Pastor's Column

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"Children of Abraham" – A Thanksgiving Eve Celebration

At this time in the history of our global village, it is more important than ever that people of good will come together, rise above differences, rejoice in diversity, and seek and celebrate that which we have in common.

It is so important to realize that we are all sisters and brothers sharing time together on this Planet Earth only for awhile.

Religion should bring people together, not keep us apart!

With this in mind, St. Thomas More Parish is hosting a Prayer Service, "The Children of Abraham," on Wednesday evening, November 23, at 7:00pm on the upper level of our Parish Center.

The Prayer service is sponsored by:

Congregation B'nai Tikvah
The Interfaith Commmittee for Worker Justice (ICWJ)
The Islamic Center of San Diego
Masjid Al-ittehad (the Vista Mosque)
St. Thomas More Parish

Rabbi Laurie Coskey of ICWJ, *Rabbi Ben Leinow* of Congregation B'nai Tikvah (located just up the street from us on South Melrose Drive), *Imam Taha Hassane* of the Islamic Center of San Diego, and I will lead the assembly in prayer with readings from the Hebrew Scriptures, the Christian Scriptures, and the Qur'an.

A short reflection from each of us will follow the Scripture reading, followed by a piece of music representing our traditions.

After the service, there will be an informal reception.

Thanksgiving week is a busy time for all of us, but if your schedule allows please plan to attend and participate in this unique prayer service.

It provides an opportunity for all of us to better know our neighbors in this local community.

We shop in the same stores. We eat in the same restaurants. We purchase gas from the same gas stations. Our children attend the same schools. Shouldn't we, at least once and awhile, choose to pray together as well?

Hope to see you at the "Children of Abraham" Prayer Service on the night before Thanksgiving!

Fr. Mike