

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

"...conduct yourselves in a way worthy of the gospel of Christ." Philippians 1:27

September 21st, 2008 A.D.

Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

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We live a
 dynamic orthodoxy
 that is a spirit-filled faith-
 fulness to
 Jesus Christ
 and His Gospel
 and to
 His Catholic Church
 and its teachings.



Pastor's Corner

My Dear Family,
 This Sunday I will still be out of the parish one more weekend. I attended an international theological symposium in Italy and visited the Archbishop during his sabbatical. The symposium topic was the interaction of Christianity and the Church with society. There were a number of first class theologians who presented fascinating ideas. I learned as much as I could to share with the parish! The parish was under the excellent care Fathers Mansfield and Whorton.

I am happy to announce this fall that we have a parishioner who is a new seminarian: Mr. Michael Niemczak, son of Antoni and Natalia Niemczak. He will attend the Pontifical College of Josephinum, in Columbus Ohio, my alma mater. We wish Michael the best and will keep all our seminarians in your prayers.

God bless you and I prayed for you as I said Mass at the tomb of St. Mark the Evangelist in Venice.

Monsignor Doug Raun

Stewardship Focus

LIVING FAITHFULLY WITH EXUBERANCE OR GOING THROUGH THE MOTIONS?

In the 26 August gospel of the day, Jesus addressed how the Pharisees tithed: "You pay tithes of mint and dill and cumin, and have neglected the weightier things of the law: judgment and mercy and fidelity." (Matthew 23:23) He goes on to call them blind and hypocrites because they are so wound up in the motions of the details of the law and ceremony that they had little time for living the lives God called them to live; for living lives of love and care for their neighbors (the Good Samaritan story), for being good stewards (Deuteronomy 14).

God called them to give of their first fruits, not bits of insignificant things that cost them little, things that had little value in their lives. The Pharisees were the hypocrites of their day because they put on a show of being pious, but there was little love in their hearts for anyone but themselves. Aren't we like the Pharisees when the extent of our faith is just
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On the Inside

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 & Religious Articles Sales Next Sunday
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 for you & service to God: see page 7

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Please drive safely; our precious children are in the parking lot again on Sundays and during the week!

Next Sunday, after the 7 and 9 a.m. Masses in Father D'Arco Hall, **KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS** Council 6696 and Assembly 1905 will serve a **delicious pancake breakfast**. Light pancakes, fluffy scrambled eggs, bacon or sausage, hot coffee and cold juice will be accompanied by other goodies. Come and enjoy!

The **ROSARY MAKERS** will hold a sale at the same breakfast next Sunday. Your purchase will support the thousands they send to those around the world who can't find them locally. Contact James Tauer, 896-6127, or tauerjm@aol.com for more information.

The **ALTAR & ROSARY SOCIETY** begins sponsoring their **RELIGIOUS ARTICLES SALES** on today, **Sunday, 28 September** and again on Sunday, 5 October after the 7, 9, and 11 a.m. Masses. Come & enjoy breakfast while you shop for the upcoming holy days & holidays!

BeFriender's training is an excellent opportunity for members of other ministries to learn how to become more effective listeners **for their own ministries**. This training is NOT only for BeFrienders and has been successfully accessed by members of the other ministries. We welcome all ministries to come and learn how to be silent and listen - "Lord, your servant is listening."

BeFriender 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: 5, 12, 19 October and 2, 9 November, 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.

MONSIGNOR RAUN'S TALKS ON DVDS

Monsignor Douglas A. Raun's ACTS series: *St. Paul: His Life, Times and Writings*, is now available on DVD. The album set of 5 DVDs (2+ hours each) is available for only \$25.00. All profits will go to producing additional albums for Prison Ministry, shut-ins, evangelization, etc. Call the Parish Office 892-1511 or Rick Torretto 994-2038 to place your order. Make checks payable to St. Thomas Aquinas.

