



Dear Parishioners and Friends,

This week's gospel is taken from the Sermon on the plain in Luke's gospel. Our Lord presents the beatitudes to the people. The Blessedness (or happiness) that is associated with each of the beatitudes is counter intuitive. It's radical in a sense for the woes of the world become springboards to sanctity and fulfillment.

It is good to reflect on the beatitudes as we approach the season of Lent. During Lent, we intensify our Christian living in preparation for the great feast of Easter. We take on spiritual and corporal disciplines for the sake of renewing our faith. We delve deeper in the mystery of the passion, death and resurrection of our Lord. His death brings us life. Our death to our fallen sinful nature brings us the happiness and freedom of the children of God. May this season truly renew our faith and enable the self sacrificing love of Jesus to permeate our lives.

God Bless,
Fr Luke, OP

Bookstore at St Thomas Aquinas Coming Soon

Please watch for the opening of Tertia Pars Bookstore, located downstairs near the main entrance. Lenten reading material, rosaries, and many other books and religious articles will be available for purchase. Hours will be Sunday from 10 until 11:30am. Additional hours available upon request by calling 293-8081x18. Proceeds will benefit the Dominican Priory building project.

Child Care Provider Needed

Sitter needed to work in the nursery on Sundays during the 9:00, 11:30 and 5:15 Masses. Must be dependable, caring and willing to work most Sundays. For more information please contact Julie Balik at edge@stauva.org.

Daughter of Alfred Maxwell Goodison, III

Would like to hear from the person who had a Mass offered for her father on July 11, 2009. Contact info: Cheryl Crumb, email cheryl@ccrumb.com.

Readings for the Week of February 14, 2010

Sunday: Jer 17:5-8/1 Cor 15:12, 16-20/Lk 6:17, 20-26
 Monday: Jas 1:1-11/Mk 8:11-13
 Tuesday: Jas 1:12-18/Mk 8:14-21
 Wednesday: *Ash Wednesday*
 Jl 2:12-18/2 Cor 5:20--6:2/Mt 6:1-6, 16-18
 Thursday: *Bl John of Fiesole*
 Dt 30:15-20/Lk 9:22-25
 Friday: Is 58:1-9a/Mt 9:14-15
 Saturday: Is 58:9b-14/Lk 5:27-32
 Next Sunday: Dt 26:4-10/Rom 10:8-13/Lk 4:1-13

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, February 13

8:30am Deceased of the Dominican Laity
 5:15pm Linda Weinhardt †

Sunday, February 14

7:30am Rick Fratianni †
 9:00am For the People
 11:30am Linda Weinhardt †
 5:15pm Leo Burke †

Monday, February 15

8:00am Linda Weinhardt †
 5:15pm Cecil Lang †

Tuesday, February 16

8:00am Matthew Grimes
 5:15pm Betty Hostaglis †

Ash Wednesday, February 17

8:00am Vivian Moody †
 5:15pm George Kessler †

Thursday, February 18

8:00am Maria M Menezes †
 5:15pm Robert Lombardi †

Friday, February 19

8:00am Danny Moynihan †
 5:15pm Nicasio Antonio †

Saturday, February 20

8:30am Sophia Butler
 5:15pm George Kessler †

Please Keep the Following in Your Prayers

Claire Elise Rollins, Martin Ojeda, Judith Underhill's great-grand-daughter, Tabitha M Warner, Clem DiBlasi, Vanessa Thoms Sprogis, Robert Sprogis, Mel Podwyssocki, Lori Jimenez, Gilbert Maestas, Fr Thomas Seagrave, Rosemary Firer, Michael Mitchell, Consuelo Benson, Victoria Amparo Villar, Matthew Grimes, Patrick Howell, 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.

Haiti Donations

A new law allows you to claim donations for Haitian relief on your 2009 tax return. To be eligible for a deduction on your 2009 tax return, donations must be made after Jan 11, 2010 and before March 1, 2010. You have the option of deducting these contributions on either your 2009 or 2010 tax return, but not both. Federal law requires that you keep a record of any deductible donations you make. Be sure to keep a bank record, such as a cancelled check or a receipt from the charity. Contact the parish office if you need a special contribution letter for your Haitian relief donations.

PARISH FINANCES

February 7, 2010 - to be reported next week

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

WORSHIP AND MUSIC

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

Liturgical Ministers

Please sign up for Ash Wednesday.

