



Spring 2010

Receiving More News Electronically

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Our Mission

The mission of Saint Thomas More Parish is to provide a welcoming, inclusive, and loving community by proclaiming and living God's Word through worship, education, and social justice.

It's Time to Clean House

Gina Staves, member of the Pastoral Council

Many will remember the winter of 2010 as one of the coldest and snowiest we have ever experienced. Take heart because spring will arrive in about a month and the signs of new life along with it. Christians across the western world will begin their spring-cleaning a little early on Ash Wednesday, February 17. Lent, which comes from the Germanic word for springtime, is a time for each of us to search our souls and to explore where we may have strayed from the path Jesus illuminated for us; to take a spiritual inventory and then clean out those things that hinder us from doing His will. It is a time of prayer and reflection, fasting and almsgiving. We listen to the Word of God to relive the experiences and teachings of Jesus so that we can become more fully the loving people God has called us to be.

The Lenten traditions we celebrate tie us to the generations that have come before and connect us to our community here on earth. We begin on Ash Wednesday with a symbol of repentance: placing a cross of ashes on our forehead. We fast and abstain from meat on this day and Good Friday, which means only one full meal with two smaller ones. In addition, Catholics 14 years of age and older abstain from meat on each Friday of Lent. We do this out of reverence for Jesus giving up his flesh for our sins and eternal salvation. "Giving something up" is a form of fasting that helps us learn to control a part of our life and leads to greater self-discipline. Whatever way we decide to fast, it is important to remember that it is not a diet. We are looking for spiritual results that are directed purely to God's glory. Another tradition, almsgiving,

allows us to take the material wealth, that we have accumulated with the talents and abilities God has given to us, and share it with those who are in need. We can also share our time and talents with others, a form of "paying it forward."

Come to Dinner with Father Don

Throughout Jesus' life, he modeled love for others even in the midst of contempt. Pontius Pilate sent him to be crucified, and rather than express anger or vengeance, Jesus' lesson to us was to forgive. On Tuesday, March 9th at 6PM in More Hall, the Pastoral Council will host our semi-annual "Dinner with Father Don." Everyone is welcome to attend, as



Father Don takes the third component of our Parish Mission Statement, "providing... a loving community" and challenges our parish leadership and each parishioner to become more like Christ. Look for details and how to rsvp for this evening in the Sunday bulletin and on our website, www.stmkc.com. It is our hope that you will consider making this evening of spring-cleaning a part of your Lenten celebration. †

More News

...is a quarterly newsletter of the Saint Thomas More Parish community in Kansas City, Missouri and is mailed to all active, registered parishioners. Submissions are open to all parish groups

Submissions

...can be sent to the editor. The Winter issue is to be delivered May 7, 2010. Submissions are due April 6, 2010. E-mail submissions are preferred. Submission guidelines and deadlines are posted at www.stmkc.com - text search "More News."

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Bill Waris Awards Celebrate Exemplary Stewards for Social Justice

Bob Sandford, Coeditor

The Bill Waris awards are presented at the Souper Bowl event each year to STM parishioners who demonstrate outstanding service in peace, justice or outreach to the poor. The recipients of the 2010 Bill Waris Award are Jim and Charlotte Humphrey and the recipient of the 2010 Bill Waris Certificate of Recognition for Youth is Ashley Klein.

Jim and Charlotte Humphrey

Here is an excerpt from John and Paula Vohs' nomination of Jim and Charlotte Humphrey:

"There are so many things that Charlotte and Jim do for people...they live their Christianity daily and influence people by their doing not their saying. Here are a few of their activities throughout the years: caring for 75 Foster babies, caring for pregnant unwed mothers to be, Teen Encounter Christ leadership, Engaged Couples ministry along with coordinating the program, many years serving the poor at Catholic Worker House and Saint James Kitchen, cleaning apartments for LINC, serving on the LINC board, Jim's years of free legal counsel for the poor, lecturing, being sacristans & Eucharistic ministers."

Ashley Klein

Here is an excerpt from Mary Begnaud and Kimberley Klein's nominations of Ashley Klein:

"Ashley was so moved at the eighth grade pro-life forum talk hearing a girl who had an abortion and now speaks on behalf of pro-life, that she was determined to help those girls who chose life for a baby instead of an abortion. She has to date completed five "dresser projects" for Advice and Aid Pregnancy Center. She baby-sat to earn the money to purchase a baby dresser and clothes for a baby for a year. Ashley baby-sat approximately 50 hours for each dresser project. Ashley says her reward is that she knows that she has supported a teen mom and new baby that she has never met. Her involvement has strengthened her

conviction and passion toward pro-life."

