October 16, 2025

Saint Thomas Aquinas Bulletin

St. Thomas Aquinas, St. Albert the Great, and Our Lady of the Rosary

†

Fr. Seth Funeral Information

November 4th-5th, 2025

Tuesday, November 4, 2025

Viewing: 6:00 - 7:00 PM
Vigil Service: 7:00 PM

Wednesday, November 5, 2025

Mass of the Resurrection: 11:00 am

All services will be held at:

Church of the Resurrection
725 Cascade Drive
Sunnyvale, CA 94087

Announcements and Upcoming Events

We look forward to seeing you at these events as we grow together in Christ. For more details, contact the parish office.

26 OCT

October Parish Lunch

Don't miss our October Parish Lunch on Sunday, October 26, following the 10:30 AM Mass at OLR Church. Hosted by our Faith Formation groups, the menu will feature ravioli pasta (or a similar dish).

1 NOV

All Souls Mass of Remembrance

Mark your calendars for our annual All Souls Mass of Remembrance on Saturday, November 1, at 5:00 PM at Saint Albert the Great Church. Join us as we pray for our departed loved ones in this sacred liturgy.

28 OCT

Senior Soup x Catholic Dance Crew

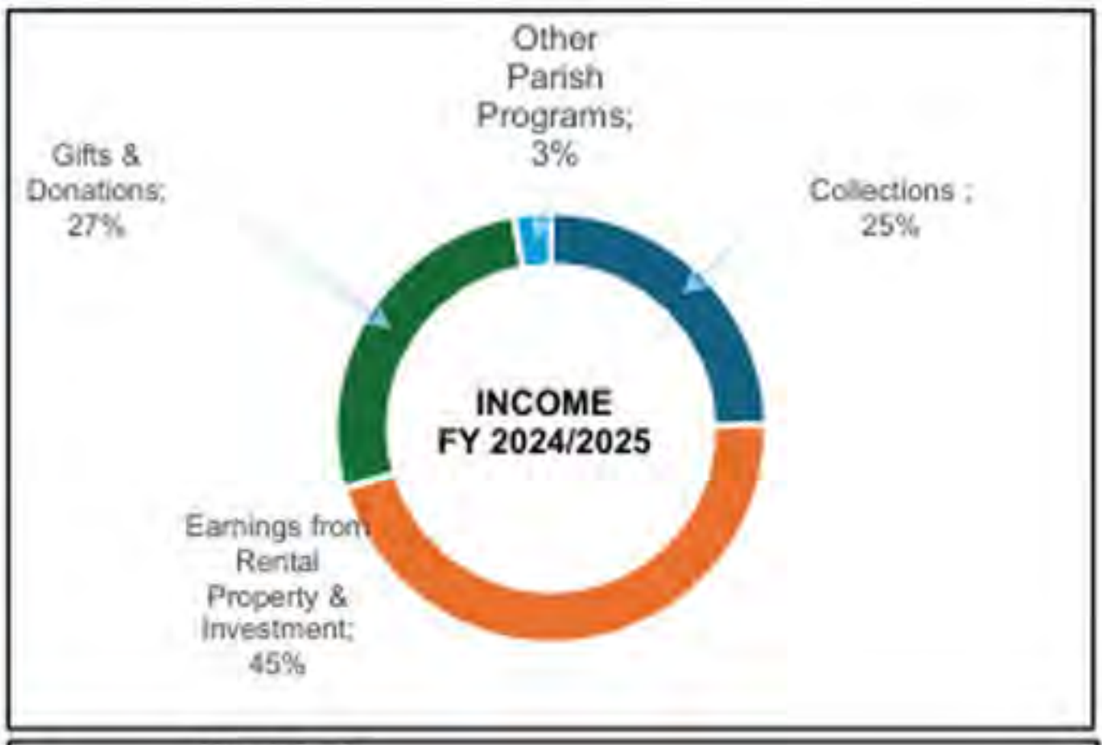
Tuesday October 28 at 12:30pm
Joining us at the next Senior Soup is Christina from the Catholic Dance Crew to show us some great line dance moves! Come and enjoy an awesome afternoon of Christian fellowship, delicious soup and line dancing!

