

WELCOME TO THE FAITH COMMUNITY OF
ST. THOMAS MORE



We hope that you feel welcome and will participate in the many activities here, whether you are a regular parishioner, a seasonal resident, or just visiting.

**ROMAN CATHOLIC
STUDENT CENTER & UNIVERSITY PARISH**

100 East Stinson Street, Norman OK 73072

(South of OU Stadium on the corner of Jenkins Avenue & Stinson Street)

LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

VIGIL MASS	SATURDAY, 5:00 P.M.
SUNDAY MASSES	8:30 A.M., 11:00 A.M. & 5:00 P.M.
COMMUNION SERVICE	MONDAY, 7:30 A.M.
DAILY MASSES	TUESDAY & THURSDAY, 5:15 P.M. WEDNESDAY & FRIDAY, 7:30 A.M.
LATE NIGHT LITURGY	WEDNESDAY, 9:00 P.M. (DURING OU FALL & SPRING SEMESTERS)
ROSARY	FOLLOWING DAILY MASS

OFFICE INFORMATION

OFFICE HOURS (Monday-Friday)	8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
LUNCH TIME	12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.
OFFICE CLOSED	HOLY DAYS
PHONE	(405) 321-0990
FAX	(405) 321-0964
WEB SITE	http://www.stm-ou.org
PRAYER LINE	(405) 447-7055
ST. VINCENT DE PAUL CHARITIES	(405) 329-5372
BULLETIN DEADLINE	TUESDAY, 12:00 Noon

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES. Classes are available for pre-school through high school youth. Please contact parish office to register your child.

MASS REQUESTS. To schedule a Mass intention, contact the Parish Secretary.

NEWCOMERS. Welcome to St. Thomas More! Please complete a registration form located on the table opposite the Parish office in the Atrium.

MOVING. Please contact the Parish office with your new address.

PASTORAL STAFF

Pastor: Reverend Ray K. Ackerman
oklarka@yahoo.com Ext. 204

Deacon & R.C.I.A. Director: Dr. John D. Pigott
jpigott@ou.edu Ext. 250

Deacon: Tom Schott
tom.schott@gmail.com Ext. 300

Religious Education & Youth Ministry Coordinator: Cindy O'Brien
cindy@stm-ou.org Ext. 202

Campus Minister: K. Erin Cleto
ecleto@stm-ou.org Ext. 205

Development Director: Debbie Kohls
dkohls@stm-ou.org Ext. 206

Music Director: Jon Roberts
jroberts@stm-ou.org Ext. 203

Secretary & Bulletin Editor: Gloria Olivero
glory@stm-ou.org Ext. 200

Website Editor: Richard Love
pchelp@normanmusicscene.com

THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD

MAY 4, 2008

It is after the Ascension, the remaining apostles "have kept the Father's word"; "they have believed that the Father sent Jesus." They witness to the Father's glory by enacting their own sort of "triumphal" entry into Jerusalem redolent of Christ's on Palm Sunday. It was triumphant "when they entered the city" because the Eleven were deeply united in faith and charity, resolved to do the will of the Father. It is not a coincidence the way that their actions mimic those of the Savior: they go to the upper room and there devote themselves to prayer with one accord. As a result of this conviction, persecution is soon to follow, but they will rejoice to the extent that they share in the sufferings of Christ.

© Magnificat / Monthly Vol. 10 No. 2 / May 2008

SCRIPTURE VERSE. Then Jesus approached and said to them, "All power in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, until the end of the age." - **MT 28:18-20**

MISSION STATEMENT

The Mission of St. Thomas More University Parish is to serve the spiritual, educational, and social needs of the Parish and to evangelize the larger community as expressed by our Catholic tradition.

VISION STATEMENT

The desire of our hearts is to be a vibrant sacramental Catholic community that prays, learns, cares, and shares in ways that compel us to witness to the power of the presence of God and to build God's kingdom.

SACRAMENTAL MINISTRIES

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (CONFESSION). Saturdays, 3:00-4:30 p.m., or by personal appointment.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM. Parents requesting infant baptism must be *active* registered members of the parish for at least six months and must contact the parish office to schedule an appointment.

