

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

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### Mass Intentions April 26-May 4, 2008

**Saturday**  
5:00 PM Carole Anne Dineen

**Sunday**  
8:00 AM Francis Hightower  
9:30 AM Vittorio Iocco  
11:15 AM Rita Ennis

**Monday**  
9:00 AM Easter Remembrances

**Tuesday**  
9:00 AM Richard Woods

**Wednesday**  
9:00 AM Sean Manning  
7:00PM Ascension of the Lord

**Thursday**  
9:00 AM Ascension of the Lord

**Saturday**  
5:00 PM George Mullens

**Sunday**  
8:00 AM Angela & Giuseppe DePasquale  
9:30 AM Peter Morris  
11:15 AM Donald Franco

### FLOWER SALE

After all Masses The Outreach Ministry will be selling Flowers. Money from the flower sale will help support the ministries varies outreach programs.

### WEDDINGS

*Alison Stoller and Thach Tran*

### BAPTISMS

The following children were welcomed into St. Thomas Parish Family on Sunday, April 20, 2008.

*Stefano Aldo Barresi*  
*Emerson Theresa Aprile*  
*Alexis Rose LeBlanc*  
*Paige Nickerson*  
*Ava Nicole Noble*

### A NOTE FROM THE PASTOR

Religious Education registration is almost over. It ends on April 30, 2008. A reminder letter was sent to all families who currently have a child in the program and have not registered. Please return the registration form as soon as

possible. As I have said since the day I arrived at St. Thomas, no child will be deprived of a religious education because of a family's inability to pay the registration fee. If you cannot pay the fee, speak to Marilyn Mandosa or Dottie Barker or myself. If you cannot pay the religious education fee during the registration period but could pay it later, then get the registration form in and just note you will pay the fee later. What is helpful to us is getting the forms in on time. Please spread the word to those who are not with us today. Thank you in advance for your cooperation and your help in spreading the word about registration.

2008 Catholic Appeal - Handing on the Light of Christ

Thank you to all supporters of the 2008 Catholic Appeal. Our parish has raised \$20,962 from 134 households, reaching 71.1 percent of our parish goal of \$29,500. If you have not yet pledged, please consider a gift today and help us meet our goal. Please remember to make your pledge now even if you plan on fulfilling that pledge towards the end of the year. You can pick up information packets with pledge forms in the back of the church to be mailed in, or for more information please visit [www.BostonCatholicAppeal.com](http://www.BostonCatholicAppeal.com) or call 617-779-3700. Every gift matters. Thank you!

**Arise Together in Christ** is the name of the spiritual renewal program that will begin in the fall. The format for the program is small faith sharing groups that meet in homes for six weeks. The group will be lead by a trained leader. Each participant will be given a booklet that will contained the prayers, the scripture for reflection, questions to guide the discussions, etc. The beauty of the program is that you do not have to be a theologian to participate nor is it a program where there are right and wrong answers. You are sharing your thoughts on the faith. We will have a sign up Sunday in September. Between now and then, you will be hearing much more about the program.

Bishop Emilio Allue who is currently the Regional Bishop for the Merrimack Region of the Archdiocese of Boston is changing jobs. He will become the Vicar for Hispanics and Evangelization in the Archdiocese of Boston. Father Arthur Coyle who is currently the Secretary for Pastoral and Ministerial Services will become the Episcopal Vicar for the Merrimack Region.

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

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION REGISTRATION**

The CCD Office is in the basement of the Church. It is now open from 10am to 3pm. If you have questions, the religious education office number is 978-658-6040.

**LATE REGISTRATION** a \$10 late fee per student after Wed., March 19-April 29. As of April 30 we will not be accepting any registrations for the 2008-2009 school year.

**Registration tuition payment is now;**

**1 Child \$85.00**

**2 Children \$120**

**3 or more children \$155.00**

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

**SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS**

St. Thomas Women's Club will again offer a \$500 Scholarship to a graduating High School Senior who plans to go on to further education. The Senior must be a registered parishioner at St. Thomas Parish. The applications will be available at the Rectory starting April 27th and must be returned by Thursday, May 22<sup>nd</sup>.

**WOMEN'S CLUB SCHOLARSHIP MEETING AND AGENDA PLANNING FOR 2008-09 will be held TUESDAY, MAY 27, AT 7:00 PM IN V.H.**

**ST. THOMAS WOMEN'S CLUB**

The Women's Club will sponsor a play at the Stoneham Theatre The Porch, on Friday, May 30<sup>th</sup> at 8pm. The tickets are \$30 for Seniors 62 & over and \$35 for Adults. Please call Joan, at 978-657-3905 to make a reservation.

**Final Day for sign up is May 12th**

**ST. THOMAS MINISTRY FAIR**

Every two weeks a different ministry will be highlighted. First it will be highlighted in the bulletin and at Mass. On the second week, a representative from the ministry will speak at all Masses and will be available to talk with them after each Mass. This is a great opportunity to get to know more about each ministry at St. Thomas and where your spiritual compass is pointing.