Other ways Ashley has been involved:

- She has worked throughout her high school years with the Down Syndrome Guild of Kansas City baby sitting, helping with holiday parties, and reading and playing with the young children.
- Throughout high school, she has volunteered at Cure of Ars Grade School in the Sunday religious education program.
- She volunteered with the Vacation Bible School program with preschool children.
- She participated in the Guatemala Mission Trip in both 2007 and 2008
- Her dedication to community service earned Ashley a scholarship to the People to People trip to Europe. On this trip, she worked in a school in Fiji where she helped raise funds for books and supplies.
- She volunteered recently at Holy Name Catholic Grade School reading books, sharing activities and playing with the children.
- Ashley is looking at pursuing non-profit leadership studies

†

"Ashley was so moved at the eighth grade pro-life forum talk hearing a girl who had an abortion and now speaks on behalf of pro-life, that she was determined to help those girls who chose life for a baby instead of an abortion."

Guatemala Trips Planned

Phil Smith

Information night and sign ups

Sign up and information for the summer Guatemala mission trips will be Sunday February 28 after 5PM Mass in the Parish Office. Sign up is on a first come first served basis, so get there early. Saint Thomas More parishioners have priority over non parishioners, but all are welcome if we have room. A \$100.00 non-refundable deposit will be required at sign up.

Trip information

- Travelers are required to have a passport and must be high school age or older. Youth must have a parent or adult sponsor.
- Two trips: Trip # 1: July 10-17, Trip # 2: July 24-31.
- Trip runs approximately \$1200.00 per person with first-time travelers who are registered STM parishioners receiving a \$200.00 discount. Price includes air fare, room, board and ground transportation.

Any questions, contact Phil Smith
816-353-1495
or psmith@dicksmithford.com



STM Featured as Community LINC's September "Volunteer Angel"

An excerpt from Community LINC's December 2009 newsletter, reprinted with permission

"We were overwhelmed by the magnitude of the recent volunteer effort by Saint Thomas More Parish. Led by team leader Rita Tiehen, this amazing group took our worst apartment and made it our best.

The apartment had not been redone for many years and needed a total rehab. One of our residents started the process by taking out trash and tearing out cabinets and carpet. Saint Thomas More agreed to tile the entry, kitchen and bath. They recruited our regular Wednesday maintenance volunteer team from Atonement

Lutheran to prep the sub-floors. The floors were rotted. A big job became huge by tearing out the complete floor and adding bracing to the floor joists.

Saint Thomas More then painted, installed new cabinets, tile floors, carpet and a refrigerator. The apartment was completely redone. After weeks of major construction work, the fun part began. The volunteers had collected furniture for the apartment. They totally furnished the living and dining rooms and all three bedrooms for our new family. They also supplied the kitchen with the dishes,

cookware and utensils needed for the family's use. They provided bedding, towels and accessories throughout the apartment. After logging over 340 volunteer hours, they gave the family a supply of food and personal touches designed just for them.

Both Community LINC and our new residents are deeply grateful for all of the Saint Thomas More volunteers and their deep dedication to this project." †

A Seton Center Thank You

Excerpts from a January 13, 2010 letter from Seton Center

"We are deeply grateful for your pledge of \$10,000 to Seton Center this year and for the \$2,500 quarterly payment already received. In addition, your congregation gave us \$460 in donations to help stock our food pantry, and you came through with desperately needed warm winter wraps! Our cup is running over with the good fortune of your faith in action...

Every day at Seton Center, we see the positive effects of your help. The father who has been laid off after many years on the job and the single mother who is working for less than a living wage, receive food for their families. People

get hats, gloves and coats from the thrift store; just imagine the difference those items made this winter! After 40 years, Seton Center is still an anchor in Kansas City's urban core. We realize that it is because of you, our partners at Saint Thomas More Parish, who give so generously of your time and treasure, that Seton Center is able to help more people hold on through difficult times."

