

REMEMBER TO SUPPORT AND THANK OUR SPONSORS

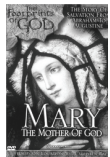
THOSE WHO ADVERTISE ON THE BACK OF OUR BULLETIN MAKE THIS PUBLICATION POSSIBLE. PLEASE REMEMBER TO THANK THEM.

THIS WEEK AT ST. THOMAS

BULLETIN DEADLINE EARLY THIS WEEK

Please submit any articles you want included in the Jan. 3 bulletin to the office by Mon., Dec. 28 at noon.

NEW YEAR'S EVE CAROLING, VIDEO AND HOLY HOUR



Due to unforeseen circumstances, the video presentation in the Fireside Room on New Years Eve must be postponed until a later date. The Holy Hour will continue as planned from 11:00pm to Midnight in the Church with Rosary for Grace Filled New Year with meditations from Pope Benedict's World Day of Peace and Divine Mercy Chaplet.

Hosted by BNA.

SOLEMNITY OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD

*(Holy Day of Obligation)
(World Day of Peace)
Jan. 1, 2010*

**Masses are celebrated at
9:30am,
11:30am & 7:00pm**



EPIPHANY CONCERT

Our annual Epiphany concert will be held next Sun., Jan. 3 at 3:00pm in the church. The choir/schola will be performing pieces from throughout Advent and Christmas, including special pieces never before heard. We will also include vocal and instrumental solos from our choir members. They put in a lot of effort and extra rehearsal time to prepare for this event. It is our special way of trying to make Christmas more of a season instead of just one day. Epiphany is the day we celebrate the Wise Men arriving to pay homage to Jesus in the manger. Make your Christmas season last by joining us for our concert. Don't forget our sing-a-long at the end. This is truly *your* concert, too! A short reception will follow.



PERPETUAL ADORATION

We now have the following openings so your help is needed:

Monday, Midnight-1:00am & 1:00-2:00am

Wednesday, 1:00-2:00am, 2:00-3:00am, 3:00-4:00am & 4:00-5:00am

Thursday, 2:00-3:00am, 3:00-4:00am, 4:00-5:00am

Friday, 2:00-3:00am, 3:00-4:00am

Saturday, midnight-1:00am & 2:00-3:00am

Please contact the parish office if you would like to fill a hour. Jeanne@st-thomascamas.org or 834-2126 ext. 0.

IN YOUR CHARITY

Please pray for the soul of longtime parishioner, Howard Ritter who passed away on Dec. 20. Howard's Vigil Service will be on Tue., Dec. 29, 9:00am and his Funeral Mass will follow at 10:00am.

CHILDREN'S PROGRAM

FAITH FORMATION

Classes begin again on Wed., Jan. 6 at 6:00pm. We wish you a Blessed Christmas!

FIRST RECONCILIATION CELEBRATED, WHEN?

On Sun., Jan. 10 at 2:00pm in the church.

BLESSED MOTHER TERESA OF CALCUTTA

APOSTOLATE

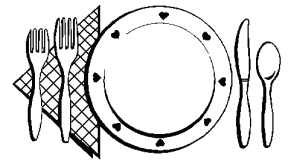
Meetings are on Sunday mornings before and during 9:30am Mass. This is a faith formation class designed for children who need a non-traditional classroom setting. Contact Kellie Hagen: [834-0393](tel:834-0393) or pathwaystolearning@live.com

GIRL'S AND YOUNG WOMEN'S VOCATION DINNER

On Sat. Jan. 9 following the Vigil Mass will be the annual dinner sponsored by the Boys' Club for all girls and young women, aged 7-19, and their mothers.

The guest speaker this year will be Sr.

Joelle Aflaguek, S.S.N.D. who is currently working at St. Joseph's parish in Vancouver. This is a parish sponsored dinner so there is no charge for parishioners, but we do need to have your reservation by Jan. 4; contact 834-2126 ext. 0 or Jeanne@st-thomascamas.org



ST. THOMAS AQUINAS PRAYER BOOKS

Prayer Books are on sale for \$6 in the office.

