

Parish Office: 1594 Sara Rd SE
 (in Panorama Plaza)
 Rio Rancho NM
 (505) 892-1511 Fax 891-3044
 Church & Mailing Address:
 1502 Sara Rd SE, Rio Rancho
 NM 87124-1848
 Office Hours Mon-Fri 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
 Directory & Mass Schedules page 8
www.stanm.org

St. Thomas Aquinas Parish

Jesus said to him in reply, "BLESSED are you, Simon son of Jonah. For flesh and blood has not REVEALED this to you, but my heavenly Father." Matthew 16:17

August 24th, 2008 A.D.

Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time

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Stewards know they cannot do all things, but they **can do** what their **spiritual gifts** (talents) lead them to do. What gifts will **you offer** to your **parish**, your **neighborhood**, the **Archdiocese ministries**? The Church needs **all of us** to continue **Christ's mission!**



Pastor's Corner Stewardship Focus On the Inside



My dear family,

Many thanks to Deacon Ken Hill and all the people working with him on our parish picnic today. God bless you!

Tomorrow night (Monday, August 26) at 7 p.m. is the final night of our Life and Teachings of St. Paul class. We will do a study of Romans 8. All are welcome. God bless all of you who have attended the classes. A parish that in the middle of the summer can get 150 people to attend a Bible study is truly blessed!

Life in the new apartment is just fine, but it is very strange having to "drive to work" every day. "Welcome to the real world", you say!

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YOU KNOW! (AND HE KNOWS!)

While looking through the Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration testimonies I noticed one that was succinct, to the point, and very theological: "**You know!**"

Indeed, God knows what He has done for us and what we have done in His name. We can't hide from Him nor fool him. He sees our actions and He may lament some of our inactions.

The person who wrote that brief testimony after spending some time in the chapel felt and knew exactly what to say. The same observation applies to our stewardship lives. **God knows!** Your pastor usually doesn't, nor does the staff pay much attention to specific names. With nearly 6,000 families, we are too busy to notice. We do notice trends, however!

And God knows too the trend in our parish is stable, **disappointingly stable!** By that I mean there is just a tiny percentage of registered families whose members participate in parish ministries.

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PARISH ANNUAL PICNIC TODAY

24 AUGUST 3:00 p.m.
 Be sure to join us! page 3

LABOR DAY CLOSURE/CANCELATION

See page 2

PERPETUAL EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

Committed adorers needed: page 3

TEENAGER RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

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CHILDREN'S RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

A few slots still open: page 4

NEW PARISH WEB SITE

www.stanm.org: page 2

YOUR SERVANT IS LISTENING

Fulfill this with BeFrienders: page 7

FAMILIA OFFERS NEW STUDIES

for men, women & couples: page 3

PASTOR'S CORNER
(continued from page 1)

We received an interesting letter from Rome this week. The Holy Father has requested that the sacred name for God in the Old Testament (YHWH – commonly pronounced “Yahway”) no longer be used in the Liturgy, including hymns. Why?

As we know, for centuries before our Lord's Birth, the Jewish people, out of respect for God, had stopped pronouncing the Sacred Name out loud, instead substituting the word “Lord.” Indeed, our Lord Jesus Himself followed this pious custom of the Jews, and so did all Christians of the following centuries. In fact, Our Lord Jesus gave us a new name for God (without taking away the validity or sacredness of the Holy Name of the Old Testament!).

That new name is “Abba” – Father. Now Christians are not bound to Jewish customs, no matter how pious, and it is not sinful for a Christian to say the Sacred Name reverently. However, so that we might follow the example of the Lord Jesus Himself and the ancient custom of the Church, and also to not needlessly offend the orthodox Jews who still follow this pious custom, the Holy Father has made this request. Our parish, of course, shall follow this directive of the Holy See.

A blessed week! Msgr. Doug Raun

SAVE THE HYMNALS & KNEELERS!

Our dear Cleaning Lady Ana Sorensen came to me recently to ask if I would remind people not to put their **gum on the new hymnals, or the pews, or on the carpeting.** Yes, everyone of those happens every weekend! And what is with people who allow the kneelers to drop to the floor or back in their resting position? Please take care of our church and it's furnishing! You paid for them.

NEW PARISH WEB SITE

We have moved the parish web site to www.stanm.org. Carl Beyer is helping us develop the new site. You can find the parish directory along with the weekly bulletins, the Mass schedule, and links to e-mail the staff and clergy. Stay tuned for more!

We will post late breaking news there which arrives after the bulletin goes to the printer or can't wait for the bulletin. Check the site or get on the e-letter list by sending a message to Bill.Mader@stanm.org.