Sister Loretto Marie
Executive Director, Seton Center

Respect Life Committee

Katie Reichenberger

Stand up for Life Banquet & March for Life

On November 17, the Respect Life Committee represented our parish at the Missouri Right to Life's Stand Up for Life Banquet. We were well represented with 32 attendees. Jack Cashill was the keynote speaker and he related the story of "Thine Eyes" to the crowd. "Thine Eyes" is a documentary about the March for Life which happens each year in Washington DC on January 22. This year, my husband and I and our two children made the trek! It was cold but awe-inspiring to see thousands of people marching for the unborn! (See picture at right.)

Coming soon!

We have several upcoming events that we'd like to invite

everyone to attend! On Tuesday, March 30 there will be several vehicles that leave from STM to go to Jefferson City for the Pro-Life Lobby Day! We will be meeting with our representative to discuss the importance of voting pro-life! In May, the Respect Life Committee will again be selling carnations and also hosting a diaper drive.

New Coordinator Sought

The last piece of news from the Respect Life Committee is that I stepped down as one of the committee coordinators. The committee is in the process of seeking my replacement. The ideal candidate will demonstrate a passion for all things pro-life! Contact the parish office for more information, 816-942-2492.



Parishioners Katie and Jared Reichenberger, along with their two children, attended this year's March For Life on Washington DC.

STM Alumni Committee Planning 40 Year Reunion

Kathy Maguire

2010 marks the 40th anniversary of the first graduating class from Saint Thomas More Grade School. What a great 40 years it has been! So many memories and achievements have occurred in the classrooms and halls of STM and beyond. A few years ago, a group of parents got together in the computer lab and entered the name of every graduate of STM Grade School into an alumni database. Since then, work has continued to obtain e-mails and addresses of as many alums as possible. The next step was taken to form an Alumni Committee that is active today.

In June of 2008, 175 alumni gathered to celebrate, reminisce and catch up. After Mass with Father Matt Rule (STM Alumnus) and Father Don, all joined together in the school for dinner and tours of the school. Laughter, stories of days past and tales of current happenings in everyone's lives could be heard throughout the night.

Since that grand evening, the Alumni Committee has been meeting, developing their database, obtaining Class Captains and planning for the next reunion on June 26, 2010 (see at right). They are also working on developing an alumni section of the parish website. (http://www.stmcyclones.org/stmweb6/STM_alumni.asp)

Spread the word: June 26, 2010!

Mark your calendars for Saturday, June 26th for another fantastic night. An e-vite will be coming your way. If you know of any alum who might want to join us, please forward their e-mail, mailing address, telephone number, year of graduation (and maiden name, if applicable) to magoorstc@aol.com. The Alumni Committee would also love to welcome any alum to join in the planning and development fun, both for the reunion and future of the committee. †



Graduates from the class of 1975 gathered in October of 2009 for a mini-reunion. Pictured left to right are Chris Looney, Joanne Effertz Schroer, Joane Van Dyke Wilkerson, Dutch Schorgl, Frank Hopfinger, Joe Schroer, Lynn Sullivan Reardon, Jim Broski and Steve Clifford.

Ten Facts About Saint Thomas More School

As an extension of our recent observance of Catholic Schools Week, we invite you to consider the value and values of this essential parish ministry:

1. Our mission . . . STM School provides a safe learning environment for each child while recognizing unique gifts that are developed through acts of justice, love and service based in our Catholic religious beliefs.

2. We provide individual attention . . . STM School identifies the strengths of each student and provides programs through our resource room, counselor, special needs teacher, Title programs, and every-day classroom curriculum to give each child the opportunity to excel.

3. We are a school community that stands for and teaches values . . . STM School provides the opportunity for daily prayer, religious education and weekly Mass. We have a well-defined discipline and conduct code that is enhanced by the Olweus Anti-bullying Program. Students are engaged in community service and had over 10,000 hours of individual service logged last year by the Heart 2 Heart program.

4. Our students have a chance to discover and develop talents . . . STM offers curricular and extracurricular programs including Spanish, instrumental and vocal music, robotics club, art club, yearbook, student council, Mad Science and an extensive computer and technology program throughout the school.

5. Our school's teachers . . . STM School faculty and staff show Christian witness, expertise in subject area, creativity, responsiveness, concern for students and ability to give sound education to all students at every level. Sixty-six percent of the faculty and staff at Saint Thomas More School hold a Masters Degree in Education.

