

Welcome to the Faith Community of
ST. THOMAS MORE

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)

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.

LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

VIGIL MASS	SATURDAY, 5:00 P.M.
SUNDAY MASSES	8:30 A.M., 11:00 A.M. & 5:00 P.M.
NURSERY	SUNDAY, 8:30 & 11:00 A.M.
COMMUNION SERVICE	MONDAY, 7:30 A.M.
DAILY MASSES	TUESDAY & THURSDAY, 5:15 P.M. WEDNESDAY & FRIDAY, 7:30 A.M.
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. Registration has begun! Forms are in the Atrium.

MASS REQUESTS

To schedule a Mass intention, contact the Parish office.

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

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

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

Religious Education Coordinator: Chelle Breedlove • cbreedlove@stm-ou.org • Ext. 202

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

Music Director: Jan Roberts • dachs.mirabilis@cox.net • Ext. 203

Development Director: Debbie Kahls • dkahls@stm-ou.org • Ext. 206

Business Manager: Christy Meiser • crmeiser@yahoo.com • Ext. 212

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

Website Editor: Richard Love • pchelp@normanmusicscene.com

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME JULY 27, 2008

God says to Solomon, "Ask something of me and I will give it to you." "The Lord was pleased that Solomon" asked for an understanding heart instead of for long life or riches. For with such a request, God can work miracles. "all things work for good for those who love God." The desire of Solomon is what characterizes the heart of the man who sells all he has to buy the treasure-bearing field. The desire of Solomon is what sets apart the merchant who risks his whole livelihood to buy what he judges to be the "pearl of great price." They can make these sacrifices with certainty because that treasure, that pearl, corresponds to the deepest longings of the "understanding heart" - it is Christ himself.

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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 (PENANCE). Saturdays, 3:00 to 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 and active in volunteering time, talent, and treasure towards helping to build up God's Kingdom (*the Catholic Church suggests that half of the 10% tithe recommended in Sacred Scripture should go toward the workings of the Universal Church, which includes: Parish support, Catholic Charities, Archdiocesan Development Fund, St. Vincent De Paul, Peter's Pence and other special collections*).

SACRAMENT OF THE SICK. Parishioners facing surgery or struggling with serious illness may request this sacrament by calling the Parish office. Contact Deacon Tom Schott at tom.schott@gmail.com or 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 must 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*).

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. RCIA sessions will begin Tuesday, **SEPTEMBER 2, AT 7:00 p.m.** in the Overflow room. For further information, please contact Deacon John 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.

LITURGICAL SCHEDULE & INTENTIONS

SUNDAY † JULY 27 † 17TH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

FOURTH SUNDAY: WEEKLY COLLECTION

- 8:30 a.m. **MASS** (Sanctuary)
- 11:00 a.m. **MASS** † Intentions of ELISA ELUGARDO by *The Elugardo Family* (Sanctuary)
- 5:00 p.m. **MASS** † Intentions of THE PARISH FAMILY (Sanctuary)

MONDAY † JULY 28 † WEEKDAY

- 7:30 a.m. **COMMUNION SERVICE** (Sanctuary)
- 6:00 p.m. Associate Adorers Newcomer Orientation (Overflow)
- 6:30 p.m. Associate Adorers of the Blood of Christ (Overflow)

TUESDAY † JULY 29 † WEEKDAY

Martha

- 6:30 a.m. Primary Elections for Cleveland County (Atrium)
- 5:15 p.m. **MASS** (Sanctuary)
- 7:00 p.m. Community Organizing Overview Session (Lounge)

† WEDNESDAY † JULY 30 † WEEKDAY

Peter Chrysologus, bishop, doctor

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

THURSDAY † JULY 31 † WEEKDAY

Ignatius of Loyola, priest

- 1:30 p.m. Martha & Mary Quilt Guild (Overflow)
- 5:15 p.m. **MASS** (Sanctuary)
- 6:00 p.m. St. Vincent de Paul Society (Library)

