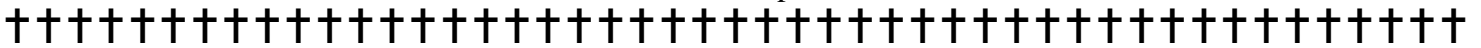


MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Table with 3 columns: Date, Time, and Intention. Rows include Saturday, Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, and Sunday with various times and intentions like 'Birthday Remembrance', 'In Memory', and 'Wedding Ann. Intention'.

St. Veronica Chapel

Table with 3 columns: Date, Time, and Intention. Rows include Saturday, Sunday, Saturday, and Sunday with times and intentions like 'Anniversary', 'In Memory', and 'Mass of Thanksgiving'.



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.

SAVE THE DATE!



Saturday, September 29th at 10:30AM - Blessing of the Animals at St. Veronica. All are welcome. More to come.

FOOD GIFT CARDS

There is a need for food gift cards in increments of \$20/\$25. Any donations are appreciated for everyday help to those in need.

CONGRATULATIONS!

Congratulations and blessings to Michael & Marilyn Brennan, who recently celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary. They celebrated this blessed event with their family this past week.

DAY OF RECOLLECTION

Our Lady's Guild invites the members of our St Thomas More parish community - men & women to a Day of Recollection on Tuesday October 2nd from 10AM - 3:30PM at St Edmund's, Enders Island, Mystic, CT. The cost is \$35.00 p/p and includes lunch. Presentation: 'Prayer: Presence To The Presence Of God' by Fr. John Burchill OP. For those interested in car pooling, we will meet by 8:30AM on October 2nd in the St Thomas More Parking Lot. For more information or to register, call Kathy Rigney 782-4545 or the parish office at 789-7682. Please make checks payable to St. Thomas More.



KNITTING MINISTRY



The next meeting is this Wednesday, September 19th - 12:30PM at the St. Thomas More Parish Hall. For more information, please call Pat Wesselhoeft at 783-1956. All are welcome.

## CAN YOU HELP?

Looking for a few volunteers to teach – retired teachers or parents for grade 6. Please call Missie Antone at 783-2113.

### CONFIRMATION I & II MEETING – STUDENTS/PARENTS



There will be a mandatory student/parent Confirmation I & II meeting on Sunday, September 16<sup>th</sup> at St. Veronica Chapel.

Confirmation I – 6:30 – 7:15PM

Confirmation II – 7:30 – 8:15PM

### Religious Education Schedule September 2012

**SUN. AM:** SEPT. 16<sup>TH</sup>, 23<sup>RD</sup> & 30<sup>TH</sup>

**GR. 1-4** 10:05-10:55AM @ ST. V

**MON. PM:** SEPT. 17<sup>TH</sup> & 24<sup>TH</sup>

**GR. 1-4** 4:10-5:00PM @ STM

**GR. 5 & 6:** WED., SEPT. 19<sup>TH</sup> & 26<sup>TH</sup>

4:10-5:00PM @ ST. V.

**GR. 7 & 8:** WED., SEPT. 19<sup>TH</sup> & 26<sup>TH</sup>

7:00-8:00PM @ ST. V.

**CONF. I:** SUN., SEPT, 16<sup>TH</sup> – MEETING

6:30-7:15PM

SUN., SEPT. 30<sup>TH</sup> - CLASS

7:00 – 8:15PM @ ST. V.

**CONF. II:** SUN., SEPT. 16<sup>TH</sup> – MEETING

7:30-8:15PM

SUN., SEPT. 30<sup>TH</sup> - CLASS

7:00 – 8:15PM @ ST. V.

