

ST. THOMAS OF VILLANOVA PARISH, WILMINGTON, MASSACHUSETTS

Mass Intentions Oct 31-Nov 8, 2009

Saturday

5:00 PM Jeanne and Robert Auld

Sunday

8:00 AM Gilbert Cahill

9:30 AM John V. Kelley and Diane Marie Kelley

11:15 AM Virginia Crane

Monday

9:00 AM Vincenza Aresco

Tuesday

9:00 AM Concetta M. Correati

Wednesday

9:00 AM Eugene & Geneva Belliveau

Thursday

9:00 AM Dr. Eugene F. Ferraro Sr.

Saturday

5:00 PM Lawrence A. McGrath

Sunday

8:00 AM Deceased members of the Knights of Columbus

9:30 AM James M. McGonagle II

11:15 AM Joseph Sico

WEDDING BANNES

James Ryan and Brianne McCarthy

A NOTE FROM THE PASTOR

I want to thank all those who participated in the increased giving program. I apologize to those who received a follow up letter even though they already gave. We tried to pull them but we failed in some instances. Thanks for your patience and understanding.

The group from the parish who went to Mississippi is home safe and sound. It was a great trip. Everyone worked hard and a lot of work got done. We worked with Lutheran and Episcopal Services in Mississippi. It is a non-profit that has as one of its programs the work camp we participated in. They house and feed the volunteer laborers. During the day, all the laborers go out to different work sites. We gather back at night for dinner. Since there are no televisions, we would go out at night. Many wanted to watch various playoff games.

There are still many people in need. Unfortunately the truly poor are not getting the help they need. Since most of the government money and grants are gone, people have to buy their own supplies. We supply the labor. The poor cannot afford the supplies. The people we help can afford the

supplies but cannot afford a contractor to do the work. We are not in competition with local contractors. In any case everyone had a great time. There were so many laughs.

The senior Mass and luncheon was held a couple of weeks ago. I want to thank the Women's Club for sponsoring that event. It was a job well done.

We also had the blessing of the pets. This year it was an all dog event.

The outreach group went to My Brother's Table on Saturday of this weekend.

The Archdiocese has promulgated some new directives concerning H1N1. Here they are:

Rhe Cardinal directs the following for the celebration of the Sacred Liturgy and for flu prevention:

- ❖ The Holy Water fonts are to be drained, cleaned with a disinfecting soap, and re-filled with holy water on a regular basis. Please note that old holy water should be disposed of in the sacarium.
- ❖ The distribution of the Precious Blood for the faithful is suspended, with the exception of those who must receive from the cup due to medical reasons. The faith of the Church teaches that Christ, whole and entire, is received even under only one species.
- ❖ The exchange of the Sign of Peace is to be offered without any physical contact. If the priest celebrant chooses to extend the invitation for the sign of peace, the faithful, instead of a handshake, may bow to the persons nearby.
- ❖ While the faithful retain the option of receiving Holy Communion on the tongue or in the hand, all ministers of Holy Communion are advised to distribute the consecrated hosts with care, being cautious not to touch the tongue or the hand of the communicant.
- ❖ Parishioners should be reminded that if they are ill or suspect they are ill with a contagious illness, they are not bound by the Sunday Mass obligation. They should remain at home and return to church when they are well.

These directives are effective Saturday, October 31, 2009 and remain in effect until the cold and flu season has come to an end.

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

ALL SAINTS

FOOD COLLECTION **NOVEMBER 7th and 8th**

The Charities Committee will collect food for the Wilmington Food Pantry. **The Food Pantry is in need EVERYTHING**

You may drop off Food donations in Villanova Hall after all Masses next weekend.

WOMENS CLUB GAME NIGHT

The Women's club invites all women of the Parish to join in the fun with a GAME NIGHT on Monday, November 9th at 7pm in Villanova Hall. If you have any questions please feel free to give Joan a call at 978-657-3905.

ST. THOMAS CRAFT FAIR

The Craft Fair will be held on Saturday, November 21, from 10am to 3pm in Villanova Hall. It is \$35. to reserve a table. TO RESERVE A TABLE OR DONATE A RAFFLE CALL Maureen at 978-658-8206 or Elaine 978-658-9060. This is a great time to start your Christmas shopping.

ALL SOULS ENVELOPES

There will be masses said in memory of all our faithful departed in the month of November. By the statue of Mary there are envelopes for anyone wishing to add their departed loved ones name. Please be sure to write their names clearly for we will add all names to the bulletin.

REFLECTION ON ALTAR DECORATION

Memories are like dreams, they are real but difficult to explain to anyone else. We each have our own special memories of family and friends who are among the "faithful departed". We have hung a banner with a "honor roll" of the parishioners who have died during this past year. And our altar is decorated all in white as a symbol of the peace and hope of eternal life. We have added a family album, one of the places where we preserve our treasured memories and a hourglass and a clock. These objects are reminders that those who die do not "run out of time". They simply change over from our kind of time, the time of hours and minutes, to discover eternal time. This kind of time has no schedules, no deadlines, no sorrow, no pain or suffering, and no end. Just eternal rest and peace with our Lord.

THANKS GIVING PRAYER SERVICE

This year The Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service will be held at the Wilmington United Methodist Church on Sunday, November 22, 2009 at 6:00 PM. It is a good way for the community of Wilmington to give thanks to God for all the blessings we have received. Please join us.

