

ST. THOMAS OF VILLANOVA PARISH, WILMINGTON, MASSACHUSETTS

Mass Intentions –January 16-24, 2010

Saturday

5:00 PM Mary & Edward Comer

Sunday

8:00 AM Gertrude E. Wagstaff

9:30 AM Maria Espirito Santo & Jose Melo, Judite Lima, Maria Jose & Manuel Chaves

11:15 AM Sandra Atkins

Monday

9:00 AM Judith Overselt Ferraro

Tuesday

9:00 AM John C. MacEachern

Wednesday

9:00 AM For the People of the Parish

Thursday

9:00 AM For the People of the Parish

Saturday

5:00 PM Ana LaFrazia

Sunday

8:00 AM Gertrude Wagstaff

9:30 AM Susan Packer

11:15 AM Aldo Caira

BRIDES AND GROOMS

MANDATORY WEDDING MUSIC MEETING

On Sunday, February 28, at 1pm in the main Church there will be a mandatory Music meeting for Brides and Grooms getting married at St. Thomas. For more information please call Lora at 781-243-1073.

PRE CANA CLASS DATES

St. Thomas offers a Marriage prep class once a year in the spring. This year the dates are Friday March 26, 6pm to 8pm and Saturday March 27 from 9am to 4pm.

To sign up or if you have questions please call the rectory

BAPTISM

**THERE WILL BE NO BAPTISMS DONE DURING LENT
FEBRUARY 17, – APRIL 4, 2009**

THE BAPTISMS DURING THE EASTER SEASON:

APRIL 4 11:15 AM (EASTER)

APRIL 18 1:00 PM

MAY 2 11:15 AM

MAY 16 1:00 PM

A NOTE FROM THE PASTOR

We had the Epiphany pageant last Sunday. All the participants were great. I want to thank all our young participants as well as the adult members of the children's liturgy group for their work. Thanks!!!

Here are a few reminders:

Deacon Cliff King has gone to his home in Florida for a couple of months. He will be returning for Holy Week. I am sure he will be chuckling when he reads about the snow storms here. This is the first winter he has had the home in Florida. I hope it warms up for him.

On February 8, 2010, the Women's Club will gather and celebrate the Chinese New Year. Watch the bulletin for further details.

On February 13, 2010, we will celebrate World Marriage Day. Mark your calendar and watch the bulletin for further details.

On Saturday, March 20, 2010, we will have the STAMP dance. Mark your calendars. Tickets will be on sale in the coming weeks.

Our Pre-Cana program will be held on Friday, March 26 and Saturday, March 27, 2010. To register, call the rectory. It is open to couples outside the parish.

Well I guess that is it for now. Until next time, take care and stay warm!!

Fr. Earley

GIVINGTREE THANK YOU

The St. Thomas Parish Outreach Ministry would like to thank the parishioners for their generosity. Catholic Charities, House of Hope, Millie Place, Home for little Wanderers, & the Lowell Middlesex Shelter all had a very Merry & Blessed Christmas Thank you for "Living the Gospel"

A note from Merrimack Valley Catholic Charities;

This past year was arguably one of the most challenging years financially for families non profits and businesses. Yet in spite of the significant financial hardships facing so many of us, greater was your individual desire to help those with even more immense needs.

We had the largest number of requests from families seeking assistance this year. And because of your devotion, compassion and partnership with Catholic Charities we were able to minister to each of our clients needs.

On behalf of Catholic Charities and the countless families throughout the Merrimack Valley please accept our deepest gratitude for your tireless efforts, and resources. With your continued support we can continue making a difference in the lives of children and families.

SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

CHURCH SUPPORT

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

This Sunday Second Collection is the Parish Monthly.
Next Sunday will be the Latin American Collection

ST. THOMAS GRAND ANNUAL COLLECTION

As of January 12, 2010	\$ 34,005.00
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.

ST. THOMAS WOMEN'S CLUB

St. Thomas Women's Club Meeting is on Monday, February 8th at 6pm in Villanova Hall. This month's theme is "Chinese New Year". It is the year of the Tiger. Please RSVP by Monday February 1st to Joan Corsaro 978-657-3905, since the Chinese food (without MSG and low salt) has to be ordered. It will be a fun night for all the women of the parish.

REMINDER GRADE 7 & 8 STUDENTS

We are mandated to offer the "Created for Life Program" for our grade 7 and 8 students. We are collaborating with both St. Dorothy and St. William Religious Education Programs. It will be held Saturday, January 23, 2010 from 10am -3pm in Villanova Hall. Lunch will be provided.

To attend the Program we must have a signed permission slip which went home with our grade 7 and 8 students this past week. All permission slips must be signed and returned by January 20th. No student will be allowed to attend without a permission slip.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us @ 978-658-6040.

SAVE THE DATE

Annual S.T.A.M.P. Dance will be held on Saturday, March 20 in Villanova Hall. Tickets will be available in the coming weeks.

REFLECTION

No doubt by now you have trashed the torn wrapping paper, the treasured ornaments are packed away, discarded the wilted tree or dismembered its branches and shoved it into a huge box, and returned those too tight or too loose or too "not me" Christmas gifts.

