

SOLEMNITY OF ST. THOMAS OF VILLANOVA,
PATRON OF OUR PROVINCE, PARISH AND UNIVERSITY
OCTOBER 8, 2017



A Note from Fr. Michael ..

St Thomas of Villanova, Patron of our Province, Parish and University

They say, the late 15th century saw the dawn of the Golden Age of Spain. It was a time of unprecedented growth, power and wealth. In 1492 the catholic monarchs, Ferdinand and Isabella defeated and expelled the Moors from Spain. That same year, sailing under the Spanish flag, Christopher Columbus discovered the New World. It was a time of opulent indulgence. It was the time of the dreaded Spanish Inquisition, but it was also a time of great sanctity: Ignatius of Loyola, Teresa of Avila, John of the Cross and Thomas of Villanova.

Thomas was born in Villanueva de los Infantes in 1486. From his earliest years he exhibited great intellect and a voracious hunger for learning. He received a degree in theology at an exceptionally early age. Upon completing his studies, he accepted a teaching position at the University of Alcalá. His wide spread fame resulted in him being offered a teaching position at the prestigious University of Salamanca, which he declined in order to join the Augustinian Order. His holiness and giftedness resulted in his appointment first as a local Prior and eventually as Prior Provincial. In time, he was offered the position of Bishop of Granada, but he declined this honor preferring the simple life of a friar. Several years later, he was forced to accept the honor of being the Archbishop of the wealthy see of Valencia.

As archbishop, he chose to wear his old, often mended Augustinian habit rather than his episcopal vesture. He rejected the life of luxury and privilege his position offered him, seeking at every opportunity to literally give all to the poor, thus earning the title Father of the Poor. After a life time of service, in failing health he said his last Mass on August 28, 1555, the feast of St Augustine.

The legacy of St Thomas of Villanova is a powerful blessing and inspiration not only to us Augustinian Friars but also to our Augustinian Province, our parish and our university all dedicated to his patronage. St Thomas was a brilliant scholar, capable administrator, but above all, a humble loving man of profound faith, generosity and solidarity with the poor. Lastly, his life mirrored the Christ to a preeminent degree and that is the true gold standard of any age.

Stewardship Thought for the Week

“The stone the builders rejected has become the corner stone...”
Matthew 21:42

Jesus was the corner stone and He was rejected by the religious and political leaders of his day, as well as ordinary citizens. Living a stewardship lifestyle may cause you to be “rejected” by others in today’s society. For example, saying grace before a meal in a restaurant may attract some strange looks from some. But to others it is a sign that God is alive and well.

Thank you for your generosity for the week of September 30 and October 1, 2017:

Number of Envelopes	338
Envelope Amount	\$12,765.00
Loose Cash:	\$1,548.59
Electronic Offerings:	\$6,074.34
Total	\$20,387.93
10% Tithe	\$2,038.79
Income for Oct. 2, 2016	\$17,336.88

Mass for the Intentions Week

Mon., Oct. 9th	Weekday; <i>Saint Denis and Companions; Saint John Leonardi</i> Margaret Borden - John & Tanya Braithwaite
12:05PM-RMCH	
Tues., Oct. 10th	SOLEMNITY OF ST. THOMAS OF VILLANOVA Augustinian Vocations
12:05PM-RMCH	
Wed., Oct. 11th	Weekday; <i>Saint John XXIII</i> Reagan, Lotito & Petrizzo Families
12:05PM-RMCH	
Thurs., Oct. 12th	Weekday Sr. Marie Eulalia, O.P. - Kelleher Family
12:05PM-RMCH	
Fri., Oct. 13th	Weekday Commemoration of Deceased Benefactors of O.S.A.
12:05PM-RMCH	
Sat., Oct. 14th	Weekday; <i>Saint Callistus I</i> Louis J. Lotito - Petrizzo Family
9:00AM-RMCH	
5:00PM-RMCH	In Thanksgiving to the Blessed Mother - Kevin & Rose Lewis
Sun., Oct. 15th	Twenty-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time For the Parishioners of St. Thomas Frederica A. Roccario & Mary Carney - John & Tanya Braithwaite
7:30AM-VNCH	
9:00AM-RMCH	
10:30AM-VNCH	Joe & Lisa Corcoran (30th Wedding Anniversary) - Children

YOUTH MINISTRY EVENTS

Please join us for some great events this October! Please RSVP to Maria at fi-youth@stvparish.org. Learn more at: <https://www.facebook.com/stvyouthministry/>

- 10/15** Youth Gathering "Talk to your Mother"
Faith, Food and Fun!
Middle School 5-6:30
High School 7-8:30
- 10/20** 2nd Annual Delco Youth Lock-in! 8pm-9am
Join students from other Delco Parishes for a night of games, service, faith, & fun!
Lock-in will take place at SKS
- 10/28** Service event – St. John's Hospice Casseroles
After the 5pm mass, meet in the auditorium for dinner followed by casserole making.

