

REMEMBER TO SUPPORT AND THANK OUR SPONSORS

THOSE WHO ADVERTISE ON THE BACK OF OUR BULLETIN MAKE THIS PUBLICATION POSSIBLE. PLEASE REMEMBER TO THANK THEM.

THIS WEEK & NEXT AT ST. THOMAS

CHRISTMAS CHURCH DECORATING

Please consider helping with the Christmas decorating of our church this year. Decorating for Christmas is TODAY, Sun., Dec. 21 around 2:00pm in the afternoon. Many hands make the work light.

SIMBANG GABI MASS



A Filipino tradition of a novena of Masses leading up to Christmas to which the entire parish is invited. The parol, a hand fashioned star, usually with an inner source of light, is commonly used in the entrance procession. Traditional Filipino dress adds to the festive nature of Simbang Gabi and adds color to the celebration. On Mon., Dec. 22, at 6:30pm St. Thomas Aquinas parish will host the concluding Mass for this celebration, a reception will follow in the Hall.

ADULT FAITH FORMATION

No meeting until January 7—Have a blessed Christmas!

WEATHER & HOLIDAY CHANGES

Christmas and New Year's holidays will be having an impact as well as possible weather conditions on our bulletin, parish meetings and staff work hours. Please be patient with staff—phone messages will be updated as needed to keep you informed regarding parish events and meetings. Please leave a message for staff members as they can update their phone messages from home if needed.

INCLEMENT WEATHER

If Camas School evening activities are closed, we will also close our evening programs. Adoration does go on and there are people who live close to the church you can call if driving would be dangerous for you and you can pray at home if the need arises.

ADORATION HELP NEEDED.

Immediate Openings— Sundays, 3:00am; Mondays, 2:00-4:00am, Fridays, 7:00pm & Saturdays 1:00pm & 3:00pm we need some people to take an hour with our Lord and we have several times when just one person is signed up, if you can commit to an hour you will be welcomed. Call the office if you can fill a position, 834-2126 ext. 0. Copies of the adoration schedule are available in the chapel on the bulletin board.

“MUSIC NOTES”
 Come be a part of our:
 * Vigil Choir * 9:30am Choir
 * 11:30am Schola
 * Vox Clara children's choir

Contact Kristin for more information
 kristinyoshimura@gmail.com/834-1495

CHILDREN'S PROGRAM

FAITH FORMATION

See you again on Wed., Jan. 7! Have a very Blessed Christmas!

RCIC-CHILDREN AND TEENS

This class is designed to prepare children over the age of 7 years who wish to celebrate the sacraments of Reconciliation and Holy Communion or are in need of Baptism. **Classes will be held on Thursdays beginning in January** so please contact Kim Steinke soon, ext. 207.

NEW FAITH FORMATION GROUP

Blessed Mother Teresa of Calcutta Apostolate is a new faith formation class designed for **children with learning challenges**; if you have any questions or have a child who may benefit from this ministry, please contact Kellie Hagen, 834-0393.

GIRLS' CLUB MOVIE NIGHT

On Mon., Dec. 29 at 6:30pm in the Youth Room all girls are invited for "Anne of Green Gables". Bring a snack or beverage to share. Parents during the movie you'll have a special planning meeting—so be sure to plan to stay.

YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY

SNOW TRIP!

MIDDLE SCHOOL SNOW TRIP

MON., DEC. 29, 8:00-6:00PM

HIGH SCHOOL SNOW TRIP

TUE., DEC. 28, 8:00-6:00AM

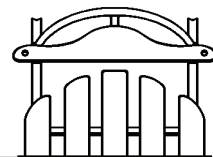
LOCATION: OLD MAN PASS

SNO*PARK

WIND RIVER WINTER RECREATION AREA

Cost: Free!

Drivers Still Needed. Please Return your permission slips by Tue., Dec. 23. Friends welcome!



MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP

Resumes Wed., Jan. 7, 6:00-7:30pm

DEAD THEOLOGIANS SOCIETY (DTS)

Resumes Wed., Jan. 7, 7:45-9:00pm

HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP

Resumes Sun., Jan. 11 1:30-3:00pm

IN YOUR CHARITY

Please pray for the soul of Ivan Wurzer, son of Elizabeth and husband of Carol who was buried last week.

THANK YOU

Thank you to the 308 parish households (47% of the total) who have conscientiously returned a Parish Stewardship commitment card. We want to hear from ALL of you! By returning a commitment card, you make it easier for the parish to plan for the coming year and your response tells us of your active participation in our parish.

If you haven't returned a pledge card yet, please return it to the parish through the mail, by dropping it off at the parish office, or through the Sunday collection.

If you misplaced your pledge card, please contact the office.

NOTICES / OUTREACH / ADS



WINTER WEAR DRIVE

The John Paul II Center is asking for donations of warm clothing to be distributed to the needy this winter. Please be sure that the clothing is clean and in good repair. Donations can be brought to the John Paul II Center at 534 NE Everett, Camas, WA. Please call the center at 834-2625 before dropping off donations.

