

# December 2, 2007

## 1st Sunday of Advent

### Weekday Masses

Monday, Dec. 3rd—9 AM—Mass—Chapel  
 Tuesday, Dec. 4th—9 AM—Mass—Chapel  
 Wed., Dec. 5th—5:30 PM—Mass—Chapel  
 Thurs., Dec. 6th—9 AM—Mass—Chapel  
 Friday, Dec. 7th—9 AM—Mass—Church  
*On days with funerals, no daily Mass. Join us at the funeral.*

### THIS SUNDAY'S READINGS

*1st Sunday of Advent*

First Reading: Isaiah 2:1-5  
 Second Reading: Romans 13:11-14  
 Gospel: Matthew 24:37-44

### NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS

*2nd Sunday of Advent*

First Reading: Isaiah 11:1-10  
 Second Reading: Romans 15:4-9  
 Gospel: Matthew 3:1-12

### PARISH PASTORAL TEAM

**425-743-2929**

Pastor: Fr. Bob Camuso—**Ext 14/camuso@aol.com**  
 Sacramental Minister: Fr. Ward Oakshott  
 Pastoral Associate: Kathleen Kichline—**Ext 13/kathleenk@stmp.org**  
 Interim Pastoral Assistant, Administration: Ed dos Remedios—**Ext. 17/edd@stmp.org**  
 Pastoral Assistant, Faith Formation: Luciann MacDonald—**Ext 21/lucianm@stmp.org**  
 Faith Formation Administrative Assistant: Bernadette Wogan—**Ext 23/bernadettec@stmp.org**  
 Pastoral Assistant-Youth /Young Adults: Angela Northquist—**Ext 22/angelan@stmp.org**  
 Parish Administrative Assistant: Cathy Bellande—**Ext 10/cathyb@stmp.org**  
 Accounting Assistant: Colleen Fikse—**Ext 26/colleenf@stmp.org**  
 Maintenance: Dave Fairbank-425-361-5209  
 Ron Peluso-425-478-8582

### St. Thomas More School

**425-743-4242**

Principal: Teresa Fewel—**Ext 12**  
 Office Manager: Barb Hennessey—**Ext 11**  
 Office Staff: Sharon Wieber—Office Assistant—**Ext 10**

### Parish-Based Counselor

Connie Brousseau—Confidential Phone # 425-742-6752  
**St. Vincent de Paul Society, Everett—425-355-3504**

### Consultative Bodies

Pastoral Council President: Janet Betts—673-1258  
 Finance Council Chairperson: Minh Truong—745-0872  
 Faith Formation Commission: Kevin Mullins—608-0082  
 Maintenance Commission: Cameron Nicol-742-6026  
 Steve Litterski-776-0745  
 Outreach Commission: Grace Dyer—478-1795  
 School Commission: John Balch—743-5155  
 Stewardship Commission: Laura Bragg—743-3423  
 Spiritual Life & Worship Commission: Kathleen Kichline—743-2929  
 K of C Grand Knight: Brian Zadorozny—743-6007  
 Catholic Daughters Regent: Debbie Olson—787-2490

### Parish Website-www.stmp.org

**K of C website-www.orgsites.com/wa/kofccouncil5816**

### THIS WEEK AT ST. THOMAS MORE

#### Sunday—December 2—Masses

KofC Breakfast  
 Alternative Gift Fair-Adult Ed. Room  
 Faith Formation Classes-CLOW  
 5:30 pm—LifeTeen Mass followed by The Edge and Life Night

#### Monday—December 3

6:30pm—Mission Choir—Music Room  
 7:00pm—5 Year Planning Commission—Parish office

#### Tuesday—December 4

9:30am—Scripture Study—Renggli Room  
 6:30pm—LifeTeen Band Practice—Music Room  
 7:00 pm—Scripture Study—Renggli Room

#### Wednesday—December 5

7:00pm—Matt Talbot Fellowship Meeting—Parish Library  
 7:00pm—RCIA—School Library  
 7:00pm—Spiritual Life & Worship Committee—Parish Office  
 7:00pm—Multicultural Choir—Music Room

#### Thursday—December 6

10:00am—Light Weigh—Youth Room  
 7:00pm—School Play—Dalton Hall  
 7:00pm—Light Weigh—Adult Ed Room

#### Friday—December 7

Pixie Gift Shop—Renggli Room  
 7:00pm—Outreach Commission—Parish office

#### Saturday—December 8—Feast of the Immaculate

#### Conception—9am and 5pm—2nd Sunday of Advent Masses

Alternative Gift Fair—Adult Ed. Room

#### Sunday—December 9—Masses

Alternative Gift Fair—Adult Ed. Room  
 Faith Formation Classes—CLOW  
 10:30am—Choir Practice—Music Room  
 1:00pm—Simbang Gabi Choir Practice—Music Room  
 5:30 pm—LifeTeen Mass followed by the Edge and Life Night

### “Conversations with Fr. Bob”

Tune in Tuesday, December 4th to “Conversations with Father Bob”. This week Fr. Bob Camuso’s guests are **Dr. Mary Cross, (Deacon Moynihan will interview her)** the Archbishops Delegate for Faith Formation for the Archdiocese of Seattle. Dr. Cross will speak about the Archdiocese Women’s Commission, along with Maryknoll Affiliates **Ralph and Kate Maughan**, who will share their experiences of mission work in Burma.