Please note: There will be no Senior Soup in the month of November.

St. Thomas Aquinas
Annual Financial Report
Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2025

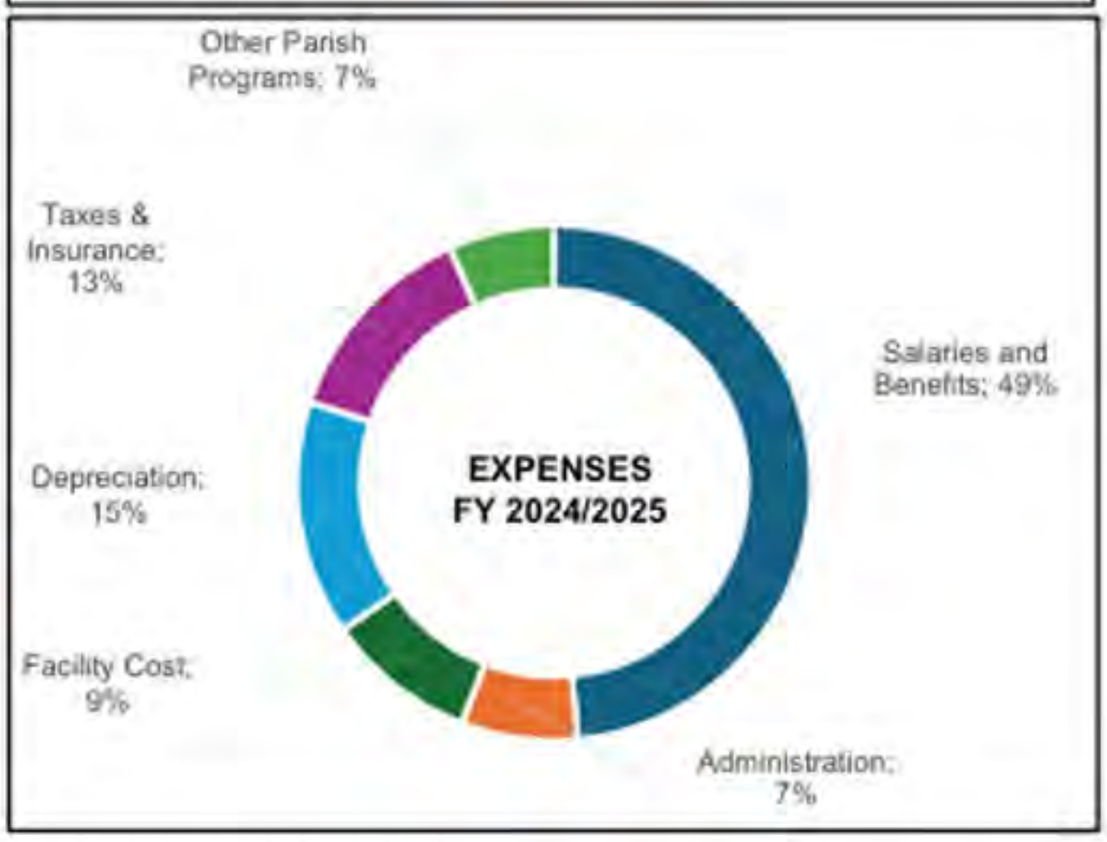
INCOME

Collections	$	579,830
Earnings from Rental Property & Investment		1,070,402
Gifts & Donations		625,773
Other Parish Programs		64,626
Total Income	**$**	**2,340,632**



EXPENSES

Salaries and Benefits	$	880,819
Administration		133,088
Facility Cost		172,016
Depreciation		268,908
Taxes & Insurance		240,316
Other Parish Programs		120,427
Total Expense	**$**	**1,815,574**



In addition, the Parish spent $252k in capital improvements in fiscal year ended June 30, 2025.

FY 2024-25 Financial Report

A Testament to Your Generosity

Dear Parishioners,

We are delighted to share the FY 2024-25 Financial Report for our parish. First and foremost, we extend our heartfelt gratitude for your steadfast generosity, which continues to sustain and strengthen our community. Thanks to your support, our parish is thriving spiritually, socially, and financially, allowing us to invest efficiently in our ministries, staff compensation, and facility improvements.

