

REMEMBER TO SUPPORT AND THANK OUR SPONSORS

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THIS WEEK AT ST. THOMAS

ADULT FAITH FORMATION

Enjoy your family on this Thanksgiving Break. Next week we'll all be enjoying our Advent Mission with Fr. Ben Cameron beginning Sun., Nov. 29 through Thu., Dec. 3 at 7:00pm.

NO PRAYER GROUP—TUESDAY, NOV. 24

THANKSGIVING DAY DINNERS

The Knights of Columbus, with the help of this community, have been serving and delivering Thanksgiving dinner for seniors, shut-ins and others in need in the Camas and Washougal area on Thanksgiving Day. Call the Treasure House, 834-4181, East County, 835-7802 or Al Schmid, 835-5346 to give the name & number of people in the household, phone number and address of families who need meals.



Donations help defer the costs and would greatly appreciated. Cash donations can be made to the Camas-Washougal Thanksgiving Dinner Fund at Riverview Savings and Loan in Camas or Washougal. Unfrozen turkeys are needed Nov. 22-Nov. 24. Pies can be delivered to the hall until 10:00am on Thanksgiving. Drivers should be at the church hall, 11:30-11:45am on Nov. 26.

THANKSGIVING DAY BREAD EXCHANGE

If you are planning to attend the 8:30am Thanksgiving Day Mass this year, there will once again be the bread exchange. The Catholic Daughters encourage everyone attending mass to bring a bread item (i.e. rolls, muffins or loaf of bread) and put it on the table up front. At the end of Mass, all the items will be blessed by Father; then everyone is encouraged to take home a bread item, preferably not the one you brought. What a wonderful way to celebrate Thanksgiving Day with your parish!



GIVING TREE 2009 BEGINS, TODAY

The St. Vincent de Paul Society begins its annual Giving Tree program this Sunday. This year we will provide gift items and Christmas meals for 30 needy families within the Camas-Washougal community, so your help is greatly needed. A Christmas tree with gift tags has been placed in the church vestibule. On each tag is written a gift wish or need for a member of one of the families, a 'family' gift, or a food item. Please take a tag from the tree and purchase the gift listed. It is important that you do not lose the gift tag, as that is how we identify the family who will receive the gift!

After you purchase the requested item, please wrap it and securely attach the gift tag to it. Bring the gift to church and place it under the statue of St. Thomas Aquinas, on the right side of the altar. If you pick a tag for a perishable food item, such as a ham or turkey, please bring it on the weekend of Dec. 19 & 20 to the kitchen in the church hall and leave it in the refrigerator. It is not necessary for you to wrap the ham or turkey. But, please make sure that the tag you took off the Giving Tree is attached to the item. All gift items must be brought to the church no later than 1:00pm on Sun., Dec. 20.

If you have any questions about the Giving Tree, please contact the SVdP line on 834-2126 ext. 251, and your call will be returned as soon as possible.



CHILDREN'S PROGRAM

FAITH FORMATION

Happy Thanksgiving! No classes this week! No class next week either as everyone including children are asked to attend the Advent Mission that starts at 7:00pm. We will resume classes on Dec. 9.

FIRST RECONCILIATION PREP CLASS

The next class is Thu., Dec. 10, 6:30pm in the parish hall. Parents are asked to attend with their children.

BLESSED MOTHER TERESA OF CALCUTTA APOSTOLATE

Meets 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 or pathwaystolearning@live.com

GIRLS' CLUB

The St. Thomas Girls Challenge Club is blessed to have Justine Varsek, a Camas High School senior, as our group leader this year. Justine and the girls will meet on Nov. 23, 6:30pm in the parish hall kitchen to bake granola and design Christmas labels. The delicious and nutritious granola will be sold on Dec. 6, St. Nicholas Day, after all the Masses at the Knights of Columbus breakfast. All girls ages 8 and up are invited to join in these events. We hope to see you there, girls! Parents, call Teresa Fry, 624-0031 for more information.

YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY

H.S. FAITH FORMATION

See you tonight at 7:00pm. On Nov. 29 we'll be attending the Advent Mission.

JR. H. FAITH FORMATION

No class this Wednesday, Happy Thanksgiving. Next week, Dec. 2 we'll be attending the Advent Mission at 7:00pm; don't come at 6:00pm.

(NOTE: Nov. 29—Dec. 3 we have scheduled an Advent Mission; everyone is encouraged to attend each of these night, 7:00pm each evening; class on Dec. 2 will be at 7:00pm, the Mission presentation.)

