

Religious Education Schedule
September 2009

<u>SUN. AM</u> <u>GR. 1-4:</u>	SEPT. 20 TH & 27 TH 10:10-11:00AM @ ST. V.
<u>MON. PM:</u> <u>GR. 1-4</u>	SEPT. 21 ST & 28 TH 4:10-5:00PM @ STM
<u>GR. 5 & 6</u>	WED., SEPT. 23 RD & 30 TH 4:10-5:00PM @ ST. V.
<u>GR. 7 & 8:</u>	WED., SEPT. 23 RD & 30 TH 7:00-8:00PM @ ST. V.
<u>CONF. I & II:</u>	SUN., SEPT. 20 TH PARENT/STUDENT MEETING 6:30PM @ ST. V. MON., SEPT. 28 TH - CLASS 7-8:15PM - STM

4TH ANNUAL HUMAN LIFE GUILD DAY

This year's event, sponsored by the diocesan Office of Life and Family Ministry, will be held on Saturday, September 26th from 9:00AM-3:30PM at St. Philip Church, Greenville. Bishop Thomas J. Tobin will be the main celebrant for the 9AM Mass & Fr. Gregory Stowe will be a concelebrant and homilist. Following the Mass, there will several programs including talks on life-related issues, pastoral care programs available, etc. The cost is \$25.00 and includes coffee an' & lunch. All are welcome to come to the Mass, but registration is required for the event that follows. Please call Carol Owens at 421-7833 ext. 118.

RI RIGHT TO LIFE WALK-A-THON

On Saturday, October 3rd, RI Right to Life will hold their annual Walk-A-Thon for Life. Registration begins at 9AM at the Right to Life headquarters, 266 Smith Street, Providence. The 3 mile walk begins at 10AM, rain or shine and ends at the State House. For more information, please call RI Right to Life at 521-1860.

Lectors and Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist schedules are available on our website: stthomasmoreri.org.

Fr. Dennis Rocheford
††Rest in Peace††

It is with great sadness and hope; we pray for and commend Fr. Dennis to the merciful Father, who died tragically last week.

Fr. Dennis was well known as he had assisted often at the 11AM Mass at St. Veronica over this last year and was a neighbor to many at his home in Pettaquamscutt. He was a Marine Chaplain and had served our military personnel with decoration & distinction. He was just named Pastor at St. Ann No. Oxford, MA and was a priest in the Diocese of Worcester. May the High Priest, who is Semper Fidelis, receive you Father.

COMING THIS FALL -

Fr. Leo E. Patalinghug S.T.L. is a dynamic priest from Baltimore who uses his TV program to evangelize the faith and bring families together at meal times. We are proud and excited to announce that Fr. Leo will be preaching and cooking at St. Veronica Chapel on Sunday, October 25th. Details and video clips can be seen on our parish website.

Sons of the Father Gathering: Young men of high school age and their fathers are invited to an evening of prayer and fellowship on **Friday, October 2 at 7:00PM** at the Seminary of Our Lady of Providence (485 Mt. Pleasant Ave., Providence). Fr. John Codega, pastor of Christ the King (West Warwick) will give a talk on **St. Joseph and Christian Manhood**. Pizza will be served. We need to have an accurate count. If you plan to attend, please contact Fr. Michael Najim at 331-1316 or mnajim@catholicpriest.com. **Sons of the Father** is a ministry dedicated to empowering fathers and sons to live the call to holiness in their daily lives.

Wedding  Banns

III Robert Bullard & Susannah Frank
III Paul Trout & Kristen Messina

The Healthcare Debate...a Catholic Perspective

It is no secret that the health care debate remains central to national, local and personal discussions in the US today. What should Catholics believe or opine about health care reform. Is there need for reform? I think almost all Americans would say so. The system is broken in that so many do not have health insurance. Our hospitals and medical institutions are in dire need of funding and reimbursement. The Catholic Social Teaching of human dignity espouses the respect of all persons from conception until natural death regardless of income, race or any other factor. This deeply held teaching underpins the Catholic's hope for wider and more complete healthcare coverage for all. Any plan that would deny the dignity of human life especially by including abortion, euthanasia or embryonic stem cell research must be excluded from the plans; otherwise, they become the antithesis of what healthcare really is. So healthcare must be available to the unborn, the poor, legal immigrants, the handicapped and the elderly. The Church is also interested in the conscience-clause afforded health care professionals that must be safeguarded so they can follow their consciences formed in and by the Truth and the Natural Law.

The Catholic Church in America is deeply invested in this debate in so many ways because the Church remains one of the largest health care providers in the US. At present there are 624 Catholic hospitals in the US as well as 499 long-term nursing facilities, 164 home health-care service providers and 41 hospice programs. Catholic hospitals had 5.5 million admissions last year and are involved in every aspect of this debate: from within as a healthcare provider; from without with 78 million Catholics in the US; and from fulfilling the role of prophet and conscience in our society at large.

The bill(s) proposed are complex and wordy, the goals are noble, but the risks are high. We must not let our representatives pass any bill that provides for direct attacks on the dignity of human life. Join me in prayer for our country's leaders that human dignity will be more greatly respected by moving towards wider health-care access, but never, ever allowing this program proposal to be a tool to attack the most vulnerable among us in the name of cost-savings or even worse distortion of facts. Please see our bulletin insert for how you can help, and above all....let us pray!

Fr Taillon