

ST. THOMAS OF VILLANOVA PARISH, WILMINGTON, MASSACHUSETTS

MASS INTENTIONS Feb. 21-March 1, 2009

Saturday

5:00 PM Richard Paul Robinson

Sunday

8:00 AM Winifred King

9:30 AM George H. Pratt

11:15 AM Deceased Members of the Casey & Reinhart Families

Monday

9:00 AM Betty Basinett

Tuesday

9:00 AM Eric Sollee

ASH WEDNESDAY

9:00 AM , 7:00pm and (4pm Service only)

Thursday

9:00 AM Dolores LaCambria

Saturday

5:00 PM Kevin Clancy

Sunday

8:00 AM Jacinto Rego

9:30 AM Shirley Meek

11:15 AM Robert Dorval

ST. THOMAS CHARITIES FOOD COLLECTION

This Weekend Feb 21/22 is the Food Collection for the Wilmington Food Pantry. All donations can be dropped off in Villanova Hall after all Masses.

MANDATORY WEDDING MUSIC MEETING

Sun, Feb 22, at 2:30pm meeting for those getting married this year call Lora at 781-245-1073.

FAMILY MARDIGRAS CELEBRATION

Sun Feb 22, at 5pm we will be making mardigras masks, stringing beads, coins and games with music and ending with make your own ice cream Sunday to start off your fat Tuesday celebration!

FAMILY SKI TRIP

DUE TO THE OVERWELMING SUCCESS OF THE LAST SKI TRIP THERE WILL BE ANOTHER TRIP Sat, March 7, a Motor coach will leave St. Thomas parking lot for Gunstock Mtn. N.H. at 7am and return at approx. 6pm. Cost for Adult ages (18-64) \$69 Teen (13-17) \$59. and Children (6-12) \$55. Price includes round trip transportation and lift ticket. For more information contact Rich Casey at 978-447-1020. All children 6-17 must be accompanied by parent.

A NOTE FROM THE PASTOR

To kick off the Lenten season, we are having a Mardi Gras party this Sunday at 5:00 PM in Villanova Hall. It should be fun. Come join us. For more details, look elsewhere in the bulletin.

Ash Wednesday is February 25, 2009. The schedule for the distribution of ashes is as follows: during the Masses at 9:00 AM and 7:00 PM. Ashes will also be distributed at 4:00 PM during a prayer service.

Religious Education registration for next year is in full swing. As I say each year, no child will be deprived of a religious education because of a family's inability to pay the registration fee. If you are having a problem, speak with Marilyn Mandosa, Dotty Barker or myself. Please remind any neighbor or friend who may be unaware that it is time to register especially those families who will be entering our program for the first time. Thanks.

A couple of weekends ago, the heat in the church was not working. The problem was with the valve and thermostat that controlled the zone for the main body of the church. The valve and thermostat have been changed. I have just received the bill for the repair. It cost \$3,756.50. You may recall that I replaced the boiler in the church shortly after I arrived. However this valve and thermostat were not changed. I believe that they were 49 years old.

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

ARISE TOGETHER IN CHRIST

Please consider taking part in this opportunity during our Lenten journey. Call the Rectory if you would like more information or sign up for a class.

MARRIAGE PREP

Marriage Prep will be held on **SATURDAY, MARCH 28th** in Villanova Hall. For info. or to register call the Rectory.

S.T.A.M.P. DANCE

MARK YOUR CALANDER FOR THE
TENTH ANNUAL S.T.A.M.P. DANCE
SATURDAY, MARCH 14th IN VILLANOVA HALL
Tickets are now available at the rectory, from any STAMP member or by calling Mike at 978-657-8407. Please join us for a night of dinner, dancing and great raffle prizes on Saturday March 14 in Villanova Hall.

SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

LENTEN REGULARIONS

Abstinence: Catholics over 14 years of age are bound to the obligations of abstinence. Abstinence is to be observed on Ash Wednesday and the Fridays of Lent. On days of abstinence, meat may not be used at all.

Fast: Catholics over 18 and up to the beginning of their sixtieth year are bound to the obligation of fasting. Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are the days of fasting. On these days, only one full meal is allowed. Two other meatless meals, sufficient to maintain strength, may be taken according to each one's needs, but together they should not equal another full meal. Eating between meals is not permitted, but liquids, milk and fruit juices are allowed.

THE BAPTISMS DURING THE EASTER SEASON

EASTER SUNDAY

April 12th @ 11:15 AM

DURING SUNDAY MASS

MAY 3rd @ 11:15 AM

REGULAR BAPTISM NO MASS

April 19 & May 17 @ 1:00 PM

HEAVEN CENT

For Lent we will be giving out baby bottles for you to fill with extra change for BIRTHRIGHT AND PROJECT RACHEL

LENT GOSPEL GIVING

The Traditional foundation for Lenten practice rests on three supports: PRAYER-FASTING-ALMSGIVING. To assist those in need, and to help fulfill the third of these support, St. Thomas Parish Outreach Ministry is going to have "Lenten Gospel Giving" program. Each week parishioners will be asked to bring ONE item with them to Mass based on the Gospel reading of each week in Lent. The gifts will be donated to various needy causes, some in which we are already involved.

