

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

COFFEE HOUR & BAKE SALE

The Catholic Daughters are holding a bake sale after all Masses TODAY! Please come down to the coffee hour, enjoy some time with fellow parishioners, and buy something for your Sunday dinner dessert. We have some marvelous bakers at St. Thomas. You don't want to miss out! We'll also have some donated collector dolls on sale at the same time. The proceeds from the sales help support our charitable works.



ST. VINCENT DE PAUL FALL DRIVE

SVdP is conducting its annual drive for personal grooming and household cleaning items. Please take a look at our insert in this week's bulletin for a list of the most needed items. Please bring donations of some of the listed items and place them in the St. Vincent de Paul barrel in the vestibule before Nov. 15. Some of these supplies will be given to our Giving Tree families in December and some will be shared with East County Family Resource Center to be given to other families in need within our community. These are all items that are costly for people on tight budgets and they cannot be purchased with food stamps. Thank you, in advance, for your generosity toward this important mission.

NEW TIMES FOR CIRCLE OF LOVE MEETINGS

Gathering will be at 6:50pm, with prayer from 7:00-8:20pm. This is still on Tuesday evenings. Everyone is welcome

SENIOR SINGLES POTLUCK

At 11:30am on Wed., Oct. 21 in the Fireside Room all those 50+ (widows, widowers, divorced & not married) are welcome to gather socially for a potluck lunch. Remember to bring your pennies for Pokino and any ideas you may have for another activity. Questions or need a ride call Jean, 835-3601.

ADULT FAITH FORMATION

We continue our overview of other faiths - this week will be non-Catholic Christians. Please join us Wednesday evening in the Hall after praying a decade of the Rosary in the Church at 6:00pm.

RCIA

Have you asked anyone about becoming Catholic or just invited someone to learn about Catholicism? Bring them with you to our RCIA inquiry sessions beginning at 7:00pm on Thursdays in the Fireside Room where we will search and explore the truths of the Catholic Faith and experience the fellowship of our Church family. Questions? Contact Drew, ext. 212.

RESPECT LIFE

In a memorable speech challenging his fellow House members to ban the practice of Partial Birth Abortion, Rep. Henry Hyde asserted: "God put us in the world to do noble things, to love and cherish our fellow human beings, not to destroy them. Today we must choose sides." *NRL News*. 12/07

CHILDREN'S PROGRAM

FAITH FORMATION

See you this Wednesday, 6:00pm sharp in the church. Please bring your books.

**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

FIRST RECONCILIATION AND HOLY COMMUNION

Please note that grade 2 children must be attending our Wednesday evening faith formation in preparation for celebrating these sacraments.

OLDER CHILDREN

FIRST RECONCILIATION AND HOLY COMMUNION

Children must be enrolled in our Wednesday evening faith formation classes in their regular grade. These children will be "pulled out" for the last 20 minutes of class each week to be prepared to celebrate these sacraments with the grade 2 class. The first "pull out session" starts Nov. 4. Contact Kim Steinke, ext. 207 for more information.

ATTENTION!! GOOD SHEPHERD INQUIRY??

We are considering offering another time for 3 to 6 year olds to experience the Good Shepherd Program. The time would be **Tuesday mornings, from 9:00-11:00am**. If this time might work for you and your child, please contact L'Rae Scherwinski at 834-3719 ASAP.

YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY

Last Call!

MIDDLE SCHOOL FALL RETREAT

Be the Hands and Feet of Christ! Join Middle Schoolers from around the Southern Deanery at the Lewis River Campgrounds in Yacolt, WA. Oct. 24-25. Cost: \$40. Permissions slips available in the office and the vestibule.

IN NEED OF...

Someone donated a pair of speakers to the Youth program. Does anyone have a stereo receiver or amplifier that we could use?

TRUNK OR TREAT

On Sat., Oct. 31, after the Vigil Mass, please bring a pot of chili to share. The North Parking lot will be reserved for cars with candy and we will have games and activities in the Hall. This year we will be having a place in the Upper Room to pray with the relics of various saints. If your family has any relics to share for the evening please call Thaddeus at 834-2126 ext. 215.

Ultimately, all that we have comes from God: our time, our talents, and our treasure. That's not an easily grasped idea—we tend to believe that what we have we have earned. A more expansive view of God's gifts to us must include our intelligence, compassion, imagination, ideas, strength and persistence. All of these contribute mightily to who we are, the talents we possess and even our earning potential. Recognizing this wider view of our gifts, can we now see a bit more clearly our need to give back to God from what He has given us?