FIRST FRIDAY † AUGUST 1 † WEEKDAY

Alphonsus Liguori, bishop, doctor

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

FIRST SATURDAY † AUGUST 2 † WEEKDAY

Eusebius of Vercelli, bishop & Peter Julian Eymard, priest

FIRST SUNDAY & BUILDING FUND: WEEKLY COLLECTIONS

- 3:00 p.m. **CONFESSIONS** (Confessional)
- 5:00 p.m. **VIGIL MASS** (Sanctuary)
BAPTISM † MACY JO FIEBRICH

SUNDAY † AUGUST 3 † 18TH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

FIRST SUNDAY & BUILDING FUND: WEEKLY COLLECTION

- 8:30 a.m. **MASS** † Intentions of the PARISH FAMILY (Sanctuary)
- 11:00 a.m. **MASS** (Sanctuary)
- 1:15 p.m. Secular Franciscans (Nursery)
- 5:00 p.m. **MASS** † SOPHIE AND TONY LIS by *Friends* (Sanctuary)

FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP

JULY 19 & 20, 2008

WEEKLY AMOUNT	\$7,656.16	YTD AMOUNT	\$528,107.27
WEEKLY BUDGET	\$10,300.00	YTD BUDGET	\$567,200.00
DEFICIT	-\$2,643.84	DEFICIT	-\$39,092.73
PARISH PAY	July 15, 2008	TOTAL	\$9,628.23

REMEMBER THE POOR

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

HOSPITALITY SCHEDULE

AUGUST 3, 2008

- 8:30 a.m. Steve & Carolyn Jones
- 11:00 a.m. Martina & Tom Przebinda

MINISTRY SCHEDULE

AUGUST 2 & 3, 2008

ALTAR SERVERS

- SATURDAY MASS
- 5:00 p.m. Jack M., Michael M., Arianna G.
- SUNDAY MASSES
- 8:30 a.m. Rachel G., Lauren S., Patrick S.
- 11:00 a.m. Kelly B., Jacob K., Timo K.
- 5:00 p.m. Sherritta H., Hannah R., Jonathan K.

LECTORS

- SATURDAY MASS
- 5:00 p.m. Sharon Peelor, Tom Burns
- SUNDAY MASSES
- 8:30 a.m. Allison & Helen Patrick
- 11:00 a.m. Laura Jones, Ruth Loeffler
- 5:00 p.m. R.C. Davis-Undiano, Harold Castano

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION

- SATURDAY MASS
- 5:00 p.m. Cheri Remington, Valli Marti, O'Neen Barbour, Louise Kay
- SUNDAY MASSES
- 8:30 a.m. Barbara Crane, Gerry Whitman, Salva Gabert, Stacy Schrank, Joe Lies
- 11:00 a.m. Veronica & Steve Edge, Susan Schott, Jodie & Doris Edge, Caridad Marchand, Dan Lawrence, Deanna Preble, Rick Pendergraft

- 5:00 p.m. Matthew Rom, Bea & Arn Henderson, Bill Huntington, Susan & Joseph Mecham, Bobby Meiners, Charito Hersey, Sims Beeler

USHERS

- SATURDAY MASS
- 5:00 p.m. *Volunteers Needed!*
- SUNDAY MASSES
- 8:30 a.m. Russell Koch, K. Denton, Jr., Drew & Kathy Kershen
- 11:00 a.m. Steve Patrick, Mike Tobin, Gloria & José Olivero
- 5:00 p.m. David Allbritton, Cody Moore

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES...