Ignite.242

Tues, Feb 16, 7:30pm. Join us this Tues in St Thomas Hall for an evening of dynamic praise and worship, relevant teaching, and Eucharistic Adoration. All are welcome.

Adoration Challenge

This Lent we would like to honor Our Lord by adoring Him each hour of each day; we would like, for this limited period, to extend our present Adoration from the current Wed, Thurs & Fri, to all day each day for the 40 plus days. To do this we need over a thousand parishioners to come to the chapel and adore for one hour.

Are we as a parish up to this challenge? Do we have a thousand plus people willing to give our Lord one hour during Lent. Are you? We believe St Thomas Aquinas is up to the challenge. You can sign up for as little as one hour or perhaps one hour each week.

There is a sign up board/schedule behind the stairs in the link. One way to sign up for your hour (or more) is to write your name on the sign up board/schedule. It is also possible to sign up by computer. Just e-mail your name, date and time you plan to come and pray to stachallenge@yahoo.com. The schedule can also be viewed on the web at <http://calendar.yahoo.com/stachallenge>. **It is important to include your contact information when you sign up.**

Eucharistic Adoration

Wednesdays from 8:30am to Thursdays 5:00pm, and New Additional hours for Friday 8:30am to 5:00pm. We need adorers for Fridays 1:00 - 2:00pm. Contact Sylvia Lobo for more information srmlobo@hotmail.com

Holy Hour

Monday, Feb 15, 4-5pm in the Church.



ADULT EDUCATION

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

Catholicism 101 Foot Prints of God Series

This is a video presentation on Salvation History set in the actual Holy Land sites and filmed on location with Stephen Ray. Each presentation is a stand alone session. The Catholicism 101 study group meets on select Saturdays at 10am in the Community Room. The next meeting is Feb 27. For more information contact sackandpam@comcast.net.

Natural Family Planning

SymptoThermal Method classes will be held on Mar 10 & 24 at 7pm. To register, contact chvillenfp@yahoo.com. For info on all our NFP classes at St Thomas, check the webpage www.stauva.org/nfp.

Men's Fellowship

During Lent, it is a time to focus on being a better Christian. The Men's fellowship meets the 1st and 3rd Fridays to help each other on that path. For Lent, we are starting a new module that will help you live Monday-Saturday the values you learn on Sunday. The next meetings are Friday 2/19 and March 4 at 7am in Room 2 next to the kitchen. If you have any questions, please call or email Bill Wilson at cell phone 434-882-4178 or email at wdwilson@mindspring.com. All men are welcome to join our group.

PARISH ACTIVITIES

Lenten Soup Supper

Commencing on Fri, Feb 19, and ending on Fri, Mar 26, the Knights of Columbus will be serving a light supper of home made meatless soup, bread and ice water in St Thomas Hall. Meals will be served every Friday throughout Lent after the 5:15 Mass. All parishioners are welcome.



Catholic Relief Services (CRS) Operation Rice Bowl

CRS' annual Lenten program addresses hunger & poverty through fasting, almsgiving & prayer. Seventy-five percent of your donations will be used to fund projects in 40 countries and the remaining 25% stays in the US diocese to support food pantries and soup kitchens. Rice bowls will be given out to students in the RE program and will be available in the link this weekend and next. To help make this process easier we ask that you convert all of your rice bowl change into cash (bills) or a check and place your donations in the baskets the weekend of March 27th/28th. Thank You!



RELIGIOUS ED / YOUTH MINISTRY

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

VIRTUS Training

Monday, Feb. 22 at 6:00pm in St Thomas Hall.

REZ Retreat

The Rez Retreat is an annual multi-parish retreat for high school youth facilitated by the Missioners of Christ, a Catholic Nonprofit Community & Apostolate. Join us at CCS on Feb 26-28. This year's theme is... "It's all about NEW LIFE!" Registration forms can be found online at stauvaym.blogspot.com.

Confirmation

Confirmation **Makeup Interviews** were canceled last Sunday. New dates TBD. If you missed our original Confirmation retreat, attend the REZ Retreat in Feb as a **makeup retreat**.

