

Message from Fr. Rick

Fourth Sunday of Lent

This weekend we hear the second of three dramatic, life-changing encounters with Jesus. This week, a man blind from birth who is given sight by Jesus. The man does not ask to be healed, Jesus heals him gratuitously.

Like the Samaritan woman at the well, the man born blind is no shrinking violet, no milk toast. Like her, his life had been a hard one. Most of his life he had been forced to beg from others. No doubt he was accustomed to rejection, to being avoided, ignored; perhaps, too, he had been exploited. In short, here was a man well acquainted with the harsh realities of life. An yet, for all that, he was, a man with the courage and the honesty to see and recognize and acknowledge reality.

“Whether he is a sinner or not, I do not know;
This I do know, I was blind and now I see!”

SHADOW STATIONS

On April 8th, the young people of our religious education program and Confirmation students will present their annual “Shadow Stations”. This is a dramatic retelling of the traditional Stations of the Cross geared especially to young people. This has been a traditional Lenten “favorite” at St. Thomas for a long time thanks to the dedication of Marcella Giammanco. I encourage all parishioners and our young people to attend this year’s presentation at 7:00 P.M. on Friday, April 8th.

POLISH DINNER NEXT SUNDAY EVENING: The K of C Polish Dinner will be held in the Parish Hall on Sun., April 10th from 5:30 until 7:00 P.M. The cost is \$10 for adults, \$5 for children 6 to 10, aged 5 and under are free; family maximum of \$25.00. Take-out meals will be available. No reservations are needed—just pay at the door.

WEEKEND AND WEEKDAY MASSES

April 2 SAT	4:10 PM - Rosary before Mass 4:30 PM - For the repose of the soul of Helen Pollak by Bob & Martha Pollak
April 3 SUN	8:30 AM - For the parishioners of St. Thomas & St. Mary's
MON	8:00 AM - For the repose of the soul of Joseph O'Leary
TUE	6:30 PM - For the repose of the soul of Lawrence Bouchard by the family
WED	6:30 PM - Mass at St. Mary's followed by Stations
THURS	8:00 AM - Mass at St. Mary's
FRI	8:00 AM - For the repose of the soul of Ted Bates, Sr. by Jim & Barbara Kelczewski
April 9 SAT	4:30 PM - For the repose of the soul of Bernard Pasquale by Vern & JoAnn Konczal
April 10 SUN	8:30 AM - For the repose of the soul of Jerry Detrick by Roger & Kathy Koniuto

MINISTRY SCHEDULE - April 9 & 10, 2011

Mass	Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion	Lector	Altar Servers
4:30 PM Sat.	Deacon Peter S May	T May	Please help!
8:30 AM Sun.	Deacon Peter N Scott M A Ledwith	S Fleming A Bernasconi	G Gosselin

ALL PRAYER CHAIN REQUESTS should be sent to Sandy Gosselin. Contact Sandy at 899-2060 or e-mail her at StThomasPrayers@aol.com.

2ND COLLECTION THIS WEEKEND: CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES: Due to the recent natural disasters in Japan, many concerned parishioners have inquired if there would be a second collection to aid the recovery efforts. As you know, monies collected by parishes for similar disasters are administered through *Catholic Relief Services (CRS)* and are used to support charitable relief efforts throughout the world.

The annual national collection for *Catholic Relief Services* is scheduled for this weekend. In lieu of a special collection, please be notified that the funds from this collection, while not used exclusively for this particular need, will benefit the Church's relief efforts

for our suffering brothers and sisters in Japan.

This will be the preferred way for Catholics from Vermont to support Catholic Relief Services. Cash or checks made payable to St. Thomas are gratefully appreciated.

Stewardship - March 26 & 27, 2010
(Weekly Offertory Goal = \$2,850.00)

54 Envelopes = \$1,460.00; Loose Currency = \$580.00
TOTAL = \$2,040.00

YTD Budget = \$111,150.00
YTD Actual = 111,190.22
YTD Overage = \$ 40.22

Please remember to make up your contributions if you are away on vacation. Thanks.

