

ST. THOMAS OF VILLANOVA PARISH, WILMINGTON, MASSACHUSETTS

Mass Intentions April 19-27, 2008

Saturday

5:00 PM Edward, Margaret & Richard Gorvin

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

9:30 AM Maria & Orlando Liggiero

11:15 AM Luis P. Machado

Monday

9:00 AM Easter Remembrances

Tuesday

9:00 AM Anthony Langone

Wednesday

9:00 AM Mary, Angelo, Vincent & Maryann Lalicata

Thursday

9:00 AM Anthony R. Coscia

Saturday

5:00 PM Carole Anne Dineen

Sunday

8:00 AM Francis Hightower

9:30 AM Vittorio Iocco

11:15 AM Rita Ennis

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.

MARRIAGE PREP

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

WEDDING BANNES

Lisa Dellascio and Angelo Bastolla

Kris Gottlander and Antonio Gentile

NOTE FROM THE PASTOR

Religious Education registration is almost over. A reminder letter was sent to all families who currently have a child in the program and have not registered. 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.

2008 Catholic Appeal - Handing on the Light of Christ Thank you to all supporters of the 2008 Catholic Appeal. Our parish has raised \$20,100 from 127 households, reaching 68.1 percent of our parish goal of \$29,500. If you have not yet pledged, please consider a gift today and help us meet 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 or call 617-779-3700. Every gift matters. Thank you!

The Women's Club had their Spring Luncheon for seniors on Saturday, April 19th. As always, the Women's Club does a nice job. I want to thank them for sponsoring this event.

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

On Tuesday of this past week, our second grade students participated in Jesus Day. I want to thank Marilyn Mandosa and Dorothy Barker and all their workers for creating a memorable event for the children.

Last Monday night, I went to a training session for the Arise program. Arise is a spiritual renewal program that will start in the fall. The format for the program is small faith sharing groups that meet in homes for six weeks. The group will be lead by a trained leader. Each participant will be given a booklet that will contain the prayers, the scripture for reflection, questions to guide the discussions, etc. We will have a sign up Sunday in September. Between now and then, you will be hearing much more about the program.

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

FIFTH 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

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.

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 April 6, 2008

\$ 5,845.50

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.

OUTSIDE OF THE PARISH

MASS IN HONOR OF PATRON SAINT OF CANCER PATIENTS

On Wednesday, April 30, (Ascension Thursday Eve) a liturgy will be celebrated at 7pm in honor of St. Peregrine at the Immaculate Conception Church on East Merrimack Street Lowell. St. Peregrine is the Patron saint of cancer patients, and is the Saint many cancer patients, family members and friends pray to for comfort and strength. Saint Peregrine, who lived in the 14th century, was a member of the Order of the Servants of Mary. He was afflicted with cancer of the leg and was miraculously cured the evening prior to an operation to amputate his leg. During this mass the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick will be offered to cancer patients and any who wish to partake of this Sacrament of God's healing. All are invited to come and pray with and for those afflicted with cancer.

JUNIOR LODGE

Wilmington Sons of Italy is starting a Junior Lodge. It is open to children of all descents, between the ages of 10 and 19 years. Meet new people; perform community service; leadership and scholarship opportunities.....

An informational meeting will be held on Sunday May 4, 2008 at 2pm at the Friendship Lodge at 32 Church Street in Wilmington. For more information please contact Mary Buscone 978-658-2896 or e-mail Mary at mbuscone @ Comcast.net

WALK FOR HUNGER, SUNDAY, MAY 4th

Starts on the Boston Common, 7-9am

Celebrate the spirit of giving along with 43,000 other concerned citizens by participating in this historic Massachusetts experience. For more information, call 617-273-5000 or visit www.projectbread.org/walk.

ANNULMENT INFORMATION

Annulment information offered by the Metropolitan Tribunal and the Office of Life and Family Ministries.

You may desire to learn more about what the Catholic Church teaches about annulments or you may be interested in beginning the process. The following meetings are designed to offer basic information and provide the opportunity to seek answers for any questions you may have. No registration is required. For further information or if you have questions please contact Joanne Curry at 617-746-5820.

THURSDAY, JUNE 19, at 7pm
ALL SAINTS PARISH in HAVERHILL

APRIL 13, 2008

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
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."

Meditation of the Heart

by Carolyn Kenney

In today's gospel, Jesus said to Thomas, "I am the way and the truth and the life." Today, He speaks the same words to you and to me. He is the way, the truth and the light of our lives. The "way" will not be found in drugs, alcohol or material wealth, no matter if the world tries to tell us differently. The "way" will only be found in Jesus, in His teachings and in the quiet moments when He speaks to our souls.

Jesus desires to teach us, but we must be open and listen to His words. One way is to visit Him at Adoration, where He is truly present in the Blessed Sacrament. There, He will speak to our hearts if we open them to Him. Jesus came to teach us the "way" to eternal life. He came to show us the "truth" of a loving relationship with God. We must allow His "light" to illuminate the darkness of our lives.