



Dear Parishioners and Friends,

Christ is born for us, come let us adore Him! This is the antiphon we Dominicans sang this morning as we begin our celebration of Christmas. We will repeat this antiphon throughout the Christmas season. Today we celebrate the birthday of our Savior. This is not an abstract notion that is detached from our lives. We do not celebrate a far distant historical figure that is separated from us in time and space. No, we celebrate the living Lord of Lords who indeed is born for us. The eternal Son of the Father has taken on our human nature and is born in utter simplicity. He emptied Himself for you and me, to save us from our sins and to bring us to His glory. His birth has changed the entire course of history and the effects of His life, death and resurrection can change the entire course of our lives. We welcome this new born King into our lives anew and we respond by adoring God in our midst. Christ is born for us, come let us adore Him!

On behalf of the Dominican friars, and the entire parish staff, I wish you and your family all the joy of this new born King. May you all have a Merry Christmas and a blessed New Year!

God Bless,
Fr Luke, OP

Mass Schedule for the Solemnity of Mary Mother of God
Vigil Mass on Thursday, December 31, at 5:15PM
Friday, January 1, at 8AM, 12:10PM, and 5:15PM

The Parish Office
will be closed **December 24th through January 3rd.**

Readings for Dec 27, 2009— Jan 10, 2010

- Sunday: Sir 3:2-7, 12-14 or 1 Sm 1:20-22, 24-28/Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17 or 1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24/Lk 2:41-52
- Monday: 1 Jn 1:5---2:2/Mt 2:13-18
- Tuesday: 1 Jn 2:3-11/Lk 2:22-35
- Wednesday: 1 Jn 2:12-17/Lk 2:36-40
- Thursday: 1 Jn 2:18-21/Jn 1:1-18
- Friday: *Mary Mother of God*
Nm 6:22-27/Gal 4:4-7/Lk 2:16-21
- Saturday: 1 Jn 2:22-28/Jn 1:19-28
- Sunday: *The Epiphany*
Is 60:1-6/Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12
- Monday: *St Elizabeth Ann Seton*
1 Jn 3:22--4:6/ Mt 4:12-17,23-25
- Tuesday: *St John Neumann*
1 Jn 4:7-10/ Mk 6:34-44
- Wednesday: 1 Jn 4:11-18/ Mk 6:45-52
- Thursday: 1 Jn 4:19--5:4/ Lk 4:14-22a
- Friday: 1 Jn 5:5-13/ Lk 5:12-16
- Saturday: 1 Jn 5:14-21/ Jn 3:22-30
- Sunday: *Baptism of the Lord*
Is 42:1-4,6-7 or Is 40:1-5,9-11/Acts 10:34-38 or Ti 2:11-14; 3:4-7/ Lk 3:15-16, 21-22

Please Keep the Following in Your Prayers

Lori Jimenez, Gilbert Maestas, Fr Thomas Seagrave, Joanne Hayden, James Burke, Ashley Sheets, Lisa Miller, Rosemary Firer, Duncan Campbell, Dave Watters, Ted Oakey, Brad Gentry, Michael Mitchell, Consuelo Benson, Lauren Mara Miller, Victoria Amparo Villar, Matthew Grimes, Linda Weinhardt, Patrick Howell, Vincent Burins, and Anna Mills' granddaughter Wanda Clements — 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.

MASS INTENTIONS

- Saturday, December 26**
8:30 AM Randall Miller †
5:15 PM For the People
- Sunday, December 27**
7:30 AM Dave Bailey
9:00 AM Jerry Selinger †
11:30 AM Leonard Winzek †
5:15 PM Guido & Elena Cirenza †
- Monday, December 28**
8:00 AM Lori Donlon
5:15 PM Jackie Barcomb
- Tuesday, December 29**
8:00 AM Ivy Arbulu
5:15 PM Helen Rock
- Wednesday, December 30**
8:00 AM Pedro Celestino Lavadia †
5:15 PM Joseph Martins †
- Thursday, December 31**
8:00 AM Laverne Klein †
5:15 PM Bernard Rock
- Friday, January 1, Mary Mother of God**
8:00 AM In Thanksgiving
12:10 PM For the People
5:15 PM June Howell †
- Saturday, January 2**
8:30 AM Respect Life
5:15 PM Christina Delon
- Sunday, January 3**
7:30 AM For the People
9:00 AM Ana Nogales Villanueva De Mayarga †
11:30 AM Ed Roberts †
5:15 PM Wendy Hammond
- Monday, January 4**
8:00 AM Linda Weinhardt
5:15 PM Gerald Kennedy †
- Tuesday, January 5**
8:00 AM Linda Weinhardt
5:15 PM Catherine McGowan
- Wednesday, January 6**
8:00 AM Leo Kryzkwowski †
5:15 PM Linda Weinhardt
- Thursday, January 7**
8:00 AM Roberta Scott
5:15 PM Linda Weinhardt
- Friday, January 8**
8:00 AM Ana N Mayorga †
5:15 PM Linda Weinhardt
- Saturday, January 9**
8:30 AM Deceased Members of the Dominican Laity
5:15 PM Randy Miller †

