



St. Thomas Aquinas Chapel & Aquinas Center  
The Roman Catholic Community  
And Campus Ministry Center at UConn

## Opportunities to Grow in The Knowledge of Our Faith and In Our Experience of God....

*Winter and Spring 2008*

Often today people are rushing about busy about many things. It is critical for our health - physical as well as psychological - to find some moments to renew and refresh ourselves. As adult Catholics too it is vital that we grow beyond our childhood understanding of our faith.

In this hope, our parish community offers the opportunities listed in this flyer. No one could do them all, but please take a moment to find one or two which might appeal to you and put them in your calendar. Ongoing updates and information will be available in the weekly bulletin and at our website.

[www.stthomasuconn.org](http://www.stthomasuconn.org)

## The Winter

**Faith & Film Series** - The series continued with two more films and discussion evenings: January 26 and February 2. Plans are being made for Faith & Film for next year. Details to follow.

**Climate Justice** - Four sessions to discuss a Christian response to the fact of climate change. Sponsored by the Justfaith Ministry of St. Thomas. January 16, 30, and February 13, 27, in the Parish House, Common Room. 7:00-8:30 p.m. Pre-registration is requested. Contact the Parish Office at (860)429-6436.

**Praying with the Psalms and Other Spiritual Poetry**  
Four sessions of meetings about meditating with the psalms and other spiritual poems. Two options: Thursday's at 7:45-8:45 p.m. on February 14, 28, & March 13, 27 or Friday's at 11:00 a.m., on February 15, 29, & March 14, 28. Both groups meet in the Parish House. Participants will be invited to share their prayer experiences and insights. Fr. John Walsh, SJ facilitator.

**Ash Wednesday** - The season of Lent begins with prayer on this day. Ash Wednesday Masses will be held at 7:00 a.m., 12:10 p.m., and 7:00 p.m., in the Chapel and include imposition of ashes. An Ecumenical Service of readings and imposition of ashes will take place at 5:00 p.m. in the Chapel.

**Lenten Evening of Prayer** - One hour of quiet prayer - guided meditation on Scripture in the tradition of St. Ignatius of Loyola. Wednesday, February 20, 7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m., in the Chapel.

**The Novena of Grace** - Nine days of prayer and reflection in honor of St. Francis Xavier, SJ. It is known as the "Novena of Grace" because so many people have received blessings for themselves and others through this time of prayer. The novena will be scheduled as part of our regular liturgies. Details will be in the bulletin. March 4-12.

**Loyola Colloquium** - Our second speaker this year is Fr. William Barry, SJ PhD, internationally known retreat director and author. His title is "Making Friends with God in the Real World." Thursday, March 6, at 7:30 p.m., in the Aquinas Center.

## Another Ongoing Opportunity for Reflection:



**ST. Thomas Aquinas Book Club** - Spring Schedule:  
All discussions will be held on Sunday afternoon from 3:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. in the Common Room of the Parish House. For more information contact Bill Curtin at (860) 429-3407 or at wcurtn27@yahoo.com.

- February 10 - *Spiritual Writings* by Flannery O'Connor.
- April 13 - *The Man Who Was Thursday: A Nightmare* by G. K. Chesterton.
- June 8 - *Dear James* by Jon Hassler.

## Campus Ministry Events

**Catholicism 101** - This series of conversation and or discussion continues on January 31, February 13, 21, and March 19, from 6:30-7:30 p.m., in the Student Union Room 410.

**Busy Student's Lenten Retreat** - February - March.  
An opportunity for guided prayer and a weekly individual meeting with a spiritual director. *Participants are asked to meet in the Chapel following any of the Ash Wednesday liturgies for specific information.*

**Junior Retreat Weekend** - Friday & Saturday, April 4-5, at Voluntown Peace Trust.

**Senior Retreat Weekend** - Prayer, reflection, and sharing with special focus on the spiritual dimension of vocational questions. Friday-Sunday April 4, 5, & 6. Voluntown Peace Trust.

## The Easter Triduum

The high point of the Church's year - Holy Thursday, Good Friday, The Great Vigil of Easter, and Easter Sunday. Celebrated with respect for the tradition of the Church and the creative gifts of the community. March 20-23. Details to follow in the bulletin.

## Later Spring

**Loyola Colloquium** - Thomas J. Gumbleton, emeritus auxiliary Bishop of Detroit will be speaking on the topic "*Outlawing war: an idea whose time has come.*" Bishop Gumbleton has been widely active in the peace movement and in seeking a church that is courageous and honest. Wednesday, April 16, at 7:30 p.m. *The location to be determined.*

**Pre-Cana Days** - St. Thomas usually offers a Friday evening-Saturday program for couples planning to be married. At present this ministry is revising plans. Details will be in the bulletin as available.

A Very Special Opportunity Sponsored  
In Conjunction With The  
Diocesan Office For Worship



**"Lift up your voices"** - An interactive workshop in singing. Our leader will be internationally-known composer and enthusiast for congregational singing John Bell, who comes to us from the Iona Community in Scotland. Saturday, April 19, 9:30- 4 PM with a break for lunch (provided). Aquinas Center *There will be a registration fee (\$10); reservation required - for more information/registration form contact the Parish Office at (860) 429-6436.*