WE WELCOME OUR NEW PARISHIONERS

Christopher E & Angela M Anderson
Melanie A Bishop
Matthew E Borrego
Marcella A Cano
Gilyoung & Jennifer Ko
Ruben S Lopez
Dolores Palmquist
Miguel D Peralta
Brenda G Sanchez
John K & Marie Valencia
Meredith A Valerio
Paul A & Christine T Valles
Tony & Graycenia Valdez

FUNERALS

Please call our Parish Office as soon as possible in order to coordinate liturgical services.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Every Sunday after 12:30 Mass. Please call our Parish Office.

SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY

Please call our Parish Office four months prior to your wedding day to make arrangements and complete the paperwork.

3rd Banns: Cynthia Salinas & Noe Garcia

3rd Banns: Crystal Cordova & Anthony Silva

2nd Banns: Brianne Hutson & Jack Vigil

1st Banns: Veronica Lucero & Thomas Martinez

TO REGISTER WITH THE PARISH, stop by or call the office (1594 Sara Rd, 892-1511) or send an e-mail to:

Contact@stanm.org

The parish office will be closed for the Labor Day holiday Monday. There will be no 5:30 p.m. Confessions or 6:00 p.m. Mass.

Next Week's Readings

24-31 August

Sunday: Is 22:19-23/Rom 11:33-36/
Mt 16:13-20
Monday: 2 Thes 1:1-5, 11-12/Mt 23:13-22
Tuesday: 2 Thes 2:1-3a, 14-17/Mt 23:23-26
Wednesday: 2 Thes 3:6-10, 16-18/Mt 23:27-32
Thursday: 1 Cor 1:1-9/Mt 24:42-51
Friday: 1 Cor 1:17-25/Mk 6:17-29
Saturday: 1 Cor 1:26-31/Mt 25:14-30
Next Sunday: Jer 20:7-9/Rom 12:1-2/Mt 16:21-27

Upcoming Events

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS BREAKFAST!

The Knights Council 6696 & Assembly 1905 will present a **pancake breakfast** in Fr. D'Arco Hall **after the 7 & 9 A.M. Masses 31 August**. Please come join us at this delicious meal! This includes their delicious pancakes, fluffy scrambled eggs, crisp bacon or juicy sausages, coffee, juice, and other goodies!

The Rosary Makers will be there too with their large selection of religious articles—stop by!

PARISH ANNUAL PICNIC TODAY! 24 AUGUST 3:00 p.m.

Located at Hood & Ivory. Take Southern Blvd to Lisbon Ave SE (3rd light west of Unser). Take the 7th left at Hood Rd and go two blocks to the School, corner of Ivory Rd. (Balloons at each intersection)

ALTAR & ROSARY SOCIETY

OUR BLESSED MOTHER'S BIRTHDAY LUNCHEON (MEMBERS AND ONE GUEST)

Saturday, 6 September 12 Noon Fr. D'Arco Hall

Menu: Prime Rib or Chicken Piccata \$13.00/person

Tickets available until 3 September

Contact the following for tickets an/or information:

Gerri Hoover 892-0414 Helen Cywinski 867-5680

Marie DiBlasi 892-1958 Elaine Jones 922-9758

Stella Manzanera 892-0927

A DATE NIGHT WITH OTHER CHRISTIAN COUPLES!

You and your spouse are invited to join with other married couples for an evening of fellowship and study as we explore the teachings of John Paul II's Theology of the Body. Date Night—one Saturday night a month. Starting in September—8 lessons. To register call **Cathy or Phil Casaus** at **890-3222**; offered by **FAMILIA**.

"MEN AND WORK!"

A study series for men is being offered this fall—come and learn how to build a link between your Faith, Family and Work and examine how to apply Christian values to the challenges that men face in the work environment. Meetings—once a month—Saturday 7:30-9 am.—8 lessons. To register, call **Phil Casaus** at 890-3222; offered by **FAMILIA**.

"CREATED TO LEAD: CALLED TO ACT!"

A study series offered for women—come and uncover your vital role in bringing the Church's evangelizing mission of Christ into your home, place of work, social settings and the world. Study group meets Friday mornings, 10-11:30, twice a month, 15 lessons. Free babysitting available! To register call **Cathy Casaus** at 890-3222; offered by **FAMILIA**.

Liturgical News

Steven Woodbury 892-1511 x105

Steven.Woodbury@stanm.org

LITURGICAL EVENTS FOR AUGUST

24 Aug, 3:00 p.m. Mass preceding the Annual Picnic

PERPETUAL EUCHARISTIC ADORATION TESTIMONIES

Posted in our Blessings Received Book Thank-you:

For just being in my heart and listening!