MINISTRY	COORDINATOR	NUMBER
LECTOR	Ruth Loeffler	329-5358
ALTAR SERVER	Joe Mecham	573-4979
USHER <i>(Sat. 5 p.m. Mass in dire need of ushers)</i>	Steve Patrick	360-7827
CHOIR / MUSICIAN	Jon Roberts	850-5252
ALTAR SOCIETY <i>(i.e. linen care, metal polishing)</i>	Jo Ann Oberst	329-7029
HOSPITALITY - CHURCH EVENTS: <i>(i.e. missions, retreats, anniversaries)</i>	Brigid Brink	321-6824
ST. VINCENT DE PAUL	Jim Mattek	872-5054
CATECHIST / NURSERY AIDE	Chelle Breedlove	321-0990 Ext. 202
BEREAVEMENT HOSPITALITY: <i>(i.e. funeral lunch / dinner)</i>	Ellen Huntington	321-5541
FEED THE HUNGRY <i>(i.e. Food & Shelter for Friends)</i>	Gerry Whitman	360-1174
LIBRARIAN	Dale Weaver	307-0161
VISITATION OF THE SICK: <i>(i.e. homebound, hospital, nursing home)</i>	Kathy Heiple	321-7863

CATHOLIC CHARITIES

ADVOCACY ALERTS FROM CATHOLIC CHARITIES. Richard Klinge, Associate Director of Advocacy, Outreach and Legal Services for Catholic Charities, periodically distributes Action Alert emails covering legislative and related issues which are impacted by Catholic Social Teaching. Hopefully, this information sharing will cause others to raise their voices on these issues as our political processes struggle to find solutions which will both reflect justice and serve the common good. For example, Action Alerts in July 2008 address the USCCB Statement on stem-cell research, poverty issues to be dealt with at the G8 meeting in Japan, economic trends in Oklahoma and health insurance issues to be dealt with by a Healthcare Task Force appointed by the Speaker of the Oklahoma House. Some of you may already receive these Action Alerts; but if you don't and would like to receive them, please email me at rklinge@catholiccharitiesok.org and give me your name and email address and I will add you to my Action Alerts Distribution List. If you have any questions, call Richard at 405.523.3000.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR DISASTER RELIEF: TRAINING PLANNED. Did you know that Catholic Charities serves as a disaster relief agency for natural and man-made disasters that affect our Archdiocese? Over the last several years, Catholic Charities has served communities who have had tornadoes, floods, ice storms, and resettled hurricane victims. Catholic Charities is seeking volunteers to assist parishes and communities affected by disaster.

For those interested in volunteering, the first **VOLUNTEER ORIENTATION AND DISASTER TRAINING** program will be held on **Thursday, August 21, at 7 PM** at Catholic Charities, 1501 N. Classen Blvd. Volunteers will be required to attend training and participate in the Safe Environment Training.

Anyone interested in volunteering and attending the training should contact Catholic Charities' Parish Outreach Office at 405.523.3009.

SPIRITUAL ENRICHMENT

LECTIO DIVINA, prayerful reading: **Saturday, August 2, 2008, 9:30 a.m.—3:30 p.m.**, *Marie Ballman, OSB*. Scripture comes alive as you read and pray it in the way of Lectio Divina, a powerful, ancient way of praying. Meet Jesus again and enter into a deeper, more personal relationship with Him. **Place:** *Monastery Library of Red Plains Monastery, SW of Piedmont.* **CALL** 405.373.0804 to register. **FEE:** Send in your \$40 to reserve a place. Bring a sack lunch.

MINDFULNESS MEDITATION RETREAT, **Saturday, August 16, 2008, 9:30 a.m.—12:30 p.m.**, *Debra Luther, LPC and Spiritual Director*. A half-day retreat for practicing being present in the moment, deepening your ability to be in stillness, and relaxing into being here now. Enjoy a time of non-doing, letting go of busyness, and being in silence. Learn and practice methods of mindfulness meditation which will lead to living a more spiritual, peaceful and stress-free life. **Place:** *Monastery Library of Red Plains Monastery, SW of Piedmont.* **CALL** 405.373.0804 to register. **FEE:** Send in your \$40 to reserve a place. Bring a sack lunch.

