

MASSSES for the WEEK

April 3-9, 2006

MON	8:00 AM	+ DOROTHY PARHAM
TUE	8:00 AM	+ ED HAMAN
	6:30 PM	+ ROGELIO FELICIANO
WED	8:00 AM	+ THERESA MARIA FORTE
THURS	8:00 AM	+ EUEGEN ELLERSICK
	6:30 PM	+ ANN BURTON
FRI	8:00 AM	+ ALFRED MILLETTE
SAT.	5:00 PM	+ GEORGE & ANN GORRIE
SUN. PALM SUNDAY		
	7:00 AM	+ MARIA YON DE NIEVES
	9:00 AM	+ MANUELA LA SALLE
	10:45AM	+ CHRISTINE MARIE O' BRIEN
	5:00 PM	+ FOR THE NEEDS OF OUR PARISH FAMILY

Welcome Deacon Albert Scheller to St. Thomas Aquinas!

Deacon Scheller has joined the staff of clergy at STA. Deacon Albert J. Scheller, M.D. was born and raised in Wisconsin until going to St. Thomas Aquinas College in St. Paul, Minnesota and graduating in 1958. He then attended medical school at St. Louis University and graduated in 1962. After internship and completing a residency in ophthalmology in 1966, Deacon Al served 2 years in the military during the Vietnam Era.

In 1968 Deacon Al and his family moved to Arizona. He began his practice of medicine and lived in the parish of St. Louis the King for nearly 3 years. In 1971, the family moved to Litchfield Park and attended St. Thomas Aquinas Church, a Mission of St. John Vianney Parish. As St. Thomas Aquinas grew and became a parish, Deacon Al was a part of the process as our church was built on Old Litchfield Road. Deacon Al and his wife, Carol, of 46 years raised 5 children in the area and now have 11 grandchildren, of which some are also members of the parish.

Deacon Al was ordained on November 4, 2000 and has been serving at St. Williams's Parish in Cashion and Our Lady of Guadalupe Mission in Santa Maria, since ordination. Deacon Al and Carol have lived in Pebble Creek since 1994. Deacon Al is still practicing ophthalmology part time in the local area.

Opportunities to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation at STA

- † Wednesdays at 6:30 PM
- † Saturdays from 3:30 – 4:30 PM

NO Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confessions) on Holy Saturday.

SCHEDULE OF WORSHIP FOR HOLY WEEK

(There is NO morning Mass during the Sacred Triduum)

Monday, April 10th

Chrism Mass 7:30 p.m. at Ss. Simon & Jude Cathedral, 6351 N. 27th Ave, Phoenix.

At the Chrism Mass the bishop blesses the oils that will be used in the diocese over the coming year. The oil of the Sick (used) in anointing, the oil of the Catechumens (used) in Baptism, and Sacred Chrism (used) for Baptism, Confirmation, and Ordination. These oils will be received at St. Thomas Aquinas Church on Holy Thursday.

Celebrating the Sacred Triduum

Our holiest three days of the year are the **Triduum** (*Latin for three days*), which begins on Holy Thursday evening and continues through the evening of Easter Sunday. Through centuries, Christians have set these days aside-free of social engagements, entertainment, and (if possible) work. It is a time of prayer, special fasting, and expectation. The Triduum is "all one piece," one single celebration of the dying and rising of Christ (referred to as the **Paschal Mystery**.)

Holy Thursday, April 13, 2006

Mass of the Lord's Supper 7:00 p.m. This evening begins the **Triduum** and after listening to the Scriptures, we do something strange...we wash feet! The Priest goes on his knees to wash the feet of the twelve with pitchers of water, basins, and towels. Jesus gave us this image of what Church is supposed to look, feel and act like at the last Supper. (Jn. 13: 1-20) This liturgy has no ending, we may stay and pray before the Blessed Sacrament. WE depart silently in the peace and glory of the Triduum.

