



Saturday, December 26 <sup>th</sup> , Sunday, December 27 <sup>th</sup> ,	5:00 PM 8:00 AM 10:00 AM	In Memory – John & Mary Koza In Memory – Herb & Mildred Bennett In Memory – John Koza
Monday, December 28 <sup>th</sup> , Wednesday, December 30 <sup>th</sup> , Thursday, December 31 <sup>st</sup> ,	9:00 AM 9:00 AM 9:00 AM 5:00 PM	Pro Populo 4 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary – Rita Phaneuf Birthday Remembrance – Vincenza Masiello Members of the Military
Friday, January 1 <sup>st</sup> , Saturday, January 2 <sup>nd</sup> ,	9:00 AM 9:00 AM 5:00 PM	In Memory – Thomas & Rita Monroe Birthday Remembrance – Michael S. Vigliotti, Jr. Special Intention – Ruth Taylor
Sunday, January 3 <sup>rd</sup> ,	8:00 AM 10:00 AM	10 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary – Barbara Cushman In Memory – Bob Becker

**St. Veronica Chapel**

Saturday, December 26 <sup>th</sup> , Sunday, December 27 <sup>th</sup> ,	4:00 PM 9:00 AM 11:00 AM	8 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary – Elizabeth A. Harlowe In Memory – Donna Martone-Benner & Robert C. Benner Special Intention – Members of the Silvia & Gelinias Families
Thursday, December 31 <sup>st</sup> , Friday, January 1 <sup>st</sup> , Saturday, January 2 <sup>nd</sup> , Sunday, January 3 <sup>rd</sup> ,	4:00 PM 11:00 AM 4:00 PM 9:00 AM 11:00 AM	Marriage & Family Life In Memory – Patrick & Teresa Dwyre In Memory – Lydia Coli Anniversary – John J. Orr, II In Memory – Vincenza Masiello



*Jesus said to them, "Why were you looking for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" But they did not understand what he said to them. - Lk 2:49-50*

**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.

**PRAY THE ROSARY**

The rosary is prayed each weekday after the 9:00AM Mass at St. Thomas More and for the special intention of Peace in the World on Saturday mornings at 8:30AM before Mass. Please join us whenever you can.

WHAT EVERY CATHOLIC SHOULD KNOW ABOUT THE BIBLE  
GUEST PRESENTER:  
DR. FRITZ WENISCH, PH.D.  
St. Thomas More Parishioner  
URI Professor

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 27  
6:30 – 7:30PM

St. Thomas More Church Hall  
Join Us For An Informative Evening  
in this  
**YEAR OF EVANGELIZATION!**



**COFFEE AN'**

The Social Ministry Committee cordially invites you to a Coffee An' next Sunday, January 3<sup>rd</sup>, following the 10:00AM Mass at St. Thomas More & 9:00AM Mass at St. Veronica. Please come and join us!!

**Religious Education Schedule  
January 2010**

**SUN. AM:** JAN, 3<sup>RD</sup>, 10<sup>TH</sup>, 24<sup>TH</sup> & 31<sup>ST</sup>  
**GR. 1-4** 10:10-11:00AM @ ST. V.

**MON. PM:** JAN. 4<sup>TH</sup>, 11<sup>TH</sup> & 25<sup>TH</sup>  
**GR. 1-4** 4:10-5:00PM @ ST. V.

**GR. 5 & 6:** WED., JAN. 6<sup>TH</sup>, 13<sup>TH</sup> & 27<sup>TH</sup>  
4:10-5:00PM @ ST. V.

**GR. 7 & 8:** WED., JAN. 6<sup>TH</sup>, 13<sup>TH</sup> & 27<sup>TH</sup>  
7:00-8:00PM @ ST. V.

**CONF. I:** MON., JAN. 4<sup>TH</sup>, 18<sup>TH</sup> & 25<sup>TH</sup>  
7-8:15PM – STM

**CONF. II:** MON., JAN. 4<sup>TH</sup>, 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!



**Bishop Tobin to Offer Retreat**

Bishop Tobin will direct a weekend retreat for men 18-35 who are discerning a call to the priesthood on January 16-17, 2009 from 7:00PM on Friday to 7:00PM on Saturday at the Seminary of our Lady of Providence. Do you know someone who might be interested? Even if they are away at college, consider sending in their name. Anyone interested should call Fr. Michael Najim, Assistant Vocation Director at 831-8011 or contact Fr. Taillon.

