



Religious Education Schedule

March 2011

**SUN. AM:** MARCH 6<sup>TH</sup>, 13<sup>TH</sup>, 20<sup>TH</sup> & 27<sup>TH</sup>  
**GR. 1-4** 10:05-10:55AM @ ST. V.

**MON. PM:** MARCH 7<sup>TH</sup>, 14<sup>TH</sup>, 21<sup>ST</sup> & 28<sup>TH</sup>  
**GR. 1-4** 4:10-5:00PM @ STM

**GR. 5 & 6:** WED., MARCH 16<sup>TH</sup>, 23<sup>RD</sup> & 30<sup>TH</sup>  
4:10-5:00PM @ ST. V.

**GR. 7 & 8:** WED., MARCH 16<sup>TH</sup>, 23<sup>RD</sup>, 30<sup>TH</sup>  
7:00-8:00PM @ ST. V.

**CONF. I:** SUN. & MON. MARCH 13<sup>TH</sup> & 14<sup>TH</sup> –  
LENTEN MISSION AT ST. V. – 7-8PM  
SUN., MARCH 20<sup>TH</sup> – SERVICE HOURS DUE  
7:00-8:15PM @ ST. V.

**CONF. II:** SUN. & MON. MARCH 13<sup>TH</sup> & 14<sup>TH</sup> –  
LENTEN MISSION AT ST. V. – 7-8PM  
SUN., MARCH 20<sup>TH</sup> – SERVICE HOURS DUE  
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 **Volunteer**

We are looking for volunteers to cook a Sunday Night meal at Welcome House for 20 people. This is a great way for students to get service hours. A couple of families could get together to share in making a meal. Also, volunteers are needed to bake desserts for Friday, March 11<sup>th</sup> at the Storehouse in Peacedale. For more information, please call Patti at 783-7165.

**FREE TAX ASSISTANCE**

Federal & State Income Tax returns will once again be prepared free of charge at the Neighborhood Guild on Mondays, Tuesdays & Thursdays from 9:00AM-1:00PM – first come first serve (no appointments taken). Please bring last year's return and this year's supporting documents.

**PRAYER CHAIN**

Did you know that our Parish has a Prayer Chain Ministry? If anyone would like some extra needed prayers, you may call 295-1241 and express your request. If you would like to become part of the prayer chain ministry, call 295-1241.

**MARDI GRAS PANCAKE SUPPER  
TO BENEFIT MISSION TRIP**

**St. Veronica Chapel on Tuesday March 8<sup>th</sup> from 5:00pm – 7:00pm.** Please join us and celebrate Mardi Gras with delicious pancakes and toppings and Mardi Gras crafts for the kids. Only \$5 per person or \$20 per family (pay at the door). Cooks and Servers will be our Confirmation students!

**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. To apply for assistance, submit a FACTS application before March 15<sup>th</sup>. You may apply on-line or get an application through your school.

**WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER**

Register for the next Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend – coming to Wakefield!! The date is March 18<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup>. It's the best gift you'll ever give to each other and your marriage. For more information call 1-800-710-WWME or visit our webpage at [www.wwmeMARI.org](http://www.wwmeMARI.org)

**ADDING-UP – PENNIES FOR THE POOR**

There is a small box near the parking lot entrance of St. Thomas More Church and the poor box at St. Veronica Chapel where people place change, mostly pennies. Donations go to the Diocesan Dire Emergency Fund in South County which helps with rent and utilities. Thanks to all who make “change”, “change” the world.

**WHY DOES MARRIAGE MATTER??**

What can you do??

See our website for a Q & A.

Call you State Representative and Senator and tell them that you oppose efforts to redefine marriage.

Sen. James Sheehan – 885-1988

Rep. Teresa Tanzi – 527-9468

Rep. Donald Lally – 792-9090

Please voice your support for marriage & family in Rhode Island.

**MARCH 6, 2011**

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**“Carry Your Cross” – Lent 2011**

It is that time of year when Catholics are called to penance, retreat and increasing charity to the needy. This year at St. Thomas More we have adopted the theme of “*Carry Your Cross*” as a shared spiritual foundation for our season.

This week during Ash Wednesday masses (see new expanded schedule on bulletin cover!) all will receive a cross and prayer card to keep in our pockets for Lent. The cross remains for us the symbol of God’s sacrifice, the place of the deepest suffering and the most generous love because of the Lord’s gift to us. The prayer on the card reads:

***“Forgive us, gracious Lord, when we don’t unite our sufferings to yours in pursuit of our Christ-like life. May we carry our cross confidently knowing that you are always present to help lift us up if we simply ask.”***

At a meeting this week of First Communion parents, all were asked to write a question that they would ask Jesus if He were to be in the room. Wonderfully but not surprisingly many questions dealt with the human experience and our encounters with suffering and evil. Jesus has transformed suffering and it has been redeemed. This is the reason why we seek to unite our sufferings to his as St. Paul encourages us in Sacred Scripture to do.

I hope we can all pray and think about our Lenten goals and God’s desires for each one of us in this holy season. Our two altars of sacrifice will be flanked by the rustic tools of the Lord’s cross.

Consider attending Stations of the Cross on Friday evenings at 7pm at St. Thomas More or praying the stations during the day when the church is open. We will leave some Stations of the Cross books at the doors of the church for the Lenten season.

Many thanks to the Liturgy Committee for their outstanding work and planning to make our Lent so special.

A warm welcome to the Capuchin Sisters of Nazareth who will guide our Lenten mission next Sunday and Monday evening. Let’s pray for openness to the healing of Christ’s power.

Blessed Lent!

***Fr. Tailleon***

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