Good Friday, April 14, 2006

We gather in silence, where we left off last night. We hear once again of Christ's sacrifice according to the Gospel of John. We pray for the needs of the whole world. The cross is brought forward and we reverence it with a kiss or a touch. Later in the evening we gather to "bury" the body of Christ. We do so in love, looking forward to the celebration of the Resurrection.

- † Church will be open at 12 Noon.
- † Service of Lord's Passion 3:00 p.m.
- † Living Stations with burial of the Lord 6:00 p.m.

Holy Saturday, April 15, 2006

Blessing of the Baskets—First Meal of Easter 12 Noon
Easter Vigil 8:00 p.m.

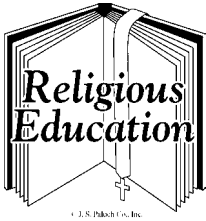
(There will be NO 5 p.m. Mass or Confessions on Holy Saturday)

The Church gathers in the darkness and lights a new fire and the Easter Candle that will make this night bright for us. We listen to some of the most wonderful scriptures and bless the waters of the new font. Then, our newest members are baptized and anointed. Together, we all go to the table and celebrate the Easter Eucharist. Easter, glorious feast begins. Now we are ready for 50 days of rejoicing!

Easter Masses, April 16, 2006

5:30 a.m. Sunrise Mass (LIFE TEEN Mass)
8:00 & 10:00 a.m. and 12:00 Noon

NO 5 p.m. evening MASS on Easter Sunday



SPECIAL SACRAMENT FIRST EUCHARIST & RCIC CLASSES will be held on Monday, April 10, as usual.

NO RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES (Grades 1 - 6, Special Sacrament First Eucharist & RCIC) will be held on Tuesday and Wednesday, April 11 & 12, and on Monday, April 17, in observance of Holy Week and Easter Vacation. Classes will resume on Tuesday and Wednesday, April 18 & 19 and Monday, April 24.

RCIC EASTER VIGIL PRACTICE for the catechumens/candidates and their godparents and sponsors will be held on Tuesday evening, April 11, at 7:00 PM in the Church. Catechumens and Candidates are asked to arrive at 6:45 PM and check in with their Catechist before the Easter Vigil Practice with the teens and adults begins.

THE RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION FOR CHILDREN (along with the Teens & Adults) will be celebrated at the Easter Vigil Mass on Saturday evening, April 15, at 8:00 PM. All RCIC participants are asked to check in with the RCIC Catechist at 7:30 PM in the Parish Office for name tags and directions. Our faith community offers its congratulations and prayers to the eighteen children of the RCIC Program upon their entry into the Catholic Church. Catechumens include Elissa Acosta, Jonathan Arroyo, Joshua Arroyo, Jasmine Briones, Marisol Briones, Angelina Cetta, Michael Cuellar, Destiny Flores, Sierra Gonzales, Jaci Jackson, Rhianna Johnson, Destiny Lopez, Hannah Mercier, Cyrus Metrahi, Justin Statler, James Tarin, and Fabian Zarate, Jr. After months of intense study, prayer, and reflection these catechumens will not only be baptized, but will also be confirmed and welcomed to the Eucharistic table of the Lord at the Easter Vigil. Jarrett Dobbin who is a candidate in the RCIC Program will make a Profession of Faith before receiving the sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist. Our best wishes are with all these children as they strive to witness the Gospel values in their lives. Thanks also to the RCIC Catechist: Peggy Medley and Aides: Angelique Arroyo and Liz Means for their dedication and many hours of catechetical work in preparing these children to embrace the Catholic faith.

FIRST EUCHARIST PICTURE & VIDEO ORDERS are still being accepted at the R.E. Office. Additional information regarding Individual and Family Photograph Opportunities and/or order envelopes are available at the R.E. Office. Only prepaid orders will be accepted.

