

## 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

### RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE

The next Blood Drive is on President's Day, Mon., Feb. 15, 1:00-6:00pm in the Hall. Bring your ID and you will be welcomed.

### FAT TUESDAY PANCAKE DINNER

The annual Youth fundraiser will be held on Feb. 16, 5:30-6:30pm, please plan to attend this delicious dinner in the hall. \$5/person or \$25/ family.

### ADULT FAITH FORMATION

This Wednesday at Adult Faith Formation will be attending Ash Wednesday Mass and the next Wednesday we'll all be attending the Lenten Mission.

### ASH WEDNESDAY

Ashes distributed at  
8:30am, noon & 7:00pm Masses on Wed., Feb. 17.  
This is a day to fast and abstain from meat.

### STATIONS OF THE CROSS

On Fridays during Lent, beginning this week, the Stations of the Cross will be in the Church beginning at 6:00pm. Following in the Hall various parish groups will be providing a simple Lenten meal of soup and bread. Donations collected at these meals are given to Operation Rice Bowl. This week, the Aquinas Guild is hosting the supper.

### 6TH ANNUAL WOMEN'S RETREAT

Registration deadline is Fri., Feb. 19 if you plan to join Mother Mary of Angels, S.R. and special guest Fr. Justus at the St. Thomas Aquinas Women's Retreat as we are guided in our discussion of Apparitions of Mary, Feb. 26-28 at the Anderson Lodge in Ariel, WA. Parishioner weekend rate is \$85 and non-parishioner rate is \$125. Or, choose a \$50 day fee for Saturday-only. Flyers are in the vestibule. Questions? Contact Karen Normandeau, 835-7307, [gknormandeau@aol.com](mailto:gknormandeau@aol.com)

### BLACK AND INDIAN COLLECTION

Next Sunday, our parish will take up the annual Collection for Black and Indian Missions. Your financial contribution helps to support Catholic communities on reservations, in rural areas and inner cities. Your donation funds evangelization programs to strengthen the faith, continue the legacy and share the mission with children and adults here in the United States. For more info, go to [www.blackandindianmission.org](http://www.blackandindianmission.org) Envelopes are at the ends of the pews.

### PERPETUAL ADORATION

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

Wednesday, 1:00-2:00am, 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

Please contact the parish office if you would like to fill an hour 834-2126 ext. 0 or [jeanne@st-thomascamas.org](mailto:jeanne@st-thomascamas.org) Schedules are in the adoration chapel and you are welcome to take one home as we have many times with only one person in the chapel as well as the above space which no one is covering.

## SUNDAY BEFORE ASH WEDNESDAY

Lent begins this week with Ash Wednesday. As part of our community's observance of Lent, we ask all families to participate in Catholic Relief Services' Operation Rice Bowl, a program of prayer, fasting, learning, and giving. Please be sure to take home a Rice Bowl packet and follow this simple yet powerful Lenten practice. Visit [orb.crs.org](http://orb.crs.org) for more information. Rice Bowls will be distributed at our Masses on Ash Wednesday and will be available in the vestibule until gone.

## CHILDREN'S PROGRAM

### FAITH FORMATION SCHEDULE

(Wednesday Evenings from 6:00-7:15pm)  
Feb. 24; Mar. 3, 10, 17 & 24; Apr. 7, 14, 21 & 28

### NO CLASS ASH WEDNESDAY

You are invited to attend Mass at 7:00pm to begin the Lenten Season.

### "PENNIES FOR HAITI CHILDREN" DRIVE ENDS THIS TUESDAY (MARDI GRAS)

Here is an opportunity for all children in our parish to help the children in Haiti! Bring in your pennies (nickels and dimes ok too.) The drive will end on Mardi Gras, Feb. 16. Let's see how much we can raise to help the Haitian children!

### BLESSED MOTHER TERESA OF CALCUTTA APOSTOLATE

Classes 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 at 834-0393 or [pathwaystolearning@live.com](mailto:pathwaystolearning@live.com)

## YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY

### CHOCOLATE BREAKFAST

PLEASE JOIN THE ST. THOMAS YOUTH FOR A CHOCOLATE COFFEE HOUR FOR ST. VALENTINE'S DAY IN THE HALL AFTER MASS TODAY!

