

**ST. THOMAS OF VILLANOVA PARISH, WILMINGTON, MASSACHUSETTS**

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**Mass Intentions September 27-October 5, 2008**

**Saturday**

**5:00 PM Jeannette Lavoie**

**Sunday**

**8:00 AM Gertrude Wagstaff**

**9:30 AM Robert Feeney Sr.**

**11:15 AM Winifred & Alexander Groves**

**Monday**

**9:00 AM Tardif Family**

**Tuesday**

**9:00 AM Robert Jones**

**Wednesday**

**9:00 AM Dean Reed**

**Thursday**

**9:00 AM Jennie Griffin**

**Saturday**

**5:00 PM Angela & Giuseppe De Pasquale**

**Sunday**

**8:00 AM Alfred DeMarco**

**9:30 AM Cornelius "Manny" O'Brien**

**11:15 AM Jose Viveiros**

**DOMINICAN SISTERS BAKE SALE**

There will be a bake sale on the weekend Oct 4 & 5 there will be bread, brownies, apple & Blueberry pies. The proceeds from the sale will be used to buy medical supplies for their mission to support the lepers.

**BLESSING OF THE PETS**

In the spirit of St. Francis of Assisi, who loved all living creatures as a reflection of God's goodness, we are having a Blessing of Pets on Sunday, October 5 at 4:00pm in front of the Marian Shrine. All are invited to this celebration of life. Bring your dogs, cats, turtles, hamsters, birds, snakes and any animal that is close to your heart.

**WEDDING BANNS**

**II Kerri French and Mark Piantedosi**

**BAPTISM**

The following children were welcomed into St. Thomas Parish Family on Sunday, September 21, 2008.

*Dominic Andrew DiCenso*

*Charlotte Lynn Forcina*

*Zoey Lynne Morfis*

*Mackezie Weathebee*

*Cynthia J. Scifo*

*Anthony Richard Cummings*

**A NOTE FROM THE PASTOR**

Last Sunday we had Family Fun Day. There was a great turnout. Everyone seemed to have fun. I want to thank all those who helped organize Family Fun Day. It was a great event. Thanks!!

Religious Education classes started this past week. I would ask that when you drop off and pick up your child(ren), please drive slowly in the parking lot.

Now that the season of Fall has officially arrived, there are a number of activities going on in the parish. I would urge you to join in.

It is not too late to sign up for the Arise in Christ program. Forms are available in the sacristy and at the doors of the church.

In 2003 the Archdiocese of Boston issued a booklet on guidelines for ministerial conduct. It was all part of the protecting God's children program. At that time I made the booklets available to all those in any ministry in the church. At the end of the booklet there is one page summary that they are now asking each person in any ministry in the church to sign. This is in addition to the CORI form. Unlike the CORI form, you sign this form once in a life time. We will keep it on file. The forms are in the sacristy. Please read it over and sign it. You can leave it in the CORI basket on the counter in the sacristy.

2008 Catholic Appeal - Handing on the Light of Christ  
Thank you to all supporters of the 2008 Catholic Appeal. Our parish has raised \$27,303.00 from 194 households, reaching 93 percent of our parish goal of \$29,500.00. If you have not yet pledged, please consider a gift today and help us meet our goal. Remember, our parish will receive 25 percent of all funds we raise above our goal. Please remember to make your pledge now even if you plan on fulfilling that pledge towards the end of the year. You can pick up information packets with pledge forms in the back of the church to be mailed in, or for more information please visit [www.BostonCatholicAppeal.com](http://www.BostonCatholicAppeal.com) or call 617-779-3700. Every gift matters. Thank you!

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

**THANK YOU**

On behalf of the Merrimack Valley Catholic Charities we would like to thank Donna Murphy and all Parishioners of St. Thomas Parish for the generous donation of book bags and school supplies. This donation allows our Agency to fulfill its mission of helping those in need of services.

## **TWENTY SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

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### **OCTOBER FEST**

St. Thomas Women's Club is celebrating a Fall October Fest on Monday, October 6, 2008 at 6:30pm.

**Reservation are a must!**

Please call June at 978-657-7119 by Wednesday October 1<sup>st</sup>.