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

WE WELCOME OUR NEW PARISHIONERS

Kimberly R Abeyta Thomas & Anne J Austin
 Jose L & Rossana L Bartra Bill & Ann Boos
 Victor P & Ronec A Bullock Cynthia E C de Baca
 Ene & Cynthia Cedillos
 Fernando Chavez & Claudia Aranda
 Roger B & Sarah P Farrell
 Raymund E & Michelle Jacquez
 Paul Leos Alayna R Miranda
 Karen Mislá Valerie Ortiz
 Victoria S Perez Michael & Melissa Rambow
 Victoria Reynolds Mary E Rhodes
 Sean D Ricker & Amanda E Montano
 Henry Lee & Diana Rivera Anthony & Soraya Salazar
 Gabriel A Salgado Vincent C & Melissa C Sanchez
 Roger Santacruz James H & Debra R Walker
 Steven C & Maria M Walters

FUNERALS

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

Maria Clark

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

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

Mason Thomas Bohr

Lauren Michele Jacquin

Alejandro David Lugo

Ava Marie Ortiz

Ethan Alexander Keoni Pineau

SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY

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

3rd Banns: Erica Nieto & James Herrarte

1st Banns: Natalie Moreno & Jonathan Rey

1st Banns:Carolyn Shipp & Michael Gresham

1st Banns: Sarah McIntyre & David Crawford

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

Next Week's Readings

21-28 September 2008

Sunday: Is 55:6-9/Phil 1:20c-24, 27a/Mt 20:1-16a
 Monday: Prv 3:27-34/Lk 8:16-18
 Tuesday: Prv 21:1-6, 10-13/Lk 8:19-21
 Wednesday: Prv 30:5-9/Lk 9:1-6
 Thursday: Eccl 1:2-11/Lk 9:7-9
 Friday: Eccl 3:1-11/Lk 9:18-22
 Saturday: Eccl 11:9—12:8/Lk 9:43b-45
 Next Sunday: Ez 18:25-28/Phil 2:1-11 or 2:1-5/Mt 21:28-32

Upcoming Events

ARTS AND CRAFTS SHOW

Applications are now being accepted for the St. Thomas Aquinas Parish Arts and Crafts show to be held in the D'Arco Hall Saturday and Sunday, 8 & 9 November at 1502 Sara Rd., Rio Rancho. Spaces are now available. To reserve your space call Elaine Yont at 896-2400 for more information. Thank You.

YOUNG AT HEART

Parish seniors are invited to join our social meetings every 2nd & 4th Thursday, Fr. D'Arco Hall (2nd Thursday) – Bingo 1:00 p.m. Questions? Call Earl 896-2400



ALPHA IS COMING!

What is Alpha? "Alpha for Catholics" is an 18-week course in basic Catholic/Christian teaching. Participants share a meal, listen to a talk usually presented by one of our own parish clergy, and then discuss the current topic. Some of the topics are, "Who is Jesus?" "Why and How Do I Read the Bible?" and "Who Needs the Catholic Church?"

Who can attend? All adults, whether Catholic or not, may participate in our Alpha Course. For people wishing to receive sacraments of initiation (Baptism, Confirmation, and First Communion) in the Catholic Church, Alpha serves as the first phase of their preparation to receive any or all of those sacraments in our parish. Active Catholics needing a "recharge," or Catholics returning to the Church after an extended absence, will also find a welcome in this Course. Non-Catholic spouses and fiancé(e)s wishing to learn more about their loved ones' faith may also take the Course. Couples are especially encouraged to attend together, and will find that their Alpha experience strengthens their relationships. Again, any adult may come!

Will there be childcare? Yes, we do plan to provide childcare. Infants under one year old remain with their parents, however.

What does the Course cost? Attendance in "Alpha for Catholics" is free of charge, and we will provide you all necessary materials. Participants' donations to offset the cost of food are gratefully accepted whenever personal finances allow, however!

When does the next Alpha Course begin? Our next Alpha session will begin in Fr. D'Arco Hall on Tuesday, 9/30/08, at 6:00 p.m., and will continue to meet on Tuesday nights. In addition, there will be two special events offered to participants: a Saturday retreat and a day of reflection on a later Saturday.

How do I register for the upcoming Alpha? Contact Jeannette at 892-1511, x104, or send a message to AquinasAM@yahoo.com, for more information.