Q: *Why does Matthew include five women in his genealogy of Jesus?*

A: Matthew begins his Gospel with a genealogy of Jesus in chapter 1:1-17. It is structured around three sets of fourteen generations, tracing Jesus' ancestry from Abraham to David, from David to the Babylonian exile, and from the exile to the birth of Jesus. Written for a Jewish community, it traces Jesus' lineage through the male line, the typical manner of tracing Jewish ancestry. However, Matthew includes five women in the genealogy, causing hearers wonder.



The five women are Tamar, daughter-in-law of Judah, who disguises herself as a harlot to deceive Jacob into producing heirs. Rahab, the harlot, aids Joshua in occupying the Promised Land. Ruth, the Moabite, marries Boaz, the grandfather of David. The wife of Uriah, Bathsheba, marries David after he orders her husband killed in battle. Mary, the mother of Jesus, is married to Joseph, the legal but not the biological father of Jesus.

Why Matthew included these women is not certain. For Matthew, Jesus fulfills tradition yet brings newness and freshness to it. The women represent this newness and freshness in a traditional male genealogy. Rahab, Ruth and possibly Bathsheba are Gentiles. **Matthew may be saying that the Jewish Messiah also had Gentile ancestry, encouraging Jews to be open to Gentiles in the person of Jesus. The Messiah will incarnate the best of the Jewish tradition coupled with openness to all of God's family, including Gentiles.**

How does Jesus bring freshness to your notions of life and relationships?

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OFFICE OF FAMILY LIFE

STRUGGLING AFTER ABORTION? For Men and Women. Experience the healing love of Jesus Christ on a Rachel's vineyard weekend retreat. This retreat is also appropriate for those who have had a pregnancy loss from infertility treatments, RU486, morning after pill or contraception. The retreat offers an opportunity to deeply enter into the grieving process and identify the ways your abortion may have affected you. Discussions, spiritual exercises, prayer and reflection are combined with the Sacrament of Reconciliation, a Memorial Service honoring your child and a Mass of Resurrection. Participation is strictly confidential and offers a beautiful opportunity to experience God's love, forgiveness and tender compassion. Both men and women are invited to experience this therapy for the soul. The program is an apostolate of the Catholic Church, but those from other faith backgrounds are welcome to attend. Next retreat: **Friday, August 8, 6:00 p.m. to Sunday, August 10, at 4:00 p.m.** Pre-registration is required. Cost is \$75 for materials, lodging and meals. *Financial assistance is available.* Space is limited. Registration must be finalized by **August 1**. To register or for more information, call Paulette at 405.623.3844 or email okcrachel@yahoo.com or check out www.rachelsvineyard.org.

DEADLINE SET FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION REGISTRATION. Registration deadline for the Religious Education Program is **Thursday, 31 July, 2008**. Registration packets are in the Atrium. We need to order books and purchase supplies for the coming year. **Registration fees after Friday, 1 August 2008 will be \$45 for 1, \$65 for 2, \$95 for 3, and \$100 for 4** or more children enrolled in the program. Drop your registration forms, with payment, in the Parish office when you attend Mass, or during office hours – 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. (Monday through Friday).

PLEASE GIVE PRAYERFUL CONSIDERATION TO BECOMING A CATECHIST. A warm special thank you to those catechists that have recently volunteered or remained on the team to facilitate religious education to our youth! Thank you for sharing our faith! There are still a few very needed positions available:

- 2 catechists for 8:30 Mass Dismissal
- 2 catechists for 11:00 Mass Dismissal
- 2 catechists for 1st grade R.E.
- 1 catechist to assist with 3rd grade R. E.
- 16 adult Volunteers for nursery (*at least 16 adults will allow fair rotation between the 8:30 and 11:00 Mass. This will also allow the volunteers to be scheduled once a month! We are hoping for parents that use the nursery on a regular basis to volunteer, but welcome college students and others that have lots of patience and a heart of gold!*)

PLEASE NOTE: Any volunteer catechist or nursery aide must attend a Safe Environment Seminar and fill out the required application. R.E. Coordinator will personally assist with the application process to ensure all the requirements for the archdiocese are met and completed in a timely fashion.