6. We welcome your interest, in fact, we anticipate questions . . . STM School's website, www.stm-cyclones.org, SchoolReach phone contacts, weekly parent note, class room web pages, regular surveys, teacher and administrative emails, and an open door policy provide a variety of communication venues.

7. We take partnering with our parents seriously and maintain close contact . . . STM School provides progress and quarterly grade reports, scheduled parent teacher conferences, contact with parents through weekly folders, and staffing with teachers and professionals from the public school districts when needs arise. Based on their knowledge of each child, the parents and teachers work together to provide the best educational experience possible.

8. We encourage parent involvement . . . STM School seeks parent expertise through a variety of volunteer commitments through Home and School, the Booster Club, the Cultural Enrichment Committee and the annual auction. Volunteers assist at recess, hot lunch, receptions, as mystery readers, and career presenters. These are just a few of the many opportunities parents and parishioners have to become involved in the school.

9. Our aftercare service . . . STM School provides aftercare, staffed by the YMCA, each day that school is in session.

10. Our financial picture at STM School is a close reflection of the cost of providing the best Catholic education for each child. A combination of tithing, tuition, parish and faculty support, reviewed and monitored by parish and school administration, allows STM School to provide a vital ministry to the parish . . .

Thank you!



Booster Club Selling Spirit Wear

Pam Allen

The STM booster club has been busy selling spirit wear clothing for adults and children. The next sale date will be in late March. Watch the school Thursday notes, and the church bulletin for the future dates.

STM School Students Reach Out to Holy Cross School

Sixty-Seven of our STM School first graders banded together to help fellow students from Holy Cross School by filling 170 backpacks with a variety of fun and nutritious foods brought from home along with notes from our students. As part of Catholic Schools Week, Holy Cross School also received from STM free Chris Cakes on February 3 and all the proceeds from the offertory collection at the STM February 4 all-school Mass.

STM school students help gather donations for Holy Cross School. (Reprinted with permission from the Catholic Key.)



Men of STM: Enhancing the Spiritual Lives of the Men of our Parish

Chip McKenzie

The Men of STM have been busy enhancing the spiritual lives of the men of our parish and offering our time talent and treasure by way of donating money to the parish Neighbors in Need Fund and the Guatemala Action Committee, and volunteering to assist our community in numerous projects. The highlight of our year has been the successful return of our That Man is You program. The spring semester began in January and we invite all men to come join us each Friday morning in More Hall. We begin with breakfast at 5:45AM and conclude at 7:20AM. While we have over 130 men participating, there is always room for more!!

A Taste of That Man is You

So that women and others can see what That Man is You is about, we hosted a special evening session of That Man is You on January 26. We called this session "A Taste of TMIY" and it provided an opportunity for the families to experience the powerful message that our men have been receiving every week. It was a tremendous success!

Knights of Columbus

John Kelly

Larry LeFebvre Named State Knight of the Month

Saint Thomas More Council's own Larry LeFebvre was chosen Missouri Knight of the Month for August/September 2009, in recognition of his commitment to the Order's principles of charity, unity, fraternity, and patriotism. Larry serves Council 14270 as Family Director, creating and organizing events like Family Fun Knight, Toast & Roast with Father Don, and the Columbus Knight Dinner. In addition, he coordinates Knights Out dinners and Fifth Sunday breakfasts.

At Saint Thomas More, Larry is a lector, homebound minister, lay presider, wake minister and extraordinary minister of the Eucharist. In the community, Larry is president of his neighborhood association, organized a national memorial service, served on the Boy Scout

Men of STM Charity Golf Tournament

The majority of the funds raised for the good work the Men of STM does is raised through the Men of STM Charity Golf Tournament which will be held this year on Friday, May 7, 2010 at Eagles Landing Golf Course beginning at 1PM. Over 100 men participated last year and we raised almost \$10,000 for the work of the Men of STM. More details to follow, check your bulletin.

Men of STM: You already belong

Men of STM is not a group that you join, there are no officers. All men of the parish belong and we look forward to any who want to participate to join us! †

Any questions, please call Chip McKenzie 816-942-9261 or Ed Van Buskirk at 816-215-1483 for more details.