PUBLIC HEALTH REMINDER

Although the spread of H1N1 influenza (swine flu) has slowed down, additional H1N1 outbreaks are possible this flu season. Because H1N1 is a contagious and potentially serious disease, it's important for people to get vaccinated. H1N1 vaccine is now available for everyone, especially pregnant women, healthcare workers, children ages 6 months through age 24, parents and caregivers of children younger than 6 months, and people 6 months through age 64 with chronic medical conditions. A list of vaccine location can be found at www.FluNewsSWWashington.org.

YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY

H.S. SNOW RETREAT

Dec. 28-29. Registration forms in the office.

M.S. SNOW RETREAT

Will be in January. More information soon.



YOUTH ADORATION

Adoration has been postponed, until Jan. 8, so you can enjoy the First; just don't forget to attend Mass.

STEWARDSHIP RENEWAL

THANK YOU TO ALL THE PARISH FAMILIES WHO RETURNED A STEWARDSHIP PLEDGE. THIS REALLY HELPS THE PARISH IN PLANNING OUR PROGRAMS AND EVENTS FOR NEXT YEAR.

IF YOU DID NOT RETURN A PLEDGE CARD IT IS NEVER TOO LATE...PLEASE CALL THE OFFICE 834-2126 AND WE WILL BE HAPPY TO SEND ONE TO YOU.

NOTICES / OUTREACH / ADS

EVANGELIZATION TEAM

Following the example set by Archbishop Brunett, the Catholics Come Home program will be initiated in our parish and we are in the process of setting up an Evangelization team. Thus far, we have set up a small group to acquire information and resources from the archdiocese in an effort to prepare for the upcoming ad campaign. At this time we are looking for committed parishioners to look at ways that we, as members of the Camas/Washougal community, can evangelize and welcome others. Meetings have been set up for the second Saturday of the month at 8:00am in Room 17. To be included in the sharing of information, contact the office or kristinyoshimura@gmail.com

PRAYER CHAIN

Have you found a beloved friend or family member who weighed heavily on your heart, so much so that you worried for them and found yourself praying for him or her; then began to wish you had something more powerful than just your own prayers? Well, how about multiplying your prayers by others praying with you! Here it is call the prayer hot line 835-1644 to get your prayers going through to several parish members praying with you or for you! Your confidentiality is a major consideration of the prayer group when you call, simply give the name of the person you wish the group to pray for and what you're asking the Lord to do for this person. If you would like to pray for others and become a member of the prayer chain, just contact Vie, 335-1644 or vie ross@evross.

ARCHDIOCESAN COUNCIL OF CATHOLIC WOMEN SOUTHERN DEANERY MEETING

On Thu., Jan. 14, at St. Joseph Catholic Church (157 S.W. 6th St. Chehalis), is the next meeting Hostesses will be the St. Joseph's Altar Society.

DIRECTIONS: From North or South on I-5 take exit 77. Drive East on Main St. (approximately one half mile) to stoplight at Cascade St. and turn right. Proceed ½ mile to 6th St. and turn left. Parish Center is on the right. Parking is available on 6th St. in front of the church.

**MASS 9:00am; REGISTRATION AND COFFEE 9:30am;
CALL TO ORDER 10:00am; ADORATION & ROSARY 12:00 NOON;
LUNCHEON 12:30pm; AJOURNMENT 2:30pm.**

Registration and Luncheon Suggested donation \$5.

RESERVATIONS: Please call with approximate number of persons from your area to attend by Jan. 9 to Susan Muller, 360 262-9682.

*Collection at lunchtime will be for PREGNANCY AID.

**Installation of our new President, ELEONORE PRICE and Vice President, MARY SCHADE.

***PLEASE BRING YOUR "CATHOLIC LACE" PROJECT FOR BOOKLET UPDATES.

UPCOMING EVENTS

CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS MEETING

The Catholic Daughters will hold their January meeting on Mon., Jan. 4. Rosary is at 7:00pm and the meeting begins around 7:20pm in the Fire-side Room. Any women in the parish interested in Catholic Daughters are invited to attend this meeting. If you have questions, call Anne at 835-8220.