PARISH FINANCES

December 20, 2009— Figures available in next bulletin

Budgeted Weekly Expenses.....	\$18,879.78
Offertory.....	
Parish Charities.....	
Other Income.....	
Building Fund.....	

PARISH CENTER DEBT ELIMINATION

As of November 20, 2009

Previous Mortgage Balance.....	\$249,614.00
Mortgage Reduction.....	9,990.00
Outstanding Debt to be Eliminated.....	239,624.00

WORSHIP AND MUSIC

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

Eucharistic Adoration

Is held every week, Wed 8:30AM—Thurs 5:00PM. Have you thought about spending just one hour with the Lord? Please consider it. Call 244-5619 or e-mail srmlobo@hotmail.com for more information. **We will not have Adoration on December 23/24 or December 30/31.**

Additional Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Will be held on **Fridays** from 8:30AM to 5PM. We will begin these new hours on Friday, January 8.

Sunday 11:30AM Folk Choir

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. Stop by after Mass for more information.

Sunday 9AM Choir

Everyone is welcome. In addition to Sunday Mass and Holy Days, we participate in the Holy Week combined choir. Attend rehearsals in the music room (directly across from the parish office) on Thursday 6-8PM or Sundays, 1-3PM.

Gregorian Chant Mass: Sunday, 7:30 AM

The Schola, directed by John Harvey, is open to anyone interested in singing Gregorian Chant. Rehearsals are on Mondays from 7:00 to 8:30PM in the church. Contact John at utre@comcast.net.

Jesus said to them, "Why were you looking for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" But they did not understand what he said to them. — Lk 2:49-50

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970. CCD.



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 Wednesdays at 7:30PM in St Thomas Hall. Info: dre@stauva.org or 293-8081.

Men's Prayer & Fellowship Group

Are you seeking to be a better Christian man? Trying to live Monday-Friday what you hear on Sunday? Start the New Year right and join us. We have a group of men that come together twice a month to share ideas. We are currently studying *Back to Virtue* by Peter Kreeft. All men are welcome to join our group. The next meetings are Jan 8 and 22 at 7AM in Room 2 next to the kitchen. There is time for prayer, study, and discussion. If you have any questions, please call or email Bill Wilson at cell phone 434-882-4178 or email at wdwilson@mindspring.com.

Catholicism 101 Special "The Star of Bethlehem"

This is a video presentation on the actual astronomy in the skies over Israel at the time of Christ's birth. An incredible and moving matching of scripture using the latest astronomy software. A must see. This presentation will be on Jan 9 at 10AM in the Community Room. The normal 101 study group will resume on Jan 23. For info contact sackandpam@comcast.net.

PARISH ACTIVITIES

Mardi Gras Party

Mark your calendar for Feb 13, 2010 for a fun evening of dinner, dancing and great company at the Annual St Thomas Aquinas Mardi Gras Party. More information to come in the Jan 17th bulletin.

What is the Dominican Laity?

To find out please consider joining us for breakfast and our meeting! Our next meeting will be on Sat, Jan 9, immediately following the 8:30AM Mass. We will begin with the recitation of the Rosary and Morning Prayer. Please RSVP - to ensure that we have enough food to share - Marta Brannon at 293-8081 or marta@stauva.org.

