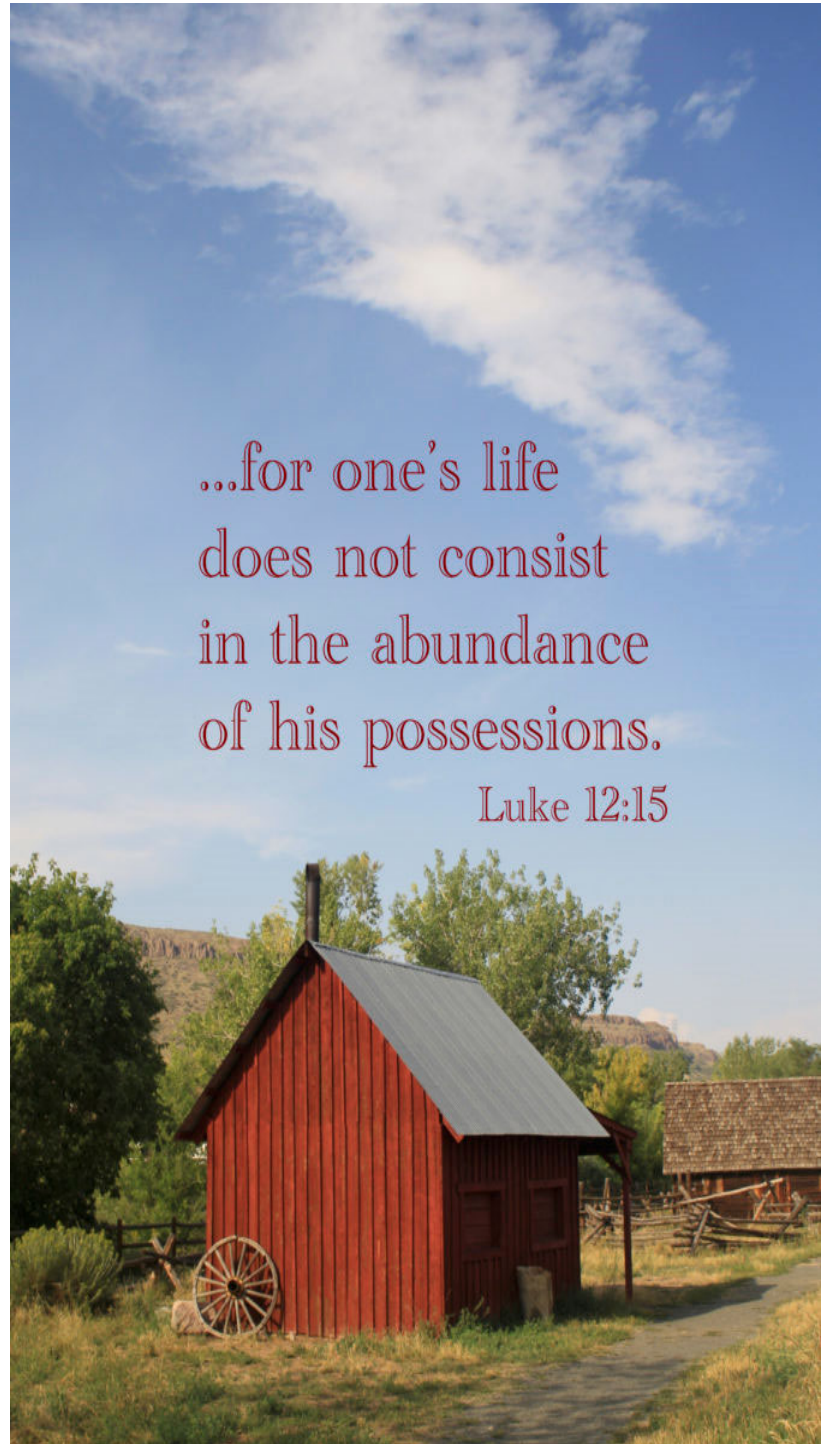
Preschool thru 8th
Sunday 9 am + **Mass**

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



18th Sunday in Ordinary Time August 3, 2025



Mass Intentions

Sat Aug 2	8:30 am	Fr. Gabriel Kamienski
Sat Aug 2	5:00 pm	+Kainen Genovesi, +Juan Vasquez, +Elish Roman By Yolanda Vasquez
Sun Aug 3	10:30 am	For All Parishioners
Mon Aug 4	8:30 am	+Ozelle & +Missouri Johnson By Gerald Johnson
Tue Aug 5	8:30 am	+Br. Peter Farnesi
Thu Aug 7	8:30 am	All Souls in Purgatory
Fri Aug 8	8:30 am	
Sat Aug 9	5:00 pm	For All Parishioners
Sun Aug 10	10:30 am	

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

We have a right, given to us by God himself, to want to see the God who has come so near to us that we can reach out and touch him, actually take him into our bodies and souls in the unheard-of intimacy of the Eucharist, that most "scandalous particularity" of all, in which God breaks himself to become our food and drink.