Community Relations Board, and is a speaker and presenter at Eagle Scout Courts of Honor. He directs a national youth essay program with over 300,000 participants annually and organizes a trip to the nation's capital each year for the top 54 winners.

Larry served the VFW for 31 years, retiring as Assistant Adjutant General in 2006. Larry and his wife Mary have been married for 32 years. They have raised three daughters in addition to caring for over 120 children as foster parents over the past twenty years.

Donations Up in 2009

Donations made to charitable causes in 2009 by Council 14270 totaled over \$6,000, an increase of over 30% from 2008. Recipients included: Fifth Grade
continued on p.7

continued from p.6

Vocations Day, Savers of Life, STM Men's Golf Tournament, Roses for Life, CFCA, Vitae Society, STM 3 on 3 Basketball Tournament, RSVP Program in support of diocesan seminarians, STM church pew cushions, and causes benefitting from the MR Drive.

Over \$3,700 was raised from Family Fun Knight, Toast & Roast with Father Don, and the Columbus Day Spaghetti Dinner. The MR Drive collected over \$1,600, half of which is returned to the council to distribute locally.

Double Star Award

State Program Director John Kolisch presented the Double Star Council Award for 2008–2009 to Past Grand Knight Gene Twellman during the council business meeting on November 12. On behalf of State Deputy Greg Stratman, he congratulated the council for again attaining a distinction that only twelve Missouri councils earned.

In a letter to the council, Supreme Knight Carl Anderson said: "Please accept my sincere congratulations upon attaining this prestigious award. Your dedication to the Order is seen in the high standard of excellence you have achieved."

Support for Seminarians

Through the Refund Support Vocations Program (RSVP), Council 14270 has given \$500 each to seminarians Louis Farley and Tim Nguyen. Both men are first year theology students at Holy Apostles College & Seminary in Cromwell, Connecticut. Mr. Farley's home parish is Saint Rose of Lima in Savannah, Missouri, and Mr. Nguyen's home parish is Saint Andrew the Apostle in Kansas City.

Last year, financial help from Knights of Columbus councils to future priests, sisters and brothers exceeded \$2.6 million. A total of 4,513 seminarians and postulants received support. Since 1981 the Order has provided more than \$38 million in aid through RSVP, helping 61,196 men and women follow their vocations.

Roses for Life

STM Knights of Columbus participated in the annual Roses for Life campaign on the weekend of January 9 and 10, distributing 1,300 paper roses to be signed by parishioners. The roses represent support for pro-life causes and were sent to Senators and Representatives in Washington, D.C. in time for the March for Life on January 22, the anniversary of the Roe v. Wade decision.

2010

The first quarter of 2010 includes hosting the Kansas City Chapter meeting, golf cart shuttle service for Masses, a Knight's Night Out, Fifth Sunday breakfast, Fourth Degree Exemplification and preparation for the Third Annual Family Fun Knight in June.

Three youth events—Free Throw Championship, Essay Contest and Poster Contest—will be held. In April, recognition for those events and the Soccer Challenge will be presented as part of the Knights STM School Awards.

On the Web

Council activities, photo galleries from past events, and issues of the council newsletter, Knights News, are available on the council website, located under Community Life on www.stmkc.com. †

Boy Scout Lenten Fish Fry

Every Friday of Lent except March 19, 5:45-7:30PM

Menu: Baked and fried fish, fried shrimp, parsley boiled potatoes and seasoned French fries, green beans and corn, cole slaw and rolls and pizza for the kids. Desserts are offered by the Girl Scouts for an additional charge.

Prices: \$9/adult, \$8/senior and children 12 and under, \$35/immediate family and free for children 0-5 years of age

A New Adult Faith Formation Program



You have seen in recent bulletins and, perhaps, heard fellow parishioners talking about the new Adult Faith Formation Program that we have launched at Saint Thomas More. We are excited to announce that this CD program by Lighthouse Catholic Media is now

available on the north side of the Narthex. Be sure to drop by the kiosk and check out the titles as you are leaving Church next Sunday. Some of the prominent speakers you may recognize include: Dr. Scott Hahn, Bishop John Magee, Matthew Kelly and Father John Lanzrath. Coming soon you may select CDs from

Pope Benedict XVI, Mother Teresa, Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen, Father John Corapi, Kimberly Hahn, Jesse Romero and more. You are asked to consider a donation of \$3.00 per CD or, better yet, take home 4 CDs for just \$10.00 . . . listen, learn, give them away and then pick up some more! †

Journey to Justice Day Saturday, February 27, 9AM

Come for an opportunity to put your faith into action. Meet at More Hall at 9AM for continental breakfast and an opening reflection. Participants will go in groups to four work

sites: Saint Sabina's (Hispanic/Immigrant Ministry), Turn Around program, Catholic Charities Lighthouse Ministries and Seton Center. At 2PM, all will return to STM for reflection

and sharing. For more information, call the Human Rights Office at 756-1858 x532.

