



From the
Pastor's Desk

Dear Parishioners and Friends,

As you may have noticed we now have two lounge areas outside of St Thomas Hall. The furnishings and equipment for this area were donated by particular parishioners. The TVs that are there have announcements for upcoming events and are updated weekly. It is my hope that these areas will help create a warmer neater environment in the link and that the TVs will assist in communicating what is happening in the life of our parish. Please let Marta Brannon know if you have any announcements to be posted on the TVs. The deadline is noon on Wednesdays and the announcements should be sent to marta@stauva.org.

God Bless,
Fr Luke, OP

Fall Mass and Confession Schedule

On the following Saturdays there will be no morning confessions or evening Vigil Mass due to the closing of Alderman Road for home football games: October 10, 24, and 31, November 14 and 28. On these days, the church will be locked up following the 8:30 AM daily Mass.

50th Anniversary Celebration

This year marks 50 years since the first Dominicans began their mission to UVA and Charlottesville. Please join us for 5:15 Mass on Sat, Sept 26, as Bishop DiLorenzo, along with several returning Dominican Friars, join us to give thanks for the past 50 years and to pray for abundant blessings upon the future. A reception will follow in St Thomas Hall.

Communion and Visitation

We are trying to expand our efforts to reach more people in our community who would like Communion and/or a visit and are unable to make it to church. If you know of anyone, please call the parish office at 293-8081.

Readings for the Week of September 20, 2009

- Sunday: Wis 2:12, 17-20/Jas 3:16---4:3/
Mk 9:30-37
- Monday: *St Matthew*
Eph 4:1-7, 11-13/Mt 9:9-13
- Tuesday: Ezr 6:7-8, 12b, 14-20/Lk 8:19-21
- Wednesday: *St Pio of Pietrelcina*
Ezr 9:5-9/Lk 9:1-6
- Thursday: Hg 1:1-8/Lk 9:7-9
- Friday: Hg 2:1-9/Lk 9:18-22
- Saturday: *St Cosmas and St Damian*
Zec 2:5-9, 14-15a/Lk 9:43b-45
- Next Sunday: Nm 11:25-29/Jas 5:1-6/
Mk 9:38-43, 45, 47-48

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, September 19

- 8:30 AM Charles E. Lavering †
- 5:15 PM Dr Sarah Miller †

Sunday, September 20

- 7:30 AM Anita Donlon †
- 9:00 AM Patrick Daniel Noonan
- 11:30 AM Stacey Pawlowski †
- 5:15 PM For the People

Monday, September 21

- 8:00 AM George Kessler †
- 5:15 PM George Kessler †

Tuesday, September 22

- 8:00 AM Bob Kadner †
- 5:15 PM Mrs Bickley †

Wednesday, September 23

- 8:00 AM Stoffel Kramer †
- 5:15 PM Jude Cordeiro †

Thursday, September 24

- 8:00 AM Margaret Knowlton †
- 5:15 PM Francis Quinn †

Friday, September 25

- 8:00 AM Lance Stryker †
- 5:15 PM George Kessler †

Saturday, September 26

- 8:30 AM Jack Vogeley
- 5:15 PM For the People

Please Keep the Following in Your Prayers

Linda Weinhardt, Patrick Howell, Joe Guyton, Vincent Burins, LTC Mike Devine, Tomesa Jackson, Anna Mills' granddaughter Wanda Clements, Ann Savino, Vanessa Thoms-Sprogis, and Mary Lou Gough — If you or someone you know is ill and would like the prayers of our parish family please call the office. To keep the list current, names will be periodically removed.

Memorial Flower Donations

In addition to having a Mass said, you can remember your loved ones by dedicating the altar flower arrangements that beautify the Church. Please call Marta at the office for details.

Thank You From Commonwealth Catholic Charities

For contributing generously to the CCC Collection the weekend of Sept 26-27. Your donations provide valuable services including food to hungry families, in-home care to the elderly and support for children trapped in the midst of domestic disputes. Donations go directly to support of services. Please be generous and use the envelope provided in your packet. Thank you.