Knights of Columbus (K of C)

Knights are Catholic men who engage in camaraderie, community service, support of our Church, enhancing our faith, and advancing the culture of life. 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 Wed, Jan 6, with the Rosary at 6:45PM and General Meeting at 7:00.



RELIGIOUS ED / YOUTH MINISTRY

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

Antioch 2010 is Coming!!!

Who: High Schoolers Only - All High School Youth are welcome, you don't even have to be from St Thomas. Bring your friends!!!

What: Antioch is a weekend retreat planned, organized and run by your fellow high schoolers who have experienced this life changing retreat in the past. It is a wonderful opportunity to share your faith and meet other Catholic youth while strengthening and deepening your own relationship with God. Besides all that, it is also crazy amounts of fun!

When: Jan 15-17, 2010

Why: Seriously? Just ask anyone who has been! Here are some quotes...

"When I first came to St Thomas I had a fairly poor relationship with God and just figured no one my age cared one bit. Antioch was a slap in the face. My eyes were opened to the reality of a young and vibrant church."

"The first time I went to Antioch I absolutely did not want to attend, but my parents forced me to go. Upon returning, I'd never been so grateful towards them. The experience changed me; both in my personal relationship with Christ, and my involvement in the Church."

How: Just return the registration form found at stauvaym.blogspot.com by Dec 18, 2009.

Kujenga Retreat

What is it? It is a retreat for African-American high school youths, grades 9-12 to provide Christ centered family oriented leadership training through a celebration of culture, customs and traditions

When: February 5-7, 2010

Where: Virginia United Methodist Assembly Center, Blackstone, VA

Contact Info: Pam Harris, Office for Black Catholics, at 804-240-0403 or visit <http://www.richmonddiocese.org/obc/index.htm> and click on calendar of events for more information and to download a registration form.

SCRIP

Our new SCRIP program has been a huge success. We have sold over \$30,000 towards our goal of selling \$100k+ through next September.

What is SCRIP? SCRIP is a quick and easy way to support our programs and those of the Charlottesville Catholic School with NO out of pocket cost to you. You simply purchase gift and grocery cards from us at 100% of the their value and we receive a portion of the proceeds.

CAMPUS MINISTRY

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

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.

YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY

For parishioners 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 offer young adult Catholics a community of faith and friendship devoted to spirituality, society, service, and study. If you are 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.

Ongoing Events

Please meet in the Link to join us for brunch on the third Sunday of every month after the 11:30AM Mass. (First Friday dinner has been postponed until next semester.)
Rosary Group meets in the link every Wed at 7:30PM.

SENIOR MINISTRY

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

Senior Coffee

The Senior Coffees resume on Wednesday, January 13, 2010. After the busy Christmas season come join us for coffee, goodies, and conversation. There is no charge and all are welcome. Drop by anytime from 10AM to noon. Looking forward to seeing old and new friends!

PEACE AND JUSTICE

The Haitian Station

*St Thomas Parish – Twinned with
St Michel Parish, Saltadère*

Sponsorship Opportunity: Many thanks to all who have sponsored a child or have renewed the sponsorship. You can still sponsor a child and help with the funding of the current school year at St Michel School. Sponsorship is \$10/month or \$120/year. To learn more, stop by the Haiti table downstairs or contact sponsorshipprogram@gmail.com. **Thank You for Supporting the Raffle:** Thank you to all who participated in our Committee's Raffle. The lucky winners are: Pat Sylvestro (the hand worked wallhanging); Madeline Powers (the P.B. Moss Nativity print); Eric Pooley (the Haitian Metal art piece); Michelle Weber (the Longaberger Holiday basket); Bob Schwagerl (the specialty cake); and, Mike Moyles (the framed student artwork). "Se Pou Bondye Beni-w Anpil" -- "Thank You and May God Bless You". **Travel to Haiti:** Several trips to visit our twin parish of St Michel are being planned in the coming months. If you are interested in traveling with one of these groups, please contact Paul Harnois (see e-mail below). **Bi-Parish Haiti Committee:** The committee next meets at 1PM on Jan 24 at St Thomas Aquinas. **Contact:** To learn more about the Bi-parish committee, e-mail Paul Harnois at lphmch@embarqmail.com.