For my wonderful girlfriend!

For helping me witness to my neighbor!

For helping my father find a job!

For my daughter returning to the Sacraments!

For my good prognosis after surgery!

For curing my sister's cancer!

PERPETUAL ADORATION CONTACTS

Pauline Salata (12 Midnight-6 a.m.) at 892-0524

Louie & Terry Santa Maria (6 a.m.-12 Noon) at 896-0307

e-mail: flagshipsm12659@msn.com

Gay Bitonel (12 Noon-6 p.m.) at 806-676- 0333

e-mail: gbitonel@comcast.net

Pat & Jolyn Murphy (6 p.m.-12 Midnight) at 892-4931

e-mail: jpmurphrc@msn.com

"The Eucharist is the point where God and the soul meet - God with all His graces, the soul with all its wants." Bishop Fulton J. Sheen

PERPETUAL EUCHARISTIC ADORATION HOURS OPEN

Committed adorers needed for the following:

Sundays 1, 2, & 11 a.m.

Thursdays 2 a.m. (Urgent!)

Fridays 1 a.m.

Thanks to all who have cut this list way down!

"Could you not watch with Me one hour?" Mt. 26-40

PILGRIM VIRGIN: To have the Pilgrim Virgin of Fatima in your home, and to receive Her Blessings in your life, call Gerri Hoover 892-0414

Virgin I: Joanne Montoya 16-31 August

Virgin II: Paul & Helen Cywinski 16-31 August

TABERNACLE FLOWERS Please contact Betty Larson at 891-3577 or Elaine Jones at 922-9758 to reserve a week for your intentions. The weeks run from Saturday through Friday. The cost for two vases at the Tabernacle is \$50.00.

You may share this cost with another person for both your intentions. 16-22 August for Judith Renna by her family. 23-29 August For St. Patricia and all Patricias by the Patricias

ADORATION CHAPEL CANDLES -please call the parish office at 892-1511. 31 August - 6 September for Thomas & Joseph Bonadonna by Agatina Bonadonna.

High School and Life Teen Justin Bucalo 896-8097
Justin.Bucalo@stanm.org



AFTER THE 6:00 p.m. MASSES

Next Life Teen on 14 September!

ATTENTION ALL 11TH AND 12TH GRADERS NEEDING CONFIRMATION

Confirmation classes begin **Tuesday, 8 September at 7 p.m.** Classes run every **Monday** evening from 7-8:30 p.m. Please register in the parish office or contact us. There will be a **CONFIRMATION PARENT/TEEN ORIENTATION** on **Monday, 2 September at 7 p.m.** in the church. Please attend if you plan to be confirmed this year!

HIGH SCHOOL CCD/RELIGIOUS ED YOUTH GROUP

is now LIFE TEEN!!! (Meets **Sundays** from 7:15-8:45 p.m.). Open to all high school teens, this ministry meets on Sunday nights immediately after the 6 p.m. Mass. LIFE TEEN is an opportunity to mature in your faith, develop a solid prayer life, meet all kinds of new people, and have lots of fun doing it!

We offer Catechesis, Retreats, Camping, Games, Bible Studies, Dances and more, PLUS...A FREE DINNER each night! We kick off the year on **Sunday, 14 September at 7:15 p.m.** in Fr. D'Arco Hall, please register at the parish office or contact us.

LIFE TEEN PARENT ORIENTATION NIGHT

All parents who register their teens for our Sunday evening Ministry will have a meeting on **Wednesday, 3 September at 7 p.m.** in the church. We will cover our expectations, curriculum, and any questions you may have. (NOTE: This is a DIFFERENT meeting from the Confirmation orientation.)

9TH-12TH GRADE HIGH SCHOOL SACRAMENT CLASSES

(Meets on **Mondays** from 7-8:30 p.m.) This class is open to teens (9-12th grade) who still need their first sacraments (Baptism, Confession, and First Communion). This course will cover the basics of Catholic theology, spirituality, and current issues that are important to teenage lives. The class begins on **Monday, 8 September at 7 p.m.** in the Religious Education Building. Please register in the parish office or contact us.

St. Thomas Aquinas School
Sr. Anne Louise Abascal 892-3221

1100 Hood Road www.stthomasaquinaschool.org

Where Faith & Knowledge Meet
Sr. Anne Louise Abascal, Principal 892-3221

Our school is an integral part of the ministry of St. Thomas Aquinas Parish, sharing its mission of giving greater honor and glory to God and seeking the salvation of souls, in total commitment and absolute obedience to our Lord Jesus Christ, and in full communion with His Holy Catholic Church and all her teachings.

