

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

CIRCLE OF LOVE PARTY

A prayer group Christmas party will be on Mon., Dec. 29 at 6:30pm in the Fireside Room weather permitting. Bring a snack to share, if you'd like. Our core team consisting of: Terry & John Baker, Claudia Heacock, Lisa Hix and Alicia Vaughn will be receiving a blessing from Father Gillette. We'll enjoy a light supper and plenty of snacks, plus lots of time to visit and sing Christmas Carols. Everyone is welcome.

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.



CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAS

The Catholic Daughters will hold their January meeting on Mon., Jan. 5. Fr. Gillette will be our speaker, starting at 6:30pm. The business meeting will begin at 7:15pm. We will also play White Elephant Bingo after the meeting. So everyone who is interested in playing should bring a "white elephant gift" to the meeting. It should be wrapped so we don't know what it is. This is always a fun time. Any women in the parish interested in Catholic Daughters are invited to attend this meeting. If you have questions, call Anne at 835-8220.

ADULT FAITH FORMATION

No meeting until January 7—*Apologetics: Defending and Explaining the Catholic Faith—Answering Common Objections* with Justin Nickelsen will be the topic at 6:00pm following prayer.

INTERESTED IN ANOTHER BIBLE STUDY??

After such a great response to the Thursday morning Bible Study, and the request by many to provide another time slot, would you consider a Bible Study group on Sunday mornings, 9:30-11:00am? This time slot would allow people from the 8:00am and 11:30am Masses to come to the study group and childcare is already provided during this time. Please let me know: Justin, 907-9648, nouvelletheologie@hotmail.com ASAP!

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 and in the vestibule.

CHILDREN'S PROGRAM

FAITH FORMATION

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

RCIC-CHILDREN AND TEENS

RCIC is a special class designed to prepare children over the age of 7 years to celebrate the sacraments of Reconciliation and Holy Communion or are in need of Baptism. **Classes will be held on Thursdays beginning Jan. 8, 7:00—8:00pm.** Please contact Kim Steinke ASAP, 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.

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.

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

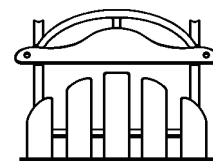
LOCATION: OLD MAN PASS

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 THEOLOGIAN SOCIETY (DTS)

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

HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP

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

THANK YOU

Thank you to the parish households who have conscientiously returned a Parish Stewardship commitment card. We need to hear from ALL of our parish families! 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, 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

CHURCH CLEANERS SCHEDULES

2009 schedules are available in the Ushers' Closets.

NEW TIME – NEW NIGHT FOR CIRCLE OF LOVE PRAYER GROUP

Beginning Tue., Jan. 6, 6:30-8:00pm will be the new time for prayer group. Meetings will be held in the Fireside Room. All are Welcome to attend.

SEEKING BOARD VOLUNTEERS FOR CEMETERY BOARD

Holy Cross Cemetery, located at the corner of Old Evergreen Highway and Sunset View Road, is a ministry of St Thomas Aquinas Parish. The Parish Finance Council is seeking a few volunteers who would be interested in serving on the Cemetery Board. There are a number of projects that require attention including improvement projects on the cemetery grounds, establishing policies and procedures, pricing, and creating a perpetual endowment for cemetery maintenance. If you would be interested in helping us with this historic cemetery please contact Dr. Peter Phillips (Finance Council chair) at 694-1118.

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.

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.

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

RICH SWINGLE RETURNS

Since we canceled the performance of "Views of the Manger" we are blessed to announce that Rich here in the area and we will be seeing another on his shows: mark your calendar for Jan. 14, 6:00pm for an entertaining event!

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.



DEACON HAROLD BURKE-SIVERS COMING FEB 4

Well known Catholic speaker, Deacon Harold Burke-Sivers will be coming to St. Thomas on Wed., Feb. 4 to discuss "Male and Female He Created Them: God's Plan for Marriage and Family Life". Free Childcare provided. For the married and unmarried alike. For more information, please contact Justin, 907-9648 or nouvelletheologie@hotmail.com

WOMEN'S RETREAT

Mark your calendars for Feb. 20-22 and plan to attend our annual retreat! Information and registration form will be coming out soon.

