

ST. THOMAS OF VILLANOVA PARISH, WILMINGTON, MASSACHUSETTS

A NOTE FROM THE PASTOR

Mass Intentions March 3-11, 2007

- Saturday**
5:00 PM Angelo & Katrina Guriano
- Sunday**
8:00 AM Arthur Kelley Dorothy Kelley & Dorothy Rooney
9:30 AM Jacinto Rego
11:15 AM Robert Dorval
- Monday**
9:00 AM Edwin J. Robinson
- Tuesday**
9:00 AM John Dunn
- Wednesday**
9:00 AM Kelly Crossen
- Thursday**
9:00 AM Bernard Ronan
- Saturday**
5:00 PM Frances T. Foster
- Sunday**
8:00 AM Malcolm & Aline Budd
9:30 AM Chuckie Peterson
11:15 AM Donald Franco

WEDDING MUSIC

Lora Tamaghini, our Music Director will meet all the 2007 Brides/grooms in the church at 3pm on March 25.

STAMP DANCE

Tickets are now being sold for the 8th Annual STAMP Dance on Saturday, March 10 in Villanova Hall. Please join us for a fun filled night of great raffle prizes, food and dance. Tickets are \$25 each and are available at the rectory or by calling Mike at 978-657-8407. They may also be purchased from any STAMP member. Thank you for your support

ST. THOMAS WOMEN'S CLUB HAPPENINGS

All Women of the Parish are invited to join us!

- April 9th- TBA**
- April 21st- Senior Anointing Mass and Luncheon**
- May 14th TBA**
- June 11th- Closing Mass 6:30pm and Diner**

Beginning this weekend, Catherine Joanne will be here for the parish retreat. She will introduce the retreat at all the Masses this weekend. On Sunday night she will have a concert. On Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday nights, there will be a talk on Theresa of Lisieux, Theresa of Avila, and Theresa of Calcutta. Come join each night of the parish Lenten Retreat. The sessions will be at 7:00 PM.

Last Saturday, a group of parishioners from St. Thomas went to Our Brother's Table in Lynn to cook and serve a meal to those in the area who are hungry. We served 275 people. I was amazed at the number of families and young people. The face of hunger is changing in our society. It involves more families and more children. I want to thank all those who went to Lynn to cook and serve. I also want to thank those who donated food or money to pay for food. Consider coming with us the next time we go to Our Brother's Table in Lynn. All are welcome.

Religious Education registration has begun. A letter concerning registrations has been sent out to all the parents of children who are currently enrolled in the program. If you did not receive the letter or you are new to the program, please call the religious education office at 978-658-6040. If you are unable to afford the registration fee, please call the religious education office or speak to me. There are a lot of children in the program whose parents do not attend church regularly. Please pass the word on to them that registration for religious education has begun. I appreciate your assistance.

We will be going to Biloxi, Mississippi the first week of October to continue the work of restoring homes damaged or destroyed by Katrina. The big fundraiser for this event is the STAMP dance. Come join us on Saturday, March 10, 2007 at 7:00 PM. Tickets are now available. Tickets are \$25.00 per person. If you would like a ticket, see me before or after Mass or one of the STAMP committee members.

Well I guess that is it for now. Until next time, take care.
Fr. Earley

BAPTISM SCHEDULE

NO BAPTISMS DURING LENT

- EASTER SUNDAY APRIL 8 @ 11:15 AM**
- DURING SUNDAY MASS MAY 6 @ 11:15 AM**
- April 15 @ 1:00 PM May 20 @ 1:00 PM**

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

LENT GOSPEL GIVING

The Traditional foundation for Lenten practice rests on three supports: PRAYER-FASTING-ALMSGIVING. To assist those in need, and to help fulfill the third of these support, St. Thomas Parish Outreach Ministry is going to have "Lenten Gospel Giving" program. Each week parishioners will be asked to bring ONE item with them to Mass based on the Gospel reading of each week in Lent. The gifts will be donated to various needy causes, some in which we are already involved. There will be a reminder in the bulletin each week. Next Sunday March 10/11 is the third Sunday in Lent. Jesus told the parable "A man had a fig tree planted in his garden, and he came looking for fruit on it and found none." Luke 13:6 Please bring in canned goods for the Wilmington Food Pantry

A basket of wood chips will be at all the Church doors. These will be our reminders. We ask each of you to take one wood chip and carry it with you every day of Lent, as a daily reminder that we share in the burden of Christ's cross, but also in His promise of new life. We will ask you to return your wood chip on Psalm Sunday as a symbol of your Lenten sacrifices. All the chips will then be put together to form a Good Friday cross, a symbol of our union with Jesus and His death and resurrection.

LENTEN DONATIONS

During Lent St. Thomas Women's Club will be collecting donations for Fr. Paul's Priest Friend in New Orleans whose parish is struggling to rebuild after Katrina. Donations can be sent to the Women's Club c/o St. Thomas Parish or you can call Joan @ 978-657-3905. Make checks out to the Women's Club.