Thus, we seek to educate our students with a traditional Catholic view which recognizes the sacred dignity of each individual and equips our students to grow personally in holiness and to influence the world in a truly Christian manner.

Children's Religious Education
Phone - 892-1497 CRE@stanm.org

Initial Meetings for all parents will be held on Wednesday, 27 August or Friday 29 August in Father D'Arco Hall from 7-8 p.m. You will receive information about EDGE (for 7th & 8th grade students), class room assignments, and other pertinent facts.

Classes for Children's Religious Education begin on Tuesday, 2 September, Wednesday, 3 September, Thursday, 4 September, and Sunday, 7 September. If you have not registered yet, please do so now at the Religious Education building; some classes are already filled.

Adult Ministries Jeannette Schlicher
892-1511 x104
AquinasAM@yahoo.com

ADULT CATECHESIS

A series of seven, two-week short-courses for adults will begin on Sunday, September 7, 2008, 10:30 a.m.-12:15 p.m., in the St. Lucy Filippini meeting room, located in Panorama Plaza (1594 Sara Road, SE), Suite J. Various topics will include Scripture and Tradition, sacraments, our Lord's Mission, other, Christian discipleship, as well as others. Study materials will be provided, for which a small donation is appreciated.

BYOB! Please contact Fred, 980-9950, for more

NEW BIBLE STUDY GROUP FORMING

A new, home-based, parish-sponsored Great Adventure Bible Study is forming. It will meet one weekday afternoon or evening--whichever is more convenient to prospective group members--every other week. Please contact Bobbie, 892-8680, for more information.

ST. THOMAS AQUINAS COUNSELING CENTER offers individual, couple, and family counseling with afternoon and evening appointments. A fee is charged for each hour session. For more info call the Counseling Center, 417-2467 or Deacon Burns, 892-1511, ext. 113.



NATURAL FAMILY PLANNING COURSE

Have you ever thought about what unnatural birth control methods **REALLY** do to your body? To your marriage? The Couple to Couple League has the answers and more. Attend a course and learn a natural method of family planning that is safe, effective and morally acceptable. Great for achieving as well as postponing pregnancy. Course starts September 14, 2:00 p.m. at St. Thomas Aquinas School, 1100 Hood Road, Rio Rancho. For more information and registration call Elvira at 892-5783 or Rosanne at 892-2927.

“LIVING IN YOUR STRENGTHS”

13 SEPTEMBER 9 a.m. – NOON FR. D’ARCO HALL

Do you tend to jump right into the problem solving mode or step back and think about how to solve it? Do you tend to readily accept new people and information or take a more reserved approach? How to you handle change? Do you tend to be a rule enforcer or a rule bender?

John Thurman, a licensed professional counselor, returns to St. Thomas Aquinas Parish to present a seminar designed to help people identify personal strengths and develop practical strategies to live a strength-based life. Each participant will receive a personalized 28-page report that will give new and fresh insight into their core strengths. Use this knowledge to improve you’re your life outside the Church and within ministry!

Please call 892-1511 x103 or e-mail Deacon.Hill@stanm.org to RSVP to ensure we have sufficient seating and refreshments!

NURSERY SCHEDULE DETAILS

The nursery is open for **both** the **9:00** and **11:00 a.m.** Masses. Space is limited; come early enough to obtain a spot. The nursery is only for children ages one through three. **Teens who need service hours:** this is a great opportunity for you to accumulate hours and perform a truly rewarding service. If you can **volunteer** to help, please contact **Aud Walaszek** at: 792-8716 or e-mail her at walz11@msn.com.

Father we pray that the Church, against which the gates of death cannot prevail, will work with confidence to eradicate the injustices of abortion, infanticide, and euthanasia.

THE GOSPEL OF MERCY

“The Church cultivates an indomitable trust in human beings and in their capacity for recovery. She knows that with the help of grace human freedom is capable of the definitive and faithful gift of self which makes possible the marriage of a man and a woman as an indissoluble bond; she knows that even in the most difficult circumstances human freedom is capable of extraordinary acts of sacrifice and solidarity to welcome the life of a new human being. Thus, one can see that the “No” which the Church pronounces in her moral directives [against abortion and divorce] on which public opinion sometimes unilaterally focuses, is in fact a great “Yes” to the dignity of the human person, to human life, and to the person’s capacity to love.”
--From a message of Pope Benedict XVI, “The Gospel of Mercy,” April 5, 2008

Taken from Father Frank Pavone,
www.priestsforlife.org.



