

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Table with 3 columns: Date, Time, and Intention. Rows include Saturday, January 16th through Sunday, January 24th with various intentions like Priest Vocations, Members of the Military, and Anniversaries.

St. Veronica Chapel

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"Everyone serves good wine first, and then when people have drunk freely, an inferior one; but you have kept the good wine until now." Jesus did this as the beginning of his signs at Cana in Galilee and so revealed his glory, and his disciples began to believe in him. - Jn 2:10-11

RCIA MEETING

The next meeting of the RCIA is this Tuesday, January 19th, at 7:30PM.

DR - ORPHANAGE MISSION MEETING

Next Sunday, January 24th - 5:30PM at St. Thomas More Parish Hall, there will be a meeting, for those who are going on our mission trip to the orphanage. Please bring a parent or guardian with you.

EARTHQUAKE UPDATE

The Haiti earthquake was felt in the Dominican Republic, but no damage is reported and "our" orphans are safe. Let's pray for all affected by this!



The Catholic Church proclaims to the world the teachings of Jesus Christ. Stories of people being challenged by Christ's teaching even in the Gospels! So help us help you understand why the Church teaches what it does, and how these teachings are all the natural extension of the Truth that God is Love - visit catholicscomehome.org.

PRO-LIFE ADORATION

A pro-life Adoration of the Eucharist will be held at St. Thomas More this Friday, January 22nd from 9:30-10:30am to memorialize the Supreme Court's Roe v. Wade decision. Please join in prayer with the thousands who will be marching on this day in the March for Life in Washington, DC.

OFFICE CLOSED

The Parish Office will be closed this Monday, January 18th, in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

## Religious Education Schedule January 2010

**SUN. AM:** JAN. 24<sup>TH</sup> & 31<sup>ST</sup>  
**GR. 1-4** 10:10-11:00AM @ ST. V.

**MON. PM:** JAN. 25<sup>TH</sup>  
**GR. 1-4** 4:10-5:00PM @ ST. V.

**GR. 5 & 6:** WED., JAN. 27<sup>TH</sup>  
4:10-5:00PM @ ST. V.

**GR. 7 & 8:** WED., JAN. 27<sup>TH</sup>  
7:00-8:00PM @ ST. V.

**CONF. I:** MON., JAN. 18<sup>TH</sup> & 25<sup>TH</sup>  
7-8:15PM – STM

**CONF. II:** MON., JAN. 18<sup>TH</sup> & 25<sup>TH</sup>\*\*  
7-8:15PM – STM

\*\*STUDENTS ARE TO INVITE SPONSORS TO THE  
JAN. 25<sup>TH</sup> CLASS!



## BI-ANNUAL SCHOOL COLLECTION

Next weekend, January 16<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup>, the second collection is for the School Tuition Support. This collection is for students of our parish who attend Catholic Schools and are in need of financial aid. Awards are now based on need. Your support is appreciated.

## CHILDREN'S LITURGY INFO. MEETING

This Thursday, January 21<sup>st</sup> at 7PM – St. Veronica, there is a meeting for any parents, young adults interested in helping with Children's Liturgy on Sundays. For more information, call Sarah Cullen at 783-2113.

## ST. VERONICA MASSES NOW LIVE ON THE INTERNET!!



You can invite shut-ins, those far from home to join us for each Mass every weekend from now on – simply go to our website-[www.stthomasmoreri.org](http://www.stthomasmoreri.org). Technology serving Christ in the Year of Evangelization.

## 2010 DR Orphanage Mission Trip Update “LOOSE CHANGE TO LOOSEN THE CHAINS”

The seemingly overwhelming **chains of poverty and despair and abandonment** can imprison a child, especially an orphan, to a life of hopelessness. Yet in the face of that reality, everyday at the Mustard Seed orphanage in the Dominican Republic a dedicated staff of workers and volunteers works tirelessly to **loosen those chains with love, prayer, and attention** to those profoundly handicapped young children.

Once again, St. Thomas More parish is sending a group of 24 missionaries to that orphanage for a week of service, prayer, and presence to those young children. The continued prayers of our parish family for these orphans and our missionaries are gratefully appreciated, of course, and the financial contributions of so many are moving us steadily toward our goal of \$44000. THANK YOU to all!

Our next big fundraiser **LOOSE CHANGE TO LOOSEN THE CHAINS** will be held after all Masses on **January 23-24**. Between now and then we ask you (and your kids!) to look under the seat cushions, on the closet floor, in the car ash-tray, in the jars and piggybanks where you throw your loose change – anywhere and everywhere you might find loose change. Bring those coins to church on **January 23-24** and deposit them in the containers at the entrances. Our missionaries will do all the counting! Your loose change, combined with your fellow parishioners, will go a long way toward loosening the chains of despair and hopelessness for these beautiful young orphans. **And everyone who participates gets a free tube filled with M&M's!!**

## 24-HOUR ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Pray for Priests throughout the Year for Priests in each deanery. The next adoration is on January 18-19 at St. Phillip Church, Greeneville. Begins and ends at 7:00PM.

## 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.

The Wedding of Cana – A Wedding in Narragansett...

This weekend's Gospel finds Jesus and Mary at a wedding where Jesus performs his first public miracle of turning water into wine. This exotic and colorful miracle has long been seen as a foreshadowing of the Eucharistic gift the Church would receive and the generosity of God.

While weddings today may seem very different, in many ways they are the same. There are usually two miracles at every Catholic wedding: the vows entered into and the Eucharist made present to sustain, feed and transform the new husband and wife.

Today's materialistic and secularized culture presents a challenge to all of us (including the Pastor) as we navigate our way to the Altar of Sacrifice. I thought it a good weekend to offer a few helpful tips about weddings and the proper preparation.

1. The first thing a couple should do is contact their local Pastor directly. This should precede booking any reception or restaurant venues. Importantly, let's remember the wedding takes place in the Church and the reception is the celebration of those vows. Sometimes couples get upset the Church is not available and go through a lot of unnecessary extra work that could be avoided if the Church is booked first
2. The bride and groom should call the priest themselves. Well-intentioned Moms and Dads often want to help (especially if the bride and groom live far away!) but it is nevertheless their vows and wedding and only they can make the proper formal request for a wedding.
3. Try to balance marriage preparation with wedding preparation. I often tell couples (and their families) that their reception will surely be fun, emotional and wonderful but all the guests will be gone in a few hours! The vows and God's friendship will sustain them so the Church knows with wisdom that regular confession, Sunday Mass, prayer and pre-Cana classes are intrinsic parts of marriage preparation.
4. "I can't afford a Church wedding" is often heard today...remember the only things really needed for a church wedding are proper consent by the bride and groom, two witnesses and a cleric to witness the vows. All the rest is really "extra". This perspective and a knowledge of Jesus' teachings on marriage and family should make us hopefully say, "My marriage can't afford not to have a Church wedding!"
5. Most of all be open, be honest and let the Lord guide brides, grooms and families so the wedding and preparation can be a time of healing, joy and celebration with the wider community!

In Christ Jesus,  
*Fr. Tailon*

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