JOHN PAUL II CENTER

Dec. 23: 9:30am Mad Hatters, 1:00-3:00pm Blood Pressure Screening, 8:00pm AA meeting

Dec. 30: 9:30am Mad Hatters, 8:00pm AA meeting

DYNAMIC MARRIAGE COURSE

Couples, rediscover what made you first fall in love, learn practical skills to affair-proof your marriage, and make your relationship more fulfilling than ever. Course runs Saturdays 7:00-9:00pm, Jan 10-Mar. 14, at St Joseph's, 400 S Andresen Rd, Vancouver. Space is limited Childcare by reservation. Contact Terri Gilbride, 823-2821, terriq@stjoevan.org. Cost is \$130/couple.

OLL JOB OPPORTUNITY- FACILITIES SUPERVISOR

The duties and responsibilities of this position encompass, but are not limited to: Implementing and maintaining an annual work plan regarding operations and maintenance of parish and school facilities; maintaining all systems and equipment such as HVAC, plumbing, electrical, etc; monitoring lawn care, roof cleaning, parking lot maintenance and upkeep; oversees maintenance of inventory for custodial maintenance concerns and equipment; directing the safety program; overseeing all maintenance contracts in all construction/renovation projects. Full-time position, benefits package and requires early start hours and limited weekend/evening work/24 hr on-call availability. Expected hire date is May 1, 2009, interviews will be conducted after Feb. 1. Contact Julie Hanley, Business Manager, 695-1366, ext. 101 for more information and forward all resumes to j.hanley@ollparish.org or mail to: Our Lady of Lourdes Church, 4723 NW Franklin Street, Vancouver, WA 98663.

COMMUNITY PREGNANCY CLINIC

Please bring size 4, 5 & 6 diapers to the St. Vincent de Paul barrel in the back of the church and we will deliver them to CPC.

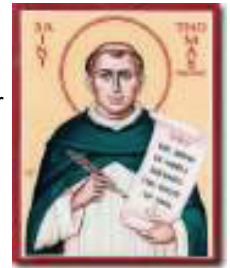
UPCOMING EVENTS

EPIPHANY CONCERT 2009 SUN., JAN. 4 3:00PM

The choir is looking forward to presenting our annual Epiphany concert. From Renaissance to Rachmaninoff, our choir will be performing a variety of sacred music for your enjoyment. We will have instrumental and vocal solo's in addition to our choral pieces and sing-a-long. Please come and show your support for our St. Thomas music program. The concert is free and a dessert reception will follow. Bring your family and friends and celebrate the culmination of the Christmas season on Epiphany.

ST. THOMAS AQUINAS FEAST AND AUCTION

Our annual Parish Dinner and Auction has been scheduled for Jan. 31 and will honor our patron, Saint Thomas Aquinas. This is our Parish, "branded" event with our Crab and Prime Rib Dinner, the hall beautifully decorated, and auction tables full of wonderful items for silent bid. It is a special evening where we all have a great time and let our hair down a little with our Catholic friends. This will be our 6th annual year for the dinner, and as in years past, proceeds will go to support family programs. Please save the date for this special night. For additional information please call Laurie Midles, 833-1098 or Bud Brown, 834-7863.



NOTE TO ST THOMAS GROUPS & ORGANIZATIONS

Here at St Thomas we are blessed with many wonderful volunteers who belong to the Archdiocesan sanctioned groups, ministries, and societies of St Thomas. Each member and each group make their unique contribution to the success of St Thomas. These approved organizations have a seat on the Outreach commission and use this as a vehicle to share their ideas and information with others in the parish. If your group is not attending the monthly Outreach commission meetings your leader needs to contact Jeanne in the parish office. Only groups represented at the Outreach commission are recognized and sanctioned organizations at St Thomas.

THANKSGIVING MASS

On Jan. 17, 5:30pm in St. James Cathedral, 804 9th Ave, Seattle, The Most Reverend Alexander J. Brunett, Archbishop of Seattle will celebrate Mass in thanksgiving for the life of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Please RSVP 888 461-8605 or rose.benedicto@seattlearch.org. Sponsored by the Office of the Vicar for Clergy and the African American Catholic Community.

OUR STEWARDSHIP RESPONSE-SUNDAY OFFERTORY

WE REPORT THIS ACCORDING TO THE FISCAL YEAR WHICH RUNS FROM
7/1/2008 THROUGH 6/30/2009

Actual Collection—week 24	\$8,473
Cumulative Actual for 24 weeks	\$317,569
Cumulative Budget for 24 weeks	\$336,093
Difference (Actual vs. Budget)	-\$18,524 -5.5%

The Stewardship of St. Paul

“If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, will He not also give us everything else?”

St. Paul Rom 8:31

What a wonderful gift!

God gives us his only Son, and then gives us everything else, too!

He gives us everything we need to truly live as Disciples of Christ. To truly embrace Stewardship as our *way of life!* How can we turn away from such gifts? And why would we? Let's run toward them, instead!

With God on our side, we've got all we need - and more!