PDL RUMMAGE SALE

Project Defending Life will have a Rummage Sale Fundraiser on Friday and Saturday, 27-28 September, from 8:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m. at the PDL offices 625 San Mateo Blvd NE, Albuquerque. If you would like to donate items for the sale, you may drop them off at the PDL offices Monday thru Friday 9 a.m.—2 p.m. For pick-up, or if you would like to help with the sale, call Yolanda at 220-8891.

Meets the 2nd and 4th Fridays of the month. We will meet each month at my house. We appreciate RSVPs so we know how much food to prepare.

Our next meeting is 12 September at 7 p.m. We will continue our topic on Apologetics with a talk and then discussion. It usually goes for an hour, but may go longer due to the discussions. For more information
5 they can call 890-6574.



Mass Intentions

Sunday

August 24th, Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time

- 7:00 a.m. ✠ B.G. "Bud" Jenkins by his family
Bogdan Zaryczny by children Kasia & Gilbert Ortiz
✠ Thomas & Elizabeth McCourt by Kathy Fowler
- 9:00 a.m. For the People of the Parish
Earl & Elaine Yont 60th Wedding Anniversary
by Mayrece St Cyr
Siobhan McArdle by John & Mary McGrory
- 11:00 a.m. ✠ Helen Malinowski by friends & family
Tom Eagan birthday by Larry & Carol Larson
✠ Lilly Pompa by the Fritz family
- 12:30 p.m. St. Lucy Filippini by L. Torres
Fr. Michael DePalma happy birthday by Maura Jans
- 3:00 pm. Picnic Mass for all students
- 6:00 p.m. Sr. Rosanne Fernandez by Ken Cantwell
Melinda Lindhart by Ken Cantwell
Nancy Kast by Ken Cantwell
- 8:00 a.m. @ SJV Fr. Michael DePalma happy birthday
by the teachers
- 11:00 a.m. ✠ Richard Fusco by Loraine & Nick Augusta
@ SJV Fr. Michael DePalma happy birthday by the Seminarians

Monday

✠ August 25th, Twenty First Week of Ordinary Time

- 9:00 a.m. ✠ Jophine Del Vecchio by Mr. Louis Del Vacchio
St. Patricia & all the Patricia's by the Patricia's
by Patricia
Pope John Paul II by L. Torres
- 6:00 p.m. Fr. Michael De Palma birthday
by Anthony & Marie De Blasi
✠ Robert Wollmann by Ed & Claire Hanson
Daniella Herrera by Ken Cantwell
- 7:15 a.m. @ STAS For the homeless

Tuesday

August 26th, Weekday

- 9:00 a.m. St. Theresa of the Little Flower by L. Torres
✠ Christina Lucero by the Montoya family
✠ Mr. Casarez by Joaquín Pequeño
- 6:00 p.m. Souls in Purgatory by Nathalie Randall
✠ Florance Pacheco by Marilyn Policastro
Marc Dutch by the Ochoa family
- 7:15 a.m. @ STAS For the unborn

Wednesday

August 27th, Weekday

- 9:00 a.m. ✠ Florence Tiron by Jo Tiron
Minnie & Vences Jaramillo by L. Torres
✠ Christina Lucero by the Montoya family
- 6:00 p.m. To St. Anthony & Sacred Heart in thanksgiving
by Vangie Tripp
✠ Susan Stamp by Arthur & Sharon Bartleson
✠ Antonia Catanach & Cecilia Medina by Clara Catanach
- 8:15 a.m. @ STAS for our Filippini Sisters, teachers, and staff

Thursday

August 28th, Saint Augustine

- 9:00 a.m. Michael J. Ryan & family
Betty Larson birthday
by Patricia McEneely and Kathy Goad
Tom Eagan birthday
by Patricia McEneely and Kathy Goad

6:00 p.m. ✠ Florance Pacheco by MSC high energy aerobics class

7:15 a.m. @ STAS For our military personnel

Friday

August 29th Martyrdom of St. John the Baptist

- 9:00 a.m. ✠ Christina Lucero anniversary of her death
by the Montoya family
Helen Vigil by Henry
Souls in purgatory by Henry
- 6:00 p.m. To St. Jude in thanksgiving by Vangie Tripp
- 8:15 a.m. @ STAS For vocations, especially from our parish
- Saturday August 30th, Weekday
- 9:00 a.m. Erick & Jocelyn Baldonado 11th wedding anniversary
by the Aragón family
St. John Vianney by Edward Archibeque
✠ Alfred Kohl by Marian & Bob Kohl
- 5:00 p.m. ✠ Pilar Chávez by husband John Chávez
✠ Annie G. Marquez by the Rail family
✠ Susan Stamp by Mr. & Mrs. Henry C. Korb Jr. & family

