

ST. THOMAS OF VILLANOVA PARISH, WILMINGTON, MASSACHUSETTS

Mass Intentions April 12-20, 2008

Saturday

5:00 PM John Flaherty

8:00 AM Donald Corson

9:30 AM Stephen Hancox

11:15 AM Ralph D'Pitro

Monday

9:00 AM Easter Remembrances

Tuesday

9:00 AM Jeane Higgins

Wednesday

9:00 AM Sean Manning

Thursday

9:00 AM Carole Dineen

Saturday

5:00 PM Edward, Margaret & Richard Gorvin

Sunday

8:00 AM Dorothy Ebert & Deceased members of the Savosik Family

9:30 AM Maria & Orlando Liggiero

11:15 AM Luis P. Machado

ST. THOMAS CHARITIES COMMITTEE

The next Charities Committee meeting is Tues, April 15, at 7:00pm in Villanova Hall.

FOOD COLLECTION & CLOTHING DRIVE

The Charities Committee will be collecting for the Wilmington Food Pantry. The Food pantry is especially in need of cereal, instant potatoes, jelly, canned fruit, beef stew, syrup, coffee & tea, ketchup, mustard and mayo.

Also Donations of men & women clothing, there is a special request for adult socks and small sizes of soaps and shampoos.

Please drop off food and clothing in Villanova Hall April 19 & 20, 2008.

SENIOR ANNOINTING MASS AND LUNCHEON

On Sat., April 19 Mass will be at 11:30am followed by the luncheon. To make a reservation, please call Joan at 978-657-3905 before April 15. No reservations will be taken after that date. If you need a ride, please let us know when you register.

MARRIAGE PREP

St. Thomas Program is Saturday, April 26, from 9am to 4pm

A NOTE FROM THE PASTOR

Religious Education registration is underway. A registration letter and form was sent to all families who currently have a child in the program. Please return the registration form as soon as possible. As I have said since the day I arrived at St. Thomas, no child will be deprived of a religious education because of a family's inability to pay the registration fee. If you cannot pay the fee, speak to Marilyn Mandosa or Dottie Barker or myself. If you cannot pay the religious education fee during the registration period but could pay it later, then get the registration form in and just note you will pay the fee later. What is helpful to us is getting the forms in on time. Please spread the word to those who are not with us today. Thank you in advance for your cooperation and your help in spreading the word about registration.

The Annual Catholic Appeal started a few months ago. I would urge you to support this important Archdiocesan campaign. Our parish has raised \$18,455.00 from 116 households, reaching 62.6 percent of our parish goal of \$29,500.00. Please know that every gift matters. You can pick up information packets with pledge forms in the back of the church or in the benches or for more information please visit www.BostonCatholicAppeal.com or call 617-779-3700. Thank you.

The Women's Club will be sponsoring their Spring Luncheon for seniors on Saturday, April 19th. If you are interested in attending, please call Joan Corsaro. Her phone number is elsewhere in the bulletin.

On the weekend of April 19th & 20th, the Charities Committee will be collecting food and clothing. All items may be dropped off in Villanova Hall that weekend.

On April 15th our second grade students will participate in Jesus Day.

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

CROSS INTERNATIONAL CATHOLIC OUTREACH

This weekend we welcome Rev. Thomas Poisson. He will speak to us about making a difference in the lives of our less fortunate brothers and sisters in the Third World. Parishes in underdeveloped countries represent more than an important source of spiritual truth for their community. They also stand as a beacon of hope for impoverished families who have nowhere else to turn for help.

PARISH OUTREACH

The Parish Outreach will meet Monday, April 14, at 7pm in Villanova Hall.

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION REGISTRATION

The CCD Office is in the basement of the Church. It is now open from 10am to 3pm. If you have questions, the religious education office number is 978-658-6040.

LATE REGISTRATION a \$10 late fee per student after Wed., March 19-April 29. As of April 30 we will not be accepting any registrations for the 2008-2009 school year.

Registration tuition payment is now;

1 Child \$85.00

2 Children \$120

3 or more children \$155.00

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

ST. THOMAS MINISTRY FAIR

Every two weeks a different ministry will be highlighted. First it will be highlighted in the bulletin and at Mass. On the second week, a representative from the ministry will speak at all Masses and will be available to talk with them after each Mass. This is a great opportunity to get to know more about each ministry at St. Thomas and where your spiritual compass is pointing.

Women's Club Provides Respite and Reward

While it may seem impossible for many women to add yet another responsibility to their overworked lives, members of the St. Thomas Women's Club find both respite and reward in their monthly meetings. "It's an opportunity to meet other women who have like-minded values," said Joan Corsaro, who has been a member of the group for more than 20 years.

The group's primary purpose is charitable. Some of their activities include raising funds to provide a scholarship each year for a graduating senior, collecting items for Birthright of Lowell, and organizing a Mass and luncheon for seniors. But the monthly meetings also provide opportunities to hear speakers on a variety of subjects, such as the recent discussion of a parishioner's trip to Jerusalem, and to plan social outings, including a visit to the Stoneham Theatre for an evening of live theatre.

