

Mass Intentions –December 23-31, 2006

Saturday

5:00 PM The Driscoll Family

Sunday

8:00 AM Vecchiarelli & Caggiano Families

9:30AM

Elizabeth Albert Daniels, Buddy Krakofsky

11:15 AM

Christmas Eve

4pm(Upstairs)

4pm (downstairs) George, Alice & Mary Pratt

6pm

Midnight

Christmas Day

Monday

9:30 AM

11:15AM

Tuesday

9:00 AM Dorothy E. Andreotti

Wednesday

9:00 AM Cornelius O'Brien

Thursday

9:00 AM Yvonne Deveau

Saturday

5:00 PM Arthur Boudreau

Sunday

8:00 AM Paul Brooks

9:30 AM Mary Wedge

11:15 AM Eileen McGrath

***WE WISH YOU ALL A VERY
MERRY CHRISTMAS!***

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

CHRISTMAS EVE

4:00pm 6:00pm & Midnight

CHRISTMAS MORNING

9:30am & 11:15am

CHURCH SUPPORT

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

Offertory for December 17, 2006 \$

Parish Monthly Collection \$

CHRISTMAS MEMORIAL ENVELOPES

Envelopes are by the Blessed Mary for anyone who wishes prayers for their departed loved ones. The donation will be used to purchase decorations for Christmas. The names of the deceased will be listed in the bulletin. Masses will be said during the Christmas Season.

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

If we could only get the self-centered, selfish people who've taken Christ out of Christmas to get the "I" out of Holiday and make it a Hoy Day again, perhaps we could get Christ back in Christmas and in the world where He's so desperately needed!

Twas the month before Christmas
When all through our land,
Not a Christian was praying
Nor taking a stand.

Why the PC Police
Had taken away,
The reason for Christmas-
No one could say.

The children were told
By their schools not to sing,
About Shepherds and Wise Men
And Angels and things.

It might hurt people's feelings,
The teachers would say
December 25th
Is just a "Holiday".

Yet the shoppers were ready
With cash, checks and credit
Pushing folks down
To the floor just to get it!

CDs from Madonna,
An XBOX, an I-pod
Something was changing,
Something quite odd!

Retailers promoted
Ramaden and Kwanzaa
In hopes to sell books by
Franken & Fonda

As Targets were hanging
Their trees upside down
At Lowe's the word Christmas-
Was no where to be found.

At K-Mart and Staples
And Penny's and Sears
You won't hear the word Christmas;
It won't touch your ears.

Inclusive, sensitive,
Di-ver-is-ty
Are words that were used
To intimidate me.

Now Daschle, Now Darden,
Now Sharpton, Wolf Blitzer
On Boxer, on Rather,
On Kerry on Clinton!

At the top of the Senate,
There arose such a clatter
To eliminate Jesus,
In all public matter.

And we spoke not a word,
As they took away our faith
Forbidden to speak
Of salvation and grace.

The true Gift of Christmas
Was exchanged and discarded
The reason for the season,
Stopped before it started.

So as you celebrate "Winter Break"
Under your "Dream Tree"
Sipping your Starbucks,
Listen to me.

Choose what you say
Shout MERRY CHRISTMAS,
NOT HAPPY HOLIDAY.

THE CUP OF JESUS' PRECIOUS BLOOD

Fr. Ron is a priest who does a lot of parish missions and retreats. Here's one frequently asked question he has been asked **"Why should I receive from the cup?"**

Because this is what Jesus asked for. He said: "Take and drink." Not sharing the cup is like saying, "Thanks for offering your blood for us, but no, thanks!" It is common courtesy at a meal to take what's put before us and an insult to the host or hostess to refuse what's set on the table.

Sharing from the one cup expresses our unity, rich and poor, old and young, black and white, Anglo and Hispanic. Some people avoid the cup for that very reason. They're missing one of the main points of the Eucharist, a meal celebrating and developing our union with God and one another.

It is not a health hazard. For years I've been drinking from the cup after the whole community has shared it and I haven't gotten anything but much grace. I read an article by a doctor saying it's much more dangerous to breathe in church than to share the cup.

DECEMBER 24, 2006

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Dec 24 8, 9:30 & 11:15 CHRISTMAS EVE 4pm 6pm & Midnight	Dec 25 CHRISTMAS 9:30 & 11:15	Dec 26 NO CCD	Dec 27 NO CCD	Dec 28	Dec 29 6-8:30pm Eucharistic Adoration	Dec 30
Dec 31 Baptismal Instruction	Jan.1 NO CCD	Jan 2 NO CCD	Jan 3 NO CCD	Jan 4	Jan 5 6-8:30pm Eucharistic Adoration	Jan 6 Epiphany

ST. THOMAS WOMEN'S CLUB HAPPENINGS **All Women of the Parish are invited to join us!**

- Feb 12 – Mardi Gras Party holiday foods**
- April 9th - TBA**
- April 21st - Senior Anointing Mass and Luncheon**
- May 14th TBA**
- June 11th - Closing Mass 6:30pm and Diner**

BIRTHRIGHT

St. Thomas Women's Club is collecting unwrapped Layette items (They are desperate for) **NEWBORN INFANTS ONLY** Through the Epiphany of the Lord, Jan 7th, A basket is outside the confessionals for donations. The items will be given to Birthright of Lowell to help unwed mothers in the Lowell area. Any questions please call Joan at 978-657-3905. Thank you.

MENS CLOTHING DRIVE

St. Thomas Charity Committee will hold a men's clothing drive on January 13 & 14. Clothes may be left in Villanova Hall after all Masses.

FOOD will also be collected for the Wilmington Food Pantry

BAPTISM

**THERE WILL BE NO BAPTISMS DONE DURING LENT
FEBRUARY 21, – APRIL 1, 2007**

THE BAPTISMS DURING THE EASTER SEASON WILL BE:

APRIL 8 11:15AM APRIL 15 1:00 PM

MAY 6 11:15AM MAY 20 1:00 PM

INSTRUCTION WILL BE MARCH 25 AT 1PM