

ST. THOMAS OF VILLANOVA PARISH, WILMINGTON, MASSACHUSETTS

Mass Intentions March 13-21, 2010

Saturday

5:00 PM Joe Bulger

Sunday

8:00 AM Gertrude E. Wagstaff

9:30 AM Anthony Fruciano

11:15 AM Caroline Vernaci

Monday

9:00 AM For the People of the Parish

Tuesday

9:00 AM Sean Manning

Wednesday

9:00 AM Dorothy Murphy

Thursday

9AM Edward Shelley

Saturday

5:00 PM Irene & Joe Lyons

Sunday

8:00 AM Mary & Alexander Quandt

9:30 AM James M. McGonagle II

11:15 AM Edward J. Moon

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.

GOOD FRIDAY ECUMENICAL SERVICE

Please note that on Good Friday, April 2 St. Thomas Parish will have the Ecumenical service at 12 noon

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.

A NOTE FROM THE PASTOR

The annual STAMP dance will be held on Saturday, March 20, 2010. Tickets are available. You can get them from a STAMP committee member or call the rectory and leave your name and phone number with the secretary.

On every Wednesday night during Lent, the sacrament of reconciliation will be available in the church from 6:30 PM to 8:00 PM. This is part of an Archdiocesan project. It starts February 24th. The sacrament of reconciliation will be available in all churches, shrines and chapels throughout the Archdiocese of Boston. All Catholics are encouraged to take advantage of this opportunity to receive the sacrament of reconciliation.

The 2010 Catholic Appeal was launched last weekend. The Catholic Appeal supports the central ministries of the Archdiocese of Boston. I would encourage you to support the appeal. If you supported the appeal in the past but stopped supporting it because of how the abuse crisis was handled, I would ask you to consider supporting the appeal once again. Cardinal Sean came to this diocese to clean it up. He is doing that. He himself was not the cause of the problem, but rather he is working to solve the problem. I think he deserves support. Supporting the appeal does not deny the anger you feel at how the abuse crisis was handled. Thanks for giving it some thought.

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

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!

FOURTH 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 20 & 21 "Let the one among you who is without sin be the first to throw a stone at her." John 8:7. Please bring Women's /children's clothing (new or useable) collection, personal hygiene items to be donated to Brigits Crossing in Lowell and Nazareth House in Roxbury.

HEAVEN CENT

The baby bottles given out during Lent are for you to fill with extra change to support homeless women and children. Please bring back bottles on Psalm Sunday.

THANK YOU!

To the St. Thomas of Villanova Family:

Food For The Poor wishes to thank you for the welcome you extended to Father White on his recent visit to your parish. On behalf of our less fortunate brothers and sisters of Latin America and the Caribbean, we thank you for having shared in their lives. They, and you, are blessed by your generosity.

In Christ

The Food For The Poor Family

CHURCH SUPPORT

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

ALZHEIMER'S PUZZLE BOOK DONATIONS TO BENEFIT THE WOODBRIAR OF WILMINGTON

As part of her National Honor Society Leadership Project at the Middle School, Brianna Fruciano has become involved in the Alzheimer's Association of Massachusetts and is holding a puzzle book collection during the month of March. All donations can be brought to mass and placed in the purple collection box set up at the back of the church. This is a special way that you can help those that suffer from this serious memory impairing disease. Every donation will help! Thank you.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION REGISTRATION

NO REGISTRATION WILL BE ACCEPTED AFTER MONDAY, MAY 17, 2010

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

SACRAMENT OF THE SICK

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

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

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.

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

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 14, 2010

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
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 8pm Easter Vigil Mass NO 5pm Mass
April 4 EASTER Mass 8am 9:30 11:15 Baptism @ 11:15	April 5	April 6	April 7	April 8	April 9 6-7:30 Eucharistic Adoration	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 6-7:30 Eucharistic Adoration	April 17 Confirmation 10:30am & 1pm
April 18 1pm Baptism 7pm Prayer Group	April 19	April 20	April 21	April 22	April 23 6-7:30 Eucharistic Adoration	April 24
April 25 1pm Baptism Instruction 7pm Prayer Group	April 26	April 27 Jesus Day 4-6pm	April 28	April 29	April 30 6-7:30 Eucharistic Adoration	May 1
May 2 Baptism 11:15Mass 7pm Prayer Group	May 3 First Communion Practice Gr 1 4-5pm	May 4 First Communion Practice Gr 2 4-5pm	May 5 First Communion Practice Gr 1 4-5pm	May 6 First Communion Practice Gr 2 4-5pm	May 7 6-7:30 Eucharistic Adoration	May 8 1 st Communion 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

How often do we give of ourselves and not receive love or thanks in return? You may say, “I do that all the time. I give my love and my time totally to my family and friends, yet receive nothing - or little - in return.

Well, there was someone who gave more than you. Jesus! After He was nailed to the cross, blood and water poured from His side. He suffered and died an agonizing death. Jesus gave His life for you and for me. What have we ever given Him? Do we really know how very much He loves us? No one will love you to the degree Jesus loves you. As Mother Teresa said, “Love has to hurt to be true. It hurt Jesus to love us.” Did He complain? No. Jesus loves us unconditionally. He calls us, takes us gently in His arms and draws us to Himself where we feel the heart of God beating softly. Give Him your love in thanksgiving.