Schedule of Events for the week of: October 8, 2017 Recitation of the Rosary after the daily Liturgy.



Monday, October 9, 2017	
Centering Prayer—RMCH	7:30AM
Art Class - PC1	11:00AM
Food Addicts in Recovery - Cafe	7:00PM
Bible Timeline - Aud	7:00PM
Tuesday, October 10, 2017	
Bible Sharing - PC2	10:00AM
SFC Mentors	1:00PM
Bible Sharing - PC2	7:00PM
Wednesday, October 11, 2017	
Women's 11th Step Spirituality Meeting	6:00AM
Food Addicts in Recovery - Café	9:30AM
Exercise - Aud	10:00AM
Honickman Ministry	10:00AM
Boost Your Brain Session - PC1	12:45PM
Religious Education Classes - RMCH	4:45PM
Men's Gathering— Fall Evening - Aud	7:00PM
Thursday, October 12, 2017	
Walking With Purpose - Aud	9:00AM
Walking With Purpose - Aud	7:00PM
1st Communion Parent's Meeting—RMCH	7:00PM
Friday, October 13, 2017	
Family Movie Night " "	5:30PM
Saturday, October 14, 2017	
St. Vincent DePaul Pickup	
Clothing Drive (Greendrop)	12:00-4:00PM
Mass of the Anointing—RMCH	5:00PM
Venture Crew Popcorn Sales—RMCH	6:00PM
Sunday, October 15, 2017	
St. Francis Inn	10:00AM
Venture Crew Popcorn Sales—RMCH	10:00AM
Religious Education Classes	10:10AM
REP Our Lady of Fatima Video - Aud	10:15AM
Rosemont Village Eucharistic Prayer Service	10:30AM
REP Living Rosary—RMCH	11:00AM
IHN MOVES IN	

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION INFORMATION

Parent Sacrament Meeting **FIRST COMMUNION:** Thursday, October 12th, 7:00pm

At least one parent from each family is required to attend this informative meeting. All parish families with students in 2nd or 6th grade who are attending Catholic School and will be celebrating the Sacraments at STV, must register their children. For more information, contact: Tara Penza at rel.ed@stvparish.org or call 610-525-4801.



We wish a warm welcome to the newest members of our parish:

Alex & Antonella Aloï & Family of Radnor
Jason & Tara Bacani & Family of Bryn Mawr
Matthew & Christine Gutierrez & Family of Bryn Mawr
Matthew & Allison Lombardi of Bryn Mawr
Richard Pergolis & Family of Radnor

Congratulations to the newly Baptized members of our parish:

John Joseph, son of John & Jennifer Finley
Jonathan Paul, son of Jonathan & Michele Yost

Remember those in need of our prayers, especially:

Frank and Richard Beston, Katherine Breck, Jennifer Greenberg, Patricia Ann Harley, Bridget Kelly, Angele Kuchukian, Pamela LaMonaca, Patrick McCabe, Jerry O'Connor, Bert Rodgers, Marie Scenna, Annie Sears, and Robert J. Wahl.

Please pray for our soldiers assigned in Afghanistan and in other parts of the world. Please also pray for the soldiers who are returning from their assignments, especially the wounded.

**FEED THE HUNGRY MINISTRY -
NOVEMBER 4TH**

The Life Center of Delaware County is a residence for the homeless but it opens its doors every day to anyone who comes off the street in need of a meal. Our parish serves dinner six times a year on the first Saturday of the odd numbered month. As a general rule, STV fills between 150 to 200 dinner plates each time we go.

The next St. Thomas Night at the Life Center is on November 4th, so if you can provide any of the following: cooked meatloaf, roasted potato casserole, green bean casserole, dinner salad (greens, cherry tomatoes), and a bottle of Italian dressing, gallon jugs of lemonade, fruit punch, sweet tea (no soda), (10 gallons needed), and/or premade wrapped sandwiches (bologna and cheese, PBJ and cheese).

If you can help prepare an entrée or buy any of the above on Saturday, November 4th, and deliver it to the Steele's home in Villanova, we can truly use your help. Contact Dennis Steele — steelecreativity@gmail.com

CHRISTIAN SERVICE

PRAYERLINE

The parish prayer line is waiting for your prayer request. We have a new email: stvprayerline@gmail.com and a new Prayerline Coordinator, Millie Seeds, for you to call at 610-353-2025.