RICE BOWL COLLECTION (a service ministry project of the students of Grades 1 - 6) is due in the R. E. Office no later than the week of April 16. All monies received will be donated to the Catholic Relief Services for the benefit of the foreign missions.

Resurrection: The Fulfillment *by Archbishop Daniel E. Pilarczyk*

If Jesus' life had ended on the cross, his story might have been a high point in creation. Here was someone who had done everything right, had followed God's plan for the world in his words and actions, had attempted to contribute to the development of what God had begun in the human creature, had apparently demonstrated how rich and how spiritually profound a human life could be. It was an exemplary life.

But Jesus' life ending on the cross would also have been one of the saddest stories in the history of creation. He who carried out God's will as none had done before would have died leaving only a memory behind, a memory of rejection and failure, done to death by the fear and narrowness of his fellow human creatures. If Jesus' life had ended on the cross it would have been one more monument to the triumph of human irresponsibility, to the triumph of human blindness, to the triumph of sin. Everything would be the same as it was before, with Jesus as the great exception proving the rule of futility in human endeavor.

But Jesus' life did not end on the cross. Soon after he had died he reappeared. He came back to his friends and followers. They recognized him as being the same Jesus they had known before, even though he was somehow different. His greeting to them was a greeting of peace. He calmed their fears at seeing him by assuring them that he was not a ghost. On many different occasions he associated himself with them again when they were gathered to recall his memory, when they sat together at meals, even when they worked at their fishing business.

The significance of the Resurrection of Jesus lies in what God says in and through it. In bringing Jesus gloriously back from death God is saying that a life like the life of Jesus is too good to end, too important to be overcome by human sinfulness, too significant to be relegated to the realm of memory, too precious to be the one-time exception in the story of creation.

By raising the humanity of Jesus from the dead, God is giving a divine sign of approval of the quality and meaning of Jesus' life. God is saying, in effect, "The life of this man is what human existence is all about—love and friendship and compassion and faithfulness and self-sacrifice, total dedication to the divine plan for creation, total giving of the human self to the work of the Creator even if the short-term result is rejection and death. This is what I want human existence to be and I want it to be so gloriously and forever." The Resurrection is God's "Bravo!" for Jesus' part in the story of creation.

PRAY FOR PEACE - PRAY THE ROSARY



Donations Please!

We are preparing for our annual Parish Ball May 13, 2006 at the Wigwam resort. The theme is "A Walk in the Park." A huge part of the success of this event for our school is our silent and live auction.

We are in need of donations for these auctions. Here are a few creative ideas: vacation rentals, theme baskets, sports tickets, spa certificates, furniture, art, fitness memberships etc. Our auction gets better and better every year! Donation forms are available in the vestibule of the church and in the church office.

All donations need to be collected by May 5th. Any questions please contact Ann Donahue at 935-4663 or by e-mail at ardjtd@qwest.net

Did you know that 95% of the population will need blood? Please help us with blood donation on:
Sunday, April 23rd
8:00 AM-12:30 PM
In a bloodmobile in the parking lot
Sign-up by logging onto www.bloodhero.com
Sponsor code: "TACC"

WILDCAT GOLF TOURNAMENT



We are looking for volunteers to help us with our 2nd Annual Wildcat Golf Tournament to be held Saturday April 22nd at the Wigwam Resort. This is an easy way to get between 4-8 hrs at once if you like.

Some of the things we need include:

- ◆ Getting sponsors, raffle prizes, and giveaway items ;
- ◆ Your company, a friend or relative's business, a vendor you use, to donate a prize, sponsorship, or giveaway item, etc;
- ◆ Gift certificates, vacation rentals, event tickets, electronics, apparel, sports items, etc;
- ◆ Logo items like, golf balls, tees, pens, hats, water bottles, small gifts, coupons, etc.
- ◆ Free Airline Tickets/Vouchers. (Do you know a frequent flyer who may be willing to donate a pass?)