OPERATION RICE BOWL

Catholic Relief Services' Lenten Program Operation Rice Bowl throughout Lent will help us pray, fast, and give in solidarity with those in need around the world. The Rice bowls are in baskets at the entrances of the church. We ask that they be returned on Holy Thursday.

CHURCH SUPPORT

We are grateful to all who mail in their envelopes when away from the parish. Thank you for your generosity

The second collection this weekend is The Peter Pence Collection

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION REGISTRATION

Anyone who has a child entering first grade in Sept., and the child was NOT BAPTIZED at St. Thomas we ask you to bring his/her baptismal certificate to the office for verification and we will register him/her at that time. The Religious Ed. Office is located in the basement of the Church. If you have questions, call the religious education office at 978-658-6040.

Registration tuition payment

1 Child \$75.00

2 Children \$100

3 or more children \$125.00

If you have a parochial school child entering into grade 10 and plan on having him /her confirmed, you must register him/her in the religious education program.

OUTSIDE THE PARISH

HOSPICE CARE INC

Male and Female Volunteers are needed to provide:

companionship to patients

respite time for family members

help with errands

bereavement support to family members

A strong need exists for daytime volunteers, but help is also needed on weekends. HCI provides training and on-going support.

The next training session begins Spring 2007 All sessions are held from 6:00 to 8:30pm at the Woburn Office. For more information please call 781-569-2888.

ELR CATHOLIC RADIO

Now the Good News of Jesus proclaimed via the airwaves! On March 5, Eternal Life Radio will begin to air Catholic programming on WROL. At 12noon, Monday-Friday Fr. John Corapi SOLT will be broadcast at 950AM WROL

REV ANDRE PATENAUDE (FR. PAT)

Fr. Pat will present a concert on Palm Sunday, April 1 from 2to5pm at the Andover Country Club. For tickets please call 978-685-5047

DO YOU KNOW OF AN APARTMENT FOR RENT?

Single professional Male looking for one or two bedroom apartment in this area. Quiet, respectful, responsible & faith centered. Please call Steve at 978-664-1122.

MARCH 4, 2007

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
March 4 COOKIE SALE 7pm RETREAT	March 5 Gr 1 4--5pm Gr 4 5:30-6:30pm 7pm RETREAT	March 6 Gr 2 4-5pm Gr 5 5:30-6:30pm 7pm RETREAT	March 7 Gr 3 4-5pm Gr 6 5:30-6:30pm 7pm RETREAT	March 8	March 9 6:30PM STATIONS	March 10 STAMP DANCE
March 11 7pm Prayer group	March 12 Gr 1 4--5pm Gr 4 5:30-6:30pm Gr 10 6:45-8:00pm	March 13 Gr 2 4-5pm Gr 5 5:30-6:30pm Gr 8 6:45-8:00	March 14 Gr 3 4-5pm Gr 6 5:30-6:30pm	March 15	March 16 6:30PM STATIONS	March 17 ST, Patrick's Day
March 18 7pm Prayer group	March 19 Gr 1 4--5pm Gr 4 5:30-6:30pm Confirmation Group 1 7pm Practice	March 20 Gr 2 4-5pm Gr 5 5:30-6:30pm Gr7 6:45-8:00	March 21 Gr 3 4-5pm Gr 6 5:30-6:30pm Confirmation Group 1 7pm Practice	March 22	March 23 6:30PM STATIONS	March 24 Confirmation 10:30& 1:30pm
March 25 3pm Wedding Music Brides Meeting 7pm Prayer group	March 26 Gr 1 4--5pm Gr 4 5:30-6:30pm Gr 9 6:45-8:00pm	March 27 Gr 2 4-5pm Gr 5 5:30-6:30pm Gr 8 6:45-8:00	March 28 Gr 3 4-5pm Gr 6 5:30-6:30pm	March 29	March 30 6:30PM STATIONS	March 31 Scrap booking

Meditation of the Heart

by Carolyn Kenney

Today is one of the most beautiful feast days in the Church; it is the Feast of the Transfiguration of Our Lord. Jesus took Peter, James and John up Mount Tabor where He was transfigured before their eyes. His face "changed in appearance" and "his clothes became dazzling white." Imagine their reaction to this blessed event! How would you have felt? Tomorrow I will be on Mount Tabor where this beautiful event transpired. Mass will be celebrated at this holy place and Jesus will once again be present. He will be present in the holy Eucharist which will be transformed before our eyes from bread into His body, blood, soul and divinity.

Every day at mass, Jesus appears before us in the Eucharist just as He appeared to Peter, James and John on Mount Tabor. We do not have to travel halfway around the world to see this happen. We only have to be in a state of grace, approach Him at the altar and let Him fill you with His many graces. If you do this with reverence and love, He will transfigure your life.

OUR LADY'S MONTHLY MESSAGE OF JANUARY 25, 2007

"Dear Children! Put Sacred Scripture in a visible place in your family and read it. In this way, you will come to know prayer with the heart and your thoughts will be on God. Do not forget that you are passing like a flower in a field, which is visible from afar but disappears in a moment. Little children, leave a sign of goodness and love wherever you pass God will bless you with an abundance of His blessing. Thank you for having responded to my call."