EDGE

Car Talk: The creed is central to our faith as Catholics. Within this prayer are the fundamental precepts of what we believe. We state the belief in One God in three persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Each part of this Trinity has a specific role even though they are One. We go on to state our belief in the Church, and Her four marks: One - united as one body in Christ; Holy - founded by Jesus, blessed by the Father and inspired by the Spirit; Catholic - universal, and Apostolic - rooted in and traceable back to the apostles. Discuss with your family why we believe what we do and how we state it every Sunday in the Creed. **Challenge:** What does the Trinity mean and what are the roles of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit? Do you know the difference between the Apostles Creed and the Nicene Creed? Which one do we say at Mass? Take the time with your family to look these up and learn more about our Catholic faith.

LifeTeen

As this LifeNight falls on Valentine's Day we will be examining the different types of love, eros (romantic love), phillia (friendship) & agape (God's love), and how they are manifested in our own lives. **Challenge:** Read 1 Corinthians 13:4-7 and reflect on its message, considering those who are more difficult to love. Then respond lovingly in a difficult situation.

Support our Youth Ministry Online at scrip.stauva.org

And earn points on your Credit Card! Purchase Gift Cards for your favorite stores online by Credit Card, eCheck or Paypal and pickup the cards after each Sun Mass. Before placing a new order, be sure to check the latest stock availability on the updates page. If you have any questions, please contact us at youth@stauva.org. **Special Notes:** Orders placed by Friday 10am can be picked up the following Sunday. There is 3% tax-deductible handling fee for online purchases. Please note, in the unfortunate event we don't have the card you ordered on hand, you may pick a different card of equal value or pick up your card the following week when we receive new stock.

CAMPUS MINISTRY

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

Adopt-a-Student

Interested in connecting with the undergraduates at UVA? CSM and St Thomas have recently started a student adoption program to bring families and students together for the duration of the student's undergraduate years. Please contact Christine Gallagher with questions and interest at cmgllghr@gmail.com

UVA Hoos for Life

Will be selling roses in the link after all Masses on Valentine's Day weekend. Proceeds will benefit the Pregnancy Centers of Central Virginia.



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 (YAM)

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

First Fridays and Third Sundays are back! Starting in Feb, join us at the 5:15pm Mass the first Friday of the month, followed by dinner out. Meet in the Link to join us for brunch on the third Sunday of every month after the 11:30 Mass. For info, contact Erin, eig7h@virginia.edu, or Will, wbk2e@virginia.edu. Rosary Group meets downstairs in the Youth (green/blue) room every Wednesday at 7:30pm. Weekly Bible study on Thursdays at 7:30pm, meet in the link.

SENIOR MINISTRY

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

Lenten Day of Recollection

Thurs, Feb 25, 9am-1:30pm. Fr John Corbett OP, from the Dominican House of Studies in DC, will be presenting "The Healing Power of the Sacrament of Penance." The day will open with a Mass that will be offered for the departed spouses and family of members of the Senior Ministry. After the presentation a box lunch (\$11) will be available. Reservations for the lunch and day must be made by contacting the parish office by Mon, Feb 22. Pay for the lunch when you make your reservation or bring your check the day of the lunch. Please make a reservation even if you bring your own lunch so that we can set-up the needed number of tables and chairs.

PEACE AND JUSTICE

The Haitian Station

Earthquake Update: Please continue to pray for our brothers and sisters in Haiti. Displaced families and individuals have relocated from the capital to the countryside. Many refugees are staying with relatives in Saltadère and their children are enrolling in St Michel School, thus putting stress on scarce resources. Updates on relief efforts are being posted on the Saltadère website, www.saltadere.org. **Sponsorship Opportunity:** Many thanks to all who have sponsored a child or have renewed a sponsorship. There are still children who await a sponsor. To help with the funding of the current school year at St Michel School, sponsorship is \$10/month or \$120/year. To learn more, contact sponsorshipprogram@gmail.com or stop by the Haiti table downstairs. **Water Pump-Irrigation Project:** The parishes of St Michel, St Thomas Aquinas and Holy Comforter have been awarded a \$5000 Battaglia Fund grant for an irrigation project for the school garden at Saltadère. This is a matching grant through the Diocese of Richmond and due to the generosity of several donors we are already close to our original goal. However, due to the earthquake the project budget has increased to account for inflation in material prices. Fr Blot has reemphasized the urgent need for the project. Information on the project and on how to donate is available at the Haiti Table on the lower level or at www.saltadere.org. **Bi-Parish Haiti Committee:** A new time for the canceled Feb 7 meeting to be announced. **Contact:** To learn more about the Bi-parish committee, e-mail Paul Harnois at lphmch@embarqmail.com.