PARISH EVENTS

Sunday	4/3	9:50-11:05 AM	Rel. Ed. Classes Grs. 1, 3-6 - UCS (NO Kindergarten this week and please note Gr. 2 will meet in church)
		10:00-11:15 AM	Rel. Ed. Grs. 7 & 8 in Sacristy
		11:30 AM	Shadow Stations Rehearsal in church
		3:45-5:30 PM	Confirmation Class-Years 1 & 2 (Last Class and Party)
Tuesday	4/5	6:00 PM	Confessions NO Exposition this evening
Wednesday	4/6	6:00 PM 7:00 PM 7:00 PM	Confessions at St. Mary's Stations of the Cross at St. Mary's Women's Prayer/Discussion Group
Thursday	4/7	7:15 PM	Sacred Worship Committee Meeting in the Sacristy
Friday	4/8	7:00 PM	Shadow Stations - All are invited & encouraged to attend
Saturday	4/9	8:30 AM	Easter Vigil Choir Practice in the church—All are welcome!
		3:00-4:15 PM	Confessions - Please note additional time
Sunday	4/10	8:30 AM	Coffee Hour after Mass
		9:50-11:05 AM	Rel. Ed. Classes Grs. K, 1, 3-6-UCS Last Class and Party
			Rel. Ed. Gr. 2 - Last Class in church, then Party
		10:00-11:15 AM	Rel. Ed. Grs. 7 & 8 - Last Class and Party
		5:30 - 7:00 PM	Knights of Columbus POLISH DINNER in the Parish Hall

HOLY WEEK CHOIR REHEARSAL: Choir rehearsal for Holy Week will be held on Thursday, April 14th starting at 6:30 P.M. in the church. Practice schedule:

6:30 PM - Tenebrae,
7:00 PM - Holy Thursday Mass,
followed by practice for Good Friday.

Please come if you can sing at any or all of the Holy Week Mass or Services at St. Thomas.

EASTER VIGIL CHOIR INFORMATION: The remaining practice dates for the Vigil Choir are Apr. 9th and Apr. 16th. If you would like to participate, please call Pat Rogers at 399-6226. The choir meets in the church at 8:30 A.M. The Easter Vigil is Sat., April 23rd at 8:00 P.M.

EASTER SUNDAY MASS REHEARSAL: If you would like to sing at Easter Sunday Mass at 8:30 A.M., practice will be held on Monday, April 11th at 7:00 P.M. in church.

SERVERS & MINISTERS NEEDED FOR EASTER VIGIL: We are in need of EM's Lectors and Servers for the Easter Vigil which is on Sat., April 23rd at 8:00 P.M. at St. Thomas. Thank you to all who have signed up—please remember: *if you are scheduled to serve*, you will receive a call from the coordinator.

CEMETERY NEWS: Effective May 1, 2011 the price of graves at all St. Thomas cemeteries will increase from \$500 to \$625 for the first grave and from \$350 to \$500 for each adjoining grave. There will be no change to burials in the Cremation Garden and Holy Innocents (Infants) Sections. If you have any questions or wish to purchase a grave, call Dan Novembrino at 899-3410 or Nate Sullivan at 899-4732.

FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE: St. Thomas is establishing a Fundraising Committee to develop fundraising ideas, research the feasibility of various fundraising proposals, and to help plan events. If you have an interest in any of these activities, we'd love to have your input. We especially welcome and encourage involvement of our younger parishioners in high school and college (but there is no age requirement). We need your ideas. The committee plans to meet four times a year. Frank Babicz has agreed to chair this committee, and at present, Laura Wells and Andy Dufresne have joined. We need a minimum of five parishioners but are hoping for more. If interested or for more information, please contact Fr. Rick at 899-4632 or Frank Babicz, Parish Council Chair, at 899-4650.

LENTEN ADULT REL. ED. - "TRUSTING IN THE LORD'S MERCY: New Hope through the Sacrament of Confession" - In response to Bishop Matano's call for renewed focus on the Sacrament of Reconciliation, especially during this season of Lent, St Pius X parish in Essex Ctr. will be hosting a talk on that sacrament presented by Msgr. Reid C. Mayo, a Senior Priest of the Diocese of Burlington and the Pastor Emeritus of Christ The King Parish, Rutland. Come and learn more about this important part of our lives as adult Catholics. The talk will be held in the Fr. Murray Room (downstairs from the church) on Thurs., Apr. 7th, at 7:00 P.M. If you have questions please contact Deacon Gerry Scilla (vtscilla@comcast.net) or 878-0639 or 769-1882.

LENTEN EVENTS AT ST. MICHAEL'S COLLEGE: St. Michael's College is proud to present Lenten program, "Open My Eyes, Lord; Help Me To See Your Love" featuring Jackie François on April 7th at 7:00 P.M. at the Chapel of Saint Michael the Archangel, Colchester. Jackie is a singer, songwriter, guitarist, speaker, and youth minister from Placentia, California. See the poster on the bulletin board at the main entrance of the church. Also on the bulletin board is a flyer with other Lenten events at St. Michael's College.