SAFE ENVIRONMENT SEMINAR. 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, August 19.** (*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, contact Chelle Breedlove at 405.321.0990 Ext. 202.

ATTENTION PARENTS OF FIRST HOLY COMMUNICANTS: Please pick-up your child's First Holy Communion **photo disc** located on the south wall of the Parish atrium.

UPCOMING IMPORTANT DATES (MARK YOUR CALENDARS)

- 31 July 08:** **Registration Deadline** for Religious Education Program
 - 20 Aug 08:** **First Day of School** Norman Public Schools
 - 1 Sep 08:** **No School**
 - 7 Sep 08:** **FIRST DAY OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION FOR ALL GRADES K-12, 09:45-10:45 AM**
 - 21 Sep 08:** **Blessing of Catechists**
 - 27 Sep 08:** St Vincent De Paul's **Walk for the Poor** (At All Saints Catholic School, 8:30 a.m.) Community Service Choice for Confirmation candidates 1st and 2nd year students
 - 28 Sep 08:** **Crop Walk** (Food For Shelter/Friends) Community Service Choice for Confirmation candidates 1st and 2nd year students
- NOTE for anticipating 9th graders (1st year Confirmation Candidates) and 10-11th graders (2nd year Confirmation Candidates):** This R.E. year 2008-2009, two Community Services are to be completed by all Confirmation students. One service in the fall and one in the Spring. Students will have a choice of what to do or what to attend. The Walk for the Poor and Crop Walk are great ideas for the fall.

TBA EVENTS (*events to be announced at a later date, but keep thinking about and planning for*):

- † Catechist Informal Gathering (Meet and Greet)
- † Catechist workday/classroom preparation
- † Catechist In-Service Day

AT LEAST A SCZILLION WAYS TO SAY "I LOVE YOU"

by Laraine Hemrick Horney

6/26/2008 Parenting

In these times when parents are stretched with one job, two jobs, three jobs, and a myriad of other responsibilities, take the time to invest in the lives of your kids. The effect could just be multi-generational, even eternal.

THIS IS JUST A PARTIAL LIST OF WAYS TO TELL YOUR KIDS YOU LOVE THEM:

Actually say it.

- Tossle their hair.
- Give them a hug.
- Wake them up with a kiss instead of hollering at them.
- Make their favorite meal tonight.
- Ask them for their opinion on something, and then let them give it.
- Show up for their sports activities, school plays, dance recitals.
- Pick them up ON TIME from school.
- Get off the cell phone when you are with them. It's just rude.
- When you are with them, really be with them. Don't mentally be someplace else.
- Talk to them while not reading a book or newspaper.
- Write them a note or card and mail it.
- Buy them a small surprise "just because".
- Text them a short and simple "text hug" like: thinking of you today.
- Or praying for you about your exams. Or: You're awesome!
- Invite them out for a one-on-one date for a movie or shopping, or a walk in the park.
- Play basketball with them and don't keep score (it is not about who won).
- Look through photo albums and video / DVD's of family times together and re-tell the stories. "Remember when"...
- Praise their character to your friends.**
- Believe in them.**
- Value their friends. Invite them over and get to know them.
- Pray for them daily.**
- Pray for them weekly (no, not weakly!) Remember, God loves them more than you do.
- Love them enough to just listen.
- Ban the words "I told you so" and "When will you ever learn?" from your vocabulary.**
- Love them enough to say "no".
- Don't always try to fix things, but brainstorm with them about ways they can find solutions.
- Then, give their ideas a chance.
- Look for ways to encourage them, support them, usher them to adulthood.
- Teach them the value of money.
- Teach them hospitality and graciousness towards others.
- Listen to their music with them and ask them (without being sarcastic) to explain it to you, or to tell you about the band, the genre, the vocalist, the instrumentation.
- Find other ways to correct them besides harping on them. (take a parenting class if you have to).
- Forgive them their trespasses.**

And the list goes on turn! Be on the lookout for clues as to what makes your child tick. Set aside your List of Disappointments, and grab a pencil, because this child is fearfully and wonderfully made!

