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Summa

Newsletter of St. Thomas Aquinas Parish

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Vol. 25 Number 4
November 2011

Parish Leadership

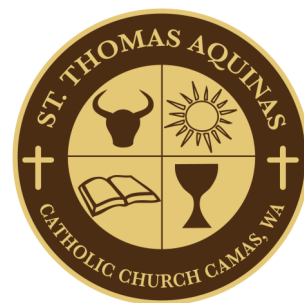
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 Doris Kuzis, Lectors 834-0491
 Christine Bolger, Euch. Min. 834-7732
 Mark Powell, Servers & Alc. 835-8309
 Kristin Yoshimura, Music 834-1495



Prayer Chain: call Betty Manary 834-3643
 or email: dandcheacock@gmail.com

A NOTE FROM THE PRIEST'S DESK

One of the great duties of a priest is to continually bring to God those people entrusted to his care, to intercede for them before the throne of grace. He does this in Mass, and in and through the other Sacraments. He does this throughout the day as he encounters them, or when they come to mind. He does this in his own personal prayer. Without them, he is of little use. But without him, they are lost.

It is the priest, *in persona Christi capitis*, who is a mediator for others of God's grace and mercy. This week I was at the Palisades for a retreat with my brother priests who have been ordained for less than five years. We began in the presence of Christ Himself with a Holy Hour. During that time, one of the retired priests who lives on site was available to hear our confessions. None of us can truly be in the presence of Christ, in communion with Him, unless we have been forgiven of that sin which is mortal, which is deadly, which separates us from God.

As priests, it is important that we spend much time on both sides of the confessional screen. We are useless if we ourselves do not strive for holiness. That was the witness of all the saints—who would go weekly, or every other week. That was what helped them to become saints. And if we want to become saints, we ourselves must frequent this great Sacrament, for we desperately need that grace of God, that forgiveness that we can receive in no other way.

Can we really expect Him to welcome us home at the end of our days if we persist, unrepentant, in sin? If we do not seek to live our lives according to His teachings? If we never spend time with Him now in prayer?

Yes, we are sinners. Of that there is no doubt. But "with the Lord there is mercy: and plentiful redemption. And he shall redeem Israel from all his iniquities." (Psalm 130)

That image from the Gospel of Luke of the father welcoming home his prodigal son is always a very powerful one. It speaks of the power of love and forgiveness, no matter how great (or small) the sin, no matter how much (or how little) time has passed. The reality is that we need the grace of God at work in our lives. We need our sins to be forgiven, and His grace to help us be faithful.

Please, frequent the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Christ waits for you in the Confessional—not to condemn you, but to forgive you, to free you from the slavery of sin, to redeem you from all your iniquities.

God Gives It All And Then Calls Us To Share

Everything we have and everything we are is a gift from God. Stewardship is the ability to share our gifts of life, time, talent, and treasure with others – with no strings attached and no conditions. We share these gifts out of our love for God and gratitude to Him.

Mat 6:23 "Seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well."

A Christian Steward . . .

- Receives God's gifts gratefully;
- Cherishes and tends our gifts in a responsible, accountable manner;
- Shares them in justice and love with others; and
- Returns them with increase to the Lord.

"Make it your practice instead to store up heavenly treasure, which neither moths nor rust corrode nor thieves break in and steal. Remember, where your treasure is, there your heart is also." Mat 6: 20, 21

Five Principles of Stewardship Giving

Planned ~ We spend time in thought and prayer when deciding what to give, rather than merely giving what we happen to have left at the end of the week.

Proportionate ~ Our giving is proportionate to what God has given us. We give in proportion to the gifts we have received.

Sacrificial ~ We give back to God from our substance, rather than our abundance.

Grateful ~ Our offering is a grateful response to the immense love God has for us.

A Gift ~ What we give is a gift, given without reservation or condition.

"Now, our God, we give You thanks, and praise Your glorious name!"

1 Chron 29:13

WEEKLY RECONCILIATION TIMES

TUE, 6:00-7:00PM

(STARTING 1/3/12)

SAT, 10:00-11:00AM

AND 3:30-4:30PM

-OR- ANYTIME BY APPT.

ADVENT RECONCILIATION DATES

FOR THE SOUTHERN DEANERY

Nov. 30 – St. James, Vanc. (4:00-5:00pm)

Nov. 30 – Our Lady of Lourdes, Vanc. (7:00pm)

Dec. 6 – St. Rose, Longview (7:00pm)

Dec. 7 – St. Mary, Ridgefield (7:00pm)

Dec. 9 – Holy Redeemer, Vanc. (7:00pm)

Dec. 15 – St. Joseph, Vanc. (7:00pm)

Dec. 16 – St. Thomas, Camas
(7:00pm)

Dec. 21 – St. John, Vanc. (7:00pm)

Liturgy



The New Translation of the Mass

THE CREED

From a historical perspective, the creed, as we know it, was originated at the Councils of Nicaea (325) and Constantinople (381) although in its developed form it first appears in the acts of the Council of Chalcedon (451).

This creed was probably based on a baptismal profession of faith and encapsulated the essential tenets of the faith. Above all it was a response to Arian and other heresies and defended the doctrine of the Trinity and Christ's true humanity and divinity.

