

Dear Parishioners and Friends,

In this week's Gospel our Lord is transfigured before Peter, James and John. His glory is revealed to these disciples and they are strengthened to face the events of His passion and death. The glory of the Lord is their strength! It is important for us during this Lenten season to be strengthened by our Lord.

We are fortified through the Eucharist to endure whatever comes our way. In receiving our Lord at Mass we are given this food from heaven which nourishes and strengthens us. We are also strengthened through meditating on His presence in the Sacred Scriptures. Our minds are transformed as we have contact with the Lord in His word. We cast our gazes aloft and are immersed in the glory of the Lord.

In Eucharistic Adoration the great elevation of Mass is extended and we worship our Eucharistic King. There is great freedom that is granted to us as we adore our God. The Mass is a foretaste of heaven and we are joined with the angels and saints in worship of the one true God. Eucharistic Adoration extends this union as we approach our God and give Him the glory that is His due. Please take advantage of the opportunities to worship our God this Lent. Allow His glory to be your strength.

God Bless,  
Fr Luke, OP

Next week we will conduct the annual appeal for the Deserving Poor Boys Priesthood Association for the support of our Dominican Students preparing for the priesthood. I do hope the parish will be as generous as ever in response to this appeal.

**Bookstore Opening at St Thomas Aquinas**

Tertia Pars Bookstore, located downstairs near the main entrance, opens today. Lenten reading material, rosaries, and many other books and religious articles are available for purchase. Hours are Sundays, 10-11:30am. Additional hours available upon request by calling 293-8081x18. Proceeds will benefit the Dominican Priory building project.

**Community Visits**

Help us reach out to our community. If you or someone you know would like to receive a friendly phone call, a visit at home or a nursing home, please let us know. You can contact Gerri at 977-3747 or the parish office.

**Transportation Help Needed**

Parishioner who is legally blind needs a ride to Waynesboro once a month to a medical appointment. If you would like to help, please contact the parish office at 293-8081 x10.

**Readings for the Week of February 28, 2010**

- Sunday: Gn 15:5-12, 17-18/Phil 3:17---4:1 or 3:20-4:1/Lk 9:28b-36
- Monday: Dn 9:4b-10/Lk 6:36-38
- Tuesday: Is 1:10, 16-20/Mt 23:1-12
- Wednesday: *St Katharine Drexel*  
Jer 18:18-20/Mt 20:17-28
- Thursday: *St Casimir*  
Jer 17:5-10/Lk 16:19-31
- Friday: Gn 37:3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28a/Mt 21:33-43, 45-46
- Saturday: Mi 7:14-15, 18-20/Lk 15:1-3, 11-32
- Next Sunday: Ex 17:3-7/Rom 5:1-2, 5-8/Jn 4:5-42 or 4:5-15, 19b-26, 39a, 40-42

**MASS INTENTIONS**

**Saturday, February 27**

- 8:30am Louise Rucinski
- 5:15pm Deacon Frank Veraart †

**Sunday, February 28**

- 7:30am James Michael Cesnik †
- 9:00am Mary Fox †
- 11:30am For the People
- 5:15pm Pierette "Stephanie" Jean-Charles †

**Monday, March 1**

- 8:00am Kenneth Giblin †
- 5:15pm Vito Perriello †

**Tuesday, March 2**

- 8:00am Deacon Frank Veraart †
- 5:15pm In Thanksgiving

**Wednesday, March 3**

- 8:00am Joan Finn †
- 5:15pm Johanna Drumheller †

**Thursday, March 4**

- 8:00am Johanna Drumheller †
- 5:15pm Raymond Reiss †

**Friday, March 5**

- 8:00am Johanna Drumheller †
- 5:15pm Robert Fields †

**Saturday, March 6**

- 8:30am Respect Life
- 5:15pm Robert Fields †

**Please Keep the Following in Your Prayers**

Lionel Fontenette, Arthur Pullam, Jillian Henderson, Steve Ohmer, Martin Ojeda, Judith Underhill's great-grand-daughter, Tabitha M Warner, Clem DiBlasi, Vanessa Thoms Sprogis, Robert Sprogis, Mel Podwysocki, 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.