PARISH FINANCES

September 13, 2009

Budgeted Weekly Expenses.....	\$18,289.78
Offertory	16,652.36
Parish Charities	1,809.00
Other Income.....	522.50
Building Fund.....	11,941.00

PARISH CENTER DEBT ELIMINATION

As of August 25, 2009

Previous Mortgage Balance	\$293,814.00
Mortgage Reduction	11,000.00
Outstanding Debt to be Eliminated	282,814.00

WORSHIP AND MUSIC

Marta Brannon • 293-8081 x18 • marta@stauva.org

Blue Mass

In honor of our Policemen, Firemen, and Rescue Workers. Please join us on Tuesday, Sept 28, at 5:15PM to pray for the safety of those who risk their lives to protect our community.

Red Mass

For all involved in the Judicial system and legal profession. Please join us on Monday, October 5, at 5:15PM for a Mass of the Holy Spirit to ask for blessings and for the guidance of the Holy Spirit. If you are a law student, law professor, attorney or support staff for the legal profession, and would like to help with this Mass, please contact Marta in the parish office.

Eucharistic Adoration

Wed 8:30AM to Thurs 5:00PM. Please think of spending some time with the Lord. To sign up or get more info please contact Sylvia Lobo, srmlobo@hotmail.com or 244-5619. We have open time slots on Wed 4-5PM and Thurs 2-3PM. "Our essential commitment in life is to preserve and advance constantly in Eucharistic life, Eucharistic piety and to grow spiritually in the climate of the Holy Eucharist." (Pope John Paul II, Redeemer of Man.)

Sunday 11:30AM Folk Choir

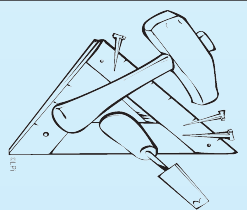
Is inviting new singers and musicians to join for the fall semester. Students are especially encouraged to join. Please consider coming to our rehearsals at 10:45AM Sundays in the Church and see if you would like to be part of our music ministry. We would particularly like to have more piano players, violinists and bass players. Stop by after Mass for more information.

Sunday 9AM Choir

Everyone is welcome. There is no commitment. Try it and see if you like it, if not, you're free to leave at any time. In addition to the Sunday Mass and Holy Days, we also participate in the Holy Week combined choir. If Thursday rehearsals, 6-8PM, don't fit into your schedule then please join us on Sunday, 1-3PM. All rehearsals are in the music room which is directly across from the Parish Office. We hope to see you soon. "May God Give Us Faith to Sing Always!"

Carpentry Skills???

Help is needed with a few projects around our building. Please call the Parish Office for details and ask for Marta, 293-8081, ext. 18. Thank you!



ADULT EDUCATION

Chris Gilbert • 293-8081 x15 • dre@stauva.org

Interested in Becoming Catholic?

Would you like to learn more about *what* Catholics believe and *why*? The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) takes place on Wed at 7:30PM. Info: dre@stauva.org or 293-8081

Women's Little Rock Scripture Study

If you are seeking prayer, fellowship and a greater depth of understanding of our sacred scriptures, please join us for a new 6-week study "Parables of the Kingdom" beginning Tues, Sept 29, 9-11AM in the Community Room. Some of the most memorable teachings of Jesus were delivered as parables. We will be exploring those in Mark's Gospel and the same parables as they appear in Matthew. Child care is available for a fee on a limited basis. If interested please notify Patty at 973-6802 or gazewood@embarqmail.com.

Men's Prayer & Fellowship Group

Join us 7-8AM in Room 2 next to the kitchen 1st and 3rd Friday for prayer, study and discussion. We are currently studying *Back to Virtue* by Peter Kreeft. All men are welcome. Contact: Bill Wilson (434-882-4178 or email wdwilson@mindspring.com)

Catholicism 101 Foot Prints of God Series

This is a video presentation on Salvation History set in the Holy Land sites and filmed on location with Stephen Ray. We meet on select Saturdays at 10 AM in the Community Room. Next meeting: Sept 26. For info contact sackandpam@comcast.net.

