

**ST. THOMAS OF VILLANOVA PARISH, WILMINGTON, MASSACHUSETTS**

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**MASS INTENTIONS**

**January 6-14, 2007**

**Saturday**

**5:00 PM Dyer, Echteler & Sears Families**

**Sunday**

**8:00 AM Mark Matarese & Joseph King**

**9:30 AM Yvonne Deveau**

**11:15 AM Abilio Medeiros**

**Monday**

**9:00 AM Jessie Frederickson**

**Tuesday**

**9:00 AM John & Marie Baldwin**

**Wednesday**

**9:00 AM Jack Baldwin**

**Thursday**

**9:00 AM Dennis Holbrook**

**Saturday**

**5:00 PM Larry McGrath**

**Sunday**

**8:00 AM James M. McGonagle II**

**9:30 AM Maria Jose Chaves**

**11:15 AM Donald Franco**

**ST. THOMAS CHARITIES COMMITTEE**

**MEN'S CLOTHING COLLECTION**

**FOOD COLLECTION FOR THE WILMINGTON FOOD PANTRY**

**ALL DONATIONS CAN BE DROPPED OFF IN VILLANOVA HALL THE WEEKEND OF JANUARY 13 & 14, AFTER ALL MASSES.**

**BIRTHRIGHT**

There is a basket by the confessionals for you to put an unwrapped Layette items for new born babies for unwed Mothers in the Lowell area. All items must be in this Sunday January 7<sup>th</sup>

**A NOTE FROM THE PASTOR**

AT the 9:30 AM Mass this weekend, the Children's Liturgy group will do the Epiphany pageant. The children always do a good job. I want to thank the adult leaders of the children's liturgy group for working with the children and I want to thank all the children who participated.

I have mentioned before that we have a new parish web site. The web address is [www.stthomasvillanova.com](http://www.stthomasvillanova.com) Take a look at it. It has a lot of useful information about the parish. If you have questions about the religious education schedule, it is on the web site. If you are contemplating marriage and want to know about how to arrange a wedding and what is required, look at the web site. If you have questions about baptism or godparents, look at the web site. As you probably figured out, it has information on the different ministries in the church and who to contact if you are interested in joining the group or want more information.

It has links to the Archdiocese of Boston web site. Once you are in that web site, you can get information about the diocese or click the link to a particular parish. That site has all the financial reports about the diocese, the latest news, a link to the Cardinal's blog, etc. There are also links to the Vatican, and US Catholic Conference of Bishops. There you can download documents from the Holy See or from the bishops of the U.S...

It also has a link to the Boston college web site entitled *The Church in the 21<sup>st</sup> 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 and read them later.

If you do not have access to the internet at home, I would suggest you go to your local library. Most libraries have internet access for its users.

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

**ALTAR MINISTERS**

Anyone who is interested in becoming a Eucharist Minister or Lector, please call Deacon Cliff King at the rectory.

**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.

**CHURCH SUPPORT**

Christmas December 25 Collection \$9,216.00

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

**ST. THOMAS WOMEN'S CLUB HAPPENINGS**

All Women of the Parish are invited to join us!

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

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

**BAPTISMS DURING THE EASTER SEASON:  
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**

**WILMINGTON YOUTH CENTER OPENS!**

The Wilmington Youth Center opens this Saturday, January 6<sup>th</sup> 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 6<sup>th</sup> 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.

**EPIPHANY PAGENT**

This weekend at the 9:30 Mass the following Children will perform in the Epiphany Pageant;

- Narrator: Colleen West
- Herod: Vicky McDermott
- Herod's Conscience: Maria Patrone
- Chief Priest: Alicia Speranza
- Wiseman 1: Kelly Dankese
- Wiseman 2: Nicole Barry
- Wiseman 3: Mackenzie Casey

Shepherds: Daniel Tetrault, Michael Champoux, Brian Dankese, Kevin Palmerino

Angels: Jackie Champoux, Emily Burke, Burke, Emily Bartnicki, Danielle Palmerino, Stacy Robichaud

Mary: Morgan Casey  
Joseph: Frank West

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**LOST AND FOUND**

There is a Lost & Found box downstairs in the basement of the Church.  
Please be sure to take a look through the box if you think you may have left something behind in the church.  
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**JANUARY 7, 2007**

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

**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.”*

**Meditation of the Heart**

**by Carolyn Kenney**

As 2006 drew to a close, there were significant changes not only in our country, but in the world as well. We saw the deaths of a former president and a dictator, both men entirely different in their personalities and natures. One was a humble, but devoted man who never expected to be President. The other was a self-seeking tyrant who expected nothing but praise. However, the important thing we can learn from both men is how power - and how it is used - can transform not only our own lives, but the lives of so many others - in either a positive or negative manner.

We are **all** created in the image and likeness of God. What we do with our life - what we make of ourselves - has a ripple effect from one person to the next. Look at the life of Jesus, who lived over 2000 years ago. At that time, there was no television, computers, satellite dishes or modern technology. Yet, His life changed the world - for the better! If you desire to know Him, read the Bible, visit Him in the Blessed Sacrament and receive Him in the Eucharist. Come to know Him so that through you, He can touch the lives of countless others in a beautiful way.