

Father Eugene Grytner, SDS
Office hours 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

Religious Education

Jessica Witmer 863-602-3837

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

**YOU ARE PETER,
AND UPON
THIS ROCK
I SHALL
BUILD
MY
CHURCH**



MATTHEW 16:18



21st Sunday in Ordinary Time August 23, 2026

Upon This **ROCK**



Mass Intentions

Sat Aug 22	5:00 pm	For All Parishioners
Sun Aug 23	10:30 am	Sr. Zofia
Mon Aug 24	8:30 am	+Nancy Chaney By Susan Barabas
Tue Aug 25	8:30 am	+Sr. St. Andres By Ivette Hernandez
Thu Aug 27	8:30 am	All Souls in Purgatory
Fri Aug 28	8:30 am	Tom & Joyce Rosa By Susan Barabas
Sat Aug 29	5:00 pm	For All Parishioners
Sun Aug 30	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, Reagan H., Mark Jansen, Missy Jansen, Stuart Jones, Fr. Gabriel Kamienski, Bill Kjerrumgaard, David LaCalair, Aaron Mills, Adam Mills, Zachary Mills, Scott Mize, Kathleen Morris, Lacey Pate, George Pizano, Karlee Severns, Sr. Zofia, 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

Congratulations on the completion of your parish Adoration Chapel. It will be a powerful blessing for your parish. We thank God for the day, 33 years ago, that we opened our Adoration Chapel. Prayer will be the key to success on all levels.

Rev. Patrick J. Sheedy
Pastor
Blessed Trinity Catholic Church

LECTORS	EMHC
8/22-5:00 pm	
Victor Aguirre Ryan Curtis	Luke Almanzan Angelika Almanzan
8/23-10:30 am	
Barbara Woodard Oziemar Woodard	Pattie Scott Martha Laurent
8/29-5:00 pm	
Mike DeNeve Carolyn King	Susan DeNeve Doug Van Orsdale
8/30-10:30 am	
Unique Gonzalez Maureen Leckie	Maria Davila Maureen Leckie

Saint Thomas Collection

8/9	Regular	\$1914.00
	Maintenance	75.00
	Diocesan	400.00

Saint Elizabeth Collection

8/9	Regular	140.00
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OUR ADORATION CHAPEL

Our Adoration chapel building is finished. Bishop John Noonan blessed it last Saturday, August 15th. It is open now for prayer and meditation.

You can offer an adoration with the Real Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist for the intention of your chosen person and send the "Gift of Prayer" card, located in the chapel, to your chosen person.

First I would like to thank God for awakening the idea in our parish to build a chapel and His guidance throughout this project. Then all who supported it with prayers and donations for a successful completion, the construction firm, skilled workers and good words of encouragement.

TRUE WORSHIP

Keeping the Sabbath holy by attending Mass is about participating in a sacred and solemn ritual of worshipping God, representing the sacrifice of Jesus on the cross. At Mass, we are focused on communion with God and not on a stage performance or emotional spectacle. It is worship in community humbly expressing the faith and tradition of Catholic worship.

MIRACULOUS HEALING REVIVES SAINTHOOD CAUSE FOR BENEDICTINE NUN

In the early night of Oct. 25, 2024, Claire Souilliant, a devout 32-year-old living in Calais, France, experienced an intense pain in her chest. "I thought I was about to die," she said. She cried out in silent prayer to Sister Annella Zervas, a long-dead Minnesota Benedictine known for holiness for whom she had developed a personal devotion. "Would you come? Would you help me?" she begged.

And to her amazement, Sister Annella, Souilliant claims, appeared at her open bedroom door. Dressed in a traditional Benedictine habit, with her black veil and well-waxed shoes, the religious sister approached Souilliant.

Souilliant lives according to the Rule of St. Benedict and has long aspired to join a Benedictine community in Paris. Although it has rejected her application in the past, she remains hopeful of one day becoming a sister. She said she was observing the order's practice of silence following night prayer in the Liturgy of the Hours, and that she spoke to Sister Annella in her thoughts.

Souilliant had already been suffering from a blood disorder that caused her considerable weakness, but the pain in her heart was something new and unexpected. "Will I die?" she asked the religious sister.

"No," Sister Annella replied, also in Souilliant's mind. She approached Souilliant and placed her hand on Souilliant's chest over her heart, a ring on Sister Annella's finger clinking against Souilliant's large Benedictine cross.

"I saw my heart as if there was a hole in my chest," Souilliant said. "My heart was violet in color and there was a yellow circle of light around my heart."

Immediately the pain disappeared, along with Sister Annella, Souilliant said. when she woke up Oct. 27, she said she no longer felt ill. Her mother noticed immediately.

Souilliant had experienced weakness that prevented her from independently performing daily tasks, such as dressing, relying on her mother's assistance. In early October, Souilliant's doctor had identified an abnormal

white blood cell count, her skin took on a strange hue, and she was extremely tired. Even small movements felt taxing.

In the weeks that followed, she grew weaker — so weak that at least on one occasion she missed daily Mass, which is very important to her, because she could not muster the strength to walk to the church entrance. On the morning after the vision, she said, "I felt all of my symptoms (had) disappeared and they never came back." She said her doctor signed a certificate in May attesting to her normal white blood cell count.

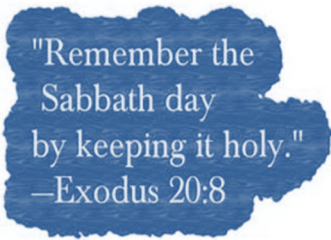
Souilliant considers herself a "small, small instrument" in spreading devotion to Sister Annella, and said she always felt her experience was something she was meant to share. She does not know why Sister Annella appeared to her, and is happy only to share her story.

In November 2024, Bishop Andrew H. Cozzens of Crookston, Minnesota, the diocese that includes Sister Annella's hometown of Moorhead, began opening a canonization cause for Sister Annella, citing revived devotion in Minnesota. The effort has submitted initial documents to the Holy See's Dicastery for the Causes of Saints.

RECOVERING SUNDAY

Recovering Sunday is the cure for any midlife crisis and the only lasting remedy for despair. God designed our lives to keep this rhythm of work, followed by worship and refreshment, followed by work once again. Only the Sabbath can give meaning to all the days that precede and all the days that follow. We need the reminder. We need the rest. Remember what Jesus said: The Sabbath was made for us. And it was our creator who made it.

I am convinced that in the Lord's Day we find our purpose.



"Remember the
Sabbath day
by keeping it holy."
—Exodus 20:8