MARCH FOR LIFE OLYMPIA BUS TRIP

In remembrance of Roe v. Wade we will again travel by bus to the Washington State Capital in Olympia on Tue., Jan. 19. The bus boards at St. Thomas 6:45am and leaves at 7:00am. Bring home made signs or use those provided. Dress warm! Mass at St. Michael's in Olympia with Auxiliary Bishop Tyson or Almaguer at 10:00am, followed by march or shuttle to the Capital for noon presentations for one hour. Return to St. Michael's for a KC provided lunch. Back in Camas at about 5:00pm. Call to reserve a seat: 834-2126 ext. 260. Suggested donation \$5. Sponsored by KC's.

SAINT THOMAS AQUINAS FEAST DINNER

Save the date for our STA Feast **Crab and Prime Rib** Dinner on Sat. Jan. 30, 2010. Transformed, the hall is beautifully decorated; the food is always five star, and the service professional. There is a great selection of wines, clever games, DJ music, dancing and a broad selection of Theme Dinners to sign up for. The cost is only \$39 per person. For more information call, Bud Brown, 834-7863 or Laurie Midles, 833-1098.

6TH ANNUAL WOMEN'S RETREAT

The St. Thomas Aquinas Women's Retreat will be held Friday evening through Sun., Feb. 26 – 28, 2010, at the Anderson Lodge retreat center in Ariel, WA with Mother Mary of the Angels, S.R. who will guide and facilitate our discussion of Apparitions of Mary. Parishioner weekend rate is \$85 and non-parishioner rate is \$125 or there is a \$50 day fee for Saturday to cover food and fees. Registration deadline: Feb. 19. Please forward questions or confidential requests for scholarship information to Karen Normandeau, 835-7307, gknormandeau@aol.com

RACHEL'S CORNER

If you are hurting from a past abortion experience, the Church is calling you home to heal. Healing a hope are awaiting you on a Rachel's Vineyard Retreat. The next retreat is Feb. 19-21. Contact: 800 450-7814.

OUR STEWARDSHIP RESPONSE-SUNDAY OFFERTORY

(WEEKEND MASS COLLECTIONS, CREDIT CARDS & BANK TRANSFERS, MAIL)
OUR FISCAL YEAR RUNS FROM 7/1/2009 THROUGH 6/30/2010

Actual Collection 12/20	\$13,913
Planned 12/20	\$9,300
Cumulative Difference (Actual vs. Planned) for 25 weeks	-\$9,600 -3.0%
It is convenient to give regularly by bank transfer or credit card. We encourage you to consider it!	Call the office for more information.

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.

Gifts made to St Thomas Aquinas before the end of the year can provide many advantages to you, the donor, as well as to the parish.

There are many forms of Christmas and year-end giving available:

Giving Securities...You can save and give at the same time!

Stocks, bonds, and even appreciated mutual funds can be given and your tax deduction is for the full market value at the time of the gift. You save by not having to pay capital gains tax on the sale of the stock as you would if you sold the stock and held the cash.

Life Insurance...Cash value in current or paid up life insurance policies can benefit the parish.

Naming St Thomas Aquinas Church as a beneficiary of life insurance proceeds can be a wonderful means of making a future major gift to the parish.

Vehicle Donations...in cooperation with Volunteers of America of Oregon you can donate your unwanted vehicle, benefit the parish, and gain a tax deduction!

Seek professional tax advice
for information about the most advantageous ways of giving for you own personal needs.

Contact Jim Potter at the Parish Office (834-2126 extension 208) for assistance
as you plan your Christmas and year-end giving.

THIS WEEK AT ST. THOMAS AQUINAS

Dec. 26 SATURDAY

5:00pm Mind Vigil Mass for the for the soul of Joan May

Dec. 27 SUNDAY Feast of the Holy Family



Coffee Hour sponsored by the Boys' Club
Liturgy of the Hours for week 1
Old Testament: Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14
New Testament: Colossians 3:12-21
Gospel: Luke 2:41-52

8:00am Fr. Rigert Mass

9:30am Fr. Rigert Mass *Pro Populo*

11:30am Fr. Rigert Mass

No H. S. Youth Group

Dec. 28 MONDAY (Staff Day off)

8:30am Mass for the soul of Ethel Brown (Smedley)