PARISH ACTIVITIES

Nominations for Parish Pastoral Council

This is the final weekend to nominate yourself or fellow parishioners for one of four Parish Council seats. Please fill-out a nomination form located in the pews or in the Link. Collection boxes are located in the Link and Parish Hall. Elections will be held the weekend of Oct 17/18. Please take time to participate in this important process in the life of our parish family!

Annual Pregnancy Center Dinner

Sat, Oct 17, 6PM, at the Double Tree Hotel. The speaker is Eileen Smith. Please email/call marta@stauva.org, 293-8081x18 to attend and support life.

Interested in Becoming a College Council Knight?

We invite Students and Men of our Parish to join our college council. For further information please contact Bob Savino, Grand Knight (rmsavino@comcast.net), pick up a brochure in the Link, or see the Knights website (www.kofc.org). Our next meeting will be held in Classroom 12, Chapel side, on Wednesday Oct 7 with the Rosary at 6:45PM and General Meeting at 7:00.

Opportunities for Disabled Parishioners

Contact Lauryn Mathena-Armstrong with suggestions of ways to increase involvement of disabled parishioners in parish ministries and community life. Email parishadvocate@stauva.org or phone 964-1111.



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

PreK-5 • Chris Gilbert 293-8081 x15 • dre@stauva.org
Gr 6-12 • Michael Balazs 293 8081x16 • youth@stauva.org

EDGE Challenge

Adam and Eve experienced human and spiritual death because of their original sin. When we sin we are dead in our souls. We can respond to our own sins like Judas and despair or we can trust in the mercy of God, as David did. God can forgive any sin as long as we are sorry. We should always approach the Lord with humble and contrite hearts and seek God's forgiveness. Our goal at the EDGE night is to learn how to live a holy life. Talk with your family about what you do together to live holy, moral lives.

LifeTeen – Session 1: In the beginning...

This week we discussed various topics centered on the creation of the universe and all that it contains including the biblical stories of creation themselves. We compared and contrasted the three prominent views related to the role divine inspiration played in the creation of the bible and which of these views, as Catholics, we believe. We discussed the nature of our stories of creation compared to other stories of the same time period, e.g. the Babylonian myth. Finally, we talked about what both science and scripture tell us about creation and how that fits into Catholic beliefs.

Challenge: We discussed tonight how the bible is 100% Truth when it comes to faith and morals, however, this doesn't mean that it doesn't contain a lot of accurate history as well. As a family, determine how the two stories of creation in the bible and what science tells us could all be merged into one historical account of creation.

Salvation Army Dinners

We are looking for youth ministry families to help host dinner at the Salvation Army on the 2nd & 5th Sunday of the month starting in September. This is a great opportunity to share with your youth in giving to others. For more details contact Chris Noel at coachnoel1@gmail.com.

YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY

For young professionals and graduate students aged 21-35
Stephanie Zilora • smz5c@virginia.edu

Attention Grad Students and Young Adults

YAM is a ministry at St Thomas Aquinas geared toward all people ages 21-35. Our goal is to create and cater to the needs of a network of young adult Catholics in Charlottesville through fellowship in social and spiritual activities and community service. If interested in being more involved with YAM or if you would like to be added to the e-mail list, contact Stephanie Zilora at smz5c@virginia.edu.

CAMPUS MINISTRY

Michael Horsey • mlh6r@virginia.edu
John Hopke • johnhopke@stauva.org

Sunday Mass on Grounds During Academic Year

When the students are here there will be Sunday Mass in the UVA Chapel at 9:00PM.

The St Anselm Institute for Catholic Thought

Is a voluntary, faculty-led organization of individuals interested in engaging and promoting the richness of the Catholic tradition of thought and action. Founded in 2000, the Institute supports a popular public lecture series at UVA, a fall faculty-student dinner at St Thomas, and a Doctors of the Church Lunch/Discussion series, etc. Please visit our website (www.stanselmminstitute.org) for a calendar of events. Faculty, students, parents, and friends of the Institute, if you're not on our mailing list use the website to sign up or write us: PO Box 6432, Charlottesville, VA 22906. We're looking forward to another very productive year.