The practice of reciting the creed at Mass is attributed to Patriarch Timothy of Constantinople (511-517), and the initiative was copied in other churches under Byzantine influence, including that part of Spain which was under the empire at that time. About 568, the Byzantine emperor Justinian ordered the creed recited at every Mass within his dominions.

Twenty years later (589) the Visigoth king of Spain renounced the Arian heresy in favor of Catholicism and ordered the creed said at every Mass. It soon became customary in much of Europe.

In 1114, Emperor Henry II came to Rome for his coronation as Holy Roman Emperor; he was surprised that they did not recite the creed. He was told that since Rome had never erred in matters of faith there was no need for the Romans to proclaim it at Mass. However, it was included in deference to the emperor and has remained ever since.

Eastern and Western Christians use the same creed except that the Latin version adds the expression "filioque" ("and the Son") to the article regarding the procession of the Holy Spirit.

There are numerous changes throughout the Nicene Creed, and even a few in the Apostle's Creed. Perhaps the largest is the change from "we believe" to "**I believe.**" Though the Nicene Creed in its original Greek would be correctly translated as "we believe," the practice of Latin Christians has always been to profess the faith in the Liturgy as "I believe." St. Thomas Aquinas says that the Church proclaims the Creed as a single voice made one by faith, and therefore properly professes "I believe." We profess the Creed as the one Body of Christ, but also each individually.

The word "**consubstantial**" is a theological term that comes from the Greek *homoousious*, translated in Latin as *consubstancialem*. It was this word that was used to define the relationship between the nature of the Son and the Father at Nicaea. It stated that they were of the same substance. We keep this proper term not only to guard against the heresies which spurred it, but also to properly define the nature of the Son, honoring the many who stood up for the Truth. The Mass must be very precise because our prayers express our faith, and when it comes to the nature of the Trinity, precision is necessary. At one point there were more in the Church who followed Arius in heresy than the orthodox teaching of the Church. This is why it is so vital that in our profession of faith—we ensure that we are being faithful to the teachings of the Church, and avoid even the slightest nuances.

I believe in one God the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth of all **things visible and invisible.**

I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only-**begotten** Son of God, **born** of the Father **before all ages.** God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, **consubstantial** with the Father; through Him all things were made. For us and for our salvation He came down from heaven. *(at the following words, all bow)* **and** by the Holy Spirit was **incarnate** of the Virgin Mary, and became man.

For our sake He was crucified under Pontius Pilate, He **suffered death** and was buried, and rose again on the third day in **accordance** with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead. His kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life who proceeds from the Father and the Son, **who** with the Father and the Son is **adored** and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets;

I believe in one, holy, catholic, and apostolic Church. **I confess** one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. **I look forward** to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Our Lady Star of the Sea Catholic Church

News from our Mission

<http://www.ourladystarofthesea.org> starofthesea@saw.net

Summa Articles: Meghan Mac-Rhyann @ MomLovesLacey@gorge.net



Life Everlasting

In honor of All Souls Day, I'm writing about Catholic teaching regarding life everlasting—heaven, hell, purgatory, particular and general/final judgment.

Please forgive my simplistic style. These are deep topics that deserve better, and do read the CCC #1020 through #1060 for dogma, as well as your choice from many excellent articles posted all over the internet (my favorite is from Catholic Answers at www.catholic.com/tracts/purgatory).

I'm seeking a "fifth grade teaching" here, just to remind us of things that we may have lost amid our hectic lives. Every day should be spent with a balanced awareness of our eternal goal, because, despite feelings to the contrary, this life is very temporary.

So first, a little quiz: **True or False?**

1. At the instant of conception, **every** soul is guaranteed to live forever.
2. Immediately upon leaving this world, a soul receives its final judgment.
3. After our particular judgment we will go to live forever in heaven or hell or purgatory.
4. Once a soul enters purgatory, it **NEEDS** the prayers of others.
5. Purgatory is the same as limbo.
6. Other than the souls in heaven, the souls in purgatory are the happiest of all.
7. On the Day of Judgment everyone will appear in their own bodies before Christ to give an account of their own deeds.

Answers

1=True: At the moment of conception everyone is guaranteed to live forever. Usually, on earth for awhile (but sometimes not), then in heaven with God, or in hell apart from Him, forever. Everyone has an equal chance for heaven.

2=False: Immediately upon dying the soul enters their particular judgment, and is appropriately admitted to either heaven, purgatory or hell, based on their own ac-

tions of free will. We are judged on our love—not the fuzzy feeling—but, rather, our ACTS of caring for others and showing them Christ's love, which IS our fellowship with Christ Himself. This is how we "know Him and He knows us".

3=False: Purgatory is not forever, it's a temporary state of cleansing that's granted only to those who have died in friendship with Jesus, but are imperfect because they are attached to self or sin. Truly, if we didn't have purgatory would you want to be in heaven? It would be just like here with all the human weaknesses and failed efforts to let go of ourselves and love as God loves.

Thank God for purgatory, so we can be freed of these attachments before heaven! Also, it's NOT a "second chance" - you must die in friendship with Jesus, already destined for heaven, just not perfected. Compare it to the mud room of a home. You enter all dirty from the world, take off your muddy and wet things and then enter heaven... I told you I was simple!

4=True: In purgatory a soul can no longer pray for themselves as they are engaged in being cleansed of self-focus so only our prayers and those of the saints will lessen their time in purgatory. The MOST important offering is the sacrifice of the Mass—starting with the funeral Mass. For Catholics, the funeral really is for the dead! No greater gift can be given to our dead than Mass intentions.

