

## THIS SUNDAY'S READINGS

*3rd Sunday of Advent*

First Reading: Genesis 3:9-15, 20

Second Reading: Ephesians 1:3-6, 11-12

Gospel: Luke 1:26-38

## NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS

*4th Sunday of Advent*

First Reading: Micah 5:1-4a

Second Reading: Hebrews 10:5-10

Gospel: Luke 1:39-45

### Presider Schedule December 19th-20th

<b>5:00pm (Sat.)</b>	Fr. Ward
<b>8:00am</b>	Fr. Maurice
<b>9:30am</b>	Fr. Ward
<b>11:30am</b>	Fr. Maurice
<b>5:00pm (LifeTeen)</b>	Fr. Maurice

### Ushers for December

<b>5:00pm (Sat.)</b>	<b>8:00am</b>
Pat Portolese, Capt.	Joe Schwartz, Capt.
Darwin Rieck	Vern Gestson
Arnold Wheeler	Glen Holberg
Dave McWayne	Ed Dos Remedios
	Niniva Tupua
<b>9:30am</b>	<b>11:30am</b>
Dick Ptacek, Capt.	Manny Juzon, Capt.
Adam Weyant	Victor Valle
Eddie DeGuzman	Ann Duncombe
Tom Cooney	Felicisimo Reyes
Jack Geisler	
Hieu Bui	

### Altar Servers December 19th-20th

<b>5:00pm (Sat.)</b>	<b>8:00am</b>
Book: Riley D.	Book: Elizabeth D.
Bell: Josh B.	Bell: Remy P.
Cross: Casey D.	
<b>9:30am</b>	<b>11:30am</b>
Book: Caitlin M.	Bell: Lis L.
Bell: Stephen G.	Book: Allyssa R.
Cross: R.J. D.	Cross: Tina D.

**5:00pm**  
Book: Alexandria C.  
Bell: Amanda C.



John answered them all, saying, "I am baptizing you with water, but one mightier than I is coming. I am not worthy to loosen the thongs of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.

Luke 3:16

### THIS WEEK AT ST. THOMAS MORE

#### Sunday—December 13th-3rd Sunday of Advent-Masses

Faith Formation Classes-CLOW

1:00pm-Multicultural Choir-Church

1:00pm-One Voice-Music Room

1:00pm-Christmas Pageant Parent Meeting-Renggli Room

5:00pm-LifeTeen Mass followed by LifeNight

#### Monday—December 14th

6:30pm-Edge-Church

6:30pm-Mission Choir-Music Room

7:00pm-Maintenance Commission-Parish Office

7:00pm-Immigration Forum-Adult Ed. Room

7:00pm-USCCA-Renggli Room

#### Tuesday—December 15th

10:00am-USCCA-Youth Room

6:00pm-Catechist Quarterly Meeting-Renggli Room

7:00pm-Finance Council-Parish Office

7:00pm-St. Vincent de Paul-Library

#### Wednesday—December 16th

6:30pm-Confirmation Class-Youth Room

6:30pm-Eucharistic Benediction and Rosary-Church

6:30pm-Faith Formation Classes-Library

7:00pm-RCIA-Comm. Cntr Meeting Room/Renggli Room

7:00pm-9:30am Choir Practice-Chapel

7:00pm-Multicultural Choir Practice-Music Room

#### Thursday—December 17th

9:30am-Light Weigh-Youth Room

7:00pm-School Christmas Concert-Church

7:00pm-Youth Commission-Parish Office

7:00pm-Lux Mundi-Youth Room/Comm. Cntr Meeting

#### Friday—December 18th

9:30am-Adoration-Chapel

7:00pm-Vietnamese Choir Practice-Music Room

#### Saturday—December 19th-Mass

12:00am-Adoration-Chapel

8:30am-Benediction w/Mass following-Chapel

10:00am-Christmas Pageant Rehearsal-Church

3:00pm-Vietnamese Choir Practice-Music Room

5:00pm-Simbang Gabi Mass & Reception-Church/Dalton Hall

#### Sunday—December 20th-4th Sunday of Advent-Masses

Faith Formation Classes-CLOW

1:00pm-One Voice-Church

1:00pm-Christmas Pageant Rehearsal-Music Room

5:00pm-LifeTeen Mass followed by LifeNight

## Parish News

### STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

(Information stated below is based on Fiscal Year July 2009-June 2010)

In gratitude to God for the gifts we have received, parishioners and visitors made this return to the Lord.

Sunday collection for the weekend of Dec. 5th-Dec. 6th  
 Received: \$24,056.12  
 Needed: \$23,207.00  
 Year-to-date: \$356,176.25  
 Year-to-date Over/(Under): \$11,110.48

Thank you for your faithful Stewardship of St. Thomas More Parish. May God bless you!

#### Parish Stewardship Campaign

Thank you to those parishioners who have returned their commitment cards for our annual Parish Stewardship Campaign. The totals are:

Number of Commitment Cards returned to Date: 595  
 Registered Parish Households: 1,859  
 % of Registered Households Returning Cards: 32%  
 Returned Commitment card goal for this year: 1,100  
 % of Goal Achieved: 54%

If you haven't returned your commitment card, please return it so we can meet our parish participation goal! It is our hope that all Parish families complete a commitment card and bring it to Mass next weekend or mail it to the parish office. Thank you for your support of the parish!