This Week at St. Thomas Aquinas

December 20 SATURDAY

5:00pm Mass for the soul of Paul Bourcier (Bourcier)
6:00pm Craft Night, Fireside Room

December 21 4th SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Coffee Hour is sponsored by the CDA
Liturgy of the Hours—week 3

Old Testament: 2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16

New Testament: Romans 16:25-27

Gospel: Luke 1:26-38

8:00am Mass for the soul of Christine Hanses (Carruthers)
9:30am Mass *Pro Populo*
No Blessed Mother Teresa of Calcutta Apostolate, Good Shepherd
11:30am Mass for the intentions of Cecilia Powell (Connell)
No High School Faith Formation

December 22 MONDAY

8:00am Liturgy of the Hours, Church
8:30am Mass for the intentions of Don Houvenor (Lounsbery)
9:10am Rosary
6:00pm Scouts, Hall

December 23 TUESDAY

8:00am Liturgy of the Hours, Church
8:30am Mass for soul of Katherine Redlinger (Lounsbery)
9:10am Rosary

December 24 WEDNESDAY Staff Day off

8:00am Liturgy of the Hours, Church
8:30am Mass for the Hagen family intentions (Leick)
9:10am Rosary
5:00pm Vigil Mass
No Faith Formation, St. Thomas Schola, Prayer Group, DTS

December 25 THURSDAY Christmas (Holy Day of Obligation) Staff Day off

12:00am Mass at Midnight
9:30am Mass at Dawn
11:30am Mass during the Day
No Bible Study Vox Clara, RCIA

December 26 FRIDAY St. Stephen Staff Day off

9:00am Cleaners at work, Church
12:00pm Mass for the intentions of Jim Jennings (Duringer)

December 28 SATURDAY St. John

9:00am Mass for the soul of Katherine Redlinger (Lounsbery)
9:45am Rosary
10:00am Confessions
3:30pm Confessions
5:00pm Mass for the intentions of Rose Nicastle (St. Germain)

December 28 SUNDAY The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph

Coffee Hour is sponsored by Squires
Liturgy of the Hours—week 1

Old Testament: Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14

New Testament: Colossians 3:12-21

Gospel: Luke 2:22-40

8:00am Fr. Donato Mass
9:30am Fr. Donato Mass
No Blessed Mother Teresa of Calcutta Apostolate, Good Shepherd
11:30am Fr. Donato Mass
No High School Faith Formation

December 29 MONDAY The Fifth Day in the Octave of Christmas

8:00am Liturgy of the Hours, Church
8:30am Mass for the soul of Fr. Richard Roach
9:10am Rosary
6:00pm Scouts, Hall
6:30pm Prayer Group Core Potluck, Fireside Room

December 30 TUESDAY The Sixth Day in the Octave of Christmas

8:00am Liturgy of the Hours, Church
8:30am Mass for the intentions of Cecilia Powell (Connell)
9:10am Rosary

December 31 WEDNESDAY The Seventh Day in the Octave of Christmas

8:00am Liturgy of the Hours, Church
8:30am Mass for soul of Mildred Ornellas
9:10am Rosary

NO Vigil Mass

No Faith Formation, St. Thomas Schola, Prayer Group, DTS

January 1 THURSDAY Mary, Mother of God (Holy Day of Obligation) Staff Day off

8:30am Mass for the soul of Dick McGee
12:00pm Mass for the intentions of Robert & Kim Berg (Duringer)
7:00pm Mass *Pro Populo*
No Bible Study Vox Clara, RCIA

January 2 FIRST FRIDAY St. Basil the Great & St. Gregory Nazianzen

9:00am Cleaners at work, Church
12:00pm Mass for the poor soul (Duringer)

January 3 SATURDAY

9:00am Mass for a deeper conversion of Catholics (Duringer)
9:45am Rosary
10:00am Confessions
1:00pm Choir dress rehearsal
3:30pm Confessions
5:00pm Mass for the soul of Susan Schwetz (Underwood)

January 4 SUNDAY Epiphany

Breakfast is sponsored by the Knights of Columbus

Liturgy of the Hours—week 2

Old Testament: Isaiah 60:1-6

New Testament: Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6

Gospel: Matthew 2:1-12

8:00am Mass for the mother of Tammy Soneson (Lounsbery)

9:30am Mass *Pro Populo*

No Blessed Mother Teresa of Calcutta Apostolate, Good Shepherd

11:30am Mass for the soul of Norma Potts (Lounsbery)

No High School Faith Formation



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Jan. 8 Church Tour

Feb. 14 Marriage Celebration



LIGHT WEIGH IS RETURNING TO EAST VANCOUVER!

Are you tired of struggling with your weight? Do you want to strengthen your relationship with God? The Light Weigh will teach you how to do both. An orientation meeting will be held on Sun., Jan. 4, 2:00pm in the Sunpointe Apartments Clubhouse (900 SE Park Crest Ave, Van). Come learn about the Light Weigh Bible study & video series and how this program has been a blessing to others. Contact Tonya Tierney (360 213-412 2) if you have any questions.