DEFINITION OF ACTIVE PARISHIONER. Must be registered, contribute 5% of Annual Gross Income using envelopes, volunteer time and talent, and attend Mass every weekend. Mass attendance verified by presence of envelope - even if empty - in collection.

SACRAMENT OF THE SICK. Parishioners facing surgery or struggling with serious illness may request this sacrament by calling the Parish office. Contact our Parish Nurse, Kathy Heiple, at (405) 321-7863, to arrange for visits and/or reception of Holy Communion.

SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY. Couples must be *active* members registered in the parish for at least six months, and need to contact Reverend Ray Ackerman six months prior to the proposed wedding date. All engaged couples are urged to contact the Office of Family Life at (405) 721-8944 to register for the required Marriage Preparation Course (*Pre-Cana or Engagement Encounter*).

The **RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (R.C.I.A.)** is the formation process for educating and initiating adults who either would like to become Catholic, or desire to learn more about what the Catholic Church teaches. For information, contact Deacon John D. Pigott at jpigott@ou.edu.

VOCATIONS TO HOLY ORDERS AND CONSECRATED LIFE. Those who feel called to this life are invited to contact the Archdiocesan Office of Vocations at (405) 721-9351; or Reverend Ray K. Ackerman at the parish office.

MASS INTENTIONS & SCHEDULE

SUNDAY † MAY 4 † THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD - HOLYDAY

WORLD DAY PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS

1ST SUNDAY: FIRST COLLECTION

BUILDING FUND: SECOND COLLECTION

- 8:30 a.m. **MASS** † Intentions of THE PARISH FAMILY (Sanctuary)
Dismissal for Children's Liturgy [3-5 year olds]
- 9:45 a.m. *Last Religious Education Classes* [All Grades]
- 11:00 a.m. **MASS** † WILLARD SCHMIDT [The Schmidt Family] (Sanctuary)
BAPTISM: DIANDRA ABOH TSALA
- 1:00 p.m. Secular Franciscans (Lounge)
- 5:00 p.m. **MASS** (Sanctuary)

MONDAY † MAY 5 † EASTER WEEKDAY

- 7:30 a.m. **COMMUNION SERVICE** (Sanctuary)
- 6:30 p.m. Just Faith (Lounge)

TUESDAY † MAY 6 † EASTER WEEKDAY

- 5:15 p.m. **MASS** † LUISA WHITMAN [Barbara Crane] (Sanctuary)

WEDNESDAY † MAY 7 † EASTER WEEKDAY

- 7:30 a.m. **MASS** (Sanctuary)
- 9:00 p.m. **MASS** (Sanctuary)

THURSDAY † MAY 8 † EASTER WEEKDAY

- 1:30 p.m. Martha & Mary Quilters Group (Overflow)
- 5:15 p.m. **MASS** (Sanctuary)
- 6:00 p.m. St. Vincent de Paul (Library)
- 7:00 p.m. **CELLO RECITAL:** DAN TOBIN (Sanctuary)
- 7:30 p.m. Communion & Liberation (Lounge)

FRIDAY † MAY 9 † EASTER WEEKDAY

- 7:30 a.m. **MASS** (Sanctuary)
- 6:00 p.m. Prime Timers Social & Dinner (Atrium)

SATURDAY † MAY 10 † EASTER WEEKDAY

OU COMMENCEMENT

Bl. Damien de Veuster of Moloka'i, priest

- 3:00 p.m. **CONFESSIONS** (Reconciliation Room)
- 5:00 p.m. **VIGIL: PENTECOST** (Sanctuary)
PROFESSION OF FAITH: NEAL & JANICE JUDISCH

SUNDAY † MAY 11 † PENTECOST SUNDAY - HOLYDAY

A blessed Mother's Day to all of our beloved mothers!