“Conversations with Father Bob” is broadcast on Sacred Heart Radio KBLE AM 1050 every Tuesday, 5:00-6:00 PM and Thursday 9:00-10:00 PM. It also airs every Saturday morning, 8:00-9:00 AM on KKNW AM 1150. “Conversations with Father Bob” is an outreach ministry of St. Thomas More Catholic Church, Lynnwood, WA and is a listener-supported program. Archived programs can be accessed from **www.conversationswithfatherbob.com**.

Complimentary CD’s of past programs are available in the Narthex. Please feel free to take a CD home, listen to it and then pass it on to a friend or return it to the Narthex.

**Compassionate Volunteers Needed**

Do you enjoy helping others through difficult times? Do you want to share your passion for life with those facing a serious illness? Have up to 4 hours a week to give? Wish the flexibility to choose the geographic area & days/times that fit your busy schedule? Then please consider volunteering with Providence Hospice & Home Care, a non-profit organization serving Snohomish County. The next information session will be tomorrow, Monday, Dec. 3rd from 1:30-3pm-2731 Wetmore Ave Everett 98201. Please call (425)261-4815 to pre-register.



**Advent Booklets and Wreath**

Advent Booklets and Children's Activity Booklets are available after all Masses in the Narthex this weekend. This year's theme is Living in Hope. A donation of \$1 is requested.

As in the past, we will be having different groups light the Advent Wreath candles at the beginning of each Mass during Advent, which starts the weekend of Dec. 1st-2nd. The sign-up sheet will be in the Narthex after all Masses. Please sign-up for the Mass of your choice.

**At Home with the Word** will be on sale in Dalton Hall on the First and Second Sundays in Advent and ongoing in the Parish Office Building. Cost is \$8.00. Some Large Print editions are available for \$10.00. Our Liturgical Year begins with the First Sunday in Advent, December 2nd. **At Home with the Word** contains the First and Second Readings and the Gospel for all the Sundays of the year, along with a scripture reflection, and a weekly meditation on the virtues of Faith, Hope and Charity. It is a helpful resource for individuals, families and small groups, and contains many website addresses of interest to Catholics.

Matthew House, located in Monroe, was established in 1980 for the families of prisoners by a Catholic priest, Father Stohr. He envisioned a hospitality house that would be a place where hundreds of women and children would be ministered to with food, shelter, clothing, counseling, children's child care and various other services. Matthew house is exactly what Father Stohr envisioned; it is a place of encouragement, a haven for those who struggle with the ramifications of having a loved one involved in the criminal system. Matthew House is a front-line service organization. It serves children and families in crisis. It depends on the giving of local parishes to support its ministry and unfortunately during these trying times of increased housing costs, unemployment, etc., finances are hard to come by. Please consider making a donation to Matthew House, P.O. Box 201, Monroe, WA 98272.

**Vigil for Life**

Please join the Helpers of God's Precious Infants on Saturday, Dec. 8th at the Knights of Columbus Hall #676-722 E. Union at 8am, followed by a prayer vigil to Planned Parenthood-2001 E. Madison. Come with your family and friends and be a part of a Vigil for Life for God's preborn children and their mothers.



There will be a speaker here during all Masses next weekend, Dec. 8th-9th from the Serra Club which is a Catholic organization whose Mission is to foster and affirm vocations to the priesthood and religious life. January 13th-18th is National Vocation Awareness Week. Visit [www.serraus.org](http://www.serraus.org) for more information, or call (425)290-7839.

**FIL-AM CORNER**

**PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDARS:**

**Saturday, December 8, at 12:00 noon Simbang Gabi Commissioning Mass at St. James Cathedral, Seattle.** This is an Archdiocesan Mass where Filipino Catholics gather to usher in the start of Simbang Gabi. At this commissioning Mass, Archbishop Brunett blesses the Simbang Gabi parish coordinators and parols (star lanterns symbolizing the light of Christ) and sends them back to their parishes to share the joyful celebration of Simbang Gabi with their respective communities.

