

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

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### Mass Intentions September 5-13, 2009

**Saturday**

**5:00 PM Jennie Puccio**

**Sunday**

**8:00 AM For the People of the Parish**

**9:30 AM Kevin Giroux**

**11:15 AM Thelma Selemme**

**Monday**

**9:00 AM For the Intentions of the Wailing Wall**

**Tuesday**

**9:00 AM Joseph MacEachern**

**Wednesday**

**9:00 AM Joseph MacEachern**

**Thursday**

**9:00 AM Francis A. Fay**

**Saturday**

**5:00PM Claire DiGiambattista**

**Sunday**

**8:00AM Joseph Sousa**

**9:30 AM Lois Gardner**

**11:15 AM Donald Franco**

### 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), 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.

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

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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.  
Fr. Earley

### **SUMMER HOURS**

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

### **CHOIR REHEARSAL**

Adult Choir rehearsal Wednesday's 7pm  
Every other week The Children's Choir Wednesday's 6pm

### **PROTECTING GODS CHILDREN CLASS**

All volunteers in the Parish who have not already taken this class Must Attend Wednesday Sept 9 at 6pm  
Class will be held in the basement of the Church and will last approximately two hours.

### **ST.THOMAS WOMEN'S CLUB**

Opening Mass on Monday, Sept 14 at 6:30pm in the Chapel. All Women of the Parish are invited to join us.

### **ST. FRANCIS HOUSE MENS COLLECTION**

#### **September 19 & 20**

Once again the Charities Committee will have a Clothing Collection for the St. Frances 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 sweatshirts  
New and gently used footwear  
Backpacks/bookbags  
New men's underwear  
New men's t-shirts  
New men's crew socks

You may also donate your time, we are always looking for volunteers.

### **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 5 1 teachers  
Grade 7 2 teachers  
Grade 8 1 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.  
CCD Classes will Begin the week of September 14

### **ARISE**

Season Three of Arise Together in Christ, In the Footsteps of Christ, will begin this Fall. All who participated in Season two found the experience rewarding. Each Season consists of six, 90-minute weekly sessions. Most sessions are scheduled during the evening. Sign-up Sunday will be September 20th. Applications will be available at the entrance to the Church. Parishioners who have participated in Arise will be available to answer any questions you may have. And remember, ARISE is an opportunity to invite a family member, neighbor or friend to join you, whether a member of the parish or not.

### **FAMILY FUN DAY** **"FUN FOR ALL AGES"**

Sunday, September 27, 1:30pm to 4pm followed by outdoor Mass. Cook-out, moon bounce, crafts, cotton candy, popcorn, games for all ages, prizes. 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

### **Meditation of the Heart**

**By Carolyn M. Kenney**

In the area of Galilee, spoken of in today's gospel, lies a rock believed to be the place where Jesus stood when he healed the man born deaf and blind. After healing the man, the people "were exceedingly astonished..." yet believed they witnessed a miracle.

So often Jesus performs miracles in our lives. They may not be those we have asked Him for, yet He gives us exactly what we need. Despite our desires, we cannot have life "handed to us on a silver platter." We have graces and blessings in abundance, but we need to open our eyes and see what they are. The gift of life is one such miracle. We may live a long life or we may live a short one. It is not the length of years, but rather is the quality of life we live with faith and love in God.