Are You in Need of a Babysitter?

Catholic Student Ministry will provide a responsible student. For more information contact Kristina Wolf at kmw8z@virginia.edu.

SENIOR MINISTRY

For parishioners aged 60 and older
Barbara Brodie • bb9w@virginia.edu

Fall Day of Recollection

Sat, Oct 3. Fr Thomas Joseph White, OP, from the Dominican House of Studies, will present "The Mystery of the Eucharist: Real Presence of Christ and Sacrifice of the Cross". The day begins with 9AM Mass followed by the presentation. A box lunch is available for \$11 to those who wish to enjoy lunch with fellow seniors. Please call the parish office by Sept 30 to order lunch, and make your check out to St Thomas Aquinas Church.

Coffee Break

Oct 13, 10AM-12PM, in classroom 2. Paul Harnois, chair of the St Thomas Mission for Haiti, will give a brief talk about the village, the children and the status of our parish's activities on behalf of the St Michel community. The presentation will begin at 10:45 and last for about half an hour, including a Q&A period. Please join us.

Christmas Gifts for the Children of St Michel Parish

The Senior Ministry requests donations in order to provide Christmas gifts for the approximately 500 school children of our twinned parish in Saltadère, Haiti. **All parishioners** are encouraged to participate in this effort. Please consider prayerfully a generous donation for these children who have very little. Checks are to be made payable to St Thomas Aquinas Catholic Church; we ask that you donate as soon as possible so that we may have all the contributions in time for the presentation. **Very important: Write on the memo line: Senior Xmas Gift Haiti.** The checks should be given/sent to: Susan Phillips in the St Thomas Parish office; or, you may place them in the offering basket during Mass, appropriately marked. Thank you!

PEACE AND JUSTICE

The Haitian Station

*St Thomas Parish – Twinned with
St Michael Parish, Saltadère, Haiti*

The Nobel Laureate and the founder of Grameen Bank, Prof Muhammad Yunus, will give a talk on Sun, Sept 20, at 2:30 in University Hall (U-Hall). He will speak about his work empowering the poor in Bangladesh. He and his foundation won the Nobel Peace prize in 2006 for setting up the Grameen Bank, which offers small loans for commerce and community development. The Grameen Bank is the model in Haiti for Fonkoze which provides micro-credit there. **Sponsorship Drive October 3 & 4:** There are now 106 unsponsored children at St Michel School. Stop by after Mass on the weekend of Oct 3 & 4 to sponsor a child and thus help with the funding of the new school year. Learn more about the school and the children when you stop by. **St Thomas Aquinas Seniors:** The senior group is collecting monetary donations toward Christmas gifts for the children of St Michel School. Please take note of the details in the Senior section of the bulletin. **Feast of St Michael:** Join with our brothers and sisters in Saltadère as they celebrate their patronal feast of St Michael on Sept 29. Our twin parish is the intention of the 5:15 Mass this day. **Bi-Parish Haiti Committee:** The committee next meets today, Sun, Sept 20, at 1PM at St Thomas Aquinas. **Contact:** Paul Harnois, lphmch@embarqmail.com



COMMUNITY EVENTS

40 Days for Life Kick-Off Rally

Join us Mon, Sep 21, 7-8PM at The Covenant School (lower campus across from McIntire Park in the Multi-Purpose Room) as we gear up for the 40 Days for life. For 40 days, Christians will be gathering together from all around the Charlottesville area to pray to end abortion. We will have ice cream, prayer, and more information about how you can participate in saving lives and spreading the Gospel. For more information contact Irene Xenos at 227-6055 or icx6z@virginia.edu.

America Needs Fatima Rosary Rally

Sat Oct 10, 12PM-2PM, at Sts Peter & Paul Church in Palmyra. Please bring a lawn chair and water bottle with you for the outdoor Rosary. For more information contact: Carol 434 589 5339 or Vito 804 337 9013.