Below is a brief overview of our key revenue sources:

Collections: These include contributions received during Sunday and Holiday collections, which provide essential support for our ongoing operations.

Property Rentals: Income from rentals at Our Lady of the Rosary School, the Dermody Center, and the Saint Thomas Aquinas site apartments helps fund our mission. Its important to note, that without this income, our parish its not viable.

Gifts and Donations: These are extraordinary, unbudgeted contributions, such as gifts of stock, company matching programs, and other donations. This year, we were blessed to receive over $350,000 through bequests, as well as Annual Diocesan Appeal (ADA) rebates. As these gifts are unpredictable, they are not factored into our annual budget planning.

Parish Programs: Revenue from registrations for our ministries—including Faith Formation, Youth Ministry, Adult Faith Formation, Quinceañeras, Weddings, Funerals, Baptisms, and more—supports our vibrant programs. This category also includes funds raised last year for the Brazil Mission Trip.

Your contributions enable us to continue our mission of fostering faith, fellowship, and service. We are committed to using these resources wisely to enhance our ministries and facilities for the benefit of our entire community.

Thank you once again for your unwavering support. Together, we are building a stronger, more vibrant parish.

Expenses and Operations Overview

- ***Salaries and Benefits***: This category covers compensation for all parish staff, both full-time and part-time, including clergy, ensuring we support those who serve our community.
- ***Administrative Expenses:*** These include office supplies, mailing, and other operational costs, as well as the monthly diocesan assessment.
- ***Facilities Costs:*** We maintain our three sites—Saint Albert the Great Church, Our Lady of the Rosary, and the Saint Thomas Aquinas site—to ensure safe and welcoming spaces for worship and community activities.
- ***Taxes:*** Property taxes for our parish facilities.
- ***Programs:*** This encompasses expenses for all parish ministries, including Faith Formation, Youth Ministry, Young Adult Ministry, Adult Faith Formation, Quinceañeras, Weddings, Funerals, Baptisms, and more. Notably, this year, the parish contributed $25,592.01 to support the Brazil Mission Trip, in addition to funds raised by families and fundraising efforts.

Facilities Improvements

Thanks to your generous support and prudent financial management, we made significant improvements to our facilities this year, totaling over $252,000:

- ***Parish Rectory:*** Ongoing upgrades to enhance functionality and comfort.
- ***Asphalt Maintenance:*** Major repairs to ensure safe and accessible parking areas.
- ***Seton School Roof:*** A new flat roof, partially funded by a $100,000 grant received by the school.
- ***Window Replacements:*** All windows at the school and the old convent at Saint Albert the Great were replaced, made possible by Father Hester's bequest.
- ***Old Convent Improvements:*** Upgrades to enhance the usability of this space.

How Our Finances Work

Our income is a blend of your generous contributions, including:

- Weekly, monthly, or annual donations.
- Year-end gifts and company matching programs.
- Gifts of stock and bequests, such as the over $350,000 received this year.
- Rental income from Our Lady of the Rosary School, the Dermody Center, and the Saint Thomas Aquinas site apartments.

We have significantly improved our rental income by updating rates to align closer to market value, as they were previously 20% or more below market. The Dermody Center, once unusable due to mold and pest issues, was renovated in collaboration with Khan School (50/50 cost-sharing, totaling $500,000). This included mold treatment, new flooring, painting, and a new roof, transforming it into a valuable rental asset. Additionally, the parish administration is exploring new rental opportunities at the Saint Albert the Great old convent.

To optimize resources, we conducted a thorough review of expenses, eliminating unnecessary subscriptions and restructuring staff roles. We also benefit immensely from donated professional services:

- Midtown Realty (Foy Family): Manages our rental properties at no cost, saving the parish tens of thousands annually.
- Adrian Tostado (Tree Maintenance): Provides upkeep for over 150 trees across our three properties at no cost, saving significant expenses over the years.