9:10am Rosary

Dec. 29 TUESDAY

9:00am Vigil Service for Howard Ritter

10:00am Funeral Mass for Howard Ritter

6:50pm Circle of Love, Fireside Room

Dec. 30 WEDNESDAY

8:30am Mass for the intentions of Cecilia Powell (Connell)

9:10am Rosary

No Faith Formation, St. Thomas Schola, Dead Theologians Society

Dec. 31 THURSDAY

8:10am Rosary

8:30am Mass for the soul of Raphael & Dorothy Straughan (Smith) followed by "Coffee" in the old rectory

No Choir, RCIA, RCIC

11:00pm Holy Hour, Church

Jan. 1 FIRST FRIDAY Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God Octave of Christmas (Staff Day off)



Old Testament: Numbers 6:22-27

New Testament: Galatians 4:4-7

Gospel: Luke 2:16-21

9:30am Mass

11:30am Mass *Pro Populo*

7:00pm Mass (Youth Adoration will be held on Jan. 8.)

Jan. 2 FIRST SATURDAY St. Basil the Great & St. Gregory Nazianzen

9:00am Mass with anointings for Kathy Yanasok (Reinhart)

9:40am Rosary (Church)

10:00am Confessions

3:30pm Confessions

5:00pm Vigil Mass for the for the soul of Lois Guard (Zefran)

Jan. 3 SUNDAY Epiphany

Breakfast sponsored by the Knights of Columbus



Liturgy of the Hours for week 2

Old Testament: Isaiah 60:1-6

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

Gospel: Matthew 2:1-12

8:00am Mass

9:30am Mass *Pro Populo*

11:30am Mass

3:00pm Epiphany Concert, Church

No H. S. Youth Group



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Jan. 3 Epiphany Concert
- Jan. 9 Girls' and Young Women's Vocation Dinner
- Jan. 9 Dynamic Marriage Course begins
- Jan. 10 First Confessions
- Jan. 19 March for Life, Olympia
- Jan. 30 St. Thomas Aquinas Feast Dinner
- Feb. 1 Lenten SUMMA articles due
- Feb. 12 Healing Mass with Fr. Justus
- Feb. 13 Marriage Celebration
- Feb. 17 Mardi Gras Fundraising Dinner

COFFEE HOUR WINNER

The Catholic Daughters are happy to announce that Debbie Chinakos was the winner of the drawing for one (1) ticket to the St. Thomas Dinner on Jan. 30. We'd like to thank everyone who came down and supported our coffee hour. We hope you had a most blessed Christmas and have a very happy 2010.

LITURGY HIGHLIGHTS

When the Church celebrates *the liturgy of Advent* each year, she makes present this ancient expectancy of the Messiah, for by sharing in the long preparation for the Savior's first coming, the faithful renew their ardent desire for his second coming. By celebrating the precursor's birth and martyrdom, the Church unites herself to his desire: "He must increase, but I must decrease." (Catechism of the Catholic Church, 524)

MASS IN THANKSGIVING...

for the Life of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. & in Celebration for the Presence of African American Catholics in the Archdiocese of Seattle. The Mass will be celebrated by Archbishop Brunett on Sat., Jan. 9, 5:30pm at St. James Cathedral. A reception will follow in the Isaac Orr Conference Hall. Please RSVP to Philip Tran, 206 382-4828 or philipt@seattlearch.org

SETON CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL UPDATE

Applications for admission are due by Jan. 15. For more information and to sign up for testing, log on to www.setonhigh.org or contact Vice Principal, Andy Nichols 360 258-1932 ext. 224. We are grateful to you all for your prayers and support. May God bless you!

BIRTHRIGHT...

provides *loving alternatives to abortion* and support to each pregnant woman for as long as she wishes. Learn about volunteering. Speak with fellow parishioner, Jeanette Gaug 834-2622.

Advertiser of the Week
Smooth Sailing & Travel
See the ad on the back of this bulletin

CELEBRATE THE YEAR OF THE PRIEST IN 2009/10

For the month of December, you can offer all your sufferings -- physical, emotional, and spiritual -- for the sanctification of all priests."