**Mulch Sale**

It is time for our annual Youth Ministry Mulch Sale! This is our biggest fundraiser of the year and our goal is to sell over 1500 bags of mulch. Order forms and more information can be found online at [stauwaym.blogspot.com](http://stauwaym.blogspot.com) or at the SCRIP table.

**PARISH FINANCES**

**February 21, 2010**

Budgeted Weekly Expenses .....	\$18,879.78
Offortory .....	21,882.22
Parish Charities, .....	4,527.64
Catholic Education Assessment .....	1,948.32
Other Income .....	900.00

## WORSHIP AND MUSIC

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

### Charismatic Prayer Meeting

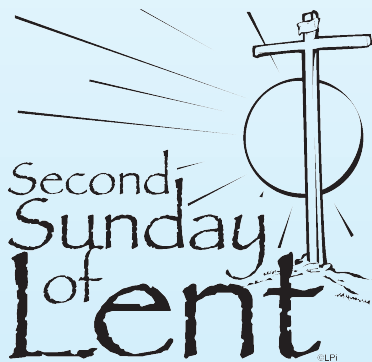
*Light the Fire Within* meets every Tuesday at 7:30pm in St Thomas Hall to praise God in song, formal or spontaneous prayer, silence, even applause or shouts of joy. We are open to hearing God speak through Scripture, teaching, exhortation, charismatic gifts and personal sharing. If you feel the need for a spiritual boost mid-week, come join us.

### 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.**



*Then from the cloud came a voice that said, "This is my chosen Son; listen to him." After the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. They fell silent and did not at that time tell anyone what they had seen.*

— Lk 9:35-36

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

## ADULT EDUCATION

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

### Monday Evening Scripture Group

Is embarking on a 10 week study of the Book Of Revelations. We will be following a course designed by Jeff Cavins and Thomas Smith. The group is for adults and meets on Mondays at 7:00pm in the Community Room beginning on March 1. To join us on this exciting journey through this complex and amazing Scripture call Charlotte or Bob Burns 975-1132 or email [bburns@digidata.com](mailto:bburns@digidata.com).

### 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 Mar 6. For more information contact [sackandpam@comcast.net](mailto:sackandpam@comcast.net).

### Natural Family Planning

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

## PARISH ACTIVITIES

### Lenten Soup Supper

The Knights of Columbus will be serving a light supper of home made meatless soup, bread and ice water in St Thomas Hall every Friday throughout Lent after the 5:15 Mass. All parishioners are welcome.



### Family Night

Please join us for Family Night on Fri, Mar 12, in St Thomas Hall. The Knights of Columbus will have a Soup Supper at 6pm following Mass. After dinner, there will be age appropriate activities. Fr Stephen will address adults, as the youth divide by age group activities (pre-k, elementary, middle and high school). The evening concludes with Stations of the Cross at 7:30 in the Church. Babysitting is available upon request from 6:30-7:30. Please contact Julie Balik to book a sitter at [edge@stauva.org](mailto:edge@stauva.org)

### Knights of Columbus

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](mailto:rmsavino@comcast.net)), pick up a brochure in the Link, or see the Knights website ([www.kofc.org](http://www.kofc.org)). Our next meeting will be held in Classroom 12, Chapel side, on Wed, Mar 3, with the Rosary at 6:45 pm and General Meeting at 7:00 pm.



## RELIGIOUS ED / YOUTH MINISTRY

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

### Lifeteen

This week we are learning about the fruits and gifts of the Holy Spirit. The moral life of Christians is sustained by the gifts of the Holy Spirit. These are permanent dispositions which make man docile in following the promptings of the Holy Spirit. The fruits of the Spirit are perfections that the Holy Spirit forms in us as the first fruits of eternal glory.

