

ST. THOMAS OF VILLANOVA PARISH, WILMINGTON, MASSACHUSETTS

Mass Intentions September 6-14, 2008

Saturday

5:00 PM The Powers & Carbone Family and Catherine Darragh

Sunday

8:00 AM Kevin Giroux

9:30 AM Lois Gardner

11:15 AM Joseph Sousa

Monday

9:00 AM Evelyn M. O'Connor

Tuesday

9:00 AM Evelyn M. O'Connor

Wednesday

9:00 AM Mary Cahill

Thursday

9:00 AM Jennie Griffin

Saturday

5:00PM George Novello

Sunday

8:00AM Vittorio Iocco

9:30 AM Theresa Mary Vitale

11:15 AM Thomas Casey

WEDDING BANNES

II Julie Gallo and Richard Garcia

III Josie Limoli and Elio Mauro

CHOIR REHEARSAL

Adult Choir rehearsal Wednesday's 7pm

The Children's Choir Wednesday's 6pm

ARISE TOGETHER IN CHRIST SIGN UP SUNDAY SEPT., 14 to learn more about the program please call Deacon Joe Fagan at the Rectory.

SEPT 8th WOMEN'S CLUB OPENING MASS

Opening Mass at 6:30pm followed by a Pot Luck Supper. Please call Joan to let us know what you will bring 978-657-3905

A NOTE FROM THE PASTOR

Labor Day has come and gone. Fall is here. Programs are starting back up.

The Women's Club will begin a new season with their opening Mass and potluck supper on Monday September 8.

The Religious Education program will begin later in the month. There is still a need for teachers. There is a notice elsewhere in the bulletin detailing their needs. Please consider helping out in this important ministry.

The Family Fun Day is coming up on September 21. That is always a good time. It is an opportunity for parishioners to get together and have fun.

On September 14th, we will have sign up Sunday for the Arise program. **Arise Together in Christ** is a 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 contain 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.

In 2003 the Archdiocese of Boston issued a booklet on guidelines for ministerial conduct. It was all part of the protecting God's children program. At that time I made the booklets available to all those in any ministry in the church. At the end of the booklet there is one page summary that they are now asking each person in any ministry in the church to sign. This is in addition to the CORI form. Unlike the CORI form, you sign this form once in a life time. We will keep it on file. The forms are in the sacristy. Please read it over and sign it. You can leave it in the CORI basket on the counter in the sacristy.

2008 Catholic Appeal - Handing on the Light of Christ Thank you to all supporters of the 2008 Catholic Appeal. Our parish has raised \$27,303.00 from 194 households, reaching 93 percent of our parish goal of \$29,500.00. If you have not yet pledged, please consider a gift today and help us meet our goal. Remember, our parish will receive 25 percent of all funds we raise above 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 or call 617-779-3700. Every gift matters. Thank you!

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

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SENIOR MASS AND LUNCHEON

St. Thomas Women's Club will again sponsor the Fall Senior Mass and Luncheon on Sat., Oct 18th, 2008, in Villanova Hall. Mass is at 11:30am followed by a Luncheon. All Seniors are invited to join us. To make a reservation please call Joan at 978-657-3905 by Friday Oct 10th. If you need a ride please let us know when you register.

DOMINICAN BAKE SALE

St. Thomas of Villanova Parish will have a bake sale on the weekend October 4 & 5, all proceeds will go to Sister Madaline & her missionary efforts.

CHURCH SUPPORT

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

MEN'S CLOTHING DRIVE SEPT. 20 & 21

The annual men's clothing drive to benefit St. Francis House. They are in need of the following items in sizes large through 6X:

- Winter jackets
- Men's casual shirts
- Men's pants
- Men's and women's jeans
- Hooded sweatshirts
- New and gently used footwear
- New men's underwear
- New men t-shirts
- New men's crew socks
- Backpacks and Book bags

FOOD COLLECTION SEPT. 20 & 21

The Charities Committee will also be collecting food for the Wilmington Food Pantry on Sept 20 & 21st. The Wilmington Food Pantry is especially in need of the following items:

Soup, canned fruit, canned spaghetti, grape jelly, syrup, pancake mix, oatmeal, juice boxes and mayo

All donations can be dropped off in Villanova Hall

FAMILY FUN DAY
"FUN FOR ALL AGES"

Save Sunday, September 21st for St. Thomas Family Fun Day, 1:30pm to 4pm followed by outdoor Mass. Cook-out, moon bounce, crafts, cotton candy, popcorn, games for all ages, prizes, entertainment by "Two Cousins", sing-a-long to songs from 40's up present. Also Karaoke fun. Come and enjoy a wonderful day with St. Thomas faith community.

If you would like to help out with the planning or volunteer for the day of please call Pat Archfield at 978-250-1710 or the rectory.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

CCD is in need of volunteers in the following grades.

Grade 3	3 teachers
Grade 5	2 teachers
Grade 6	3 teachers
Grade 8	2 teachers

Office Help is always needed for all grades!

The requirements for teaching in the Religious Education Program are that you are a confirmed practicing catholic and in good standing in the Church.

