

ST. THOMAS OF VILLANOVA PARISH, WILMINGTON, MASSACHUSETTS

Mass Intentions August 1-9, 2009

Saturday

5:00 PM Powers & Carbone Family & Kathy Garragh

Sunday

8:00 AM George Mullens

9:30 AM Maria Chaves

11:15 AM Domenico Maglione

Monday

9:00 AM In honor of Danielle Fry

Tuesday

9:00 AM William Lento

Wednesday

9:00 AM Antonetta Poto

Thursday

9:00 AM The People of the Parish

Saturday

5:00PM Audrey Winston

Sunday

8:00AM The people of the Parish

9:30 AM Thomas Sheehan

11:15 AM Fortunato Giglio

A NOTE FROM THE PASTOR

As you may have read in the newspaper or heard on television, Cardinal Sean has raised the retirement age for priests in Boston from 70 to 75. It did not come as a total surprise. All you had to do was the math. By that I mean he has to cover 292 parishes plus other ministries such as hospital chaplains, college chaplains, etc. He does not have enough priests to cover those. So from a human resource perspective, I knew something had to give. Secondly, it benefits the Clergy Benefit Trust. He will not be paying out a retirement stipend for an additional five years and at the same time the parish or institution where the priest is assigned will be paying into the trust. This is just another temporary stop gap measure. The Church needs to develop a long term strategy to deal with the clergy shortage issue. Prayer alone is not the solution.

The religious education is in need of teachers and aides. The needs are listed elsewhere in the bulletin.

As part of the celebration of the Year of the Priest, the Archdiocese is having a priest appreciation dinner at the Seaport Hotel in Boston on September 16. The tables are \$5,000.00 each. Since there are 10 people at a table, tickets are \$500.00. They would like each parish to sponsor a table. If anyone is interested in purchasing a ticket, please call the rectory. All proceeds will benefit the Clergy Benefit Trust.

Over the past several weeks I have been writing about a new proposed model for the financial relationship between the parishes of the Archdiocese of Boston and central ministries.

This week I am repeating what I wrote last week since many people were away. I will also tell you what the new model is. The goal of the model is to streamline the relationship, make it more transparent and fairer. What is the current relationship? Currently each parish has a Catholic Appeal target. There are no consequences if you do not reach the target... Each parish also pays a school tax (6% of offertory and monthly), a hospital tax (2.5% of offertory and monthly), Cathedraticum (1-2% of offertory and monthly), 50% of the Communication collection and various fees (audit, real estate, etc.). They want to simplify this approach.

The new proposed model will consist of a parish tithe and a Catholic Appeal assessment. The parish tithe will be 10% of offertory (including the monthly), the Grand Annual collection and net rental income. Net rental income is generated when a parish leases a building or parking lot to an outside entity. We do not have any net rental income. The parish tithe replaces all current taxes and fees. Each parish will have a Catholic Appeal assessment. The assessment will be 7-8% of offertory (including the monthly), the Grand Annual collection and net rental income. The difference between the current goal for the Catholic Appeal and an assessment for the Catholic Appeal is that an assessment requires us to pay the assessment even if the money collected for the Catholic Appeal does not equal the assessment. Any shortage would have to come out of the parish operating revenue. Let's assume that this year's goal is an assessment. Our assessment is \$29,500.00. Thus far we collected \$27,297.00. Under the new model, I would have to write a check from the parish to cover the \$2,203.00 shortfall. Under the new model the Catholic Appeal assessment will be much greater than the current goal of \$29,500.00 because the assessment will be 7-8% of offertory (including the monthly), the Grand Annual collection and net rental income.

Under the new model, more money will be going out of the parish than under the old model. Since we are not running a huge surplus, more money going out of the parish means one of two things. Either we make cuts here at the parish in order to meet our obligation to the diocese or we increase our revenue to meet our obligation to the diocese.

In the coming weeks, I will present a comparison between the old model and the new model from a dollars and cents perspective.

In fairness to the Archdiocese of Boston, this is the model that I was familiar with when I was stationed in New Jersey. I would venture that most dioceses use this model. Since they have not used it in Boston, it may seem to be draconian to some. I will continue to keep you informed.

Well I guess that is it for now. Until next time, take care and pray for some sun (the orange ball that used to be up in the sky.)

Fr. Earley

EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

SUMMER OFFICE HOURS

The Rectory summer hours are
10am to 2pm
Tuesday Wednesday Thursday

CCD OFFICE will reopen as of Monday, August 3

10am to 3pm Monday Tuesday Wednesday

ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary falls on Saturday, Aug 15 (Not a holy day of obligation).

WEDDING BANNES

III Christine Sullivan and Roger Gray Jr.

BACK TO SCHOOL SUPPLIES COLLECTION

As you begin to buy school supplies for your own kids, please pick up a few extra and bring them to church. We are collecting school supplies that will be distributed to needy families through Catholic Charities in Lowell. There will be boxes at the entrances to the church from now through the middle of August. They are most in need of backpacks, for High school students, notebooks, paper, pens, pencils, markers, glue, pencil boxes, rulers, scissors, etc. Thank you for your continued generosity to this project.

FAMILY FUN DAY

Once again St. Thomas will have a Family Fun Day with games, food and fun for all ages.