5=False: Limbo of the Patriarchs was where holy people waited until Jesus opened heaven, but there was also a theory from the middle ages that stated it was a place unbaptized babies were

placed (usually miscarriages) because they weren't baptized. The Church has officially rejected this theory recently, pointing out that it was an "unduly restrictive view of Salvation". It was never dogma, and it's not related to purgatory at all.

6=True: St. Catherine of Genoa says: "...they see all things, not in themselves, nor by themselves, but as they are in God, on whom they are more intent than on their own sufferings..." In other words our ENTIRE focus will be on God and being with Him. It's got to be a consuming joy to be fully submerged in wanting **ONLY** God, and total frustration to not be able to be with Him yet—at the same time! That is certainly a "suffering" I'm not looking forward to! Pray for them!

7=True: The final/general judgment is also called the Day of Judgment and it's the end of the earth; Jesus returns and separates all those that have ever lived—raised from their tombs and appearing "in their own bodies before Christ". The righteous will reign with Him forever.

To lessen our time in purgatory—other than indulgences—we need to "serve" it here. Conversion calls each of us to make a daily "on purpose" effort of practicing detachment from things and putting others ahead of ourselves.

Always remember that God loves you, He wants you to be with Him forever, and He's eager to forgive your failings when you repent. He delights in YOU. He **never** wants anyone to choose Hell, but He does allow each of us to make that choice – through our actions of personal free will. You can't force someone to love you—we must have free will in order to truly love God, but it also opens us up to making the wrong choice. As the Bible says, "I set before you life and death....choose life."

Finances

Year End Giving

The autumn season offers us the opportunity to give thanks for our many blessings. With the end of the year approaching, we can also review the goals we've accomplished. For many, such goals include charitable giving.

Now more than ever, you may find your charitable intent is greater than the charitable dollars you have at your disposal. By carefully considering what you give and when you give, you may discover you can make gifts you previously thought were impossible.



Parish STEWARDSHIP

Did you know that giving a charitable gift before the end of the year may help reduce the amount of taxes you will owe next April? In addition to benefitting from tax advantages, you will have the satisfaction of knowing that you're practicing good stewardship by sharing your blessings.

The Archdiocesan Planned Giving Office is pleased to provide information to you and your advisors as you consider making year-end gifts. You may reach us at 206 748-7984 or toll free at 800 752-5902 or via email at plannedgiving@seattlearch.org. You are also welcome to visit our webpage at www.seattlearchpg.org.

We wish you and your loved ones a blessed Thanksgiving!

"That I may praise God's name in song and glorify it with thanksgiving." Psalm 69:31.

"Music Notes"

What will we be singing for Mass parts when we begin using the new translation at Mass? We will start by learning the simple chants from the Missal itself. The vocal range is very limited, which is good when you are trying to learn something new. In addition, we will be singing them in unison with a subtle accompaniment from the organ. While there are many other Mass settings available for use, we felt it was important to start with the Missal chants because they offer us a chance to learn the music prescribed in the sacred book on the altar. Because of their simplicity, people will have a chance to deeply meditate on the new words which are so important to our faith.

How long will we be singing these chants? We will probably sing them for at least a year to give everyone a chance to become familiar with them. Because they are so new to everyone, it will take a while for people to become comfortable singing them.

What if we don't like them? Well, it may be difficult to get used to them at first, as it is with many new things. However, I think that once we get the notes in our ears and the words in our hearts, we will find them quite enjoyable. They really do reflect a noble simplicity.

Will we be getting new hymnals then? Yes, but not for a few more months. The new hymnals will contain 9 different Mass settings, many by living composers! We will have an exciting opportunity to branch out by using those new Mass settings when the hymnals arrive.

Will there be music for the new Mass parts in the pew? Yes. There will be two different resources in the pew for you. One will be a tri-fold card with just the new words without any musical notation. The other resource will contain the musical notation along with the words for those who enjoy singing. We ask that you please leave them in the pew for everyone to use. It will be tempting to "borrow" them, but they are not inexpensive to replace. We appreciate your cooperation and understanding.

If you would like to listen to the new Mass parts and/or practice, here is a listening resource for you. <http://www.chantcafe.com/2010/09/tutorial-videos-on-new-missal-chants.html>

If you have any questions or would like to join the choir, please contact Kristin Yoshimura at 834.2126. ext. 212 or kristin@stthomascamas.org

Praise the Lord!

The St. Thomas Aquinas Prayer Chain has been very busy this month. We've had over 40 prayer requests. Please join us in praising the Lord for these answers.

One man from the British Isles had to be life-flighted to Liverpool for heart tests and treatment. He traveled well with our prayers, had a pacemaker installed, and is doing extremely well. PTL

Another man had brain surgery and our prayers supported him and his surgeons. He is making an excellent recovery at home now. PTL

Special Intentions (SI) - has been very productive: two houses have sold, 3 job interviews have been given, and one job change was accomplished through our prayers. Also we've heard about 3 peaceful deaths. PTL

If you've been wondering about joining our prayer chain, there is still time. We'll be sending out new lists of members the first of the year. Each person on the chain will receive this list in the mail. Remember you can join either the phone chain or the email chain by calling Vie Ross, 335-1644 and leaving your information.

