

## NOVEMBER: MONTH OF THE HOLY SOULS

### SATURDAY 5 NOVEMBER: FERIA

8:30AM (Saint Thomas): *Thomas McMahon by the Family*

4:00PM (Saint Joseph): *All Souls' Novena*

5:30PM (Saint Thomas: Sunday Vigil): *Raymond & Patricia Crowe, r.i.p., by the Schwarzler Family*

### SUNDAY 6 NOVEMBER: THIRTY SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

*Daylight savings time ends.*

7:30AM (Saint Thomas): *Bernedette Kline, r.i.p., by Jim Kline*

9:00AM (Saint Thomas): *Mary Gray Quinney by Catherine Conroy*

11:00AM (Saint Thomas): *All Souls' Novena*

12:30PM (Saint Joseph): *pro populo*

### MONDAY 7 NOVEMBER: FERIA

8:30AM (Saint Thomas): *Maurice Downey by Mary Downey*

6:30PM (Vigil Mass: Saint Joseph): *All Souls' Novena*

### TUESDAY 8 NOVEMBER: FERIA

8:30AM (Saint Thomas): *All Souls' Novena*

### WEDNESDAY 9 NOVEMBER: FEAST OF THE DEDICATION OF THE LATERAN BASILICA

8:30AM (Saint Thomas): *All Souls' Novena*

### THURSDAY 10 NOVEMBER: MEMORIAL OF SAINT LEO the GREAT, POPE

8:30AM (Saint Thomas): *All Souls' Novena*

### FRIDAY 11 NOVEMBER: MEMORIAL OF SAINT MARTIN of TOURS

8:30AM (Saint Thomas): *William, Sr. & Julia O'Sullivan by Margaret Hennessey*

### SATURDAY 12 NOVEMBER: MEMORIAL OF SAINT JOSAPHAT

8:30AM (Saint Thomas): *Anthony Giacketti, r.i.p., by Anne Marie Clemente*

4:00PM (Saint Joseph: Sunday Vigil): *Mamawal Family by Linda Siner*

5:30PM (Saint Thomas: Sunday Vigil): *pro populo*

### NEXT SUNDAY 30 OCTOBER: THIRTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

7:30AM (Saint Thomas): *Alana Donahue, r.i.p., by Raina Griffiths*

9:00AM (Saint Thomas): *Marie Bishco, r.i.p., by Cori Jackson*

11:00AM (Saint Thomas): *Eileen Cassidy, r.i.p., by Mr. & Mrs. Marc Tutini & Family*

12:30PM (Saint Joseph): *Ann McDonald by the Papaleo Family*



**Saint Martin of Tours**  
Patron of Soldiers

*r.i.p. (requiescat in pace: rest in peace), a.i.d. (ad intentionem donoris: for the intention of the donor)*  
*pro sal. (pro salutem: for health), pro populo (for the people)*

**LAST WEEK'S OFFERING: \$11584.23**

Please join us Sunday November 6th after the 9:00AM Mass for food and beverages with your fellow parishioners.

### **ADOPT A COAT**

Would you like to give new winter coats to 4 dozen local children? Please consider adopting a coat for a kid. Send in a check in the amount of \$18.00 made payable to "Knights of Columbus Council 7460" with "Coats for Kids" in the memo. We thank you in advance for your generosity and willingness to help those in need.



### **OFFICE NOTES**

Please:

1. Articles for the bulletin are due *no later than* the previous Monday (Friday, if Monday is a holiday).
  2. Inserts/flyers for the bulletin are due *no later than 10 days before* they are to be included.
- All items to be posted on the bulletin boards must be handed in to the parish office for pastor approval.

### **SAINT THOMAS FELLOWSHIP**

3. Make sure to write the amount of your donation on the outside of your envelope to ensure that you are appropriately

Thank you.

### PRAYER BEFORE THE ELECTION

Lord God, as the election approaches, we seek to better understand the issues and concerns that confront our city/state/country, and how the Gospel compels us to respond as faithful citizens in our community.

