



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

ST. THOMAS ANNOUNCEMENTS

June 28, 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 four 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.

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

Joan of Arc prayed in a chapel in Wisconsin. Did you know that the stone St. Joan of Arc knelt on to pray is located in the heart of the United States? The St. Joan of Arc Chapel is at the center of Marquette University in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. This chapel was first constructed in the fifteenth century in the Rhone Valley near Lyon, France. In the 1920s, Gertrude Hill Gavin, whose father was a wealthy railroad industrialist, obtained the chapel and had the structure dismantled and shipped to her family's estate on Long Island. She renamed the chapel after St. Joan of Arc to honor her devotion to the saint.

Gertrude Hill Gavin later sold the chapel and her French Renaissance chateau to Marc Rojzman. Fire ravaged the chateau but the chapel survived, so the Rojzmans offered the structure to Marquette University.

What makes this chapel so unique is that it contains the "Joan of Arc Stone," brought by Gertrude to the USA from France. According to a sign at the chapel's original site in France, St. Joan may have visited the original chapel in 1429 after she met King Charles VII. According to Marquette University, legend says that she stood on this flat stone in front of a statue of the Virgin Mother to pray for success in battle. Then she knelt down and kissed the stone. Since that time, the stone has always felt cooler to the touch than the stones around it. The St. Joan of Arc Chapel now serves as a place of peace and solitude in the midst of suffering and sorrow.