NOTICES / OUTREACH / ADS

APPRECIATION EXPRESSED

The family of Lois Guard would like to thank everyone for the kind words, comforting hugs, masses, cards and good thoughts we received at the loss of our dear Mother. Thank you to the Consolation Apostolate and Catholic Daughters for the beautiful vigil. Thank you to Father Gillette for a wonderful mass for our Mother, to Jeanne in the office for all her help in our planning, to Jodie and Terese for the beautiful music, to the Eucharistic Ministers, lector, servers and all who helped with the celebration. Thank you to the Aquinas Guild for the wonderful luncheon they hosted for those attending and to everyone who helped with it. It was a beautiful day and we're sure Mom was smiling down on all of us from above!

PRAYER BLANKETS

Blankets are in the parish office that have been blessed by Fr. Gillette to be given to anyone who has a special need. In addition to prayers said by those making the blankets, the names of recipients are given to the parish Prayer Chain and Circle of Love ministries for inclusion in their prayers.

LIFE CHAIN SUNDAY FOR PORTLAND: NOV. 1

Please come and pray for all Life on MLK Jr. Blvd. between Alberta on north and Russell on the south. Assembly will start at 2:30pm and the prayers will be offered from 3:00-4:00pm. Directions: Exit 303: East on Alberta then south on MLK Jr. Blvd. Easily accessible by MAX, get off at convention center and walk one block to east to Grand and catch the number 6 bus. Please call 503 334-6183 for questions. God Bless You.

RACHEL'S VINEYARD RETREAT™

Come on a retreat Nov. 6-8 in Portland or April 16-18 in Medford. Participation is strictly confidential. Contact: Lori Eckstine, Project Rachel Coordinator at 800 249-8074 for more information. The cost is \$150 for meals, room, and all retreat materials. For more info E-mail: leckstine@catholiccharitiesoregon.org. Financial assistance is available! The national website is: www.rachelsvineyard.org

SETON CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL TO HOST MICHAEL ALLEN HARRISON CONCERT, NOV. 15

Michael Allen Harrison will perform a benefit concert for Seton Catholic HS on Sun., Nov. 15, beginning at 6:30pm. The concert will be held at St. John the Evangelist Church at 8701 NE 119th St., Vancouver. Mr. Harrison is an accomplished pianist who has performed for presidents, foreign leaders and even astronauts orbiting the earth. This will be the third year that he has performed for Seton Catholic High School. Please contact Judy Johnson at 360 258-1932 for ticket information.

UPCOMING EVENTS

RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE

Next Mon., Oct. 19 from 1:00-6:00pm in the Hall you will be welcomed! Schedule at appointment, www.givelife.org code: vanco7 or 989-2919. Remember to bring your ID. "The need is constant. The gratification is instant. Give blood."

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On Sat., Oct. 31, after the Vigil Mass, please bring a pot of chili to share. The North Parking lot will be reserved for cars with candy and we will have games and activities in the Hall. This year we will be having a place in the Upper Room to pray with the relics of various saints. If your family has any relics to share for the evening please call Thaddeus at 834-2126 ext. 215.

ANNUAL HARVEST DINNER

Mark your calendar for Sun., Nov. 8! This annual feast will be on the second Sunday of November this year. Volunteers are needed now! Please call Christina Condliff, 210-4545 to let her know how you can help.

EXCEPTIONAL OPPORTUNITY FOR HEALING

Fr. Mike Barry is Coming to St. Thomas for a workshop on Healing the Family Tree. This is being held **Fri., Nov. 13** from 7:00-9:00pm and **Sat., Nov. 14** from 9:30am - 4:00pm in the parish hall. Lunch and snacks provided by the Circle of Love Prayer Group. This includes helpful talks and a 2 hour **HEALING MASS**. You won't want to miss this. See the Summa for more information. Reservations, questions, ext. 263.

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. (Last year 500 dinners.) Currently we need to know who needs a dinner; call 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. 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. As we near Thanksgiving Day, unfrozen turkeys will be requested as well as pies.

COMMUNITY PREGNANCY CLINIC FALL BANQUET

On Thu., Nov. 5, 7:00-9:00pm at the Heathman Lodge 10 individuals are invited to sit at the St. Thomas table, simply contact Kelly Kashas to reserve a seat, 834-3096 or kashas6@comcast.net. You might also find a seat by contacting the center directly at 834-7456 or cpccw@communitypregnancyclinic.org.

