

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 HOUR	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.

FUNERALS. Please contact the Parish office to make arrangements with Father Ackerman.

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

EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME AUGUST 3, 2008

The pity of Jesus Christ always results in a New Creation. Christ is not scandalized by human need and want. Rather, the Lord regards every experience of human lack as a prime opportunity to manifest God's lavishness. From the earliest days, God has beckoned us, promising, "come, all who are thirsty! Come, you who have no money!" The Lord delights in the dependence that our destitution evokes, and he answers it - in today's "deserted place" with bread and fish, and in the upper room with his very self. Trial, distress, hunger, and danger do not separate us from the love of Christ. Rather, they draw him close to us with a love that conquers all.

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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 (RCIA) 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, August 26, 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 † AUGUST 3 † 18TH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

FIRST SUNDAY & BUILDING FUND: Weekly Collection

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

MONDAY † AUGUST 4 † WEEKDAY

John Mary Vianney, priest

- 7:30 a.m. **COMMUNION SERVICE** (Sanctuary)

TUESDAY † AUGUST 5 † WEEKDAY

Dedication of the Basilica of St. Mary Major in Rome

- 11:00 a.m. Pastoral Staff Meeting (Library)
- 5:15 p.m. **MASS** † NIEVES POSA by *Tita Posa* (Sanctuary)

WEDNESDAY † AUGUST 6 † FEAST

The Transfiguration of the Lord

- 7:30 a.m. **MASS** (Sanctuary)
- 7:00 p.m. Knights of Columbus **Rosary** followed by Business Mtg. (Knights' White House)

THURSDAY † AUGUST 7 † WEEKDAY

Sixtus II, pope & martyr and his companions; Cajetan, priest

- 5:15 p.m. **MASS** (Sanctuary)
- 6:00 p.m. St. Vincent de Paul Society (Library)
- 7:00 p.m. Parish Council (Library)

FRIDAY † AUGUST 8 † WEEKDAY

Dominic, priest

- 7:30 a.m. **MASS** (Sanctuary)
- 6:30 p.m. Wedding Rehearsal (Sanctuary)

SATURDAY † AUGUST 9 † WEEKDAY

Teresa Benedicta of the cross, virgin & martyr

SECOND SUNDAY & ALL SAINTS CATHOLIC SCHOOL: Collections

- 2:00 p.m. **WEDDING**: BRANDON WALKER AND LAURA MIHANNI
- 3:00 p.m. **CONFESSIONS** (Confessional)
- 5:00 p.m. **VIGIL MASS** (Sanctuary)

SUNDAY † AUGUST 10 † 19TH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

SECOND SUNDAY & ALL SAINTS CATHOLIC SCHOOL: Collections

- 8:30 a.m. **MASS** † SHAUNNA M. WAHR by *Janis Hereford* (Sanctuary)
- 11:00 a.m. **MASS** Intentions of the PARISH FAMILY (Sanctuary)
- 5:00 p.m. **MASS** (Sanctuary)

FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP

JULY 26 & 27, 2008

WEEKLY AMOUNT	\$6,955.27	YTD AMOUNT	\$535,062.54
WEEKLY BUDGET	\$10,300.00	YTD BUDGET	\$577,500.00
DEFICIT	-\$3,344.73	DEFICIT	-\$42,437.46
PARISH PAY	July 15, 2008	TOTAL	\$9,628.23

HOSPITALITY SCHEDULE

AUGUST 10, 2008

- 8:30 a.m. Sharon Poe & Maggie Fitzgerald
- 11:00 a.m. Paula & Derek Harris

MINISTRY SCHEDULE

AUGUST 9 & 10, 2008

ALTAR SERVERS

- SATURDAY MASS
- 5:00 p.m. David Pickens, Hannah G., Matthew M.
- SUNDAY MASSES
- 8:30 a.m. Eamonn M., Brandon M., Rebecca G.
- 11:00 a.m. Elizabeth B., Maya H., Andrés K.
- 5:00 p.m. Hannah R., Sherritta H., Susan M.