### FAT TUESDAY PANCAKE DINNER



This fundraising dinner helps out our Youth, so please mark your calendar now and plan to attend on Tue., Feb. 16, 5:30-6:30pm in the Hall. \$5/person or \$25/ family.

### GOING DEEPER

The blog that answers teen questions for deeper Catholic understanding. At [goingdeeper-catholic.blogspot.com](http://goingdeeper-catholic.blogspot.com)

### STEWARDSHIP—TAKING THE NEXT STEP

HOW DOES A PERSON MOVE FROM *THINKING ABOUT STEWARDSHIP TO LIVING IT?* THERE'S ONLY ONE WAY...DO IT! SEE HOW IT AFFECTS YOUR LIFE. IT'S THE EXPERIENCE THAT IS CONVINCING.

STEWARDSHIP ISN'T ALL THAT COMPLICATED.

STEWARDSHIP OF TIME: LOOK AT NEXT WEEK'S SCHEDULE, THEN BUILD IN SOME TIME THAT YOU WILL GIVE IN GRATITUDE AS A RETURN TO GOD. IT MAY BE ONLY A SMALL AMOUNT. DO IT AND SEE WHAT HAPPENS.

## NOTICES / OUTREACH / ADS

### SETON CATHOLIC H. S. – PARISH APPEAL

Seton Catholic High School is enjoying a successful first year. We have 40 students, a great faculty, and a wonderful facility. We sustain high academic standards, a vibrant campus ministry with weekly Masses, active leadership programs, and many school activities including formal athletic programs for boys and girls sports. This would not be possible without the prayers and support of so many people in the Catholic community of Southwest Washington. This year we are again holding an appeal asking for your continued support by contributing to Seton Catholic High School. Representatives will visit your parish during the weekend of Feb. 6 & 7 and a second collection will be held during the weekend of Feb. 13 & 14. In the intervening week you should receive information about Seton Catholic. Funds raised through this appeal will support on-going start-up and operating expenses as we build to full enrollment over the next two years. We appreciate your prayers and financial support and ask you to consider a gift or pledge to Seton Catholic High School. For more information on our school or to arrange a tour, please visit our website at [www.SetonHigh.org](http://www.SetonHigh.org) or call 258-1932.

### PCA OPEN HOUSE

Pacific Crest Academy at St. Thomas Aquinas parish is holding an Open House on Tue., Mar. 2. Classrooms will be open from 9:00-12:00pm and 1:00-3:00pm. Please come to the meeting room in the main office from 9:00-7:00pm. For more details, [www.pacificcrestacademy.org](http://www.pacificcrestacademy.org) or 834-9913.

### VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Bring your compassion for pregnant women in need to BIRTHRIGHT. Caring makes the difference. Don't hesitate. We'll train you and work with your schedule. Shifts can be shared. The need to support the choice for life is great. CALL 694-8156.

### 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 Feb. 19-21. Contact: 800 450-7814.

### LENTE OPPORTUNITY

40 days for Life is an opportunity to pray for the women and children victims of abortion at Planned Parenthood (5500 NE 109th Ct.) in Vancouver from Feb. 18th through March 31st, 8:00 AM to 3:00 PM. We have hosts for each day of the week Monday through Saturday. Please join us if you can. Questions-please call Jerry Ross, 360-673-2376.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### LENTE PARISH MISSION

Mark your calendars as we have Fr. Serge Propst, O.P. coming Feb. 21-25 to help us all make are Lenten season a time of spiritual growth. He obtained his licentiate and doctorate in Spiritual Theology at the University of St Thomas Aquinas (the Angelicum in Rome, Italy) and taught both moral, pastoral and spiritual theology at the Angelicum for almost 15 years before accepting the position of homiletics professor at the Dominican School of Philosophy and Theology where I am now engaged. There will be week day morning (following 8:30am Mass) and evening (following a 6:30pm Mass) sessions as well as time for you to go to confession (following presentations). Child care will be available for those you call in with reservations, 834-2126 ext. 207.

### THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION FOR ADULTS

Our second Adult Confirmation class is in Room 17, next to the parish office, at 7:00pm on Wed. Mar. 3 For a variety of reasons many Catholics have missed the reception of the Sacrament of Confirmation, thus missing out on the graces that God deeply desires to give them. I think Catholic author Peter Kreeft sums up the need for this sacrament well, "*The Sacrament of Confirmation's need and purpose is to make the same difference to the individual Catholic that the descent of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost made to the Church. The effect of the Sacrament of Confirmation is the special outpouring of the Holy Spirit as once granted to the Apostles at the day of Pentecost.*" For more info and the schedule of topics please see Confirmation brochure located at church entrances. If you have any questions or would like to assist as a sponsor please call Drew at the parish, ext. 212.

### MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW

The Catholic Daughters/Knights of Columbus St. Patrick's Day Dinner will be held Sat., Mar. 13 – you won't want to miss this chance to celebrate St. Patrick's Day and see the Molly Malone Dancers from the Yeates Academy of Dance strut their stuff. Tickets are \$20 (\$15 for 11-and-under), and include the entertainment and a luscious dinner. Seating is limited, and this event is popular – so be sure to purchase your tickets early. NO TICKETS WILL BE SOLD AT THE DOOR! You can call Anne at 835-8220 for tickets and more information. Tickets will be sold after all Masses, starting this weekend.



### TAIZE PRAYER

The next Taize prayer night in the Fireside Room will be on Tue., Mar. 16 with gathering at 6:50pm and prayer beginning at 7:00pm. All are welcome.

### 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 2/7   | \$20,375                              |
| Planned Collection 2/7  | \$17,700                              |
| Cumulative Difference (Actual vs. Planned) for 32 weeks             | -\$4,704<br>-1.13%                    |
| It is convenient to give regularly by bank transfer or credit card. | Call the office for more information. |



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

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2010**

**SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

### Exchanging woes for blessings

Isn't it wonderful to be wealthy, to be well-fed, and to enjoy the esteem of the community? And if you don't fit any of those categories, wouldn't it be great if you did? Then why do you suppose Jesus lamented the fate of rich people? Probably because we tend to think that wealth, abundance, and acceptance are for *us*. Actually those good things are *entrusted* to us to be given to the poor, the hungry, and the despised. Lent begins this Wednesday. For 40 days we will work the blessed side of the Lord's teaching by praying for others, feeding the hungry, and giving our money to the poor.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Jeremiah 17:5-8; 1 Corinthians 15:12, 16-20; Luke 6:17, 20-26*

*"But woe to you who are rich, for you have received your consolation."*

**MONDAY, FEBRUARY 15**

### Wisdom vs. IQ

The school of wisdom isn't equivalent to a university. If that were so our leaders would be heroes and our economy would be sound. A high IQ and a pile of diplomas can lead to marital and fiscal disasters just as quickly as any other background. Wisdom is an attribute of God, which means we have to go to God to get it. Once gained it's contagious, or as Saint Louis de Montfort put it: "Wisdom gives not only light to know the truth but also a remarkable power to impart it to others." Seek wisdom—for all our sakes!

TODAY'S READINGS: *James 1:1-11; Mark 8:11-13*

*"If any of you is lacking in wisdom, ask God, who gives to all generously and ungrudgingly."*

**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 16**

### Just the facts

At a time in our country when we most need unity, we are divided. We face many difficult issues at one time—war and national security, healthcare, immigration, fiscal policies—each demanding serious attention. Yet our political debate has become toxic. We no longer seem willing to listen carefully, argue dispassionately, or disagree respectfully—much less reach for a compromise of any kind. The internet plays an important role here. One misleading statement plus 24 hours equals the next fracas that distracts us from the real issue. In both bread and politics a little yeast goes a long way. Remember, then, to read widely and pay attention to your sources. Where are your "facts" coming from? Do you trust the person or organization making the statements?