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 10/11	\$15,299
Planned 10/11	\$13,300
Cumulative Difference (Actual vs. Planned) for 15 weeks	-\$8,199 -4.4 %
Annual Catholic Appeal—total pledged	\$91,091
Amount under goal	-\$17,110



Invest just five minutes a day, and your faith will deepen and grow—a day at a time.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2009
TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
A friend indeed

Have you ever thought or been told that some difficult situation you are facing is “God’s will”? What does that say about the kind of God we believe in? After all, if a friend regularly—and purposefully—hurts us and simply explains that he or she does so

for our own good, would we really want to continue a relationship with that person? Why would we think God is like this supposedly helpful friend? Scripture shows us a God who is there not to help us build character but to love and cherish us. God says, unequivocally, “I came to give my life for you.” In difficult times we may want to consider not why God is letting something happen to us but how God is working to help us through it.

TODAY’S READINGS: *Isaiah 53:10-11; Hebrews 4:14-16; Mark 10:35-45 or 10:42-45*

“For the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many.”

MONDAY, OCTOBER 19

No fooling

Recent books like Jack Miles’ *God: A Biography* trace the changing image of God in Hebrew scripture, pointing out that God is presented in radically different ways. While God is often seen as angry at sin, though, it is in the New Testament that God directly calls a human being a fool! What persuades God to such an insult, however, is an ancient problem: a person who is so self-involved that they have no sense of life’s fragility, no sense of compassion for others, no sense of gratitude toward God. Building up stock in wealth, in stuff, seems logical in a world that judges on the basis of “who has the most toys when they die.” To God, however, that is the height of folly, and God is not afraid to call a fool a fool.

TODAY’S READINGS: *Romans 4:20-25; Luke 12:13-21*

“You fool! This very night your life is being demanded of you.”

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20

FEAST OF PAUL OF THE CROSS, PRIEST

A passion for compassion

While a young man, Saint Paul of the Cross was unsure which direction his life should take—a military or business career? Marriage? Then one day he was listening to a homily on the sufferings of Jesus, and it all made sense to him: He would redirect his life to bring others the message of God’s love expressed in Christ’s Passion. He desired to form a community of the like-minded to pursue this mission, but he had to wait more than two decades—years he spent as a hospital chaplain and traveling preacher—before the church officially gave him permission to found a religious order, the Passionists. It can take time to find one’s calling and be confirmed in it. But the satisfaction is worth the wait.

TODAY’S READINGS: *Romans 5:12, 15b, 17-19, 20b-21; Luke 12:35-38*

“More surely will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness exercise dominion in life.”

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21

What are you driving at?

On the back of countless trucks on our highways appears the curious inquiry: “How is my driving?” The accompanying number to call invites our critique. What if we all came equipped with signs inviting the moral

critique of those around us? We might be surprised and not at all pleased with the feedback. Thankfully, Christianity doesn’t rely on external judgment; Jesus even warned against judging others. But we are encouraged to perform our own regular examination of conscience. For everything that we have—life and love, relationships and resources, talent and time—we will one day be accountable.

TODAY’S READINGS: *Romans 6:12-18; Luke 12:39-48*

“From everyone to whom much has been given, much will be required.”

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22

All fired up

Jesus shocks his disciples—and many of us as well, no doubt—when he declares that he came not to establish peace but rather division, to “set the earth on fire.” What kind of fire did he have in mind? Fire in biblical times was associated with God’s action in the world and the lives of people. Jesus is using strong language to impress upon us the importance of taking responsibility for our spiritual growth. Do our relationships, choices, lifestyles, and loyalties reflect the seriousness of the call to spiritual maturity? If not, what can we do today to begin to put things right?

TODAY’S READINGS: *Romans 6:19-23; Luke 12:49-53*

“Do you think that I have come to bring peace to the earth?”

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 23

FEAST OF JOHN OF CAPISTRANO, PRIEST

From politico to saint

Wouldn’t you love to see some of our politicians dressed in rags and paraded through town sitting backwards on a donkey? In 1416 the governor of Perugia made just such a ride, much to the delight and jeers of the citizens. But it wasn’t for messing up the economy. The governor was renouncing his position to join the Franciscans, and the ride was his act of public humility following the example of Saint Francis. The ex-gov, John of Capistrano, went on to preach against errors and heresies all over Italy and Europe and became a great saint. Are there any politicians you know who could do that?

TODAY’S READINGS: *Romans 7:18-25a; Luke 12:54-59*

“For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I do.”

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24

Decisions, decisions

One of the choices life offers is whether to let God be part of your life. Of course God is always present, within you and around you, but you can choose to ignore, shut out, or pretend God isn’t there. Saint Paul called this “I don’t need God attitude” living in “the flesh” and believed this illusion of self-sufficiency hid the road to death. Openness to the divine, though—to the power and Spirit of Christ—guides you to life in God. Find some ways to choose God today.

TODAY’S READINGS: *Romans 8:1-11; Luke 13:1-9*

“If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies.”

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WHAT DO YOU THINK?

Have you read this? Is this a good kind of insert? Are you planning to use it daily? Did you look up the readings for any day this week?