Laraine Hemrick Horney is a freelance writer in Southern California, former home-schooling mom of one son and one daughter. Her passion is to encourage others in parenting and life. Contact her at healthykh@yahoo.com for more information.

ALL SAINTS CATHOLIC SCHOOL

All Saints is seeking substitute teachers for the 2008-09 school year. Please contact Cathy Snodgrass in the school office for more information.

Pre-enrollment for the 2008-09 school year will continue through the summer months. Only a limited number of openings exist. An admission packet can be downloaded from our school website at www.allsaintsnorman.org and click on "administration". The school office will be open throughout the summer to answer questions and for admission interviews.

PARISH NEWS, NOTES & ANNOUNCEMENTS

ANOTHER OPPORTUNITY!

There is still an opportunity to join the **ADORERS OF THE BLOOD OF CHRIST ASSOCIATE PROGRAM** directed by Sister Ursula Schones. The introduction will be **Monday, July 28, at 6:00 p.m. or following the 6:30 - 7:30 p.m.** regular meeting. During the regular meeting we will review *"The Universal Call to Mysticism."* You may call Sister Ursula Schones at 316.492.2201 Ext. 1461 or 3414; email at schonesu@adorers.org; or, JUST COME!

WANT TO KNOW MORE ABOUT MAKING A DIFFERENCE IN THE LIVES OF FAMILIES IN OUR COMMUNITY?

Kristen Ausdenmoore, member of St. Thomas More and lead organizer of the OKLAHOMA INTERFAITH SPONSORING COMMITTEE, will provide a **COMMUNITY ORGANIZING OVERVIEW SESSION** on **Tuesday, July 29, 7:00 - 8:30 p.m., in the Parish lounge.** *Come and see!*

SECULAR FRANCISCAN NEWS

In prayer, and service, and joy, St. Francis of Assisi followed Christ. Members of the Secular Franciscan Order strive to carry on Francis' ideals in the modern world. All are welcome to attend their meeting today, **August 3, at 1:00 p.m.** in the Parish Nursery. Social follows at 3:00 p.m. in the parish kitchen.

KNIGHT LINE

Congratulations to Knight of the Month for July, SK Dan Lawrence, and to the Knight Family of the Month of July, Brother David Pickens family. Both honors are well deserved (*but don't expect to get out of any of your committee or officer duties*).

Remember this coming **Saturday, August 2nd** is our **Annual Family Knight Out with the RedHawks Family Duting.** First Pitch is 7:05 P.M. A few tickets are still available. Contact SK Sher for information and/or to reserve your seats before they are all gone.

The next **Council 8523 Business Meeting** is scheduled for **Wednesday, August 6th.** We will begin with a **Rosary at 7 P.M.,** and the meeting starting at 7:30.

The **Fourth Degree Assembly's Fifth Wednesday of the Month Dining Out** will be at **6:30 PM, July 30th** at **Charlestons Restaurant.** Order your selection from the menu. Dress will be casual and the conversation plentiful.

SUMMER BOOK CLUB

Join us for a summer reading group. Read great works of fiction and discuss the works from a Catholic perspective.