### **SENIOR MASS AND LUNCHEON**

St. Thomas Women's Club will again sponsor the Fall Senior Mass and Luncheon on Sat., Oct 18<sup>th</sup>, 2008, in Villanova Hall. Mass is at 11:30am followed by a Luncheon. All Seniors are invited to join us. To make a reservation please call Joan at 978-657-3905 by Friday Oct 10<sup>th</sup>. If you need a ride please let us know when you register.

### **ST. THOMAS CRAFT FAIR**

Once again The St. Thomas Women's Club will have the Craft Fair On Saturday, November 22, 2008 from 10 am to 3pm. It is \$35 to reserve a table. To RESERVE A TABLE OR THE DONATE A RAFFLE CALL Maureen at 978-658-8206 or Elaine 978-658-9060.

### **CHOIR REHEARSAL**

Anyone who is interested in joining the Choir please see Lora our music Director after Mass. They meet for rehearsal on Wednesday evenings.

Adult Choir rehearsal Wednesday's 7pm  
The Children's Choir Wednesday's 6pm

### **NEW CORI'S FORMS FOR 2008-2009**

All volunteers in the Parish need to fill out a new Cori every year. This includes all CCD Teachers and all ministries. The Forms are in the Sacristy. **PLEASE NOTE EACH VOLUNTEER MUST PROVIDE A GOVERNMENT ISSUED PHOTOGRAPHIC IDENTIFICATION TO VERIFY HIS OR HER IDENTITY- MA LICENSE, US PASSPORT ETC** In addition to the CORI form. We ask you to please sign a **CODE OF CONDUCT STATEMENT AGREEMENT**, We will keep it on file. The forms are in the sacristy. Please read it over and sign it. You can leave it in the CORI basket on the counter in the sacristy.

### **JUST A REMINDER**

If children need to use the restrooms during Mass times, parents are to accompany them. Why not make a visit before Mass begins? As a courtesy to others, please turn your cell phones off. Out of respect to the Sacrament we celebrate, please arrive for Mass on time and do not leave early.

### **CHARITY RAFFLE**

St. Thomas Villanova is sponsoring a charity raffle to raise money for Paul Lydon and his family. Paul has been diagnosed with ALS (Lou Gehrig's disease), and there are numerous physical and financial burdens facing his family (wife Alice, and 4 young children). The grand price for this raffle is \$10,000. Tickets are \$100 and there are only 300 tickets being sold, so your odds are good. The drawing will be held at the 5pm Mass on November 15<sup>th</sup>. To purchase tickets or for more information, contact Al or Deb Marzi [marzihome@comcast.net](mailto:marzihome@comcast.net)

### **ST. THOMAS MINISTRY FAIR**

### **ST. TOMAS APPALACHIAN MOUNTAIN PROJECT**

The St. Thomas Appalachian Mountain Project (S.T.A.M.P.) was started in 1999 to help rehab homes in Appalachia. It has evolved to serve other communities in need, particularly the cities and towns on the Gulf Coast devastated by hurricanes.

Once a year members of S.T.A.M.P. travel to a community in need where they spend a week helping to rebuild homes. Parishioners volunteer their time and talent to perform a variety of tasks including painting, carpentry and electrical work. STAMP pays the travel expenses.

We hold several fundraisers during the year, including the S.T.A.M.P. Dance in the fall. Funds go to pay for the travel expenses of our volunteers. The only meetings are to plan the fundraisers. For more information contact Agnes Fiumara at 978-657-6062.

### **OUTSIDE THE PARISH**

### **WILDCAT BANDS YARD SALE SAT. 10/4**

The Wilmington Band Parents will be having a yard sale to support the Wilmington band programs. The yard sale will be on Saturday, October 4 from 9am to 3pm at the Swan School Parking Lot. If you would like to set up and sell your own stuff or need more info. Call John Romano at 978-988-8045 or email [patjr@comcast.net](mailto:patjr@comcast.net).

### **MASSACHUSETTS CITIZEN FOR LIFE 2008 RESPECT LIFE WALK IN BOSTON SUNDAY OCTOBER 5th**

A bus will leave from St. Margaret's parking lot in Burlington after the 12pm Mass. For more information call Heartbeat at 781-229-7887 for sponsorship forms or to sponsor a walker.

Heartbeat is a non profit organization which assists mothers who are choosing life for their children.