PREPARATION BEFORE COMMUNION

Priest:

Behold the Lamb of God,
behold him who takes away the sins of the world.
Blessed are those called to the supper **of the Lamb**.

People:

Lord, I am not worthy
that you should enter under my roof,
but only say the word
and **my soul** shall be healed.

While John was baptizing in the Jordan, he saw Jesus coming toward him and cried out, "Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world." (John 1:29) John the Baptist connected two prefigurations: first, the blood of the paschal lamb by which the Israelites were saved in Egypt (Exodus 12); and second, the prophesy of Isaiah who depicted the Messiah as an innocent lamb slain for the sins of others (Is. 53). Jesus Christ is the Lamb of God, by whose sacrifice we are saved. And in the Eucharist, we receive Him and become one with our Bridegroom. This should make us more than happy. It makes us blessed, for as the angel says, "blessed are those who have been called to the wedding feast of the Lamb." (Rev. 19:9)

Yet this is not something that we deserve, nor are we worthy. In the Gospels, the Jewish elders thought the centurion to be worthy. So they went on his behalf to ask Christ to go and heal his slave. Yet "when [Jesus] was only a short distance from the house, the centurion sent friends to tell him, "Lord, do not trouble yourself, for I am not worthy to have you enter under my roof. Therefore, I did not consider myself worthy to come to you; but say the word and let my servant be healed." (Luke 7:6-7) The centurion knew that Jesus, a Jew, would become ritually unclean if he entered the Gentile Centurion's house. So too of us—we who are unclean—who need to be healed.

We stand before this great mystery and look upon the Body and Blood of Christ. There is nothing we could ever do to be made worthy to receive Him. That is how great His gift is to us.

THE DISMISSAL

At the end of Mass, the dismissal, in Latin, is "Ite, missa est." And the people respond "Deo gratias." In the New Translation, there will be four options which the priest can use for the dismissal. The strictly literal translation of the Latin would be the first option. And yet this new English translation is not simply a strict translation of the Latin. It strives to be more faithful to Latin, but there is still some room for interpretation.

Our word 'Mass' comes from this dismissal. It contains within it not only a sense of urgency, but also of mission. At the Mass, the bread and wine are transformed into the Body and Blood of Christ. At Mass, as we receive this great gift, hopefully we too, who have offered ourselves during the sacrifice, are changed as well. And we are called to go forth as light to the world. We are called to change the world, just as we ourselves are changing.

When Pope Benedict was given the new English Translation of the Mass, there were two options for the dismissal (numbers one and four). He himself wrote in two new options (numbers two and three). We see in this the importance, even of something so seemingly insignificant as the dismissal. In the Mass, there is nothing insignificant. In the Mass, everything is precise and has meaning. And to clearly communicate the true meaning of this dismissal, he personally wrote two new acceptable translations. The first emphasizes the importance of "announcing the Gospel," of that primary mission of the Church to evangelize. The second emphasizes that the Mass is supposed to overflow into our everyday lives, as we 'glorify the Lord by our lives.'

This new English Translation of the Mass is truly a great gift to us, as we delve deeper into the Sacred Mysteries of the Mass, and the words better express the Divine action of Christ and the fullness of our faith. It is my fervent hope that you will draw as much fruit from it as I have already as we continue to explore and appreciate the meanings of our faith as expressed in the words of the Mass. For more information <http://www.usccb.org/romanmissal/>

New Translations for the Dismissal

Go forth, the Mass is ended.

Go and announce the Gospel of the Lord.

Go in peace, glorifying the Lord by your life.

Go in peace.

Parish Life



Apostolate Spotlight!

Aquinas Seniors

The Aquinas Seniors are the older (more mature) men and women of the parish, some are retired and some are just tired!! They meet on the fourth Monday of each month in the Fireside Room at noon. You can come early and visit or help set up for our potluck lunch. St. Thomas parish has the best cooks in Camas and Washougal. Some of the people that come don't like to cook so they bring salad or fruit, or chicken from one of the local store delis. We always have a good time and when we finish eating, we play Pokino which is like Bingo, so be sure and bring pennies. (very easy to catch on to how the game works.) We have a lot of laughs while we play.

Once in a while we have a speaker for a few minutes that speaks on a topic of interest to people in our age group (50 years and onward.) Our next potluck lunch will be on Dec. 15 in the Fireside Room We changed the day and date so Fr. Oakland can join us for lunch. Remember no potluck in November.

If you have questions, or need a ride call Jean, 834-3601. We always like to meet and welcome new people. Don't hesi-

YOUNG ADULT GROUP

The young adult group is meeting on the 3rd Sunday of the month at 4:30pm in the Fireside Room. Anyone between the ages of 18-25ish is welcomed to come. This is an excellent opportunity to meet people, pray and share our Catholic faith. We are currently discussing St Louis Marie DeMontfort's *True Devotion* and have plans of going into Blessed John Paul II's Theology of the Body. Please join us for an hour of renewal, faith building and socializing. Our next meetings are Sun., Nov. 20 and Sun., Dec. 18. Bring a friend!