**SEPTEMBER 6, 2009**

| <b>SUNDAY</b>  | <b>MONDAY</b>   | <b>TUESDAY</b>  | <b>WEDNESDAY</b>  | <b>THURSDAY</b> | <b>FRIDAY</b>                                 | <b>SATURDAY</b>                             |
|--|---|---|---|-----------------|---|---|
| Sept 6<br>1pm Baptism<br><br>7pm Prayer group                                    | Sept 7<br>Labor Day   | Sept 8  | Sept 9<br>Protecting God's<br>Children Class<br>6-7pm Children Choir<br>7-8pm Adult Choir | Sept 10         | Sept 11<br>6-7:30<br>Eucharistic<br>Adoration | Sept 12                                     |
| Sept 13<br>7pm Prayer group  | Sept 14<br>Gr1 4-5pm<br>4 5:30-6:30<br>10 6:45-8pm<br>Women's Club Mass<br>6:30pm | Sept 15<br>Gr 2 4- 5pm<br>Gr 5 5:30 -<br>6:30<br>Gr 8 6:45-8:00 | Sept 16<br>Gr 3 4-5pm<br>Gr 6 5:30-6:30<br>7-8pm Adult Choir                              | Sept 17         | Sept 18<br>6-7:30<br>Eucharistic<br>Adoration | Sept 19<br>FOOD &<br>CLOTHING<br>COLLECTION |
| Sept 20<br>1pm Baptism<br><br>7pm Prayer group                                   | Sept 21<br>Gr1 4-5pm<br>4 5:30-6:30<br>9 6:45-8pm                                 | Sept 22<br>Gr 2 4- 5pm<br>Gr 5 5:30 -6:30<br>Gr 7 6:45-8:00     | Sept 23<br>Gr 3 4-5pm<br>Gr 6 5:30-6:30<br><br>6-7pm Children Choir<br>7-8pm Adult Choir  | Sept 24         | Sept 25<br>6-7:30<br>Eucharistic<br>Adoration | Sept 26                                     |
| Sept 27<br>FAMILY FUN<br>DAY<br>1pm Baptismal<br>Instruction<br>7pm Prayer group | Sept 28<br>Gr1 4-5pm<br>4 5:30-6:30<br>10 6:45-8pm                                | Sept 29<br>Gr 2 4- 5pm<br>Gr 5 5:30 -6:30<br>Gr 8 6:45-8:00     | Sept 30<br>Gr 3 4-5pm<br>Gr 6 5:30-6:30<br><br>7-8pm Adult Choir                          | Oct 1           | Oct 2<br>6-7:30<br>Eucharistic<br>Adoration   | Oct 3                                       |
| Oct 4<br>Gr 10 Mass<br><br>1pm Baptism<br><br>7pm Prayer group                   | Oct 5<br>Gr1 4-5pm<br>4 5:30-6:30<br>9 6:45-8pm                                   | Oct 6<br>Gr 2 4- 5pm<br>Gr 5 5:30 -6:30<br>Gr 7 6:45-8:00       | Oct 7<br>Gr 3 4-5pm<br>Gr 6 5:30-6:30<br><br>6-7pm Children Choir<br>7-8pm Adult Choir    | Oct 8           | Oct 9<br>6-7:30<br>Eucharistic<br>Adoration   | Oct 10                                      |
| Oct 11<br>7pm Prayer group   | Oct 12<br>No CCD Class<br>Columbus Day  | Oct 13<br>Gr 2 4- 5pm<br>Gr 5 5:30 -6:30<br>Gr 8 6:45-8:00      | Oct 14<br>Gr 3 4-5pm<br>Gr 6 5:30-6:30<br><br>7-8pm Adult Choir                           | Oct 15          | Oct 16<br>6-7:30<br>Eucharistic<br>Adoration  | Oct 17<br>Food &<br>Clothing<br>Collection  |
| Oct 18<br>7pm Prayer group   | Oct 19<br>Gr1 4-5pm<br>4 5:30-6:30<br>9 6:45-8pm                                  | Oct 20<br>Gr 2 4- 5pm<br>Gr 5 5:30 -6:30<br>Gr 7 6:45-8:00      | Oct 21<br>Gr 3 4-5pm<br>Gr 6 5:30-6:30<br><br>6-7pm Children Choir<br>7-8pm Adult Choir   | Oct 22          | Oct 23<br>6-7:30<br>Eucharistic<br>Adoration  | Oct 24                                      |
| Oct 25<br>1pm Baptismal<br>Instruction<br><br>7pm Prayer group                   | Oct 26<br>Gr1 4-5pm<br>4 5:30-6:30<br>10 6:45-8pm                                 | Oct 27<br>Gr 2 4- 5pm<br>Gr 5 5:30 -6:30<br>Gr 8 6:45-8:00      | Oct 28<br>Gr 3 4-5pm<br>Gr 6 5:30-6:30<br><br>7-8pm Adult Choir                           | Oct 29          | Oct 30<br>6-7:30<br>Eucharistic<br>Adoration  | Oct 31                                      |
| Nov 1<br>1pm Baptismal<br>Instruction<br><br>7pm Memorial Service                | Nov 2<br>Gr1 4-5pm<br>4 5:30-6:30<br>9 6:45-8pm                                   | Nov 3<br>Gr 2 4- 5pm<br>Gr 5 5:30 -6:30<br>Gr 7 6:45-8:00       | Nov 4<br>Gr 3 4-5pm<br>Gr 6 5:30-6:30<br><br>6-7pm Children Choir<br>7-8pm Adult Choir    | Nov 5           | Nov 6<br>6-7:30<br>Eucharistic<br>Adoration   | Nov 7<br>FOOD<br>COLLECTION                 |

**OUR LADY'S MONTHLY MESSAGE**

**August 25, 2009**

*“Dear children! Today I call you anew to conversion. Little children, you are not holy enough and you do not radiate holiness to others, therefore pray, pray, pray and work on your personal conversion, so that you may be a sign of God’s love to others. I am with you and am leading you towards eternity, for which every heart must yearn. Thank your for having responded to my call. “*