### VOCATION STORIES NIGHT

Wednesday, September 19<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm, St Martha's Church, Pawtucket Ave, East Providence - sponsored by Serra Providence. Join us as we listen to the vocation journeys of various individuals, including consecrated religious, priests, and lay people. There will be a question and answer period followed by fellowship. For more information, email [vocationfair@gmail.com](mailto:vocationfair@gmail.com) or visit [serraprovidence.org](http://serraprovidence.org)

### JOIN US!

This Monday, September 17<sup>th</sup> – 7:00PM  
St. Thomas More Parish Hall  
Bishop Thomas J. Tobin will speak on **“Personal Call to Holiness and the Year of Faith”**. All are welcome to attend.

### RCIA

**(Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults)  
Information Night**

**Tuesday, September 18<sup>th</sup> – 7:30PM**

**St. Thomas More Parish Hall**

Full reception into the Catholic Church – Baptism, Holy Eucharist and Confirmation  
If you are an adult, not baptized, or are interested in becoming a full member of the Catholic Church, then RCIA is for you. If you are interested, or know someone who might be interested, call Fr. Taillon or Fr. Murphy at 789-7682.

### 40 DAYS FOR LIFE FALL CAMPAIGN

The fall campaign will officially begin on Wednesday, September 26<sup>th</sup> and conclude on Sunday, November 4<sup>th</sup> with a candlelight ceremony at 6:30PM at the Women's Clinic 1735 Broad St., Cranston. We are asking that you share one hour of your time on the day of your choice – between 7AM & 7PM in a peaceful and prayerful vigil at either Planned Parenthood, Point St., Providence or the Women's Clinic, Cranston. For more information or the sign-up, please call Carol at 421-7833 ext. 218.

### 8<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL HUMAN LIFE GUILD DAY

Saturday, September 29<sup>th</sup> from 9AM-4PM – St. Philip Church, 622 Putman Pike, Greenville. Begins with a 9AM Mass with Bishop Thomas J. Tobin as celebrant and homilist. Followed by a reception and guest speakers. For more information, please call the Office of Life and Family Ministry at 421-7833 ext. 218.

Wedding  Banns

III Christopher Marshall & Kathleen Fitzgerald

## Sacraments: Signs that “do something”

One of the most common questions that I have been asked since my ordination is, “*What do you enjoy most about being a priest?*” Because priestly ministry affords many blessings, this is not an easy question to answer. Among the joys of priesthood stands the role of celebrating the sacraments. Whether hearing confessions on Saturday afternoons, administering anointing at the hospital, initiating a new member into the Church through Baptism, or celebrating the Eucharist, I am constantly reminded of the goodness and power of God found in these sacred mysteries.

Our sacramental theology teacher at the seminary never tired of reminding us that the sacraments “do something.” Our teacher was communicating in simple terms what the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* teaches about the sacraments: “sacraments confer the grace they signify” (CCC no. 1127). In other words, sacraments are not just signs, but also **instruments of grace** by which God truly transforms and strengthens us along our Christian journey. Usually when we talk about signs we refer to something that signifies or points to another reality. A stop sign on the road alerts us to the fact that we are approaching an intersection. Simply looking at the sign will not bring our vehicle to a stop; we need to apply the brakes. Sacraments do more than point to a reality. They actually bring us into contact with the reality they signify. The Eucharist, for example, not only signifies Christ’s presence, but also brings us into contact with Christ truly present on the altar.

Theologians in the scholastic period identified three important aspects that make up the structure of the sacraments. First, they spoke about the visible symbol of the sacrament. The outward sign of pouring water in Baptism, for example, would fall into this first category. Secondly, each sacrament affords the recipient certain “fruits” or graces. This second aspect could be illustrated in the healing and peace brought about by making a good confession. Finally, theologians insisted that in each celebration of a sacrament there is found the **abiding presence** of Jesus Christ. This third aspect communicates the truth that Christ truly works through each of the sacraments that He instituted and entrusted to His Apostles. This truth, in my mind, should supply every Catholic with a great sense of consolation. When Jesus promised to “abide” with His disciples, He did not mean that He would remain with them in memory only (John 15:4). Rather, Jesus Christ abides with us in the sacraments of the Church, sacraments that truly “do something” for you and me.

*Fr. Murphy*