Women's Cursillo Retreat Weekend Oct 22-25

Led by a team of local Catholic women, with Msgr Chet Michael and Fr Dan Bain participating as spiritual directors. Mass and prayers will be held each day, along with talks on specific issues of Catholic Christian living. Cost: \$30.00 (although donations will be accepted at the end of the weekend to allow others to have a Cursillo Weekend experience). Info/downloadable applications available at www.valleycursillo.com/faq.html. Contact: Fran or Marshall Slayton at valleycursillo@valleycursillo.com or 434-293-5253.

Boy Scout Retreatoree

Oct 2,3 & 4 at Mary Mother of the Church Benedictine Abbey celebrating Benedict XVI's "Year for Priests". For Boy Scouts between the 6th and 12th grades. Troops will register as units, individuals register as provisional Scouts that will be assigned to a unit. What is the Retreatoree? Fun with a religious message, planned by the Diocese of Richmond Catholic Committee on Scouting (DRCCS). Each Unit must bring their own tents, food and camping gear. Pre-event planning packet will be sent to unit leaders immediately following registration. Registration and Information: Erik and Pam Lees (757) 221-6527

CCS All Terrain 5K Run and Walk

Register now for the 8th Annual CCS All Terrain 5K taking place Sat, Oct 3, 8AM. Visit www.cvillecatholic.org to download a registration form or stop by Ragged Mountain Running Shop on Elliewood Ave.

TRAVEL OPPORTUNITIES

Pilgrimages

For info contact Julie Zackrisson at 296-4615 or julianne333@gmail.com. To register for either pilgrimage send an application and \$400 deposit made out to "206 Tours" to Julie at 2616 Cardinal Ridge Road, Charlottesville, VA 22901. Flyers/registration forms are in the Link.

The Holy Land: March 10-20, 2010, with Fr Luke Clark, OP. Come walk in the footsteps of the Lord and share in this life-changing experience! You will come away being able to visualize Scripture as you hear it and your heart will be forever touched! The cost is \$2,849 plus airport taxes.

Medjugorje: Apr 21-May 1, 2010, with Fr Luke Clark, OP. Join us as we journey to a place where "Heaven Touches the Earth"! Medjugorje is a gift to our time and is filled with so many Graces! Cost is \$1,784/person + airport taxes of about \$400. **\$200 discount for all who pay a \$400 deposit by Oct 16.** We will also spend one day and night in beautiful Dubrovnik, the "Pearl of the Adriatic."

Food Collection for Holy Comforter

Thank you for your support this summer! We will continue to collect items for the pantry this fall. Needed items are: canned fruit, chunky soups and meat/tuna, instant oatmeal, instant breakfast packages and toiletries (toothpaste, soap, shampoo, deodorant, toothbrushes, etc). Please drop your donations in the food baskets upstairs or downstairs.

Perishable Food Donation Program

Thank you new volunteers!

Volunteers Needed to Make Dessert

On a monthly basis for Salvation Army dinners sponsored by St Thomas. Call Ann Carothers, 293-9808.

IMPACT

We are gearing up for the next cycle of IMPACT, and we'd like to invite you to be a part of it! This year we will be pairing with the Church of the Incarnation to build relationships and discuss community problems that IMPACT should work on next. Please come to one of the bilingual meetings, all are open to parishioners of both parishes. Join us to tell what you find troubling in the community. This issue could be something you feel personally, have heard at your work place or school, through a family member or friend. Or just join us to listen to what others have to say. The results of the listening sessions being held in all 30 IMPACT congregations will help shape the presentations at the Oct 19th Fall Assembly at St Thomas Aquinas where we will vote on the next issue for IMPACT to work on this year. All meetings will be following a Sunday liturgy and food will be provided. The meeting sessions are Sept 20 from 5:45-7:15PM at Incarnation and Oct 4 from 6:30-8:00PM at St Thomas Aquinas. For more information contact Bob Fehse at bobf5a@embarqmail.com.

