

ST. THOMAS OF VILLANOVA PARISH, WILMINGTON, MASSACHUSETTS

Mass Intentions October 4-12, 2008

Saturday

5:00 PM Angela & Giuseppe DePasquale

Sunday

8:00AM Alfred DeMarco

9:30 AM Cornelius "Manny" O'Brien

11:15 AM Jose Viveiros

Monday

9:00 AM Bert Arzilli

Tuesday

9:00 AM William Bovitiz

Wednesday

9:00 AM Stephen Grant

Thursday

9:00 AM Margaret Ring

Saturday

5:00 PM Carole Anne & Mary Dineen

Sunday

8:00 AM Gertrude Wagstaff

9:30 AM Jake & Evan Wilkins

11:15 AM Domenico Maglione

BAKE SALE THIS WEEKEND

The Dominican Sisters bake sale is this weekend 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 THIS SUNDAY

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.

**MENS WOMENS AND CHILDRENS CLOTHES
COLLECTION AND FOOD COLLECTION
OCT. 18 & 19**

The Charities Committee will be collecting all Men's, Women's and Children's Clothing the weekend of October 18 and 19. They will also be collecting food for the Wilmington Food Pantry .

The Wilmington 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

All donations can be dropped off in Villanova Hall

A NOTE FROM THE PASTOR

This weekend will be a little different for you. I was contacted some time ago by the Harris organization to see if St. Thomas parish would participate in the U.S. Congregational Life Survey. It is a survey of congregational life in the United States, There are sampling all denominations. When I was approached, I thought we should have an opportunity to express our opinions on the matter. Here is how it will work. During the Mass all those over 15 years of age will be asked to fill out a survey. Those willing to participate will fill out the survey at church. We will then collect them. It is all anonymous so you can say whatever you think. Since you have to mark your answers in ink so that the optical scanner can read the data, there are pens in the benches. Since we are a participating congregation, we will receive some feedback.

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 \$27,363.00 from 195 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 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

WEDDING BANNES

*Rebecca LeBlanc and Michael Kennery
Michael Christopher Crowley and Carolyn R. Veilleux*

TWENTY SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

SENIOR MASS AND LUNCHEON

St. Thomas Women's Club will again sponsor the Fall Senior Mass and Luncheon on Sat., Oct 18th, 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 10th. 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.

CHURCH SUPPORT

September 21, 2008

Offertory Collection \$4,350.77
Monthly Collection \$3,035.23

September 28, 2008

Offertory Collection \$5,385.00

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

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 prize 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

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.

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.

OUTSIDE THE PARISH

MASSACHUSETTS CITIZEN FOR LIFE 2008 RESPECT LIFE WALK IN BOSTONSUNDAY 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

OCTOBER 5, 2008

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

Meditation of the Heart

By Carolyn M. Kenney

In today's second reading Saint Paul writes, "Have no anxiety at all, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, make your requests known to God. Then the peace of God that surpasses all understanding will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus."

"Have no anxiety..." These are not easy words to live by. Yet, Saint Paul tells us in order to accomplish this endeavor we must pray – pray and give thanks. Thank God for being an integral part of your life and for granting you so many blessings. Pray from your heart while confiding in Him all your problems and anxieties. If you do this with faith, His peace will fill you and will allay your troubles and fears. (www.meditationsoftheheart.com)

OUR LADY'S MONTHLY MESSAGE

September 25, 2008

"Dear children! May your life, anew, be a decision for peace. Be joyful carriers of peace and do not forget that you live in a time of grace, in which God gives great graces through my presence. Do not close yourselves, little children, but make good use of this and seek the gift of peace and love for your life so that you may become witnesses to others. I bless you with my motherly blessing. Thank you for having responded to my call."