Commitment to Accountability

Our Finance Advisory Committee (FAC), composed of dedicated parishioners, meets every other month to review financial reports, account balances, and future expenses. The FAC ensures transparency by examining exact balances (down to the cent) and advising on major financial decisions, safeguarding our parish's fiscal health.

A Stronger Financial Future

Thanks to your support, our parish savings account has more than tripled over the past six years, providing a robust safety net for emergencies and future needs.

A Call to Continued Support

We invite you to review your giving, especially if it hasn't been adjusted recently. Every dollar is used thoughtfully to support our mission. Please consider including the parish in your year-end giving, company matching programs, gifts of stock, or estate planning. Your contributions of time, talent, and treasure make our parish vibrant and financially sound.

With heartfelt gratitude,

Estanislao Mikalonis, Pastor

National Vocation Awareness Week

November 28, 2025

From November 2nd to the 8th, we will celebrate National Vocation Awareness Week. We invite everyone to pray for more vocations to the priesthood and consecrated life.

Special celebrations will take place at the Cathedral of St. Joseph. Rosary and procession begin at 5:30 PM at Cesar Chavez Plaaza, followed by Plenary Indulgence at 6:00PM , Adoration at 6:30PM, Mass, and a vocation talk in the Cathedral

Tuesday, Nov. 4 (Spanich)
Wednesday, Nov. 5 (Vietnamese)
Friday, Nov. 7 (English)

There will also be a Young Adult Vocation Night on Saturday, Nov. 8 at 6:30 PM at St. Lawrence the Martyr, Santa Clara (bilingual).

Let us pray for more laborers in the Lord's harvest!

Please Pray for the Sick and Homebound

Sick and Homebound:
Yvette Bovee, Lillian Aragon, Bill Morrison, Lauro Quintanar, Enedelia Sandoval, Raul Badua, Winnie McGannon, Xochiti Quintanar, Joan Campbell, Mick Pellazzari, Mena Fu, Nicki Chun, Mary Martinson, Shui Wong, Dan Fillin, Bob Reklis

Recently Deceased:
Fr. Seth Kupo, Francis Yetso, Brian Dooney, Kathy Finnerty, John Christopher Kelly, Mark Delamater Flanagan, John Arnold, Leticia U Revilla, Eleanor Jane Kelly, Mary Valentine, Mary Frances Johnson, Perri Cebedo, Magdalena Mendez, Susan Adams, Maria Aquilar, Guillermina Garcia

To add a name to a list, you must obtain permission from the person or their family and contact: Mary Fong at marytanfong@gmail.com

Join the CROP Hunger Walk

When you walk in the CROP Hunger Walk, you are raising money to help fight hunger but you are also walking in solidarity with all of those people around the world who are walking for food, for water and for firewood each day. Only one week left to sign up to be a Walker or sponsor! We now have 5 Walkers participating from our congregation. The CROP Hunger Walk is truly about us all fighting hunger in many ways throughout the world!! Come walk with us!

Please see our posters in the church vestibules and use the QR code to sign up to walk alongside us or to sponsor us.

STA 2025 Youth Retreat

November 7-9, Mount Hermon in Felton, CA

8th to 12th grades are invited o the annual STA Youth Retreat in the beautiful Santa Cruz Mountains. This is a time set apart for prayer, reflection, and building deeper friendships rooted in Christ. Surrounded by God's creation, our middle and high schoolers will have the chance to grow in faith, encounter the Lord in a new way, and return renewed and strengthened. Questions? Contact Youth Ministry Coordinator Miguelangel Cardenas: miguelangel.cardenas@dsj.org

Memorial Garden at Saint Thomas Aquinas Church

The Memorial Garden is a place where families can memorialize their deceased loved ones by placing their names on plaques in a special garden located at St. Thomas Aquinas church on Waverley Street.

For the living, it is a place for meditation and contemplation, honoring the spirit of their loved ones who have passed through to eternal life. The plaques are a reminder that, though no longer with us, family and friends still live close in our hearts. Use the QR code for further information.