Liturgical News

Steven Woodbury 892-1511 x105

Steven.Woodbury@stanm.org

14 October 7:00 p.m. Greeters' Evening of Reflection

THE MUSIC MINISTRY INVITES YOU TO PARTICIPATE IN THE FOLLOWING CHOIRS FOR THE 2008-2009 LITURGICAL SEASON:

Liturgical Choir (9 a.m. Solemn Sunday Masses) rehearses Wednesdays 7:30 p.m. in the church*

11 a.m. Choir (11 a.m. Mass 1st & 3rd Sundays) rehearses before Mass at 10:30 in the choir room

Spanish/Bilingual Choir (12:30 p.m. Sunday Mass) rehearses the 1st Tuesday of each month in the church

Children's Choir-(11 a.m. Mass 2nd & 4th Sundays) rehearses Wednesdays 4:00-5:00 p.m. in the church

Life Teen Choir (6 p.m. Sunday Masses) rehearses the 2nd and 4th Sundays of each month*

Requiem Choir (Funerals at the parish)—corporal works of mercy earned*

*call Director first: Steven Woodbury 892-1511 x105

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

PERPETUAL EUCHARISTIC ADORATION HOURS OPEN Committed adorers needed for the following:

Sundays 1, 2& 3 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: 16-30 September Jess & Josephine Ybarra
Virgin II: 16-30 September Tina Santori

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. **20-26 September In memory of Judith Renna by her family. ADORATION CHAPEL CANDLES--**please call the parish office at 892-1511. **Dolores Tedder 22 September through 22 October.**

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



AFTER THE 6:00 p.m. MASSES

Next Life Teen is on 21 September-Common Thread
28 September-Give it Away Now!
5 October-Permanent Marker
12 October-The Swing Thing

ATTENTION ALL 11TH AND 12TH GRADERS NEEDING CONFIRMATION

Confirmation classes began **Monday, 8 September at 7 p.m.** Classes run every **Monday** evening from 7-8:30 p.m. Register in the parish office or contact us.

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! Please register at the parish office or contact us.

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 began on **Monday, 8 September at 7 p.m.** in the Religious Education Building. Please register in the parish office or contact us.

PARENT LIFE NIGHTS

We invite you to share in your son's/daughter's experiences of Life Teen Nights. "How?" you wonder. We now hold **Parent Life Nights concurrent with Life Teen Nights**. We meet in the Religious Education Building following the 6 p.m. Mass in room 7.

Parent Life Nights are based on **the same subjects that the teens receive Sunday evenings**. You will grow, learn, and share life with other parents, your teens, and our families. For more information contact **Cindy Langlois** at **892-4702** or by email at: **clanglois53@msn.com**

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 SINCEREST APPRECIATION

The students and staff wish to express our gratitude to the following people and organizations.

This summer, Bryce Reagan, as part of his Eagle Scout project, and the members and leaders of the Corrales Boy Scout Troop #703 donated their time, talent and treasure to St. Thomas Aquinas School by constructing and installing 10 benches for the school playground. They also scraped and painted all 12 basketball poles and replaced the hoop nets.

The four-square courts received a facelift with a coat of fresh paint. The job was very well done and exceeded our expectations. In addition, we thank Steven Herrera, Ernie Catanach, Pete Smith, Dr. Greg Jorgensen, Mr. and Mrs. Terry Reagan, and Mr. & Mrs. Rex Slick for their contributions toward this project.

Each year, Mr. Jim Tauer and the Rosary Makers, contribute over 400 rosaries to the school. The children use the rosaries every school day. We are so grateful to each person who lovingly creates each of the rosaries.

Deacon James Baca recently gave the school a beautiful statue of Our Lady of Guadalupe. She graces the school library with her presence. Mr. and Mrs. John Muldrow purchased a lovely brass candleholder that stands next to our Lady. Our Lady of Guadalupe, pray for us and grant special blessings to each of our benefactors.

Great thanks to each of those mentioned above and to the many other volunteers who help make our school a superb success! Your dedication to Christ, through truly living lives of stewardship, sets a wonderful example for our students while accomplishing many good things in Christ's name.

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

Parent Meeting for First Confession is on Friday, 19 September, at 7 p.m. or Sunday, 21 September, at 2:30 p.m. Both are in Fr. D'Arco Hall. But remember, attend only one. Children should also attend.

Parent Meeting for First Communion is on Friday, 26 September, at 7 p.m. or Sunday 28 September, at 2:30 p.m. Both are in Fr. D'Arco Hall. But remember, attend only one. Children should also attend.

Marriage & Family Life Deacon Hill 8921511 x103
Deacon.Hill@stanm.org

Pre-Cana couples must attend **one** introductory session on Natural Family Planning. We suggest couples attend a session 4-6 months before their wedding date. To schedule a session and for more information, please contact Rosanne Sloan at 892-2927.



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.



