

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
evencoulter@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

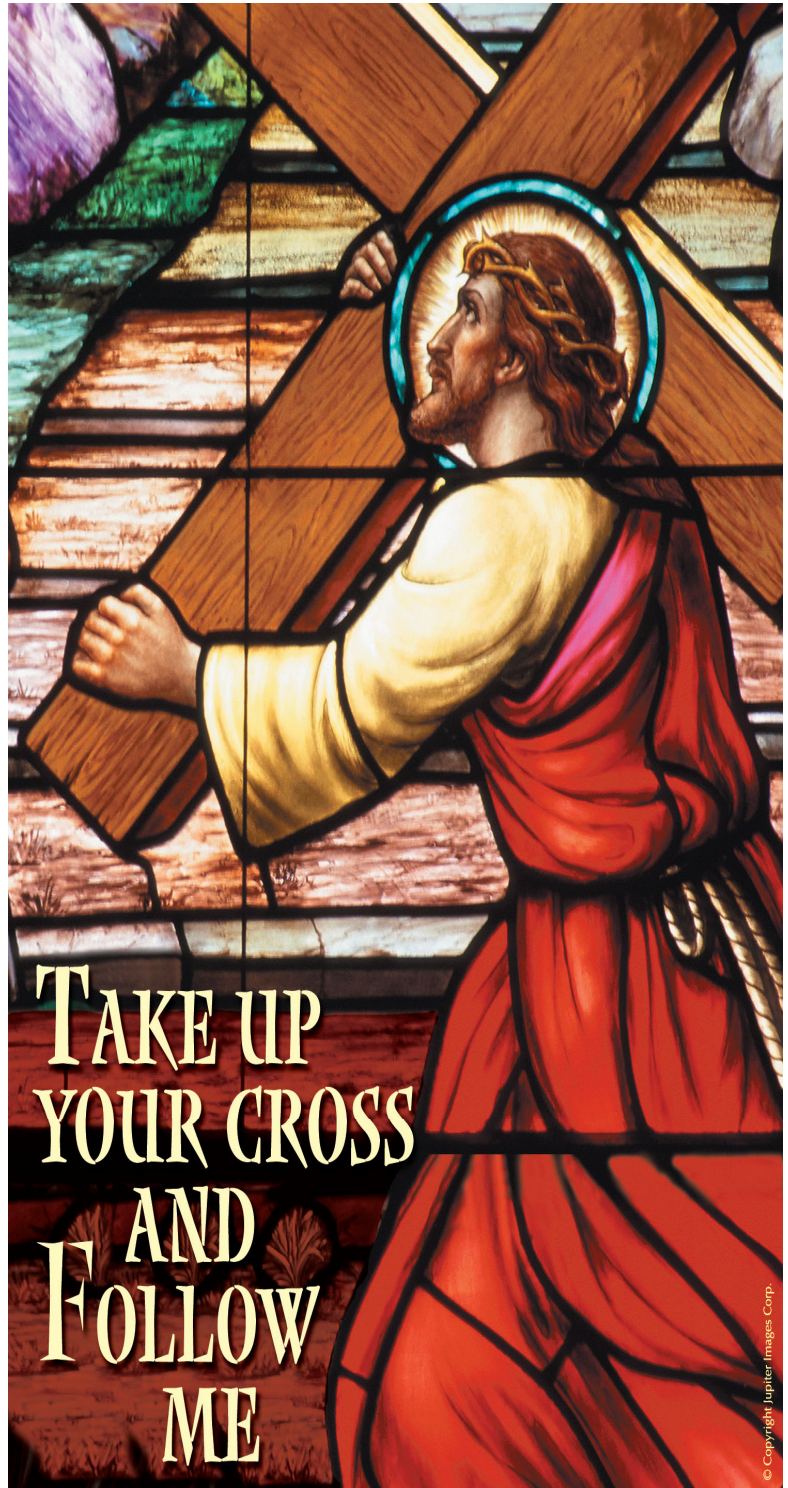
www.stthomasbartow.org

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*



22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time August 30, 2026



Mass Intentions

Sat Aug 29	5:00 pm	For All Parishioners
Sun Aug 30	10:30 am	Sr. Zofia
Mon Aug 31	8:30 am	+Francisco Lopez By Ivette Hernandez
Tue Sep 1	8:30 am	Tom & Candy Ballantine By Susan Barabas
Thu Sep 3	8:30 am	All Souls in Purgatory
Fri Sep 4	8:30 am	+Gloria Stenger By Family
Sat Sep 5	8:30 am	Fr. Gabriel Kamienski
Sat Sep 5	5:00 pm	+Mirka Piec
Sun Sep 6	8:00 am	For All Parishioners
Sun Sep 6	10:30 am	Pat Barber By Susan Barabas

Mass will resume at 8:00 am at St. Elizabeth on Sunday, **September 6th**.