Let the parish office know what you think; 834-2126 ext. 0 or jeanne@st-thomascamas.org

THIS WEEK AT ST. THOMAS AQUINAS

Oct. 17 SATURDAY

5:00pm Vigil Mass for the intentions of Clair McBride (Wilmott)

Oct. 18 WORLD MISSION SUNDAY—29th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Coffee Hour is sponsored by CDA

Liturgy of the Hours—week 1

Old Testament: Isaiah 53: 10-11

New Testament: Hebrews 4:14-16

Gospel: Mark 10:35-45

8:00am Mass for the intentions of Jean Hofmann (Wilmott)

9:00am Special Needs class, Old Rectory

9:30am Mass *Pro Populo*

11:30am Mass for the soul of Al Lasher (Mooney)

7:00pm H.S. Faith Formation, Youth Room

Oct. 19 MONDAY

8:00am Liturgy of the Hours, Church

8:30am Mass for Pat Sanks (Kuzis)

9:10am Rosary

1:00pm Red Cross Blood Drive, Hall

6:00pm Scouts, Hall

6:30pm Girls' Club, Youth Room

Oct. 20 TUESDAY - Summa articles due

8:00am Liturgy of the Hours, Church

8:30am Mass for Maria & John Baja (Baja)

9:10am Rosary

4:30pm A *Quick* Journey Through the Bible, Fireside Room

6:50pm Circle of Love Prayer Group, Fireside Room

Oct. 21 WEDNESDAY

7:00am Finance Council, Room 17

8:00am Liturgy of the Hours, Church

8:30am Mass for the soul of Ray DeBoever (DeBoever)

9:10am Rosary

11:30am Senior Singles Potluck, Fireside Room

6:00pm Faith Formation, Church

7:00pm St. Thomas Schola, Church

7:30pm KC's 4th degree, Fireside Room

7:45pm Dead Theologians Society, Youth Room

Oct. 22 THURSDAY

8:00am Liturgy of the Hours, Church

8:10am Rosary

8:30am Mass for Carmen Flores (Gibby) followed by Coffee in Fireside Room

7:00pm Choir practice, Church

7:00pm RCIA, Fireside Room

7:00pm RCIC, Old Rectory Dining Room

Oct. 23 FRIDAY

9:00am Church cleaners at work

12:00pm Mass for the soul of Joseph Chapski

Oct. 24 SATURDAY

9:00am Mass for intentions of Sherry Rusunen (Wilmott)

9:40am Rosary (Church)

10:00am Confessions

3:30pm Confessions

5:00pm Vigil Mass for the soul of Mike McNett (Mason)

Oct. 25 SUNDAY—30th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Coffee Hour is sponsored by Prayer Group

Liturgy of the Hours—week 2

Old Testament: Jeremiah 31:7-9

New Testament: Hebrews 5:1-6

Gospel: Mark 10:46-52

8:00am Fr. Gordon Mass

9:00am Special Needs class, Old Rectory

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

11:30am Fr. Gordon Mass

7:00pm H.S. Faith Formation, Youth Room

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Oct. 31 Trunk or Treat

Nov. 8 Harvest Dinner

Nov. 13 Fr. Berry Healing Mass

LITURGY HIGHLIGHTS

Being on time for Mass is very important. Every ritual act is part and parcel to the Sacred Liturgy as a whole. The precious prayers and hymnody unite our community from the moment Mass begins. "The Word of God is an event: the *event* of creation and the *event* of what God is doing and saying in Israel and finally the *event* of what God is doing and saying in Jesus." (Jeremy Driscoll, OSB) All of these important pieces are what should be shaping our lives and actions for the rest of the week. They offer us an opportunity for a deeper relationship with Christ, a better knowledge of ourselves through our Catholic world view and the strength and excitement to share our faith with others as we evangelize our family and friends. Don't be late! You don't want to miss a thing!

PERPETUAL ADORATION— THREE OPENINGS!

Two immediate openings — 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.

"MUSIC NOTES"

God is calling you to the choir loft. Yes, He is. I'm telling you. It's true. Call me, 834-1495 or email (kristinyoshimura@gmail.com) to find out how YOU can serve your parish by sharing your musical gifts.

Kristin Yoshimura

CELEBRATE THE YEAR OF THE PRIEST IN 2009/10

For the month of October, study the [Holy Father's Letter for the Year of Priests](#) in a small group or by yourself. Make copies.



Mark them up. Take the message to heart. So much of what the Holy Father writes never reaches ordinary Catholics! Get the word out! The Holy Father's letter is available on our St. Thomas website.

Advertiser of the Week
Straub's Funeral Home

See the ad on the back of this bulletin