NYCY 2009

Ellie Fritts

The NCYC (National Catholic Youth Conference) was such a life-changing experience for me and 22,000 other high school teens. I loved everything I did there. I remember at least one thing from every breakout session to help me through my life. It was something I



was so happy I could share with my friends and also I was sad for friends who couldn't be there to experience what I did. I asked my friend Maura



Eveld what her favorite breakout session was and she said "My favorite breakout session was 'We Cry Justice' because the speaker incorporated his own songs into helping the nation." "We Cry Justice" also really opened my eyes to the truth of how many people live under the poverty line. When I asked my other friend Emma Eveld what she loved most about NCYC she told me "My favorite part was the general sessions

because it was so amazing to see all 22,000 teens doing the same dance and singing together and knowing you all believe in the same God." I know that NCYC impacted so many people's lives and it brought a new meaning of God and Jesus to my life.

†



Welcome to our New Youth Confirmation Coordinator

Bob Sandford, Coeditor

Johnny Greenhalgh is our newest parish staff member hired to replace Nicholas Moragues as our Youth Confirmation Coordinator. Starting in July of this year, he will also coordinate Youth Ministry for our parish.

Johnny earned his B.A. in Communications from Benedictine College in Atchison, Kansas in 2009. He is originally from Kansas City but finished high school in Arizona. Two years ago his family moved to Philadelphia where he lived until moving

back to Kansas City in January to work here at STM.

He says his favorite food is cheese pizza, his favorite vacation spot is "any beach," he loves warm weather, and he is "really looking forward to working with the youth of Saint Thomas More and helping people grow closer to God." †

You can reach Johnny Greenhalgh at the office 816-942-2492 x214 or johnny@stmkc.com



Vacation Bible School Coming Soon, Volunteers Needed

Shara Lewis, Children's Ministries Coordinator

Vacation Bible School is just around the corner! From east to west, people are coming to be part of God's Great Get-Together! So put on some sunscreen and head to the party gathering at the Baobab tree...

Join us for a week of energy packed games, awesome music, wacky skits, Bible stories, and cool crafts! It's guaranteed to be a BLAST! Baobab Blast is the place to be this summer!

Register online through the parish website, or pick up a registration form in the office. We are currently recruiting activity leaders, decoration coordinators, and registration supervisors - no experience



necessary! All materials and ideas are provided! Contact Shara Lewis for more information! †

You can reach Shara Lewis at 816-942-2492 x205 or shara@stmkc.com



School of Religion Upcoming Events

Shara Lewis, Children's Ministries Coordinator

The School of Religion has a few upcoming events where they would like to invite the rest of the parish community to join them.

On Saturday, February 20, during our regular SOR classes, Father

Rocha will be a guest speaker, to discuss ways to grow in faith, as the children mature into adults. We welcome others to join in this timely discussion.

On Friday, April 9th, at 5:30PM,

we will be visiting Villa Ventura Residential Home, for a BINGO party. Come join in the fun - the more the merrier! †

Nursery Update

Shara Lewis, Children's Ministries Coordinator

If you have not yet stopped by, come check out the Nursery. The Church Nursery is open during Sunday 9:30AM and 11:30AM Masses. We offer a safe, loving environment for children to play, while their parents enjoy Mass.

For those of you working on



like additional adult volunteers to come and play with the children during mass. Contact Shara Lewis if you can help. Thank you! †

You can reach Shara Lewis at 816-942-2492 x205 or shara@stmkc.com



getting children to sit through Mass, there are lots of wonderful tips available on the Saint Thomas More Children & Youth Facebook page. If you would like these tips emailed to you, contact me at shara@stmkc.com.