**Challenge:** In Isaiah 11:1-5 we are first introduced to the gifts of the Holy Spirit. Even those who are not yet confirmed receive these gifts in times of need or when calling upon them. This week, ask the Lord to grant one of these gifts to help you or someone in an unexpected way.

### EDGE

"Sacramentals are sacred signs instituted by the Church. They prepare men to receive the fruit of the Sacraments and sanctify different circumstances of life". (Catechism of the Catholic Church 1677) They are not superstitions but a tangible reminder of the invisible God we love and serve. They must be rooted in faith and true symbols of the Catholic Church. Talk to your youth about the 7 sacraments (Baptism, Penance, Confirmation, Holy Communion, Holy Orders, Matrimony, and Anointing of the Sick). What sacramentals are used for each sacrament? What sacramentals do you see at church and at home?

**Challenge:** Sacramentals are sacred signs instituted by the Church to help us keep our minds on our faith. These items appeal to our sense of taste, touch, smell, sight and hearing. Can you name what sacramentals are used in Mass and in church? What sacramentals do you have at home? Encourage your youth to use sacramentals as a reminder of their faith.

### Mulch Sale

It is that time again, time for our annual Youth Ministry mulch sale! This is our biggest fundraiser of the year and our goal is to sell over 1500 bags of mulch. Order forms and more information can be found online at [stauvaym.blogspot.com](http://stauvaym.blogspot.com) or at the SCRIP table.



## SENIOR MINISTRY

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

### Senior Coffee

Plan to join us for coffee and conversation at our regular monthly Senior Coffee Break on March 10, 10am-noon in the Community Room. Father Scordo will give us a brief presentation about the coming changes to the liturgy, and there will, as always, be good company and conversation for all. There is no charge to attend, but you're welcome (and encouraged!) to bring in a treat to go with the coffee.

## 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](mailto:cmgllghr@gmail.com)

### 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](mailto:kmw8z@virginia.edu).

## YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY (YAM)

For parishioners aged 21-35  
Stephanie Zilora • smz5c@virginia.edu

### Young Adult Retreat

Sponsored by the Office for Black Catholics. June 4-5 at Shalom House, Montpelier, VA, for Young Adults Aged 18-40. Retreat Leaders: Ansel Augustine and Brian Greenfield. Register by Apr 26. For more information please contact Pam Harris, (804) 622-5104 or [pharris@richmonddiocese.org](mailto:pharris@richmonddiocese.org).

### 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](mailto:smz5c@virginia.edu).

### Theology on Tap

Tuesday, March 2, 6:30-8:30pm. Join us at the 12th Street Taphouse for this year's first Theology on Tap! UVA's own Fr Fogarty will give a talk and lead a discussion about Vatican II. We will start with appetizers and drinks at 6:30pm, followed by the talk at 7:00pm. YAM will provide the first round of appetizers. Questions? Contact Beth Clites at: [beth.clites@gmail.com](mailto:beth.clites@gmail.com)

### 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, [ejg7h@virginia.edu](mailto:ejg7h@virginia.edu), or Will, [wbk2e@virginia.edu](mailto:wbk2e@virginia.edu). Rosary Group meets downstairs in the Youth (green/blue) room every Wednesday at 7:30pm. Weekly Bible study meets on Thursdays at 7:30pm, in the library.

## PEACE AND JUSTICE

**The Haitian Station**

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

**Earthquake Update:** Please continue to pray for our brothers and sisters in Haiti. Several parishioners have returned from Saltadère. Watch for updates and recent pictures at the Haiti table. Updates on relief efforts are being posted on the Saltadère website, [www.saltadere.org](http://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](mailto: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. Father 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](http://www.saltadere.org). **Bi-Parish Haiti Committee:** The committee's next meeting will be announced. Contact: To learn more about the Bi-parish committee, you can e-mail Paul Harnois at [lpmhch@embarqmail.com](mailto:lpmhch@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 18 St Thomas Aquinas folks, including YAM, CSM and parishioners, who provided breakfast items, meals, overnight stays and their time to the guests when St Mark hosted this year! There will be opportunities to help again next season.