We ask for eyes that are free from blindness so that we might see each other as brothers and sisters, one and equal in dignity, especially those who are victims of abuse and violence, deceit and poverty. We ask for ears that will hear the cries of children unborn and those abandoned, men and women oppressed because of race or creed, religion or gender. We ask for minds and hearts that are open to hearing the voice of leaders who will bring us closer to your Kingdom. We pray for discernment so that we may choose leaders who hear your Word, live your love, and keep in the ways of your truth as they follow in the steps of Jesus and his Apostles and guide us to your Kingdom of justice and peace. We ask this in the name of your Son Jesus Christ and through the power of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

*(Unites States Conference of Catholic Bishops)*

### RCIA

Meetings for those who desire to receive the Sacraments, continue to meet on Thursday evenings at 7:00PM in Saint Thomas rectory or 4:00PM on Sundays in the in Saint Thomas school.



### CATHOLIC UNDERGROUND NORTH

Saturday 11/19 at 7:30PM

Experience a Holy Hour of Eucharistic Adoration in the candlelit chapel in the Dominican Center with vespers, praise & worship and confessions.

Afterward, proceed to an adjacent lounge for a performance from musician Taylor Tripodi.

*Mt. St. Mary College, 330 Powell Ave., Newburgh, NY*

### PARISH DEACON

On Friday, Nov. 4<sup>th</sup>, our Deacon candidate, John Hanley was admitted to Candidacy at St Joseph's Seminary. He is in his 3rd year of formation. He has completed a year of Inquiry and 2 years of formation which includes 4 courses a semester, ministry work each year working with the poor, teaching about the faith and is now in the hospital setting. Next year will be his final year before ordination in June of 2018. On Dec.16th he will be installed as reader in the Catholic Church. We ask your continued prayers and support.



### FATHER BOB

If you would like to send notes or Mass cards to Father Bob, please bring them to the parish office to be delivered to him. Father Bob appreciates the outpouring of support.

**PLEASE  
PRAY**

### SENIOR ACTIVITIES

New activities are being planned for seniors 55 and up at Munger Cottage. Please call Al Mazzocca for more information: 534-2686.

### ATTENTION!

There is a Boy's Day by Day Agape (DDA) retreat coming up November 10-13. DDA is a fantastic way for catholic young adults (14-18) to deepen their faith and to meet some good people. DDA retreats are run by Fr. Bob's



Nurturing Faith • Taking Action • Serving God

Order: The Capuchin Province of St Mary (CYFM). To find out more you can go to [www.cyfm.org](http://www.cyfm.org) or contact Timothy Fenton at [timfenton238@gmail.com](mailto:timfenton238@gmail.com).

### BLOOD DRIVE

St. Thomas of Canterbury School Gym  
Sunday, November 20<sup>th</sup> 8:00AM-2:00PM

For general inquiries, call 1-800-933-2566

or email [appointments@nybloodcenter.org](mailto:appointments@nybloodcenter.org). If you cannot donate but still wish to participate in bringing life-saving products to those in need, please consider volunteering at your local blood drive. For additional information about volunteering email [volunteers@nybloodcenter.org](mailto:volunteers@nybloodcenter.org)

### 12 MONTHS OF CHRISTMAS DRAWING

*November's Prize:*

Marquis by Waterford crystal Pumpkin Bowl with special Thanksgiving Treat!  
MSRP: \$100



### THANK YOU!

"Dear Fr. Doughty and Parishioners of St. Thomas-St. Joseph Parish,  
I am writing on behalf of our parishioners whom were flooded to thank you for your very generous donation of \$3,542.00 to assist them to rebuild their lives. We are deeply grateful. May the risen Lord abundantly bless you!"

*Fr. Ed Chiffullar, SSJ, and the parishioners of St. Francis Xavier Church*

## ALL DOGS GO TO HEAVEN

by Fr. Doughy

"On the whole," she said to me, "I much prefer the company of animals to human beings." I could understand her point of view though I did remind her that it's our neighbors God wishes us to love. Pets are too easy. However, there are few friendships as simple and undemanding as the ones we make with our pets. I have a dog, Sophie, who is fifteen years old. I'm not looking forward to life without her which I imagine will be soon. The idea of a life after death without her and all the other dogs that have kept my company does not especially appeal to me. In that, I share the theological opinion of one eight year old girl whose rabbit died and who asked me to celebrate a prayer service for it, which I did, of course.