Sunday

August 31st, Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

- 7:00 a.m. ✠ Bogdan Zaryczny by children Kasia & Gilbert Ortíz
✠ Una Mary Kammer by Kathy Fowler
Max Sanchez by Linda Harms
- 9:00 a.m. For the People of the Parish
✠ Larry Ortiz by Mom, Dad & family
Earl & Elaine Yont 60th wedding anniversary
by Frances Jeske
- 11:00 a.m. ✠ Helen Malinowski by friends & family
Earl & Elaine Yont 60th wedding anniversary
by Jerry Miller
Holy Souls in Purgatory
- 12:30 p.m. San Ignacio in thanksgiving by L. Torres
- 6:00 p.m.
- 8:00 a.m. @ SJV
- 11:00 a.m. ✠ Peggy Ward by Jack Ward & family
Ernest & Rita Hutter 50th wedding anniversary
by Anna Marie

**Bring a Friend to Mass.
Our Lord will thank you!**

ONGOING WEEKLY MEETINGS (Religious Education Building)

- Al-Anon: Thursdays, Noon, rm. 6
Bible Study: Jeannette, 892-1511 x104
Blue Army: Tuesdays, 10 a.m.;
Kathy-898-5591, Joann-899-9647
(Call Kathy or Joann with your prayer petitions.)
Rosary Makers: Fridays, 10 a.m., rm. 6 896-6127
(Father D'Arco Hall)
Charismatic Prayer Meeting: Thursdays, 7 p.m.
(Church)
Prayer for Vocations/Chaplet of Divine Mercy:
Wednesdays, after 9 a.m. Mass

YOU KNOW! (AND HE KNOWS!)

(Stewardship Focus continued from page 1)

As you read in *The People of God* this month, Archbishop Sheehan asked every parish to devote one weekend each year for time and talent, just as we do in November for Sacrificial Giving.

He wanted to emphasize the importance for each of us to take time to consider our devotion to Christ via stewardship, **all three pillars**. While our parish and the Archdiocese overall have made great progress in Sacrificial Giving, **we lack sufficient engagement of the faithful in ministry**. There are simply too few people engaged in their faith through their time and talent! Our facilities should be full every day and every weekend with groups meeting to serve Christ.

With nearly 9,000 adults registered at St. Thomas Aquinas Parish, there should **never** be an empty facility all week long. There should never be an empty room or building on our grounds. There should never be a moment when we turn someone down who wants to study their faith. There should never be a single child who doesn't attend religious education weekly because there is nobody to teach. But many of these opportunities to serve goes unmet in our parish!

There are few of our ministries which can't use another member. While most of them just get by in meeting the portion of the faithful and community they serve. Most could do much more, **if there were more members serving**. Most could serve more, **if they had greater resources**.

If you are among the few who **are engaged** as true disciples of Christ by serving in His name, we appreciate your devotion, your time, your talent, and your treasure! You are helping to carry a big load! You know you serve Him, and He knows too!

If you are among the large majority who come to Mass (most weekends), but spend no time in serving the Lord; ask yourself "Why? Why do I **leave my faith behind me after Mass**? Why **don't I share my time and talent** with the parish or community, time and talent on loan from God?"

God knows and you know why. Both you and He have the answer—**active engagement in your faith!** Knowing why is the beginning of changing your answer to God's call. You simply need to **answer** His call.

Begin with prayer for how you can share your gifts, those things you do well and enjoy. Next discern **how you can use those gifts** in His name. Then, ask God to show you how **to prioritize your time** to better serve Him. He can help you. He knows you **can serve**. **You know too!**

Bill Mader

"Lord, your servant is listening." How can you fulfill this biblical verse? Come and find out about the BeFriender Ministry. It is about listening while doing God's work as ministers of STA.



BeFrienders is a lay pastoral care program. That means specially trained lay persons enter into caring relationships with others at times of special need by visiting with them, being with them, and bringing emotional and spiritual support.

A new training class will run five Sundays: 28 September and 5-26 October, 1:30-4:30 p.m. If you are interested in volunteering for this ministry, please call Gloria at 891-0388 or write to BeFrienders@stanm.org.

ARMCHAIR AEROBICS

"Mild exercise" group (for men & women) meets Mondays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays in the Religious Education building from 10:00-11:15 a.m. Call Betty Larson at 891-3577 if you're interested.

HOMESCHOOL CO-OP

Frassati Academy, a unique concept in Catholic homeschooling, is continuing to take applications for grades 2-12. For details e-mail Janice Martinez @ Janice@frassatiacademy.org or call 352-0698. Classes begin Tuesday, September 2.