2ND SUNDAY: FIRST COLLECTION

ALL SAINTS CATHOLIC SCHOOL FUND: 2ND COLLECTION

BIRTH CHOICE: ARCHDIOCESAN COLLECTION

- 8:30 a.m. **MASS** † EDWARD SANABRIA [The Sanabria Family] (Sanctuary)
- 11:00 a.m. **BACCALAUREATE MASS** † In Thanksgiving for SEAN PATRICK GENTRY [Al & Helen Patrick] (Sanctuary)
- 5:00 p.m. **MASS** † Intentions of THE PARISH FAMILY (Sanctuary)

Congratulations to Mrs. Carol Hoffman, our newly elected Parish Council member!



PARISH COUNCIL RETREAT, Saturday, May 17.
Watch for details in upcoming bulletin.

THANK YOU
Sacramental wine and parish website provider is courtesy of **Mr. Joe Lies**, parishioner and owner of Joe's Place. Danishes provided on Sunday are courtesy of **Mr. Johnny Jazzar**, parishioner and owner of La Baguette Bistro and French Bakery. Donuts are courtesy of **Mr. & Mrs. Mick and Sue Hinton**, parishioners.

HOSPITALITY SCHEDULE



- | | | |
|------------|--------------------|------------------|
| | MAY 11 | MAY 18 |
| 8:30 a.m. | The Patrick Family | The Jones Family |
| 11:00 a.m. | The Holter Family | The O'Dea Family |

MINISTRY SCHEDULE

MAY 10 & 11, 2008

ALTAR SERVERS

SATURDAY MASS

- 5:00 p.m. Michael M., Matthew M., Hannah G.

SUNDAY MASSES

- 8:30 a.m. Rebecca G., Will Banowsky, Brandon M.
- 11:00 a.m. Risa Walters, Kelly Byrne, Stephen O.
- 5:00 p.m. Hannah G., Arianna G., Michael Scanlon

LECTORS

SATURDAY MASS

- 5:00 p.m. Sharon Peelor

SUNDAY MASSES

- 8:30 a.m. Tom Koszoru, John Murray
- 11:00 a.m. Christopher K., Jean Quinnett
- 5:00 p.m. R.C. Davis-Undiano, Bobby Meiners

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION

SATURDAY MASS

- 5:00 p.m. Cheri Remington, Mary & Stephen Bonner

SUNDAY MASSES

- 8:30 a.m. Gerry Whitman, Barbara Foley, April Anderson, Carole Baldwin, Barbara Crane
- 11:00 a.m. Jodie & Doris Edge, Eric & Gail Anderson, Steve & Veronica Edge, Deanna Preble, Dan Lawrence, Pat King
- 5:00 p.m. Bill Huntington, Susan Schott, Arn Henderson, Susan Mecham, Jennifer Grover, Joseph Mecham, Sims Beeler, Charito Hersey, Rick Lane

USHERS

SATURDAY MASS

- 5:00 p.m. *Volunteers Needed*

SUNDAY MASSES

- 8:30 a.m. Russell Koch, Kelly McElhaney, Leroy Montano, Heidi Koszoru
- 11:00 a.m. José & Gloria Olivero, Steve & Susy Calonkey
- 5:00 p.m. Cody Moorse, Frank Anderson

PARISH FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP

COLLECTION: APRIL 26 & 27, 2008

Weekly Amount	\$ 8,747.50	YTD Amount	\$ 424,200.88
Weekly Budget	\$10,300.00	YTD Budget	\$ 443,600.00
DEFICIT	< \$ 1,552.50 >	DEFICIT	< \$ 19,399.12 >

Thank you for your continued support!

ST. THOMAS MORE IS SEEKING A PART-TIME BUSINESS MANAGER

to coordinate the functions and operations of the Parish office and its ministries. Hours are flexible with the possibility of full-time in the future. Send resume and letter of application to: Office Manager Position, St. Thomas More Parish, 100 East Stinson Street, Norman, OK 73072. Arrange to have two letters of recommendation sent to the same address. For information, please contact Gloria Olivero at 405.321.0990 or e-mail at glory@stm-ou.org.

