

ST. THOMAS OF VILLANOVA PARISH, WILMINGTON, MASSACHUSETTS

Mass Intentions December 30- Jan. 1, 2007.

Saturday

5:00 PM Arthur Boudreau

Sunday

8:00 AM Paul Brooks

9:30 AM Mary Wedge

11:15AM Eileen McGrath

Monday

9:00 AM Margaret Giannella

Tuesday

9:00AM Mary & Edward Comer

Wednesday

9:00 AM William Nee

Thursday

9:00 AM Paul Brooks

Saturday

5:00 PM Dyer, Ehteler & Sears Families

Sunday

8:00 AM Mark Matarese

9:30 AM Yvonne Deveau

11:15 AM Abilio Medeiros

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 \$ 3,653.50

Parish Monthly Collection \$ 3,003.00

Offertory for December 24 \$ 5,176.56

WE WISH YOU ALL A HAPPY NEW YEAR 2007!

A NOTE FROM THE PASTOR

I want to thank all those who participated in the Giving Tree project. The gifts were picked up by Catholic Charities and we delivered the socks hats, scarves, etc. to the shelter. The people of St. Thomas are always very generous in reaching out to those in need. The great thing is that it is not just at the holidays, but year round. Thanks for your generosity.

Also a thank you to all who help with the decorating of the Church for the Christmas Season.

A group of parishioners went caroling at Deming Way and brought some sweets and gifts to the residents. To those who went or baked, thank you!!

The Grand Annual collection is in full swing. As of December 13, 2006, we received \$26,595.00 from 196 donors. Thanks to all those who have responded to this collection. It is not too late to give to it.

We have a new parish web site. The web address is www.stthomasvillanova.com Take a look at it. It has a lot of useful information concerning weddings, baptism, etc. It has links to the Archdiocese of Boston web site, to the Vatican, and US Catholic Conference.

It also has a link to the Boston college web site entitled *The Church in the 21st Century*.

If you go there and dig into the site there are a lot of articles you can print out on the faith and read at your leisure. In the future I will add other sites. I think this may be the way to go for adult education. As you know it is hard to get people out to talks even if it is an outside speaker. I thought that you could read things on line at your leisure or print them out.

Well that is it for now. Until next time, take care and I Wish you a Happy, Healthy, New Year.

Fr. Earley

MONDAY, JANUARY 1, 2007

THIS NOT A HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION

REGULAR MASS SCHEDULE

MONDAY 9:00AM MASS ONLY

EPIPHANY PAGENT

Next weekend at the 9:30 Mass the Children will perform Epiphany Pageant. They are still in need of some animals if your child is interested and is in preschool through Kindergarten please call Debbie at 978-447-1020

HOLY FAMILY

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.

CHRISTMAS REMEMBRANCE

In Loving Memory of

- | | |
|--------------------------------|---------------------|
| Ricky Carrabis | Donna Guarracino |
| Severino Scola | Lee LaGrassa |
| Norman Allison | Rita Ennis |
| Fannie Allison | Antonetta D'Antonio |
| Rose DeLucia | Antonio D'Antonio |
| Dorothy Pacheco | Pat DeLucia |
| Frank DiLeo | Lawrence Reinhart |
| Patricia Reinhart | Ross Reinhart |
| Lenora Jones | Boynton Jones |
| John Casey | Mary Casey |
| Thomas Casey | Paul Casey |
| Fran Casey | Albert J. Deprez |
| Mary C. Gouveia | Antonio Gouveia |
| Prisca Frates | Isabel Munes |
| Alice Jardin | James English |
| Judy English | Mary Daly |
| Lynn Madden | Enos Muise |
| Frances Muise | Charles O'Leary |
| Joseph Pettee | Timothy O'Leary |
| Manuel Francis | Paul Callahan |
| Eugene Murphy | Anne & Warren Smith |
| Elizabeth & David Agnew | |
| Corneluis & Nora O'Leary | |
| Margaret Nell & Dennis O'Leary | |
| Wanece Chislett | |

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

WILMIMNGTON YOUTH CENTER OPENS!