MEN'S RETREAT: MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

The Men's Retreat will be Fri., Apr. 24 through Sun., Apr. 26 at Mount Angel Abbey in Mt. Angel Oregon. The theme for the retreat is "Man of God", with four main talks: "Jesus as the Model for the Man of God"; "The Man of God at Work and in Business"; "The Man of God in the Family"; and "The Man of God in Parish Life". The style of the retreat is "mixed"--there will be ample time for silence and prayer, as long as fellowship and conversation. Registration form, will be coming soon! Contact Justin, at 907-9648 or nouvelletheologie@hotmail.com.

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.

TAX INFORMATION FOR END OF YEAR DONATIONS

Just a reminder that according to IRS policies, in order to receive a tax deduction for 2008, donations must be postmarked by December 31 or received in the office or offertory by December 31. Donations postmarked or received after this date must be posted to 2009 regardless of the date on the check.

CHRISTMAS GIVING

Christmas and year-end giving are not only Catholic tradition, but Christmas marks the beginning of the ultimate gift—God's gift of His only Son, Jesus Christ.

The tradition of gift giving during the Christmas season traces its origin to the three Magi bringing gifts to the newborn King.

What about the gifts God has given us during the year? What about the gifts He has given you throughout your lifetime?

Christmas is a spiritual opportunity to return to God some of the many blessings He has bestowed on us.

Please consider making an additional donation to the Parish Human Relations Fund which helps the poor and needy of our community through St. Vincent de Paul and other charities.



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This Week at St. Thomas Aquinas

December 27 SATURDAY St. John
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 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 FIRST 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 (Lounsbury)
9:30am Mass *Pro Populo*
No Blessed Mother Teresa of Calcutta Apostolate, Good Shepherd
11:30am Mass for the soul of Norma Potts (Lounsbury)
No High School Faith Formation
3:00pm Epiphany Concert, Church



January 5 MONDAY St. John Neumann

8:00am Liturgy of the Hours, Church
8:30am Mass for the soul of John Kirschner
9:10am Rosary
6:00pm Scouts, Hall
6:30pm Catholic Daughters, Fireside Room
6:30pm Girls' Club, Youth Office

January 6 TUESDAY Blessed Andre Bessette

8:00am Liturgy of the Hours, Church
8:30am Mass for the soul of Ken Haas (Haas)
9:10am Rosary
6:30pm Prayer Group, Fireside Room
7:30pm Knights of Columbus, Hall

January 7 WEDNESDAY St. Raymond of Penafort

8:00am Liturgy of the Hours, Church
8:30am Mind Mass for the soul of Jean Phimister
9:10am Rosary
10:00am Aquinas Guild, Fireside Room
6:00pm Faith Formation, begin in Church
7:00pm St. Thomas Schola, Church
7:30pm DTS, Youth Room

January 8 THURSDAY Christmas Weekday

8:00am Liturgy of the Hours, Church
8:30am Mass for the soul of Don Houvenor (Lounsbury)
9:10am Rosary
3:15pm Vox Clara, Room 16
7:00pm RCIA (Church Tour), Church
7:00pm Choir practice, Room 16
7:00pm Outreach Commission, Room 17

January 9 FRIDAY Christmas Weekday

8:00am Liturgy of the Hours, Church
9:00am Church cleaners at work
12:00pm Mass for the soul of Christine Hanses (Carruthers)

January 10 SATURDAY Christmas Weekday

9:00am Mass for the soul of Deborah Fisher (Wilmott)
9:45am Rosary
10:00am Confessions
3:30pm Confessions
5:00pm Mass for the mother of Tammy Soneson (Lounsbury)

January 11 SUNDAY The Baptism of the Lord

Coffee Hour is sponsored by the Boys' Club
Liturgy of the Hours—week 3

Old Testament: Isaiah 42:1-4,6-7
New Testament: Apostles 10:34-38
Gospel: Mark 1:7-11

8:00am Mass for the mother of Tammy Soneson (Lounsbury)
9:30am Mass *Pro Populo*
9:30am Blessed Mother Teresa of Calcutta Apostolate, Upper Room
10:30am Good Shepherd, Room 11
11:30am Mass for the soul of Norma Potts (Lounsbury)
1:30pm High School Faith Formation
6:30pm Boys' Club, Fireside Room
7:00pm Squires, Hall

CALENDAR OF EVENT

Jan. 14 Rich Swingle presentation