ST. THOMAS ROMAN CATHOLIC HOMESCHOOLERS (STRCH), ministering to the needs of home schooling families, meets every month for First Friday 9:00 a.m. Mass. Next meeting is 5 September, followed by fellowship in Fr. D'Arco Hall. Call Andrea Bass at 323-9222 for more information or you can join our group on-line:

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/STRCH-RRNM/>

STEWARDSHIP WEEKLY THOUGHT

"Love one another as I have loved you... I have chosen you to go forth and bear much fruit." (John 15:12, 16)

If you have comments pertinent to any *Stewardship Focus* column, feel free to send an e-mail message to Stewardship@stanm.org or send it to the parish office attention: Stewardship.

Parish Directory

Pastor (Ext. 107).....	Rev. Msgr. Douglas A. Raun
Vicar (Ext. 110).....	Rev. Fr. Scott Mansfield
Vicar (Ext. 116).....	Rev. Fr. Jeffrey Whorton
.....	Rev. Fr. Michael DePalma, in residence
Deacons.....	Rev. Mr. Roger Ayers, James Baca, Tom Burns, Kenneth Hill, David Little, Leroy Sanchez, Frank Smith
Business Manager (Ext. 101).....	Martin Sedillo
Accountant (Ext. 108).....	Ana Martínez
Acct Asst (Ext. 111).....	Jeannie Pinel
Acct Asst (Ext. 109).....	Liz Large
Adult Ministries (Ext. 104).....	Jeannette Case Schlicher
Ayuda Español (Ext. 360).....	Deacon James Baca
Bulletin Editor (Ext. 358).....	Bill Mader
Catholic Social Action (Ext. 112).....	Deacon Frank Smith
Communications & Development (Ext. 115).....	Bill Mader
Funeral Notices.....	Extension 353
Maintenance (Ext. 129).....	Gilbert Garcia & Manuel Fernandez
Marriage & Family Life (Ext. 103).....	Deacon Ken Hill, Director
Associate Director.....	Deacon Frank Smith
Music & Liturgy (Ext. 105).....	Steven Woodbury
Receptionist.....	Maria Harrington
Religious Education (892-1497).....	Sr. Alma Blume MPF
Administrative Asst (892-1497).....	Laura Smith
Sacristan.....	Anne McCluskey
Secretary to the Pastor (Ext. 107).....	Kathy Girón
Special Mass Schedule.....	Extension 350
Weather Closures/Cancellations.....	Extension 359
Web Site.....	www.stanm.org
Youth Ministries (896-8097).....	Justin Bucalo
Assistant (896-8097).....	Alisha Stravinski

Holy Sacrifice of the Mass

Saturday (fulfills Sunday obligation).....	5:00 p.m.
Sunday.....	7:00 a.m., 9:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m. 12:30 p.m. (Bilingual) & 6:00 p.m. (LifeTeen)
Monday - Saturday.....	9:00 a.m.
Monday - Friday.....	6:00 p.m.

Eucharistic Adoration

**24 hours each day in the Adoration Chapel
located on the west side of the Church**

Mission Church St. John Vianney

St. Thomas Aquinas School
1100 Hood Road SE

Mass Times

Sunday.....	8:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.
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Sacrament of Reconciliation

Monday - Friday.....	8:30 a.m. & 5:30 p.m.
Saturday.....	8:30 a.m., 3:00 - 4:30 p.m., 6:00 - 7:00 p.m.

Around the Archdiocese

EVANGELIZATION: the Cost of Discipleship

We are a comfortable society, enjoying for many years prosperity unheard of for much of the world. And yet we can easily grow bored with all our blessing—or worse, believe that we should not have to endure any pain or hardship because we have been so blessed. Today's Gospel reminds us that as his followers, we are to take up the cross of Christ, to deny ourselves in small ways to grow big in faith. The cross of our humanity is that we will have bad times as well as good. The promise is that we will be redeemed if we give our lives to him and follow.

"**YOU WHO?**" a City-Wide conference, presented by Deacon Byron Wicker, author, educator, and speaker. There is no charge. Presentation dates are Thursday evenings, 21 August through 25 September, in the Shrine of St. Bernadette Church, 7:00-8:30 p.m. Topics are: Who Are You?; Using Who You Are; What is religion?; Catholic Identity; Jesus: the Bread of Life; and John 17. Anyone of any religion is urged to attend. Bring your Bible, note pad, and a pen or pencil. Location: 11401 Indian School Road, NE (three blocks west from Juan Tabo on Indian School Rd.). For further information, please call Deacon Byron Wicker at the parish office at 298-7557, ext. 23.

