

# St Thomas' Quest – February 2010

St. Thomas' Episcopal Church

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**New Monthly Newsletter** Deadline for entries into the newsletter is the **fourth Sunday** of the month. The newsletter will be available by the **first Sunday of the next month**.

Please email information and articles you wish to be presented here to [stthomas@warwick.net](mailto:stthomas@warwick.net). March's Monthly Newsletter deadline is February 28.

## Congratulations to all those elected at the Annual Meeting:

Thank you to all who attended the 2010 Annual Meeting on Sunday, January 17. The full Annual Report is now available on the parish website. Please congratulate the following new officers who were elected:

**Warden:** Dan Kadish

### **Members of the Executive Committee**

Debbie Belli  
Kathy Moore  
Linda Lazicki  
Emilie Dupont  
Karen Scott

**Delegate to Diocesan Convention:** Francine Vince

*Almighty and everliving God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth, hear our prayers for this parish family. Strengthen the faithful, arouse the careless, and restore the penitent.*

*Grant us all things necessary for our common life, and bring us all to be of one heart and mind within your holy Church; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (BCP p. 814)*

## The Parish Auction is just Around the Corner!!

We had so much fun at the last Parish Auction, we're going to do it again. **Friday, February 12 at 7 pm!!!** Mark your calendar! The auction will include festivities and we will be auctioning items that you, the members, and friends of St Thomas' as well as local business have so graciously donated. Please see the volunteer chart posted in the Lobby. There is a need for folks to help the night of the auction in various capacities. Please be sure ALL donations are turned in by **February 7, Sunday**. For any questions or concerns please see Nancy Hansen, Linda Lazicki, Gale MacPeek. **Thank you!!!!**

**Altar Flowers:** May be dedicated in memory or thanksgiving - please use the flower chart in the Lobby and the forms & envelopes in the basket below the chart.

## Come Eat Pancakes!

**Tuesday, February 16**, the parish Pancake Supper in the evening. Watch for details!

## The Beginning of Lent

The **Ash Wednesday** liturgy, with imposition of ashes and Holy Communion, will be on **Wednesday, February 17 at 7 PM**.

## Financial Report

Parish Finances as of December 31, 2009

	December	Since Jan.
Offerings Received	\$14,033	\$99,130
Offerings Promised	<u>\$8,154</u>	<u>\$97,854</u>
Difference	\$5,879	\$1,275
Total Income	\$20,668	\$148,585
Total Expenses	<u>\$11,523</u>	<u>\$161,119</u>
<b>Difference</b>	<b>\$8,903</b>	<b>-\$12,534</b>
Unrestricted Cash on hand:	\$35,126	

The Executive Committee will consider and pass a budget for 2010 at the Feb. 20<sup>th</sup> planning retreat. If you have any suggestions for either improving income or reducing expenses further, please see any member of the Executive Committee.

## Have a Suggestion, Question or Comment?

The EC welcomes feedback (questions, suggestions, comments, concerns) on all aspects of our congregational life. Parishioners are invited to communicate with the EC publicly at scheduled meetings, or privately as individuals, with regard to issues of importance to them. In order to provide an additional mechanism for communication, the EC has placed a decorated box in the lobby. This container is intended to serve as a receptacle for parishioner's statements about their hopes and dreams for St. Thomas and for our ministries. Please feel comfortable in reaching out to the EC in which ever manner is best for you.

## Worship Coordination Committee

All parishioners interested in helping to discuss and plan our worship services are invited to the next meeting of the Worship Coordination Committee, to be held on **Thursday, February 11 at 6:00 PM** in the office upstairs. The meeting will be attended by the Directors of Music and the Altar Guild, as well as representatives from various other worship guilds. For questions, please contact Fr. Bob.

