

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

ADVENT PARISH MISSION

The Parish Mission is starting TONIGHT. Families, plan 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; please take advantage of this time as we will not be having a southern deanery hosted Penance Service. Following the 8:30am morning Masses on Monday through Thursday there will be a second opportunity to hear a presentation with confessions being heard following the "coffee break" that follows the mission presentation.

ADVENT MATERIALS ARE AVAILABLE

Are you ready for Advent? We have candles for your Advent Wreath for just \$1 a set. St. Thomas Prayer Books are \$6. 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.

AQUINAS GUILD

St. Thomas ladies, you are invited to the Guild Christmas meeting/pot luck luncheon on Wed., Dec. 2. You are automatically a Guild member, so come join us. We'll meet in the church parking lot after the Parish Mission presentation, about 10:30am and carpool to the home of Margaret McCarty at 2745 NW 29th Ave., Camas (834-6123). Bring along a dish to share and a gift to exchange (for the kitchen, \$5 maximum value). And if you're having a birthday in December or January, we'll even help you celebrate! That's next Wed., Dec. 2, church parking lot, 10:30am. Hope we see you there.

Fran Hewitt, President

CCS COLLECTION—NEXT WEEKEND!

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL GIVING TREE 2009

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.

A Gift of Love



CHILDREN'S PROGRAM

FAITH FORMATION

This week everyone is encouraged to attend our Advent Mission, so you will all be staying in the church instead of going to classrooms. Childcare is available.

TYPO IN SUMMA!!!

The remaining two 1st Reconciliation classes for parents and children, are Thursday, Dec. 10th & 17th. Dec. 15th is an error.

ADVENT CANDLES

Candles will be for sale at \$1.00 after Mass this weekend until they sell out. Other Advent materials will be available as well.

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. Childcare is available.

**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](tel:834-0393) or pathwaystolearning@live.com

GIRLS' CLUB

The St. Thomas Girls Challenge Club will be selling delicious and nutritious granola on Dec. 6, St. Nicholas Day, after all the Masses at the Knights of Columbus breakfast. Special orders can be made by calling Ellen, 834-3658. The Girl's next meeting is Dec. 14, 6:30pm in the Youth Room.

YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY

H.S. FAITH FORMATION

See you tonight at 7:00pm at the Advent Mission in the Church.

JR. H. FAITH FORMATION

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.

CONFIRMATION CANDIDATE AND PARENT MEETING

Plan to meet in the Hall on Sun., Dec. 13.

IN YOUR CHARITY

Please pray for the soul of Joan May, wife and Jim and sister of Charrol Fuller.

STEWARDSHIP RENEWAL UPDATE

To date we have received pledges from 24% of the parish.
These 24% have pledged 41% of our budget.

Think of what the remaining 76% of the parish could do for us
is they returned their stewardship pledge commitment.

PLEASE PRAYERFULLY CONSIDER YOUR SUPPORT TO
THE PARISH AND RETURN YOUR STEWARDSHIP COM-
MITMENT CARD TO THE PARISH OFFICE.

NOTICES / OUTREACH / ADS

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 Michel DeGroat, 954-5194 for more info.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL FOOD DRIVE

Some of the most needed items are: canned chicken, fruit, tuna, vegetables, soups, yams; cranberries, gravy, Hamburger Helper, instant potatoes, jam & jelly, Jell-O, Macaroni & Cheese mix, noodles, oatmeal, pasta, peanut butter, rice, potato mixes, spaghetti sauce, stuffing mix. Please bring your donations of non-perishable food items to the church and place them in the SVdP barrel in the usher's room. Thank you in advance for your generosity and please continue to keep all those in need within our community in your daily prayers.

APPRECIATION EXPRESSED

Thank you to Patty Mingus, Shirley Wallace, Kitty Maffucci, and Mary Talbitzer for their wonderful work on the lunch for Widows and Widowers. We appreciate your kindness and thoughtfulness.

Widow and Widowers

PRAYER CHAIN

Have you found a beloved friend or family member who weighed heavy 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. Fr. Belisle once said, when you pray, be specific and persistent. 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.

CATHOLIC PROFESSIONALS GROUP

On Thu., Dec. 3, 5:30-8:00pm in the Marian Hall at St. Joseph's, come for wine & hors d'ouvres, Fr. John Amsberry and fellowship. Tickets, 608-9729 by Nov. 30.