SANCTUARY CANDLE

Week of April 3rd:

*For the safety of
Jennifer Giammanco in Lebanon*
requested by Sean & Mary Ann Ledwith

TALK BY FR. FELTZ: The Green Mountain Chapter of the Air Force Association is pleased to announce that Father John G. Feltz will share his experiences in Iraq and Afghanistan at a luncheon on April 14th at noon in the Elks Club at 925 North Avenue in Burlington. Father Feltz is assigned as Chaplain to the 186th Brigade Support Battalion of the Vermont Army National Guard. He was recently promoted to Colonel through a Presidential appointment approved by the U.S. Senate on December 22, 2010. He holds a Doctorate degree in Psychology. Recently, Father Feltz was nominated for the distinguished Vermont State Knights of Columbus Anchor Award. Currently he is serving as Pastor at St. Anne's Church in Milton and St. Luke's Church in Fairfax. Everyone is welcome to attend. If you are able to come please respond to bsy3150@myfairpoint.net or call John Roach at 879-3713.

TAIZÉ PRAYER SERVICE: Please join us for a Taizé Prayer Service on *Thurs., April 14th*, at 7:00 P.M. in the Holy Family Church, Essex Junction. "Taizé" is an evening Prayer that is sung in the manner of the Taizé Community, an ecumenical monastic community in France. The community works ecumenically at furthering peace within the human family by engendering reconciliation and healing of divisions among Christians. The Brothers developed a style of prayer consisting of simple meditative chants as well as periods of silence. A candle-lit service lasting about an hour includes quiet chant from the Taizé Community, readings from Scripture, sung and spoken prayer, prayer around the cross, and periods of meditative silence.

"GOLGOTHA" - The University of Vermont Catholic Center invites you to a special event! On Good Friday, students from The Catholic Center will be performing "Golgotha" a meditation on Christ's Passion presented through prayerful reflections and theatrical scenes. Please join us at 8:30 P.M. on Good Friday, April 22nd at the UVM Catholic Center Chapel, to enrich your Good Friday observance and support our students. Admission is free of charge, donations will be accepted.

SPECIAL DATES: First Communion at St. Thomas is on Sat., May 7th at 10:00 A.M. Confirmation at St. Michael's College is on Thurs., May 19th at 7:00 P.M.

WE PRAY FOR

SICK: For all our sick: Jay Tisbert, Amy Tomasi, Viola Esterino, Maria & Tom Sweeney, Roland Boisjoli, Gasper Tavormina, Elizabeth Grant, Lorraine Bruns, Stan Koniuto, Jill Akerley, Anthony Minadeo, Nancy Guaman, Fran Morrisseau, Hilde Rivadeneira, Carmela Cardenas, Conlan Shaw, Mark Archambault, Shirley Dorcy, Darlene Klatke, Arvind Benkataraman, Don Beaulieu, Patricia Meagher, Frank Livingstone, Cindy Ryan, Kathy Blair, Roger Nadeau, Paul Keeler, Harriette Carson, Ann Kelly, Yvonne Cross, Lawrence Livingstone, Mary Stella, Arthur Frazer, Bret Johnson, Riley McLaughlin, Agnes Ghioni, Dina Remillard, Michael Chandler, Marlene Fitzgibbons, Pam Tierney, Emerson Royer, Cathryn Rotando, Yuriy Bihun, Silvio Desjardins, Madeline Lamb, Rachel McKnight, Mary Sevcik, John Lynch, Roy Keith, Lynn McLaughlin, Olivia Pierce, Martha Wagner, Abby Wintersteen, Henry Miller, Donald Potvin, Gary Strait, Scott Smith, Richard Masse, Anthony Giammanco, Kathryn Devlin, Erin Barch, Anna Tavormina, and Janis Peyser.

DECEASED: For all who have died, especially Connie Hanover, Havyn Leo, Fr. Rob Girardeau, Katherine Eisenbacher (mother of Michelle Cann), and all deceased members of St. Thomas and St. Mary's parishes.

Other Intentions: Julie, Brenda, M.D., Matt C., Jen G., Mike A., and Matt A.

Readings
For the Week



Mon., April 4
Is 65:17-21
Jn 4:43-54

Tues., April 5
Ez 47:1-9, 12
Jn 5:1-16

Wed., April 6
Is 49:8-15
Jn 5:17-30

Thurs., April 7
Ex 32:7-14
Jn 5:31-47

Friday, April 8
Wis 2:1a, 12-22
Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30

Sat., April 9
Jer 11:18-20
Jn 7:40-53

Sunday, April 10
5th Sunday of Lent
Ez 37:12-14
Ps 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8
Rom 8:8-11
Jn 11:1-45 or 11:37, 17, 20-27, 33b-45

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 6 Green Street, PO Box 3 Fax 899-5120
 Underhill Center, VT 05490
 E-mail: stthomas5@myfairpoint.net
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Religious Education Coordinator:
 Laura Wells
 899-4770
 E-mail: stthomasreled.juno.com