In a whimsical chat I once had with Father Benedict Groeschel, he said that such expectations make great sense. He - with Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI - held an Augustinian view about what we'll find in the next life. The intrinsic beauty of creation reflects God whom Augustine described as "Beauty ever ancient, ever new." St. Augustine's "way of beauty" (*via pulchritudinis*) was a momentous departure from the argument from utility or usefulness held by many of the earlier Church Fathers. They had reckoned that we would encounter only what was useful to our faith in the Resurrected Life. Augustine believed that if it were beautiful in God's eyes ("He saw that it was good") and ours who see His goodness reflected in material creation, then it was worthy of eternity. "Imagine what you wish, and take away corruption" is a good Augustinian mantra to remind yourself that the world God created for us without sin and death is the world He wants us to inhabit forever, every bit as real and even more wonderful and beautiful.

The question about whether there are dogs in heaven is largely answered today through sentiment. Most people today don't think about what life will be like in the "land of the living" or they don't venture into a more fruitful reflection on what we might reasonably expect. To speak only of "dad enjoying a few beers with his friends" at the eulogy or "mom baking cookies" (would mom really want to spending her time cooking in paradise?) does not really do Eternal Life justice. Of course, everlasting friendship without the fear of loss as well as the enjoyment of the fruits of the earth - I suppose there could be beer? - fits perfectly into Augustine's thought about the New Creation - which is really what Resurrection is about: a new creation!

Pre-Christian Greek philosophical thought on the afterlife dismissed material reality as having any function in eternity. This would make pets and anything else practically unnecessary. Centuries later St. Thomas Aquinas would write the presence of animals in the afterlife would be superfluous to what

really makes our souls happy, which is, the Beatific Vision, the sight of God himself. Besides, he and other theologians would maintain, animals do not have immortal souls, or souls that are made for eternity.

Yet, our happiness is what - St. Augustine and St. Thomas Aquinas would both agree - God wants for us in His Kingdom, and not only family and friends but perhaps pets too. C. S. Lewis, in *The Problem of Pain*, suggests that animals and pets will have life with us, because of the close relationship all of creation has had with the human person as steward since the beginning. In other words, animals will live in the New Creation because of their relationship to us. Perhaps that's what St. Paul meant when he wrote in Romans that "all creation awaits in eager expectation for the children of God to be revealed." (Once, he wrote, he had been warned not to raise the question of animal immortality, lest he find himself in the company with "old maids." He replied, "I have no objection to the company. I do not think virginity or old age contemptible and some of the shrewdest minds I have met inhabited the bodies of old maids.") In his usual good sense, Father Groeschel suggests that though there was nothing in animals that could bring about life after death, we could hardly say that it was beyond God's power to re-create the earth and all its "accoutrements" that we dearly love. In C.S. Lewis's *The Great Divorce*, a kindly woman who has passed on to eternal life is greeted not only by all those who considered her a friend, but also by all the animals she had been kind to.

*"What are all these animals? A cat - two cats - dozens of cats. And all those dogs... why, I can count them. And the birds. And the horses."*

*"They are her beasts."*

*"Did she keep a sort of a zoo? I mean, this is a bit much."*

*"Every beast and bird that came near her had its place in her love. In her they became themselves. And now the abundance of life she has in Christ from the Father flows into them."*

[C.S. Lewis, *The Great Divorce*, New York: MacMillan Publishing, 1946, p. 103]

## THE CORPORAL WORKS OF MERCY

### A 21<sup>st</sup> Century View (Matthew 25)

Sister Virginia Wilkinson of the Presentation Sisters will discuss the challenge of our call in society today. *Two sessions (11/14: 10:30AM-12:00N and 7:00PM-8:30PM) O'Connor Hall, St. Francis Church, Newburgh*