LECTORS

- SATURDAY MASS
- 5:00 p.m. Sharon Peelor, Jean Quinnett
- SUNDAY MASSES
- 8:30 a.m. Frank Freidhoff, Mick Hinton
- 11:00 a.m. Christopher Krittenbrink, Thomas Wilson
- 5:00 p.m. Bobby Meiners, Joe Walters

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION

- SATURDAY MASS
- 5:00 p.m. Valli Marti, Cheri Remington, Mary & Stephen Bonner
- SUNDAY MASSES
- 8:30 a.m. Janis Hereford, Jeanne Cullen, Patricia & Charles Gill, Eleanor Barnes
- 11:00 a.m. Deanna Preble, Doris & Jodie Edge, Steve & Veronica Edge, Peter Keupen, Becky O'Dea, Pat King
- 5:00 p.m. Arn & Bea Henderson, Matthew Rom, Linda & Jim Fields, Bill Hersey, Rick Lane, Michael DuPont, Ben Ballard

USHERS

- SATURDAY MASS
- 5:00 p.m. Corey & Jackie Potvin
- SUNDAY MASSES
- 8:30 a.m. Russell Koch, Becky Fleming, Kelly McElhaney, Leroy Montano
- 11:00 a.m. Chris Dalton, Jonathan B., Paul Buckelew, James Robb
- 5:00 p.m. Bill Huntington, Noel Brown, Frank Anderson

ALTAR FLOWERS

If you wish to purchase flowers for the Sanctuary one Sunday a year, now is your opportunity! You may purchase the flowers (**Design 2000 Flowers & Gifts, 405.321.6736**) and have them delivered to the Sanctuary on Saturday afternoon before the Sunday you choose. If you would like them to be in memory or honor of someone, please let Gloria Olivero know by the Tuesday before that Sunday (405.321.0990 Ext. 200). Your donation would thereupon be acknowledged in the bulletin.

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	Christy Meiser	321-0990 Ext. 212
VISITATION OF THE SICK <i>(i.e. homebound, hospital, nursing home)</i>	Kathy Heiple	321-7863

Q: I've heard of the Dominicans. Who are they, and when did they begin?

A: The greatest contribution made to the church by Dominic, a Spaniard born around 1170, was to establish the Order of Friars Preachers, commonly known as the Dominicans. Dominicans today continue to advocate for excellent preaching that will move people to conversion and deeper relationship with God.

Dominic, a priest whose feast we celebrate on August 8, was asked by Pope Innocent III (1198-1216) to take the lead in fighting the Albigensian heresy that was creating much confusion and conflict in southern France. To counter the disarray and misinformation Dominic devoted himself to effective preaching and to providing solid education in church teaching and beliefs. But he knew that this was not enough. Prayer was the essential ingredient that had to suffuse all that he did.

Prayer became an integral part of his service to God's people. In 1215, when he established the Order of Friars Preachers, he made certain that both prayer and education were the key pillars of his order. These pillars would facilitate development of excellent preaching skills, something Dominic saw as severely lacking. In the mid-fifteenth century, Dominic's prayer focus led to the development of a rich legend in which Mary presented Dominic with the rosary. The Dominicans promoted the rosary devotion so much that today it is still referred to as the Dominican rosary.

Reflect on the significance that prayer and education have on your Christian faith journey.

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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.

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.

SPIRITUAL ENRICHMENT

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. **FE:** \$60 plus \$15 deposit. Bring a sack lunch.