Parish Winter Drive for Our Unhoused Neighbors

There are now collection boxes in the church vestibules for your donations of clean sleeping bags, warm winter coats and blankets to comfort our unhoused neighbors during the cold, wet winter months. Please keep our less fortunate friends in mind and be generous.

You may place monetary donations into the manila envelopes attached to the posters in the vestibules or donate online via the parish website. In past years, your donations have been provided to Ecumenical Hunger Program in East Palo Alto, The Catholic Worker House in Redwood City, St Vincent de Paul in our parish and St. Francis in EPA, the Heart and Home Collaborative women's winter shelter and many others.

For questions call Human Concerns Committee at 650-283-6343

Confession

St. Albert the Great
Saturday
4:30 PM

St Thomas Aquinas
Saturday
1:30 PM

Rosary

St. Albert the Great
After Daily Mass

Our Lady of the Rosary
Sundays
8:30 AM (Spanish)

Weekday Mass

St. Thomas Aquinas

Monday to Saturday
12:15 PM

St. Albert the Great

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday
8:00 AM
Wednesday
8:15 (Seton School Mass)

Our Lady of the Rosary

Weekend Mass

St. Thomas Aquinas

Sunday
7:30 AM
9:00 AM (Thomas Merton Center Community)
11:00 AM (Gregorian Mass)

St. Albert the Great

Saturday
5:00 PM (Vigil)
Sunday
9:00 AM

Our Lady of the Rosary

Sunday
9:00 AM (Español)
10:30 AM (English)

Give Online!

Online giving is simple and easy to use! Scan the QR code for direct access.

Follow us on Instagram

Stay connected with parish life, see what's happening in our ministries, and be inspired by daily faith-filled moments @paloalto_catholic_sta

Get in Touch!

Have questions or need support? Our pastoral staff is here to walk with you in faith—please don't hesitate to reach out and connect with us.

Pastoral Staff

Rev. Estanislao Mikalonis, Pastor. ext. 1
estanislao.mikalonis@dsj.org

Rolando Santoianni, Parochial Vicar, ext. 2
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Deacon Daniel Hernandez
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Tyler Ngo, Director of Faith Formation
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Miguelangel Cardenas, Youth Minister
miguelangel.cardenas@dsj.org

Mary Fong, Pastoral Home Ministry, ext. 6
marytanfong@gmail.com

Patricia Cruzet, Quinceaneras, Weddings, & Funerals Coordinator, ext. 7. Or (408) 849-0128
patricia.cruzet@dsj.org

Jubilee of The Missionary World and Jubilee of Migrants

Homily of the Holy Father Leo XIV

This Jubilee of the Missions and Migrants is a wonderful opportunity to rekindle in ourselves the awareness of our missionary vocation, which arises from the desire to bring the joy and consolation of the Gospel to everyone. Each one of us should be able to say with joy: the entire Church is missionary, and it is urgent – as Pope Francis affirmed – that we "go forth and preach the Gospel to all: to all places, on all occasions, without hesitation, reluctance, or fear" (Evangelii Gaudium, 23).

The Holy Spirit sends us to continue the work of Christ in the world's peripheries, marked at times by war, injustice, and suffering. I think of our migrant brothers and sisters, who have had to depart their homelands, often leaving their loved ones behind, enduring fear, loneliness, discrimination, and violence. The cry of sorrow in the Old Testament: "Lord, how long shall I cry for help, and you will not hear? Why do You make me see wrongs and look upon trouble? (Hab 1:2-3) has re-emerged at the present time. The response of the Lord opens us to hope. If the Prophet denounces the force of evil, the Lord, for His part, announces to him that all will cease and salvation will come without delay: "Look at the proud! Their spirit is not right in them, but the righteous live by their faith" (Hab 2:4). The possibility of life and salvation that comes from faith, not only helps us to resist evil, and persevere in doing good, but it transforms our life to make it an instrument of salvation for the world. Indeed, it is enough to have faith the size of a mustard seed to do unimaginable things (Lk 17:6), because faith carries the strength of God's Love.