#### Simbang Gabi

This year, St. Thomas More Parish will host Simbang Gabi to honor the Blessed Virgin Mary as she prayerfully awaits the birth of Jesus Christ. Like Mary, we wish to prepare a spiritual place for Jesus. The Mass will be on Saturday, December 19th at 5:00pm; Please join us for fellowship, a short program and salu-salo (reception) after the Mass in Dalton Hall.



### Christmas Mass Schedule

Christmas Eve:  
 Children's Mass—5:00pm  
 Evening Mass—8:00pm  
 Midnight Mass—10:30pm  
  
 Christmas Day Mass—10:00am

#### Donations for Christmas Flowers

Advent is here and Christmas is approaching rapidly and the planning for decorating the church and sanctuary is already underway. The special envelopes are in the pews again this year for donations in the name of a deceased loved one, or your 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 seasons. The envelopes can be put in the regular collection basket, or dropped off at the parish office.

#### Lux Mundi

Lux Mundi Advent Party. Meet us in the Youth Room on Thursday, December 17th for an Advent Party. Please bring a white elephant gift (something from around your house or under \$5.00-it can be great or gross, you choose). We will also be having a potluck dinner. Email [luxmundi@stmp.org](mailto:luxmundi@stmp.org) with what you can bring for the potluck. Come learn more about Advent and spend time with a bunch of fun people sharing in community and faith.



Last weekend we heard how Catholic Community Services serves our poor and vulnerable brothers and sisters on behalf of our local Church in Western Washington. This year, requests for food and shelter have tripled. Your generosity directly supports the programs and services in our area. Please do all you can to help. CCS Week envelopes are still in the Narthex. Please prayerfully consider making a donation if you have not already done so. Envelopes may be returned in the collection basket, mailed in or you can also make a gift on-line. To learn more about CCS, visit [www.ccsww.org](http://www.ccsww.org) and watch their wonderful four minute *Changing Lives* video. Thank you for your generosity.

#### Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

You are invited to Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament on Friday and Saturday, Dec. 18th-19th. Adoration begins at 10am on Friday morning and ends with a Mass at 8:30am on Saturday morning. You can now sign-up for Adoration on the Parish website at [stmp.org](http://stmp.org). If you don't have internet access, please call John Alexy at (425) 742-0239. This is your opportunity to spend some quiet time with God, so don't miss out.

**Councils/Commission News**

**Immigration Reform**

The Justice & Peace Commission and the Multicultural Commission invites everyone to a Continuing Community Forum on Immigration Issues & Concerns-Series 3 on Monday, December 14th in the Adult Ed. Room. The special guest speaker is Mr. David Ayala, who is a grass roots organizer for One America. Please come and learn about the issues, ask questions and get answers.

*Thank You!*

Please thank and support the bulletin advertisers, whose generosity provides this bulletin free to the Parish.

Advertiser of the Week:



**Back To Action Chiropractic**



**Youth News!**

Senior high youth join us tonight in making cookies and scarves for those staying at the cold weather shelters in our area. Bring some money to donate to the supplies and we will have a merry little service night. We will gather in the Hall after Mass.

Monday night is our Youth Penance service at 6:30 in the church.

Confirmation class this Wednesday night, at 6:30 in the youth room.

Any youth interested in attending World Youth Day 2011 in Spain should contact Angela for more information. We are hoping to send an STM delegation but we need to commit in the new year.

Next Sunday is our Youth Group and Edge Christmas Party at 6 pm in the youth room. Bring an appetizer to share and a small gift to exchange in our white elephant game.

\*\*\*Join us Sunday at 5 pm for LIFE TEEN MASS \*\*\*

**Contact Angela if you have questions about anything above or just general questions at 743-2929 x106 or at [angelac@stmp.org](mailto:angelac@stmp.org)**

**Ongoing Opportunities**

**Retrouvaille of Seattle**

Is your marriage tearing you apart? Or boring you to death? Retrouvaille, a Catholic Program, can help. Learn more at [www.helpourmarriage.com](http://www.helpourmarriage.com). Please call (206) 706-2608 for more information and to register.

**Marriage Encounter**

Are you still looking for that special gift? A Marriage Encounter Weekend is for any couple who wants to strengthen and enrich their marriage. A Marriage Encounter Weekend is a gift that will continue to give for many, many years. The next weekend is Feb. 26th-28, 2010. To register, or for additional information, please call, Bruce and Judy at (425) 771-9003 or Rory and Dawn at (206) 772-2344

**COUNSELING AVAILABLE**

If you need assistance with individual or relational issues, leave a message on the confidential line for our parish counselor, Connie Brousseau, MA LMHC at 425-742-6752. Insurance, sliding scale and parish assistance available.

