

Mass Intentions for the Week

Table with 3 columns: Date, Time, and Intention. Rows include dates from Saturday, January 29th to Sunday, February 6th with corresponding times and intentions like 'Birthday Remembrance - Patricia Healey'.

St. Veronica Chapel

Table with 3 columns: Date, Time, and Intention. Rows include dates from Saturday, January 29th to Sunday, February 6th with corresponding times and intentions like 'In Memory - Mr. & Mrs. Alfred Gomes & Family'.



HOLY HOUR FOR MARRIAGE

The next Holy Hour prayer, for the preservation of the sanctity of marriage, will be this Friday, February 4th, beginning at 9:30AM. Come and pray for our legislation and all our brothers and sisters.

See bulletin insert regarding same sex marriage talk this Monday evening - January 31st at 7PM with Fr. Taillon.

"Blessed are they who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are you when they insult you and persecute you and utter every kind of evil against you (falsely) because of me. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven." -Mt 5:10-12

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Each Saturday at 7:30 A.M. in the Parish Hall, Men's Prayer Group meets to reflect on Sunday scriptures. All men are welcome.

ST. BLAISE



This Thursday, February 3rd, is the feast day of St. Blaise. The traditional blessing of throats will take

place during the 9AM Mass at St. Thomas More. St. Blaise is the patron saint of ailments of the throat.

ENDERS ISLAND - DAY OF RECOLLECTION

"Presenting Our Lives to God" - Fr. Frank Sutman, OP will lead this day of Recollection on Wednesday, February 2nd from 10AM-3PM. The cost is \$35.00 per person and includes 2 conferences, Mass, confessions and time to explore the island. Hot lunch is served. Pre-registration is required - please call 1-860-536-0565 ext. 110.



## Religious Education Schedule

January/February 2011

**SUN. AM:** JAN. 30<sup>TH</sup>

**GR. 1-4** FEB. 6<sup>TH</sup>, 13<sup>TH</sup> & 27<sup>TH</sup>  
10:05-10:55AM @ ST. V.

**MON. PM:** JAN. 31<sup>ST</sup>

**GR. 1-4** FEB. 7<sup>TH</sup>, 14<sup>TH</sup> & 28<sup>TH</sup>  
4:10-5:00PM @ STM

**GR. 5 & 6:** WED., FEB. 2<sup>ND</sup>, 9<sup>TH</sup> & 16<sup>TH</sup>  
4:10-5:00PM @ ST. V.

**GR. 7 & 8:** WED., FEB. 2<sup>ND</sup>, 9<sup>TH</sup> & 16<sup>TH</sup>  
7:00-8:00PM @ ST. V.

**CONF. I:** SUN., JAN. 30<sup>TH</sup>

**SUN., FEB. 13<sup>TH</sup> – STUDENTS ATTEND FAITH VS. MEDIA AT ST. THOMAS MORE – 6PM**  
SUN., FEB. 27<sup>TH</sup>  
7:00-8:15PM @ ST. V.

**CONF. II:** SUN., JAN. 30<sup>TH</sup>

SPONSOR'S INVITED TO THIS CLASS  
**SUN., FEB. 13<sup>TH</sup> – STUDENTS ATTEND FAITH VS. MEDIA AT ST. THOMAS MORE – 6PM**  
SUN., FEB. 27<sup>TH</sup>  
7:00-8:15PM @ ST. V.

### PARISH TUITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Tuition assistance is available for families who are registered members of St. Thomas More Parish and have children attending Catholic Schools in grades K-12. Any family wishing to apply for assistance should submit a FACTS application before March 15, 2011. You may apply on-line or get an application through your school.