Lenten Food Collection

We will be collecting for the Emergency Food Bank, an all volunteer organization that provides 3 days of food to individuals and families. Needed items: **Pasta/Sauce, Canned Fruits, Fish, Vegetables, Soups, & Beans, Cereal, Peanut Butter, Baby Food, Diapers, Toiletries (soap, shampoo, deodorant, etc).**

PACEM

Thank you to the St Thomas Aquinas parishioners who provided breakfast items, meals, overnight stays and their time to the guests when St Mark hosted this year!

IMPACT Update

Join us on Feb 25 at the Church of the Incarnation at 6:30pm for the annual Rally. You will be updated on the research issues: PreK education and Interpretative Services and about the exciting upcoming Nehemiah Action!

Interpreters Needed

Incarnation needs interpreters (advanced, basic, & intermediate) to assist with their Hispanic Ministry. There are also opportunities for those learning Spanish to practice their skills through attending Hispanic cultural and liturgical celebrations, and for language exchanges with those learning English. If you are interested please contact Laura Brown at lsb@incarnationparish.org or 973-4381 ext 118.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Adoption Orientation

Commonwealth Catholic Charities will host a free orientation regarding domestic infant and international adoption, Tues, Feb 23, 7:00 pm until 8:30 pm at the CCC Richmond office, 1512 Willow Lawn Drive. To register for the orientation, call Barbara Smith at 804-285-5900 or e-mail Barbara.Smith@cccovva.org.

Attention Cursillistas!

If you have attended a Cursillo Weekend, join the Valley Cursillo email list! Send your email address to Fran and Marshall Slayton at valleycursillo@valleycursillo.com and you will receive notice of Cursillo Weekends, Ultreyas, and other events. Connect with the local Cursillo Community!

Weekend Retreat for Women

Feb 26-28, "Nothing Can Separate Us from the Love of God," directed by Fr Patrick McMahon, O Carm. For info call Dominican Retreat in McLean at 703-356-4243 or check www.dominicanretreat.org.

Charlottesville Catholic School (CCS)

CCS Winter Open House has been rescheduled for Thurs, Feb 18, 9-11am. If you are interested in learning what CCS has to offer, please join us for a tour and refreshments.

Applications: CCS is accepting applications for the 2010-2011 school year. Applications may be downloaded from our website at cvillecatholic.org. If you have questions, would like to schedule a tour or have an admissions packet mailed to you, please contact Ann Michel, Admissions Coordinator, at (434)964-0400 or a.michel@cvillecatholic.org.

14th Annual Gala Auction "Celebrate the Journey": Mark your calendars for Sat, Mar 13. We have an exciting evening at Boars Head in store, including hors d'œuvres, cocktail hour, silent and live auctions, dinner and dancing. Registration information will be available soon. Watch for raffle ticket sales after various Masses in the coming weeks.

TRAVEL OPPORTUNITIES

Pilgrimage to Medjugorje with Fr Luke

Apr 21-May 1. 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.



*Ash Wednesday
February 17, 2010*

Mass Schedule - St. Thomas Aquinas

8:00 am

5:15pm

Mass Schedule - UVA Chapel

12:00 noon

7:00 pm

Lenten Guidelines

Fasting is to be observed on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday by all 18 years of age and older, who have not yet celebrated their 59th birthday. On a fast day one full meal is allowed. Two other meals, sufficient to maintain strength, may be taken according to each one's needs, but together they should not equal another full meal. Eating between meals is not permitted, but liquids, including milk and juices, are allowed.

Abstinence is observed by all 14 years of age and older. On days of abstinence no meat is allowed. Note that when health or ability to work would be seriously affected, the law does not oblige. Ash Wednesday, all the Fridays of Lent and Good Friday are days of abstinence.

Note: If a person is unable to observe the above regulations due to ill health or other serious reasons, other suitable forms of self-denial are encouraged. Fasting, almsgiving, and prayer are the three traditional disciplines of Lent. The faithful and catechumens should undertake these practices seriously in a spirit of penance and of preparation for baptism or of renewal of baptism at Easter.