† **Tuesday, August 12, at 7:30 p.m. in the Parish lounge.** Book Selection: **EXILES** by Ron Hansen, a Jesuit Deacon. In his novel Hansen weaves the historical events of the doomed transatlantic voyage of five German nuns on their way to the United States with the life of the seminarian Gerald Manley Hopkins who would later become a Jesuit Priest and poet. His elegy "The Wreck of the Deutschland" was inspired by the fate of the nuns and would become one of his best known works. *"In Ron Hansen's new novel, Exiles, there isn't a single protagonist-there are six. For most writers, that would be an unwieldy number, but Hansen's narrative gifts are strong enough to pull it off triumphantly."* (Gregory Wolfe, Editor of Image) - **SPONSORED BY COMMUNION AND LIBERATION**

FOOD FOR FRIENDS

Tuesday, August 26, 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 do 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!



17TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Though it is now the peak of summer, many gardeners look forward to the fall, when they will be planting many flower bulbs. To some, it may seem like too much work with nothing to show for it; digging a hole in the dirt, dropping something in, and covering it up. But the good gardener knows that come spring, what took a bit of work a few months ago has been rewarded with a tapestry of colors.

Jesus' parable of the treasure in the field is a wonderful way to describe the kingdom of heaven. Within each of us, God has planted his word. And as we find it, we are called to give up everything in this worldly life that has no value and no place in heaven, just as the man in the parable who sold everything in order to own the field which contained the treasure.

The most beautiful aspect of this treasure is that it can always be shared without ever diminishing itself within you! As faithful followers of Jesus Christ, we are entrusted with passing this treasure on from generation to generation. We do this by professing the faith, by living it in fraternal sharing, and by celebrating it in liturgy and prayer (CCC 3). **Look deeply into your own heart; uncover that treasure of the love of the Lord, and share it with everyone.**

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READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF JULY 27, 2008

Sunday: 1 Kgs 3:5, 7-12 / Rom 8:28-30 / Mt 13:44-52 or 13:44-46
Monday: Jer 13:1-11 / Mt 13:31-35
Tuesday: Jer 14:17-22 / Jn 11:19-27 or Lk 10:38-42
Wednesday: Jer 15:10, 16-21 / Mt 13:44-46
Thursday: Jer 18:1-6 / Mt 13:47-53
Friday: Jer 26:1-9 / Mt 13:54-58
Saturday: Jer 26:11-16, 24 / Mt 14:1-12
Next Sunday: Is 55:1-3 / Rom 8:35, 37-39 / Mt 14:13-21

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 (*Mariana Schwartz*); peace; justice; our service men, women and their families (*Colleen Dennison, Matthew Ghigliotti, Luke T. Landis, Michael Scanlan and Clint Wilson*); the hungry; the homeless; the abused; the unemployed; and our youth; **THE SICK...** Irma Burr, Marge Earley, Harold Heiple, Joan Ivester, Susan Lepak, Sharon Poe, Bob Quinnett, Ron Remington, Ignacio & Maria Ruiz, Dar Vickers, Sallie Wallace, and Luisa Whitman; **THOSE IN MOURNING...** The Johnson, Kuker, Okvist, and Roberts families; **THE REPOSE OF THE SOULS OF...** George M. Kuker, the Okvist twins, Dale Roberts.

THE RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION FOR ADULTS (RCIA)

RCIA sessions will begin Tuesday, **SEPTEMBER 2, AT 7:00 p.m.** in the Overflow room. Adults who wish to learn about Catholicism, become a Catholic, update themselves, or help with the RCIA program, may contact Deacon John Pigott at jpigott@ou.edu. RCIA is a *Journey of Faith* which runs from September 2, 2008 to April 12, 2009 with meetings each Tuesday evening from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Come join us, for all are welcome!

DAY BY DAY

LIVING THE TREASURE
WE HAVE BEEN GIVEN

At the beginning of each day and at prayer, Mass, and Holy Communion declare earnestly to God that you wish to belong to him without reserve, and that for this purpose you wish to strive to devote yourself entirely to the spirit of prayer and the interior life.