**Stephen Ministry**

It's the Christmas season, but do you feel as though you may never feel happy again? Do you experience more times of feeling sad, lonely, forgotten or blue, than times of feeling peaceful and happy with a heart that wants to give some Christmas cheer? Talking about those negative feelings to a compassionate listener may help you to lift your spirits. For questions, contact Karen Biermanski at (206) 920-0174.

**Light Weigh**

Would you like to eat your favorite foods while you learn how to lose weight? Consider giving God a chance to touch your heart, your life and your eating. The meetings will be held on Thursdays from 10am-12(noon). Please call Debbie Olson at (425) 787-2490 for more information on joining the Light Weigh Bible Study.

**Eucharistic Benediction and Rosary**

Please join us for Benediction and Rosary every Wednesday, at 6:30pm in the Church.

# December 13, 2009

## Faith Formation For The Parish

Catholic parents promise at Baptism to bring up their child to know God and follow His Commandments. Catholic parishes provide both Catholic schools and Faith Formation programs so that the development of the Faith is available to all.

Faith Formation classes are available to children of our parish from age 4 through 5th grade, when they then enroll in the Edge for Jr High faith development. Many of our Sunday morning classes are full, but there is still room in the Wed. evening class.

### **Sacraments**

**Baptisms** for babies and young children will be the weekends of Jan. 10th and Feb. 14th. Parents and godparents must take two classes to prepare for raising children in the Catholic Faith. At least one godparent must be a practicing Catholic who has been Confirmed.

**First Reconciliation and First Eucharist** are celebrated when children are in 2<sup>nd</sup> grade or higher. **(They must be in their second year of religious education, at the parish school or in Faith Formation classes.)** They prepare for the sacraments in a family setting.

Parent Meetings for First Communion will be Thursday, March 11th or Sunday, March 14th at 7pm in the Renggli Room. Retreats are on April 24th, and the celebration is the weekend of May 16th.

### **Becoming Catholic**

Those who would like to explore becoming Catholic are invited to join the **Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults**, which meets on Wed. evenings at 7:00 in the Renggli Rm.

For more information on any of the programs, please contact Luciann at ext 111 or email [luciannm@stmp.org](mailto:luciannm@stmp.org) or Sharon at ext 114 or email [sharong@stmp.org](mailto:sharong@stmp.org).

## Sacraments

**Sacrament of Baptism: Held during Mass six times a year.** Call the Faith Formation office for more information.


**Sacrament of Marriage:** Notification of intent to marry must be given to the Pastoral Associate at least six months before the date you wish to be married.

**Sacrament of the Sick:** This Sacrament is celebrated with those who are seriously ill, injured, or preparing for surgery. **Eucharistic Ministers to the Sick** are available to bring the Eucharist to those who are unable to attend Mass. Please call the Pastoral Associate to arrange for the Sacrament of the Sick or for a Eucharistic Minister to the Sick.

**Funeral Masses** are celebrated on Mon., Tues., Wed., or Fri. at 11am. To schedule, call the Parish Office.

**Our Catholic Cemetery is:** Holyrood Cemetery 205 NE 205th St. Seattle Phone (206) 363-8404.

## This Week at STM School

- Thank you to all the volunteers who helped make the "Pixie Gift" shop a wonderful experience for our students. 
- Thank you to the volunteers who helped with the Ice Cream Social on Report Card day.
- All Parish and School Families are welcome to join us as we celebrate the Christmas season in music. Our Christmas program is Thursday, December 17<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm in the church. This is a dress up event for the students.
- Friday, December 18<sup>th</sup> is the last day of school before the Christmas vacation. Extended Care is open.

## Ongoing Opportunities (cont.)

### **Powerful Tools For Caregivers Classes**

There will be 6 Tuesday afternoon classes designed for caregivers to teach them tools they need to take care of themselves while caring for loved ones. The classes run from Feb. 2nd-March 9th from 1pm-3:30pm at the Lynnwood Senior Center-5800 198th St SW. To register, or for more information, please call (425) 670-5050.

### **A Christmas Carol**

The Bishop Blanchet High School production of, "A Christmas Carol", the musical will be performed on December 19th and 20th at 2:00pm and 7:00pm at The Moore Theatre-1932 2nd Ave, Seattle. For tickets go to: [www.stgpresents.org](http://www.stgpresents.org), [www.Tickets.com](http://www.Tickets.com) or The Paramount or Moore Theatre Box Offices.

### **Holy Names Academy Winter Open House**

Holy Names Academy Winter Open House is on Tuesday, January 5th from 6:30pm-8:30pm. Meet teachers, students and parents. Register for the Scholarship/Placement Make-Up Exam. There will also be fun workshops for students, informative sessions for parents and a special student life assembly with great entertainment.

### **Compassionate Volunteers Needed**

Compassionate volunteers are needed for Providence Hospice and Home Care. The next information session is on Wednesday, Dec. 16th from 2-4pm at Providence Hospice & Home Care of Snohomish County-2731 Wetmore Ave, Everett. Please call (425) 261-4815 by Dec. 14th to pre-register or (425) 261-4804 for questions.

## 3rd Sunday Of Advent