OUTSIDE THE PARISH

ST. DOROTHY PARISH BAZAAR **CHRISTMAS IN NOVEMBER**

Friday, November 13th 5pm to 9pm
Saturday, November 14, 9:30am to 5pm
For information contact Carol Costello 978-988-8077

ST. WILLIAM PARISH **ANNUAL CHRISTMAS FAIR**

Saturday, December 5, 9:00am to 3:00pm

ADVENT CONFERENCE SAT., DEC 12 **THREE NOTABLE CATHOLIC SPEAKERS** **COMING TO THE BOSTON AREA**

Don't miss Our Lady of Guadalupe Conference and the opportunity to be inspired by well-known Catholic speakers, Johnnette Benkovic of EWTN Radio & TV, Vinny Flynn, author of "7 Secrets of the Eucharist" and Dan Lynch of Our Lady of Guadalupe Apostolate. The special all-day program will be held at St. Joseph's in Medford and will begin with the rosary and Mass at 8am. Tickets are \$70 per person and includes lunch. To order tickets or for more information call 781-218-2834 or mail checks to Eternal Life Radio (payable ELR) PO Box 589, Medford Ma 02155.

YEAR FOR PRIESTS SPIRITUAL ADOPTION

During this Year for Priests, The Vocation Office is happy to announce that Serra Boston Vocation Club is initiating the "Adopt- a- Priest Apostolate" where parishioners spiritually adopt a priest of the Archdiocese of Boston for one year. Parishioners are given the name of a priest of the Archdiocese, prayer cards and a prayer booklet and asked to pray for the particular intentions and ministry of that priest. If you are interested in more information or being assigned a priest of the Archdiocese to pray for on a daily basis, please call 978-462-1057 or go to www.seraboston.org or <http://www.vocationsboston.org/Resources.aspx>

NOVEMBER 1, 2009

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|---|--|--|---|-------------------------------|--|---|
| Nov 1 CHILDRENS LITURGY 1pm Baptism 7pm Prayer Group | Nov 2 Gr1 4-5pm 4 5:30-6:30 9 6:45-8pm | Nov 3 Gr 2 4-5pm Gr 5 5:30-6:30 Gr 7 6:45-8:00 | Nov 4 Gr 3 4-5pm Gr 6 5:30-6:30 6-7pm Children Choir 7-8pm Adult Choir | Nov 5 | Nov 6 6-7:30 Eucharistic Adoration | Nov 7 FOOD COLLECTION |
| Nov 8 7pm Memorial Service | Nov 9 Gr1 4-5pm 4 5:30-6:30 10 6:45-8pm 7:00pm Women's Club | Nov 10 No CCD Class | Nov 11 No CCD Class Veteran's Day | Nov 12 | Nov 13 6-7:30 Eucharistic Adoration | Nov 14 |
| Nov 15 9:30 Mass Children's Liturgy Coffee & Donuts 1pm Baptism 7pm Prayer Group | Nov 16 Gr1 4-5pm 4 5:30-6:30 9 6:45-8pm | Nov 17 Gr 2 4-5pm Gr 5 5:30-6:30 Gr 7 6:45-8:00 | Nov 18 Gr 3 4-5pm Gr 6 5:30-6:30 6-7pm Children Choir 7-8pm Adult Choir | Nov 19 | Nov 20 6-7:30 Eucharistic Adoration | Nov 21 CRAFT FAIR 10am to 3pm |
| Nov 22 Community Thanksgiving Service 6pm Methodist Church 7pm Prayer Group | Nov 23 Gr1 4-5pm 4 5:30-6:30 10 6:45- 8pm | Nov 24 Gr 2 4-5pm Gr 5 5:30-6:30 Gr 8 6:45-8:00 | Nov 25 NO CCD | Nov 26 THANKSGIVING | Nov 27 6-7:30 Eucharistic Adoration | Nov 28 |
| Nov 29 9:30 Mass Children's Liturgy Coffee & Donuts 1pm Baptismal Instruction 7pm Prayer Group | Nov 30 Gr1 4-5pm 4 5:30-6:30 9 6:45-8pm | Dec 1 Gr 2 4-5pm Gr 5 5:30-6:30 Gr 7 6:45-8:00 | Dec 2 Gr 3 4-5pm Gr 6 5:30-6:30 6-7pm Children Choir 7-8pm Adult Choir | Dec 3 | Dec 4 6-7:30 Eucharistic Adoration | Dec 5 FOOD COLLECTION |
| Dec 6 1pm Baptism 7pm Prayer Group | Dec 7 NO CCD | Dec 8 NO CCD Immaculate Conception | Dec 9 Gr 3 4-5pm Gr 6 5:30-6:30 | Dec 10 | Dec 11 6-7:30 Eucharistic Adoration | Dec 12 |

OUR LADY'S MONTHLY MESSAGE

October 25, 2009

“Dear children! I bring you my blessing. I bless you all and I call you to grow on this way, which God has begun through me for your salvation, Pray, fast and joyfully witness your faith, little children, and may your heart always be filled with prayer. Thank you for responding to my call.”

Meditation of the Heart

By Carolyn M. Kenney

In today's gospel from Saint Matthew, Jesus teaches His disciples the beautiful Beatitudes. “When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain, and after he had sat down, his disciples came to him. He began to teach them...” This mountain overlooks the deep blue waters of the Sea of Galilee. As the sun sparkles upon it, one can picture Jesus sitting on the mountain with His disciples gathered around.

Jesus spoke to them about the poor in spirit, the mournful, the meek, the righteous, the merciful and the peacemakers - in other words the humble of the world. At the end, He told them to rejoice “...when they insult you and persecute you and utter every kind of evil against you falsely because of me. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven.” Jesus rejoiced over our birth and every day throughout our life. His love for us is so great that He died an excruciating death on the cross for us. Now, it is time for you and for me to stand by Him and to acknowledge Him. When we do, our “...reward will be great in heaven.”