The Catholic Daughters of the Americas Ct. St. Therese #1879

CDA Mission Statement

The purpose of the organization is to participate in the religious, charitable and educational apostolates of the Church. Catholic Daughters of the Americas engage in creative and spiritual programs. These programs provide its members with the opportunity to develop their God-given talents in meaningful ways that positively influence the welfare of the Church and all people throughout the world. Catholic Daughters of the Americas strive to embrace the principal of faith working through love in the promotion of justice, equality, the advancement of human rights, and human dignity for all.

Meetings

In October, Fr. Oakland spoke to our group about the Catholic Church and aspects of its history. The talk was very informative and strengthened our resolve to share our faith with others. We shared a delicious potluck lunch and spent time talking with visitors and other Catholic Daughters.

In November, we plan to have our annual Thanksgiving Bread Exchange at the 8:30am Thanksgiving Mass. Please bring a bread item (rolls, muffins, or loaf) to Mass and put it up front on the table. Father will bless the bread and after Mass you are invited to take home a bread item, preferably not one you brought. It is a wonderful way to share during this giving season.

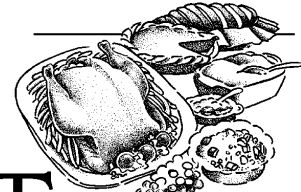
Our next meeting will be Mon., Dec. 5 at 6:30pm in the Fireside Room. Please plan to join us for our Christmas potluck. You may bring a hot dish, salad, or dessert. This is a great opportunity to meet some new friends. Please call Anita, 833-8786 with any questions.



Thanksgiving Dinner For Those In Need

Seniors, shut-ins and others in need in Camas or Washougal are welcome to call the Treasure House, 834-4181 or East Co., 835-7802 with the number of dinners needed, phone number and address for delivery.

Donations to help defer costs would be appreciated by the Knights of Columbus. Cash donations should be made out to the Camas-Washougal Thanksgiving Dinner Fund at Riverview Community Bank in Camas or Washougal. Fresh or unfrozen turkeys are needed by Tue., Nov. 22. Pies can be delivered to the parish hall till 10:00am on Thanksgiving. Drivers to deliver these meals should arrive between 11:30-11:45am at St. Thomas Church Hall.



Thanksgiving

Apostolic Works Foundation

What a great Christmas gift---Your donations help us support the Knights of Columbus as well as pro-life activities and our priests.

All donations (cash, securities, or real property) to the Apostolic Works Foundation are fully deductible. The AWF exists because the Knights of Columbus is considered a fraternal organization, and most donations directly to the Knights are, by law, not tax deductible.

The Apostolic Works Foundation is a registered 501 (c) 3 under the IR code. All donations are tax deductible as allowed by law. Our federal tax ID #20-8199661. David Casteel, President, John Sentesy Treasurer, Terry McCarty director. Please feel free to contact any director.

Contact us by e-mail at apostolicworksfoundation@comcast.net, or by mail at 26308 NE 34th St, Camas, WA 98607.



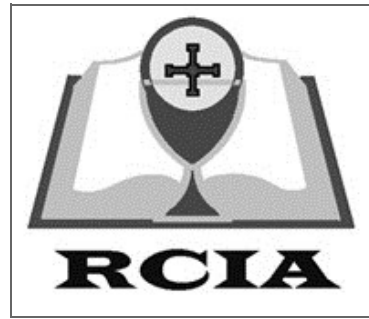
Respect Life

October is Respect Life month but we missed the publication deadline of the SUMMA to include our list of parish library pro-life materials. But because every month is respect life month, we are publishing it in this November issue. A new book in our collection about this topic is *Unplanned* by Abby Johnson. Those of you who attended the January 2011 Oregon Right to Life event in Salem, Oregon will remember Abby's powerful testimony. A former Planned Parenthood clinic director from Texas, Abby had worked at the clinic for 9 years before assisting for the first time in a clinic procedure that deeply traumatized her and changed her life forever. She subsequently joined the organization Coalition for Life and has been touring the country speaking at pro-life events. Her account of that clinic procedure is horrific; this is a must-read book that illustrates God's love and compassion for every life, including those who are on the other side of the abortion debate.

Here are some other pro-life titles in our collection:

