

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Table with 3 columns: Date, Time, and Intention. Rows include dates from Saturday, December 10th to Sunday, December 18th, with corresponding times and intentions such as 'In Memory - Patricia Johnson' and 'Pro Populo'.

St. Veronica Chapel

Table with 3 columns: Date, Time, and Intention. Rows include dates from Saturday, December 10th to Sunday, December 18th, with times and intentions like 'In Memory - Charles Andrews' and 'Month's Mind - Anne Sheridan'.



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.

AN EVENING OF ADVENT REFLECTION & PASTA DINNER

Join Fr. Tom Hoar at Enders's Island for a Pasta Dinner at Enders House followed by an Advent reflection in the Chapel of Our Lady of the Assumption. The cost is \$10.00p/p and reservations are required - 1-860-536-0565.

Please Note: Next Sunday, December 18th, will be the last 7:30AM Mass at St. Veronica until next summer.

COOKIE WRAP

Our Annual Cookie Wrap for the Homebound will take place this Thursday, December 15th, following the 9:00AM Mass. We need volunteers to bake. Please bring in cookies by 9:30AM on that day.

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

Christmas Eve:

- 4:00PM - St. Veronica
5:00PM - St. Thomas More
6:00PM - St. Veronica
12:00 Solemn Candlelight Midnight Mass with an 11:30PM Music Prelude at St. Thomas More

Christmas Day:

- (no 7:30AM - St. Veronica)
(no 8:00 - St. Thomas More)
9:00AM - St. Veronica
10:00AM - St. Thomas More
11:00AM - St. Veronica

Religious Education Schedule

December 2011

**SUN. AM:** SUN., DEC. 11<sup>TH</sup> – NO CLASS

**GR. 1-4** All are encouraged to attend the Christmas Pageant on Sunday, Dec. 11<sup>th</sup> at St. Thomas More following the 10AM Mass.  
SUN., DEC 18<sup>TH</sup> – CLASS  
10:05-10:55AM @ St. V.

**MON. PM:** MON., DEC. 12<sup>TH</sup> – NO CLASS

**GR. 1-4** All are encouraged to attend the Christmas Pageant on Sunday, December 11<sup>th</sup> at St. Thomas More following the 10AM Mass.  
MON., DEC 19<sup>TH</sup> – CLASS  
4:10-5:00PM @ STM

**GR. 5 & 6:** WED., DEC. 14<sup>TH</sup> & 21<sup>ST</sup>  
4:10-5:00PM @ ST. V.

**GR. 7 & 8:** WED., DEC. 14<sup>TH</sup> & 21<sup>ST</sup>  
7:00-8:00PM @ ST. V.

**CONF. I:** SUN., DEC. 11<sup>TH</sup> - CLASS  
7:00 – 8:15PM @ ST. V.

**CONF. II:** SUN., DEC. 11<sup>TH</sup> - CLASS  
7:00 – 8:15PM @ ST. V.

**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 that helps with rental assistance, utilities, prescriptions and other emergencies.  
Thanks to all who make “change”, “change” the world.

**WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE**

Are you looking to put Christ in your marriage? Attend the next Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend and learn how to refocus your marriage on what is most important. The next Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend in New England is January 13-15. For more information call Ralph & Jane Becker at 1-800-710-WWME or visit our webpage at [www.wwme.org](http://www.wwme.org).

**ADVENT PENANCE SERVICES**

There are four Regional Penance Services and six priests will be available at each of these services to hear private confessions.

**Tues., Dec. 13<sup>th</sup> – 12 Noon – St. Thomas More**  
Wed., Dec. 14<sup>th</sup> -7:00PM – Christ the King  
Mon., Dec. 19<sup>th</sup> –7:00PM–St. Mary Star of the Sea  
Wed., Dec. 21<sup>st</sup> - 7:00PM - St. Francis of Assisi



**SANTA CLAUS - ST. NICK**



Next Sunday, December 18<sup>th</sup> – Santa Claus will be at St. Veronica, Msgr. Halloran Hall following the 11:00AM Mass. If you are willing to bake for this event, please call Missie Antone at 783-2113.

**THANK YOU!!**

Advent Wreath Making – What a blessed event!! – 39 families worked together to make their wreath to help them prepare for the birth of Jesus. What a blessing to see all the children engaged in this activity. A special thank you to all the Advent Angels who helped make this activity so special: Chris, Claire, Jan, Judi, Kay & Paulina.

**GRATITUDE**

- To Sue Tierney & elves who hosted the mother/daughter gingerbread making.
- Gloria Roman for hosting the Advent wreath making last weekend.
- The Lady’s Guild for graciously making the bows for our Christmas wreaths.
- All who went to St. Patrick’s on Smith Street, Providence this weekend to bring “Christmas in the City” to this challenged parish.

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR!!**

**New Year’s Eve Mass & Toast**  
We will have Mass at 11:00PM at St. Thomas More Church followed by a Champagne and Strawberry Toast at Midnight this year – details to come!!

*DECEMBER 11, 2011*

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*Reflections in the Rain...*

I attended the Christmas tree lighting at St. Patrick Church parking lot this past Tuesday night. There were hundreds of people there and proudly I found some of our parishioners there, even some young children! It was a bitter sweet event. I felt proud to be with Catholics and followers of Jesus. The music in English and Spanish was Spirit filled and joyful. I also felt very heavy of heart. The very scene of us all in a downpour in a parking lot made me think of the Holy Family at the first Christmas who found no room at the Inn and the irony of our own situation.

I confess I felt most sad for our country and some of its leaders. I was alone and had time to reflect and pray. I thought about Governor Chafee and his decision to call the statehouse tree a “holiday” tree. I know that our great country was founded on freedom *of* religion but not *from* religion. There is no mention of separation of church and state in our Constitution. What I experienced in the parking lot was the absurdity of political correctness. The Jews and Muslims will be in their parking lots soon, too, I suspect unless we speak up. We are picking up speed on the slippery slope of intolerance under the guise of tolerance. To be sure Jesus Christ does not need a Blue Spruce to have his name on it to save us nor does He rely on this. Yet, the impossibility of His name being associated with the tree to honor his day of birth is radical and foreboding.

In 1990 I found myself as a seminarian in Prague, Czechoslovakia in a city that was celebrating Christmas publicly for the first time in decades. I will never forget the joy and the freedom felt by the Christians in the Czech Republic. I still recall our hostess Elena whose Christmas tree was hidden in a closed closet in her kitchen, opened for viewing only when the shades were drawn and all in the house were Christians. She was still afraid the government could fall and the old regime come back and she would be in trouble and lose her teaching job at the university. I stood in the rain in Providence on Tuesday night and remembered the freedom of the town square and church in Prague that night and the fear and sadness in the house all about a simple Christmas tree. I can't help but wonder where our state and country are going. I'm deeply concerned.

It was so appropriate it was raining. I pray for the Son to come out again soon.

*Fr. Tailon*

**END OF BULLETIN**  
**ANY TEXT OR GRAPHICS ENTERED ON THIS PAGE**  
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CHURCH NAME: **St. Thomas More**

CHURCH CITY: **Narragansett**

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PHONE NUMBER: **401-789-7682**

FAX NUMBER: **401-783-8646**

EDITOR/ CONTACT: **Donna Nielsen**

**CURRENT FORMAT: WPN Format -- 6th Column Part of Ad Grid**

**Comments:**

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Please note: this bulletin is for week 3, December 11<sup>th</sup>.