We need people with a wide range of skills to help with the many jobs involved like:

*Pick up donations we secure, *Call businesses for donations, *Day of the event help to give out prizes, *Sign in golfers, *Sell raffle tickets, *Play games, *Have fun, etc.

We are also actively searching for sponsors. If you know someone with a business we need their support. Can your company sponsor something at the tournament?? Gold and Platinum Sponsors packages include rounds of golf!! They can also donate prizes, cash, or sponsor drinks, lunch, golf carts, advertising, games, etc.

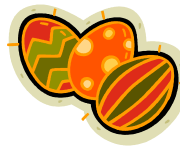
For more information on the golf tournament please call Tournament Director Dave Nigh at 623-910-7863 or 623-393-8326.

Coming the weekend of April 22nd and 23rd
Ministry Fair— "Sharing Our Gifts"
Looking to join in? This is your opportunity!
Stop by the Ministry Tables after any of the Masses and see what's happening in our great and friendly parish of St. Thomas Aquinas.

MOMS (Ministry of Mothers Sharing) Welcomes You!

Join us for Prayer Journaling! Thursday, April 6th, 7pm at Leaps Coffee and Custard.

For more information about MOMS please contact Lynelle Pora at 623-547-2094 or linelle99@hotmail.com



Children's Liturgy of the Word

EASTER EGG HUNT!

Bring your baskets and hunt for some eggs – April 15th at 10AM Ages 0-8 Anyone willing to volunteer to make this a HUGE success, please call Angie Tessmer at 602-214-1510 or atessmer1@cox.net Mark your calendars! There will be NO CLOW on Easter Sunday, April 16, on April 23rd or on Mother's Day, May 14th.

New—Evening Bible Study

Toni Hernandez will be leading an evening Bible study every Thursday from 7-8:30 PM. Please read the bulletin for more information on location.

St. Vincent de Paul Ministry

The rule of the Society states: St. Vincent de Paul members always operate in pairs. They are prepared to visit persons wherever the need exists, whether it be in a home, hospital, nursing home, prison, etc.

What is the right way to pray?

Think of prayer as a conversation between two people who love each other, so there's no one right way to pray. The key is to talk and listen on meaningful levels. As in any loving relationship, it is most rewarding to meet with your loved one as often as possible. Pope Paul II said, "Pray any way you like, so long as you do pray." God is always ready to listen.

While there are formulas for prayer that can help you, the way you pray can be as individual as fingerprint. Prayers usually use words—the main way God has communicated with us. There are also nonverbal ways to pray, such as using imagery to focus on his likeness, or music to glorify him. Just be sure to leave plenty of time when you can be silent and just listen. The more natural the prayer feels to you, the more you will want to do it.





ORDER YOUR HAM THIS WEEKEND!

St. Thomas Aquinas Parent Teacher Organization is selling HoneyBaked this weekend and next weekend. Stop by our table located in the courtyard to place your order for your delicious

Easter dinner.

Hams must be paid for when ordered, and we are happy to accept cash or check.

Hams will be delivered to St. Thomas on Friday, April 14th, and ready for pick-up at St. Clare Hall between 4-6 pm. All hams must be picked up during this time since we have no refrigeration for storing them properly.

Parish Council is seeking new Members

The Parish Council of STA is seeking new members. The Council has twelve parishioners, plus Fr. Kieran as its members. The main purpose of the Council is to create a vision for various aspects of parish life and to assist in the implementation of this vision, as needed. Four additional members to the Council will come from candidates recommended by the parishioners currently on the Council.

All parishioners should consider if they have the time and talents to make a difference at STA. If that difference could be as a Council member, please submit a letter of consideration. The letter, addressed to Fr. Kieran Kleczewski should state the talents and experience you would bring to the Council and what you would like to accomplish as a Council member. All letters should be submitted to Fr. Kieran's by April 4th. The Council will be meeting on April 5th to consider the candidates. Letter of consideration can be e-mailed to Fr. Kieran's secretary Maria at mdavis@stacc.net. If you have any questions about the Council and its activities feel free to contact Jerry Briner, Council President at 623-536-7920 or ritajab@aol.com.

