

**SAINT  
THOMAS  
MORE  
CATHOLIC  
CHURCH**

John 11:25-26

everyone  
never  
resurrection  
believe  
dies  
whoever  
believes  
even  
life  
Jesus  
die  
lives

**A Roman Catholic Parish  
in the Diocese of San Diego**

✠ Spirituality  
✠ Tradition  
✠ Community

**Mass Schedule**

Saturday at 5:00pm  
Sunday at 8:30am and 10:30am  
Monday-Friday at 8:15am

**Eucharistic Adoration**

Monday-Friday, 6:30am-7:30pm

**Reconciliation (Confession)**

Saturday, 4:00-4:30pm

**Rev. Michael Ratajczak, Pastor**  
**Rev. Karl Bauer, Senior Priest**  
**Deacon John Fredette**  
**Deacon Thomas A. Goeltz**

1450 South Melrose Drive  
Oceanside, CA 92056  
760-758-4100  
760-758-4165 fax

**Office Hours:** Monday-Friday,  
8:30am-12:00noon  
and 12:30-4:00pm  
parishoffice@stmoside.org  
www.stmoside.org



StThomasMoreRCC



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**Sixth Sunday of Easter  
May 25, 2014**

Rev. Michael Ratajczak  
760-758-4100 x100

**Pastor's Column**

**"Every Person on Earth Plays a Central Role in the History of the World"**

I share with you a "parable" taken from the book, "The Alchemist," by Paulo Coelho. It is a conversation between the alchemist and a young shepherd boy:

*"In ancient Rome, at the time of Emperor Tiberius, there lived a good man who had two sons. One was in the military, and had been sent to the most distant regions of the empire. The other son was a poet, and delighted all of Rome with his beautiful verses.*

*One night, the father had a dream. An angel appeared to him, and told him that the words of one of his sons would be learned and repeated throughout the world for all generations to come. The father woke from his dream grateful and crying, because life was generous, and had revealed to him something any father would be proud to know.*

*Shortly thereafter, the father died as he tried to save a child who was about to be crushed by the wheels of a chariot. Since he had lived his entire life in a manner that was correct and fair, he went directly to heaven, where he met the angel that had appeared in his dream.*

*'You were always a good man', the angel said to him. 'You lived your life in a loving way, and died with dignity. I can now grant you any wish you desire.'*

*'Life was good to me,' the man said. 'When you appeared in my dream, I felt that all my efforts had been rewarded, because my son's poems will be read by men for generations to come. I don't want anything for myself. But any father would be proud of the fame achieved by one whom he had cared for as a child, and educated as he grew up. Sometime in the distant future, I would like to see my son's words.'*

*The angel touched the man's shoulder, and they were both projected far into the future. They were in an immense setting, surrounded by thousands of people speaking a strange language.*

*The man wept with happiness.*

*'I knew that my son's poems were immortal,' he said to the angel through his tears. 'Can you please tell me which of my son's poems these people are repeating?'*

*The angel came closer to the man, and, with tenderness, led him to a bench nearby, where they sat down.*

*'The verses of your son who was the poet were very popular in Rome,' the angel said. 'Everyone loved them and enjoyed them. But when the reign of Tiberius ended, his poems were forgotten. The words you're hearing now are those of your son in the military.'*

*The man looked at the angel in surprise.*

*'Your son went to serve at a distant place, and became a centurion. He was just and good. One afternoon, one of his servants fell ill, and it appeared that he would die. Your son had heard of a rabbi who was able to cure illnesses, and he rode out for days and days in search of this man. Along the way, he learned that the man he was seeking*

*(Continued on page 2)*

**Pastor's Column** *(continued from page 1)*

was the Son of God. He met others who had been cured by him, and they instructed your son in the man's teachings. And so, despite the fact that he was a Roman centurion, he converted to their faith. Shortly thereafter, he reached the place where the man he was looking for was visiting.

He told the man that one of his servants was gravely ill, and the rabbi made ready to go to his house with him. But the centurion was a man of faith, and, looking into the eyes of the rabbi, he knew that he was surely in the presence of the Son of God.'

'And this is what your son said,' the angel told the man. 'These are the words he said to the rabbi at that point, and they have never been forgotten: "My Lord, I am not worthy that you should come under my roof. But only speak a word and my servant will be healed."'

The alchemist said, 'No matter what he does, every person on earth plays a central role in the history of the world. And normally he doesn't know it.'

The boy smiled. He had never imagined that questions about life would be of such importance to a shepherd.

'Good-bye,' the alchemist said.

'Good-bye,' said the boy."

We need to always be mindful that who we are and what we do is very important and does make a difference in this world. Many times we may know nothing of it.

That is what faith is—doing the right things, because they are the right things, even though we may never see or experience the results or the consequences of our actions!

Fr. Mike

**Vocations**

In today's Gospel, Jesus tells his disciples that he would not leave them orphans. And he didn't. He sent the Holy Spirit to guide them. Is that same Spirit calling you to help guide his people as a priest, deacon, or religious? If you think you hear God calling, explore the possibilities. Contact Deacon Tom at [thomasgoeltz@aol.com](mailto:thomasgoeltz@aol.com) or 760-727-8442. Working with and for God's people is a great vocation which not only does good but also feels good. Pray on it!

The Diocesan Office of Vocations has issued a short video about vocations. You can watch it at <http://goo.gl/6LY2Hc>.

**Diocese of San Diego Annual Catholic Appeal**  
**Our assessment: \$48,000**  
**Pledges to date: \$41,357 from 276 families**  
**\$6,643 to go! Can you help?**

**Called to Serve**

**Welcome New Parishioners**

**John and Shannon Wirtz and Family**

**OUR THANKS TO YOU!**

During this past week, many of you have come up to us to express your thanks. Whatever we do at STM can only be done with your help. When ever we ask your help, especially if it is to assist others, you are always there and are always most generous. Both of us offer our heartfelt thanks to you, the parishioners of STM for making our efforts possible and for making our service at STM a joyous occasion. Thank you and God bless you all!

—Deacon Tom & Deacon John

**Looking for Information on the Catholic Faith?**

Are you interested in learning more about Catholicism, becoming a Catholic, or returning to the Catholic Church?

For information, call Kathleen Bell at 760- 809-6526.

**Only Three Weeks to Go ~ Sign Up Now!**

**Friday, June 13 ~ 4:30-9:30pm**  
**Our Social Event of the Year**  
**STM Third Annual Gala**

**Happy Hour at 4:30pm kicks off our fundraising event!**

**You'll have time to check out our**

**Raffle, Silent and Live Auction items, Champagne Diamond Event, our new and improved Wheel of Fortune, and prizes from one week in Hawaii, Puerto Vallarta or Cabo San Lucas to Wine, Scotch, and Marguerita Baskets, Padre Tickets and dinner in the Gaslamp District, Staycation adventures, Movies, Plays, Restaurant packages, Pageant of the Masters, a chance to win a 2014 Mystery Day with Fr. Mike.**

**Join us for socializing and more fun!**



**Wheel of Fortune top prize Big Screen TV!**

Dinner is served at 6:30pm (\$40/person)

(vegetarian option available upon request)

Plus reserve your spot for the *Pastor's Dinner*

Sunday, August 24, 2014 ★ 2:00-5:00 p.m.

*Stone Brewing World Bistro and Gardens, Escondido*

\$150/per person (\$75 tax deductible)

**For information, please contact Chris Smith  
 760-758-4100 x120 or [chriss@stmstoside.org](mailto:chriss@stmstoside.org)**