

ST. THOMAS OF VILLANOVA PARISH, WILMINGTON, MASSACHUSETTS

Mass Intentions March 6-14, 2010

Saturday

5:00 PM Joan Earley

Sunday

8:00 AM Joan, Helen, Jack Gouveia

9:30 AM Kelly Crossen

11:15 AM Robert Dorval

Monday

9:00 AM Alice Tannian

Tuesday

9:00 AM MaryLou Halluran

Wednesday

9:00 AM Mark Matarese & Joseph King

Thursday

9:00 AM Mitilda Ricco

Saturday

5:00 PM Joe Bulger

Sunday

8:00 AM Gertrude E. Wagstaff

9:30 AM Anthony Fruciano

11:15 AM Catherine Vernaci

ARISE TOGETHER IN CHRIST

Please consider taking part in this opportunity during our Lenten journey. Call the Rectory if you would like more information or sign up for a class.

EASTER ENVELOPES

For those who wish prayers said for their deceased loved ones there are envelopes by the Statue of Mary all donations will be used for the decorations for Easter. Please PRINT clearly. All names will be printed in the bulletin. Masses will be said during the Easter Season.

STAMP 50/50 RAFFLE

According to the American Red Cross, 275,000 homes were destroyed by Hurricane Katrina. According to Google, it takes approximately 15,000 nails to build a modest house. In the front of the church is a jar of nails- not enough to build a house, but certainly more than 50... Please guess how many nails are in the jar, and put your guess and a dollar into the raffle box on your way out of church today. On March 20th the closest guess will win half of the proceeds of this contest and the other half will go toward helping S.T.A.M.P. in their efforts to rebuild houses in Mississippi this October. Contributions of more than \$1 are certainly welcome. Thank you.

WOMEN'S CLUB MEETING

This Monday, March 8th at 7pm the Women's Club invites you to a Lenten Program offered by Pat Archfield "Refection on a Journey through lent". All women of the parish are invited to attend. Any questions please call Joan 978-657-3905.

**ARTS AND ENVIOMENT
EASTER PLANNING MEETING**

Please join us for a meeting this Tuesday, March 9 at 6:30pm in the Church. No skills are necessary to help with the planning for Easter and Holy week.

MARRIAGE PREP TEAM

The Marriage Prep team is hoping to get two more Married Couples to help with the Program on Saturday, March 27. If you might be willing to lend a hand or if you'd like more information please call Chris Neville at 978-657-5150.

S.T.A.M.P. DANCE

S.T.A.M.P. Dance is scheduled for Sat, March 20. Tickets \$25 each from any STAMP member or call, Bob Troy at 978-988-5513. The event is held in Villanova Hall starting at 6:30pm. Great food, music and dancing and fun for all! Proceeds directly offset costs associated with travel and materials for the STAMP. This year, the group plans to return to the Mississippi Coast to help continue to improve the quality of life for those affected by natural disasters who do not have the resources to do so on their own. The STAMP Dance Committee is also asking for donations of goods or services that can be used as RAFFLE Items at the dance. Items like sport or event tickets, gift certificates to restaurants or other services, gift baskets, autographed sports memorabilia, and other items are very much appreciated. Please find any STAMP Member to make your donation. We hope you can join us on March 20th and thank you for your support!

THANK YOU TO FR. EARLEY AND FR FLAMMIA

In recognition of 2010 "Year of the Priest" the Knights of Columbus, Fr. Croke Council #4982 in Wilmington would like to express our deep and sincere appreciation for the tremendous efforts made by Fathers Earley and Flammia at St. Thomas Parish. Their leadership, sacrifice and service to us, the St. Thomas community, serve as an example of the love that Christ has for each of us. The Knights of Colunbus stand ready to serve the Parish and support our Priests efforts in any way needed.

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

LENT GOSPEL GIVING

The Traditional foundation for Lenten practice rests on three supports: PRAYER-FASTING-ALMSGIVING. To assist those in need, and to help fulfill the third of these support, St. Thomas Parish Outreach Ministry is going to have "Lenten Gospel Giving" program. Each week parishioners will be asked to bring ONE item with them to Mass based on the Gospel reading of each week in Lent. The gifts will be donated to various needy causes, some in which we are already involved.

Next Sunday March 13&14 "So he hired himself out to one of the local citizens who sent home to his farm to tend the swine. And he longed to eat his full of the pods on which the sinner fed, but nobody gave him any." Luke 15:15-16 Please donate money for Catholic Charities campership program in Hull. This program sends inner-city youth to camp for a week at no expense to their family. You can drop your donation in the basket at the church entrances.

HEAVEN CENT

For Lent we are placing baby bottles in baskets for lent and asking families to take one & bring it back on Psalm Sunday. Money will go to support homeless women & children

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

The Church encourages all Catholics to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation each Lent. In addition to our normal Saturday afternoon confession time, St. Thomas and all the Catholic parishes and chapels of the Archdiocese will be open on Lenten Wednesdays from 6:30-8pm. Also reach out to Catholics you know that have been away from the regular practice of our faith and invite to seize this chance to begin again. The Archdiocese's website for this initiative www.TheLightIsOnForYou.org, has great material to help everyone prepare to make a good confession.

THERE WILL BE NO BAPTISMS 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

SACRAMENT OF THE SICK

Our parish offers the Sacrament of the Sick on Sunday after the 11:15 Mass

2010 CARDINAL APPEAL

This is Catholic Appeal Weekend here at St. Thomas. As a Catholic community, we are called during this season of Lent to love and share our blessings with our brothers and sisters in Christ. Participation in the Catholic Appeal, a once a year pledge drive to benefit the many central ministries and services of the Archdiocese, is one way for us to answer His call. The Appeal is to our Archdiocese what a weekly offertory is to our parish-so your participation and support are critical. Because of the economic downturn, support of the Catholic Appeal is more urgent this year. Please see the information packets in the pews to learn more and to obtain a pledge form if you didn't receive one last week.