CONTEMPLATIVE LIVING, Saturday, September 6, 2008, 9:30 a.m.—3:30 p.m., Joanne Yankaukis, OSB. BUILDING BRIDGES TO CONTEMPLATIVE LIVING WITH THOMAS MERTON, BOOK 4 –DISCOVERING THE HIDDEN GROUND OF LOVE. "Be attentive, by learning to listen, we can find ourselves engulfed in such happiness that it cannot be explained; the happiness of being at one with everything in that hidden ground of love for which there can be no explanation." -Thomas Merton. **Place:** *Monastery Library of Red Plains Monastery, SW of Piedmont.* **CALL** 405.373.0804 to register. **FE:** Send in your \$40 to reserve a place. Bring a sack lunch.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION REGISTRATION. Registration packets are in the Atrium. We need to order books and purchase supplies for the coming year. The [Registration Deadline](#) has been [extended to August 7](#) (one month prior to the first day of R.E. Classes). **Registration fees after August 7** are \$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 (see below):

2 CATECHISTS for 8:30 a.m. Mass Dismissal

2 CATECHISTS for 11:00 a.m. 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)

07 Aug 08: R.E. Registration Deadline

20 Aug 08: First Day of School Norman Public Schools

23 Aug 08: Catechists Brunch (Meet and Greet), 10:30 a.m. in Overflow room (RSVP required. Call/email Chelle to sign-up.)

1 Sep 08: No School

7 Sep 08: First Day of Religious Education Classes (ALL Grades K-12), 09:45-10:45 a.m.

21 Sep 08: Blessing of Catechists, 8:30 a.m.

27 Sep 08: St Vincent De Paul's Walk for the Poor

Process from 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 workday/classroom preparation

† Catechist In-Service Day

CATECHIST CORNER

The Archdiocese of Oklahoma City is actively involved in overseeing that those who work with youth are formally trained, continue to give updated training, and are provided with means of deepening their own faith. The revised Code of Canon Law states:

"Lay persons who devote themselves to special service in the church are obligated to acquire appropriate formation that is required to fulfill their function properly and to carry it conscientiously, zealously and diligently" (CN 776).

Please contact Chelle Breedlove to review the options that are available for catechetical certification. One of the options are a series of five Youth Faith Formation workshops, held on Saturdays throughout the year from 8:15 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Consider attending the **2008 CATECHETICAL CONGRESS** on **Saturday, Sept. 27, 2008** at the **Catholic Pastoral Center**. Sign-up with Chelle no later than Sept. 14. We can try to carpool and all go together!

PARENT / GUARDIAN CORNER

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

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.

Praise their character to your friends.

Believe in them.

Value their friends. Invite them over and get to know them.

Pray for them daily.

Love them enough to just listen.

Ban the words "I told you so" and "When will you ever learn?" from your vocabulary.

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

6/26/2008 Parenting

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

Please mark your calendars for **BACK-TO-SCHOOL ACTIVITIES:**

August 4- New Family Orientation- 6:30 p.m.

August 5- Town Hall Meeting- 6:30 p.m.

August 7- Town Hall Meeting- 6:30 p.m.

August 11- Back-to-School Night- 5:00-7:00 p.m.

August 13- First Day of School - 8:20 a.m.

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

A few **openings still exist for the 2008-09 school year.** An [admission packet](#) can be downloaded from our school website at www.allsaintsnorman.org (click on administration). The school office will be open throughout the summer to answer questions and for admission interviews.

PARISH NEWS, NOTES & ANNOUNCEMENTS

KNIGHTLY NEWS

This **Wednesday, Aug. 6th** is the date of our next **Council 8523 Business Meeting**. We will begin with a **Rosary at 7 P.M.** and the meeting starting at 7:30 with a light meal after.

Work Days Scheduled – Two workdays to improve the appearance of the Knights' House and assist in the upgrading of RE and Campus Ministry facilities is scheduled for **8:30 a.m. – 1 p.m. on Aug. 9th and Aug 23rd**. **Yes, we do need you!** The exterior of the Knights' House will be painted, inside cleaning, painting and hauling and perhaps even some frustration relief opportunities in converting the middle section of the red house into a breezeway. Refreshments will be on hand.