**FOOD COLLECTION**

Next weekend is our monthly Food Collection. School vacation needs: peanut butter & jelly, macaroni & cheese – always needed: juice boxes, cans of juice, cereal, cookies, crackers, hot chocolate, jelly and packages of cheese slices, coffee, pasta, pasta sauce, spaghetti, baked beans, soups, canned fruit, canned meats and gift certificates. Your continued support is appreciated.

**The Feast of Mary, Mother of God  
January 1, 2009 – Holy Day  
Mass Schedule**

Thur., Dec. 31<sup>st</sup> - Vigil Masses:  
4:00PM – St. Veronica  
5:00PM - St. Thomas More

Fri., Jan 1<sup>st</sup> – Holyday Masses:  
9:00AM – St. Thomas More  
11:00AM – St. Veronica Chapel



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

You can invite shut-ins, those far from home to join us for New Year's Day Masses and 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.

**BISHOP TOBIN'S "KEEP THE HEAT ON"  
FUND OPENS**

Bishop Thomas J. Tobin's "Keep the Heat On" fund is now accepting applications for heating assistance for the 2009/2010 season. Assistance is available for those who heat with oil, gas or electricity. To determine eligibility and apply for assistance, please contact the Wakefield Office at 783-3149 or visit [www.heatri.com](http://www.heatri.com).

**A VOCATION VIEW**

Jesus is with us to help us to do what may seem impossible. Have faith that you will not sink. Consider ministry in the Church. If you think God is calling you to be a priest, visit our website at [www.catholicpriest.com](http://www.catholicpriest.com) or call Fr. Michael Najim at 831-8011.

## The Feast of the Holy Family

If you had to pick one adjective to describe your family what would it be? Presumably not many of us would categorize our family “holy”! Some have described their own family to me as loving, committed, and fun and others crazy, dysfunctional or worse! This feast of the Holy Family that draws us into the mystery of Christ and Christmas invites us to recall God’s plan for family life. It is without a doubt that God had ordained it important for Jesus to grow up with a mother and foster father. This should not be missed or undervalued in any way. Of course Mary would have made the best single mother ever in the history in the world, yet our Heavenly Father went to such great lengths to arrange for this family to be the model and ideal for our own.

Now don’t read into this the wrong way! Due to circumstances beyond their control many families today are headed by good and devoted single parents. Divorce, death or duties of service and chronic illnesses leave some with only one father or mother. Our orphans in the Dominican and others we know closer to home have lost both parents at an early age. The call here is to have the *ideal* of motherhood and fatherhood be valued in and of themselves. The complementarities of gender and the natural fatherhood and motherhood are gifts to Jesus in his childhood and are gifts to us. God had a plan for family life and the design of fertility that must be valued. We should be careful not to eschew marriage and family life.

All of us belong to a family and maybe several. This is a good time of year and a great feast to inventory our own level of giving in our family. Have we placed limits on our self-giving and ability to be open to understanding the others experience of our lack of complete love at times. Are we simply measuring how much we give and not seeing the times others have given so much to us?

We see in Mary and Joseph a great sense of sacrifice that is mutual and strengthening. The key to being able to be “holy” in our own family seems to be rooted in personal prayer. Mary, Joseph and Jesus were three regular pray-ers. I think at times we don’t see the connection that this has in our ability to give more in all our relationships. Our prayer lives can be sources of strength and courage for us in our own lives but may not be deep or persistent enough yet to help us be more self-giving in our families. That old saying, “*the family that prays together stays together*” may seem outdated but perhaps since fewer families do pray together we are seeing the more frequent collapse of families? Maybe in the New Year we pledge to gently coach our families to pray *together*. Grace before meals, attending Sunday Mass together more frequently, perhaps a decade of the rosary when we hear of extended family who are sick, making a church visit to light a candle or say a prayer or a trek to LaSalette Shrine. These and other prayers will not make all our problems and struggles go away to be sure but they may strengthen us and make sure God’s will supersedes our own in our family’s life. Of course when that happens God will call our family “holy”!

Blessed Feast of the Holy Family!

*Fr. Taillon*

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