If we exceed our financial goal, we will receive 25 percent of all funds raised above goal for use in the parish. Please know that your participation is important and that all gifts matter.

Thank you in advance for joining with parishioners throughout our Archdiocese's 291 parishes to carry on and renew the broader mission of our Church.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION REGISTRATION

Anyone who has a child entering first grade in Sept., and the child was NOT BAPTIZED at St. Thomas we ask you to bring his/her baptismal certificate to the office for verification and we will register him/her at that time.

TO REGISTER FOR CCD PLEASE CALL

The Religious Ed. Office at 978-658-6040. Their office is located in the basement of the Church.

Registration tuition payment

1 Child \$75.00

2 Children \$100

3 or more children \$125.00

If you have a parochial school child entering into grade 10 and plan on having him /her confirmed, you must register him/her in the religious education program.

SONS OF ITALY EASTER BUNNY BREAKFAST

The Sons of Italy invites you to have Breakfast with the Easter Bunny on Sunday, March 28 from 9am to 12 noon at the Knights of Columbus Hall. The menu includes scrambled eggs, tater tots, bacon, sausage, French toast sticks, coffee, juice, and assorted muffins. A donation of \$7.00, children under 3 free. Contact Charlie at 978-658-5598 or Kevin 978-657-7734. All proceeds will go to benefit Wilmington Relay for Life.

MARCH 7, 2010

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
March 7 9:30 Mass Children's Liturgy Coffee & Donuts Grade 2 Parent Meeting after the 11:15 7pm Prayer Group	March 8 Gr1 4-5pm 4 5:30-6:30 10 6:45-8pm	March 9 Gr 2 4- 5pm Gr 5 5:30 -6:30 Gr 8 6:45-8:00	March 10 Gr 3 4-5pm Gr 6 5:30-6:30 Reconciliation 6:30to 8pm	March 11	March 12 6pm Stations	March 13 FOOD COLLECTION
March 14 7pm Prayer Group	March 15 Gr1 4-5pm 4 5:30-6:30 9 6:45-8pm	March 16 Gr 2 4- 5pm Gr 5 5:30 -6:30 Gr 7 6:45-8:00	March 17 Gr 3 4-5pm Gr 6 5:30-6:30 Reconciliation 6:30to 8pm	March 18	March 19 6pm Stations	March 20 STAMP DANCE
March 21 7pm Prayer Group	March 22 Gr1 4-5pm 4 5:30-6:30 10 6:45-8pm	March 23 Gr 2 4- 5pm Gr 5 5:30 -6:30 Gr 8 6:45-8:00	March 24 Gr 3 4-5pm Gr 6 5:30-6:30 Reconciliation 6:30to 8pm	March 25	March 26 6pm Marriage Prep	March 27 Marriage Prep
March 28 1pm Baptismal Instruction 7pm Prayer Group	March 29 Gr1 4-5pm 4 5:30-6:30 9 6:45-8pm 7pm Seder Supper	March 30 Gr 2 4- 5pm Gr 5 5:30 -6:30 Gr 7 6:45-8:00	March 31 Gr 3 4-5pm Gr 6 5:30-6:30 Reconciliation 6:30to 8pm	April 1 Holy Thursday 7pm Mass	April 2 12noon Ecumenical Service Stations 3pm Adult 4:15 Children 7pm The Lords Passion	April 3 Easter Vigil NO 5pm Mass
April 4 EASTER Baptism @ 11:15	April 5	April 6	April 7	April 8	April 9	April 10
April 11 2:30pm to 3:30pm DIVINE MERCY Sunday	April 12 Group1 Confirmation Practice 6:30pm	April 13 Group2 Confirmation Practice 6:30pm	April 14	April 15	April 16	April 17 Confirmation 10:30am & 1pm

OUR LADY'S MONTHLY MESSAGE

February 25, 2010

“Dear children! In this time of grace, when nature also prepares to give the most beautiful colors of the year, I call you, little children, to open your hearts to God the Creator for Him to transform and mold you in His image, so that all the good which has fallen asleep in your hearts may awaken to a new life and a longing towards eternity. Thank you for having responded to my call.”

Meditation of the Heart

By Carolyn M. Kenney

In one of Saint Matthew's gospels he writes, "...Jesus went out of the house and sat down by the sea." The "house" is that of Peter's mother-in-law still standing in the village of Capernaum and where Jesus lived for three years. The Sea of Galilee is situated a short distance away with hills on either side rolling smoothly into the deep blue waters. As Jesus sat by the sea, the sun sparkled on the water emitting rays of various colors as it danced in the early morning light.

Jesus' sublime influence is still perceived today when one visits this sacred land. Yet, He is present in the tabernacle of our churches - Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity - as He was while sitting on the shores of the Sea of Galilee. People flocked to see Jesus. His gentle and compassionate manner reached into the depths of their beings and filled them with an inner tranquility. The sincerity in His eyes spoke volumes to their heart. Yet, where are the crowds today in our churches? He desires to speak with us, but we are too busy to spend some of our time with Him. Patiently Jesus waits for us to visit Him in the Tabernacle. As He sat by the Sea of Galilee so long ago, Jesus could see into the depths of the waters at the myriad fish and plant life. Now, He sits in the tabernacle of the church and wherever you may be, He gazes lovingly into the depths of your heart waiting to answer your questions.