

ST. THOMAS OF VILLANOVA PARISH, WILMINGTON, MASSACHUSETTS

Mass Intentions May 24 - June 1, 2008

Saturday

5:00 PM Mary Gillis

Sunday

8:00 AM James McFadyen & James McFayden Jr.

9:30 AM Kevin Giroux

11:15 AM Andrew Ring

Monday

9:00 AM Theresa M. Roche

Tuesday

9:00 AM Dea Cardinal

Wednesday

9:00 AM Deceased members of the Poulin & Longchamps Families

Thursday

9:00 AM In honor of Bob Tardiff

Saturday

5:00 PM Ana Viveiros

Sunday

8:00 AM Edward Morris

9:30 AM Donna Nihan

**11:15 AM Liz and Joe Fagan Sr.
Mass of Thanksgiving**

WEDDING BANNES

Tram Quynh Do and Truong Quang Ngo

BAPTISM

The following Children were welcomed into St. Thomas Parish Family on Sunday, May 18, 2008.

Lilly Abbott

Lilyana Elizabeth Beals

Landon Robert Bentley

Santiago Luis Alfonso Lacson

Julia Rose Mathews

Erin Rose McCarthy

Shane Alan McDonald

John William Roofe

Paisley Victoria Taylor

A NOTE FROM THE PASTOR

Next Saturday, May 31, 2008, Joe Fagan will be ordained a permanent deacon by Cardinal Sean O'Malley at the Cathedral of the Holy Cross. On Sunday, June 1 at the 11:15 AM Sunday Mass, Joe will join us for a Mass of Thanksgiving on the occasion of his ordination. Mark your calendar and join us for this joyous occasion. There will be a reception for Joe after the Mass in Villanova Hall. All are welcome to the reception after the 11:15 Mass. Although I have not yet heard from the Archdiocese, I am hoping that Joe will be assigned here. Deacon Cliff King will remain with us.

As you may have noticed the parking lot has a number of potholes. The finance committee has approved a repair job. We will fill the holes and all the cracks, seal the lot and reline it. We are trying to preserve what we have. Fr. Brown obtained a bid to repave the entire lot ten years ago. At that time, the bid was over \$70,000.00. Imagine what it would be today. We just cannot afford to repave the lot. The repair work will cost \$9,650.00.

2008 Catholic Appeal - Handing on the Light of Christ
Thank you to all supporters of the 2008 Catholic Appeal. Our parish has raised \$25,460.00 from 169 households, reaching 86.3 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

THE BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST

PANCAKE BREAKFAST

As we celebrate the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ in the Feast of Corpus Christi St. Thomas Parish Outreach Ministry is having a "Pancake Breakfast", Sunday, May 25th after 9:30 Mass.

There will be lots of Fun and for the whole family. They will also have a raffle drawing and prizes. Be sure to get your ticket and join us in Villanova Hall for Breakfast on May 25.

COFFEE HOUR

There will only be Coffee Hour once per month this summer due to summer vacation schedules we will resume the regular schedule in the Fall.

June 22, July 13 and August 17

ST. THOMAS MINISTRY FAIR

A different ministry 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.

SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT OVER THE SUMMER

Each fall as our activities get underway we try to recruit new altar servers from the fourth and fifth grades through C.C.D. I am looking for a person to assist in their training. If interested please call Deacon King at the Rectory 978-658-4665

REFLECTION

Today is the Feast of Corpus Christi The Body of Christ the day when we celebrate the mystery and joy of the Eucharist. Our altar is decorated with bread, wheat, wine and grapes used in that first Eucharist meal. During Mass we receive the Body and Blood of Christ as a community. Today we celebrate Jesus' Gift to us of His body and His Blood and His invitation to us to become a member of His Mystical Body, the Church and we rejoice in the words so the Lord in John 6:51. "I myself am the living bread come down from heaven. If anyone eats this bread, he will live forever." Today we celebrate this Feast of Corpus Christi we are having a community Meal. A Pancake Breakfast in Villanova Hall another type of Communion!

CHURCH SUPPORT

May 18, Offertory collection total	\$4,490.04
Catholic Communications total	\$1,382.00

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

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.

MEMORIAL DAY PRAYER

ALMIGHTY GOD AND FATHER, BY THE MYSTERY OF THE CROSS, YOU MADE US STRONG; BY THE SACRAMENT OF THE RESURRECTION YOU HAVE SEALED US AS YOUR OWN. LOOK KINDLY UPON YOUR SERVANTS, NOW FREED FROM THE BONDS OF MORTALITY, AND COUNT THEM AMONG YOUR SAINTS IN HEAVEN. WE ASK THIS THROUGH CHRIST OUR LORD. AMEN

OUTSIDE THE PARISH

CATHOLIC TV IS AVAILABLE

Comcast Cable: Channel 268 *Digital Set Top Box required*
Verizon FIOS: Channel 271
Sky Angel IPTV: Channel 142
RCN: Channel 85
always and everywhere at www.CatholicTV.com

SUMMER GOOD NEWS FIESTA

Children ages 6 to 11 June 23-27 at St. Patrick Church Hall on Suffolk Street in Lowell. Fiesta begins at 8:30 am with free breakfast provided by CTI Summer Feeding Program. Fiesta ends at 12:30pm after free lunch. Campers participate in arts and crafts, singing, acting, planting, games and teachings. Registration is \$5. for the week and \$1. each additional family member. Theme is "POWER LAB: Discovering Jesus' Miraculous Power Sponsored by the Oblate Associate Community and St. Patrick's Parish. Call 978-458-6346 x215 to register.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
May 25 PANCAKE BREAKFAST 1pm Baptism Instruction 7pm Prayer Group	May 26 Memorial Day	May 27	May 28	May 29	May 30 6-7:30pm Eucharistic Adoration	May 31
June 1 1pm Baptism 7pm Prayer Group	June 2	June 3	June 4	June 5	June 6 6-7:30pm Eucharistic Adoration	June 7
June 8 7pm Prayer Group	June 9 Women's Club Closing Mass 6:30pm	June 10	June 11	June 12	June 13 6-7:30pm Eucharistic Adoration	June 14 FOOD COLLECTION Raffle Sale 4 th of July Project
June 15 1pm Baptism 7pm Prayer Group	June 16	June 17	June 18	June 19	June 20 6-7:30pm Eucharistic Adoration	June 21
June 22 7pm Prayer Group	June 23	June 24	June 25	June 26	June 27 6-7:30pm Eucharistic Adoration	June 28

OUR LADY'S MONTHLY MESSAGE

April 25, 2008

"Dear Children! Also today, I call all of you to grow in God's love as a flower which feels the warm rays of spring. In this way, also you, little children, grow in God's love and carry it to all those who are far from God. Seek God's will and do good to those whom God has put on your way, and be light and joy. Thank you having responded to my call."

Meditation of the Heart

by Carolyn Kenney

In today's gospel from Saint John, Jesus said to the crowd, "I am the living bread that came down from heaven; whoever eats this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give is my flesh for the life of the world."

Within the Eucharistic host we receive at Holy Communion, Jesus Christ is truly alive. Through the power of God and the outpouring of the Holy Spirit, Jesus is present body, blood, soul and divinity. When you receive Holy Communion, do not simply turn and walk away out of "habit." Contemplate what is transpiring in your soul at that moment. Jesus now lives within you in a profound and intimate way. When you return to your seat, take time and reflect on Jesus' presence dwelling within you and feel His love alive in your heart. (www.meditationsoftheheart.com)