TODAY'S READINGS: *James 1:12-18; Mark 8:14-21*

*"Watch out—beware of the yeast of the Pharisees and the yeast of Herod."*

**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 17**

**ASH WEDNESDAY**

### Readjust your priorities

The season of Lent is here, and that means doom-and-gloom and giving stuff up, right? Not so! Prayer, fasting, and almsgiving are three ways the church encourages us to enter into Lent. This season is a time of preparation. It is a time to free ourselves from the things that are not helpful in our lives and move into a deeper relationship with God, our family and friends, and the church community. It is a time to celebrate the gifts God has given us, to examine how well we live those gifts, and to clear away the things that prevent us from being the

gifted person we are. Take time today, right now, to consider how God is inviting you to be free and more present to God and to all the people in your life.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Joel 2:12-18; 2 Corinthians 5:20-6:2; Matthew 6:1-6, 16-18*

*"Return to the Lord, your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger."*

**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 18**

**THURSDAY AFTER ASH WEDNESDAY**

### Losing it

What does it mean to "lose one's life" for the sake of Jesus? In certain times and places it could literally mean martyrdom. But for many of us the phrase might involve something a little different. Lent is a good time to consider a bit of healthy self-denial as one path we can take toward greater awareness of Jesus and his inspiring message. Something as simple as the proverbial giving up of chocolate can serve as a reminder of our deeper spiritual hunger. Acts of charitable service also help. As we get outside our small world and connect with those in great need, we just might find the road to salvation.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Deuteronomy 30:15-20; Luke 9:22-25*

*"Those who lose their life for my sake will save it."*

**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 19**

**FRIDAY AFTER ASH WEDNESDAY**

### Not so fast!

Lent is just getting under way, a good time to carefully consider one of its key traditions: *fasting*. What can fasting mean in our health-conscious culture? The fasting of Lent is not about eating less for its own sake. In the Book of Isaiah, God addresses the mistake of settling for the outward trappings of penance. "Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of injustice, to undo the thongs of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free . . . ? Is it not to share your bread with the hungry, and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover them, and not to hide yourself from your own kin? Then your light shall break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up quickly; your vindicator shall go before you, the glory of the Lord shall be your rear guard." Now that's fasting!

TODAY'S READINGS: *Isaiah 58:1-9a; Matthew 9:14-15*

*"Why do we and the Pharisees fast often, but your disciples do not fast?"*

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 20**

**SATURDAY AFTER ASH WEDNESDAY**

### The mark of the sinner

The checkout clerk looked at you kind of funny. "You've got something on your forehead," she said, unaware of Ash Wednesday. We spend the day with a mixture of pride and embarrassment. We're proud to be Catholic, but we're a little uneasy about appearing in public wearing such a strange sign. Some think the ashes mark the righteous, those who go to church. But in reality it expresses our need for repentance. Jesus calls those who need the mercy and compassion of God so that the life-changing power of forgiveness might be experienced. Lent is a time for us to become familiar with that saving power.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Isaiah 58:9b-14; Luke 5:27-32*

*"I have come to call not the righteous but sinners to repentance."*

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Contributors: Father Paul Boudreau, Alice Camille, Daniel Grippo, Father Larry Janowski, O.F.M., Ann O'Connor, Sean Reynolds, Joel Schorn, Patrice J. Tuohy, and Sister Julie Vieira, I.H.M.

## THIS WEEK AT ST. THOMAS AQUINAS

### Feb. 13 SATURDAY

- 5:00pm Vigil Mass for Dorothy & Raphel Straughan (Smith)
- 6:00pm Marriage Celebration, Hall
- 7:00pm Dynamic Marriage Class, Fireside Room

### Feb. 14 SUNDAY

**Coffee Hour sponsored by the Youth  
Liturgy of the Hours for week 2  
Old Testament: Jeremiah 17:5-8  
New Testament: 1 Corinthians 15:12, 16-20  
Gospel: Luke 6:17, 20-26**

- 8:00am Mass *Pro Populo*
- 9:00am Blessed Mother Teresa of Calcutta Apostolate, Old Rectory
- 9:30am Mass for the soul of Rose Rinaldo (Swanson)
- 11:30am Mass for the intentions of Kara & Bruce Sanders (Monaghan)
- 5:30pm Confirmation, Youth Room
- 6:30pm Boys' Club, Fireside Room
- 7:30pm Squires, Hall
- 7:00pm H S Faith Formation, Youth Room

### Feb. 15 MONDAY (Staff Day off)

- 8:30am Mass for the intentions of Emma Schmid (Simms)
- 9:10am Rosary
- 1:00pm Red Cross Blood Drive, Hall
- 6:00pm Scouts, Hall