PROJECT HOPE

This is a transportation ministry for our Parish. If you need a ride to your medical appointments or to food shop this week, please call Pat Herbison at 610-527-3556. Please give at least 3 days notice.

DINNERS TO THE DOORSTEP

This ministry is for parish families who are in crisis or for parish couples welcoming a new baby. Homemade dinners are delivered. Two parish coordinators keep a list of volunteers who are called as needed. If you are in need of this delicious community support, please call Maria Gunn at 610-291-7205.

ST. FRANCIS INN

Volunteers are needed to serve the midday meal at the St. Francis Inn in Kensington on Sunday, October 15th. The Inn tries to meet the immediate daily needs of the poor and homeless people they serve with food, clothing and hospitality. This ministry is open to anyone 16 years or older. For more information and to sign up, contact our parish coordinator, Sheila Holst at 610-659-5828 or hagan1126@verizon.net.

HELP AT HOME MINISTRY

Do you have a small household repair that you need done? A bigger job that needs assessment? General repairs such as: Plumbing (faucet / toilet repairs); Electric (fix a light); Mechanical (AC and heat, appliance); Structural and cosmetic (threshold, window repair, patching) Are you unable to physically perform the job? Not sure where to begin? Cannot afford to get it fixed? Contact: Parish Coordinator, Jim and Ann Colizzo Jim at 908-797-6228 jcolizzo@gmail.com; Ann at 484-883-4019 annortenzi@comcast.net or Anne Murphy, Parish Staff at 610-525-4801, pastoral@stvparish.org.

Readings for the Week:

Monday: Jon 1:1—2:2, 11; Lk 10:25-37
Tuesday: Aug I. 304; 2 Cor 8:9, 13-15; 9:10-15; Ps 112:1-2, 4-5, 7, 9; Mt 6:1-4
Wednesday: Jon 4:1-11; Lk 11:1-4
Thursday: Mal 3:13-20; Lk 11:5-13
Friday: JI 1:13-15; 2:1-2; Lk 11:15-26
Saturday: JI 4:12-21; Lk 11:27-28
Sunday: Is 25:6-10a; Phil 4:12-14, 19-20; Mt 22:1-14 or 22:1-10



MEN'S GATHERING

The St. Thomas of Villanova Men's Gathering is holding our 2nd Annual Oktoberfest on Wednesday, October 11, 2017 at 7:00PM in the Parish Auditorium. Join in fellowship with other men of faith as we enjoy German fare and beverages.

Our Guest Speaker this year is former NFL player and Philadelphia Eagles Network broadcaster Kevin Reilly. Seating is limited, so an RSVP is required. Please email Kraig Null at stv.mensgathering@gmail.com or text STVMEN to 22828 to reserve your spot. The deadline to RSVP is Monday, October 9th.

OPEN HOUSE SCHOOL NEWS

MOUNT SAINT JOSEPH ACADEMY

OPEN HOUSE: Sunday, October 8th from 12:00 - 3:00. To pre-register visit our website at www.msjad.org.

SCHOLARSHIP/ENTRANCE EXAM: Saturday, October 28th at 8:00am. For more information please call the Admission Office at [215-233-9133](tel:215-233-9133) or visit us online at www.msjad.org

NOTRE DAME DE NAMUR ACADEMY

Scholarship/Entrance Exam: Saturday, October 21 and Sunday, October 29. For more information call 610-971-0498 or visit ndapa.org/admissions.

SACRED HEART ACADEMY - BRYN MAWR

Scholarship/Entrance Exam: Saturday, October 21st, at 8:45 AM. Register online at www.shabrynmawr.org
Upper School Open House immediately following at 12:30pm-3:00pm. No registration required.

VILLA MARIA ACADEMY HIGH SCHOOL

Open House: Sunday October 15, 2017
Entrance/Scholarship Exam: Saturday, October 28th or November 4, 2017. For more Information, contact Admissions Office at 610-644-2551 or register online at www.vmahs.org.

WALDRON MERCY ACADEMY

Open House: Sunday, October 29th at Noon
Questions, call Sr. Joellen 610-664-9847, ext. 113, or www.waldronmercy.org.

Our Volunteers are the “Hospitality” in the Interfaith Hospitality Network (IHN) at St. Thomas of Villanova Parish

Homeless families come to St. Thomas of Villanova at a vulnerable time in their lives when they are without a roof over their heads. Most are single mothers who do not have adequate employment, the skills necessary to provide for their families, or the support of loved ones.