7 STEPS TO FINANCIAL FREEDOM

Based on the book by Phil Lenahan, this course uses a faith-based, Catholic theological and sound financial approach to money and faith.

The course runs Thursdays from 7-9 p.m. in the St. Lucy Filippini room, 25 September through 30 October. Michelle and Michael Beglau will facilitate the course. Course materials include a textbook and workbook costing \$29.95 total.

To register, send an e-mail message to mfl@stanm.org or call 892-1511 x362. Pre-registration is essential to ensure you have the necessary materials in time for the course beginning. For more course details go to <http://catalog.osv.com> and type in 7 Steps into the search window for a link to the course description.

Young Adults Catholic Group Deacon Little
890-6574 Deacon.Dave@stanm.org

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

Our next meeting is 26 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, call 890-6574.

Culture of Life Corner

Maura Jans 892-3267 mcjans1@hotmail.com

Father, we pray that Catholics will heed the call of our bishops to vote pro-life.

LIFE AND CHOICE

“Choice’ is a positive concept, and an attractive concept. That’s why abortion apologists use it. But the way they use it is a lie and, increasingly, Americans are catching on. There is hope in this development.... Increasingly, Americans are recognizing what a moral evil is embodied in *Roe*. Increasingly, they are aware of the vast network of lies that have been spun and fortified to sustain the illusion that abortion is somehow a good, or at least a morally neutral procedure; that it is a standard part of health care and family planning; that it is a proper exercise of a woman’s freedom; that it is a solution to intractable social problems. It is, of course, none of these things. **What it is, is an unfettered right to take an innocent, human life from the mother’s womb.** All this, more and more Americans are coming to know.”

---Cardinal William H. Keeler, Former Archbishop of Baltimore January 23, 2005, Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception

METANOIA AND CHOICE

The emphasis on “thinking right” that today’s readings convey goes to the heart of repentance. “Metanoia” is a change of “mind”, of “thinking.” Either life has priority over choice, or choice can be used to destroy life. But both ways of thinking cannot co-exist, and when one thinks according to the Culture of death, a true “metanoia” is needed, in which one heeds what the Lord says in today’s first reading, and recognizes the need to begin thinking God’s way about the relationship between life and choice.

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

You are either pro-life or you are pro-death.

This fall, from 24 September-2 November, our community will be one of more than 170 cities in 45 states joining together for the largest and longest coordinated pro-life mobilization in history—the 40 Days for Life campaign.



40 Days for Life is a focused pro-life effort that consists of: 40 days of prayer and fasting; 40 days of peaceful vigil; 40 days of public witness. We need you to peacefully pray for an hour or more in front of Planned Parenthood. This has saved babies lives and you could save one or more too!

For details go to www.40daysforlife.com/albuquerque, call Project Defending Life at 5 266-4100 or e-mail sallysowerofseeds@gmail.com.



Mass Intentions

Sunday September 21st, Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time Catechetical Sunday

- 7:00 a.m. † Ellen Eckel by Mr. & Mrs. Eckel
 † Alex Molnar by Deborah Kozerski
 † Benny Lau, Sr.
- 9:00 a.m. For the People of the Parish
 † Susan Stamp by Mr. & Mrs. Henry C. Korb Jr. & family
 Holy Souls in Purgatory
- 11:00 a.m. † Helen Malinowski by friends & family
 † John Ginian by Mr. & Mrs. Muscari
 † Able Lerma & Helen Trujillo by Lydia
- 12:30 p.m. St. Alphonsus de Liguori & St. Jude by L. Torres
 Mercy Aragon 1st birthday by Mom, Dad, & Sisters
 † Myron & Eleanor Sanchez by Ron Sanchez
- 6:00 p.m. † Ken Ozmun by friend
 Holy Souls in purgatory
 To St. Jude, for prayers answered
- 8:00 a.m. For all of our parish clergy
- 11:00 a.m. † Richard Fusco by Virginia & Arthur Fusco
 In thanksgiving for all who prayed for my health
 by Gerri Hoover
 Holy Souls in purgatory

Monday September 22nd, Weekday

- 9:00 a.m. † Matthew Aronica by Jae & Angela Kauh
 Loraine Leo Ortiz by Florence Millea
 For the benefactors of the Rosary makers by Carrie
- 6:00 p.m. † Nancy Starman by Ed & Claire Hanson
 † Mark & Rita Montaña by Rita Montaña
 † Doris L'Esperance by Rick & Penny Torretto
- 7:15 a.m. @ STAS For the homeless