LISTEN TO CATHOLIC RADIO

"Catholic Answers Live" Monday through Friday 3 - 5 p.m.
"Good News Sunday" Thurs. & Fri. at 5:00 p.m.

KTLR 890 AM - Oklahoma City
www.okcatholicbroadcasting.com



CAMPUS MINISTRY

K. Erin Cleto, Campus Minister • 405.321.0990 Ext. 205
ecleto@stm-ou.org

Wednesday, May 7

9:00 PM: MASS (Sanctuary)

PENTECOST SUNDAY, May 11 (*Happy Mother's Day!*)

11:00 AM: BACCALAUREATE MASS

Congratulations and blessings to our college graduates! Graduates *please wear your cap and gown* to the Baccalaureate Mass and receive a special blessing from Father Ackerman. Immediately following Mass, you and your family are cordially invited to a *light reception* in the parish Atrium.



A.L. COSGROVE STUDENT SERVICE AWARD

Each year St. Thomas More seeks to honor students with a record of noteworthy services to the Parish or to the University of Oklahoma. For the year 2008, the nineteenth year of the recognition, there will be one or more awards given, each including a cash gift.

Requirements to be considered are: (1) active membership in St. Thomas More; (2) a minimum of 30 semester hours completed at the University of Oklahoma, counting those which will be accomplished in the current semester; (3) a G.P.A. of 3.0 or better; and, (4) a record of service to the Parish, or University, or both. St. Thomas More Peer Ministers are not eligible. Applications may be found in the Parish campus ministry office. **Completed applications are due May 9, 2008**: St. Thomas More University Parish, **Attention: A.L. Cosgrove Student Service Award**, 100 East Stinson Street, Norman, OK 73072.

ATTENTION YOUNG ADULTS (AGES 21-39)!

You're invited to

THEOLOGY ON TAP

4TH Thursdays, 8:00 p.m., Belle Isle Brewery

May 22: BOB WALDROP, "The Care of Creation & The Catholic Response"

For information, please e-mail Rachel Swenson at rachel@minister.com or call at 405.384.3807.

Although **October 24th** seems eons away, it is already time to start planning the **2008 SOME ENCHANTED EVENING "DANCING WITH THE STARS" GALA**. *We need volunteers to help plan this fun and elegant evening that will raise funds for the Saint Thomas More Campus Ministry Programs.* Please call Debbie Kohls, Development Director, at 405.321.0990, Ext. 206.



SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

An inventor from San Francisco named Alex Chiu has created something that he says will offer us all eternal life. Called the "Eternal Life Rings" and the "Eternal Life Foot Braces," the devices are essentially rings with magnets, and when worn on the small fingers, will prevent the person wearing them from ever aging, according to Mr. Chiu. He even has a United States Patent, #5,989,178. Who knew the U. S. Patent Office could grant eternal life?

The scientific world has tried for years to develop ways to extend our lifespan here on earth through medications and surgery. But Jesus speaks to us today in the Gospel reading from John of eternal life, a life which can only truly be achieved by having God within us. He says, *"Now this is eternal life, that [we] should know you, the only true God, and the one whom you sent, Jesus Christ."*

The Catechism of the Catholic Church reminds us of the importance of the Lord's commandments. *When asked what good deed one must do to attain eternal life, Jesus responds that first and foremost, we must first recognize God as the supreme good and source of all that is good, and stresses that above all else, we must love our neighbors as ourselves (CCC 2052).* This, then, is the ultimate capability within each of us to live forever in the grace of God.

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Q *What is the Ascension? Why has its celebration shifted from Thursday to the following Sunday in most US dioceses?*

& The feast of the Ascension, forty days after Easter, has traditionally been celebrated on Ascension Thursday. Since many people find it difficult to get to Mass on a workday, the feast has been moved to the following Sunday in most US dioceses.

A The first reading from Acts and the third reading from Luke's Gospel have their source in Luke, the author of both the Gospel and the Acts of the Apostles. Both readings narrate an account of the Ascension. Luke's Gospel account ends by presenting Jesus' ascension as closure to his earthly ministry. Jesus will no longer be physically present to his followers. They are to wait for empowerment from God before continuing Jesus' mission.