Our Council and St. Thomas More Parish will host an **ADORATION OF THE VIRGIN OF FATIMA** as her **statue travels on its international pilgrimage**. It is significant that this icon will be present on the **eve** of the **ASSUMPTION OF OUR BLESSED VIRGIN MOTHER, THURSDAY, AUGUST 14TH**. Our celebration of this event will include an evening **VIGIL MASS, AUGUST 14, AT 7 P.M.** followed by the Knights leading **4 FULL ROSARIES AND AN ALL NIGHT ADORATION**. Note that Friday, August 15th, the Feast of the Assumption, is a **HOLY DAY** and your participation in the Vigil Mass will satisfy your Holy Day obligation. Knight Volunteers from **our Council** as well as **St. Mark's** and **St. Joseph's** are being asked to attend. A 4th Degree Honor Guard has been requested. If you are a 4th Degree and have your regalia please contract SK Dan Lawrence. (If you are not a 4th Degree Knight, why aren't you?) This is a unique opportunity for Knights across Norman to join in common service.

Our next **Exemplification** is scheduled for **Wednesday, Aug. 20th**. Don't delay; there is still time to invite a qualified man to join the First Degree and participate in this ceremony. Recruit a new member – Both of you will glad you did. **KNIGHTHOOD** and its **SERVICE** is an **HONOR**.

SUMMER BOOK CLUB

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**

ATTENTION PRIMETIMERS AND PRIMETIMER WANNABES

Our August meeting will be special, indeed. In case you hadn't noticed, the price of gasoline has recently gotten dramatically higher. Would you like to have a car that you could drive all day, run as many errands as you like and pay only about one dollar for fuel (energy)? You want to know how? Come and find out when our friend and fellow parishioner, Dr. John Fagan, tells us about the future of the American automobile and shows us what the future holds for those of us who drive. We will meet on **Friday, August 15, at 8:30 pm, in the STM Atrium**. Come join us, bring your favorite covered or uncovered dish to share, and maybe your favorite beverages. You will find that we are quite a jolly group and all parishioners are welcome. You need not be retired to join in the fellowship and fun. For more information, contact Al Patrick, 405.360.4147.

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!

The **MARTHA & MARY GUILD** will **NOT** be meeting in August so that we may all work on our own projects at home. The Guild would like to give a great big **thank you** to the parishioner(s) who mentioned our name at **B.C. CLARK**. We received 3% of your purchase for St. Vincent de Paul. Also, we thank the parishioners who donated the "Beautiful Containers" book to us. It has given us wonderful new ideas!

18TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

In Hollywood's version of Man of La Mancha, Don Quixote sings of doing what seems impossible-fighting unbeatable foes, righting unrightable wrongs, trying when one's arms are too weary. But it is the last verse which is the most powerful: "And the world will be better for this / that one man, scorned and covered with scars / still strove with his last ounce of courage / to reach the unreachable star."

In today's Gospel reading from Matthew, we hear the story of the feeding of the 5,000 people with only a few loaves of bread and a couple of fish. Impossible, you say? This is the only miracle of Jesus that is recorded in all four Gospels. Our lesson is to look deeper into the miracle and realize that the gifts God has given us are so plentiful we can share with those around us, especially those who need God the most.

ONCE WE HAVE GRASPED THE REALITY OF GOD'S POWER, WE WILL THEN CONFIRM OUR FAITH AND HOPE BECAUSE WE WILL ONCE AND FOR ALL KNOW THAT NOTHING IS IMPOSSIBLE WITH GOD (CCC 274). When faced with a seemingly impossible challenge, do not allow the test of doubt to keep you from realizing your potential. Even the disciples, who witnessed so many miracles, coped with doubt as to the resurrection of Christ; look at what they were able to accomplish!

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READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF AUGUST 3, 2008

Sunday: Is 55:1-3 / Rom 8:35, 37-39 / Mt 14:13-21
Monday: Jer 28:1-17 / Mt 14:22-36
Tuesday: Jer 30:1-2, 12-15, 18-22 / Mt 14:22-36 or Mt 15:1-2, 10-14
Wednesday: Dn 7:9-10, 13-14 / 2 Pt 1:16-19 / Mt 17:1-9
Thursday: Jer 31:31-34 / Mt 16:13-23
Friday: Na 2:1, 3; 3:1-3, 6-7 / Mt 16:24-28
Saturday: Hb 1:12-2:4 / Mt 17:14-20
Next Sunday: 1 Kgs 19:9a, 11-13a / Rom 9:1-5 / Mt 14:22-33

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 Scanlon and Clint Wilson*); the hungry; the homeless; the abused; the unemployed; and our youth; **THE SICK...** 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.