At St. Thomas of Villanova we provide a spirit of warmth and hospitality 5 times a year for one week at a time. Through the kindness of our volunteers we are able to supply a safe and welcoming environment for families to spend their evenings and nights at our Parish Center.

During the day, families use a Life Skills Center in Norristown and return to St. Thomas of Villanova in the evening.

OUR PARISH WILL BE HOSTING THE WEEK OF OCTOBER 15TH.

Here's How You Can Help:

- * Provide an evening meal during the week the families are at St. Thomas of Villanova.
- * Act as an evening host for a three-hour period in the evening.
- * Spend the night so that you are available to assist with any problems that arise.
- * At the start of the week, help set up the rooms for our guests.
- * At the end of the week, help dismantle the rooms, move the guests, or wash linen.

Teams of two or more people usually carry out all of these functions, so you won't be by yourself.

We urge you to consider extending St. Thomas of Villanova hospitality to families in our community. The overnight shift begins at 9:00pm and ends at 6:30am.

**TO VOLUNTEER, PLEASE CONTACT
Cathy Van Kula at 610-525-4801 or
service@stvparish.org**

MEN'S GOSPEL RELECTION GROUP

Do you desire a richer connection to the Word of God? Are you looking for a way to share your faith with other men of faith? Would you like to re-enforce your faith while navigating your daily life?

If any of these questions caused you to pause and think, then you might enjoy our weekly men's Gospel Reflection Group. We gather weekly in the Parish Center to discuss the coming Sunday's Gospel. Join us on Thursday mornings from 6:30am to 7:30am in the Parish Center next to the Rosemont Chapel.

UPCOMING PARISH EVENTS

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 10TH - CRADLES TO CRAYONS

A Parish Team is needed to roll up their sleeves and work at the Giving Factory at 30 Clipper Road, Conshohocken, PA. We will sort clothing, clean and repair toys, and prepare gift bags for needy children all over the Delaware Valley. Middle school students and older are welcome. RSVP to Cheryl Gibson 8gibson@comcast.net or Cathy Van Kula service@stvparish.org.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 14th - ANOINTING OF THE SICK

During the 5:00pm liturgy in the Rosemont Chapel we will have an Anointing of the Sick. The **ANOINTING OF THE SICK** "is not a sacrament for those only who are at the point of death. Hence, as soon as any one of the faithful begins to be in danger of death from sickness or old age, the fitting time for that person to receive this sacrament has certainly already arrived" (Constitution on the Liturgy, #73). This is an important sacrament celebration for the whole parish community. It is our opportunity to actively support the members of this parish family who are in need of the Church's Ministry. If you know anyone who might benefit from this sacrament, please bring him/her. Any questions, call Anne Murphy at 610-525-4801 or email pastoral@stvparish.org or Mary Kate McCauley at nurse@stvparish.org.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 14TH - GREENDROP TRUCK FOR SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

Bring your donations to the Rosemont Chapel Parking lot on Saturday, October 14th, from 12:00-4:00pm.

Look for the GREENDROP truck where an attendant will help you to unload your donations. A tax deduction form will be provided to you. — **What is needed?** Place your donations of men's, women's and children's clothing in plastic bags or boxes. Household items such as: kitchenware, games/toys, small appliances under 50 pounds, electronics, sporting goods, books, CD's and videos are accepted. — Furniture, large appliances, TV's or computer monitors **CANNOT** be accepted. For a full list of acceptable items, visit www.gogreendrop.com.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 23rd - "PAUL DURANT-RUEL: HOW ONE MAN'S ZEAL AS A COLLECTOR AND GALLERY OWNER ACHIEVED WORLD ACCLAIM FOR IMPRESSIONIST ARTISTS: MONET, RENOIR, DEGAS, CASATT" WITH ELAINE SHARER

Please join us at 12:45pm in the Rosemont Auditorium for this Brown Bag Lunch. Elaine is a longtime parishioner and very involved in parish life. Her educational background in fine arts led to her lifetime passion for art. Elaine is a docent at the Philadelphia Art Museum. Bring your lunch. Beverages and desserts are provided.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 4TH - THE ANNUAL MASS OF REMEMBRANCE

Please join us at the 5:00pm Mass in the Rosemont Chapel - During this time of year, the Church customarily remembers all those members of the community who have died during the past year. Please join us with your family and friends to remember the deceased of our parish. There will be a reception in the Rosemont Auditorium after the Mass. All are welcome.