**Saturday, December 15, at 5:00 pm Simbang Gabi Parish Mass.** STM Parish will host one of the novena of Simbang Gabi Masses to honor the Blessed Virgin Mary as she prayerfully awaits the birth of Christ. Like Mary, we wish to prepare a spiritual place for Jesus. Together with Mary and the Church, the Filipino Catholic community, invites everyone to come and experience this rich tradition of faith.

A Marriage Encounter Weekend is a positive, simple experience between husband and wife that revitalizes marriage by helping couples to see what their relationship can be. Weekends in 2008 are scheduled for Feb. 1st-3rd, Apr. 18th-20th, May 30th-June 1st, Aug. 1st-3rd, and Oct. 17th-19th. Registration forms can be found in the Church Narthex or contact Mike and Marge Putnam at (206) 772-2344 for a form or additional information.

**STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE**

Sunday Collections:	11/25/2007	November	Year-to-Date
<b>Budget</b>	\$16,055.35	\$76,951.49	
<b>Actual</b>	\$19,188.28	\$74,506.92	
<b>Better (Worse)</b>	(\$3,132.93)	(\$2,444.57)	(\$11,849.14)

### **Do Your Christmas Shopping at St. Thomas More**

St. Thomas More Parish School will be selling gift cards after every Mass in December. The school sells a variety of gift cards for gas, groceries, restaurants, electronics, clothing, books, toys, and much more. Come check out the selection and give a gift to the needy, a co-worker, family member or yourself this holiday season. A portion of every purchase supports the school.

### **An opportunity to adopt struggling neighbors for the holidays.**

Help inspire hope this season by adopting a senior, family or disabled community member through the Holiday Basket Bureau. For many local families, the long rainy winter months are the most difficult time of the year. Adding to their difficulty is the fact that the holiday season arrives and these struggling families are without holiday food or gifts to celebrate the holiday season with their family. Please join us this year in creating holiday memories by contacting Patricia Leach at Volunteers of America (425)212-3221 or download a sponsor form at [www.voaww.org](http://www.voaww.org). Catholic Community Services will not be providing Holiday Baskets this year as in the past.

### **Back By Popular Demand**

The Alternative Gift Fair will return starting this weekend December 1st- 2nd, and the weekend of Dec. 8th-9th. You will have the opportunity to buy handmade toys and crafts from India, Guatemala, the Philippines, Peru, Kenya and the West bank in Dalton Hall. Come purchase exotic Christmas decorations and many unusual toys while benefitting Catholic Relief Services and the people they minister.

Catholic women are welcome to join the Catholic Daughters in the Renggli Room December 11, rosary will begin at 5:40pm and the meeting will follow at 6pm.. For more information contact Debbie Olson at 787-2490.

**If you are struggling with transitions or life issues  
anxiety, anger, depression, stress,  
co-dependency, or grief  
call our parish counselor  
Connie Brousseau, MA LMHC at 425-742-6752  
Financial assistance & insurance may apply**

There is a suggestion box available in the narthex of the church. If you have a suggestion, please place it in the box. Father Bob reads all the suggestions placed there.

**Emmanuel-Light of the World.** On Saturday, Dec. 8th at 7:30pm the Community Development Commission at St. Brendan Parish will be hosting a very special evening: An interdenominational Advent/Christmas Concert to celebrate the Peace, Joy and Love of this special season with our fellow Christian sisters and brothers. Scheduled to perform are the Northshore Baptist Church Choir, Northshore Junior High Choir, Community Bible Fellowship Church NETWORK Gospel Choir, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Simbang Gabi Choir and St. Brendan Spanish Choir. Donation is \$10 per person with children under 12 only \$5. Proceeds will benefit the St. Vincent de Paul Society and the HopeLink Social Agency. A holiday social will immediately follow. St. Brendan is located at 10100 NE 192nd St in Bothell. For further information please contact, St. Brendan Parish Office at (425)483-9400.



### **Donations for Christmas Flowers**



Advent and Christmas are approaching rapidly and the planning for decorating the church and sanctuary is already underway. We would like to initiate a new Christmas tradition here at St. Thomas More. Parishioners are invited to make a donation in the name of a deceased loved one, or in their own name, for the purchase of Christmas flowers and decorations. The names of all those being remembered will be published in the bulletin during the Advent and Christmas season. We will have special envelopes in the pews and in the narthex after all the Masses which can be put in the regular collection basket or left at the church office.

### **Our Catholic Treasures**

On **Saturday, December 8th**, we will celebrate the wonderful Marian feast, The Immaculate Conception. Often misunderstood, the day marks Mary's conception in her mother's womb, a conception without the brush with original sin that touches the rest of humanity. It is said that the redemptive power of Jesus' life touched his mother at her conception and kept her free from sin from her very first moment.