Mark your calendar for Sunday, September 27

More information will follow. 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.

NEW CORI'S FORMS FOR 2009-2010

We ask all volunteers in the Parish to please fill out a new cori. This includes all CCD Teachers and all ministries. The Forms are in the Sacristy. Thank you.

PLEASE NOTE

EACH VOLUNTEER MUST PROVIDE A GOVERNMENT ISSUED PHOTOGRAPHIC IDENTIFICATION TO VERIFY HIS OR HER IDENTITY- MA LICENSE, US PASSPORT ETC.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

The CCD Office is in need of volunteers

Grade 2	2 teachers
Grade 3	1 teachers
Grade 4	3 teachers
Grade 5	2 teachers
Grade 6	3 teachers
Grade 7	2 teachers
Grade 8	4 teachers
Grade 9	1 teacher

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.

CCD Classes will Begin the week of September 14

Monday	Grade 1	4 to 5pm
	4	5:30 to 6:30pm
	9 or 10	6:45 to 8pm
Tuesday	Grade 2	4 to 5pm
	5	5:30 to 6:30pm
	7 or 8	6:45 to 8pm
Wednesday	Grade 3	4 to 5pm
	6	6 to 5:30pm

GREECE & THE GREEK ISLES

In the Steps of Saint Paul Nov. 10-20, 2009

Fr Augustine Anda, Parochial Vicar at St. Columbkille, Brighton is leading a group to Greece and the Greek Isles on November 10, 2009. Fr Anda has led other groups to the Holy Land, Italy and Lourdes. We will visit Athens and Corinth prior to boarding our ship for a three-day Aegean Sea cruise where we will see the Greek Isles and Turkey. We will visit numerous archaeological sites throughout this trip. If interested, please contact Carolyn Kenney at 978-852-7852 or email cmk44@comcast.net. A flyer is available upon request. Price for the trip is \$2399, plus tax and \$200 additional for outside cabin on the cruise.

Prayer for Summer

Dear, God, you made the four seasons. Each summer arrives as part of your perfect pattern and will, yet is unique unto itself. This summer, help me to see not only the enjoyment of vacations, but the joy of your will. Help me to feel not only the pleasure of a warm sun, but the contentment of a life guided by you. Help me to know, not only the satisfaction of a project completed, but the fulfillment of a heart filled by you. Help me to see you in all things, Lord, in all the seasons of life you give us. Amen.

AUGUST 2, 2009

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Aug 2 1pm Baptism 7pm Prayer group	Aug 3	Aug 4	Aug 5	Aug 6	Aug 7 6-7:30 Eucharistic Adoration	Aug 8
Aug 9 7pm Prayer group	Aug 10	Aug 11	Aug 12	Aug 13	Aug 14 6-7:30 Eucharistic Adoration	Aug 15
Aug 16 1pm Baptism 7pm Prayer group	Aug 17	Aug 18	Aug 19	Aug 20	Aug 21 6-7:30 Eucharistic Adoration	Aug 22 FOOD COLLECTION
Aug 23 7pm Prayer group	Aug 24	Aug 25	Aug 26	Aug 27	Aug 28 6-7:30 Eucharistic Adoration	Aug 29
Aug 30 Baptismal Instruction 7pm Prayer group	Aug 31	Sept 1	Sept 2	Sept 3	Sept 4 6-7:30 Eucharistic Adoration	Sept 5
Sept 6 1pm Baptism 7pm Prayer group	Sept 7 Labor Day	Sept 8	Sept 9	Sept 10	Sept 11 6-7:30 Eucharistic Adoration	Sept 12
Sept 13 7pm Prayer group	Sept 14 CCD Class begins Gr1 4-5pm Gr 4 5:30-6:30 Gr 9or10 6:45- 8:00	Sept 15 Gr 2 4- 5pm Gr 5 5:30 -6:30 Gr 7 or 8 6:45- 8:00	Sept 16 Gr 3 4-5pm Gr 6 5:30-6:30	Sept 17	Sept 18 6-7:30 Eucharistic Adoration	Sept 19 FOOD & CLOTHING COLLECTION

OUR LADY'S MONTHLY MESSAGE July 25, 2009

“Dear children! May this time be a time of prayer for you. Thank you for having responded to my call “

Meditation of the Heart

By Carolyn M. Kenney

In today's gospel, we read that after performing the miracle of the loaves and fish, Jesus and His disciples returned to the village of Capernaum. After finding Jesus, the people asked Him, "What sign can you do that we may see and believe in you?" In addition to the miracle of the loaves and fish, there is no doubt many of these people had probably seen Jesus perform many other miracles. Yet, they needed more "signs." Unfortunately, it is the same with us. We are constantly asking God for help in our lives, but do we stop to thank Him when something good happens?

At the end of this gospel reading, Jesus tells the people, "I am the bread of life; whoever comes to me will never hunger, and whoever believes in me will never thirst." Do we go to Jesus? Do we believe in Him? How can we expect God to answer our prayers if we don't take time for mass, for prayers or for Eucharistic Adoration? One hour a week is not enough to have a meaningful and lasting relationship with God. ("Meditations of the Heart" is available at www.authorhouse.com)