

Celebrate the Holiday Season with the Campus Community



The rush of the holiday season may be upon us, but amidst the busy year-end exams and activities, December also brings joyous ways to celebrate the true spirit of the holiday season. Take a break and enjoy the many festivities the University of St. Thomas hosts to celebrate Christmas, the end of one year, and the joy of a new one to come.

University Singers will perform, “**An Evening of Lessons and Carols**,” at 8 p.m. on Tuesday, Dec. 1, in the Chapel of St. Basil. Dr. Brady Knapp will direct the ensemble in a program of seasonal carols, anthems, motets and readings from the Advent and Christmas narrative. Courtney Daneill-Knapp will be the guest conductor.

Come celebrate the holidays with the

English and Modern and Classical Languages Departments’ Christmas Party at 12:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Dec. 1, in the second floor lobby of Malloy Hall. The party will include refreshments, tree trimming and carols from around the world. It is free and open to the campus. For more information, contact Chris Tension at tennisc@stthom.edu.

Join the Office of Student Affairs for the annual **Deck the Mall** Celebration from 4 to 8 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 3, on the Academic Mall. The event will feature crafts, camel rides, hay rides, a live Nativity, snow, cookies and the official lighting of UST by Dr. Ivany.

Join Campus Ministry in celebrating **Las Posadas**, 7 p.m., Friday, Dec. 4, beginning in the Chapel of St. Basil. Las Posadas is a campus-wide celebration based on the Mexican custom which re-enacts the Holy Family’s search for lodging in Bethlehem prior to Jesus’ birth.

The Center for Irish Studies will host **A Celtic Christmas Danny O’Flaherty and Friends** at 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 6, in Jones Hall. The concert will tell the tales of the charming and unique yuletide customs that evolved over the centuries in the nations of the Celts.

President Robert Ivany invites all faculty and staff to the **Christmas Social** from 3 to 5 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 11, in the Link-Lee Mansion.

December graduates will be honored at the 2009 **Winter Graduate Mass and Reception** on Thursday, Dec. 17. Mass will be held at 6 p.m. in Scanlan Room, Jerabeck Center, and the reception will be held in the Jerabeck Gymnasium. For more information, call Alumni Relations at 713-525-3407.

Christmas Mass Schedule

Come celebrate the true reason for the season with Christmas liturgy:

- **Christmas Eve Mass**
 - 6-9 p.m. (French)
 - 12 a.m. (Midnight Mass)
- **Christmas Day Mass**
 - 10:30 a.m.

See complete Mass schedule at www.stthom.edu/mass.

Upcoming Events



Finals Stress Relief

Counseling and Disability Services invites students to come take a study break at the annual Express Your Stress Finals Stress Relief event from noon to 2 p.m.

Thursday, **Dec. 3**, in Crooker Center. There will be free chair massages, games, snacks and a chance to win a \$20 gift card to the movies!



Late Night Breakfast

The Office of Student Affairs invites students to Late Night Breakfast from 9 to 11 p.m. Monday, **Dec. 7**, in the Crooker Cafeteria. Students may pick up finals survival kits and eat a free breakfast served by faculty and staff members. Enjoy making cards, visiting with friends and take a chance at winning a raffle prize.



Houston Grand Opera Showcase

UST will host an evening filled with music theater with the Houston Grand Opera Showcase at 7:30 p.m. on Friday and Saturday, **Dec. 11 and 12**, at Jones Hall. The showcase is open to the public, and costs \$35 which includes the reception. For more information and tickets, call 713-228-OPERA (6737) or Anna Martens at 713-942-3491.

Casa de Esperanza

The Student Development Committee is collecting items for Casa de Esperanza. Items such as food, diapers, formula, toiletries and cleaning supplies can be dropped off at the school of Education until **Dec. 18**.

Taylor Speaks on Chaos Theory in China

Dr. Jon Taylor, UST associate professor and chair of the Political Science Department presented a paper coauthored by Political Science Adjunct Professor Michelle Carnahan, at the 5th Annual International Conference on Public Administration, in Chengdu, Sichuan Province, People’s Republic of China. The conference was held from Oct. 22 to 26.



The paper was entitled, “Chaos Theory and Disaster Relief in the People’s Republic of China and the United States: Lessons for Public Administration.” The paper explores the patterns that exist within the chaotic behavior of a complex system and focus on how chaos theory can be of value in understanding emergency management’s response to large scale natural disasters.

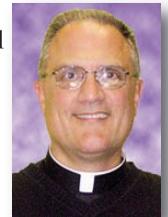
Taylor chaired a panel discussion at the conference on E-Government, Information Technology, and Public Management. “He also gave lectures at universities in Tianjin and Chengdu on “Building a Harmonious Society Through Confucianist Ethics: Assessing the Impact on Public Administration.”

While in Chengdu, Taylor also found time to visit the Panda Research Base where had the opportunity to get up close and personal with Qing-Qing, a one-year-old male panda.

Read the complete story at www.stthom.edu.

Lecture Explores Catholic School Challenges

The 2009 Hesburgh Lecture Series will feature the **Rev. Ronald J. Nuzzi**, who will speak on, “Who Will Save Catholic Schools?” This lecture will be held at 7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 3, at Cristo Rey Jesuit College Preparatory School of Houston, is co-sponsored by the Notre Dame Club of Houston, Secretariat for Catholic Schools, Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston, the University of St. Thomas School of Education and their GRACE program. Cristo Rey is located at 6700 Mount Carmel St.



The lecture will explore the current nationwide effort to revitalize Catholic schools. Rev. Ronald Nuzzi is the director of The Mary Ann Remick Leadership Program. This is also a unique opportunity to visit Houston's newest Catholic high school, Cristo Rey Jesuit College Preparatory. A tour of the school will be given at 6:30 p.m.

