

## THIS SUNDAY'S READINGS

*1st Sunday of Advent*

First Reading: Jeremiah 33:14-16

Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 3:12—4:2

Gospel: Luke 21:25-28, 34-36

## NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS

*2nd Sunday of Advent*

First Reading: Baruch 5:1-9

Second Reading: Philippians 1:4-6, 8-11

Gospel: Luke 3:1-6

### Presider Schedule December 5th-6th

<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	

### Silence Before Mass

Silence is sacred. No words can adequately express the mystery of God. Everything we try to say falls short. In quiet, we can sense God's presence even more deeply than in sound. At the designated times of the Mass, we fall silent to offer prayers, to reflect on the scripture or to thank God for the Eucharist. Many sounds precede Mass. At home and in the car, you may have the television or radio on, or you may be conversing with family and friends about many things. Preparation for Mass begins at home with the attitude and openness you bring. At church you might hear people greeting people, someone leading a rosary, musicians tuning their instruments, or cantors rehearsing the psalm. The organist might play a prelude, or the song leader might rehearse a hymn with you. All these sounds serve some purpose, and they help prepare us for the Eucharist. Taking time for personal silence beforehand helps everyone enter the Mass devoutly. In silent prayer, we think about the role we are to play, the songs we will sing, the prayers we will offer, the Scriptures we will hear, the sacrifice we make, the service we give to our neighbor, and the presence of Jesus Christ, who comes to us in sacrament to nourish us at this Mass and throughout the week. His holiness renders us speechless.

## THIS WEEK AT ST. THOMAS MORE

### Sunday—November 29th-1st Sunday of Advent-Masses

No Faith Formation Classes-CLOW  
1:00pm-Advent Wreath Making-Renggli Room  
1:00pm-One Voice Choir Practice-Music Room  
5:00pm-LifeTeen Mass-No Life Night

### Monday—November 30th

6:30pm-Building Committee-Parish Office  
6:30pm-Mission Choir-Music Room  
7:00pm-USCCA-Renggli Room

### Tuesday—December 1st

9:30am-Bible Study-Renggli Room  
9:30am-USCCA-Youth Room  
6:30pm-CDA Officers Meeting-Library  
7:00pm-Justice & Peace Commission-Parish Office  
7:00pm-School Constituency Meeting-Dalton Hall  
7:00pm-Bible Study-Renggli Room

### Wednesday—December 2nd

6:30pm-Confirmation Class-Youth Room/Dalton Hall  
6:30pm-Eucharistic Benediction and Rosary-Church  
6:30pm-Faith Formation Class-Library  
7:00pm-Liturgy Commission-Parish Office  
7:00pm-RCIA-Comm. Cntr Meeting RM/Renggli RM  
7:00pm-9:30am Choir Practice-Chapel  
7:00pm-Multicultural Choir Practice-Music Room

### Thursday—December 3rd

9:30am-Light Weigh-Youth Room  
5:00pm-1st Reconciliation Practice-Church  
7:00pm-Lux Mundi-Youth Room/Comm. Cntr Meeting Room  
7:00pm-LifeTeen Band Practice-Music Room

### Friday—December 4th

9:30am-Adoration-Chapel  
7:00pm-Vietnamese Prayer Group-Comm. Cntr Meeting Room

### Saturday—December 5th

12:00pm-Adoration  
8:30am-Benediction w/Mass following  
5:00pm-1st Reconciliation-Church/Renggli Room  
7:00pm-School Play-Dalton Hall

### Sunday—December 6th-2nd Sunday of Advent-Masses

KofC Pancake Breakfast  
Faith Formation Classes-CLOW  
1:00pm-Columbian Squires-Adult Ed. Room  
1:00pm-Consoling Grace Luncheon-Renggli Room  
1:00pm-One Voice Choir-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 Nov. 21st-Nov. 22nd

Received: \$18,826.13

Needed: \$18,905.82

Year-to-date: \$355,509.80

Year-to-date Over/(Under): \$11,301.03

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: 497

Registered Parish Households: 1,859

% of Registered Households Returning Cards: 27%

Returned Commitment card goal for this year: 1,100

% of Goal Achieved: 45%

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!

### Counters Needed

The Sunday collection is counted on Monday mornings. If you are numbers oriented, proficient on a calculator, and would like to work with a great group of volunteers and staff, we can use your help. Please contact Fred Liebhaber at (425) 743-2929 ext 105, or email fredl@stmp.org.

### Accountant/Bookkeeper Wanted

St. Thomas More Parish is seeking a bookkeeper. The ideal candidate should have three years work experience in accounting and proficiencies in various computer applications. A working knowledge of Parish Data Systems is a plus. Please send a cover letter and resume to the Parish Office, attention Fred Liebhaber. Questions can be addressed to Fred Liebhaber at fredl@stmp.org.

### Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

You are invited to Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament on Friday and Saturday, December 4th-5th. 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. 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.



### Diamonds Are Forever



"We want to thank everyone who procured, volunteered and attended the auction on November 14th. It was a wonderful evening and a successful fundraiser for the school and Faith Formation. We will post the final numbers when they come through. Thank you again for supporting our "gems", the children! Wishing you all a Happy Advent."

John and Kristina Rodabaugh.

### Christmas Giving Breakfast

Ho, Ho, Ho and Merry Christmas from the Knights of Columbus Council 5816. We are so excited that **SANTA CLAUS** will be joining us for our Christmas Giving Breakfast for the needy on Sunday, December 6th in Dalton Hall after all Masses. Please come and join us for breakfast, fellowship and a picture with Santa.