Title	Author	Call Number
Abortion and the Conscience of a Nation	Reagan, Ronald	363.4 REA
The Biological and Spiritual Development of the Child	Catholic Medical Association	CD 003, CD 009
The Biology of Prenatal Development	Endowment for Human Development	DVD 002
Caring for Your Aging Parent	Dodds, Monica	306.8 DOD
Contraception, Why Not?	Smith, Janet E.	VHS 134
Contraception, Why Not?	Smith, Janet E.	176 SMI
Contraception, Why Not?	Smith, Janet E.	CAS 037, 038
Every Child a Light: the Pope's Message to Young People	Pope John Paul II	248.82 JOH
Forbidden Grief: the Unspoken Pain of Abortion	Burke, Theresa	363.4 BUR
God Isn't Done With Me Yet: the Unforgettable Story of America's Kids	McGready, Sr. Rose	301.42 MCC
The Gospel of Life (Evangelium Vitae)	Pope John Paul II	241.64 JOH
Great Souls-John Paul II: Crusader for Human Dignity	Gateway Films	VHS 184
Hear the Words That Will Never Be Spoken: The Right Choice	Archdiocese of Los Angeles	VHS 139
Identity and Status of the Human Embryo	Pontificia Academia pro Vita	241 PON
The Jericho Plan: Breaking Down the Walls Which Prevent Post-Abortion Healing	Reardon, David	363.4 REA
Life is Worth Living	Sheen, Fulton J.	248.4 SHE
Making Abortion Unthinkable: The Art of Pro-Life Persuasion (video, CD and instructor set)	Koukl, Gregory	VHS 011
The Most Important Work On Earth, A Nation in Shame: Abortion/Infanticide/Euthanasia	The Mary Foundation	CAS 032
Natural Family Planning Outreach	Kennedy, D. James	304.6 KEN
Natural Family Planning: Nature's Way, God's Way	McCaffrey, Fr. Daniel	VHS 196
NFP and Underlying Moral Precepts	Zimmerman, Fr. Anthony	613.9 ZIM
Physician Assisted Suicide	McCaffrey, Fr. Daniel	CAS 058, 061
Proposition on the Dignity and Rights of the Human Person	Focus on the Family	VHS 350
Proposition on the Dignity and Rights of the Human Person	Catholic Church	261.7 CAT
Redeeming a Father's Heart: Men Share Powerful Stories of Abortion Loss and Recovery	Burke, Kevin	363.4 BUR
The Strength of Mercy: Making a Difference in the World One Child at a Time	Beazeley, Jan	362.73 BEA
True to Life!	Folger, Janet	248 FOL
Why Pro-Life? : Caring for the Unborn and Their Mothers	Alcorn, Randy	248 ALC
Unplanned	Johnson, Abby	363.4 JOH

Note: DVD = digital video, VHS = video cassette and CAS = audio cassette CD= digital audio



Drew Swanson
834 2126 ext. 215

On Sun. Nov. 13 we celebrated two Rites of initiation for inquirers in the RCIA process. We celebrated the Rite of Acceptance for those preparing for their Baptism and the Rite of Welcoming for those already baptized in another Christian tradition who are seeking full communion with the Catholic Church. The following catechumens celebrated the Rite of Acceptance:

Gena King
Alisa Miller
Jeff Herron

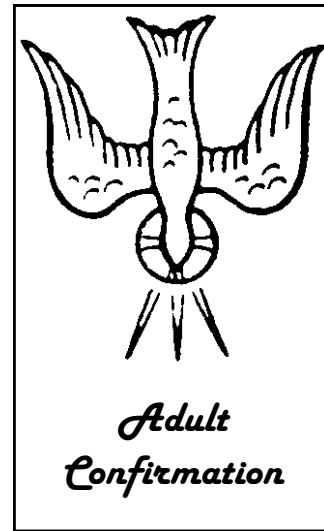
These catechumens have declared their intention to continue their journey towards becoming Catholics. At this Rite, they were asked to more fully embrace the Gospel message with the help of God, and are also signed with the Cross to show that they now belong to Christ, the Shepherd of souls. This Rite places these catechumens in a formal relationship with the universal Church. By Church law, the Pope and all bishops are to pray for those who have gone through this Rite. We encourage all parishioners to pray for these souls as well, as they continue in the initiation process over the coming months, and to reach out to them as fellow members of the Household of Christ.

The following candidates celebrated the Rite of Welcoming:

Josh Miller
Janet Knight
Claire Jobin

These candidates affirmed that they are ready to listen to the apostles' instruction, gather with the worshipping community in prayer, and join that community in the love and service of others. They were signed with the Cross to show that they belong to Christ

A very special thanks to all who helped in any way with the celebration especially sponsors and the RCIA team. Please continue to pray for our catechumens and candidates as they now enter into a period of deeper formation in the RCIA process



So what is the point of Confirmation you may ask? What difference does it make, I've gotten along without it for this long? All very good questions. The point of Confirmation is that it is the sacrament of the Holy Spirit and the difference it makes is the same difference it made to the Apostles on that first day of Pentecost. (If you're scratching your head here because you have no idea what I'm talking about, have I got the class for you!) The effect of the sacrament of confirmation is that it is a special outpouring of the Holy Spirit and is an invitation by Christ for a deeper intimacy with the God who loves us. Christ told his disciples that it would be better for them if he went away, so that he could send his Spirit to them (Jn 16:7). The Spirit would be *in* them and this was an even deeper intimacy they enjoyed than when Jesus was with them physically in the flesh.

Confirmation confirms or "firms up" the supernatural life (grace) within us that we received at Baptism and strengthens us to be mature adult witnesses for Christ. Those who are confirmed receive two powers; the power to live a life of holiness in an unholy world especially the courage to sacrifice and suffer for Christ *and* the power to spread the faith by word and example. If at anytime you have experienced a certain need in your life for these graces, Confirmation is the gateway to receive these gifts of grace.

Adult Confirmation class will begin on Sun., Dec. 4 in the Fireside Room, 3:15- 4:30pm. We will continue to meet on Sundays until Feb. 5. If you have not yet received this indispensable sacrament consider setting time aside to attend. It is never too late! The schedule of topics is now available. Confirmation brochures are posted at the Church entrances. If you have any questions, or would like to assist as a sponsor, please call Drew at the parish office, 834-2126 ext. 215.

Children's Program

Kim Steinke
834-2126, ext. 207
kim@st-thomascamas.org

RCIC Update

The following children are currently preparing to be received into our church at Easter Vigil Mass: Jared King, Aiden Miller, Danielle Petruska, Keston Sauer and Extra Stewart. Please pray for them as they continue their journey.