This salvation is fulfilled when we choose to serve the Gospel, and our brothers and sisters, without seeking our own interests, but only with the desire to bring God's love to the world. Today, a new missionary age opens in the history of the Church, calling us to renew in ourselves the fire of our missionary vocation. The frontiers of the missions are no longer in distant lands, because poverty and suffering have made their way to us. Today, the mission is not so much about "departing," but "remaining" to proclaim Christ through hospitality, compassion, and solidarity.

St. Peter's Square, 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time, 5 October 2025
(Teresa Budzich, M.Div.)

St. Thomas Aquinas

Youth Retreat Nov 7-9 2025 @Mt. Herman

Register today!

Questions?
Contact Miguelangel Cardenas(youth Coordinator):
Miguelangel.cardenas@dsj.org

2025 *Silent* Ignatian Retreat

Oct 31, Nov 1 & 2
(Fri, Sat & Sun)

Father Ed Broom, OMV,

Renowned retreat master and expert in Ignatian Spirituality, author of 5 books, and guest on EWTN, Fr. Broom looks forward to his "first time ever" retreat in CALIFORNIA'S CENTRAL COAST - in the majestic SANTA CRUZ MOUNTAINS! As a pre-eminent expert on all things IGNATIAN, Fr. Broom looks forward to imparting the spiritual gems of St. Ignatius at beautiful St. Clare's Retreat.

St. Clare's Retreat
2381 Laurel Glen Road, Soquel, CA 95073
(831) 423-8093

Space is Limited
Reservations Are Required
Secure Your Spot Today
www.stclaresretreat.org

"Come Away and Rest Awhile"
Mark 6:30-34

Experience a peaceful weekend of silence, reflection, and deep spiritual renewal. Guided by the time-tested wisdom of St. Ignatius of Loyola. This retreat invites you to encounter God personally in the stillness - through Scripture, guided meditations, and the beauty of silence.
Whether your're spiritually seasonsed or simply seeking rest, you'll return home refreshed, grounded and more aware of God's presence in your daily life.

Weekend Retreat Rates:

Single Occupancy Room with private or shared bathroom	$320.00
Double Occupancy Room - per person	$300.00
Saturday Day Commuter (no lodging)	$125.00

Meals Included

St. Clare's Retreat is owned and operated by the Franciscan Missionary Sisters of Our Lady of Sorrows

40 DAYS FOR LIFE

September 24th til November 2nd

HELP SAVE LIVES IN REDWOOD CITY!

You can protect mothers and children by joining this worldwide mobilization to pray and fast for an end to abortion!

Through prayer and fasting, peaceful vigils and community outreach, 40 Days for Life has inspired 1,000,000+ volunteers!

With God's help, here are the proven results in 30 coordinated campaigns:

- Over **25,000** saved babies
- More than **170** closed facilities
- More than **270** converted workers

Here's how to take part in 40 Days for Life in our community:

Vigil location: On sidewalk outside of Planned Parenthood, 2907 El Camino Real, Redwood City

Vigil hours: 7 am to 7 pm daily

Local contact: Jessica, 650-918-9119, email: themunns@yahoo.com

Learn more … get involved … and sign up for prayer times by visiting our campaign at the web address shown below!

40daysforlife.com/redwoodcity

40 DÍAS POR LA VIDA®

24 de septiembre al 2 de noviembre

¡AYUDA A SALVAR VIDAS EN REDWOOD CITY!

Protege a madres y bebes uniéndote a la movilización pro-vida más grande de la historia. **40 Días por la Vida** ha logrado tener más de 1,000,000+ voluntarios en 63 países.

Con la ayuda de Dios, aquí están los resultados:

- Más de **25,000** bebés salvados del aborto
- Más de **270** trabajadoras del aborto convertidas
- Más de **170** centros de aborto cerrados

Contribuye a expandir este impacto y forma parte de la campaña de 40 Días por la Vida:

- **Ubicación de la vigilia:** Fuera del centro de abortos de Planned Parenthood ubicada en el 2907 El Camino Real (esquina calle Berkshire) en Redwood City
- **Horas de la vigilia:** 7 am – 7 pm a diario
- **Contacto local:**
  Elena, teléfono 650-278-9709
- **Aprende más y únete a nosotros:**

40daysforlife.com/redwoodcity