## Parish Work Days

There is always a lot to do around a parish like ours that is blessed with a large complex and beautiful grounds, inside and out. The Executive Committee would like to invite all members to participate in Parish Work Days, every second Saturday from nine until noon, with lunch afterward. Rain or shine, please come and help keep up our beautiful parish buildings and grounds. Men and women, children and retirees – all are welcome and needed: An Action List is posted in the Narthex for **Saturday: February 13. Are you aware of a project or "job" needed to be done around St Thomas? Please let an EC member know.**

## Wells Fargo Supports St. Thomas

For our congregation and all family, friends, and neighbors, Wells Fargo Mortgage Company will donate \$300.00 to St. Thomas Episcopal Church as a charitable donation for using their services. Please make sure when calling that you mention "St Thomas fundraiser" or that "Linda Lazicki, Century 21 Lazicki" has sent you. This includes the refinancing of your present mortgage. Please call Bob Golwick at cell #845-709-4167 or 973-875-9647 office.

We have received in 2009 the following contributions:

Thank you to Graham & Nevila Malile \$300.00  
to Randall & Kristina Lazicki \$300.00

## Time, Talent, and Treasure

We need you! Please submit your 2010 pledge forms in the offering plates or mail to the office as soon as you can.

## Executive Committee Meetings for 2010

In an effort to open the doors to each meeting to St. Thomas' entire congregation, all members are invited to attend regular open meetings of the Executive Committee. In **February the EC will be in session for their annual offsite retreat.** The full schedule for remaining meetings will be published as soon as it is finalized.

## Ecumenical Lenten Series 2010:

Sponsored by The Vernon Clergy Association - **Wednesdays at 8 PM** (except where noted)

	Location	Preaching
Feb 24	Our Lady Of Fatima	The Rev Chris Bruesehoff
Mar 3	Glenwood Baptist	Msgr. Jack Boland
Mar 10	St Francis de Sales	The Rev Roger Spence
Mar 17	MacAfee Bible Church	The Rev Bob Solon
Mar 24	Vernon UMC (at 7:30 PM)	The Rev Nik Fontana
Mar 31	Holy Counselor Lutheran	The Rev Abuchi Nwosu
Friday, Apr 2	Good Friday 12 noon St Thomas' Chapel	The Rev Edjir Jean

## *Around the Diocese:*

### Diocese of Newark Weekly News Digest

The Diocese of Newark provides many resources and opportunities for both individuals and congregations. Stay on top of what's happening by subscribing to the diocese's Weekly News Digest email. Simply go to the diocesan website at [www.dioceseofnewark.org](http://www.dioceseofnewark.org) and click the sign up link under "WEEKLY NEWS DIGEST" (on the right-hand side -- look for the little envelope). Questions? Contact Nina Nicholson, diocesan Director of Communications & Technology, at [nnicholson@dioceseofnewark.org](mailto:nnicholson@dioceseofnewark.org) or 973-430-9907.

**Food Stamps** Good News! Change is often slow but when it finally happens it is still a blessing... Food Stamp eligibility is slated to be increased beginning February 1, 2010 from **130% to 185% of the Federal Poverty Line.** In addition, implementation of **Expanded Categorical Eligibility will eliminate all asset tests** making thousands of NJ households eligible. The following website should have up to date info regarding the change after February 1: [www.njhelps.org](http://www.njhelps.org)

**Forgiveness...a Lenten Series** Featuring noted speaker the Rev. Barbara Crafton. Wednesdays March 3, 10, 17 at Church of the Transfiguration, 9 Two Bridges Rd., Towaco, NJ. 973-334-2882 or [info@cottnj.com](mailto:info@cottnj.com). 6:30 PM: Lenten Supper, 7:15: Presentation.

**A 2010 Lenten Bible Lecture Series** will be held at **St. David's Episcopal Church, 90 Kinnelon Road, Kinnelon.** Given by Paul Sansone, Biblical Scholar in Residence. Offered on five successive Wednesday evenings: February 24, March 3, 10, 17 and 24 beginning with a Simple Soup Supper @ 6:15 PM, The Holy Eucharist @ 7:00 PM, and Lecture @ 7:30 PM to 9:00 PM. **Register at [tracey.hannigan@stdavidskinnelon.org](mailto:tracey.hannigan@stdavidskinnelon.org) or call the church office at 973-838-6696.**