

ST. THOMAS OF VILLANOVA PARISH, WILMINGTON, MASSACHUSETTS

Mass Intentions November 1-9, 2008

Saturday

5:00 PM Virginia Crane

Sunday

8:00 AM Marilyn Gilbert

9:30 AM Joseph Marshall

11:15 AM Maria Teresa Burns

Monday

9:00 AM Frank B. Enos

Tuesday

9:00 AM Janet Simmons

Wednesday

9:00 AM Joseph Sico

Thursday

9:00 AM Maryann Savard

Saturday

5:00 PM Lawrence A. McGrath

Sunday

8:00 AM Deceased members of the Knights of Columbus

9:30 AM James M. McGonagle II

11:15 AM Frank McConologue

CHURCH SUPPORT

Sunday October 5, 2008	Offertory totaled \$4,856.00
Sunday October 12, 2008	Offertory totaled \$5161.50
Sunday, October 19, 2008	Offertory \$5,439.86 Mission Sunday \$1856.00
Sunday, October 26, 2008	Offertory totaled \$4,876.94 Parish Monthly \$2993.00

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

FOOD COLLECTION
NOVEMBER 8th and 9th

The weekend of November 8th and 9th The Charities Committee will collect food for the Wilmington Food Pantry. The Food Pantry is especially in need of the following items:

Soup, canned fruit, canned spaghetti, grape jelly, syrup, pancake mix, oatmeal, juice boxes and mayo

You may drop off Food donations in Villanova Hall after all Masses that weekend.

Note from the Pastor

On October 25th, twenty six people arrived back from Mississippi. We had a great time. I believed we completed 10 work orders. A work order was everything from vinyl siding a house to taping and mudding and sheet rocking a house to putting in a shower to building deck and a platform for the heating/cooling unit. There were more things done but I am getting old and forgetful!!

We had planned on staying in tents. The kind of tents that you saw on MASH. We stayed there Sunday night. However we moved out Monday night. That camp had been destroyed by Hurricane Gustav. There were still some issues with the water and plumbing. The camp is just getting back up and running. It still has to work out some kinks. Fortunately we went to another camp run by the Mennonites. That camp had buildings and tents.

I worked on three projects. On Monday I was working on the vinyl siding project. We made good progress so they sent me to another project on Tuesday. We were taking logs, milling them to create planks to put up on the wall. I was working the planning machine most of the day. The job progressed well and so they moved me to another project on Wednesday. At that project I was taping and mudding. I stayed there the rest of the week. From that you can conclude one of two things. First I am so skillful that I am a good utility player and work many different sites. In the alternative I have no skills and I was just moved along to get rid of me. I will leave it to my fellow companions on this journey to decide!!

It is amazing how much work still has to be done. They have made progress. However there are not even 50% back to pre-Katrina. Sometimes we think the United States can do anything quickly. It can't. As I look at the slow pace of recovery, I hope I am not in any large scale natural or man made disaster.

Last Sunday night we had a remembrance service for all those who died this past year. It was a beautiful service. I want to thank all those who put the service together and helped out at the service.

The Grand Annual collection letters have been mailed. That collection is keyed to the financial viability of St. Thomas Church. Sometime in the near future we will have a presentation on our finances at Mass. I want you to know exactly where we are at because it is your parish.

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

THIRTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

STATIONS OF THE CRIB

In preparing for Advent, all are welcome to join the Women's Club for a Presentation of the "Stations of the Crib" Presented by Pat Archfield on Monday, November 10th at 7:30pm in Villanova Hall.

ST. THOMAS CRAFT FAIR

The Craft Fair will be held on Saturday, November 22, from 10am to 3pm in Villanova Hall. It is \$35. to reserve a table. TO RESERVE A TABLE OR DONATE A RAFFLE CALL Maureen at 978-658-8206 or Elaine 978-658-9060. This is a great time to start your Christmas shopping.

THANKS GIVING PRAYER SERVICE

This year The Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service will be held at St. Thomas on the Sunday, November 23, 2008 at 6:00 PM. It is a good way for the community of Wilmington to give thanks to God for all the blessings we have received. Please join us.

ALL SOULS ENVELOPES

There will be masses said in memory of all our faithful departed in the month of November. By the statue of Mary there are envelopes for anyone wishing to add their departed loved ones name. Please be sure to write their names clearly for we will add all names to the bulletin.

REFLECTION ON ALTAR DECORATION

Memories are like dreams, they are real but difficult to explain to anyone else. We each have our own special memories of family and friends who are among the "faithful departed". We have hung a banner with a "honor roll" of the parishioners who have died during this past year. And our altar is decorated all in white as a symbol of the peace and hope of eternal life. We have added a family album, one of the places where we preserve our treasured memories and a hourglass and a clock. These objects are reminders that those who die do not "run out of time". They simply change over from our kind of time, the time of hours and minutes, to discover eternal time. This kind of time has no schedules, no deadlines, no sorrow, no pain or suffering, and no end. Just eternal rest and peace with our Lord.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS "MASS OF THE ROSES"

The Knights of Columbus will celebrate their annual "Mass of the Roses" communion breakfast to honor their deceased members at the 8:00am Mass on Sunday, November 9, 2008. Breakfast will follow the Mass at the Knights of Columbus hall. Those attending the Mass are welcome to come to the breakfast.