SCRIPTURE REFLECTION SESSION

The parish offers weekly Scripture Reflection Sessions on Tuesday mornings (10:00am) and evenings (7:00pm). These sessions are conducted by Fr. Michael and Ginny Neumer. The sessions are based on the Sunday scripture readings for the following week's Mass. The object of these sessions is to enhance and heighten the worship experience of those participating in the sessions by reflecting on and discussing the weekly readings prior to the Eucharistic celebration. All are welcome! You are even encouraged to bring a friend or two.

STV FOOD PANTRY NEEDS YOUR HELP!!

The Parish food closet accepts donations of non-perishable foods on a weekly basis. The items collected are then delivered to our sister parish, St. Cyprian's in West Philadelphia where approximately 300 families are assisted on a monthly basis. Items most in need are: powdered milk, canned fruit and 100% fruit juice, peanut butter and jelly, tuna and canned sardines, cold cereal and oatmeal, pasta and pasta sauce, rice, stew and chili, and soup. Food may be dropped off M-F, 9am to 4:30pm to the Parish Center and on weekend to the back of the Rosemont Chapel (around Mass times when the Church is open.)

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2017 - DAN'S DOWN DOG AND DASH - ST. KATHARINE OF SIENA, WAYNE

Please join us for the 5th annual Dan's Down Dog and Dash as we celebrate community and an amazing young girl, 2017 race honoree, parishioner Annie Sears, who truly Lives Life to the Fullest!

Registration: 7:00am — Yoga: 8:00am — 5K Start: 9:00am — Register Online at www.Dansdowndoganddash.com Your participating in this even makes a huge difference. We thank YOU for supporting this year's honoree, Annie Sears.

CYO FALL/WINTER BASKETBALL: CYO Fall Basketball Program signups for boys and girls in Grades 5-12 from OMGC or STV Parish are open at www.wagdogs.com. "Please select "register for a league & then Our Mother of Good Counsel". Registration ends October 31, 2017. If you are a first time user of Wagdogs, you must create an account for yourself and add your child. Please select St. Thomas of Villanova as your Parish." All OMGC and STV parishioners in grades 5 through 12 are eligible to play sports with the Parishes CYO Programs. **Students must be active participants in Parish Religious Education and Youth Group Programs.**

WOMEN'S 11TH STEP MEDITATION – each **Wednesday from 6:00am to 6:45am** in the Parish Center
Step 11 – Sought through prayer and meditation to improve our conscious contact with God, praying only for knowledge of His will for us and the power to carry that out. Join us, even if you are not part of "program", for a great way to start our day as "we ask God to direct our thinking, especially asking that it be divorced from self-pity, dishonest or self-seeking motives." Page 86 of AA Big Book

MOM'S GROUP NEWS

- * **Indoor Playdates 1st and 3rd Tuesdays** - Walkers –Preschool and younger siblings|
- **Friday, October 13th Movie Night** - Please join us for the movie "Sing"
Contact: stvmoms@gmail.com
- **Sunday, October 22 — Family Rosary**
Join other parish families after the 9am mass for coffee & donuts followed by praying the Rosary. A great opportunity to participate in this amazing prayer, even if it's your first time! Activities for young children, including a "Rosary Walk". RSVP stvmoms@gmail.com

WELCOME TO ADVOCATES CORNER

In this column, we will provide information on urgent needs for advocacy on behalf of the poor, hungry and others that society typically ignores, undervalues, or otherwise excludes. Advocacy to change systems, policies and programs that allow such exclusion to persist is equally important to the service and charity Christ also calls us to provide. We will give you tools and resources to help make it easy for you to respond. Often the most effective response is calling or emailing our Senators and Representatives in Washington and Harrisburg. The contact information for those representing most of us in the US Congress follows. Emails must be sent using the form under the "Contact" tab of the individual's website that is indicated.

* Senator Patrick Toomey

Website: www.toomey.senate.gov
Washington Phone: 202-224-4254
Philadelphia Phone: 215-241-1090

* Senator Robert Casey

Website: www.casey.senate.gov
Washington Phone: 202-224-6324
Philadelphia Phone: 215-405-9660

* Representative Patrick Meehan

Website: www.meehan.house.gov
Washington Phone: 202-225-2011
Philadelphia Phone: 610-690-7323

If you are willing to advocate from home — keep this information near your computer or your phone. As updates are received from Bread for the World (www.bread.org) or current legislation that may allow hunger to persist in the US and the rest of the world, the information will be provided in this Advocacy Corner. If you have any questions, please contact Parish Coordinator, Ann Rafferty, at raffertyannh@gmail.com or 610-687-2764.

"We must regain the conviction that we need one another, that we have a shared responsibility for others and for the world." Pope Francis