Luke begins Acts by retelling Jesus' ascension. Here, the Ascension takes place forty days after Easter, a time during which the Risen Christ has continued to instruct his followers. In Acts, the Ascension is understood not as the end of Jesus' ministry, but rather as the beginning of the disciples' ministry. **Jesus must depart so his disciples can take full ownership of Jesus' ministry.**

That ownership will be sealed with the gift of the Spirit that God will send as soon as Jesus returns to the Father. **The Spirit manifests the new form of Jesus' presence with his followers. Empowered by that presence, they will be strengthened and guided to carry on Jesus' ministry.**

Reflect on how you experience Jesus' presence in your life.

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CATHOLIC CHARITIES NEWS

CELEBRATING NURSES. The first week of May has traditionally been marked as a time to honor the nurses in our community. On **Tuesday, May 13**, **Mercy Health Center** and Catholic Charities will sponsor an evening of appreciation for our many nurses. **Mass will be celebrated beginning at 5:30 pm in the chapel at the Catholic Pastoral Center, 7501 NW Expressway.** Reservations are required by calling Donna Bullock, Catholic Charities Parish Outreach, at 405.523.3009. Seating is limited. **DEADLINE** for registrations is **Wed., May 7.**

FAITH COMMUNITY NURSE BASIC PREPARATION COURSE SET. Registration is under way for "The Basic Preparation Course for Faith Community Nursing" to be held **May 15-17 and June 5-7, 2008** at **Our Lady of the Lake Retreat Center in Guthrie.** Both weekends are required to complete the course. The course is open to registered nurses of all faith traditions. Payment includes lodging, board, course materials, and 32 nursing CEU. \$525 includes lodging; \$485 is without lodging. Cancellation received before May 13 will be refunded minus \$50 deposit. No refund after May 13. Contact Marilyn Seiler for registration forms at 405.523.3006 or mseiler@catholiccharitiesok.org.

ADOPTION SEMINAR SET FOR MAY 17. Catholic Charities extends an invitation to anyone interested in learning more about adoption to register for a **free** seminar sponsored by Oklahoma Adoption Coalition and Hope Ministries. The seminar is set for **Saturday, May 17, from 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at Crosspointe Church** (2601 24th Avenue, SE) **in Norman.** Sessions on foster care, domestic adoption, international adoption, legal issues, and other topics will be offered. To register, go to www.oklahomaadoptioncoalition.org. Catholic Charities can also be contacted about adoption at 405.523.3012.

ATTENTION PRAYERFUL SINGLE WOMEN!

The Sisters of the **Immaculate Heart of Mary in Wichita, Kansas** are hosting an exciting **Live-in Vocational retreat** on **May 16-18, 2008.** Pray and work with the community and hear the informative vocational talks. These retreats are very popular so make your reservations soon. **There is no cost, but space is limited.** If you take a bus or plane to Wichita, the Sisters will pick you up. Call 1.800.221.1807 for more dates and information.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION & YOUTH MINISTRY

Cindy O'Brien, Coordinator • 405.321.0990 Ext. 202

cindy@stm-ou.org

FATHER ACKERMAN will meet with ALL CLASSES TODAY, May 4, for a talk on VOCATIONS. We will gather in the Sanctuary at regular class time and students can be picked up from there. Parents, you are welcome to come and listen as well! Please take time during the day to discuss what God is calling your child/ren to be.



DEAR FAMILIES and PARISHIONERS, Thank you for making this another successful year for Religious Education. Your support of our program is a great blessing to our young parishioners. While children are our future, they are also our present. May we all continue in our quest to come to God with the innocence of a child.

THANK YOU, CATECHISTS!!! Your dedication and love is a shining light to all of us! It is an honor, and blessing, to be part of such a faith-filled and caring group. These men and women spend many hours each week preparing lessons, doing research, and teaching. We wouldn't have a program without people like them who listen to God's call to share their faith with our young people. If you see a catechist today, please let them know they are appreciated!