NEW CORI'S FORMS FOR 2008-2009

All volunteers in the Parish need to fill out a new cori every year. This includes all CCD Teachers and all ministries. The Forms are in the Sacristy. **PLEASE NOTE EACH VOLUNTEER MUST PROVIDE A GOVERNMENT ISSUED PHOTOGRAPHIC IDENTIFICATION TO VERIFY HIS OR HER IDENTITY- MA LICENSE, US PASSPORT ETC** In addition to the CORI form. We ask you to please sign a **CODE OF CONDUCT STATEMENT AGREEMENT**, We will keep it on file. The forms are in the sacristy. Please read it over and sign it. You can leave it in the CORI basket on the counter in the sacristy.

PROTECTING GOD'S CHILDREN WORKSHOP

All new volunteers and teachers must attend a one time seminar on Protecting God's Children. We will be holding the workshop on two different occasions for your convenience. Please let us know which workshop you will be attending at 978-658-6040.

Sun, September 14th after the 11:15 a.m. Mass (12:30pm) in the Church basement

Wed, September 10th at 6:00 p.m. in the Church basement

SEPTEMBER 7, 2008

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Sept 7 BICENTENNIAL CELEBRATION 1pm Baptism 7pm Prayer Group	Sept 8 6:45pm Gr 1-6 Teachers meeting Women's Club 6:30pm Mass	Sept 9 6:45pm Gr 7-10 Teachers meeting	Sept 10 PROTECTING GOD CHILDREN Class 6pm Family Fun Meeting Children's Choir 6pm Adult Choir 7pm	Sept 11	Sept 12 6-7:30pm Eucharistic Adoration	Sept 13
Sept 14 ARISE SIGN UP Protecting Gods Children Class 7pm Prayer Group	Sept 15	Sept 16	Sept 17 Children's Choir 6pm Adult Choir 7pm	Sept 18	Sept 19 6-7:30pm Eucharistic Adoration	Sept 20 CLOTHING FOOD COLLECTION
Sept 21 FAMILY FUN DAY 1pm Baptism 7pm Prayer Group	Sept 22 Gr 1 4to 5pm 4 5:30 to 6:30pm 10 6:45to 8pm	Sept 23 Gr 2 4to5pm 5 5:30 to 6:30pm 8 6:45 to 8pm	Sept 24 Gr 3 4to5pm 6 6 to 5:30pm Children's Choir 6pm Adult Choir 7pm	Sept 25	Sept 26 6-7:30pm Eucharistic Adoration	Sept 27
Sept 28 Baptismal Instruction 7pm Prayer Group	Sept 29 Gr 1 4to 5pm 4 5:30 to 6:30pm 9 6:45to 8pm	Sept 30 Gr 2 4to5pm 5 5:30 to 6:30pm 7 6:45 to 8pm	Oct 1 Gr 3 4to5pm 6 6 to 5:30pm Children's Choir 6pm Adult Choir 7pm	Oct 2	Oct 3 6-7:30pm Eucharistic Adoration	Oct 4 Dominican Sisters Pie & Bread Sale
Oct 5 9:30 Children's Liturgy Gr 2 Mass 1pm Baptism 7pm Prayer Group	Oct 6 Gr 1 4to 5pm 4 5:30 to 6:30pm 9 6:45to 8pm	Oct 7 Gr 2 4to5pm 5 5:30 to 6:30pm 7 6:45 to 8pm	Oct 8 Gr 3 4to5pm 6 6 to 5:30pm Children's Choir 6pm Adult Choir 7pm	Oct 9	Oct 10 6-7:30pm Eucharistic Adoration	Oct 11 Columbus Day Weekend
Oct 12 7pm Prayer Group	Oct 13 No CCD Columbus Day	Oct 14 Gr 2 4to5pm 5 5:30 to 6:30pm 8 6:45 to 8pm	Oct 15 Gr 3 4to5pm 6 6 to 5:30pm Children's Choir 6pm Adult Choir 7pm	Oct 16	Oct 17 6-7:30pm Eucharistic Adoration	Oct 18 SENIOR LUNCHEON FOOD CLOTHING COLLECTION

OUR LADY'S MONTHLY MESSAGE August 25, 2008

"Dear children! Also today I call you to personal conversion. You be those who will convert and, with your life, will witness love, forgive and bring the joy of the Risen One into this world, where my son died and where people do not feel a need to seek Him and to discover Him in their lives. You adore Him, and may your hope be hope to those hearts who do not have Jesus. Thank you for having responded to my call."

Meditations of the Heart

By Carolyn M. Kenney

Prayer is such a necessary and fundamental part of our life. Through prayer we are able to establish an integral and personal relationship with God. Many times Jesus would go alone to pray – away from the crowds and even away from the Apostles. Being human like us, He needed time alone to pray to His Father. Although He was the Son of God and knew all things, His humanity needed to be refreshed and to feel the love of His Father in order that He could bestow that love to others.

We also need time alone with God. We need time away from the noise and mayhem of everyday life. We need to be refreshed with God's graces in order that we may communicate God's love to those people we meet. Family issues, work issues and material issues press upon us leaving little, if no time, for God. Spend time each day in quiet prayer and open your heart to Jesus. Let Him fill it with the abundance of His love and blessings.

www.meditationsoftheheart.com