

HOLY HOUR FOR VOCATIONS & ORDINATION TO THE PRIESTHOOD

On the eve of the priesthood ordinations, please join us as we pray at a Holy Hour for Vocations next Friday, June 22nd at 7:00PM in the Cathedral of Saints Peter & Paul, Providence. Also, come and support your priests as *Rev. Mr. Ryan W. Connors, Rev. Mr. Francesco Francese & Rev. Mr. Christopher J. Murphy* are ordained to the priesthood next Saturday, June 23rd at 10:00AM at the Cathedral of SS. Peter & Paul in Providence. A light reception to follow.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Children and families-VBS 2012 will be held on August 13-17 from 9:30am to 12:30pm, St. Veronica, Msgr. Halloran Hall. All children ages 4-11 are invited to join us for "Sonrise." Registration forms are available in the parish office and at Church entrances. If you would like to volunteer, please contact Missie Antone @ 783-2113 or e-mail her at stmantone1@yahoo.com. We are in need of teens and adults! Please let me know if you are interested!

FORTNIGHT FOR FREEDOM Mass & Prayer Breakfast

This Wednesday, June 20th, there will be a 7:30AM Mass with Bishop Tobin, followed by a prayer breakfast at the Cathedral of SS. Peter & Paul, with speaker Prof. Dwight Duncan, U. Mass. School of Law. "Religious liberty is the first liberty granted to us by God and protected in the First Amendment to our Constitution. It includes more than our ability to go to Mass on Sunday or pray the Rosary at home. It also encompasses our ability to contribute freely to the common good of all Americans." This event is free and open to the public. All concerned Catholics are encouraged to attend. Free parking available. Please email Karen at kdavis@dioceseofprovidence.org to R.S.V.P for the Mass and breakfast.



St. Thomas More Parish Feast Save the dates!! June 29th - July 1st

Friday, June 29th -

24 Hour Adoration at St. Thomas More from 12 Noon Friday to 12 Noon Saturday - Pray for Religious liberties in America

Saturday, June 30th - Festival at

Veteran's Park - 4:00-9:00pm Raffle, Gift Baskets, Food, Kid's Games



Entertainment - Tony Cerbo and also Michael Dutra and The Strickly Sinatra Big Band
Sunday, July 1st - Solemn Mass 10am
- Procession - 11am

PARISH FEAST - CAN YOU HELP?

Next weekend after all the Masses, there will be an opportunity for volunteers to sign-up for our Parish Feast. Please consider helping out in some way. We are looking for people to make a "Theme Basket" to be raffled off at the Parish Feast. They have been a great success in the past! Please call Gloria Figueroa at 741-0680. We also need volunteers for children's games & crafts. Please e-mail Ann Murphy at wmurphy17@cox.net, if you can help.

2012 CATHOLIC CHARITY FUND APPEAL

It is not too late! A pledge is a gift that continues through the year.

Total to Date: \$120,027.00
Needed for Goal: \$4,973.00

Please Note: If you have made a pledge, the CCF office will send you a bill. Thank you to those who have already given.

Our Government's "Affair" Cheats Us All!

As the feast day of St. Thomas More approaches (June 22) and our celebration of the parish feast (June 29-July 1) draws close, we can look to our patron as a model of charity, courage and fidelity for today.

King Henry VIII had seized control of the Catholic Church and claimed supremacy over matters of faith and morals and in a heavy-handed way passed laws throughout England that ostracized Catholics. Our modern-day federal government has placed enormous political pressure and the threat of sanctions (financial and otherwise) on the Catholic Church, a shadow looming over all of us this summer (or should we call it winter?). Henry VIII had an affair (not his first) with Ann Boleyn after 17 years of marriage with Catherine of Aragon that produced no male heir. Henry set out incrementally to undermine the church's authority on marriage and replace it with civil law. Thomas More was the Chancellor and a well-respected judge and public servant in the highest position. He respectfully fought to protect the religious liberties of the Church publicly and privately. The king moved to co-opt the Catholic universities to say his divorce was justified utilizing some of the professors to help (sound familiar?). Henry imposed enormous fines on the bishops and subsequently asked bishops to give him authority to make rules that govern the Church. The bishops were split under enormous pressure then surrendered in disunity. The next day More resigned his office. St. Thomas More opposed the Act of Supremacy that declared Henry head of the Church in England (a title the Queen still holds today). A Catholic still cannot serve as Prime Minister of England in 2012! St. Thomas More believed that the Catholic Church exercised its authority by the bishops united to the successor of St. Peter in Rome and that no parliament, king or court can take that authority away regarding faith and morals. More argued at his trial that Parliament lacked authority to transfer governance of the Church to the King since Christ gave the Church her authority.

On death row St. Thomas More prayed for the king and encouraged those at the scaffolding to pray for himself and for the King, speaking his famous line, "I die the good king's servant but God's first!").

Like Thomas More himself we will pray for the Church in the US for 24 hours in silence June 29-30th, that the Church in our country will not be forced and fined like the Church in England to betray her conscience. Our government is currently having an "affair" with abortion, sterilization and artificial contraception. Our government will mandate the Church's institutions legitimize her "affair" by insisting the Church provide and pay for these services. May St. Thomas More pray for us and intercede that our government not dictate laws and rules that are not the domain of government in a free democracy. No matter how many laws, courts and politicians insist the Church no longer enjoys liberties to govern herself and her institutions; we cannot and will not betray the Gospel. This feast is more pertinent and timely than all the others. St. Thomas more...pray for us! God bless America!

Our Lady of the Immaculate Conception...pray for us!

Fr. Tailon