

ST. THOMAS OF VILLANOVA PARISH, WILMINGTON, MASSACHUSETTS

Mass Intentions August 2-10, 2008

Saturday

5:00 PM George Mullens

Sunday

8:00 AM Gertrude E. Wagstaff

9:30 AM People of the Parish

11:15 AM People of the Parish

Monday

9:00 AM Dennis Cassidy

Tuesday

9:00 AM Angelo & Michele Rubino

Wednesday

9:00 AM Patricia Quinn Ho

Thursday

9:00 AM Yvonne Deveau

Saturday

5:00PM Arthur Robichaud

Sunday

8:00AM Gertrude Wagstaff

9:30 AM People of the Parish

11:15 AM Roseanne Dyer

ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

Mass schedule for the Assumption
9am on Friday, Aug 15

WEDDING BANNES

I Sara M. Enos & Joseph T. Lane

I Marie Sampson & Matthew Hovis

III Donna M. Budd & Dennis A. Connolly

A NOTE FROM THE PASTOR

In an effort to save you gas and time, I want to give an update on vacation schedules. The music ministry folks are off for the month of August and will return in September. The religious education staff is back. There are in Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. Fr. Paul is away August 4 – 18. Our two deacons are off next week. Our parish secretary will be off the Mondays and Fridays of August. I plan on taking some time in September. That's the update. I always recommend that during August you call before you come. The parish was audited last week by an outside audit firm. The Archdiocese is having each parish audited every three

years by an outside audit firm. This is all part of their transparency efforts. The audit costs the parish \$4,500.00. We will be audited again in 2011. There were no major findings. They were small things. They want us to put the salary history in the employee's personnel file. We had it in the budget file. They want us to change how we count the collection. We count it according to bag. Whatever is in the first bag is the first collection and whatever is in the second bag is the second collection. They want us to pull out any envelope that was put in the wrong collection bag. In other words we have to sort the collection better. They also want us to clean up the trial balance. For example, we paid off the money we borrowed from the Archdiocese of Boston for the church furnace. (It broke one month after I got here.) We paid it off from the Capital Campaign. I never went in and eliminated the expense from our balance sheet, etc. We have a good system in place. Deacon Cliff King enters our bills into the computer and generates the check. I sign them. Deacon Joe Fagan, who is a CPA, reconciles the bank accounts and prepares the reports for the finance committee.

2008 Catholic Appeal - Handing on the Light of Christ
Thank you to all supporters of the 2008 Catholic Appeal. Our parish has raised \$26,675.00 from 190 households, reaching 90.4 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 or call 617-779-3700. Every gift matters. Thank you!

Arise Together in Christ is the name of the spiritual renewal program that will begin 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. The beauty of the program is that you do not have to be a theologian to participate nor is it a program where there are right and wrong answers. You are sharing your thoughts on the faith. 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

EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

BACK TO SCHOOL SUPPLIES COLLECTION

As you begin to buy school supplies for your own kids, please pick up a few extra and bring them to church. We are collecting school supplies that will be distributed to needy families through Catholic Charities in Lowell. There will be boxes at the entrances to the church from now through the middle of August. They are most in need of backpacks, notebooks, paper, pens, pencils, markers, glue, pencil boxes, rulers, scissors, etc. Thank you for your continued generosity to this project.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

The CCD Office is in need of volunteers

| | |
|---------|------------|
| Grade 1 | 3 teachers |
| Grade 3 | 2 teachers |
| Grade 5 | 2 teachers |
| Grade 6 | 4 teachers |
| Grade 8 | 2 teachers |

CCD Classes will Begin the week of September 22

The schedule will stay the same as last year

| | | |
|-----------|---------|----------------|
| Monday | Grade 1 | 4 to 5pm |
| | 4 | 5:30 to 6:30pm |
| | 9 or 10 | 6:45 to 8pm |
| Tuesday | Grade 2 | 4 to 5pm |
| | 5 | 5:30 to 6:30pm |
| | 7 or 8 | 6:45 to 8pm |
| Wednesday | Grade 3 | 4 to 5pm |
| | 6 | 6 to 5:30pm |

FAMILY FUN DAY

Once again St. Thomas will have a Family Fun Day Sunday, September 21st with games, food and fun for all ages. More information will follow. If you would like to help out with the planning or volunteer for the day of please call Pat Archfield at 978-250-1710 or the rectory.