First Reconciliation Update

The following children have been preparing to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation:

Ruth Alexander, Alex Anhorn, Stephen Behil, Mark Billington, Jacqueline Brizuela, Hannah Chappell, Jackson Chase, Isaac Donabedian, Eithen Escobar, Eli Escobar, Isabella Herron, Luke Kashas, Alysia King, Maggie Korell, Jeanette Lara, Adam Larson, EllaMarie Layman, Elizabeth Lendvoyi, Mary Lendvoyi, Gemma Lepe, Edoardo Maggi, David Marshall, Araceli Martinez-Herrera, Yaneli Martinez-Herrera, Molly Mullan, Gustavo Murguia Rodriguez, Kit Nguyen, Bianca Pittaway, Josh Ponce, Jonah Powell, Brayden Putney, Jackson Taylor, Ryan Tuite, Sophia VanCamp & Emma Vance.

They will be celebrating their First Reconciliation Sat., Dec. 3 or 10. Please pray for them!



"Trunk n Treat" 2011

Many saints came to enjoy our annual "trunk n treat" in celebrating "All Hallow's Eve" by eating chili, cornbread, popsicles, playing group saint games & "trunk n treating" for candy of course! The following is a list of saints that visited: Mary Mother of God, St. Anne, St. Joachim, St. Rocco, St. Claire, St. Madeleine, St. Catherine Laboure, St. Philip Neri, St. Pius V, St. Drogo, Blessed Frassati, St. Mary Magdalen, St. Ruth (2), St. Francis of Assisi, St. Michael (3), Angels (2), St. Tarsicius, St. Juan Diego, St. John Neumann, a Bishop, St. Elizabeth of Hungary, St. Gabriel, St. Helena of the Holy Cross, St. Anthony, St. Genevieve, St. George (2), St. Catherine, St. Mary & St. Margaret of Scotland. Pies were awarded to the Powell family for favorite trunk & chili and to the Marshall family for favorite cornbread as voted by the attendees. Hope to see you again next "All Hallow's Eve"!

Advent Begins Soon!

Advent begins our new liturgical year and during this time we wait for the coming of our Lord. It is four weeks long. One of the traditions in preparing for the coming of our Lord is to create an Advent wreath. The Advent wreath symbolizes our time of waiting and hoping for the birth of our Lord. The wreath itself is formed in a circle with evergreens. The circle is a symbol of eternity and our everlasting God while the evergreens are a symbol of eternal life and our unchanging God. There are 3 purple candles and 1 rose colored candle that are placed around the Advent wreath. Purple in itself is a symbol of repentance, but during Advent it is a symbol of preparation for the coming of our Lord. The rose colored candle reminds us that this is a joyous time of preparation. Each week of Advent we light a candle, pray and reflect on the coming of our Lord, so by the fourth week all 4 candles are lit. Tradition has it that each candle has a special meaning and a scripture that goes with it.

- 1st week—Purple candle: "The Prophecy Candle" or "The Candle of Hope"; Scripture: Romans 15:12-13
- 2nd week—Purple candle: "The Bethlehem Candle" or "The Candle of Preparation"; Scripture: Luke 3:4-6
- 3rd week—Rose candle: "The Shepherd Candle" or "The Candle of Joy"; Scripture: Luke 2:7-15
- 4th week—Purple candle: "The Angel Candle" or "The Candle of Love"; Scripture: John 3:16-17

A white candle can be placed in the center and is known as "The Christ Candle" and it is lit on Christmas Day. Scripture: John 1:29

Note: As a service to our parishioners, sets of Advent Candles will be for sale after all Masses the first weekend of Advent, Nov. 26 & 27 for \$2.25 a set until gone.



Outreach

Saint Vincent de Paul News

*"For I was hungry and you gave me food,
I was thirsty and you gave me drink,
a stranger and you welcomed me,
naked and you clothed me..."*
Matthew 25: 35-36

Giving Tree 2011

Each year, the St. Vincent de Paul Committee, with the help of generous parishioners from St. Thomas Aquinas Church, helps to make Christmas a little brighter for at least 25 ~ 30 families in the Camas-Washougal area. This year, beginning Sat., Nov. 19, the St. Vincent de Paul Giving Tree will be in the church vestibule and will be decorated with tags, each listing an individual gift wish for a member of one of those families or a 'family gift'. We ask parishioners who are financially able to remove a tag from the tree and purchase the gift listed on it. **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 purchasing the gift item, please wrap it and securely attach the gift tag that you chose from the Giving Tree 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 select a tag for a perishable food item such as a ham or turkey, please bring it on the weekend of Dec. 17 & 18 to the kitchen in the church hall and leave it in the refrigerator. Again, please make sure that the tag you took off the Giving Tree is securely attached to the item. If you purchase other perishable food items such as fruit baskets, we also ask that these be delivered the weekend of December 17 & 18, also with the tag securely attached. **All gift items must be brought to the church no later than 1:00pm on Sun., Dec. 18.**

November Drive

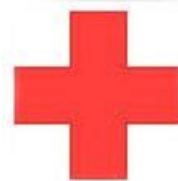
The Saint Vincent de Paul, along with Community Pregnancy Clinic, would like to thank everyone who participated in the baby supply drive for Respect Life Month. Many necessary items were donated to help babies in need in the Camas/Washougal area. It was a big success and your generosity is truly appreciated!