The Archdiocese of OKC requires anyone in the Parish who has regular contact with youth (under the age of 18) to undergo the Safe Environment program before being allowed to help with our young people. SAFE ENVIRONMENT TRAINING SEMINARS are held at Saint Thomas More in the parish library on the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. The next one will be held Tuesday, May 20. (If you are unable to attend the Saint Thomas More Safe Environment Seminar, you may attend the seminar at St. Mark's in Norman on the 1st Sunday of each month at 10:15 a.m.) The seminar lasts approximately 45 minutes. To sign up for this workshop, please contact Kim Pickens at 405.620.3229; or, Cindy O'Brien at 405.321.0990 Ext. 202.

REGISTRATION FOR THE 2008-09 RE YEAR HAS BEGUN. Materials need to be ordered and supplies purchased, and pre-registration helps us better prepare! There will be a \$5.00 discount for families registering BEFORE May 30 (\$30 for 1 child, \$50 for 2 children, \$70 for 3 children, and \$85 for 4 or more children). You may turn in your forms and fee to your RE teachers today, or drop them by the parish office.

Q What are some recent developments in celebrating the Holy Spirit's presence in the Church?

A In January 1988, the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments issued Paschale Solemnitatis, a Circular Letter Concerning the Preparation and Celebration of the Easter Feasts. Among its many recommendations was the following concerning the VIGIL OF PENTECOST:

Encouragement should be given to the prolonged celebration of Mass in the form of a Vigil, whose character is not baptismal as in the Easter Vigil, but is one of urgent prayer, after the example of the apostles and disciples, who persevered together in prayer with Mary, the Mother of Jesus, as they awaited the Holy Spirit.

The Lectionary offers an extended vigil of Pentecost, suggesting the use of six readings similar to the structure of the Easter Vigil: four readings from the Old Testament (Genesis 11:1-9; Exodus 19:3-8, 16-20; Ezekiel 37:1-14; and Joel 3:1-5), one from Paul's letter to the Romans 8:22-27, and the Gospel from John 7:37-39. All six readings focus on the Spirit's active role and presence from the beginning of creation through the history of God's people, culminating in Jesus, whose return to the Father activates the pouring out of the Spirit on all humanity.

Even if your parish doesn't celebrate a Pentecost Vigil, consider using the six recommended Spirit passages for prayer in the week ahead, thanking God for gifting us with the Spirit's power and love.

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ALL SAINTS CATHOLIC SCHOOL



Thank you to everyone who supported the annual ASCS garage sale! It was extremely successful thanks to you!

The All Saints 4-H Clubs are again working in conjunction with the Sooner Lions Club to collect used eyeglasses for the needy. Collection boxes are in the school atrium. The past two drives have collected over 850 pairs to give the gift of sight to the needy.

We've topped \$710,000 for our capital campaign! Please keep our campaign in your prayers as our campaign team members approach foundations and corporations. Help us reach our goal of \$1.5 million by making your pledge today.

On-line giving is up and going! Make your capital campaign pledge by credit or debit card by logging on to our school website at www.allsaintsnorman.org and click on the "donate" tab in the upper right corner. Payments can be made over 1, 12 or 24 months. It's easy!

Pre-enrollment for the 2008-09 school year has begun! An admission packet can be downloaded from our school website at www.allsaintsnorman.org (click on administration). A record enrollment is expected and only a limited number of positions are available. Apply today!

SUBIACO ACADEMY, a Catholic boarding/day college preparatory school for boys grades 8-12, in western Arkansas (east of Ft. Smith), is offering the opportunity for prospective students and parents to visit and taste Subiaco life. For a Discover Day, June 8, contact the Academy at 1.800.364.7824 or admissions@subi.org. Learn how you can afford the best for your son. For more information visit our website at www.subi.org.

BIRTH CHOICE is a pro-life organization helping women with unexpected pregnancies since 1973. Has God been calling you to help the unborn? Birth Choice needs phone volunteers, field volunteers, people with clerical skills, clothing room workers, receptionists and Registered Nurses (Ultrasound Program & Prenatal Assessment Clinic). Please answer God's call and come to an INFORMATION SESSION on Tuesday, May 13, from 6-8 p.m. at 4701 S. Western in Oklahoma City. To register and/or obtain more information, please call Marilyn at 405.799.7195.

