

**Benediction for Thomas Aquinas College 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Gala  
Beverly Wilshire Four Seasons Hotel  
Beverly Hills, California**

**October 16, 2021**

**† Most Reverend Thomas John Paprocki  
Bishop of Springfield in Illinois**

Heavenly Father, source of all life, all truth, and all love, font of wisdom and knowledge, we give you thanks for the gifts and benefits that you have bestowed upon us. It is your Providence that has brought us here together. We thank you for the blessings that you have bestowed upon Thomas Aquinas College over these past fifty years, and for the graces that you have showered upon the founders, students, tutors, administrative faculty, staff, alumni, board and benefactors. We thank you for this meal and the fellowship that we have shared. We are grateful for the gracious presence of our honorable keynote speaker, Justice Samuel Alito, and his wife, Martha Ann, and for his insightful and inspirational words.

As we go forth from here, we ask your blessings upon all our future endeavors. Guide us, through the intercession of St. Thomas Aquinas, on the path to holiness, keeping us mindful that we are called to be saints, and that our true destination is to share in the eternal happiness of your kingdom, where you live and reign in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever. Amen.

*Dominus vobiscum. Et cum spiritu tuo.*

*Benedicat vos omnipotens Deus, Pater, et Filius, et Spiritus Sanctus.*

*Amen.*