CHRISTIAN IN THE WORLD'S FALL LECTURE SERIES

Abbot Peter Eberle, O.S.B., topic "Mary the Mother of God and Mother of the Church," will complete its fall lecture series on Sat., Dec. 12, at 9:00am, in the Mount Angel Abbey Library. The cost is \$15 a session/Students \$5. For information: Cecile Beckerman, 503 393-5041.

UPCOMING EVENTS

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.

CDA POTLUCK

The Catholic Daughters will hold their December potluck meeting on Mon., Dec. 7. The potluck will begin at 6:30pm in the Fireside room, and our business meeting will follow at 7:30pm. If you are interested in learning more about the Catholic Daughters, this would be a great meeting to attend. We want to make sure we have plenty of spaces and chairs available for guests, so please call Anne at 835-8220 if you'd like to attend.

IMAGINE SAVING A LIFE!

The Puget Sound Bloodmobile will be in our parking lot on Sat., Dec. 12, 9:00-3:00pm. (Closed from 11:30-12:30pm) If you haven't given blood in 8 weeks, this is your chance. One donation can save up to 3 lives at SW WA Medical Center. It is especially critical at this time of year as the need rises and colds and flu reduce the supply dramatically. In this season of "giving", please consider giving the most treasured gift which is priceless... that of life. Contact Patty Mingus to schedule an appointment, 335-1501. Walk-ins also welcomed.

SAINT THOMAS AQUINAS FEAST DAY DINNER MARK

Save the date for our STA Feast Day Dinner on Sat. Jan. 30, 2010. This is our annual **Crab and Prime Rib** dinner started 7 years ago, to have fun, celebrate parish camaraderie, and raise money for the STA Parish summer camp. 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. There will be no auction items this year. Cost for the evening is only \$39 per person, and a great value, for a great cause, with the best people in Clark County. If you need additional information please contact, Bud Brown, 834-7863 or Laurie Midles, 833-1098

PERPETUAL ADORATION— FIVE OPENINGS!

On Sundays, 9:00-10:00am, Mondays, Midnight-1:00am, 1:00-2:00am, 7:00-8:00am & 4:00-5:00pm 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.

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 11/22	\$9,172
Planned 11/22	\$11,000
Cumulative Difference (Actual vs. Planned) for 21 weeks	-\$15,024 -5.7%
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 Vigil Mass for the intentions of Brayden Putney (Bauer)

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

Nov. 30 MONDAY

8:30am Mass for the soul of Ronnie (Lounsbury)
9:15am Advent Mission presentation followed by Coffee Break
Confessions follow the mission presentation
9:10am Rosary
6:00pm Scouts, Hall
7:00pm Advent Parish Mission, Church
Confessions follow the mission presentation

Dec. 1 TUESDAY

8:30am Mass for the intentions of Mike Hansen (Hyder)
9:15am Advent Mission presentation followed by Coffee Break
Confessions follow the mission presentation
9:10am Rosary
7:00pm Advent Parish Mission, Church
Circle of Love Prayer Group attending Mission
Confessions follow the mission presentation

Dec. 2 WEDNESDAY

8:30am Mass for the intentions of the Maitland family (Baenen)
9:15am Advent Mission presentation followed by Coffee Break
Confessions follow the mission presentation
9:10am Rosary
7:00pm Advent Parish Mission, Church
Faith Formation, St. Thomas Schola, Dead Theologians Society attending Mission
Confessions follow the mission presentation

Dec. 3 THURSDAY

8:10am Rosary
8:30am Mass for the intentions of Patty Rykowski (Mooney)
9:15am Advent Mission presentation followed by Coffee Break
Confessions follow the mission presentation
7:00pm Advent Parish Mission, Church
Attending Mission Choir, RCIA, RCIC
8:00pm Confessions

Dec. 4 FIRST FRIDAY

9:00am Church cleaners at work
12:00pm Mass for the poor souls

Dec. 5 FIRST SATURDAY

9:00am Mass for a deeper conversion of Catholics
9:40am Rosary (Church)
10:00am Confessions
3:30pm Confessions
5:00pm Vigil Mass for the soul of Lois Guard (Zefran)

Dec. 6 FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT



Breakfast fundraiser sponsored by the Knights of Columbus
Liturgy of the Hours for week 1
Old Testament: Baruch 5:1-9
New Testament: 11 Philippians 1:4-6, 8-11
Gospel: Luke 3:1-6

8:00am Mass for
9:00am Special Needs class, Old Rectory
9:30am Mass *Pro Populo*
11:30am Mass for
1:00pm Baptism Preparation, Fireside Room
7:00pm H.S. Youth Group

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- 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

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)

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.



Advertiser of the Week

Blairco, Inc.

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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."