CHURCH SUPPORT

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

As of February 18, 2009	\$ 45,831.00
Our Parish Goal	\$ 50,000.00

Thanks to all who have already given, for those who may be thinking of contributing to the Grand Annual you may mail your gift to the parish or drop it in the offertory basket

2009 CARDINAL APPEAL

March 7-8 will be Catholic Appeal Weekend here at St. Thomas. Cardinal Sean is asking every Catholic household to participate in the 2009 Catholic Appeal, which funds the many central ministries and services of the Archdiocese of Boston. The Catholic Appeal is to our Archdiocese what a weekly offertory is to our parish-so your participation and support are critical. Because of the economic downturn, support of the Catholic Appeal is more urgent this year. On Appeal Weekend, we will be showing a video message from Cardinal Sean and asking every Catholic household to make a pledge. Please begin to prayerfully consider how you will participate. Every gift matters. For more information, please visit [www. BostonCatholicAppeal.org](http://www.BostonCatholicAppeal.org)

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION REGISTRATION

Anyone who has a child entering first grade in Sept., and the child was NOT BAPTIZED at St. Thomas we ask you to bring his/her baptismal certificate to the office for verification and we will register him/her at that time.

TO REGISTER FOR CCD PLEASE CALL

The Religious Ed. Office at 978-658-6040. Their office is located in the basement of the Church.

Registration tuition payment

1 Child \$75.00

2 Children \$100

3 or more children \$125.00

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.

OUTSIDE THE PARISH

RELAY FOR LIFE

Wilmington will be having a Relay For Life event at the High school track the weekend of May 16-17. For more information www.relayforlife.org/wilmingtonma.

PLEASE RECYCLE

The Minuteman Senior Service are looking for old cell phones, PDAs, blackberries and Palms and all the Paraphernalia that goes along with them example car chargers... The Minuteman sends them to a recycling center that pays a small amount for them. This helps the environment and any monies collected helps for frail senior serves. A box will be in the Foyer of the Church for your donations. Any questions please call June 978-657-7119.

FEBRUARY 22, 2009

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Feb 22 Gr 10 11:15Mass 7pm Prayer Group	Feb 23 Gr 1 4to 5pm 4 5:30 to 6:30pm 10 6:45to 8pm	Feb 24 Gr 2 4to5pm 5 5:30 to 6:30pm 8 6:45 to 8pm	Feb 25 ASH WEDNESDAY No CCD	Feb 26	Feb 27 6:30pm Stations of the Cross	Feb 28
March 1 7pm Prayer Group	March 2 Gr 1 4to 5pm 4 5:30 to 6:30pm 9 6:45to 8pm	March 3 Gr 2 4to5pm 5 5:30 to 6:30pm 7 6:45 to 8pm	March 4 Gr 3 4to5pm 6 5:30pm to 6:30 Children's Choir 6pm Adult Choir 7pm	March 5	March 6 6:30pm STATIONS	March 7 SKI TRIP
March 8 Gr 2 Parent Meeting 12:30 in Church 7pm Prayer Group	March 9 Gr 1 4to 5pm 4 5:30 to 6:30pm 10 6:45to 8pm	March 10 Gr 2 4to5pm 5 5:30 to 6:30pm 8 6:45 to 8pm	March 11 Gr 3 4to5pm 6 5:30pm to 6:30 Children's Choir 6pm Adult Choir 7pm	March 12	March 13 6:30pm STATIONS	March 14 STAMP DANCE
March 15 7pm Prayer Group	March 16 Gr 1 4to 5pm 4 5:30 to 6:30pm 9 6:45to 8pm	March 17 ST.PATRICKS DAY Gr 2 4to5pm 5 5:30 to 6:30pm 7 6:45 to 8pm	March 18 Gr 3 4to5pm 6 5:30pm to 6:30 Children's Choir 6pm Adult Choir 7pm	March 19	March 20 NO STATIONS	March 21
March 22 7pm Prayer Group CCD 2009-2010 Late registration begins	March 23 Gr 1 4to 5pm 4 5:30 to 6:30pm 10 6:45to 8pm	March 24 Gr 2 4to5pm 5 5:30 to 6:30pm 8 6:45 to 8pm	March 25 Gr 3 4to5pm 6 5:30pm to 6:30 Children's Choir 6pm Adult Choir 7pm	March 26	March 27 6:30pm STATIONS	March 28 MARIAGE PREP Confirmation 10:30 & 1pm
March 29 Baptismal Instruction 7pm Prayer Group	March 30 Gr 1 4to 5pm 4 5:30 to 6:30pm 9 6:45to 8pm	March 31 Gr 2 4to5pm 5 5:30 to 6:30pm 7 6:45 to 8pm	April 1	April 2	April 3 6:30pm STATIONS	April 4

Meditations of the Heart

By Carolyn M. Kenney

Pope Benedict XVI recently said, "The worse sickness is the absence of God." The paralytic man in today's gospel certainly realized this. He and his friends had tremendous faith in both the spiritual and physical healing power of Jesus. They needed to get the paralytic man near Jesus so "...they opened up the roof above him." Today a small church is situated above the home where this took place. A sturdy glass has been placed in the middle of the church enabling people to look directly into the home as did the friends of the paralytic man.

We are all in need of some type of healing, whether it is physical, spiritual or mental. We all reach the place in our life when we need someone who can truly help us. God is that "someone." He can touch our lives through a doctor, a relative, a friend and even a stranger. Do not be blind to His Presence around you. Just as Jesus healed the paralytic man, He will also heal you. Look to Him with faith.

"Meditations of the Heart" is available at www.authorhouse.com.

OUR LADY'S MONTHLY MESSAGE JANUARY 25, 2009

"Dear children! Also today I call you to prayer. May prayer be for you like the seed that you will put in my heart, which I will give over to my Son Jesus for you, for the salvation of your souls. I desire, little children, for each of you to fall in love with eternal life which is your future, and for all worldly things to be a help for you to draw closer to God the Creator. I am with you for this long because you are on the wrong path. Only with my help, little children, you will open your eyes. There are many of those who, by living my messages, comprehend that they are on the way of holiness towards eternity. Thank you for having responded to my call."