The Wilmington Youth Center will open on Saturday, January 6th for boys and girls in grades 6 to 8 with a Free Pizza Party! Registration is only \$20.00 per child for the whole year and you can sign upon the 6th at 6:30pm. The center will be open every Saturday night from January to the end of March from 7-9:30pm. Each family will require to have a parent volunteer one night at the center as part of the registration process. There will be at least one Youth Center Board Member at the Center each Saturday night to help supervise the children. The Youth Center is located in Villanova Hall.

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

OUR LADY'S MONTHLY MESSAGE

December 25, 2006

“Dear Children! Also today I bring you the newborn Jesus in my arms. He who is the King of Heaven and earth, He is your peace. Little children, no one can give you peace as He who is the King of Peace. Therefore, adore Him in your hearts, choose Him and you will have joy in Him. He will bless you with His blessing of peace. Thank you for having responded to my call.”

DECEMBER 31, 2006

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|---|--|---|---|---------------|--|--|
| Dec 31 1pm Baptism Instruction 7pm Prayer group | Jan 1 HAPPY NEW YEAR NO CCD | Jan 2 NO CCD | Jan 3 NO CCD | Jan 4 | Jan 5 6-8:30pm Eucharistic Adoration | Jan 6 |
| Jan 7 9:30am Mass EPIPHANY PAGENT 1pm Baptism 7pm Prayer group | Jan 8 Gr 1 4--5pm Gr 4 5:30-6:30pm Gr 10 6:45-8:00pm | Jan 9 Gr 2 4-5pm Gr 5 5:30-6:30pm Gr 8 6:45- 8:00 | Jan 10 Gr 3 4-5pm Gr 6 5:30-6:30pm | Jan 11 | Jan 12 6-8:30pm Eucharistic Adoration | Jan 13 |
| Jan 14 Altar server commissioning 7pm Prayer group | Jan 15 NO CLASS | Jan 16 Gr 2 4-5pm Gr 5 5:30-6:30pm Gr 7 6:45- 8:00 | Jan 17 Gr 3 4-5pm Gr 6 5:30-6:30pm | Jan 18 | Jan 19 6-8:30pm Eucharistic Adoration | Jan 20 CONFIRMATION RETREAT |
| Jan 21 1pm Baptism 7pm Prayer group | Jan 22 Gr 1 4--5pm Gr 4 5:30-6:30pm Gr 10 6:45-8:00pm | Jan 23 Gr 2 4-5pm Gr 5 5:30-6:30pm Gr 8 6:45- 8:00 | Jan 24 Gr 3 4-5pm Gr 6 5:30-6:30pm | Jan 25 | Jan 26 6-8:30pm Eucharistic Adoration | Jan 27 SCRAP BOOKING |
| Jan 28 1pm Baptism Instruction 7pm Prayer group | Jan 29 Gr 1 4--5pm Gr 4 5:30-6:30pm Gr 9 6:45-8:00pm | Jan 30 Gr 2 4-5pm Gr 5 5:30-6:30pm Gr 7 6:45- 8:00 | Jan 31 Gr 3 4-5pm Gr 6 5:30-6:30pm | | | |

Meditation of the Heart by Carolyn Kenney

Last week at this time, we were busy wrapping gifts, baking for family and friends and visiting our loved ones. Did we look in the bulletin to see what Christmas mass would be “convenient” for us to attend in order that we would be on time for Christmas celebrations? As we sat in church, were our minds on other things not yet finished? Did we miss the **true** meaning of that beautiful day? Did we miss Jesus when He came into our hearts and souls?

Jesus comes in a special way on Christmas Day. Yet, thank goodness, He blesses us with His Presence every day of the week as He waits for us in the tabernacles of our churches. “Do you realize that Jesus is there in the tabernacle expressly for you - for you alone? He burns with the desire to come into your heart...go...to receive the Jesus of peace and love.” Saint Therese of Lisieux