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 15th. To purchase tickets or for more information, contact Al or Deb Marzi marzihome@comcast.net

OUTSIDE THE PARISH

CHRISTMAS IN NOVEMBER

St. Dorothy Parish Annual Bazaar, Friday, Nov 14 5pm to 9pm and Saturday, 9:30am to 5pm refreshments craft tables raffles attic treasures white elephant tables.

CATHOLIC SCHOOL

ENTRANCE EXAM DATES

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 8:00 AM

AND

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 13, 8:00AM

8th GRADE STUDENTS MAY REGISTER AND TAKE THE EXAM AT ANY CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL IN THE ARCHDIOCESE OF BOSTON

HEALING SERVICE with Frank Kelly

St. William's Parish in Tewksbury will have a Mass and Healing Service at 7pm on Thurs, Nov 13th. Frank Kelly is the 6th of 12 children from a devout Irish Catholic family in Boston. In 1985, he miraculously survived what should have been a lethal dose of electricity. He was then blessed with many apostolic gifts, including praying unceasingly, knowledge and healing. Frank's ministry is faithful to the Magisterium and he always works with permission of the local bishop. There is no charge for the evening, but free-will donations will be gratefully appreciated. For more information, please contact Eileen Wood at info@catholicquest.org or 978-851-1304.

NOVEMBER 2, 2008

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Nov 2 Children's Liturgy 1pm Baptism 7pm Prayer Group	Nov 3 Gr 1 4to 5pm 4 5:30 to 6:30pm 9 6:45to 8pm	Nov 4 Gr 2 4to5pm 5 5:30 to 6:30pm 7 6:45 to 8pm	Nov 5 Gr 3 4to5pm 6 5:30pm to 6pm Children's Choir 6pm Adult Choir 7pm	Nov 6	Nov 7 6-7:30pm Eucharistic Adoration	Nov 8 FOOD COLLECTION
Nov 9 7pm Prayer Group	Nov 10 Gr 1 4to 5pm 4 5:30 to 6:30pm 10 6:45to 8pm	Nov 11 NO CLASS VETRANS DAY	Nov 12 Gr 3 4to5pm 6 5:30pm to 6pm Children's Choir 6pm Adult Choir 7pm	Nov 13	Nov 14 6-7:30pm Eucharistic Adoration	Nov 15
Nov 16 Children's Liturgy 1pm Baptism 7pm Prayer Group	Nov 17 Gr 1 4to 5pm 4 5:30 to 6:30pm 9 6:45to 8pm	Nov 18 Gr 2 4to5pm 5 5:30 to 6:30pm 7 6:45 to 8pm	Nov 19 Gr 3 4to5pm 6 5:30pm to 6pm Children's Choir 6pm Adult Choir 7pm	Nov 20	Nov 21 6-7:30pm Eucharistic Adoration	Nov 22 CRAFT FAIR
Nov 23 Gr 2 Parent Meeting @ 12:30 in Church 6pm Thanks giving Service	Nov 24 Gr 1 4to 5pm 4 5:30 to 6:30pm 10 6:45to 8pm	Nov 25 Gr 2 4to5pm 5 5:30 to 6:30pm 8 6:45 to 8pm	Nov 26 NO CCD CLASSES	Nov 27 Thanks giving Day	Nov 28	Nov 29
Nov 30 Childrens Liturgy Gr 10 @ 11:15 Mass "Rite of Choice" Baptismal Instruction 7pm Prayer Group	Dec 1 Gr 1 4to 5pm 4 5:30 to 6:30pm 9 6:45to 8pm	Dec 2 Gr 2 4to5pm 5 5:30 to 6:30pm 7 6:45 to 8pm	Dec 3 Gr 3 4to5pm 6 5:30pm to 6pm Children's Choir 6pm Adult Choir 7pm	Dec 4	Dec 5	Dec 6 Food Collection

OUR LADY'S MONTHLY MESSAGE October 25, 2008

"Dear children! In a special way I call you all to for my intentions so that, through your prayers, you may stop Satan's plan over this world, which is further from God every day, and which puts itself in the place of God and is destroying everything that is beautiful and good in the souls of each of you . Therefore, little children, arm yourselves with prayer and fasting so that you may be conscious of how much God loves you and may carry out God's will. Thank you for responding to my call."

THANKSGIVING DINNER BASKETS

Our parish Outreach Committee will be collecting food items to make Thanksgiving Dinner Baskets to be given to needy families throughout the Merrimack Valley. Please bring your donations to the entrances of our church from now through November 16th.

Requested Items:

Rice	Gravy	Boxed Potato	Cranberry Sauce	Applesauce
Stuffing Mix	Canned Corn & Green beans	Bread or Roll Mix	Canned Pineapple	
Cake mix & frosting	Cookie mix	Brownie mix	Nuts	

\$5, \$10, \$20 grocery store gift cards (to be used to purchase a turkey or ham, plus any needed perishable items)

If you would like to donate a complete box or have any questions, please contact Jen Pietropaolo at (978) 658-1547 vpietropaolo@comcast.net or Rose Jackson at (978) 658-9915 rosejackson1317@yahoo.com