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER - YOUR GIFT TO EACH OTHER. "Whoever loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love him and reveal myself to him." Jesus asks us to love Him and one another. The next Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekends are June 6-8 and October 24-26. Early registration is recommended to ensure your spot for the weekend. For further information, visit our website at www.meoklahoma.org or call 405.760.0390.



NEWS, NOTES & ANNOUNCEMENTS

FOOD FOR FRIENDS. Tuesday, May 6, is St. Thomas More's turn to prepare and serve the needy in Norman. Cooking will start at 9:00 a.m. in the Food for Friends Kitchen (104 W. Comanche). We will serve from 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. *We truly need your help!* If you can bring a dessert or help with the preparing and serving, *please sign up* in the Atrium in the coming week. Thank you!

MARTHA & MARY QUILTERS will meet Thursday, May 8, 1:30 p.m. in the Overflow room. We will have Show and Share and will be selecting our next project. Anyone who sews can quilt. We will teach you all the quilting techniques. Our GROUP is open to anyone in St. Thomas More parish. GROUP members are free to choose their own projects or work with our.

ATTENTION: PRIMETIMERS AND PRIMETIMER WANNABES; We had a good meeting in April in our STM Atrium. Father Ackerman's presentation was fun and informative. Our next meeting will be especially important since we will discuss what we want to do for our next outing. We also will have some paper/pencil games for real prizes. Our meeting will be on Friday, May 9 at 6:00 p.m. for socializing and sharing a glass of wine or two. We will eat at (about) 6:30 p.m. Come join us, you will find that we are a jolly group. Just bring a covered (or uncovered, if you please) dish to share and your favorite beverages. For more information, contact Al Patrick, 405.360.4147.

A NEW ADULT BIBLE STUDY will begin Wednesdays at 12:00 Noon in the parish Lounge beginning May 21, 2008. Bring your New American Bibles (or borrow from the Parish) and a brown bag lunch. For further information, please contact Susan Adams-Johnson at 405.579.0116.



Memorial Day

MEMORIAL DAY MASS AT RESURRECTION CEMETERY. Archbishop Beltran will celebrate a special Mass at Resurrection Cemetery in Oklahoma City on Memorial Day, Monday, May 26, at 9:00 a.m. Everyone is invited to attend this Mass as we remember the dead on this national holiday.

VIGIL CANDLES in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel burn for your special intentions. *Donations are appreciated.*

MASS STIPENDS are payable to Reverend Ray K. Ackerman in the amount of \$10.00, if you can afford it.

If there is an **EMERGENCY**, and you need to reach a priest, please dial 405.321.0990 Ext. 208.

REMEMBER THE POOR. Please drop a donation in the **POOR BOX** as you exit. All proceeds go to the *St. Vincent de Paul Society* who assist the needy of Norman and Noble with utilities and rent. Thank you!

THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD

Rob and Jennifer Rice are private pilots who are anything but private. Since 2000, they have devoted their lives to spreading the Gospel wherever they travel. But it is where they travel and what they do that matters most. Relying solely on donations, they provide air transportation to sick and injured patients in the mountains of Guatemala. Their organization is named Great Commission Air.

We have been given a great commission, to go out to all who will listen and explain the powerful love that is life with Jesus Christ. Just before his ascension, Jesus stood before his followers and empowered them to go out to all of the nations to spread the good news. From these eleven men, Christianity accounts for one-third of the world's religion, over two billion in number.

The season of Easter allows us to reflect upon Jesus Christ's Passion, crucifixion, resurrection and ascension to the right hand of God. *The raising up of Christ on the cross signifies and announces his rising up into heaven (CCC 662).* At his ascension, Jesus promised his beloved disciples that they- and we- would never be alone. We will always have Jesus and the power of the Holy Spirit working with us and through us to deliver his love, wherever we go.