† ONE DAY OF RENEWAL FOR MEN †

“We Are a Resurrected People” is the theme of a one day renewal for Catholic men scheduled at the Diocesan Pastoral Center
9:00 AM to 5:00 PM
Saturday, April 15, 2006.

Sponsored by Catholic Renewal Ministries.

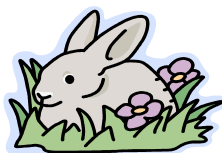
Cost \$10

For more info call Rob Ashton, 623-933-3378 or Jojo Concepcion at 623-229-6902.

Spend more time

- † In prayer
- † Performing works of charity
- † Practice self-denial.

Pick one reasonable action in each of these pillars of lent. That way you are more likely to stick with it through Lent.



THIS WEEK AT STA - April 2-8, 2005

Sun., April 2nd

8:30 AM	RCIA/Third Scrutiny during 9 Am Mass	Church
9:00 AM	RCIC Retreat	Rm #204
10:30 AM	RCIA	Rm # 206
12:30 PM	Grief to Hope Meeting	Conf. Rm
6:30 PM	Liturgy of the Hour	St. Clare Hall

Mon., April 3rd

5:30 PM	Spec. Sacrament-1st Eucharist	Rm #104
5:30 PM	First Eucharist	Rm 201,202, & 203
6:00 PM	RCIC	Rm # 204
7:00 PM	Arts & Environment Meeting	Conf,Rm

Tue., April 4th

6:30 PM	Religious Education classes	All classes
6:30 PM	Mass	Church
7:00 PM	Charismatic Prayer Group	Chapel
7:00 PM	Choir Rehearsal	Church

Wed., April 5th

3:00 PM	Seniors of STA	St. Clare Hall
3:15 PM	Children's Choir	Church
4:30 PM	Religious Education classes	All classes
6:15 PM	Praying the Rosary	Church
6:30 PM	Sacrament of Reconciliation (confessions)	Church
6:30 PM	Religious Education classes	All classes
7:00 PM	Catholics Come Home Ministry	Media Center
7:00 PM	Choir Rehearsal	Church

Thurs., April 6th

8:30 AM	Volunteers cleaning the church	Church
9:00 AM	Bible Study	Conf. Rm.
1:00 PM	Parent Teacher Conference	Classrooms
5:00 PM	Cursillo Prayer Group	Conf. Rm
6:30 PM	Adult Confirmation Classes	Rm # 206
6:30 PM	RCIA	St. Clare Hall
7:00 PM	Adult Faith Formation	Media Center
7:30 PM	Men's Club	Conf. Rm

Fri., April 7th

8:30 AM-9PM	Eucharistic Adoration	Chapel
2:30 PM	Children's Liturgical Reader Program	Church
5:30-7:30PM	FISH FRY- Men's Club	St. Clare Hall
7:00 PM	STATIONS OF THE CROSS	Church
8:00 PM	San Antonio Vocal Arts Ensemble Concert	Church

Sat., April 8th

4:00 PM	Cantor Rehearsal	Church
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CONCERT THIS FRIDAY, APRIL 7TH

The San Antonio Vocal Arts Ensemble will be appearing at St. Thomas Aquinas Church Friday, April 7th at 8 PM. Tickets are \$15 for general admission and are available in YOUR parish office or at the West Valley Fine Arts Council office.



We need your help! Please write your full name on your offertory envelopes to insure you get credit for your donation.

If you have changed your address or are planning a move, please let your Parish Office know at 623-935-2151.

Catholics Come Home

If you have been away from the church and are considering re-returning, our next gathering will be on Wednesday, April 12 at 7:00 PM in the Media Center. We warmly welcome you to join us. Please call Pat at 623-547-0999 or Jeanne at 877-2241 for information