**OUTSIDE OF THE PARISH**

**MASS IN HONOR OF PATRON SAINT OF CANCER PATIENTS**

Wed, April 30, (Ascension Thursday Eve) a liturgy will be celebrated at 7pm in honor of St. Peregrine at the Immaculate Conception Church on East Merrimack Street Lowell. St. Peregrine is the Patron saint of cancer patients, and is the Saint many cancer patients, family members and friends pray to for comfort and strength. Saint Peregrine, who lived in the 14<sup>th</sup> century, was a member of the Order of the Servants of Mary. He was afflicted with cancer of the leg and was miraculously cured the evening prior to an operation to amputate his leg. During this mass the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick will be offered to cancer patients and any who wish to partake of this Sacrament of God's healing. All are invited to come and pray with and for those afflicted with cancer.

**JUNIOR LODGE**

Wilmington Sons of Italy is starting a Junior Lodge. It is open to children of all descents, between the ages of 10 and 19 years. Meet new people; perform community service; leadership and scholarship opportunities.....

An informational meeting will be held on Sunday May 4, 2008 at 2pm at the Friendship Lodge at 32 Church Street in Wilmington. For more information please contact Mary Buscone 978-658-2896 or e-mail Mary at mbuscone @ Comcast.net

**WALK FOR HUNGER, SUNDAY, MAY 4<sup>th</sup>**

Starts on the Boston Common, 7-9am

Celebrate the spirit of giving along with 43,000 other concerned citizens by participating in this historic Massachusetts experience. For more information, call 617-273-5000 or visit [www.projectbread.org/walk](http://www.projectbread.org/walk).

**ANNULMENT INFORMATION**

Annulment information offered by the Metropolitan Tribunal and the Office of Life and Family Ministries.

You may desire to learn more about what the Catholic Church teaches about annulments or you may be interested in beginning the process. The following meetings are designed to offer basic information and provide the opportunity to seek answers for any questions you may have. For further information or if you have questions please contact Joanne Curry at 617-746-5820.

**THURSDAY, JUNE 19, at 7pm  
ALL SAINTS PARISH in HAVERHILL**



**APRIL 27, 2008**

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>April 27</b> 1pm Baptism Instruction  7pm Prayer Group	<b>April 28</b> First Communion Practice Group 1 4-5pm	<b>April 29</b> First Communion Practice Group 2 4-5pm	<b>April 30</b> 7pm Mass Ascension of the Lord  First Communion Practice Group 1 4-5pm	<b>May 1</b> 9am Mass Ascension of the Lord  First Communion practice Group 2 4-5pm	<b>May 2</b> 6-7:30pm Eucharistic Adoration	<b>May 3</b> First Communion 10:30 & 1pm
<b>May 4</b> 11:15 Baptism 7pm Prayer Group	<b>May 5</b> First Communion Practice Group 3 4-5pm	<b>May 6</b> First Communion Practice Group 4 4-5pm	<b>May 7</b> First Communion Practice Group 3 4-5pm	<b>May 8</b> First Communion Practice Group 4 4-5pm	<b>May 9</b> 6-7:30pm Eucharistic Adoration	<b>May 10</b> First Communion 10:30 & 1pm
<b>May 11</b> Mother's Day 7pm Prayer Group	<b>May 12</b>	<b>May 13</b>	<b>May 14</b>	<b>May 15</b>	<b>May 16</b> 6-7:30pm Eucharistic Adoration	<b>May 17</b> Mission of Deeds Collection & Food Collection
<b>May 18</b> Mission of Deeds Collection & Food Collection  1pm Baptism  7pm Prayer Group	<b>May 19</b>	<b>May 20</b>	<b>May 21</b>	<b>May 22</b>	<b>May 23</b> 6-7:30pm Eucharistic Adoration	<b>May 24</b> Memorial Day Weekend
<b>May 25</b> 1pm Baptism Instruction	<b>May 26</b> Memorial Day	<b>May 27</b>	<b>May 28</b>	<b>May 29</b>	<b>May 30</b> 6-7:30pm Eucharistic Adoration	<b>May 31</b>

**OUR LADY'S MONTHLY MESSAGE**

March 25, 2008

*"Dear Children! In this time of grace, I call you to work on your personal conversion. You are still far from meeting with God in your heart. Therefore, spend all the more time in prayer and Adoration of Jesus in the Most Blessed Sacrament of the Altar, for Him to change you and to put Into your heart a living faith and a desire for eternal life. Everything is passing, little children, only God is not passing. I am with you and I encourage you with love. Thank you for having responded to my call."*

Meditation of the Heart

by Carolyn Kenney

Last week we were blessed to have our Holy Father, Pope Benedict XVI visit our country. During one of his speeches he asked the question, "What are you seeking? What is God whispering to you?" Amidst all the trials we face on a daily basis, we should be seeking to strengthen our faith. The Pope continued saying, "...develop your personal relationship with God. That relationship is expressed in prayer." Each day, take a few minutes to pray to God - to talk with Him from your heart. Tell Him your dreams as well as your sorrows. Then, in the stillness of your heart, listen to Him as you would listen to a friend.

In his visit, Pope Benedict said, "Let us turn to Jesus! He alone is the way that leads to eternal happiness, the truth who satisfies the deepest longings of every heart and the life who brings...joy and hope, to us and to our world." Let us pray for our Holy Father. Truly it was Christ who visited us in the person of Pope Benedict XVI. The Risen Lord Jesus is truly our savior, truly with us and truly our hope.