The nursery is in need of gently used little girl toys. Also, we would



STM Students Pray “Living Rosary” During Catholic Schools Week



Blood Drive, Tuesday, March 2

Linda Heiman and Teresa Schnitker

The Community Blood Center supplies 73 hospitals in the metro area with blood products. They require the collection of over 3000 units every week to meet the needs of their patients. Unfortunately, while 60% of the population is eligible to give blood 5% choose to do so.

The Saint Thomas More

community has increased the number of donations over the last year. Be a part of this group by donating blood at the next STM blood drive on Tuesday, March 2, 1-7 p.m. We have extended hours to accommodate more people's schedules.

The March 2nd drive will give the Saint Thomas More students the opportunity for a special “Out

of Uniform Day” Students may have this special day by having a relative or adult friend donate blood. To make an appointment online go to www.savealifenow.org and use sponsor code stthomasmore. You may also contact Linda Heiman 816-942-0052 or Teresa Schnitker at 816-941-8171. †

Computer Lab Classes Held

Bob Sandford, Coeditor

Everything you wanted to know about computers and software from beginner to expert! Join Rick Dostal in the Blacet Computer Room in More Hall. Learn about everything from computer hardware to software, applications and the internet. Classes are no charge and are open

to all.

Computer Lab Hours

We have volunteers willing to open the computer lab Mondays through Wednesdays, 3-5PM and Wednesday evenings, 7-9PM. Due to the weather, they will not be there unless someone plans to be present.

If you would like to be in the lab these times or other times, please contact Joan Sandford at 942-2492 x202 or information@stmkc.com the day before. Our volunteers would be happy to help you! Come for a few minutes or a few hours! For more information, contact Joan. †



Generosity Leads to New Additions

Sanctuary Camera

Our thanks goes to Denise Amor, Bill Fellows, Steve Finger, Bernie Flucke, Mary Frey and Jeffrey Williams who were trained to run the camera system in the choir loft which feeds to the three screens in the narthex. The camera system includes controls (upper picture, below) and a camera (lower picture, below). This came in very handy for overflow seating at Christmas.

We also thank an anonymous donor for this gift. †



Creations by John Noel

Our new ambry (at right, displayed in the entrance to our worship space), narthex table (below) and tabernacle (below, right) were made by John Noel (who created our altar and ambo). The narthex table he made some years ago. The ambry and tabernacle were made recently with input from Father Don Farnan.

These pieces were purchased with donations from generous parishioners. †



Saint Joseph Table

This event will be held on Friday March 19, in More Hall. Pasta Milanese will be served 11AM-7PM. Mark your calendars!

Watch your bulletin for more information on cooking and volunteering for this event.

Call Angie DiFidi at 942-5205 for more information. All donations go to the poor. †

Boy Scout Sunday Sunday, February 14

Boy Scout Sunday is February 14, with Cub Scouts presenting awards at the 9:30AM Mass. A Pancake Breakfast will be held approximately 7AM-NOON that day as well. Watch your bulletin for the latest information.



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Lent & Easter at Saint Thomas More

Ash Wednesday, February 17 Masses

6:15AM, 8:15AM, 9:30AM, 6:30PM

Saint Joseph Table

Friday, March 19

More Friends Saint Patrick's Day party

Wednesday, March 10

More Friends Day of Recollection

Wednesday, March 24, 9AM-2:30PM

Youth Confirmation Celebration

Wednesday, April 14, at 7PM

First Communion

Sunday, May 2, at 2PM

Communal Penance Services

Monday, March 15, 7PM - Saint Elizabeth's

Wednesday, March 24, 7PM - Saint Thomas More

Thursday, March 25, 7PM - Christ the King

Sunday, March 28, 7PM - Saint Peter's

Palm Sunday & Holy Week Schedule

Palm Sunday, March 28 - Regular Sunday Mass times (Saturday at 4PM and Sunday at 7:30AM, 9:30AM, 11:30AM and 5PM)

Holy Thursday, April 1

Mass of the Lord's Supper at 7PM

Good Friday, April 2

7PM Service with Veneration of the Cross and Communion; Collection for the Holy Land

Holy Saturday, April 3

8PM Easter Vigil Service

Easter Sunday, April 4

Masses at 6:15AM, 7:30AM, 9:30AM, 11:30AM

Parish Office closed:

Holy Thursday, April 1, at noon through Easter Monday, April 5.

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