APRIL 2011

Please consult the weekly bulletin for revisions to this calendar.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
April 3 (2nd Collection: Catholic Relief Services includes support for Japan) 8:30 AM Mass 9:50-11:05 AM: Rel. Ed. Grs. 1, 3-6 at UCS; Grade 2 meets in church 10:00-11:15 AM-Rel. Ed. Grs. 7 & 8 <i>10:30 AM Mass at St. Mary's</i> 11:30 AM: Shadow Stations Practice in church 3:45-5:30 PM: Confirmation Class-Years 1 & 2 Last Class & Party	4 8:00 AM Mass	5	6	7 8:00 AM Mass at St. Mary's <i>St. Mary's:</i> 6:00 PM - Confessions 6:30 PM - Mass 7:00 PM - Stations 7:00 PM-Women's Prayer/Discussion Group	8 8:00 AM Mass 7:00 PM: Shadow Stations of the Cross	9 8:30 AM: Easter Vigil Choir Practice in church Extended time for Confessions: 3:00-4:15 PM 4:30 PM - Mass <i>6:30 PM - Mass at St. Mary's</i>
10 8:30 AM Mass 9:50-11:05 AM: Rel. Ed. Grs. K, 1, 3-6 at UCS Last Class & Party & Rel. Ed. Gr. 2 meets in church for last Class, then Party 10-11:15 AM-Rel. Ed. Grs. 7 & 8 in Sacristy-last Class & party <i>10:30 AM - Mass at St. Mary's</i> 5:30-7:00 PM: K of C POLISH DINNER	11 8:00 AM Mass 7:00 PM - Music Ministry Practice including Easter Sunday Mass	12	13	14 <i>St. Mary's:</i> 8:00 AM Mass (6:30 PM Food Shelf Set-Up Good Shepherd Lutheran Ch.) Holy Week Music Rehearsal: 6:30 PM - Tenebrae, 7:00 PM - Holy Thurs., followed by Good Friday Held in church - all are welcome	15 8:00 AM Mass 7:00 PM: Stations of the Cross	16 8:30 AM: Easter Vigil Choir Practice in church (9:30 AM-Food Shelf Distribution at Good Shepherd Lutheran) 3:45 PM - Confessions 4:30 PM - Mass <i>6:30 PM - Mass at St. Mary's</i>
17 PALM SUNDAY 8:30 AM Mass <i>10:30 AM - Mass at St. Mary's</i> 7:00-9:00 PM: <u>Confessions</u>	18 Monday of Holy Week 6:45 AM: Ecumenical Morning Prayer at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church 8:00 AM - Mass NO Finance Committee Meeting postponed until next Monday	19 Tuesday of Holy Week 6:45 AM: Ecumenical Morning Prayer at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church 11:00 AM - Chrism Mass St. Joseph's Co-Cathedral Burlington 6:00 PM - Confessions 6:30 PM - Mass <u>NO Exposition</u> 7:00-8:00 PM - <u>Confessions</u>	20 Wednesday of Holy Week—Spy Wednesday 6:45 AM: Ecumenical Morning Prayer at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church 8:00 AM-Mass of Spy Wednesday at St. Mary's NO Confessions, NO 6:30 PM Mass and NO Stations at St. Mary's NO Women's Prayer/Discussion Grp. 7:30 PM: Tenebrae at St. Thomas	21 Holy Thursday 6:45 AM: Ecumenical Morning Prayer at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church <i>(Fr. Rick will lead prayer today)</i> <u>NO 8:00 AM Mass at St. Mary's</u> NO Maintenance Meeting this month 7:30 PM—Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper at St. Thomas	22 Good Friday 6:45 AM: Ecumenical Morning Prayer at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church <u>NO 8:00 AM Mass</u> 12:00 Noon-3:00 PM: Ecumenical Good Friday Walk-starts at United Pentecostal Church, Jericho (Holy Land Collection) 4:30 PM: Good Friday Service at St. Thomas <i>7:30 PM: Good Friday Service at St. Mary's</i>	23 11:00 AM: Blessing of the Easter Food Please note: There is <u>NO 4:30 PM Mass at St. Thomas;</u> <u>NO 6:30 PM Mass at St. Mary's</u> (2nd Collection: Home Mission/Black & Native American) 8:00 PM: Easter Vigil at St. Thomas
24 EASTER SUNDAY (2nd Collection: Home Mission/Black & Native American) 8:30 AM Mass at St. Thomas <i>10:30 AM Mass at St. Mary's</i>	25 <u>NO</u> Mass 7:00 PM - Finance Committee Meeting	26	27 <i>St. Mary's:</i> 6:00 PM - Confessions 6:30 PM - Mass 7:00 PM - Exposition 7:00 PM-Women's Prayer/Discussion Group	28 <i>St. Mary's:</i> 8:00 AM Mass 7:00 PM: Parish Council Meeting	29 8:00 AM Mass	30
May 1 8:30 AM Mass <i>10:30 AM - Mass at St. Mary's</i>						