For most of us, Christmas is now a memory, hopefully a warm and nurturing memory as we adjust to the shift in our lives that this "post Christmas" season creates. This little poem below by Howard Thurman, however, suggests that now the "Work of Christmas" is begun. The rebirth of the Christ in our lives that we celebrate on Christmas Day is an invitation to renew and refresh our relationship with the God made Flesh. It is also an imperative to live the good-news in our lives...to "be" the Good News for others in our world. We offer Thurman's thoughts for your reflection... and in the hope that this post Christmas time finds you with "music in your heart"!

The Work of Christmas

When the song of angels is stilled,
When the star in the sky is gone,
When the wise men and wise women are back home,
When the shepherds are back with their flocks,

The work of Christmas begins:

To find the lost
To heal the broken
To feed the hungry,
To release the prisoners,
To rebuild the nations
To bring peace to all
To make music in the heart.

BLANKET COLLECTION

St. Thomas Parish Outreach Ministry blanket collection through the month on Jan and Feb. for local shelters. Blankets need not be new but clean and usable. Also if you have any extra flashlights, tents, or thermal under garments. Boxes will be at all church doors.

BAPTISM

The following children were welcomed into St. Thomas Parish family on January 3, 2010.

Aidan Stone Reinhart
Elisabeth Kathleen Gillis
Eva Marie Doyon
Lilah Jane Bamberg
Jude Gabriel Bradley

JANUARY 17, 2010

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Jan 17 1pm Baptism 7pm Prayer Group	Jan 18 NO CCD	Jan 19 Gr 2 4- 5pm Gr 5 5:30 -6:30 Gr 7 6:45-8:00	Jan 20 Gr 3 4-5pm Gr 6 5:30-6:30	Jan 21	Jan 22 6-7:30 Eucharistic Adoration	Jan 23 CREATED FOR LIFE PROGRAM 10am-3pm
Jan 24 9:30 Mass Children's Liturgy Coffee & Donuts 7pm Prayer Group	Jan 25 Gr1 4-5pm 4 5:30-6:30 10 6:45-8pm	Jan 26 Gr 2 4- 5pm Gr 5 5:30 -6:30 Gr 8 6:45-8:00	Jan 27 Gr 3 4-5pm Gr 6 5:30-6:30	Jan 28	Jan 29 6-7:30 Eucharistic Adoration	Jan 30
Jan 31 1pmBaptismal Instruction 7pm Prayer Group	Feb 1 Gr1 4-5pm 4 5:30-6:30 9 6:45-8pm	Feb 2 Gr 2 4- 5pm Gr 5 5:30 -6:30 Gr 7 6:45-8:00	Feb 3 Gr 3 4-5pm Gr 6 5:30-6:30	Feb 4	Feb 5 6-7:30 Eucharistic Adoration	Feb 6 Gr 10 Confirmation Retreat
Feb 7 9:30 Mass Children's Liturgy Coffee & Donuts 1pm Baptism 7pm Prayer Group	Feb 8 Gr1 4-5pm 4 5:30-6:30 10 6:45-8pm	Feb 9 Gr 2 4- 5pm Gr 5 5:30 -6:30 Gr 8 6:45-8:00	Feb 10 Gr 3 4-5pm Gr 6 5:30-6:30	Feb 11	Feb 12 6-7:30 Eucharistic Adoration	Feb 13 World Marriage Day
Feb 14 7pm Prayer Group	Feb 15 NO CCD VACATION	Feb 16 NOCCD VACATION	Feb 17 Ash Wednesday NO CCD	Feb 18	Feb 19 Stations 6-7:30 Eucharistic Adoration	Feb 20 Food Collection
Feb 21 9:30 Mass Children's Liturgy Coffee & Donuts 11:15 Mass Grade 10 Mass 7pm Prayer Group	Feb 22 Gr1 4-5pm 4 5:30-6:30 10 6:45-8pm	Feb 23 Gr 2 4- 5pm Gr 5 5:30 -6:30 Gr 8 6:45-8:00	Feb 24 Gr 3 4-5pm Gr 6 5:30-6:30	Feb 25	Feb 26 Stations 6-7:30 Eucharistic Adoration	Feb 27
Feb 28 CCD Registration for 2010-2011 begins 1pm WEDDING MUSIC MEETING 7pm Prayer Group	March 1 Gr1 4-5pm 4 5:30-6:30 9 6:45-8pm	March 2 Gr 2 4- 5pm Gr 5 5:30 -6:30 Gr 7 6:45-8:00	March 3 Gr 3 4-5pm Gr 6 5:30-6:30	March 4	March 5 Stations 6-7:30 Eucharistic Adoration	March 6

OUR LADY'S MONTHLY MESSAGE

December 25, 2009

“Dear children! On this joyful day, I bring all of you before my Son, the King of Peace, that He may give you His peace and blessing. Little children, in love share that peace and blessing with others. Thank you for having responded to my call.”

Meditation of the Heart By Carolyn M. Kenney

In today's gospel in the wedding at Cana, Mary tells Jesus there is no more wine. She then tells the servers, “Do whatever He tells you.” This statement was recorded not only for the people 2000 years ago, but for us today as well.

“Do whatever He tells you.” It is not an easy statement to put into practice and at times it is very difficult depending on the circumstances. At the wedding at Cana, the Blessed Mother knew Her Son would perform a miracle. She had faith in Him. We must also have faith in Jesus in everything we do - in every moment of our lives. For all our technological abilities, the time in which we live is not an easy one. Jesus knows what we are going through at all times. If we do what He tells us, He will show us the way to handle every circumstance with faith and with love.