**SEPTEMBER 28, 2008**

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>Sept 28</b> Baptismal Instruction  7pm Prayer Group	<b>Sept 29</b> Gr 1 4to 5pm 4 5:30 to 6:30pm 9 6:45to 8pm	<b>Sept 30</b> Gr 2 4to5pm 5 5:30 to 6:30pm 7 6:45 to 8pm	<b>Oct 1</b> Gr 3 4to5pm 6 5:30 to 6pm Children's Choir 6pm Adult Choir 7pm	<b>Oct 2</b>	<b>Oct 3</b> 6-7:30pm Eucharistic Adoration	<b>Oct 4</b> Dominican Sisters Pie & Bread Sale
<b>Oct 5</b> 9:30 Children's Liturgy Gr 2 Mass 1pm Baptism Blessing of the Pets 7pm Prayer Group	<b>Oct 6</b> Gr 1 4to 5pm 4 5:30 to 6:30pm 9 6:45to 8pm  OCTOBER FEST 6:30pm	<b>Oct 7</b> Gr 2 4to5pm 5 5:30 to 6:30pm 7 6:45 to 8pm	<b>Oct 8</b> Gr 3 4to5pm 6 5:30 to 6pm Children's Choir 6pm Adult Choir 7pm	<b>Oct 9</b>	<b>Oct 10</b> 6-7:30pm Eucharistic Adoration	<b>Oct 11</b> Columbus Day Weekend
<b>Oct 12</b> 7pm Prayer Group	<b>Oct 13</b> No CCD Columbus Day	<b>Oct 14</b> Gr 2 4to5pm 5 5:30 to 6:30pm 8 6:45 to 8pm	<b>Oct 15</b> Gr 3 4to5pm 6 5:30pm to 6pm Children's Choir 6pm Adult Choir 7pm	<b>Oct 16</b>	<b>Oct 17</b> 6-7:30pm Eucharistic Adoration	<b>Oct 18</b> SENIOR LUNCHEON  FOOD CLOTHING COLLECTION
<b>Oct 19</b> Chidrens Liturgy Gr 10 @11:15 1pm Baptism 7pm Prayer Group	<b>Oct 20</b> Gr 1 4to 5pm 4 5:30 to 6:30pm 9 6:45to 8pm	<b>Oct 21</b> Gr 2 4to5pm 5 5:30 to 6:30pm 7 6:45 to 8pm	<b>Oct 22</b> Gr 3 4to5pm 6 5:30pm to 6pm Children's Choir 6pm Adult Choir 7pm	<b>Oct 23</b>	<b>Oct 24</b> 6-7:30pm Eucharistic Adoration	<b>Oct 25</b> Sons of Italy Craft Fair 9 to 4pm
<b>Oct 26</b> Baptismal Instruction  7pm Prayer Group	<b>Oct 27</b> Gr 1 4to 5pm 4 5:30 to 6:30pm 10 6:45to 8pm	<b>Oct 28</b> Gr 2 4to5pm 5 5:30 to 6:30pm 8 6:45 to 8pm	<b>Oct 29</b> Gr 3 4to5pm 6 5:30pm to 6pm Children's Choir 6pm Adult Choir 7pm	<b>Oct 30</b>	<b>Oct 31</b> Halloween	<b>Nov 1</b>

**OUR LADY'S MONTHLY MESSAGE      August 25, 2008**

*"Dear children! Also today I call you to personal conversion. You be those who will convert and, with your life, will witness love, forgive and bring the joy of the Risen One into this world, where my son died and where people do not feel a need to seek Him and to discover Him in their lives. You adore Him, and may your hope be hope to those hearts who do not have Jesus. Thank you for having responded to my call."*

Meditations of the Heart  
 By Carolyn M. Kenney

"Do nothing out of selfishness or out of vainglory; rather, humbly regard others as more important than yourselves, each looking out not for his own interests, but also for those of others." These words come from today's second reading of Saint Paul's letter to the Philippians. Certainly Mother Teresa exemplified these words as she helped "the poorest of the poor" throughout the world. Placing others before ourselves is not an easy task to accomplish. As humans, we normally desire to be number one!

However, Jesus lived these words every day of His life while on earth. He reached out to men and women, to rich and poor, to young and old and to sinners everywhere. It isn't easy, but we must try and live these words as well. Starting today, let us "...regard others as more important than ourselves..." If we do this, we will definitely see a change in our own lives. (www.meditationsoftheheart.com)