### DAUGHTERS OF ISABELLA SCHOLARSHIP

The RI Daughters of Isabella are again sponsoring the "Msgr. Cassidy Scholarship". There are 2 scholarships, based on Scholastic Merit & Financial Need, awarded in the amount of \$2,000.00 for 2 eighth grade girls applying to a Catholic High School. For an application, please write to: Mrs. Helen Maiella., Chairperson, Msgr. Thomas V. Cassidy Scholarships, 1 Robin Hood Dr., East Providence, RI 02915. Applications must be returned by March 15<sup>th</sup>.

## SPECIAL COLLECTION

Next weekend, February 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup>, Fathers Matthew Mulcahy & Michael McCormack will speak at all Masses on the important work being done by their community, the **Dominican Friars of St. Joseph Province**. Their presence here will represent our annual diocesan support of the Missionary Cooperation Appeal. Each year, our parish welcomes a different missionary group to the parish. The Dominican Fathers preach the Gospel in foreign missions like Kenya, Pakistan, the Solomon Islands and the Philippines. Your continued support, of this important mission, is greatly appreciated.



## HOLLYWOOD VS. FAITH

**Frank Runyeon will be at St. Thomas More on Sunday, February 13<sup>th</sup> – 6PM for a talk on "Hollywood vs. Faith"**. Mr. Runyeon has always felt torn between the world of the media and the world of faith and thinks much of America is: We go from our TV to church, and then back to our TV (I-Pod or computer). We want to live in both worlds. But is that really possible? Over the past 30 years, as the way of life embodied by the mass media has moved further and further from the Christian way of life, Mr. Runyeon confides he has struggled to make the right choices. He speaks with humor about that struggle, and shares the fruits of lessons he has learned—from his studies at Princeton to working opposite Meg Ryan on the soaps. All are welcome & encouraged to attend!!

## FOOD COLLECTION

Next weekend is our monthly Food Collection. Items needed for the upcoming school vacation are: juice boxes, cans of juice, cereal, cookies, crackers, hot chocolate, peanut butter/jelly, packages of cheese slices, coffee, pasta, pasta sauce, spaghettios, baked beans, soups, canned fruit, canned meats/tuna fish, personal hygiene products and gift certificates. Please deposit items in the bins located at the Church entrances.

*JANUARY 30, 2011*

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*How would same-sex marriage impact all of us?*

I know that the current debates about the definition of marriage stir many responses and emotions in many people. There is a monumental debate in our state right now about it. With Governor Chafee prioritizing this issue (under the guise of economic benefits and trumpeted by a mostly sympathetic media) the real issues that would impact all of us are clouded at the least and misrepresented at their worst.

Anyone who experiences same-sex attraction has human dignity and is loved by God, by the Church and hopefully shown great respect at all times.

The government has every duty and obligation and interest to safeguard the definition of marriage as being between one man and one woman. Each child should expect the ideal of both a mother and a father. The intimate union by which a child is naturally conceived as inscribed in nature should be given its proper respect.

Same-sex couples who desire to have visitation, financial and burial rights can obtain those same rights legally but *not by redefining marriage for the whole majority and society!*

If same sex marriage becomes law we will all be required and expected to teach and promote this lifestyle, and our Catholic institutions and individuals will be sued and cajoled into teaching children and others that this in no way is different than traditional marriage. This, of course, would be in direct opposition to the biblical ideals of marriage and family life.

I know that there are many people with same-sex attraction who are good and loving people, but to redefine marriage itself is not only dangerous for the majority but it has *far-reaching consequences that will inhibit us from living our faith and following and teaching our consciences formed by Christ. We must find another way to accomplish these goals.*

I know most people do not want to “judge” others in any way. Protecting traditional marriage does not do that; it simply desires to preserve the uniqueness of motherhood and fatherhood and most importantly allows for Catholics to remain faithful to Christ in the public square and not be coerced into promoting a false definition of marriage.

**Join me Monday evening (January 31, 7-8pm at St. Thomas More) for a presentation and Q & A about how this new law would potentially affect us all. We will also have a holy hour on the First Friday following the 9am Mass to pray for marriage and family life.**

*Fr. Taillon*

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