The event is free and open to the public. Please contact Greg Arbogast at garbogast@cristoreyhouston.org if you have any further questions.

Goalkeeper Balances Academic Goals With His Love For the Game

When German native **Lukas Simon** first came to the University of St. Thomas in 2007, it was the inaugural year for official intercollegiate play in men's soccer. To some experienced players, it may have seemed like a gamble to join a first-year team at a university with no previous intercollegiate experience. But Simon saw something more.

When he joined the Celts, Simon saw potential and an opportunity to have a profound impact on a program that was entering its beginning stages. He knew that with the right teammates and a common goal to succeed as a team, UST soccer could become a solid and respected program.

And since 2007, he has seen that vision become a reality. Simon has taken on the position of co-captain and goalkeeper, helping the team build with every year and leading it to a semifinal appearance in the Association of Independent Institution (AII) Conference Tournament in the fall 2009 season.

As a junior bioinformatics major, Simon aspires to learn more about this relatively new field that incorporates math, biology, chemistry and computer science into researching human genome sequencing. It's a field of study in which he hopes to eventually earn his master's degree.

One of the reasons Simon chose to attend college in the United States is because of the healthy balance of both academics and athletics that American universities offer – something that Simon said is unheard of in European countries.

"I like the fact that it's a very professional set-up here," he said. "We play soccer, practice every day, and then after soccer, we go to class or study. In Germany, it's either-or when it comes to soccer and school. If you want to play at a high level there, there's no time for school. Here, it's a perfect mix, and you get to have both." Read the complete story at www.stthom.edu.



Consider Christmas Gifts That Make The Difference This Season

When pondering gift ideas this holiday season, consider meaningful gifts that make a difference and benefit University of St. Thomas programs.

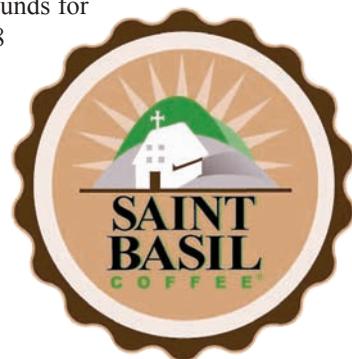
UST patrons can purchase **St. Basil Coffee**, proceeds of which will be split between UST's MicroCredit Program and Peruvian Education Project. St. Basil Coffee was born out of a collaboration between Houstonian Jim Boyles Sr. and Father Vincent Thompson, who served at St. Anne's Catholic Church and as a missionary in Colombia.

Aside from supporting UST projects, revenues from the coffee benefit Catholic missions and help the Basilian Fathers provide care for impoverished communities in Latin America. Boyles and his family run Artisan Field, a marketing and design business that devised the plan to raise funds for the mission. Three members of the family are UST graduates: John Boyles '88 and '94, Mary Meyer Boyles '59 and Mary Carr Boyles '99.

To order Saint Basil Coffee, visit www.saintbasilcoffee.com. Upon checkout, in the company/organization field, insert "University of St. Thomas."

The University has published a hardcover book featuring the Chapel of St. Basil. Proceeds from book sales benefit scholarships. **The Chapel of St. Basil Book** is available for \$70 in the University Bookstore.

For more information, call 713-525-3806 or bookstore@stthom.edu. The Bookstore will be open from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday –Thursday and from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Fridays until Dec. 18.



UST Alumna Daniella Guzman Finds Success as Bilingual Journalist

To meet the growing demand of Spanish-speaking media, the University of St. Thomas creates opportunities to educate uniquely qualified bilingual graduates.

The UST bilingual journalism program enabled alumna **Daniella Guzman** to combine her strengths and interests in Spanish and communication to create a career in bilingual journalism. Currently working as a Channel 2 KPRC reporter and weekend anchor, Guzman earned a joint major in communication and Spanish in 2006.



“Daniella is one of our brightest stars,” said Dr. Robin Williamson, chair of the Communication Department. “Bilingual journalism not only serves the greater Houston Hispanic population, but it is also on the forefront of news trends in network television programming”

The Spanish Department offers bilingual journalism and broadcast media for the Spanish/Communication joint major. Guzman was among the first class of students to participate in the University’s bilingual journalism program, which was the first of its kind when it was introduced in 2001. Both her parents, Rosario and Fernando Guzman, graduated from UST.

“Being able to read, write and deliver the news in both languages is a big professional advantage in cities like Houston which have a growing Hispanic population,” Guzman said. “It’s not enough just to report the news in English and translate it into Spanish. The way you deliver the news to a Spanish-speaking market is completely different. UST’s program trained me to work in both markets.

“Houston is a top 10 market in television, and it’s practically unheard of to start your broadcast career in a top 10 market,” she said. “I was able to do that thanks to the skills I learned and connections I made through UST’s bilingual journalism program.”

Before landing her current position at Channel 2, Guzman worked in sales, advertising and marketing, did internships and small jobs at advertising agencies, Fox 26, Univision, Telemundo, Televisa in Mexico and the Houston Chronicle.

Read the complete story at www.stthom.edu.



Honors Students Represent UST in D.C.

Four University of St. Thomas Honors Program students received the opportunity to travel with Dr. Terry Hall, UST Honors Program director, to the 44th annual conference of the National Collegiate Honors Council in Washington, D.C. from Oct. 28 to Nov. 1.

From left to right is Melissa Binstock, Dr. Terry Hall, Anthony Pejerry, Youstina Ishak and John Jurica in front of the Smithsonian in Washington, D.C.

Star View is published by the Office of Marketing Communications as a means of informing the UST community about University and campus news. Call 713-525-3116 with questions and/or comments.

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