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READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF MAY 4, 2008

Sunday: Ascension of the Lord: Acts 1:1-11 / Eph 1:17-23 / Mt 28:16-20
Monday: Acts 19:1-8 / Jn 16:29-33
Tuesday: Acts 20:17-27 / Jn 17:1-11a
Wednesday: Acts 20:28-38 / Jn 17:11b-19
Thursday: Acts 22:30; 23:6-11 / Jn 17:20-26
Friday: Acts 25:13b-21 / Jn 21:15-19
Saturday: Morning: Acts 28:16-20, 30-31 / Jn 21:20-25
Next Sunday: Vigil: Gn 11:1-9 or Ex 19:3-8a, 16-20b or Ez 37:1-14 or Jl 3:1-5 / Rom 8:22-27 / Jn 7:37-39
Day: Acts 2:1-11 / 1 Cor 12:3b-7, 12-13 / Jn 20:19-23

REMEMBER IN PRAYER. It is our responsibility in the Lord to remember the sick who are especially close to the Redeemer in their suffering. Listed below are people who have requested our prayerful intercession. *Call our Prayer Line to add or delete someone from the prayer list at 405.447.7055.*

VISIT THE BLESSED SACRAMENT CHAPEL AND PRAY FOR: The preservation of the dignity and sanctity of all life; victims and survivors of violence; troubled marriages; vocations; peace; justice; our service men, women and their families (*Colleen Dennison, Matthew Ghigliotti, Cindy Molia, Angelique Pearson, Michael Scanlon and Clint Wilson*); the hungry; the homeless; the abused; the unemployed; and our youth; **THE SICK...** Harold Heiple, Susan Lepak, Sharon Poe, Bob Quinnett, Sister Paulette Schiffelbaum, Elizabeth Strategos, Sallie Wallace, and Luisa Whitman; **THOSE IN MOURNING...** The Dillard, Flusche, McNeal and Schones families; **THE REPOSE OF THE SOULS OF...** Robert Creedon, Jamie Dillard, Reverend Ernest A. Flusche, and Geraldine McNeal.

OFFICE OF FAMILY LIFE NEWS

Safe Place Faith Community (*A response to the Bishops' Document, "When I call for Help"*) Next training date is Friday, May 30, at St. Teresa's Parish in Harrah, OK. All churches are invited. This training educates volunteers and church personnel about domestic violence. The training also teaches how to refer to agencies in your community, how to listen, confidentiality and more. This program is sponsored by the Office of Family Life. Training will be provided by the Coalition Against Domestic Violence and the Attorney General's Special Victim's Unit. Registrations required. Fee of \$6.00 includes lunch, snacks and materials. Call the Office of Family Life at 450.721.8944 or email cindynewby50@yahoo.com for more information.

Oklahoma Catholic Family Conference- "As goes the family,... so goes the whole world." A Catholic Family Conference is being held on Saturday, June 7, at Bishop McGuinness High School. There will be speakers for adults as well as separate programs for the children and teens. Confession and Eucharistic Adoration will also be available. The day will conclude with Mass with Archbishop Beltran and Bishop Slattery. For more information and to register, please visit our website www.OKCatholicFamily.com or call Jeff Finnell at 405.255.4343.

7 Steps to Becoming Financially Free: A Catholic Small Group Study is changing lives of participants and parishes! The program offers a combination of faith formation and sound financial teaching, all designed to help participants become more effective stewards of the gifts the Lord has entrusted to them. The small group format provides the perfect environment for teaching these materials at the parish level as participants.

If you would like to become a small group leader, Phil Lenahan, the author of 7 Steps to Becoming Financially Free, will be conducting a small group leader training at the *Catholic Pastoral Center in Oklahoma City on Friday, June 6 from 3-9 p.m.* No financial background is necessary as Phil will guide you through a small group leader training. Step by step, Phil will show you how to effectively run a 7 Steps small group study. For more information and/or to sign up, please call Jeff Finnell at 405.255.4343 or visit www.veritasfinancialministries.com.