

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: Ft. Meade 8:00 am

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***



25th Sunday in Ordinary Time September 20, 2026



Mass Intentions

Sat Sep 19	5:00 pm	+Leon LaClair By Family
Sun Sep 20	8:00 am	For All Parishioners
Sun Sep 20	10:30 am	+Charles Wiggins By Family
Mon Sep 21	8:30 am	
Tue Sep 22	8:30 am	+Chuck Spencer By Kathleen Morris
Thu Sep 24	8:30 am	All Souls in Purgatory
Fri Sep 25	8:30 am	+Chuck Spencer By Mike & Susan DeNeve
Sat Sep 26	5:00 pm	+Chuck Spencer By Carol Polkowski
Sun Sep 27	8:00 am	For All Parishioners
Sun Sep 27	10:30 am	+Cathy Simoneau By Kay LaClair

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

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
9/19-5:00 pm	
Ann Spencer Ann Slocum	Ann Slocum Pat Lowery
9/20-10:30 am	
Unique Gonzalez Alina Gutierrez	Martha Laurent Maureen Leckie
9/26-5:00 pm	
Mike DeNeve Ryan Curtis	Susan DeNeve Doug Van Orsdale
9/27-10:30 am	
Barbara Woodard Oziemar Woodard	Pattie Scott Maria Davila

Saint Thomas Collection

9/6 Regular \$2268.00
Maintenance 420.00

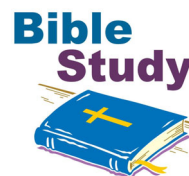
Saint Elizabeth Collection

9/6 Regular 770.00
Maintenance 25.00



Teen Life Catholic Program for Highschoolers Sundays 5:00-6:00 PM

The Christian vision of the human person begins like that. In Genesis, God rests — not because he is tired, but because rest is part of the rhythm of creation. The Sabbath is not merely a suggestion; it is a command. It is God's way of teaching us that our dignity does not come from what we produce. The Catechism puts it plainly: "Human life has a rhythm of work and rest" (2184). We are not machines. We are creatures.



Sundays 6:00 pm

HOLY DISCIPLE AND CHURCH- CHANGING APOSTLE

Peter John Sheen was born in El Paso, Illinois, on May 8, 1895, and was called “Fulton” in honor of his mother’s maiden name. Sheen was ordained a priest of the Peoria Diocese on Sept. 20, 1919. On June 11, 1951, he was consecrated as an auxiliary bishop of the Archdiocese of New York and remained in the position until 1966. He was then named the bishop of Rochester, New York, until his retirement in 1969 at the age of 74.

The most famous Catholic preacher in American history, Archbishop Sheen providentially took advantage of the new pulpits of radio and television at their infancy to communicate with passion, joy and overflowing charisma the truths of the Catholic faith and of the gift of life. He combined that with prodigious skill as a writer — 66 books and tens of thousands of columns — as well as with much-used audio retreats, talks and catechetical series, homilies and sermons that would pack churches and stadiums to overflowing.

Sheen is already numbered among Augustine, Chrysostom, Bernard, Bossuet and Lacordaire as one of the most eloquent preachers of all time. His upcoming beatification — and we pray, one day, canonization — will not only ensure and intensify his continued influence in Catholic life but also help all those who will never emulate his oratory come to know and imitate what is imitable in his virtues.

We can focus on what we all can learn from him about the two most fundamental aspects of the Christian life: holiness and mission, to be a faithful follower of Jesus and an ardent apostle, infectious seeking to bring Jesus to others and others to him.

Archbishop Sheen was a devout disciple of Jesus. When he won the Emmy Award in 1952, he quipped that he wanted to thank his writers, Matthew, Mark, Luke and John. Once, when he and actor Richard Burton both recited aloud Psalm 23, “The Lord is my Shepherd,” Burton commented to the moved crowds that while he knew the Psalm, Archbishop Sheen knew the Shepherd. Anyone who reads his most famous book, *Life of Christ*, finishes knowing that Blessed Fulton was far more than a brilliant

scholar of his Savior but a grateful friend who loved him as his pearl of great price. Likewise, whoever listens to his famous Good Friday meditations on the Seven Last Words of Jesus can’t help but conclude that he knew the Lord from the inside.

That love helps explain how Archbishop Sheen became the greatest apostle of a Eucharistic holy hour — and greatest popularizer of praying in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament — in Church history.

On the day of his priestly ordination, Father Sheen made a commitment to make a Eucharistic holy hour each day of his priesthood and he was humbly grateful, as he wrote in his autobiography *Treasure in Clay* as his earthly life was about to end, that with God’s grace he had kept that commitment faithfully for 60 years. It’s so fitting that he, who spent much of life on his knees in adoration, and said, “The greatest love story of all time is contained in a tiny white host,” died in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament on the last day of his priestly life.

His intimate, personal relationship with Jesus, nourished by these daily divine audiences, as well as through the celebration of Mass, the prayer of the Liturgy of the Hours, the Rosary and other devotions, was, he said, the reason why he was able to accomplish anything and everything he did

“When I stand up to talk, people listen to me; they will follow what I have to say. Is it any power of mine? Of course not. St. Paul says, ‘What have you that you have not received and you who have received, why do you glory as if you had not?’” he wrote in his 1974 book *The Wisdom of the Saints*. “But the secret of my power is that I have never in fifty-five years missed spending an hour in the presence of our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament. That’s where the power comes from. That’s where sermons are born. That’s where every good thought is conceived.”

Attached to Christ the vine, Archbishop Sheen the branch bore abundant fruit. He burst with the desire to help others come to know and love the Savior, too.

(To be continued next week)