Advent Food Collection

Thank you for your giving! 90 bags of food and supplies were recently delivered to the Emergency Food Bank, an all volunteer organization that provides a 3-day supply of food to those in need. We will continue to collect until the New Year. Needed items: **pasta & sauce, cereal, baby food, diapers, peanut butter, toiletries (soap, shampoo, deodorant, toilet paper), canned vegetables, soups, beans, fruits and fish.** Please place your donations in the baskets upstairs or downstairs.

Faithful Citizenship Opportunity

The Virginia Catholic Conference's annual Catholic Advocacy Day will be held on Thurs, Jan 28, 2010 from 8:30AM until 1:30PM, at St Peter's Church (adjacent to Capitol Square in Richmond). The day begins with prayer and briefings on proposed state policies in the areas of respect life, social and economic justice, education, and family life. Briefings are followed by constituent visits at legislators' offices, lunch, "debriefing," and closing prayer. To obtain a registration form, visit www.vacatholic.org and click on "Catholic Advocacy Day Flyer," or call (804) 225-8565. The flyer contains information on bus transportation from northern Virginia and Tidewater. Arlington Bishop Paul S Loverde and Richmond Bishop Francis X DiLorenzo will offer welcoming remarks at this important advocacy event. Please register and plan to attend!

COMMUNITY EVENTS

The Manhattan Declaration

The Manhattan Declaration is a Call of Christian Conscience created and published to reaffirm fundamental truths of our faith and to serve as a call to defend these: (1) the sanctity of human life, (2) the dignity of marriage as the conjugal union of husband and wife, and (3) the rights of conscience and religious liberty. It is especially important in these challenging times, when these are under attack, that we speak and act forcefully in their defense. Please see www.manhattandeclaration.org to read the entire document, sign the document, and view a list of signatories, which includes many religious leaders and of them numerous priests, bishops and archbishops.

Charlottesville Catholic School (CCS)

Open House: Parents of prospective students are invited to the CCS Winter Open House on Wed, Feb 3, 9:00–11:00AM. Join us to learn more about what CCS has to offer students, from challenging academics to strong community life where faith is integrated in all we do and celebrated every day.

Applications: Applications for the 2010-2011 school year are currently being accepted. Please visit our website for comprehensive info & details of our application process. Applications must be received by Feb 8, 2010 to be considered in the 1st round of enrollment contract offers (NOTE: This date is a change from the Feb 1 date originally posted on the CCS Website). If you would like to have a tour of our school, please call Ann Michel, Admissions Coordinator, at (434)964-0400. Limited seats are also available for the current year.

Morning of Reflection

"Loving Our Neighbor In a Shrinking World" ~ Advance reservation required. Sat, Jan 16, 9:30AM-1:30PM. All who volunteer their time to meet the needs of others or who work for justice and peace are invited for a morning of reflection with guest speaker Marie Dennis, Director of the Maryknoll Office for Global Concerns. The co-president of Pax Christi International, Ms. Dennis has traveled extensively in Asia, Latin America and Africa to stand in solidarity with the poor and to work for peace and justice. Participants will be inspired by Ms Dennis' words of wisdom, and will be encouraged to draw connections between local and global work to end suffering and build a just world. Prayer, small group discussion and a simple lunch will be included. Suggested donation \$10/person. Seats are limited - please contact the Incarnation parish office (973-4381) by Jan 11 to make a reservation.

Employment Opportunities in the Diocese

Go to <http://www.richmonddiocese.org/human/> to get information about the following jobs: 1) Youth Minister, St Bridget Catholic Church, Richmond, VA, 2) Principal / Head of School – Roanoke Catholic School, Roanoke VA

TRAVEL OPPORTUNITIES

Pilgrimage to 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! We will also spend one day and night in beautiful Dubrovnik, the "Pearl of the Adriatic." Cost is \$1,784/person + airport taxes of about \$400. For info contact Julie Zackrisson at 296-4615 or julianne333@gmail.com. To register send an application & \$400 deposit made out to "206 Tours" to Julie at 2616 Cardinal Ridge Road, Ch'ville, VA 22901. Info/registration forms are in the Link.