TEEN ADORATION

Mark your calendar for Fri., Dec. 4 at 7:00pm.

RESPECT LIFE

As we give thanks for the gift of life, consider the words of Pope John Paul II: "Causing death can never be considered a form of medical treatment. Rather, it runs completely counter to the health-care profession, which is meant to be an impassioned and unflinching affirmation of life." *Gospel of Life*

STEWARDSHIP PRAYER

Father, We praise You and give You thanks.
You have given us everything we need and every gift we have.
Give us generous hearts that we might respond by sharing
our blessings in support of each other and our parish.
We ask this in the name of Jesus. Amen

PLEASE PRAYERFULLY CONSIDER YOUR SUPPORT
TO THE PARISH AND RETURN YOUR STEWARDSHIP
COMMITMENT CARD TO THE PARISH OFFICE.

NOTICES / OUTREACH / ADS

PERPETUAL ADORATION— FOUR OPENINGS!

Three immediate openings — Sundays, 9:00-10:00am, Mondays, Midnight-1:00am, 1:00-2:00am & 7:00-8:00am on Tuesdays we need people to take an hour with our Lord. If you can commit to an hour you will be welcomed. Call the office if you can fill a position, 834-2126 ext. 0.

BOOK OF THE DEAD

This book is located in the church vestibule so that you may enter the names of loved ones for whom we can then pray during this month of November.

FLOWERS ALWAYS APPRECIATED

The flower committee wishes to thank all the people who have donated time, flowers, and money for the beautification of our church. We would gladly accept fall flowers!

JPII CENTER IS MOVING

The John Paul II Center will be moving its activity into the Center for Human Dignity at 325 NE Lechner St., Camas by the end of November. Everyone at the JPII Center thanks all of you who have continued to offer your support, even during these challenging times. We hope that you will continue to support us as we move forward by volunteering your time and by contributing to the Center for Human Dignity.

DYNAMIC MARRIAGE COURSE REGISTRATION

Find out as you fall in love with your spouse all over again in Dynamic Marriage, an in-depth, interactive course offered at two Vancouver area parishes this winter. Class is open to all married couples, Catholic and non, newlyweds to golden anniversary veterans. Flyers are in the vestibule or contact Terri Gilbride 882-0760, tlg_bride@yahoo.com or see www.familydynamics.net, or Michel De-Groat, 954-5194 for more info.

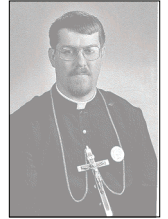
BIRTHRIGHT

An immediate need for new and gently used **preemie and newborn clothing**. If you are able to help, please bring clothing donations to 214 E. 17th St, Vancouver or call 694-8156.

UPCOMING EVENTS

ADVENT PARISH MISSION

The Parish Mission is starting on Nov. 29. Families, mark your calendars to attend all five evenings each with a different topic, but all a part of the theme of "Following Jesus Christ." Child care available by calling 834-2126 ext. 207. Presentations are about 50 minutes long. Confessions will be heard following each of the mission presentations. Following the 8:30am morning Masses on Mon.-Thu. there will be a second opportunity to hear a presentation with confessions being heard following the "coffee break" that follows the mission presentation in the Fireside Room.



BAPTISM PREPARATION COURSE



On Sun., Dec. 6 is the next preparation course for those who would like their child (under age 7) or newborn baptized and for those invited to be a witness at a Baptism. Contact the parish office to register for these classes, 834-2126 ext. 0. Expecting parents are most welcome.

ASSISTANCE REQUESTED

The flower committee needs greenery for the advent wreath including pine, holly, and small pine cones. If you would like to donate for this project, please call Mary Talbitzer, 834-5470 by Tue., Nov. 24.

THANK YOU!

The Harvest Dinner was a delicious success! Lots of compliments on the stuffing, the gravy and pies! Our thanks to all the helpers who cleaned, cooked, mixed, sliced and served. You know—everyone that helped to make the dinner so good. Thanks to you.

The Guild Ladies

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

Thanks to the more than 60 parish families who donate to the parish regularly through "Electronic Giving". They donate weekly or monthly by using an automatic transfer from their checking account or a credit card transaction. If you are interested please contact the parish office 834-2126, ext 208.

Actual Collection 11/15	\$9,732
Planned 11/15	\$12,000
Cumulative Difference (Actual vs. Planned) for 20 weeks	-\$13,198 -5.2%
This is the time of year we ask you to renew your Stewardship pledge.	Please send your pledge cards to the office.