Tuesday September 23rd, Saint Pio of Pietrelcina, priest

- 9:00 a.m. St Francis of Assisi & St Pio Petrelcina by L. Torres
 † Jimmie Sanford by Flossie Mitchell
 For the Altar Society members by Carrie
- 6:00 p.m. † Jason Sanchez from the STAP
 † Jason Sanchez by Ray Raupp
 Gilbert Spesock happy birthday
 by John & Sigrid Spesock
- 7:15 a.m. @ STAS For the unborn

Wednesday September 24th, Weekday

- 9:00 a.m. † Dorothy K. Bell 15th anniversary by Kay Starr
 The Luchini family by Carrie
 † William Griesbeck by Marion & Robert

- 6:00 p.m. † Nancy Starman from Ed & Claire Hanson
 † Aurelio Gutierrez by Carmen Gutierrez
 For the adoption of Antoinette M. Rubolino Althaus
 by Bryan & Deborah

- 8:15 a.m. @ STAS for our Filippini Sisters, teachers, and staff

Thursday September 25th, Weekday

- 9:00 a.m. † Clete Michael Kresge by Ted & Audrey Stern
 Mike & Carrie family by Carrie & Mike
 † Pilar Chávez by John Chávez

- 6:00 p.m. Deacon John Rasinski by Project Defending Life
 Deacon Charlie Johnson & San Ignacio
 Parish Project Defending Life
 Fr. Stephen Imbarrato by Yolanda & Stephen

- 7:15 a.m. @ STAS for our military personnel

Friday September 26th, Weekday

- 9:00 a.m. † Wayne E. Hanson in loving memory by wife & family
 In thanksgiving for all who prayed for my health
 by Gerri Hoover
 Vigil Family by Carrie Morero
- 6:00 p.m. † J. Frank & Gloria Trujillo by Rita Harvey
 Special intentions & healing for my family & extended
 family by Gros & Baca family
 Robert & Beth Vigil by Eric & Elizabeth Vigil

- 8:15 a.m. @ STAS for our Filippini Sisters

Saturday September 27th, Saint Vincent de Paul, priest

- 9:00 a.m. All members, spouses & Children of SSVdP
 by the Society
 † Frank, Pam & Angela Chávez by the Abeyta family
 Helen Powers 3rd anniversary by Penny Torretto
- 5:00 p.m. † John & family Dorata by Aldo & Maria Ventura
 † Rosemary Yirka by John & Bonnie Snowdon
 Tom Carney by my sister

Sunday September 28th, Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

- 7:00 a.m. Elizabeth McCruden by Mr. & Mrs. Eckel
 Dan & Lupita Flores by Marcus & Janice
 Trinny & Tonie Chavez by Marcus & Jance
- 9:00 a.m. For the People of the Parish
 † Bruce Pochron by Mr. & Mrs. Paul Cywinski
 † Karolina GŁód by Mr. & Mrs. Paul Cysinski
- 11:00 a.m. † Rose Dezio by family
 † Susan Stamp by Mr. & Mrs. Henry C. Korb Jr. & family
 Jim Truscio in thanksgiving
 by the STA Altar & Rosary Society
- 12:30 p.m. † Leo P. Ortiz by Patricia Ortiz
 † Steven Ward by Patricia Ortiz
 † Senaida U. López
- 6:00 p.m. † William Frank Brewer by Jan & Rachael
 † Jason Sanchez by Steve Woodbury
 † Keith Peyton by the family
- 8:00 a.m. That all our parishioners will live stewardship joyfully
- 11:00 a.m. † Aurora Jessee repose of her soul by the family
 † Annabelle Koury by Pat & Nora Shannon
 • John Young for his health by Pat & Nora Shannon

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

LIVING FAITHFULLY OR GOING THROUGH THE MOTIONS?

(Stewardship Focus continued from page 1)
the motions of being a Catholic while we put aside the good works of stewardship God calls us to live?

We're often not even very good with what seems like just the motions! We come into the church for Mass and **with little thought go through the motions of the Sign of the Cross**, almost as if we were ashamed of doing so in our haste to complete it with minimal moving of our hands. How different is that from the exuberance our athletes showed during the Olympic Games recently? They had their hearts in what they needed to do to win and it showed in their display of emotion after their winning efforts!