East County Family Resource Center

Items containing protein are in need. Things like canned meat (fish, chicken), beans, chili, soup w/meat, etc. Thanks for your support of these ongoing food drives for our community. They are truly appreciated.

Blood Drive Results

"Please extend Our "Thanks" to everyone who supported Monday's blood drive - our Inventory needs every unit right now! We are so appreciative for all the donors that came to our aid at this critical time, so please share our "Thank You"! Take Care and thanks for the amazing support!"
Jean Nantz | Territory Representative
American Red Cross Pacific Northwest Blood Services Region
Clark County Blood Donor Center
5109 NE 82nd Avenue
Vancouver, WA 98662



Prayer for Protection of Conscience Rights in Health Care

Father, in Jesus our Lord, we praise and thank you for your most precious gift of human life and for forming us in your divine image. Keep us, the dwelling place of your most Holy Spirit, ever healthy in body and soul.

Jesus, Divine Healer, pour your grace upon all those afflicted with illness or disease. Protect from all harm those who are vulnerable due to sickness, suffering, frailty, poverty or age, whether elderly or unborn.

Holy Spirit, touch the hearts of all who serve human life in medicine and science, so they will protect the dignity of each person, from conception to natural death, and remain faithful advocates of all entrusted to their care.

Grant those who are called to serve as health care providers renewed conviction in their ministry, and increased wisdom to treat the whole person, and not merely the illness.

Protect the right of health care providers to serve their patients without being forced to violate their moral and religious convictions. Guard them against discrimination, that they might be free to follow you faithfully while fulfilling their professional duties.

Grant our lawmakers the wisdom and courage to uphold conscience rights for those called to the ministry of healing, and help them resist the pressure to become collaborators in the culture of death.

Give us strength to be bold and joyful witnesses to the truth that every human life is sacred.

In your goodness, guard our freedom to live out our faith and to follow you in all that we do.

Father, we ask this in Jesus' name, through the Holy Spirit. Amen.

<http://www.usccb.org/prayer-and-worship/prayers/protection-of-conscience-rights-healthcare.cfm>

YOUTH GROUP

Drew Swanson
834-2126 ext. 215

Junior High Youth Group

Wednesday Evenings
6:00-7:15pm
Grades 7-8

Join us for a great time. Snacks, games, and friends along with a chance to learn more about the God who loves us and the Church he founded upon Peter, the rock.

High School Youth Group

Sunday Afternoon
1:30-3:00pm
Fireside
Grades 9-12

Gather with us as we share our faith and come to know our Lord in a deep and meaningful way. We'll have plenty of snacks and time to socialize too.

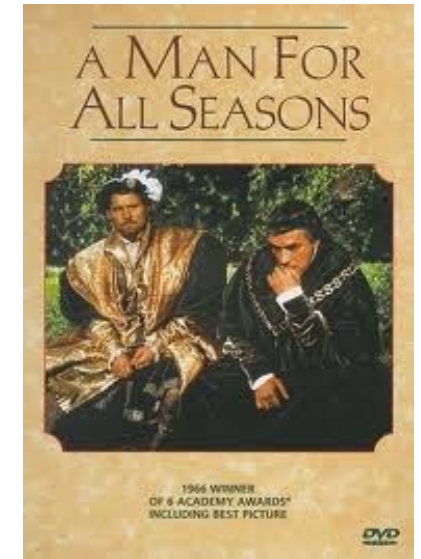
Confirmation

Sunday Afternoon
1:30-3:00pm
Fireside

Juniors and those age 16 before May 2012
Prepare to receive this essential sacrament and the gift of the Holy Spirit.

TEEN ADORATION AND A MOVIE

Join us for our next night of Adoration on Fri., Dec. 2 from 7:00-10:00pm. We will pray from 7:00-8:00pm before the Blessed Sacrament and then go to the Fireside Room for a movie. The featured presentation is A Man for All Seasons. It is the fascinating and true story of the martyr, St. Thomas Moore, and the conflict he became embroiled in with King Henry VIII. Pizza and soda will be served, so come to what will be a great time. If you bring one friend admission is 1/2 off! (0-1/2=0)



DEAD THEOLOGIAN SOCIETY TO DISCUSS ETERNAL LIFE

Following the miraculous resurrection of DTS, which was covered in last month's issue, the Society decided the first topic to explore would be eternal life in heaven. Contemporary author and Catholic philosopher, Peter Kreeft and his inspiring, Everything You Wanted to Know About Heaven but Never Dreamed of Asking is the book we are reading. Some of the questions Kreeft takes up are ones many of us have had at one time or another. Important questions like,



how can we know what heaven is like; what will we do in heaven; will we have bod-

ies in heaven; and even, will there be animals in heaven? Dr. Kreeft gives a fascinating glimpse of the "undiscovered country" that St. Paul so powerfully spoke about, "Eye has not seen, ear has not heard, nor has the heart of man conceived what God has prepared for those who love him." 1 Cor 2:9

Please join us on Wednesday evenings from 7:30-9:00pm for food, fun, friends, and prayer. We will discuss the inspiring lives and works of the saints of yesterday as they teach us about Christ today. All high school students are welcomed. A special invitation extended to those upper classmen who are already confirmed, but are interested in staying close to the Church and having friends to share their faith with.