THIS WEEK AT ST. THOMAS AQUINAS

Nov. 21 SATURDAY

5:00pm Novena prayer then Vigil Mass for the soul of Lois Guard (DeBoever)

Nov. 22 OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST THE KING



Coffee Hour sponsored by Boys' Club
Liturgy of the Hours for week 2
Old Testament: Daniel 7:13-14
New Testament: Revelation 1:5-8
Gospel: John 18:33b-37

8:00am Novena prayer then Mass for the soul of Sylvester Tillman (Tillman)
9:00am Special Needs class, Old Rectory
9:30am Novena prayer then Mass *Pro Populo*
11:30am Novena prayer then Mass for intentions of the Matt Bauer Family (Bauer)
7:00pm H.S. Faith Formation, Youth Room

Nov. 23 MONDAY

8:30am Mass for the intentions of Will Schmidt (Duringer)
9:10am Rosary
6:00pm Scouts, Hall

Nov. 24 TUESDAY

8:30am Mass for the soul of Lois Guard (DeBoever)
9:10am Rosary
No Moms group today
No Circle of Love Prayer Group
7:00pm Pastoral Council, Room 17

Nov. 25 WEDNESDAY

8:30am Mass for the intentions of Tubor Baja (Baja)
9:10am Rosary
No Faith Formation, St. Thomas Schola, Dead Theologians Society

Nov. 26 THURSDAY—Thanksgiving Day—Offices closed

8:10am Rosary
8:30am Mass with Bread Exchange for the soul of Michael Gable (Wilmott)
No Choir, RCIA, RCIC

Nov. 27 FRIDAY—Offices closed

9:00am Church cleaners at work
12:00pm Mass for the intentions of David Duringer (Duringer)

Nov. 28 SATURDAY

9:00am Mass for Sharon Marquardt (Wavra)
9:40am Rosary (Church)
10:00am Confessions
3:30pm Confessions
5:00pm Vigil Mass for the intentions of Brayden Putney (Bauer)

ADVENT MATERIALS ARE AVAILABLE

Are you ready for Advent? We have candles for your Advent Wreath for just \$1 a set.
Reading materials are also available for various ages. Take the time now to pick up your families materials so that you can prepare for this special time of the year.
Materials are available in the vestibule or contact Kim or Jeanne.

Nov. 29 FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT



Coffee Hour sponsored by PCA
Liturgy of the Hours for week 1
Old Testament: Jeremiah 33:14-16
New Testament: 11 Thessalonians 3:12-4:2
Gospel: Luke 21:25-28, 34-36

8:00am Fr. Cameron Mass
9:00am Special Needs class, Old Rectory
9:30am Fr. Cameron Mass *Pro Populo*
11:30am Fr. Cameron Mass
7:00pm Advent Parish Mission, Church H.S. Youth Group at Mission
Confessions follow the mission presentation

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Dec. 6 Baptism Preparation for parents & witnesses
- Dec. 8 Immaculate Conception, Masses at 8:30am, 12:00pm & 7:00pm
- Dec. 18 Simbang Gabi Mass
- Dec. 21 Simbang Gabi Mass
- Dec. 24 Vigil Mass, 5:00pm
- Dec. 25 Christmas Day Masses: Midnight, 9:30am & 11:30am

MUSIC NOTES

The St. Thomas choir/schola and Vox Clara will be singing at the Grotto's Festival of Lights on Thu., Dec. 3 at 8:00pm. This is a fabulous family event. The walk through the Grotto is lined with thousands of Christmas lights. There is a petting zoo for the kids, concerts every hour on the hour and hot chocolate and treats. Bring your family and come see your St. Thomas singers at the Grotto!! We perform inside the Grotto church.

Fri., Dec. 4 at 7:45pm, the St. Thomas choir/schola will be singing during the Camas' Hometown Holidays celebration. We will be in front of Natalia's café on the corner of 4th and Dallas. All of the stores are open and there are plenty of activities for the kids. This is a very family friendly event.



CELEBRATE THE YEAR OF THE PRIEST IN 2009/10



Did you know that in the U.S., there are 64.4 million Catholics and only 41.5 thousand priests to serve them? That's 1500 to 1. Our priests work extremely hard to meet the needs of everyone in their flock. Please thank your priest for all he does!! Write him a kind letter expressing your gratitude for his service to our parish. Everyone needs encouragement, especially our selfless priests.

Advertiser of the Week
Carolyn A. Simms
See the ad on the back of this bulletin