God calls us to move in the right direction, to be exuberant about our faith. He calls us to be as enthusiastic about **living our faith**, to be as determined to live lives of **caring and responsibility for our brothers and sisters**, as His Son was about giving up His life for us on the Cross. Christ moved faithfully throughout the Holy Land, setting the example for us to follow. Through our Baptism He calls us to follow His example!

I'm reminded of those I see at the gym each morning between 4:30 and 5:15 who are there, but with obvious reluctance. They go from one machine to another but dial in little resistance and don't even breathe very hard at the end of their "routine." It's easy to see what a difference exercising with exuberance means for our physical fitness. The same is true for our spiritual fitness! Life's outcomes are based on the effort and enthusiasm which we put into them!

Are you just going through the motions of being a Catholic? Is weekly Mass, much less daily Mass, too much to ask in your "spiritual routine?" **Is giving of your first fruits** too much to give in thanks for all God has given to you, for His Son's death on the Cross and His saving Resurrection? Instead, try being **exuberantly thankful and go further than giving back to God your leftovers!** Don't be like Pharisees in your faith, instead, **follow Christ's example** of being loving and caring in all you do, as true stewards, as grateful caretakers of God's numerous gifts. **Live your faith wholeheartedly and exuberantly, not just making the motions, and see how different you feel about yourself, your fellow man, and your Savior!** Yours in Christ,

Bill Mader, 892-1511 x115, Bill.Mader@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.

GET YOUR COPY OF THE ELECTION NOVENA

Pray for justice, peace, and life with the **Novena for Faithful Citizenship**. Download the Podcast and join Catholics throughout the United States in prayer, beginning Tuesday, 2 September, nine weeks before the election. www.faithfulcitizenship.org/resources/ podcasts for text and audio versions or send an e-mail message to newsletter4@stanm.org. Options include:
* Start the Novena on any day of the week, whenever people gather, and pray on that day every week.
* Begin praying the Novena on 26 October, nine days before the election, and continue each consecutive day.
* Create any combination that works for you and your community—and feel free to pray the Novena more than once: "Pray without ceasing." (1 Thes. 5:17).

THE SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL would like to take this opportunity to thank the parishioners of St. Thomas Aquinas Parish for their continued generosity and support for the many families that we assist every month. 28 September is the feast day of SSVdP and we will again conduct a membership drive. Please consider the possibility of joining us in our endeavor of caring for God's family. God bless you.

Adult Ministries Jeannette Schlicher

892-1511 x104

AquinasAM@yahoo.com

ADVENTURES IN ACTS!

Two new groups of the 20-session Great Adventure Bible Study, "Adventures in Acts," are forming:

Thursdays, 9/11/08-2/12/09, 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

Fridays, 10/10/08-3/27/09, 7:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m.

Both groups will meet in the St. Lucy Filippini meeting room, Panorama Plaza, 1594 Sara Road, SE, Suite J. Having already participated in The Great Adventure Bible Timeline study is helpful, but not required.

There is a \$25 charge for the Acts study kit, and couples should be able to share one. Great Adventure Bible studies require the use of both a Catholic version of the Bible and the Catechism of the Catholic Church, so bring both! Please contact Jeannette, 892-1511, x104, or AquinasAM@yahoo.com, to pre-register and order

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 Martinez
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. (Life Teen)
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**

Misión Church St. John Vianney

St. Thomas Aquinas School
1100 Hood Road SE

Mass Times

Sunday..... 8:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

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: JOHN 3:16 John 3:16 has become a popular verse for Christians in today's society. That particular chapter and verse is written on bumper stickers, highway billboards, t-shirts, even scrawled on city walls. It is a message that tells the world how much God the Father loves us. How much? Enough to give his Son to die for us. But God's action invites our response: God loves and gives, we believe and live.

The Catholic Foundation will award \$350,000 in grants to parishes, Catholic Schools, or ministries within the Archdiocese on Friday, 10 October, at the Sandia Resort & Convention Center. Archbishop Michael Sheehan will present the awards on behalf of the Foundation at a luncheon that begins at 11:30 a.m. Seven Catholic school teachers will receive the 2008 Catholic Award for Teachers. Call 872-20901 for tickets (\$24 each) prior to 1 October. Good works deserve recognition!

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.

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

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
BeFriender: 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
Girl Scouts: Joyce Sypher - 896-1205
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 Hanco - 379-0561
Pastoral Council: Coleen Maddy - 404-1392
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