



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

ST. THOMAS ANNOUNCEMENTS

April 5, 2026

1. **PLEASE CONTINUE TO PRAY FOR PEACE IN THE UKRAINE AND ISRAEL.**

2. **The obligation to participate in the Eucharist in person on Sundays and other holy days of obligation was restored 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.

3. Our Parish bulletin can be viewed weekly online by clicking on the Bulletin button on our website at www.stthomasbartow.org. There is also a button to view the previous week's bulletin if you missed it. 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.

4. 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.

5. 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>

6. Bishop Robert Barron, author, speaker, theologian and founder of Word on Fire, a global media ministry, is producing a seven volume Bible series. Volume I focuses on the Gospels, Volume II on Acts, Letters, and Revelation, Volume III, on The Pentateuch, Volume IV on The Promised Land and Volume V on Exile and Return. All are all available now at <https://wordonfire.org/bible>. Volume VI The Wisdom Literature and will be released at a later date. If you would like to subscribe to Bishop Barron's newsletter, go to <https://wordonfire.org/#newsletter> and just provide your email address.

7. In honor 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 three holy oils we use in the sacraments? And when do we use these little-seen sacramentals?

Holy oils are blessed by the bishop at the Chrism Mass during Holy Week. There are three, each with a special sacramental use:

The **Oil of the Sick** is used during the Anointing of the Sick. The priest applies it to a sick person while invoking the name of Our Lord Jesus Christ. This oil is the vehicle through which Our Lord sends a person the graces and strength to bear illness. While it is in no way medicinal, it has been known to work spiritual, emotional, and even physical healing. It is made of pure olive oil.

The **Oil of Catechumens** is applied during the Baptism ceremony, right before the actual baptism with water. This oil is like a closed door between the soul and the devil, shutting out the latter in order that the soon-to-be-baptized soul may better prepare for life with and in Christ. It is also pure olive oil.

The **Oil of Chrism** is used in multiple sacraments. Most commonly, it is applied after Baptism and at Confirmation. It signifies the Holy Ghost and consecrates a person to God's service. Priests at their ordination are also anointed with this oil. It is used at the consecration of bishops and churches, the blessing of new altars and holy vessels, and—now rare—at the coronation of royalty. It is made of olive oil and balsam, which gives it that distinct, incense-like aroma.



Bishop John Noonan blessing the holy oils