### 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.

### New Parishioners

We would like to welcome to St. Thomas More the following newly registered parishioners:

Victor and Yara Del Aguila, Jim and Nona Dooley, Elver and Mercedita Panilagao, Heather Rose Latimer, Ricardo and Gaily Perez, Anthony Pope and Morgan DeFino, Joanne Cecilia Voiland, Todd and Christine Solberg, Mekonnen Gebeyehu and Aynadis Meleket, Tracy Holeman, Nancy Hood, Tan Nguyen and Phuong-Ha Ngo, Melquiades Sandoval and Maria Guadalupe Hernandez, Emman and Ijeoma Kalu and Bill and Gloria Livermore.

Thank you for joining the St. Thomas More Parish community.

# November 29, 2009

## Parish News (cont.)

### Multicultural Commission Financial Report

The Multicultural Commission is happy to announce that the recent Multicultural Festival was able to generate a gross receipt of \$ 8,330 from raffle ticket sales, food and other sales as well as from donations and contributions. The total expenses for the festival amounted to \$ 7,904, resulting in an excess of revenue over expenses in the amount of \$ 426. The Commission was also able to get a pass through funding from the U. S. Bureau of Census for the Festival T-shirts/hats in the amount of \$ 2,500. As of 11/15/09 the fund balance of the Commission amounted to \$ 4,313 and has earmarked disbursements of some amount to various projects and programs in the parish amounting to almost \$ 1,000. We are expanding our membership to the Hispanic community". Please call Eddie & Ellen at 425-402-8568 for further information. Thank you all for your support!



### Youth News!

No Senior High Youth group or Edge this week. But we will see you all next week!

Happy Thanksgiving!

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

Mission Trip meeting December 6th at 4pm in the Renggli room. All youth who want to participate in this summer mission experience need to attend this meeting.

Remember community potluck will be December 6th!

\*\*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

### Compassionate Volunteers Needed

Compassionate Volunteers are needed for Providence Hospice and Home Care. The next info. Session will be on Wed., Dec. 16th from 2-4pm at Providence Hospice-2731 Wetmore Ave, Everett 98201. Call (425) 261-4815 to pre-register by Dec. 14th.

### 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

We find time to build intimacy and excitement in our marriage relationship the same way we find time for all the other important things in our life. We make time for what is important to us. Make your marriage important to you again. Weekends in 2010 will be Feb. 26th-28th, April 30th-May 2nd, June 11th-13th, and Oct. 8th-10th. Call Bruce and Judy White at (425) 771-9003 or Rory and Dawn Myers at (206) 772-2344 to register or for additional information.

### 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.

### United States Catholic Catechism

Sessions on the study of the United States Catholic Catechism sessions will be held on Mondays from 7pm-9pm in the Renggli Room. There are also sessions Tuesday mornings from 9:30am-12noon in the Youth Room. If you have any questions, please contact Debbie Olson at (425) 787-2490 or email her at [debieolson@comcat.net](mailto:debieolson@comcat.net).

### Stephen Ministry

Hopefully all of you had a Happy Thanksgiving. If not, what went wrong or not as hoped for or expected? Want to talk about it? Disappointments come in all sizes from mildly irritating to grossly offensive. Don't stuff those feelings and disappointments, talk about them. Sometimes just having a listening ear doesn't change the situation, but it can give us a different perspective which can lead to a different attitude or approach to a situation. 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 10-12pm. 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.

## 1st Sunday of Advent

### Faith Formation For The Parish

**NO** Classes on Sunday, Nov. 29th-Thanksgiving Break.

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. 11th and Feb. 22nd. 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.

**1st Reconciliation and 1st Eucharist**-1st Reconciliation will be celebrated Dec. 5th, and 1st Eucharist 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**

- Monday, November 30<sup>th</sup> is the last day of the first trimester. 
- School is dismissed at noon on Monday, November 30<sup>th</sup> for teacher in-service. Extended Care is open. This is a free-dress day for students.
- Tuesday, December 1<sup>st</sup> is the Constituency Meeting at 7:00pm for the long-range plan. Please come and see the results so far.
- Wednesday, December 2<sup>nd</sup> is the beginning of the annual Gift Drive sponsored by the Student Council.
- Parish and school families are invited to Drama Night on Dec. 5 beginning at 7PM.
- STMPs students will be performing two short plays: Archie of the Amazon and Homework Eats Dog.

### **Ongoing Opportunities (cont.)**

#### **Holiday Remembrance Service**

Beck's Funeral Home would like to invite all families to a Holiday Remembrance Service in honor of those who have died, and in support of those who live. The service will be on Wednesday, December 9th at 7pm at Beck's Funeral Home-405 5th Ave S., Edmonds.

#### **Simbang Gabi Commissioning Mass**

All are invited to the Archdiocese of Seattle Simbang Gabi Commissioning Mass which is a celebration where thousands of Catholics throughout the Archdiocese gather to usher in the beginning of Simbang Gabi. Simbang Gabi is an Advent novena of nine Masses to honor the Blessed Virgin Mary as she prayerfully and joyfully anticipates the birth of Jesus Christ. The Mass will be on Saturday, December 12th at 11am at St. James Cathedral with a reception following in the Cathedral Hall. Our Parish Simbang Gabi celebration will be on Saturday, December 19th at the 5pm Mass with a reception following in Dalton Hall.

#### *Thank You!*

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

Advertiser of the Week:



**Timothy W. Robison, D.D.D. P.S.**