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
Sep 14, 2017	Msgr. Patrick Caverly
Sep 19, 2016	Very Rev. John M. McCormick
Sep 23, 1986	Rev. Louis Bamundo
Sep 27, 1995	Rev. Charles Schneider

LECTORS	EMHC
8/29-5:00 pm	
Mike DeNeve Carolyn King	Susan DeNeve Pat Lowery
8/30-10:30 am	
Unique Gonzalez Maureen Leckie	Maria Davila Maureen Leckie
9/5-5:00 pm	
Luke Almanzan Angelika Almanzan	Angelika Almanzan Luke Almanzan
9/6-10:30 am	
Caroline Picart Evelyn Rivera	Evelyn Rivera Maria Davila

Saint Thomas Collection

8/16	Regular	\$1808.00
	Maintenance	309.00
	Diocesan	40.00
	Assumption	157.00

Saint Elizabeth Collection

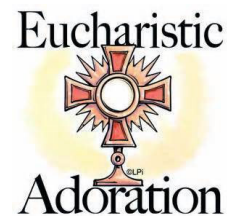
8/16	Regular	140.00
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COME TO PRAY

September 3 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.

September 4 First Friday of the Month is dedicated to the Veneration of the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

September 5 First Saturday of the Month is dedicated to Veneration of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Prayers and benediction after Mass in monstration.



"During Eucharistic adoration, little by little, we learn to hear His voice and to feel His presence both within and through the people that He sends to us. Giving our problems to Jesus is something we can do, we need to do, again and again"

Pope Leo XIV

SAN GERARDO HOSPITAL

Days after Carlo Acutis offered up his suffering from leukemia for Pope Benedict XVI and the good of the Catholic Church, the 15-year-old breathed his last in the pediatric oncology ward of San Gerardo Hospital of Monza, Italy, on Oct. 12, 2006 — a date that will soon be recognized as his feast day as the first millennial saint.

Physicians at San Gerardo Hospital remember the boy's courage, love and empathy during his cancer treatment. The hospital chaplain who gave Acutis his last rites testified that he was "amazed by the composure and devotion" with which Carlo received Holy Communion before slipping into a coma due to a brain hemorrhage caused by his acute myeloid leukemia.

But Acutis was not the first saint to spend his final days in San Gerardo Hospital before going to God.

On Good Friday 1962, Gianna Molla, a 39-year-old Catholic doctor and mother, was admitted to give birth to her fourth child. It was same hospital where the young pediatrician had chosen to deliver her three previous children, but this time the hospital had also served as the location of a critical medical decision. Diagnosed with a uterine tumor early in pregnancy, Molla refused both an abortion and hysterectomy to preserve the life of her unborn child.

Like Acutis, Molla entered the hospital with a willingness to offer her life and her suffering for others. "If you have to decide between me and the baby, don't hesitate ... save her," she told her husband Pietro.

Molla gave birth to a healthy daughter, Gianna Emanuela, by cesarean section on Holy Saturday. Soon after, Molla's condition worsened due to the onset of septic peritonitis. During the next week in the hospital, she offered up short prayers, "Jesus, I love you" and "Jesus, help me." She wanted to receive the Eucharist, but due to her frequent vomiting, she received just a small piece of the Eucharistic Host on her lips. She was taken to her home outside of Milan on the morning of April 28, where she died that day.

A Hospital of Miracles

Today, San Gerardo Hospital, a major public research and teaching hospital on the northeast outskirts of Milan, has a robust chaplaincy with two Catholic priests living full time in small dorm rooms inside the hospital so that they can be available 24/7 to serve the spiritual needs of the patients.

Fr Riccardo Brena, one of the chaplains, calls it "a hospital of saints" — not only for its holy patients, but also for the miraculous healings tied to its halls.

One such miracle involved Pietro Schiliro, born in San Gerardo Hospital in 2002 with a severe lung malformation. His condition worsened, prompting his parents to have him urgently baptized in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit. After one month in the hospital and a novena to the parents of St. Thérèse of Lisieux — Louis and Zélie Martin — the newborn's health dramatically improved overnight. The Vatican recognized the case as a miracle in 2008, the first of two miracles leading to Sts. Louis and Zélie Martin becoming the first married couple to be canonized together.

In 2014, a pregnant mother treated at San Gerardo after her water broke at 13 weeks gave birth months later (in another hospital) to a healthy child on Christmas Day — a miracle attributed to Pope Paul VI, paving the way for his canonization.

Given these saintly intercessions, it may come as no surprise that this Italian hospital was also founded by a saint. The hospital celebrated the 850th anniversary of its founding last year by St. Gerardo dei Tintori, who used his inheritance to found the hospital for the aid of the poor and sick in 1174. So many miracles were attributed to St. Gerardo in the centuries after his death that St. Charles Borromeo investigated 20 of them when he served as archbishop of Milan.

Over the centuries, San Gerardo Hospital was moved and expanded several times, while maintaining the name of the saint. And it is still evolving; the 11th floor where Carlo Acutis was treated is currently undergoing a complete renovation.

(To be continued next week)