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 **405.721.5651 (Catholic Pastoral Center)**.

DAY BY DAY

WHAT THE FEEDING FORESHADOWS

The soul must enter into the God-man and look at the holy ordering which he realized in this holy sacrifice [of the Eucharist]. One must also look at the ineffable love which led the God-man to seize every possible means to remain with us totally. He instituted this very holy sacrifice, not only as a memorial of his death (through which he saves us), but also as a way of remaining with us totally and forever. Whoever wishes to enter and penetrate these depths must have good eyes...

We see the ineffable love he had for us; how his deep love for us poured into us totally; how he handed himself over to us totally and for always...

Note well and perceive who is the one who wishes to remain with us in this holy sacrifice! It is the "one who is," and he who is remains with us in this most holy sacrifice in his entirety...

What soul could be so cruel as to see this aspect that shows the God-man's love for us, such a filial love, and not be immediately transformed into love? What soul could see in this aspect so much suffering, such bitter pain, how it required such submission to all forms of suffering, visible and invisible, and not be immediately transformed into a state of suffering? What soul could be so incapable of love as to see how Christ loved it, how he decided to remain with us in this most holy sacrifice, and not be transformed totally into love?

This aspect of Christ's love for us was such that even though he saw his death as imminent and experienced such unspeakably acute, deadly, and totally unconceivable sufferings - for every type of suffering converged on his body and soul, - still, as if not thinking of himself, he never renounced his intentions, so great was his love for us. Indeed, such is the plan of divine love that its purpose is always to draw back to itself that which it loves; it draws everyone out of themselves and out of all created reality, and totally into the uncreated. - BLESSED ANGELA OF FOLIGNO

Blessed Angela of Foligno (+ 1309) was a wife and mother who later became a Franciscan tertiary and an esteemed mystical writer.

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TRANSFIGURATION

Christ's Tabor radiance is a kind of mirror in which we glimpse the glory that God wills to give his friends. The resplendence of the Transfiguration reveals the fullness of life destined to be ours. The Transfiguration invites us to configuration. As we peer into the glory that pours from every pore of the transfigured Christ, we cast off everything unworthy of our personal relationship with the Infinite, and we take on the luster of the Son of God. Jesus gazes back at us with a luminous look of love that makes us desire to live his transparent beauty - to be luminaries. Silently from Tabor's splendor, the Savior begs: *"Become what you behold!"*

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**"COME TO THE WATER, THE SOURCE OF ALL LIFE."
ST. THOMAS MORE JOURNEY OF FAITH FALL-SPRING 2008-09**

As the deer longs for streams of water, so my soul longs for you, O God. (Psalms 42:2). And Jesus said: "Let anyone who thirsts, come to me and drink... (John 7:37).

If you are interested in learning more about what being a Catholic is all about, or if you are a baptized adult Catholic who has not received the sacraments of Holy Communion and Confirmation, or if you simply desire to investigate the existential meaning of your life, then the St. Thomas More RCIA program is for you!

The **Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)** is a **JOURNEY OF FAITH** which runs from August 26, 2008 to April 12, 2009 (Easter Vigil) with meetings each Tuesday evening from **7:00 to 9:00 p.m.** By attending RCIA, you are not committing yourself to baptism or to being received into the Catholic Church, but simply to exploring further your journey with Christ.

If you would like to find out more, please contact me, or better yet, just show up! **The first meeting is Tuesday evening, August 26, in the Parish Overflow room.**

**ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY
HOLY DAY**

LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

VIGIL MASS: Thursday,
August 14, 7 p.m.

Knights of Columbus
lead 4 full **ROSARIES** & an
All Night
ADORATION of the
VIRGIN OF FATIMA
following Vigil Mass

MASS: Friday,
August 15, 7:30 a.m.

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.**

-Yours in Christ, Deacon John Pigott