So if you'd like a break from the daily grind, consider joining the St. Thomas Women's Club. Contact Joan Corsaro, 978-657-3905; Maureen Sheehan, 978-658-8206; or Elaine Comeau, 658-9060.

ST. THOMAS WOMEN'S CLUB

Game night Mon, April 14, at 7:30pm in Villanova Hall. Refreshments will be served. All Women invited to join.

ST. THOMAS WOMEN'S CLUB

The Women's Club will sponsor a play at the Stoneham Theatre The Porch, on Friday, May 30th at 8pm. The tickets are \$30 for Seniors 62 & over and \$35 for Adults. Please call Joan, at 978-657-3905 to make a reservation.

CHURCH SUPPORT

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

Offertory for March 30, 2008 \$6,251.00

Parish Monthly for March 30, 2008 \$3,748.00

WEDDING BANNES

Lisa Dellascio and Angelo Bastolla

Kris Gottlander and Antonio Gentile

BAPTISMS

The following Children were welcomed into St. Thomas Parish Family on Sunday, April 6, 2008

Taylor Elizabeth Robinson

Sarah Elle Antoinette Sampson

Meditation of the Heart

by Carolyn Kenney

In today's responsorial psalm we read the words, "Only goodness and kindness follow me all the days of my life; and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord for years to come." During a recent visit to the Holy Land, I witnessed this first-hand. In the small village of Nain is a church built in 1895. Unfortunately, there are no Christians in this village to attend the church. However, a Muslim family lives adjacent to this holy building and maintain it. Whenever pilgrims come to visit, they unlock the church to let them visit and pray.

This village is the site where Jesus restored to life a boy who had died; the boy was the only son of a widow. The family who cares for the church, although extremely poor, is rich in love for others. They do not share our faith, yet our small group witnessed their love and compassion first-hand as they unlocked the church in order that we could pray. Goodness and kindness are readily apparent in the smiles of this family. They dwell beside "the house of the Lord" and witness love to people near and far.

**** Please not the change of time to Eucharistic Adoration on Friday evenings. It will now be from 6pm to 7:30pm.**

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
April 13 7pm Prayer Group	April 14	April 15 "Jesus Day" 4-6pm Charities Committee Meeting 7pm	April 16	April 17	April 18 6-7:30pm Eucharistic Adoration	April 19 ANOINTING MASS & LUNCHEON FOOD CLOTHING COLLECTION
April 20 1pm Baptism 7pm Prayer Group	April 21 **SCHOOL	April 22 VACATION	April 23 WEEK**	April 24	April 25 6-7:30pm Eucharistic Adoration	April 26 Marriage Prep 9am- 4pm
April 27 1pm Baptism Instruction 7pm Prayer Group	April 28 First Communion Practice Group 1 4-5pm	April 29 First Communion Practice Group 2 4-5pm	April 30 7pm Mass Ascension of the Lord First Communion Practice Group 1 4-5pm	May 1 9am Mass Ascension of the Lord First Communion practice Group 2 4-5pm	May 2 6-7:30pm Eucharistic Adoration	May 3 First Communion 10:30 & 1pm
May 4 11:15 Baptism 7pm Prayer Group	May 5 First Communion Practice Group 3 4-5pm	May 6 First Communion Practice Group 4 4-5pm	May 7 First Communion Practice Group 3 4-5pm	May 8 First Communion Practice Group 4 4-5pm	May 9 6-7:30pm Eucharistic Adoration	May 10 First Communion 10:30 & 1pm
May 11 Mother's Day 7pm Prayer Group	May 12	May 13	May 14	May 15	May 16 6-7:30pm Eucharistic Adoration	May 17 Mission of Deeds Collection & Food Collection
May 18 Mission of Deeds Collection & Food Collection 1pm Baptism 7pm Prayer Group	May 19	May 20	May 21	May 22	May 23 6-7:30pm Eucharistic Adoration	May 24 Memorial Day Weekend
May 25 1pm Baptism Instruction	May 26 Memorial Day	May 27	May 28	May 29	May 30 6-7:30pm Eucharistic Adoration	May 31

OUR LADY'S MONTHLY MESSAGE

March 25, 2008

"Dear Children! In this time of grace, I call you to work on your personal conversion. You are still far from meeting with God in your heart. Therefore, spend all the more time in prayer and Adoration of Jesus in the Most Blessed Sacrament of the Altar, for Him to change you and to put Into your heart a living faith and a desire for eternal life. Everything is passing, little children, only God is not passing. I am with you and I encourage you with love. Thank you for having responded to my call."

OUTSIDE THE PARSISH

ST. DOROTHYS PARISH Come one, come all for a fun filled evening! The Ladies Sodality will conduct an old fashion Double Penny Sale on Friday, April 18th at 7pm in the Church Hall of St. Dorothy's Church. There will be two tables of wonderful prizes.