### Feb. 16 TUESDAY

- 8:30am Mass for the soul Ernest Wilmott (Wilmott)
- 4:30pm Study & Pray Small Group, Fireside Room
- 5:30pm Fat Tuesday Pancake Dinner, Hall
- 6:40pm Circle of Love Prayer Group, Fireside Room

### Feb. 17 ASH WEDNESDAY - Lent Begins (Fast and Abstain)

- 7:00am Finance Council, Room 17
- 8:30am Mass for the intentions of Laura McBride (Wilmott)
- 9:10am Rosary
- 12:00pm Mass for the Donnelly family intentions (Donnelly)
- No Faith Formation
- 7:00pm Fr Ghyselinc Mass
- No Adult Confirmation, St. Thomas Schola, Dead Theologians Society
- 7:30pm 4th Degree Knights of Columbus, Fireside Room

### Feb. 18 THURSDAY

- 8:10am Rosary
- 8:30am Mass for the intentions of Blake Hawkins (Wilmott) followed by "Coffee" in the old rectory
- 11:30am Mass at Highland Terrace
- 5:30pm Vox Clara, Room 15
- 7:00pm Choir, Church
- 7:00pm RCIA, Fireside Room
- 6:30pm RCIC, The Belisle Library

### Feb. 19 FRIDAY (Abstain)

- 9:00am Cleaners at work, Church
- 9:30am Familia, Fireside Room
- 12:00pm Mass for the for intentions of Guadelupe Bauretto (Wilmott)
- 6:00pm Stations of the Cross
- 6:30pm Lenten Soup Supper, Hall

### Feb. 20 SATURDAY

- 9:00am Mass for the intentions of Raquel Estrada (Wilmott)
- 9:40am Rosary, Church

- 10:00am Confessions
- 3:30pm Confessions
- 5:00pm Vigil Mass for the intentions of Horatio Wilmott (Wilmott)
- 7:00pm Dynamic Marriage Class, Fireside Room

### Feb. 21 FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

**Coffee Hour & Bake Sale sponsored by the CDA  
Liturgy of the Hours for week 1  
Old Testament: Deuteronomy 26:4-10  
New Testament: Romans 10:8-13  
Gospel: Luke 4:1-13**

- 8:00am Mass for the soul of John Augon (Lounsbery)
- 9:00am Blessed Mother Teresa of Calcutta Apostolate, Old Rectory
- 9:30am Mass *Pro Populo*
- 11:30am Mass for the intentions of Nathaniel McBride (Wilmott)
- 5:30pm Confirmation, Youth Room
- 7:00pm H S Faith Formation, Youth Room

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Feb. 21-25 Lenten Parish Mission
- Feb. 26-28 Sixth Annual Women's Retreat
- Mar. 6 Baptism Preparation
- Mar. 13 St. Patrick's Dinner
- Apr. 10 First Communion Retreat
- May 1 First Communion
- May 15 Boys' / Young Men's Vocation Dinner
- May 21-22 Life in the Spirit Seminar
- May 23 The Sacrament of Confirmation
- Jun.18-20 Summer Camp

## MUSIC NOTES

Have you been considering becoming part of the music ministry at St. Thomas? Anytime is a good time to join us! Give me a call or an email and I will give you the details. We always look forward to welcoming new members. God bless you! [kristinyoshimura@gmail.com](mailto:kristinyoshimura@gmail.com) or 834-1495.

## LITURGY HIGHLIGHTS

*Anything but ordinary!* "While the word "ordinary" in popular usage is used to describe things that are nondescript or dull, ordinary rather means customary, regular, and orderly. Ordinary Time may also be called Ordinal Time, which means numbered time. Ordinal comes from the Latin "*ordinalis*," which is a word meaning "showing order, denoting an order of succession." Hence, Ordinary Time is the standard, orderly, counted time outside of the other liturgical seasons. There is nothing "dull" about Ordinary Time!"

## CELEBRATE THE YEAR OF THE PRIEST IN 2010



To celebrate the Year of the Priest during Lent: Each Friday (the day of Our Lord's Blessed Passion) pray the Stations of the Cross for priests and/or pray the *Litany of the Precious Blood* or the *Litany of the Sacred Heart* for them.

*Advertiser of the Week*  
**Robert Nicacio, O.D. &  
Linda Medeski, O.D.**