Make it your chief concern to acquire conformity to the will of God in even the smallest things, saying to God in the midst of the most distressing troubles and frightening prospects: "My God, I want with all my heart what you want; I submit in all things to your good pleasure for both time and eternity." ...

Let us understand clearly that we shall not acquire true conformity to the will of God until we are perfectly resolved to serve him according to his will and pleasure, and not according to our own. In all things seek God alone and you will find him everywhere, but more so in those things in which you most of all renounce your own will. When you have firmly convinced yourself that you are incapable of doing any good whatsoever, you will give up making resolutions and you will say humbly to God: "My God, I see from so many proofs that all my resolutions are useless. I have undoubtedly been counting to do much on myself, but you have truly confounded me. I admit that you alone can do everything. Make me then do such and such a thing; and when necessary give me the thought, the impulse, and the will without which I shall never do anything. I have had so many sad experiences of this in the past! ..."

Add to this humble prayer the practice of apologizing straightway or shortly afterwards to all the people who have witnessed your little outbursts of hastiness or bad temper.

The practice of these counsels is of great importance to you for two reasons: first, because God himself wishes to do everything in you; second, because on account of your secret presumptuousness you would never be able, even in the midst of your helplessness, to ascribe everything to God as you ought, without a thousand experiences of your utter inability to do anything good. But when you become thoroughly convinced of this truth, you will say almost unthinkingly whenever you do something good: "O my God, it is you who are doing this in me by your grace."

-FATHER JEAN-PIERRE DE CAUSSADE, S.J.

Father de Caussade (+ 1751) was a French Jesuit, a writer, and a revered spiritual director.

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Q: Is the sign of the cross on the forehead, lips, and heart before the Gospel reading for the priest only?

A: Everyone is instructed to do this. The *General Instruction of the Roman Missal* states:

At the ambo, the priest opens the book and, with hands joined, says, *Dominus vobiscum* (The Lord be with you), and the people respond, *Et cum spiritu tuo* (And also with you). Then he says, *Lectio sancti Evangelii* (A reading from the holy Gospel), making the sign of the cross with his thumb on the book and on his forehead, mouth, and breast, which everyone else does as well. (GIRM 134)

Former *This Rock* contributor Fr. Mateo offered the following explanation for this ritual: "For the word which Christ brought and which is set down in this book we are willing to stand up with a mind that is open; we are ready to confess it with our mouth; and above all we are determined to safeguard it faithfully in our hearts."

-Jim Blackburn

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 Monday through Friday 5 - 7 p.m.
"Good News Sunday"
 Thursday & Friday at 3:30 p.m.
KTLR 890 AM - Oklahoma City
www.okcatholicbroadcasting.com

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM
YOU!

We have placed a **SUGGESTION BOX** on the large wooden table in the Parish atrium so you can submit your suggestions on improving our Parish or questions on things you do not understand. You can indicate a point of contact or make it anonymous. Our **PARISH COUNCIL** members will follow up on these and publish relevant information in the Bulletin.

DR. SCOTT HAHN & FULLNESS OF TRUTH™ PRESENT "THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO SAINT PAUL" CONFERENCE August 23 and 24, 2008 at the Arlington Convention Center. Other speakers include: Steve Ray, Michael Barber and Dr. Brant Pitre, plus a fabulous concert by Eric Genius. Child Care is available. For information or to register see www.fullnessoftruth.org or call 1.877.21.TRUTH. Use our Parish group discount voucher code "STMN" when registering.

HOW DID YOU HEAR THE GOOD NEWS TODAY?

Thank you for your support of last week's collection for the **CATHOLIC COMMUNICATION CAMPAIGN (CCC)**. The CCC spreads the Gospel message by producing Catholic videos, TV and radio programming as well as Internet and print materials. The CCC uses the reach and power of communications media to illustrate the richness of our Catholic tradition and provide opportunities for individuals to enrich their faith lives. Visit www.CatholicCommunicationCampaign.org to see how your gifts will be used.