Christmas Flowers have been donated in memory or in honor of

Agnes B. Kennedy
Albert & Betty Batchelor
Alfonso Ahmad Husien
Alfred Lesiak
Alfred Quintanilla, Jr.
Alfredo Quintanilla, Sr.
Alice Davis
Alicia Ortiz
Aline Leys
Alistair C. Kozuch
Allen Family
Andrew Kollar
Ann Marie Kennedy
Anna Watkins
Anne de Camp
Anne Marie Kuebler
Annie & Davy M.
Arlene Lesiak
Armintia Adams
August & Mabel C.
Ava Smith
B.J. Fitzpatrick
Baby Kozuch
Baby Patrouch
Bell & Velma Grubb
Bell Family
Ben & Rita McGinnis
Ben Wojda
Bill Smith
Book Family Deceased
Bruce Rockwell
Cabble & Iva Bralley
Carl & Hildred Crawford
Carmenza Ortiz
Carol Lamb
Carter Jean Patrouch
Charles H. Conley, Jr.
Charles Landreau
Chris Trammell
Clayton Boitnott
Clifford Fusco
Coleman Family
Corrigan Family
Dale Poling
David & Martha Fitzgerald
Deborah
Dembeck Family Deceased
Dolores Fuentes
Donna A. & Robert Lombardi
Donovan Family Deceased
Dora Gainer
Dorothy Koppenhoefer
E. Carbonneau
E. Paul Hoover Family
Ellen Mary Sowick
Emanuel Giglio
Ethel Landreau
Evelyn M. Crisp
Frances Skuba
Frank & Ruth Kowrach
Gabriel Schiappa
George Hamar
George Hamar
Gerald & Ollie Vidrine
Gerald Farrell
Grace Peterson
Great Gramma Pat
Hammond Family
Helen & Edward Prokuski
Helen MacKellar
Helen White
Helen Zableski
Helene & Earle Lowe
Hugh Stevenson Landes
James Bryan Pirsch
Jane Behrens
Jane Sanders
Jeanne Hasselman
Jennifer Anderson
Jerome Lewis
Joan S.
John F. Prien
John H. Post, Jr.
Johnny Giglio
Jose Balagtas
Josefa Manrique
Joseph & Clare Weiss
Joseph & Doris Fitzgerald
Joseph Mackey
Joseph Quintanilla
Joseph Spillane
Josephine & Henry Brink
Julia Danches
Kathryn Godburn
Kathryn Godburn
Knasel Family Deceased
Lauren Munchak
Lee Family
Leland & Alda Strotheide
Leola Trouille
Leona Giglio
Leonard Martinelli
Leonard N. Kennedy
Lester Mason
Lorraine & Edward Joyce
Lottie Belardo
Lottie Wojda
Louis A. Yuhn
Louis Martin
Lowe Family Deceased
Lucas Family Deceased
M. Christine Harnois
M. Christine Harnois
Margaret & Beryl Knasel
Maria Bong Kian Lian
Marie-Jenée Trouille Bralley
Mark Ferenz
Marlene Constantine
Mary Ellen Petrell
Mary Migliori
McHugh Family
Mr. & Mrs. John Hapstack
Mr. & Mrs. John Mescher
Mr. & Mrs. Louis Yuhn
Mr. & Mrs. Monroe Marshall
Natale Family
Nile Eastham
Norman
Nunziato Di Falco
Parents of C. & M. Huebner
Patricia Mackey
Paul F. Gorman, Sr.
Paul Hasselman
Paul Paroda
Pauline Battaglia
Pauline Meszaros Landes
Pearl Ossman
Perreault Family
Poehailos Family Deceased
Randy Miller (KofC)
Raymond Abounader
Raymond Ewald
Raymond Tyl
Richard W. Young
Robert & Helen DeLaney
Robert Koppenhoefer
Robert William Bartlett
Roche Family
Roeder Family
Roger Spurlock
Santo Battaglia
Sarah L. Gorman
Sr. Madalyn Flynn
Steve Bralley
Steven Danches
Steven White
Susan A. Nevala
Susan J. Decker
Tammy Eastham
The Gruber Family
The Kozuch Family
Theodore & August C.
Theresa Pretlow
Thomas & Mildred McDonald
Thomas M. Crisp, Sr.
Velma Neal
Vincent Gainer
Virginia Podwyssocki
Walter Rockwell
Walter Skuba
William H. Kerlin
William MacKellar
William Menck
William Olsen
William Ryan
William S. de Camp