CHURCH SUPPORT

| | |
|-----------------------------|------------|
| Offertory for July 20, 2008 | \$6,221.23 |
| Parish Monthly Collection | \$2,950.00 |

Next week the second collection is for European Relief

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

NEW CORI'S FORMS FOR 2008-2009

We ask all volunteers in the Parish to please fill out a new cori. This includes all CCD Teachers and all ministries. The Forms are in the Sacristy. Thank you.

PLEASE NOTE

EACH VOLUNTEER MUST PROVIDE A GOVERNMENT ISSUED PHOTOGRAPHIC IDENTIFICATION TO VERIFY HIS OR HER IDENTITY- MA LICENSE, US PASSPORT ETC.

ST. MICHAEL'S HOSTS BICENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

Representatives from eleven parishes of Vicariate III of the Merrimack Region are planning a local celebration of the Bicentennial of the Archdiocese of Boston. Everyone is invited to a Mass and family gathering on Sunday, September 7, at St. Michaels Parish in North Andover. The celebration begins with a noon Mass to be concelebrated by priests of the vicariate. A family picnic celebration will immediately follow with activities for all ages.

The Bicentennial Mass and picnic will offer an opportunity to look back with a sense of profound gratitude and to look forward with hope; an opportunity to join together and recommit to witness to Christ's Gospel, to pass on the faith, and to build on a civilization of love.

Further details will be provided as the date nears. In the meantime, mark your calendars and reserve Sunday, September 7, 2008, 12-4pm, for what promises to be a joyful renewal of our "Journey Together in Christ."

Meditations of the Heart

By Carolyn M. Kenney

Every Friday night, Eucharistic Adoration is conducted at our church from 6-7:30 p.m. in the chapel. Yet, only a handful of the seats are occupied. Why? At this time, Jesus is truly present in the Eucharist as He was to the Apostles over 2000 years ago.

In today's second reading from Saint Paul we read, "What will separate us from the love of Christ? I am convinced that neither death, nor life...nor present things, nor future things...nor any other creature will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord." Unfortunately, we allow many things to separate us from Jesus. If we had a closer, more intimate relationship with Him, how different our life would be. Come to adoration and spend five or ten minutes with Jesus. He is looking forward to your visit. (www.meditationsoftheheart.com)

AUGUST 3, 2008

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|--|--|---|-----------|-----------|---|---|
| August 3 1pm Baptism 7pm Prayer Group | August 4 CCD OFFICE REOPEN | August 5 | August 6 | August 7 | August 8 6-7:30pm Eucharistic Adoration | August 9 |
| August 10 7pm Prayer Group | August 11 | August 12 | August 13 | August 14 | August 15 9am Mass Assumption | August 16 |
| August 17 Coffee Hour 1pm Baptism 7pm Prayer Group | August 18 | August 19 | August 20 | August 21 | August 22 6-7:30pm Eucharistic Adoration | August 23 FOOD COLLECTION |
| August 24 FOOD COLLECTION 7pm Prayer Group | August 25 | August 26 | August 27 | August 28 | August 29 6-7:30pm Eucharistic Adoration | August 30 |
| August 31 1pm Baptismal Instruction 7pm Prayer Group | Sept 1 LABOR DAY | Sept 2 Home taught material Pick up CCD Office 10-5pm | Sept 3 | Sept 4 | Sept 5 6-7:30pm Eucharistic Adoration | Sept 6 |
| Sept 7 1pm Baptism 7pm Prayer Group | Sept 8 6:45pm Gr 1-6 Teachers meeting Women's Club 6:30pm Mass | Sept 9 6:45pm Gr 7-10 Teachers meeting | Sept 10 | Sept 11 | Sept 12 6-7:30pm Eucharistic Adoration | Sept 13 |
| Sept 14 7pm Prayer Group | Sept 15 | Sept 16 | Sept 17 | Sept 18 | Sept 19 6-7:30pm Eucharistic Adoration | Sept 20 CLOTHING FOOD COLLECTION |

OUR LADY'S MONTHLY MESSAGE July 25, 2008

“ Dear children! At this time when you are thinking of physical rest, I call you to conversion. Pray and work so that your heart yearns for God the Creator who is the true rest of your soul and your body. May He reveal His face to you and may He give you His peace. I am with you and intercede before God for each of you. Thank you for having responded to my call “



Prayer for Summer

Dear, God, you made the four seasons. Each summer arrives as part of your perfect pattern and will, yet is unique unto itself. This summer, help me to see not only the enjoyment of vacations, but the joy of your will. Help me to feel not only the pleasure of a warm sun, but the contentment of a life guided by you. Help me to know, not only the satisfaction of a project completed, but the fulfillment of a heart filled by you. Help me to see you in all things, Lord, in all the seasons of life you give us. Amen