LECTORS	EMHC
8/2-5:00 pm	
Ann Spencer Evelyn Rivera	Susan DeNeve Evelyn Rivera
8/3-10:30 am	
Alina Gutierrez Unique Gonzalez	George Cherry Theresa Cherry
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

Saint Thomas Collection

7/20	Regular	\$1960.00
	Maintenance	60.00
	Diocesan	537.00

Saint Elizabeth Collection

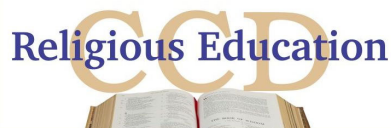
7/20	Regular	360.00
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SECOND COLLECTION

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

COME TO PRAY

August 7 First Thursday of the Month is dedicated to pray for new vocations to the priesthood and the religious life, and the sanctity of life for those already called.



Registration for CCD will be
August 2nd, 3rd, 9th, and 10th

The first day of class will be **August 10th 9:00 am-10:15 am** plus Mass with a Welcome Back Brunch after Mass on **August 3rd** for parents and children.

"The desire for God is written in the human heart, because man is created by God and for God; and God never ceases to draw man to himself. Only in God will he find the truth and happiness he never stops searching for" (CCC, 27).

EUCCHARISTIC REVIVAL

The Church needs to educate the faithful, in the time of Eucharistic revival in our country, that the herd-like and undiscerning reception of the Blessed Sacrament by nearly all Catholics in attendance at a Mass is a major blunder. Receiving Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament is neither a right nor a reward for being present at Mass.

Many Mass attendees are not properly disposed to approach the altar and receive the Body of Christ because they are not in a state of grace – meaning they have committed a mortal sin but have not repented and received absolution at Confession. However, when was the last time the faithful did hear the topics of *the state of grace* or *mortal sin* preached from the pulpit? How about we start a Eucharistic revival by learning fundamental truths about the Faith.

Within Catholicism, there are venial sins (lesser sins which do not break one's friendship with God) and mortal sins (the worst types of sins which do break one's relationship with God). Mortal sins are not just extreme acts such as murder, theft, and abortion. Examples of mortal sins also include (but are not limited to): failure to attend Sunday Mass without a valid reason; verbal abuse with extreme anger; and committing one of the "seven deadly sins" (pride, envy, wrath, sloth, avarice, gluttony, lust).

For anyone who has committed a mortal sin yet still received the Eucharist before first repenting and getting absolved of this sin in Confession, that person committed another mortal sin and only compounded his or her desperate situation. A spiritually dead person who takes in the Bread of Life not only stays dead, but this person digs oneself even a deeper grave.

The name synonymous with Eucharist is Communion because this sacrament brings us stronger communion or union with God. We assume this union between us and God already exists, which is why we can approach Him and receive the Body of Christ. If this union has been severed, due to unrepentant mortal sin, we must first receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation before receiving Holy Communion. This is why the two sacraments are closely connected, as

when children who receive their First Communion must first perform their First Confession.

Receiving Christ in the Eucharist forgives venial sins. The Catechism says, "*As bodily nourishment restores lost strength, so the Eucharist strengthens our charity, which tends to be weakened in daily life; and this living charity wipes away venial sins.*" However, the reception of the Eucharist does not forgive mortal sins. Therefore, a person aware of committing a mortal sin must go to confession before receiving Communion:

A person who is conscious of grave sin is not to celebrate Mass or receive the body of the Lord without previous sacramental confession unless there is a grave reason and there is no opportunity to confess; in this case the person is to remember the obligation to make an act of perfect contrition which includes the resolution of confessing as soon as possible (Code of Canon Law 916).

If you were to go back in time a century or more to any Catholic Mass, or if you were to attend a Traditional Latin Mass nowadays, you would not see 99% of the congregation go forward to receive Communion as they do today in most churches. You would either see a fair number of non-participants in the Eucharist remaining in their pews at Communion time or in line at the confessional that has been in operation by another priest at the same time Mass was in session, in hopes that the penitents can receive absolution of their sins in time to get into the Communion line. It is not because these attendees from long ago and from today's Latin Mass went to a "Eucharistic revival jamboree" in Indiana. They were merely taught Church law in their home parish by a traditional, faithful priest.

(To be continued next week)

The prayer group meets on Thursday from 9:00 am until 10:00 am. All are welcome to attend.