**Rice Bowls**

Thank you for picking up a Rice Bowl this Lent! To make the process easier please convert your coins to cash (bills) or to a check made out to St Thomas Aquinas and place in an envelope labeled Operation Rice Bowl and drop it in the collection basket the weekend of March 27/28th.

## COMMUNITY EVENTS

**Mission Stories**

Laura and Steve Brown and their three daughters will present a slide show and reflections on their experiences in Bolivia and Chile as Maryknoll Lay Missioners on Friday, March 5, at Church of the Incarnation. A traditional Chilean supper will be served beginning at 5:30 pm and continuing through 6:45. The presentation will begin at 7. The parish nursery is available for a nominal fee with advance notice. All are welcome. The suggested donation is \$10 for adults or \$25 for a family of four, with proceeds to benefit the Charlottesville Catholic Worker houses of hospitality. Please RSVP by March 1 to [laura@incarnationparish.org](mailto:laura@incarnationparish.org) or call 434-973-4381.

**The Annual Diocesan Haiti Gathering**

Sat, Mar 20 here at St Thomas Aquinas from 8:45 am – 4:00 pm. All those involved in Haiti Twinning or interested in Haiti are welcome to join in a day of celebration, education & networking. This year's focus is "Haiti Solidarity – After the Earthquake, Our Stories, Our Struggles, and Our Search for Solutions." The registration fee of \$20 includes continental breakfast, lunch and handouts. To register call Patrice (804) 545-5974 or email [patrice.schwermer@cccova.org](mailto:patrice.schwermer@cccova.org).

**Men's Cursillo Retreat Weekend**

"Cursillo" means "Short Course" in Christianity, and the purpose of the Catholic Cursillo Movement is to support people in living out their faith in their everyday lives. A Cursillo Weekend is a 3-day men's or women's retreat led by a team of "Cursillistas" – lay people and at least one priest who have already attended a Cursillo Weekend. Mass and prayers are held every day of the retreat, along with talks on specific issues of Christian living. A Cursillo Weekend is a wonderful way to get away from it all and spend some time with God. A Men's Weekend will be held Apr 22-25. For info or to go on the weekend, please contact Fran and Marshall Slayton at [valleycursillo@valleycursillo.com](mailto:valleycursillo@valleycursillo.com) or call at 434-293-5253. You can also download an application on the Valley Cursillo website at [www.valleycursillo.com](http://www.valleycursillo.com).

**Charlottesville Catholic School (CCS)**

**Designate CCS on your Bishop's Appeal.** If you would like your contributions to the 2010 Bishop's Appeal to return to our local community and assist your fellow parishioners in keeping a Catholic education a viable option for local families, please consider designating "Charlottesville Catholic School" on the appropriate line on your pledge card. Your money will go directly to the "CCS Catholic Education Fund" and provide tuition assistance for qualifying families in our local parishes. Thank you for your continued support of our ministry.

**The CCS 14th Annual Gala Auction:** "Celebrate the Journey" of CCS with us on Sat, Mar 13, at the Pavilion at the Boar's Head Inn. Reservations are required to attend. You may pick up an invitation or purchase raffle tickets after various masses. You may also register, purchase raffle tickets or place a proxy bid online on our new website: [www.cvillecatholic.org/auction2010](http://www.cvillecatholic.org/auction2010). Celebrate Catholic Education with us!

**CCS Applications:** CCS continues to accept applications for the 2010-2011 school year. Please visit our website for comprehensive information about CCS and for details about our application process. Though applications received by February 23, 2010 (an extension of our Feb. 1<sup>st</sup> deadline due to weather delays of our Winter Open House) are being considered in the first round of enrollment contract offers, applications received after that date will be considered as seats remain available. If you would like to have a tour of our school, please call Ann Michel, Admissions Coordinator, at (434)964-0400.