PRE-CANA EN ESPAÑOL

A los Comprometidos: Los invitamos a participar en un programa que va dar la oportunidad de ser mas ricos in su relación. Es "Pre-Cana en Español" que se celebrará en el Centro Católico 4000 St. Joseph PL NW Albuquerque, NM 87120. Fecha: 18 de Octubre, 2008. Para mas información y registración, llamen a Celia Marquez 505 873-1339 o Family Life 505 831-8117

ARTS & CRAFTS VENDORS NEEDED

Our Lady of Sorrows Parish in Bernalillo will hold its Annual Fiesta on Saturday, 13 September, beginning with Mass at 10:00 a.m., running until 7:00 p.m. Call 867-5252 for more information. Rental fee is \$25.00 for a 12'x12' space. Bring your own shade, tables, and chairs. Space is limited. Prior payment required.

CHANNEL 13, SUNDAY MASS 7:00 a.m.

8 CH 47, LA VOZ CATÓLICA, DOMINGO 10:00 a.m.

St. Thomas Aquinas Ministries

Altar & Rosary Society: Saralee Wisner - 792-5516
Altar Servers: Cindy Keaveny - 892-5649
Apostolate Our Lady of Fatima: Gerri - 892-0414
BeFrienders: Gloria Hultine - 891-0388
Bereavement: Mary Davidson - 892-9886
Catholic Daughters of America: Mary Chambers - 896-0256
Charismatic Prayer Group: Nila Baker - 892-1511 x361
Counseling Center: 417-2467 or Dn. Tom Burns - 892-1511, ext. 113
Elizabeth Ministry: Rhonda Neel - 899-3817
Eucharistic Adoration: Ben & Gaylene Bitonel - (806) 676-0333
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion:
Doug & Karen Taylor - 896-7985
FAMILIA: Phil & Cathy Casaus 890-3222
Finance Council: Christian Reedy - 899-0873
Greeters: Eileen Walling 891-1775
Home & Hospital Ministry: Eileen Walling - 891-1775
Catholic Homeschoolers: Andrea Bass - 323-9222
Holy Cross Association: John & Penny Marselle - 400-7245
Knights of Columbus #6696: William M. McCarty II - 681-0570
Lectors: Maria Burns—771-2005
Life Teen Liturgical Coordinator: Jeannette Mata - 896-8483
Natural Family Planning: José & Elvira Guillén - 892-5783
Nursery: Aud Walaszek - 792-8716
Parish Social Committee: Debbie Hanko - 379-0561
Pastoral Council: Danny Trujillo - 891-8515
Pre-Cana: Michael & Michelle Beglau 771-0756
Public Affairs Committee: Felicie Truscio - 891-1304
Respect Life: Maura Jans - 892-3267
Rosary Makers: Jim Tauer - 896-6127 or Jane Ricci - 892-9260

St. Peter's Men's Apostolic Ministry: Jacob Tafoya - 892-2322
Welcoming Team: John & Mecki Kahrs - 890-6534
Young Adult Catholics: Deacon Dave Little - 890-6574

Crisis & Immediate Help

Albuquerque Rape Crisis Center: 266-7711
All Faith's Receiving Home: 271-0329
Catholic Charities: 247-9521
Child Abuse/Neglect: 841-6100 or 1-800-797-3260
Haven House: 896-4869 or 1-800-526-7157
Missing Children's Hotline: 1-800-587-4357
National Runaway Switchboard: 1-800-621-4000
S.A.F.E. House 247-4219
Suicide Crisis Hotline: 247-1121 or 266-7711

Support & Other Groups

AIDS Hotline: 1-800-342-2437
Ala Teen or Al Anon: 262-2177
Alcoholics Anonymous: 266-1900
Birthright Rio Rancho: 891-1430
Blue Star Mother: 792-4552
Boy Scouts: Bob Ortiz - 891-8941
Children, Youth & Families: 841-4482
Concerned for Disabled: 892-6467
Consumer Credit Counseling: 884-6601
Cub Scouts: Carol Donlin 6a@stasnm.org
Gamblers Anonymous: 260-9899
NAMI (Mental Illness): Betty Rivera 867-1087 or Lee Stevens 792-8871
NM Commission for the Blind: 841-8844
Overeaters Anonymous: 896-1359
St. Felix Pantry: 891-8075 - Food & Clothing Support
St. Thomas Aquinas Counseling Center: 417-2467 or 892-1511 ext. 113
Society of St. Vincent de Paul: 892-0526
United Way Information & Referral Help Line: 247-3671