The doctrine of the Immaculate Conception has an interesting history. It grew more from the convictions of the faithful than from the contemplations of theologians. In the Eastern Church it was celebrated as The Conception of Mary from the 7th century. It later came to the church in the West where it received its current name. It was not until the 1700's that it became a feast of the universal church. In 1854 Pope Pius IX declared that the Immaculate Conception of Mary is an infallible truth. It is the patronal feast for the U.S.

The feast of The Immaculate Conception is a Holy Day of Obligation in the U.S. See you in church at the 9am Mass.

## Faith Formation For All

December 2, 2007

**Faith Formation Classes** will meet Dec. 2nd, 9th and 16th. Families, be sure you get your "The Word to Go" packets and consult them to make your Advent and Christmas seasons times of special holiness for your family.

**Children's Liturgy of the Word** continues at 9:30am and 11:30am Masses. All children 2nd-5th grade are welcome. A few more grown-up helpers would be appreciated, especially during the 11:30am Mass.

It is time to begin planning for the **Christmas Eve Pageant**. If you are interested in helping make this happen, please call Luciann.

**RCIA** meets on Wed. evenings, at 7pm in the Community Center Library. If you, or someone you know is interested in exploring becoming Catholic, please call Luciann.

**Children seven and older who are not yet baptized** and want to explore receiving the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist are prepared in our RCIA process. If you have such a child and wish to learn more about this please call Luciann.

**Baptisms** for infants and young children are scheduled for the weekends of February 3<sup>rd</sup> and May 11<sup>th</sup>. Parents must be registered in the parish and take a class to prepare them for their role as Catholic parents. Godparents must be Confirmed Catholics and take classes before the baptisms. Call Luciann for more information.

**Welcome Back** will be beginning soon. Do you know someone who might appreciate information about a program for those who think they might want to return to our Faith? Consider suggesting this to them.

Faith Formation Office 743-2929 .  
Luciann, Pastoral Asst. for Faith Formation Ext. 21  
[lucianm@stmp.org](mailto:lucianm@stmp.org)  
Bernadette, Administrative Asst. Ext. 23,  
[bernadettec@stmp.org](mailto:bernadettec@stmp.org)

## Lost and Found

There is a lost and found in the school office. Currently there is a pair of kids glasses, probably left after a Sunday Mass on Nov. 18th, a walkie talkie, and 3 sets of keys (if you can describe them you can pick them up). Please drop by to claim the items, or call the office at (425) 743-4242 for more information.

**Matt Talbot Fellowship meets Wednesday at 7 pm in the Parish Office Library.** Our focus is, "Following Matt's path to sobriety, we are Christ to each other." Questions? Call Dick at 239-3523.



This week on the Edge; Advent for Dummies! No, we don't think junior high kids are dumb. This is a fun lesson that will fill you in on all the greatness of the Advent Season. Join us.

Senior High is Reading into it! As our quarter on scripture comes to a close we will learn how to incorporate scripture into our prayer life. This life night focuses on a unique form of contemplative prayer called Lectio Divina.

Confirmation is meeting this week and will be joining the youth group in the prayer experience.

Upcoming Events:

Jingle Bell Run-December 9th, deadline to register is, Sunday, Dec. 2nd

Christmas Parties for Edge and Youth group-December 16th (separate parties)

Movie Night-Scrooged in the Youth Room-December 20th starting at 7pm-all are welcome.

Sr High Boat Cruise-December 28th-Deadline to sign up is December 7th-cost is \$25.00.

For more information about Edge or LifeTeen events, contact Angela Northquist, Pastoral Assistant for Youth and Young Adults (425)743-2929 Ext 22.

## This Week at STM School

- Thank you for your terrific contributions to the Thanksgiving Food Drive. Many families will receive help because of your stewardship!
- The annual toy drive for Catholic Community Services will begin Wednesday, December 5<sup>th</sup>.
- Last day to turn in orders for Entertainment Books is Wednesday, December 5<sup>th</sup>.
- The 4<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade will present plays December 6<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm in Dalton Hall.
- The Mass of the Immaculate Conception will be Thursday, December 6<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 AM. This is a full-dress day for students.
- Pixie Gift Shop for students is Friday, December 7<sup>th</sup> in the Renggli Room.

### Coming Soon:

Report Cards for the first trimester go home Wednesday, December 12<sup>th</sup>.

The school Christmas Program is Thursday, December 13<sup>th</sup> at 7:00PM.

The dress rehearsal for the Christmas Program is Dec. 13<sup>th</sup> at 1:00PM. Guests are welcome to attend. As the evening program tends to be crowded, this may be a good alternative especially for small children.

School will be dismissed at noon on Friday, December 21<sup>st</sup> for Christmas Vacation.

School will resume on Monday, January 7<sup>th</sup>.

