

## ST THOMAS OF VILLANOVA PARISH WILMINGTON, MASSACHUSETTS

---

### Mass Intentions August 15-23, 2009

**Saturday**

**5:00 PM Arthur Robichaud**

**Sunday**

**8:00 AM Pricilla Shdeed & Deceased members  
of the Shdeed Family**

**9:30 AM Helen Tivnan**

**11:15 AM Mary F. Pratt**

**Monday**

**9:00 AM Herbert E. Hill**

**Tuesday**

**9:00 AM Bill Hanlon**

**Wednesday**

**9:00 AM In Honor of Stacey Avallone**

**Thursday**

**9:00 AM Concetta Joyce**

**Saturday**

**5:00PM Dorothy Rooney**

**Sunday**

**8:00AM Charles Boulton**

**9:30 AM Ana LaFrazia**

**11:15 AM Elizabeth Earley Wright**

### A NOTE FROM THE PASTOR

During the summer you encounter a lot of reruns on television. In the spirit of the summer reruns, this column is a rerun from last week. I will rerun it during August because many people are away. Someone told me that the first two weeks of August are the most popular vacation times. I thought it was around the fourth of July.

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), Cathedratricum (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

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

---

they have not used it in Boston, it may seem to be draconian to some. I will continue to keep you informed.

Finally, the latest update from the Catholic Appeal's office states that 216 parishioners have pledged \$27,667.00 towards our goal of \$29,500.00. Thanks to all who gave. If you would like to give, it's not too late to give!!

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

### **FAMILY FUN DAY MEETING**

Family Fun Day Meeting will be Wednesday, August 19<sup>th</sup> at 7pm in Villanova Hall.

### **MY BROTHER'S TABLE**

The Parish Outreach will be cooking and serving a meal at My Brother's Table on Saturday, August 29<sup>th</sup>. Anyone interested in donating time & cooking talents contact Pat Archfield @ 978-250-1710.

### **FOOD COLLECTION**

August 22 & 23 The Charities Committee will be collecting food for the Wilmington Food Pantry. All donations may be dropped off in Villanova Hall that weekend. They are especially in need of the following items: **instant potatoes, syrup, grape jelly, cake mixes or brownies, Side Dishes Rice or Pasta, canned fruit, mustard, ketchup, relish and mayo.**

### **BACK TO SCHOOL SUPPLIES COLLECTION**

We are collecting school supplies that will be distributed to needy families through Catholic Charities in Lowell. Boxes are at the entrances to the church 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 Parish will have a Family Fun Day with games, food and fun for all ages. Mark your calendar for Sunday, September 27<sup>th</sup>.

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

### **SUMMER HOURS**

Rectory Office hours Tues., Wed., Thurs., 10am to 2pm  
CCD Office hours Mon, Tuesday, Wednesday 10am to 3pm

### **RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

The CCD Office is in need of volunteers

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

**A MEETING WILL BE HELD IN THE CHURCH BASEMENT FOR TEACHERS TEACHING**

**GRADES 1-6 AT 6:30**

**MONDAY AUGUST 24**

**GRADES 7-10 AT 6:30**

**TUESDAY AUGUST 25**

**This meeting is also for anyone who may be interested in teaching this year.**

### **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.

### **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 Nov 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, contact Carolyn Kenney at 978-852-7852 or email [cmk44@comcast.net](mailto: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.

**AUGUST 16, 2009**

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Aug 16 1pm Baptism  7pm Prayer group	Aug 17	Aug 18	Aug 19 Family Fun day meeting 7pm in Villanova Hall	Aug 20	Aug 21 6-7:30 Eucharistic Adoration	Aug 22 FOOD COLLECTION
Aug 23  7pm Prayer group	Aug 24 Grade 1-6 TEACHERS MEETING 6:30pm	Aug 25 Grade 7-10 TEACHERS MEETING 6:30pm	Aug 26	Aug 27	Aug 28 6-7:30 Eucharistic Adoration	Aug 29 COOKING & SERVING @ MY BROTHER'S TABLE
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 4 5:30-6:30 10 6:45-8pm  Opening Mass Women's Club 6:30pm	Sept 15  Gr 2 4- 5pm Gr 5 5:30 -6:30 Gr 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
Sept 20 1pm Baptism  7pm Prayer group	Sept 21 Gr1 4-5pm 4 5:30-6:30 9 6:45-8pm	Sept 22 Gr 2 4- 5pm Gr 5 5:30 -6:30 Gr 7 6:45-8:00	Sept 23 Gr 3 4-5pm Gr 6 5:30-6:30	Sept 24	Sept 25 6-7:30 Eucharistic Adoration	Sept 26
Sept 27 FAMILY FUN DAY Baptismal Instruction	Sept 28 Gr1 4-5pm 4 5:30-6:30 10 6:45-8pm	Sept 29 Gr 2 4- 5pm Gr 5 5:30 -6:30 Gr 8 6:45-8:00	Sept 30 Gr 3 4-5pm Gr 6 5:30-6:30	Oct 1	Oct 2 6-7:30 Eucharistic Adoration	Oct 3

**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

When you receive the Eucharist at communion, what is happening to your soul? Only the Catholic Church believes and teaches that the Eucharist is truly the body, blood, soul and divinity of Jesus Christ. Through the mystery of transubstantiation, Jesus is truly present at this time; what a powerful teaching.

Over 2000 years ago, Jesus walked throughout Galilee, Judea and within the city of Jerusalem. He was a living human being like us in all things but sin. Unlike us, He also had a divine nature because He was the Son of God. In today's gospel from Saint John, Jesus tells us, "...the living Father sent me and I have life because of the Father, so also the one who feeds on me will have life because of me." By receiving Jesus in Holy Communion, we receive His body, blood, soul and divinity. In the gospel, He says, "Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise him on the last day." Contemplate on His words and His life which lives within your soul. ("Meditations of the Heart" is available at [www.authorhouse.com](http://www.authorhouse.com))